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SYNOPSIS: In over 23 years, Florida had 11 fatal encounters with captive exotic animals, which is 0.47, half a death, per year. Three (27.3%) fatalities occurred at AZA zoos, three (27.3%) occurred at circus, four (36.4%) at private commercial facilities and one (9%) by non-commercial pet.

**FLORIDA: HUMAN FATALITIES CAUSED BY CAPTIVE EXOTIC ANIMALS
 1990-2012**

YEAR, ANIMAL	RELATIONSHIP TO ANIMAL	COMMENTS
2010 by Killer Whale	Trainer killed at AZA Sea World, USDA	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
2009 by Python	Parents of 2-year-old kid killed by their Burmese python received 12-year sentences after being convicted of manslaughter and child neglect. FWC Report: Fatal Kid's Injuries Due to Python's Escape 2009 (4MB PDF) http://www.rexano.org/Pythons/FWC_Python_Stratregulation.pdf	Parents should always be held responsible. Death by a snake shouldn't be treated any differently than accidental death involving other activities. No risk to uninvolved public
2007 by Camel	The exotic animal farm owner died after being kicked and sat on by an 1,800-lb camel, USDA	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
2001 by Tiger	Tiger kills worker during cage repair, USDA	Exhibitor, Savage Kingdom, has been shut down, Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
2000 by Elephant	Ramos circus elephant killed a family member/acrobat Theresa Ramos, USDA	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1998 by Tiger	Female owner at "Cat Dancers" magic show. USDA	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1998 by Tiger	Tiger at "Cat Dancers" magic show kills his male handler (and female owner few weeks apart, see above), USDA	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1994 by Tiger	Handler killed at AZA Miami Zoo, when a lock was left off a safety cage and the keeper stepped inside, USDA	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1993 by Elephant	Keeper killed at the AZA accredited Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa, USDA	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1993 by Elephant	In Williston, circus trainer died after an elephant knocked him down at a Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus elephant farm	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1990 by Elephant	In Ft. Lauderdale, an elephant with the Hanneford Family Circus crashed her handler to death after being startled by a passing car	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard

Conclusion:

In over 23 years, Florida had 11 fatal encounters with captive exotic animals, which is 0.47, half a death, per year.

All fatalities happened to owners/trainers/handlers/workers as a result of occupational hazard which they voluntarily accepted, not any different than military, fire men, police, NASCAR drivers, etc...
Uninvolved public was not killed

Three fatalities were at AZA accredited Sea World, Metro and Lowry's zoos which are often exempted from new regulations, even though AZA is a private (non governmental) accredited group.

AZA zoos have more visitors than smaller non AZA exhibitors, so exempting them from new regulations, while not exempting the rest in the name of 'public safety' is pure discrimination against non AZA exotic and wild animal owners.

Elephant related fatalities are expected to be higher in Florida than the rest of the nation since FL is the center for circuses. Same way you can expect to have more sled dogs and accidents in Alaska than in Florida.

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