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**From:** Gage, Laurie J (APHIS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2011 9:17 AM  
**To:** Digesualdo, Cynthia L (APHIS)  
**Subject:** RE: bat video

Can you tell me what your question is? I thought it was a clear violation of the AWA as the lady was doing a veterinary procedure on a bat with no anesthesia and without the apparent skills necessary to do the job. The bat suffered severe pain and then later it died.

*Laurie J. Gage*, DVM, Dipl ACZM  
Field Specialist for Big Cats and Marine Mammals

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**From:** Digesualdo, Cynthia L (APHIS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2011 7:07 AM  
**To:** Gage, Laurie J (APHIS)  
**Subject:** RE: bat video

**From:** [Digesualdo, Cynthia L \(APHIS\)](#)  
**To:** [Gage, Laurie J \(APHIS\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: bat video  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 16, 2011 10:38:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [Response to complaint.docx](#)  
[Letters from veterinarians, PVC.pdf](#)

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The video was altered. Momma bat did fine and was released. Her vet trained her on this procedure and is perfectly comfortable with her performing it without him present. This lady does a great job with these bats. I've attached all the info I provided to the office in response to these complaints from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D). The letters from veterinarians attachment has some pages from the book she has published.

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**From:** Gage, Laurie J (APHIS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2011 11:13 AM  
**To:** Digesualdo, Cynthia L (APHIS)  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Amanda Lollar/Animal cruelty at Bat World Sanctuary - status of TX11418 question

Should I contact Connie? I hate to ding someone based on a bogus utube video.

*Laurie J. Gage*, DVM, Dipl ACZM  
Field Specialist for Big Cats and Marine Mammals

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**From:** Gibbens, Robert (APHIS)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 08, 2011 6:23 AM  
**To:** Gage, Laurie J (APHIS)  
**Subject:** FW: Affidavit of Amanda Lollar, AW Complaint No. W11-108

It appears topical anesthesia was used. It appears that the mother bat survived and was later released. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

Lollar sounds knowledgeable, although I don't know if some of her claims about bat procedures, physiology, and behavior are in accordance with the current professional knowledge of bats. Your thoughts?

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**From:** Gage, Laurie J (APHIS)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 08, 2011 7:44 AM  
**To:** Gibbens, Robert (APHIS)  
**Subject:** RE: Affidavit of Amanda Lollar, AW Complaint No. W11-108

Hi Bob

I agree. Ms Lollar does sound knowledgeable and answered a few questions I had about this procedure. In the video I could see that she had applied a cotton tipped swab to the area and I wondered if there were a topical anesthetic on that swab. She stated in her affidavit that there was. I also surmised that she did not use iso to anesthetize the mother bat even though somewhere it was stated that iso was available, because she was afraid it would also anesthetize the pup. I think I would have done the same thing for this procedure and not use iso for fear it might kill the pup.

Also I wondered when I spoke with Cindy D. if this were a rehab bat or a resident bat. She did not know. If the rehab bats are not on public display then I do not believe we regulate rehab animals. In this affidavit Lollar states the animal was indeed a rehab animal.

I never saw a photograph of the vagina glued shut, so can only go with the word of the complainant. If there is no clear evidence of that then I tend not to want to judge someone's ability on hearsay. I believe the video did look "bad" because the bat struggled a little bit, but my previous judgment was based in part on what the complainant stated: that the bat's vaginal opening was glued shut and that the bat died. If neither of these are true then I do not have any serious concerns about that procedure.

I did speak with Kevin McLaughlin yesterday and told him pretty much what I told you in this email.

I hope this helps.

*Laurie J. Gage*, DVM, Dipl ACZM  
Field Specialist for Big Cats and Marine Mammals

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