

**APPLICATION TO USE LIVE (WILD/FERAL)
VERTEBRATE ANIMALS in *Field* Research or Teaching
Arkansas Tech University
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Protocol Number: _____

Approval period: _____

From _____

To _____

Approval may be up to 3 years

**Principal Investigator/
Project Director Name(s):**

DEPT:

WORK PHONE:

EMAIL:

NAME OF THE LAB or ACTIVITY:

NAME or NUMBER OF COURSE(S)

TITLE OF PROJECT/ BUDGET NAME:

TYPE OF PROJECT (please check one): ☐ Research ☐ Teaching/training
☐ Collection/Banking

- All five major sections of the application must be completed within the form field provided.
- If some portion of a section of this application does not apply to your project, please indicate as not applicable (NA).
- If attachments are necessary to provide a response to a specific section, or portion thereof, the attachment must be clearly referenced under the appropriate section and the section number noted on the attachment.
- If the investigator has a question about the completion of this form, please contact the ATU IACUC Office for clarification via the Office of Sponsored Programs and University Initiatives (880-4329 or email opsui@atu.edu).

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SECTION 1: PROJECT RELEVANCE/JUSTIFICATION (SYNOPSIS)

- 1.1 Please provide a brief synopsis of the project including the rationale to support its objectives (*e.g. intended benefits to humans, animals and/or the advancement of scientific knowledge*). This section should be understandable to a general reader and focus on the **big picture**.
Note: More detail on the specific types and numbers of animals will follow in section 2; types of procedures and effects on animals in section 3; safety concerns for humans in section 4; and finally, on-campus approvals are in section 5 at the end.

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- 1.2 Clearly articulate the specific justification for the use of live vertebrate animals to explain why the project objectives cannot be accomplished using an alternative model (*e.g. in vitro, computational model/simulation, invertebrate animals, or other*).

SECTION 2: ANIMALS TO BE SAMPLED, HANDLED, AND/OR REMOVED FROM NATURE

- 2.1 Please indicate the target taxa and estimated number of animals involved in this project (*e.g. 100 small mammals, 50 channel catfish, 15 assorted Actinopterygii fishes*).

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2.2 If a special permit is required for the target taxa, provide a photocopy of the approved permit or permit application. Summarize the agency(ies) involved, status, and associated timeline of the permit (*e.g. when the application was or will be submitted as well as spatial and temporal coverage*).

2.3 If dogs or cats are to be used, please specify the source of the animals.

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SECTION 3: ANIMAL PROCEDURES AND FURTHER JUSTIFICATION, IF WARRANTED

3.1 Please provide a concise description of the proposed procedures that involve the use of animals in this project. Where appropriate, this section should clearly identify specific procedures intended to minimize pain such as anesthetic, analgesic or tranquilizing drug application if utilized. *Note: an annual report of the actual number of animals collected by species must be provided to the IACUC.*

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3.2 Check which of the following pain categories applies to the procedures to be used on animals in this project. *Note: letter designations correspond to the eventual USDA report; where A and F are reserved to report the numbers, types, and totals of affected animals.*

_____ B – animals collected and bred/held as part of the project

_____ C – procedures will cause no (or minimal) pain or distress (*e.g. identification and measurements, injections, blood sampling, tattooing, electrofishing, live-trapping, netting, marking by fin-clip or toe-clip, health assessments,...*)

_____ D – procedures involve pain or distress but anesthetics or tranquilizing drugs are used

_____ E* – procedures involve pain or distress and no anesthetic, analgesic or tranquilizing drugs can be used (*e.g. leg-hold traps, confinement in adverse environments, or procedures with death as an endpoint, like rotenone sampling for fish*)

** If any category "E" procedures will be performed, you must complete sub-section 3.3 below and 3.4 if applicable.*

3.3 Justification for special circumstances (USDA pain category "E" procedures only).

Projects involving USDA pain category "E" procedures require specific scientific justification of why the procedure is necessary without mitigation.

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3.4 Euthanasia. Describe the **final disposition of the animals used in the project**. If euthanasia is planned, state whether the method of euthanasia is consistent with the recommendations of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals (*link available at the end of this document*). If not, describe the method and provide a scientific justification for the deviation.

3.5 Additional Training: (if required)

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SECTION 4: SAFETY

- 4.1 Past the normal rigors of working with farm animals, what human safety issues are peculiar to this lab. Briefly describe your plans to minimize risks or reference specific standard operating procedures for the field.

- 4.2 Will your work involve hazardous materials, objects, equipment or activities other than above? If so, list associated specific training modules that will be completed by any personnel involved in those procedures (see module list and associated training links available through <http://www.atu.edu/physci/training.php>) Alternatively, specify other required safety training.

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SECTION 5: APPROVALS

5.1 Principal Investigator/Project Director acknowledgement of familiarity with the IACUC process, responsibility for appropriately training all personnel who will handle animals in this project, and assertion that this document is submitted in good faith as part of that process (**add rows as needed for co-PI's**):

Name: Principle Investigator/Project Director

Signature

Date signed

5.2 Departmental approval (only needed if using Departmental budget):

If animals will be used in teaching or training or if the animal research will be supported by departmental or other non-regulated funding, departmental approval is required before IACUC approval may be granted. If the Departmental Chair is also an investigator on the protocol, this approval must be obtained from the next highest level of administrative authority not involved in the project.

"I have read the Application to Use Animals, and find this research to be appropriate in design and that the investigator (or faculty sponsor) is competent to perform (or supervise) this study. My signature below denotes departmental approval of this study as submitted."

Name: Department Chair

Signature

Date signed

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5.3 ATU IACUC approval:

Dr. Charlie Gagen

Name: Chair, ATU IACUC

Signature

Date signed

Resources:

- Sources: guidance and technical terminology in this document are largely from these sources, but any errors or deficiencies are the responsibility of TECH's IACUC, which is overseen by the Office of Sponsored Programs.
- A link to NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare - Vertebrate Animals Section
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/vertebrate_animal_section.htm
- American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals
<https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf>