Field Exempt Protocol Policy

Most work with animals requires a full-length approved IACUC protocol. Some non-invasive, observational studies which do not permanently alter the behavior of animals may be considered exempt from a full IACUC protocol form. All Field Exempt Protocol applications are reviewed by the entire IACUC committee. Field Exempt Protocols do not have to submit annual reports unless requested by the Committee.

Exempt Activities for Vertebrate Animals

Activities may include but are not limited to specific activities where manipulation of any free-living animal in its natural habitat is noninvasive and does not harm or permanently alter the behavior of the animal under study.

Special Restrictions Apply to Mammals

Exempt activities involving mammals may only include observation and recording of observations. Trapping, handling or otherwise manipulating mammals requires a full IACUC protocol.

Non-mammalian Vertebrates

Detailed procedures regarding restraint or containment including the length of time the animal will be restrained or contained should be specified in the Protocol Description. Documentation must be provided to show that the time specified will not harm or permanently alter the behavior of the animal based on the current literature for that species. Restraint or containment of invasive species are to follow government specified procedures. Invasive species may not be brought back to the CSULB campus. Due diligence must be used at all times during the capture/containment of wild animals to prevent/reduce morbidity and mortality. Exempt activities for non-mammalian vertebrates following trapping/capture may include: observation, photography, counting, species identification, sex identification, morphological measurement or physical exam; catch and release, beach seine and release, paint marking, remove tail fragment (lizards), fin clip, band, shell engraving, and external tagging. Exempt activities determinations are at the sole discretion of the IACUC.

Protocol Review and Approvals

The IACUC approves activities involving the use of animals in Exempt Field Studies for up to three years. When the entire project period exceeds one year, an annual review of the activities may be requested by the IACUC.
Field Exempt Protocol Application

Exempt Activity Title/Class Name:

Principal Investigator/Course Director:

Academic Title: College/Department:

Work Phone: Email:

Nature of Work: Place an X next to type of work that best describes your protocol

_____ Research Only _____ Teaching Only _____ Research and Teaching

Proposed Location(s) of Exempt Field Work:

Beginning Date: End Date:

Exempt Field Work Protocol Description:

I verify that the nature of the research/field trip(s) consist(s) of exempt field work activities as defined above. Should the nature of this work change I will promptly inform the IACUC.

*If submitted electronically, the electronic submission will serve and the electronic signature.

Signature*: Date: