

[Mickaboo Discuss] Assessment of FTB Conure enrichment practices based on FTB tour video, Series of videos, Stay tuned

1 message

 via Discuss <discuss@mickaboo.org>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 3:56 PM

Reply-To:  < >

To: discuss@mickaboo.org

Hi everyone,

I need to emphasize that I do not represent any particular faction in the Mickaboo disputes: not the Board, not dissidents, not any other faction. I simply want the facts, as much as possible, to drive how the disputes are eventually resolved to the optimal benefit of Mickaboo's precious birds, worthy mission, and beloved community.

Here's an issue touched on in the Chronicle article that I'll address in a series of emails:

Are the Wild Conures boarded at FTB getting the quality care they need for good psychological well-being?

To assess FTB's parrot care performance, I'll look at four different types of parrot enrichment: Visual, Tactile, Nutritional, and Social.

To assess how well FTB is providing parrot enrichment, I'll use the tour video released on the Mickaboo Forum before the Wild Conures Zoom call.

Using the video, I will assess the Visual, Tactile, Nutritional, and Social enrichment provided by FTB for the Conures. The video does not provide the full range and quantity of information needed to do a thorough enrichment assessment of FTB's Conure care, which would require onsite visits and staff interviews, which is not likely to be permitted. Nevertheless, I think the video does provide enough information for a solid preliminary assessment of the core of FTB's parrot enrichment practices.

My assessment process is reasonable and simple, and does not require the assessors to be veterinary professionals, so I invite you to join me in the process and make your own assessments regarding the video information I highlight.

This first email is an introduction to subsequent emails in which I will share the information I highlighted in the video and my assessments of the information regarding Visual, Tactile, Nutritional, and Social enrichment of the Mickaboo Conures shown in the FTB tour video.

So please stay tuned for the follow-up emails...



Sarah Lemarie via Discuss <discuss@mickaboo.org>

Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 7:52 PM

Reply-To: Sarah Lemarie <[REDACTED]>

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

Cc: discuss@mickaboo.org

Hi [REDACTED],

Can you please elaborate on what your qualifications are for making this indirect assessment you are talking about out of the blue?

On what grounds do you feel your assessment is needed over and above that given by [REDACTED] and I in the wild parrot meeting discussion on July 2 that you did not attend?

Sarah Lemarié | email: sarah.lemarie@mickaboo.com
Don't breed... don't buy.. adopt a rescue! <http://www.mickaboo.org>

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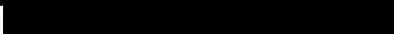
[Mickaboo Discuss] Re: Assessment of FTB Conure enrichment practices based on FTB tour video, My quals

2 messages

 via Discuss <discuss@mickaboo.org>

Wed, Jul 23, 2025 at 4:10 PM

Reply-To: 

To: Sarah Lemarie 

Cc: discuss@mickaboo.org

Howdy Sarah,

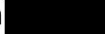
I hope this email finds you doing well today.

My LEED accredited green building professional experiences with assessing and improving the psychological health and well-being of parrots in buildings was an unexpected offshoot of two of my many LEED green building consultant projects, being paid the big bucks working with large corporate and government building clients, assessing and improving the psychological health and well-being of people in the same buildings as the parrots:  the Cockatoo and  the Cockatiel.

My work with  and  are two wonderfully entertaining adventures I'd be happy to share at length if anyone's interested, but for now, I'll describe it all briefly.

Both corporate clients asked me to figure out why 's and 's well-being and behavior in their green buildings had deteriorated from friendly and social to unfriendly and unsocial.

The first bird was  the Cockatoo, in 2008. I was asked to figure out and fix what had turned  unfriendly and unsociable. I found studies online relevant to how the physical environment of 's cage area might affect 's well-being and behavior. The studies I found are still available online, though they're behind paywalls. If you want a complete list of the studies, I'll provide it. Happily, I was able to talk with two of the study researchers, who were delighted and fascinated that I was using LEED green building principles and practices to try to understand and improve 's psychological health and well-being. We discovered there were interesting parallels between their work and mine, for example, how Green Views in LEED positively affect the health and well-being of people in green buildings, such as lowering blood pressure, enhancing immune systems, elevating mood, diminishing anger, frustration, and anxiety, fostering happiness, and improving cognitive function, and how it similarly affects parrots. The wonderful researcher conversations provided valuable guidance and tips regarding how to assess 's physical environment and make improvements. One researcher urged me to get a book that proved very helpful in understanding how 's physical environment might be affecting her negatively, and suggesting improvements to the environment: [Environmental Enrichment For Captive Animals](#), by Robert Young. I recommend this book. It's over \$80 new, but can be had used online for under \$30.

My work with  and, later,  the Cockatiel was successful. The improvements made to both of their physical environments, using a mix of parrot enrichment and LEED principles and practices, transformed both birds back to being friendly and social, once again enjoying head scratches, stepping up, vocalizing enthusiastically, and being happy and social birds.

As an amusing side note. I was asked to consider doing a professional presentation at an annual GreenBuild International Conference, the big one for the green building profession, attended usually by over 20,000 green building professionals. I'd done a presentation before on a green building topic. This time, I submitted a presentation proposal entitled, "The Use Of LEED Green Building Principles and Practices In The Improvement Of The Psychological Health And Well-Being Of People and Parrots." It was rejected, I found out later, because a couple of the presentation judges thought I was joking! LOL!

So, in a nutshell, the above presents my professional worthiness for reviewing the FTB tour video and the information in it that's relevant to FTB's parrot enrichment practices.

Keep up your good work, Sarah!

[REDACTED] <discuss@mickaboo.org>

Wed, Jul 23, 2025 at 4:21

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED], Sarah Lemarie [REDACTED]

Cc: "discuss@mickaboo.org" <discuss@mickaboo.org>

[REDACTED], this is fascinating, thanks for sharing! You could probably create a consulting business around creating happier environments for loving creatures of all types!!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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