

Return of Warrant

April 12, 2023

Jesalyn Harper

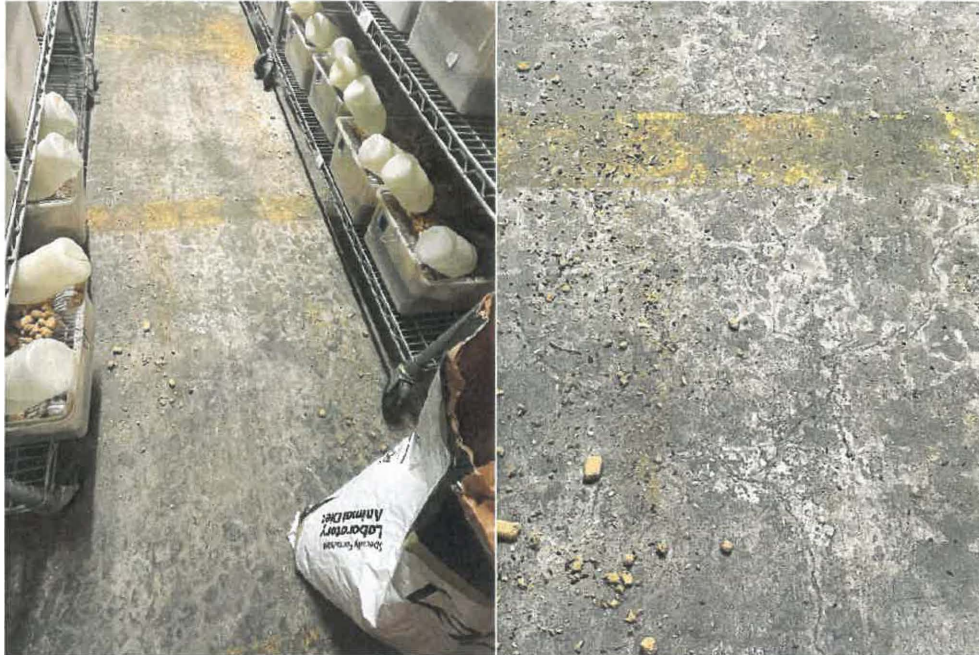
Property of 850 I Street, Reedley CA, 93654 was posted on April 10, 2023 at 5:00pm with documents reflecting the warrant to abate and destroy was issued and would be carried out within at least 24 hours of posting.



At 12:45pm, Code Enforcement and Dr. Nina Hahn approached and entered the property at 850 I Street. Code Enforcement and Hahn wore Tyvek suits, gloves, booties, and N95 masks to enter the building. Upon entering the mice room, it was observed that wild mice had chewed through and were accessing bags of food in the facility.



Upon entering the mouse room, Code Enforcement and Dr. Hahn observed a large amount of mice feces on the floor. It was undeterminable if the feces were from wild mice or if the mice in the cages had begun to kick up feces out of the cages, but photos of the feces were taken regardless because according to Dr. Hahn it was very likely a mixture of both.



Dr. Hahn confirmed the mice were in server distress because of “barbering” taking place, the high number of visible carcasses in the cages, and the lack of “pinkies”. Barbering is a social activity with mice consistent with over grooming. When under stress the dominant mice will begin to rip the hair and skin off the less dominant mice. The lack of pinkies can be related to starvation or stress, because Code Enforcement had been trying to provide adequate food and water it is believed the cannibalism is due to stress.

Dr. Hahn recommended euthanasia due to the animal’s suffering and the lack of ability to provide adequate care for the animals.

Dr. Hahn and Code Enforcement utilized a large cart with wheels to transport the mice. To prevent further stress of the animals they were kept in their cages. The cages were removed and placed in large trash bags to prevent possible escape and to limit light exposure because of the breed being sensitive to light. The cart with the cages was transported outside of the large warehouse to allow for better ventilation.



Dr. Hahn used Aerrane (isoflurane, USP) by placing cotton balls and the Isoflurane in a sealed glass jar. The isoflurane is used as an anesthetic, the cotton balls were placed on top of the cages in the garbage bags. The bags were then sealed to allow the isoflurane to be inhaled by the caged mice. Once the mice were unconscious. Once they were unconscious, Dr. Hahn removed them from the cage and to confirm death, performed a cervical dislocation.



Once all the mice in the cage were deceased, Dr. Hahn counted approximately how many mice carcasses were present in the cage and how many had been euthanized. Please note, due to the severity of filth in the cages only an approximation of carcasses could be made. Exact numbers of how many mice were euthanized were documented and recorded from which cage. Dr. Hahn also assessed the mice to sex them, evidence of barbering, or evidence of tumors or other medical issues.

ABATEMENT WARRANT

Wednesday, April
12, 2023

Cage	Euthanized	Deceased	Notes
B1	8	1	
B9	13	5	
B8	23	5	
B11	21	2	mostly males, severe barbering
B5	21	5	
A12	7	1	mostly males
B6	12	21	severe barbering
E4	30	0	Mostly Female mostly males, severe barbering
B4	15	0	barbering
A8	3	4	mixed sexes
Baby	23	0	
A6	11	12	
Pregnant Females	33	3	mixed sexes
D6	5	4	
C2	7	1	
Female & Baby	11	32	
A7	3	2	
Male	16	10	
A11	10	0	
A5	21	0	
D3	13	1	
A10	10	1	
B10	46	0	Mostly female, 1 confirmed male

Total Euthanized	Total Deceased
773	178

Approximate total of mice at facility
951

E5	21	1	
E3	6	3	tumor present
D8	10	1	Mostly female
B7	22	1	
E6	8	4	
E1	15	3	Mostly female
E2	13	2	
B13	4	6	
B12	9	1	
E9	9	3	
B14	20	1	
E7	31	2	
C1	7	1	
C7	4	2	
E10	22	0	
C5	18	8	
C9	9	1	
D4	4	2	
D9	8	1	
D1	16	2	
C4	7	6	
C8	9	2	
C6	33	3	
D2	17	1	
D5	8	2	
D11	7	1	
D7	15	2	
C12	7	1	
D12	5	0	
C11	12	2	
D10	13	2	
C10	22	1	

Multiple cages had signs of barbering, medical issues, and a large amount had mixed sexes. The mixture of the sexes shows that the animals breeding was not being regulated and that “pinkies” should have been present in the cages.

Barbering



Carcasses



Tumors and evidence of lack of veterinarian care



There was no evidence on site that the mice were being injected or tested. It was determined it would be safe to discard the mice through the City of Reedley Animal Shelter contractors. 10 mice were removed from the discard pile. 5 females and 5 males were removed and placed as evidence into the custody of the Reedley Police Department. The other mice will be incinerated.



Once the mice were documented and discarded, it was determined that the cages would be discarded as well because of the severity of filth and the lack of water on site to be able to clean and disinfect the cages. The discarded cages and materials utilized for the euthanasia procedure were disposed of through Public Works trash services.

