

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Incorporated Association not for gain

NPO No.: 003-629

PBO No.: 130004687



GARDEN ROUTE

Dierebeskermings- vereniging

Ingelyfde Vereniging sonder winsoogmerk

(GEO) 044 878 1990

(GEO) 082 378 7384

Ossie Urban Rd, George, 6529

P.O Box 258, George, 6530

www.grspca.co.za

(M/B) 044 693 0824

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18 Bill Jeffery St, Mossel Bay, 6506

P.O Box 258, George, 6530

www.grspca.co.za

Warning number MBY 5401

To: Aquarium Management

Facility: Mosselbay Museum

Date of Inspection: 01 October 2025

Inspector: Thembinkosi Malinga and witness Inspector Mariaan Wentzel

Subject: Welfare Concerns and Non-Compliance with the Animal Protection Act

Following a routine welfare inspection conducted at your facility, the SPCA has identified specific practices that contravene the provisions of the Animal Protection Act (APA), Act 71 of 1962.

Findings of Concern

1. **Live Feeding of Octopus** It was confirmed that octopus housed at your facility are being fed live prey, including crab, shrimp, and mussel. This practice constitutes a violation of Section 2(1)(a) of the APA, which prohibits causing unnecessary suffering to any animal. Live feeding is considered inhumane and is not permitted under current welfare guidelines when any animal is confined.
2. **Inadequate Environmental Enrichment** The tanks housing lobsters, octopus, and ghappies were found to lack sufficient hiding spaces. This omission may lead to stress and behavioral suppression, contravening Section 2(1)(e) of the APA, which requires that animals be kept in conditions that promote their natural behavior and well-being.
3. **Permit and Licensing Irregularities**
 - o The holding permit is registered under Mr. Arnold Monroe, who was not present during the inspection, and permits needs to be forwarded to the SPCA.
 - o The PAPA license has not been submitted. Ms. Amanda Human stated that the facility is provincially governed and may be exempt. This exemption must be formally verified and documented.
 - o DEFFE-issued capture and release permits must be forwarded to SPCA within 7 days.

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Required Actions

- **Cease all live feeding practices immediately.** Substitute with ethically sourced, pre-killed prey or alternative diets approved by veterinary professionals.
- **Install adequate hiding spaces** in the tanks identified to meet species-specific behavioral needs. Lobster tank, Octopuss and Ghappies
- **Submit all outstanding documentation** including PAPA licensing and proof of exemption, if applicable.
- **Ensure permit holders are present or reachable** during future inspections.

Failure to comply may result in further legal proceedings under the Animal Protection Act 71 Of 1962

Issued By:

Inspector Thembinkosi Malinga