

Animal researchers,

The IACUC has recently enacted several improvements in ASU's animal use policies. These policies are of interest to anyone using vertebrate animals in their research or teaching so please read this message carefully. If you have questions, please contact any member of the IACUC (below). If you do field research involving vertebrates that are captured and released after a few minutes, near their site of capture AND there no invasive procedures used (taking small blood, feather, fur, saliva samples, applying transmitters or data logger, etc are not considered invasive), items 1-5 probably do not apply to your research. However, please read Item 6—it may be useful.

1. Please submit all existing animal use protocols (even though they do not yet need to be renewed) to the IACUC before July 15, 2006. I apologize for the inconvenience, but this is necessary because ASU has recently been recognized as an assured animal facility by the US Public Health Service. A (slightly) revised animal use protocol proposal form is attached. The only major difference is that you are now required to show results of searches conducted to demonstrate that alternatives to animal use are not available. Information about how to conduct those searches is on pg 3 of the attached IACUC Protocol Form. Therefore, if possible, just cut-and-paste your existing protocol information into this new form. Anyone using mammals (field researchers, see Item 6) in research AND/OR teaching is required to submit an application for each project in which animals are used. Applications should be emailed to Dr. Anne Grippo (agrippo@astate.edu). You should also send a hard copy of the signed signature page to Dr. Grippo. All current animal protocols will expire on July 31, 2006.
2. New animal protocols may be submitted at any time and will be reviewed by the IACUC as quickly as possible (see item 5).
3. If your animal use protocol requires the use of anesthetics or analgesics (Note: analgesics must be used for all survival surgeries), Tony McMickle has standard operating procedures that can be used for these procedures. Please contact him for details at amcmickle@astate.edu. An SOP has also been approved for euthanasia. If you can use these SOPs, all you need to do is reference the appropriate SOP in your animal use protocol. If you CANNOT use the SOPs then you must provide a detailed alternative (drugs, dosages, etc) and a justification for its use.
4. ASU has a consulting veterinarian. Dr. Archie Ryan DVM (CV attached) is working with us to insure that our animal care program meets the highest standards of veterinary care. If you have questions about procedures that you would like to use, applications of experimental drugs, etc, you may contact Dr. Ryan at ryanvet@tdn.to.
5. Beginning immediately, all animal orders must be placed by Tony McMickle (680-4298). (Again, this is necessitated by the PHS assurance.) When you call or email Tony to place an order please include: The species, strain, sex, age and weight (if appropriate) of the animals, the number of animals you want to order, the account number which is being charged for the animals, when you would like to receive the animals (typically 5-10 days lead time is required) and (after July 31) the protocol number (issued by the IACUC on approval of your protocol proposal) that applies to the animals. After July 31, 2006 orders will not be placed without an animal protocol approval number. We routinely order animals from Harlan, if you would prefer another vendor, please contact Tony with details. All animals will be delivered to the ABI animal facility and quarantined. If the animals you purchase will not be housed in that facility, please contact Tony. Also, please note that ASU's animal facilities are approved for the use of mice and rats ONLY. We are not allowed to use other laboratory species on this campus. (We are allowed to use farm animals. However, their use is governed by another set of regulations and policies. If you need information about using farm animals, please contact the College of Agriculture.)
6. Several researchers who do field research involving vertebrates have contacted the IACUC about approving their animal usage. Apparently, it is becoming standard operating procedure for many journals and funding agencies to require such review.

Therefore, the IACUC will review proposals about use of vertebrates in field research. As long as the protocols meet the stipulations in the first paragraph of this email, field work is not governed by regulation or the PHS. Therefore, this review is offered as a service by the IACUC to researchers who need approval of their protocols. If you need such approval, please complete the appropriate portions of the attached form and email it to Dr. Anne Grippo. The IACUC will review protocols as quickly as possible and upon approval issue a protocol number for your use. If your field research protocols involve mammals or birds, require invasive procedures, or removing animals from the field, etc. please contact an IACUC member so we can make sure we are in compliance with regulations BEFORE you start the research project.

As usual, if you have any questions or need additional info, please contact me or any other IACUC member.

IACUC members are:

ASU Faculty:

Anne Grippo
Carole Cramer
Farhad Moeeni
Jim Bednarz
Kris Biondolillo
Roger Buchanan
Shawn Drake

Director, Animal Care Facility
Tony McMickle (amcmickle@astate.edu)

Consulting Veterinarian
Archie Ryan

Community member (not affiliated with ASU)
Steve Curry (sabjcurry@cox.net)

If you know of other ASU faculty who need this information, please feel free to forward this message to them,

Thanks,

Anne Grippo, Chair ASU IACUC