

Procedure: IACUC-17
Date: March 7, 2024
Enabled By: ILAR Guide
Supersedes: March 3, 2022

**UC Davis
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)**

Title: *Use of Radios and Other Sound Generating Devices in the Vivaria*

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to define the acceptable use of radios and other sound generating devices within animal housing areas.

II. Background:

Exposure to loud background sounds can have both auditory and non-auditory effects on animals. Many species can hear frequencies of sound that are inaudible to humans, thus the potential effects of sound-producing instruments such as radios must be carefully considered. When at all possible, activities that might be considered noisy should be conducted in rooms or areas separate from those used for animal housing.

Per the *Guide*, page 50: "Radios, alarms, and other sound generators should not be used in animal rooms unless they are part of an approved protocol or enrichment program. Any radios or sound generators used should be switched off at the end of the working day to minimize associated adverse physiologic changes (Baldwin 2007)."

III. Policy:

Playing radios or other sound generating devices in the vivaria is not permitted unless it is part of an enrichment program, IACUC approved protocol, or facility SOP.

Proposals to the IACUC must include at least the following information:

1. The reason for the radio/device.
2. Specific location(s) where the radio/device will be played.
3. The hours the radio/device will be played.
4. Volume the radio/device will be played.
5. Type of music that will be played.

IV. Resources:

1. ILAR, Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
<http://nap.edu/12910>