



TITLE: "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals" and "Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research", and "Guidelines for Use of Live Amphibians and Reptiles in Field and Laboratory Research" as Adopted Standards

Purpose: The purpose of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (Guide), the *AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia* (formerly "Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia"), the *Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research*, and *Guidelines for the Use of Live Amphibians and Reptiles in Field and Laboratory Research* is to help institutions care for and use animals in ways judged to be scientifically, technically, and humanely appropriate. Further, the Guide and taxa-specific guides are intended to help investigators fulfill their obligations to plan and conduct animal experiments in accord with the highest scientific, humane, and ethical principles. The Guide and taxa-specific guides define the minimum standards for appropriate care and use of animals that FIT assures many of the funding sources, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH) - Public Health Service (PHS) and National Science Foundation (NSF), that we follow. Without such an assurance, those funding sources cannot provide research dollars.

PROCEDURE: The FIT Animal Care and Use Committee uses the current "Guide" and taxa-specific guides (fish, amphibians, reptiles) as the minimal standards of care for all laboratory and other research animals under the jurisdiction of FIT. Investigators should seek additional guidance from either a research animal veterinarian, the Animal Welfare Program Manager, and/or the IACUC.

[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals 8th Ed. \(2011\). National Academies Press: Washington DC.](#)

[Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research \(2014\). American Fisheries Society: Bethesda, MD.](#)

[Guidelines for Use of Live Amphibians and Reptiles in Field and Laboratory Research 2nd Ed. \(2004\). American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists \(online only\).](#)

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