



January 14, 2013

USDA – APHIS – Animal Care
ATTN: LINDA L. KOVAR
2150 Centre Ave., Building B
Mail Stop # 3W11
Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117

Dear Ms. Kovar:

Thank you for the week’s extension in responding to your letter of December 19, 2012, with the request for additional information regarding our animal care facility annual report (APHIS form 7023).

Following our telephone conversation on January 10, 2013, I am submitting this additional information which has been supplied by the director of the UALR animal care center:

Registration number 71-R-0012, Customer # 1456

Exceptions approved by the IACUC

Exceptions to the use of gunshot with projectiles passing through the brain are approved for occasional taking of free-ranging wild mammals where damage to cranial material is contrary to the intended use of the specimen. In such cases, and to the extent possible, projectiles are aimed so as to pass through the spine and heart. This exception applies to animals taken under teaching protocols involving wild mammals and applies to mesocarnivores and deer. Fewer than ten animals are affected per year. The IACUC has reviewed the explanation by the principal investigator and approved this exception.

Additional information requested by USDA

1. No covered animals were affected by this exception during the FY 2012 reporting period.
2. The course instructor is authorized to perform euthanasia via gunshot where needed. The instructor has appropriate training, credentials, and experience to perform these duties. Animals taken for study specimens by students in field classes are deposited in the systematic collection. These specimens must have intact skulls (not brains) to be of greatest use because skulls are among the most important archival materials in any systematic collection of mammals.

If additional information is need, please let me know.

Sincerely yours

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