



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Media Guidelines for Activities Involving Vertebrate Animals

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) has developed the following guidelines to help ensure the integrity of UNH research and instruction that involves vertebrate animals, and to safeguard the health and welfare of the vertebrate animals used in such activities and of the individuals who work with them.

1. When projects involve the public release (e.g., via social media, website, newsletter, television) of any media that include images of vertebrate animals used in research or instruction at UNH, or the media or an organization requests to photograph/record/film vertebrate animals and/or animal facilities at UNH, researchers, instructors, and animal facility managers should consider the following:
 - a. Does the activity involving animals comply with UNH IACUC requirements (i.e., follow the IACUC-approved protocol or facility standard operating procedure)?
 - b. Are the images appropriate for public disclosure?
 - c. Are the images appropriate for the intended use?
 - d. Should a clear explanation of the animal use accompany the image so that the viewers understand the context of the activity?

Before photography/recording starts, the IACUC encourages researchers, instructors, and animal facility managers consult the Director of the Animal Resources Office (ARO) and/or the Executive Director of Media Relations (see contact information below) about the activity.

2. The IACUC strongly encourages researchers and instructors who use vertebrate animals, as well as animal facility managers, to talk with students and personnel under their supervision about recording images of animals and the responsible use of any resulting images. This includes recording using cell phones.
 - a. Recording images of animals may be allowed in some animal facilities (e.g., the Fairchild Research and Teaching Dairy Center), but not in others. Whether images may be recorded is at the discretion of the researcher/instructor or facility manager.
 - b. Recording images of animals should be only for professional purposes and is at the discretion of the researcher/instructor or facility manager.

Researchers, instructors, and animal facility managers may consult the ARO Director or the Executive Director of Media Relations any time they have a question about media involving images of vertebrate animals used in research or instruction at UNH.

Contact Information

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