

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Re: Elephants at Los Angeles Zoo Compliance or noncompliance with AZA standards is not the issue. The standards are too low. There is not enough space, or natural resources, or qualified staff, or commitment of time, at the Los Angeles Zoo to keep an elephant healthy, or muscles exercised, or psychologically stimulated, or socially supported. Hence a long history of elephants with mental decay, stereotypical behaviors, broken down bodies, and falling deaths at Los Angeles Zoo. The right thing to do for elephants is being done at zoos, animal entertainment trainers, and circuses across the country; send the elephants to an accredited sanctuary. Elephant sanctuaries like PAWS in CA and The Elephant Sanctuary in TN specialize in giving elephants their lives back, lives as close to natural as possible; with acres of space, nature, choices, activities, social bonding with other elephants, the right amount of exercise for their huge muscles, or rehab if necessary. Let's make the well-being of these precious elephants the priority, not entertainment.