

## FGCU IACUC Animal Distress Classifications

*Adapted from USDA Pain and Distress Categories*

Observation Only	Category A	Category B	Category C	Category D-1	Category D-2	Category E	Category F
<p><b>Animals only observed.</b> No change to animal's environment or interaction with the animal.</p> <p>Can occur in the field, lab or classroom.</p>	<p><b>Animals in the wild,</b> no direct animal contact; animal's <b>environment is manipulated</b> in a way that there is no direct contact with the animal.</p>	<p><b>Animals in captivity;</b> animal use is confined to <b>normal maintenance;</b> breeding, conditioning, <b>or holding for future use</b> in teaching or research.</p>	<p>Animal use activities that involve <b>no pain or limited distress AND no use of pain-relieving drugs or methods WITH animal handling limited to ≤10 minutes.</b></p>	<p>Animal use activities that involve <b>momentary, slight pain, discomfort, or stress AND no use of pain relieving drugs or methods WITH animal handling &gt;10 minutes.</b></p>	<p>Animal use activities that involve <b>associated pain or distress to the animals and relieved</b> by appropriate anesthetic, analgesic, tranquilizing drugs or other methods for relieving pain or distress are used.</p>	<p>Animal use activities that involve accompanying <b>pain or distress to the animals NOT relieved</b> by appropriate anesthetic, analgesic, tranquilizing drugs or other methods for relieving pain or distress.</p>	<p><b>Animal is euthanized according to accepted guidelines.</b></p>
	Examples	Examples	Examples	Examples	Examples	Examples	Examples
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Housing or habitat is altered.</li> <li>2. Feeder is installed</li> <li>3. Vocalizations or other auditory stimuli are broadcast.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Normal maintenance of vertebrae animals such as fish stocks for future use in research or teaching.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Manual restraint ≤10 minutes of awake animals to perform non-invasive procedures such as holding, weighing, measuring.</li> <li>2. Behavioral testing with limited stress.</li> <li>3. Changing light cycles for animals held in captivity.</li> <li>4. Banding birds.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Physical restraint of awake animals &gt; 10 min.</li> <li>2. Capturing/trapping live animals (e.g., collecting fish using commercial fishing practices or trapping wild birds, rodents, amphibians).</li> <li>3. Tissue collection such as ear punching, tail or toe clipping.</li> <li>4. Inducing behavioral stress.</li> <li>5. Short-term food or water deprivation.</li> <li>6. Forced exercise.</li> <li>7. For some species, moving from the wild into FGCU's animal resources.</li> <li>8. Catching birds overnight in a mist net.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tagging involving surgical procedures.</li> <li>2. Implantation of minor chronic catheters (e.g., femoral arterial and venous catheters).</li> <li>3. Application of or injections other than anesthetics (e.g., drugs, viruses, etc.).</li> <li>4. Minor surgery with pain relief.</li> <li>5. Chemical immobilization/restraint for ≤ 60 minutes.</li> <li>6. Injections</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research or procedures that require continuation until death occurs (e.g., fisheries mortality studies)</li> <li>2. Application of noxious chemicals or stimuli if animals cannot avoid/ escape the stimuli and/ or it is severe enough to cause pain or distress</li> <li>3. Long term withholding of food or water</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collection of voucher specimens to be deposited in museum or teaching facility</li> <li>2. Collection of tissues preceded by standard euthanasia</li> <li>3. Non-survival surgical procedures</li> </ol>