

Anachak Chang

Elephant Kingdom

1st Visit: 19th Feb 2017

During our visit, there were ten tigers observed of various colourations, including golden, snow, white and the standard orange. They had access to one large enclosure with at least 5 cages around the back for off-display use. Six of the tigers were observed in the outside area, the remaining four each held individually in the off-display cages. It is unclear whether these tigers have access to the enclosure at any time.

The enclosure was large (an estimate of 25x15 metres), but not large enough for the number of tigers that were occupying it - 6 were observed. There was a large pond filled with dirty water and plenty of grass throughout but no further vegetation. A cave complex provided both height for lookouts/sunbathing and areas to hide. No enrichment was observed with the exception of a few logs within the enclosure. Researchers classed the enclosure as dirty and poorly kept.

Some of the off-display cages were open, allowing the tigers freedom to move between the two areas. The off-display cages looked to be about 4x4 metres. They were concrete-floored with a single platform in each but with no enrichment. Researchers were unable to observe whether water was provided in these areas.

The body condition of the tigers was mixed with some looking healthy and others undernourished. Wounds, swellings, hair loss, missing tails and lameness were noted on a number of the tigers. The demeanour of the tigers varied from being friendly and interested to wary and disinterested, though it should be noted that none of them appeared afraid or aggressive.

There were no hands-on interactions offered, though there were signs demonstrating cub feeding had occurred in the past and possibly would again if there were cubs born.

2nd Visit: 8th April 2018

The second visit offered up much of the same as the first visit. There was no change at all in terms of the living conditions of the tigers. The facility as a whole had deteriorated, possibly due to the fact that the locals appeared to think it was closed and there were no tourists. There were only 7 tigers this time with two of them showing clear breathing issues similar to those found at some of the DNP facilities. The tigers at the DNP had been diagnosed with distemper. As the symptoms seemed to be very similar, it could be assumed that the issue is the same at Anachak Chang Elephant Kingdom.

Upon speaking to the staff at the facility, we learned that they were aware of the severity of the situation and had brought in a vet to check the tigers. However, it is unclear how much care they could really give.

3rd Visit: 2019

Facility was closed to the public.

