STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Community Care Licensing Division – Statewide Children's Residential Program
744 P Street, MS 8-3-54 Sacramento, CA 95814

CDSS
JOHN A. WAGNER
DIRECTOR

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

March 4, 2011

C. Lynn Loftin, Administrative Director
Birdseye Ranch
P.O. Box 117
Spanish Fork, UT 84660

SUBJECT: **Initial Certification for Out-of-State Group Home**
Birdseye Ranch (CDSS Facility #602300068)
19675 S. Hwy 89, Birdseye, UT 84629

Dear Mr. Loftin:

Pursuant to California Family Code Section 7911 et al., this is official notification that effective this date, Birdseye Ranch is certified as meeting California group home licensing standards. This certification is based on:

- Application material submitted to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS.)
- An on-site visit and evaluation performed by certification analyst Carol Lancaster on February 15, 2011.
- Fresno County Probation's request to place a ward of a California Juvenile Court at Birdseye for residential care and treatment.

California licensing standards require that all serious incidents be reported to CDSS' Out-of-State Placement Policy Unit for each child in care regardless of whether he or she is a California placement. Incident reporting shall include the following:

- Deaths
- Suicide attempts
- Suspected physical, sexual or psychological abuse
- Epidemic outbreaks and catastrophes
- Use of restraint (whether or not they result in an injury to a child.)
- Any unusual incident or absence that threatens the physical or emotional health or safety of a child.
- Injuries and illnesses that require hospitalization or medical treatment (beyond first aid.)

Certification will be reviewed annually. We will be following our Department policy which authorizes us to inspect facilities with or without appointment as necessary.

If you have any questions, please contact Carol or myself at (916) 651-5380.

Sincerely,

Carol Lancaster for

MEI YUK KUNG, Program Chief

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
COMMUNITY CARE LICENSING DIVISION

CCLD Regional Office, 744 P STREET, MS 19-50
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

FACILITY NAME:	BIRDSEYE RANCH		**FACILITY NUMBER:**	602300068
ADMINISTRATOR:	C. LYNN LOFTIN		**FACILITY TYPE:**	731
ADDRESS:	19675 S HWY 89		**TELEPHONE:**	(801) 798-9077
CITY:	BIRDSEYE	**STATE:** UT	**ZIP CODE:**	84629
CAPACITY:	12	**CENSUS:** 5	**DATE:**	02/16/2011
TYPE OF VISIT:	Case Management	ANNOUNCED	**TIME BEGAN:**	09:30 AM
MET WITH:	Lynn Loftin, Lou Jones		**TIME COMPLETED:**	05:00 PM

NARRATIVE

PURPOSE OF VISIT:

As mandated by California law, this initial on-site visit was performed February 15, 2011 by the undersigned analyst to assess and determine Birdseye Ranch's eligibility and suitability for certification by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS.)

CDSS certification requires the facility to be in substantial compliance with California's Title 22 licensing regulations as they apply to children's group home facilities in the state of California as well as to be licensed and in good standing with the licensing laws and regulations of the state the facility is located, in this case, the state of Utah.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION/APPLICATION HISTORY:

In a letter dated January 3, 2011, the Fresno County Probation Department submitted a letter of support for Birdseye Ranch to be certified by the CDSS, indicating the need to place a 15-year-old ward of their Juvenile Court at Birdseye for residential care and treatment. Thereafter, an application was provided to the facility which was subsequently completed and returned to the CDSS. In conjunction with the review of the application, this on-site visit was performed.

FACILITY AND PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Birdseye Ranch is a community-based 12-bed residential treatment facility located in the rural, mountain community of Birdseye, Utah, approximately 30 miles south of Provo. Birdseye Ranch offers a sexual accountability program and is under Heritage Youth Services, a 501(c)(3) (non-profit).

SUPERVISOR'S NAME: Mei Yuk Kung **TELEPHONE:** (916) 327-8763

LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME: Carol Lancaster **TELEPHONE:** (916) 838-5751

LICENSING EVALUATOR SIGNATURE:

Carol Lancaster **DATE:** 03/03/2011

I acknowledge receipt of this form and understand my licensing appeal rights as explained and received.

FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:

Orginal Signed by C. Lynn Loftin, Director **DATE:** 03/03/2011

This report must be available at Child Care and Group Home facilities for public review for 3 years.

FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

FACILITY NAME: BIRDSEYE RANCH

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300068
VISIT DATE: 02/16/2011

NARRATIVE

FACILITY AND PROGRAM INFORMATION: (Continued)

corporation. Birdseye Ranch has been part of Heritage Youth Services since 1989. The program offered is designed to provide care and specialized treatment for adolescent males, ages 13 through 17, who have been adjudicated and struggle with inappropriate and illegal sexual behavioral problems. The program was initially developed and continues to meet the (Utah) Network of Juveniles Offending Sexually (NOJOS) guidelines for Level 6. [The NOJOS Continuum consists of eight levels, beginning with the least restrictive "Level One" (In-home; Out-Patient) to "Level Eight" (secure care; sex-specific treatment enhanced.)]

The approach at Birdseye is the belief that each client has the ability to recover from the effects of earlier experiences. This treatment model takes into account that sexual behavioral problems are part of a larger issue related to the individual client's maladaptive functioning. Birdseye's approach looks closely at the client's relationship with others, emotional regulation, social deficits, thought processes, past trauma and current behavior. The approach consists of cognitive-behavioral therapy, social skills groups, executive functioning skills and relapse planning. Both clinical and direct care staff use an attachment-informed approach in establishing a therapeutic alliance.

Birdseye focuses on the importance of a youth's accountability for his choices and behaviors and developing skills to live a healthy life, and emphasizes the need to prevent individuals from being traumatized by sexual abuse.

Program design is 39 weeks in length. On average, the program can be completed in nine to twelve months. The facility has a five phase level system to measure progress:

1. Orientation Phase
2. Personal Responsibility Phase
3. Discovery Phase
4. Recovery Phase
5. Transition Phase

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FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

FACILITY NAME: BIRDSEYE RANCH

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300068
VISIT DATE: 02/16/2011

NARRATIVE

FACILITY AND PROGRAM INFORMATION: (Continued)

As previously mentioned, Birdseye utilizes a version of the treatment protocols as outlined in the NOJOS Protocols and Standards Manual, 5th Edition. This approach meets the needs of the population by providing:

- Sex-specific group therapy three times per week.
- Psycho-educational group teaching sex education and healthy sexual development twice per month.
- Social accountability (social skills) and assertiveness skills psycho-educational group one time per week.
- Family therapy once a week focused on family dynamics, increasing the level of family functioning, increasing support of meeting the client's treatment goals, and assisting the family in providing appropriate supervision.
- Psychiatric and medication management once a month or as needed to address co-occurring mental health issues (e.g., depression, ADHD, bi-polar disorder, OCD, etc.)
- On-site academic program designed to address the youth's individual academic needs by offering special education services, education counseling, academic testing, and a variety of courses to meet high school graduation requirements.

The facility's physical plant is a modern and updated large two-story family home with a finished basement. The home's three levels add up to approximately 10,000 square feet. The home has ten bedrooms and four bathrooms. Clients are assigned to either a single room or a bedroom shared by three or four other clients. Each bedroom has an adequate number of dressers and closets. In addition to the bedrooms and bathrooms, the home has adequate kitchen, dining, living, recreating, office, studying, therapy and storage space. A large educational programming area/classroom is also located on the main level of the house. At the time of visit, the home was found to be well furnished, equipped and supplied.

The home is situated on 55 acres that allows for an abundance of outside recreation space and includes a basketball court, as well as a seasonal baseball diamond and football field.

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NARRATIVE

FACILITY AND PROGRAM INFORMATION: (Continued)

At the time of visit, the census was five clients. Staffing is maintained at a minimum of one staff to four clients during daytime activity hours; and one awake night staff to six clients during sleep hours. Social work/treatment staff are required to be licensed mental health providers - - i.e., LMFT, LPC or Ph.D.'s. Average number of direct social work hours provided per child per week is ten.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SERVICES:

Birdseye has educational programming on-site that provides an individualized academic program through Park City Independent School using a curriculum designed to meet the individual needs of each student. School accreditation is under the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools. When a student is first admitted, he receives a credit evaluation and testing to determine areas of needed improvement. If necessary, individual assistance through special education services and tutors are provided. Teacher to student ratio is one to six.

UTAH LICENSING INFORMATION:

Birdseye Boy Ranch is licensed to provide residential treatment for twelve male youth ages 12-17 by the Utah Department of Human Services Office of Licensing (License #16727.) On February 15, 2011, the facility's Utah licensing analyst Lisa Carter [(435) 623-7534] reported that Birdseye is in good standing with her agency. Their current license was issued May 1, 2010 and is good through April 30, 2011. Utah licensing conducts annual reviews and subsequently renews a facility's license provided the facility is determined to be in continued compliance with their licensing standards.

FIRE CLEARANCE:

The facility is inspected yearly by the Utah County Fire Marshall. A certificate of fire clearance was last issued on September 23, 2010 and is good through August 8, 2011.

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FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

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NARRATIVE

WATER

The facility utilizes water from a well on the property. A certificate of analysis from Chemtech-Ford Laboratories reflects a sample of drinking water was tested February 10, 2011 and found to be within safe and acceptable limits.

STAFF BACKGROUND CLEARANCES:

Utah licensing requires the following background checks to be conducted yearly on all staff working with children at the facility.

- Utah criminal history
- Utah child abuse registry
- Utah adult abuse registry

The checks are accomplished through facility staff completing a standardized form with personal descriptor information and submitting it to Utah Department of Human Services, Office of Licensing, Background Screening Unit, for processing, along with a copy of their driver's license or state issued identification card and social security card.

For individuals who are new residents to Utah or who have left and returned to the state recently, additional nation-wide fingerprint based background checks are conducted. The facility maintains evidence of clearances in employee files.

EMERGENCY INTERVENTION PROCEDURES

Birdseye Ranch uses the Positive Control Systems (Non Violent Crisis Intervention Programs) to train staff in crisis management and emergency intervention procedures.
This program utilizes verbal and analogue communication skills as the primary intervention method. Physical holds or controls are a last resort. Staff are required to complete 16 hours of initial instruction and successfully pass a written and physical exam prior to certification under this method and participation in any physical hold or control technique. The facility does not have or utilize a protective separation or "time out" room for seclusion.

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NARRATIVE

SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION REVIEW:

- Review of application and program material submitted.
- Verification of licensure status with Utah licensing authorities.
- Program consultation and discussion with Administrative Director Lynn Loftin and Program Director/Therapist Lou Jones.
- Physical tour/inspection of facility and amenities.

FINDINGS:

Based on the application submitted and the onsite visit performed, initial certification is approved. The facility was found to meet and/or exceed California licensing standards as well as to be in substantial compliance with Utah's as they apply to children's group home facilities.

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