

 <p>Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Guiding Principles and Procedures</p>	<p>Effective: August 22, 2013</p> <p>Revised: 2/21/2019</p>
<p>Title: Field Studies</p>	<p>Page 1 of 2</p>

Guiding Principle

The use of animals in research and teaching is a privilege granted to institutions, investigators, staff and students that commit to meeting high ethical and regulatory standards. To comply with federal regulations, guidelines, and institutional policy, NDSU requires that the IACUC review all research, teaching, or testing involving live vertebrate animals. This includes animal field studies defined as activities involving a live vertebrate animal not performed in a laboratory.

Definitions of Animal and Field Study

Title 9, Chapter I, Subchapter A, Part 1, Code of Federal Regulations

Animal means any live or dead dog, cat, nonhuman primate, guinea pig, hamster, rabbit, or any other warm-blooded animal, which is being used, or is intended for use for research, teaching, testing, experimentation, or exhibition purposes, or as a pet. This term excludes birds, rats of the genus *Rattus*, and mice of the genus *Mus*, bred for use in research; horses not used for research purposes; and other farm animals, such as, but not limited to, livestock or poultry used or intended for use as food or fiber, or livestock or poultry used or intended for use for improving animal nutrition, breeding, management, or production efficiency, or for improving the quality of food or fiber. With respect to a dog, the term means all dogs, including those used for hunting, security, or breeding purposes

Field study means a study conducted on free-living wild animals in their natural habitat. However, this term excludes any study that involves an invasive procedure, harms, or materially alters the behavior of an animal under study.

Requirements

The use of animals for research, teaching, and testing at NDSU is regulated by and conducted in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) of 1966 as amended, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) AWA regulations and the U.S. Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (PHS Policy).

Procedure

Principal Investigators (PI) conducting field research are to be knowledgeable about relevant zoonotic disease, associated safety issues and any laws or regulations that apply. Exceptions to the above are to be clearly defined by the PI and evaluated by the IACUC.

Principal Investigators must assure the IACUC that he/she will have all applicable local, regional, and national permits or other requirements obtained for the observation, capture, transportation, data collection or other proposed activity prior to the start of the study and for the appropriate duration.

Occupational health and safety (OHS) issues, including zoonosis are to be covered by NDSU's OHS program with assurances to the IACUC that the field study does not compromise the health and safety of persons in the field.

Resources

Review of field studies sometimes involves species for which guidelines/standards are difficult to find. In those cases, the use of field research guidelines formulated by professional societies, journal publications, textbooks, standard veterinary protocols, personal experience and the input of experts including the PI may be utilized.

References

Guidelines of the American Society of Mammologists for the use of wild mammals in research

<http://www.mammalsociety.org/uploads/Sikes%20et%20al%202011.pdf>

Guidelines for the use of fishes in research

<https://fisheries.org/policy-media/science-guidelines/guidelines-for-the-use-of-fishes-in-research/>

Guidelines for the use of live amphibians and reptiles in field and laboratory research

<http://asih.org/sites/default/files/documents/resources/guidelinesherpsresearch2004.pdf>

Guidelines to the use of wild birds in research

https://birdnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/guidelines_august2010.pdf