

Purpose

To clarify how animals may be disposed of under an approved animal use protocol.

Scope

These policies apply to animals involved in teaching, testing, and research at Indiana University. Different natural histories, physiologies, behaviors, and environmental requirements together with different research protocols warrant that requirements for disposition of animals should be suited to the particular species, as has been recognized in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide).

Policies

1. All animals: The Animal Care and Use Protocol form must indicate the intended final disposition for the animals involved.

Disposition of domestic and farm animals used in research. Disposition of animals on an approved protocol may be removed in the following ways:

- a. Euthanized in accordance with current AVMA Panel on Euthanasia guidelines.
 - b. Transferred from one active protocol to another active protocol. This requires a prior request to and approval by IACUC.
 - c. Returned to privately-owned or researcher-owned care, respectively, if client or researcher originally donated these to the study.
 - d. Transfer to suitable institution.
 - e. Adoption by individuals which have completed the Indiana University adoption form. Adoption must be an approved disposition listed on the animal use protocol. Final approval of a specific adoption must come from a LAR veterinarian. Pending adoption, animals can only be housed on a space available basis. Animals on active research or teaching protocols have priority for housing
2. Animals that are not eligible for adoption:
 - a. Genetically modified animals (transgenics)
 - b. Animals that have undergone major surgeries
 - c. Animals with experimentally induced diseases or conditions
 - d. Animals that the LAR veterinarian judges not to be suitable for adoption
 3. Disposition of non-farm and non-domestic vertebrate animals that include most birds and wildlife mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and various groups of fishes. Because of the large number of nontraditional animals and their varied physiologic requirements, the Guide encourages husbandry appropriate for the particular species. These animals remaining at the end of an approved protocol may be removed in the following ways:
 - a. By any of the methods mentioned above except adoption.
 - b. Returned to the wild in accordance with state and federal wildlife regulations and collecting permits.
 4. Fiscal responsibility for all animals will remain the responsibility of the PI or his/her home department until final disposition (euthanasia, transfer, or adoption) is accomplished.