

Policy:	SC-37-100
Date:	6/9/2025
Enabled by:	IACUC/AV/ ILAR/APHIS
Supersedes:	4/1/2022

Title: Husbandry Care of Nonhuman Primates

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to outline the minimum standards of care for non-human primates.

II. Policy:

All units providing animal care for non-human primates must meet or exceed these minimum requirements based on the USDA Animal Welfare Regulations (*AWR*), the ILAR Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (*Guide*). Deviations or exceptions must be approved by the Attending Veterinarian and the IACUC.

III. Procedures:

Daily (365 days a year without exception):

- Observe each animal and check for health concerns (*AWR* 2.33).
- Ensure adequate feed and potable water is available (*Guide* pg. 65-68).
 - Infants and juveniles should be fed as often as necessary (*AWR* 3.82).
- Record sick and dead animals and report the findings to either Primate Medicine or Campus Veterinary Services (CVS), or designated clinical veterinarian per standard operating procedure for reporting sick or dead animals.
- Record minimum and maximum temperatures and humidity for indoor facilities.
 - Temperature range for non-human primates depends on the species, but is generally 64°F to 84°F (*AWA* 3.76 & 3.78).
 - Humidity range for non-human primates is 30% to 70% (*Guide* pg. 44)
- Remove excreta and food waste (*AWR* 3.75).
- Spot clean cage, removing animals unless sufficient space is available for the animals to remain dry (*AWR* 3.84).
- Remove standing water so that animals can stay dry. (*AWR* 3.75)
- Remove and replace any enrichment devices that are worn, damaged, or heavily soiled (*Guide* pg. 72)
- Clean and organize room, anterooms, and surrounding premises (*AWR* 3.84).
- Record daily completion of each task, initial each task, and date the log.

Biweekly (not to exceed every 14 days):

- Clean and disinfect primary enclosure, feed and water receptacles, and environmental enrichment (AWR 3.84).

As needed:

- Disinfect the animal room including walls, floors, and ceilings (if possible) (*Guide* pg. 72).
- Remove and replace worn or damaged equipment from primary enclosures and surrounding facility (*Guide* pg. 72).
- Chow must be discarded after 6 months of the milling date (*Guide* pg. 66) unless manufacturer guidelines recommend a shorter or longer expiration date.
- Clean and sanitize feed storage containers (*Guide* pg. 67).
- Each facility will develop their own best practices with sanitization of the macroenvironment typically occurring every 6 months or whenever there is a change in species but may vary with facility.

Environmental Enrichment:

- Refer to the Environmental Enrichment policy ([SOC-30-102](#)).

Facilities:

- Temperature alarms must be installed in all rooms housing nonhuman primates (*Guide* pg. 143).
- Adequate ventilation must be provided for the health and comfort of the animal at all times, by means of windows, doors, vents, or air conditioning and shall be ventilated so as to minimize drafts, odor, and moisture condensation (AWR 3.79).
 - A minimum of 10-15 fresh room air exchanges per hour shall be provided in animal housing rooms (*Guide* pg. 46).
 - Auxiliary ventilation, such as exhaust fans and vents or air conditioning, shall be provided when ambient temperature is 85°F or higher for more than four consecutive hours (AWR 3.76).
 - Sheltered housed animals must have auxiliary ventilation, such as exhaust fans and vents or air conditioning, shall be provided when ambient temperature is 85°F or higher for more than four consecutive hours and must be provided with heat when the temperature falls below 45°F for more than four consecutive hours (AWR 3.77)
 - Outdoor housed animals must have adequate shelter to be protected from the elements and safely provide heat when temperature falls below 45°F (AWR 3.78).
- Floors shall be moisture-resistant, non-absorbent, impact-resistant, and relatively smooth (*Guide* pg. 137). Refer to Physical Plant SOC 50-102.
- Only acclimated animals may be housed in outdoor enclosures, and adequate shelter from the elements, large enough to comfortably provide protection to each nonhuman primate, must be provided at all times (AWR 3.78).
- Perimeter fencing, sufficient to keep unwanted species out and of sufficient distance from primary enclosure, is required (AWR 3.78).

Housing:

- Caging/Enclosures must be in good condition, free of any damage that may cause injury and prevent accidental opening (*AWR* 3.80).
- Whenever possible, social nonhuman primate species should be socially housed based on compatibility (*AWR* 3.81).
- Nonhuman primates that are singly housed due to experimental need or veterinary discretion must receive additional enrichment as well as positive human interactions at least daily (*Guide* pg. 64).
- Minimum floor space excludes food or water pans (*AWR* 3.80).
- Low perches and ledges that do not allow the space underneath them to be comfortably occupied by the animal do not count as floor space (*AWR* 3.80).
- Space requirements:

Weight (kg)	Floor Area/Animal (ft ²)	Height (in)
<1*	1.6	20
1-3*	3.0	30
3-10*	4.3	30
10-15*	6.0	32
Up to 20 [†]	8.0	36
Up to 25 [†]	10.0	46
>25*	25.1	84
(* <i>AWR</i> 3.80, [†] <i>Guide</i> pg. 61)		