

Research Office IACUC	Reporting Animal Welfare Concerns – Policy & Guideline	IACUC Approved: Rev. 11-2016
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Reporting Animal Welfare and other Concerns

POLICY:

Any person with direct knowledge or reasonable suspicions of any animal welfare concerns or mistreatment of animals associated with Oregon State University is obligated to report them promptly. Members of the OSU community are also obligated to report animal activity noncompliance.

The Animal Welfare Act protects the rights of individuals reporting animal welfare concerns and prohibits discrimination against or reprisal for reporting violations of regulations or standards under the Animal Welfare Act.

GUIDELINE:

Prompt reporting of animal welfare concerns is essential to protect all animals involved and to aid in any investigation of allegations. Anyone aware of animal mistreatment must discuss the incident with one of the contacts below, so the animal(s) involved can be evaluated and receive appropriate medical care. Concerns regarding participant health & safety should be reported to EH&S [<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/forms>, see the “Accident Forms” section]

Members of the OSU community are obligated to report animal activity noncompliance, or unauthorized animal use. Contact one of the people listed below, submit an Incident Report Form found on the IACUC website [<http://research.oregonstate.edu/iacuc/iacuc-forms>], or submit an anonymous report with OSU’s online reporting system via EthicsPoint. Under normal circumstances involving limited risk, questions about compliance can first be discussed with the supervisor and/or study personnel.

Animal Welfare Concerns - Contact list:

- Attending Veterinarian, [Dr. Helen Diggs](#): 510-363-5228; 541-737-6213
- IACUC Administrator, [Dr. Rebecca Henry](#): 541-737-2762
- IACUC Chairperson, [Dr. L.J. “Kelvin” Koong](#): 541-740-6823
- Institutional Official, [Dr. Cynthia Sagers](#): 541-737-0664
- Public Safety, 541-737-7000

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You can submit an anonymous report online through the OSU Office of University Compliance site [<http://leadership.oregonstate.edu/compliance/reporting-concerns>] or call **1-855-388-4971**. **Note:** this system is not equipped to handle emergencies. For emergencies, contact the Attending Veterinarian, or others listed above.

Protection & Procedures

- Neither administrative action nor retribution of any kind may be taken against a person making a good faith report of deficiencies. This is in accordance with federal law [9 CFR, Part 2, Subpart C 2.32 (c) (4)].
- Reports of suspected deficiencies should be provided in writing whenever possible and should include, but need not be limited to, the nature of the concern, location of the occurrence, the person or persons involved, the date, the time range, and any supporting facts or materials.

Resulting Actions

- The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) will investigate animal welfare allegations reported in good faith, and provide a report to the Institutional Official in a timely manner.
- Allegations and committee reports of deficiencies, findings, or recommendations, as well as administrative or legal actions taken by the committee, are considered privileged information.

Consequences

- Willful mistreatment or abuse of animals may be grounds for suspension of personnel, animal activities, protocols, or other disciplinary actions. Disciplinary action may be appealed through existing institutional procedures.

Policy Availability

- Animal welfare concern reporting procedures will be posted in all OSU animal facilities and available online to ensure access for those involved in animal activities associated with OSU. Further, principal investigators are responsible for assuring that all participants involved with OSU animal activities under their direction are aware of the above procedures.