

**POLICY REGARDING ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, CARE, AND DOCUMENTATION**

**PURPOSE:**

This policy serves to provide guidance on daily and periodic animal husbandry practices.

**POLICY:**

According to the Guide, standard animal husbandry activities must be performed at regular and appropriate intervals, as applicable.

**DAILY ACTIVITIES**

- Animal Health & Welfare Walkthrough
- Food and Water Check
- Room Temperature Monitoring
  - Monitoring shall include temperature of time of observation, daily high, and daily low.
- Room Ventilation Check
  - Ventilation check should include air movement, odor, and if applicable, pressure differential or humidity.

**PERIODIC ACTIVITIES**

- Cage Space & Overcrowding Check
- Bedding Changes
- Caging Changes
- Room Cleaning & Sanitation
  - Cleaning and sanitation shall include floors, walls, ceilings, fixtures, etc.

The activities listed above are not all encompassing, and should be modified based on environmental and housing conditions, species, health status, etc. Aquatic animals may require additional assessments, care, and/or husbandry tasks.

Current, accurate, and easily accessible documentation of animal care activities is required. Such information is vital to persons involved in the animal care and use program at Liberty University. As such, the Liberty University IACUC requires care and husbandry activities to be maintained on an animal housing room activity log at the animal room level, though this may be modified as appropriate depending on the species involved. An example log is attached to this policy and is available on the IACUC website; this log may be modified as needed. Completed logs must be maintained and provided upon request. Husbandry logs should be maintained for a minimum of three years.

Facility or vivarium managers should review the husbandry logs on a routine basis to ensure accuracy and compliance with husbandry and animal care requirements, policies, and expectations. Facility and site inspections will request these documents.

Failure to maintain and furnish a complete, accurate log results in not compliance with regard to federal and institutional policies. In such instances, the IACUC or other agencies may take additional or required actions to address immediate, emerging, or trending issues.

Month/Year:

Building:

Room:

Frequency:		DAILY														
Date	Time	Health ✓	Water ✓	Feed ✓	Current Temp (°F)	High Temp (°F)	Low Temp (°F)	Vent. ✓	Pressure Diff. (+/-)	Cage Space/ Overcrowding ✓	Bedding Change	Bottle Change	Cage Change	Floor Sweep/Mop	Room Clean/San.	Comments
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3																
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Note: Individuals completing this log must clearly identify themselves in the comments section. A separate log must be maintained in each animal room.

Reviewed and approved by the IACUC: 11/28/17, Effective: 11/28/17