



OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE

# Working Instructions

|                        |               |  |                    |          |
|------------------------|---------------|--|--------------------|----------|
| <b>WIN Number:</b>     | <b>301</b>    | <b>Nonhuman Primate<br/>Health Check</b> | <b>Revision #:</b> | <b>0</b> |
| <b>Date Effective:</b> | <b>3/1/24</b> |  | <b>Supersedes:</b> | <b>0</b> |

|                   |                    |              |                       |              |           |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
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|                   | Satori Le          | <b>Sign:</b> | <i>Satori Le</i>      | <b>Date:</b> | 2/27/24   |
| <b>Director:</b>  | Dr. Gregory Lawson | <b>Sign:</b> | <i>Gregory Lawson</i> | <b>Date:</b> | 2/27/2024 |

## PROCEDURE

All work instructions must be demonstrated by the trainer and performed by the trainee.

### 1. Special Instructions:

- Check for special instructions daily on the cage tags placed on each NHP's cage prior to beginning work in the room. Refer to "Nonhuman Primate Cage Tag" for additional information.

### 2. Health Check:

- Perform health checks in the morning, unless instructed otherwise by the Facility Supervisor or Veterinarian. Observe each animal and the animal's cage environment and assess animal health. Report all health concerns via "health-usda" slack group.

| <u><b>Emergency Health Concerns</b></u>   | <u><b>Non-Emergency Health Concerns</b></u>   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lethargy: NHP is very withdrawn or unresponsive. May appear hunched, be reluctant to move, lying down, etc.</li> <li>• Breathing problems: Exaggerated, increased or decreased breathing</li> <li>• Paralysis: Complete loss of use of one or more limbs</li> <li>• Seizure: may lay on side and paddle or rhythmically move limbs</li> <li>• Severe wounds: Large or deep open wounds</li> <li>• Masses or swelling: Anywhere on the body, with open wounds</li> <li>• Damage/Loss of implant</li> <li>• Dehydration: Common condition caused by diarrhea and/or vomiting. Clinical signs on cage side observation include: sunken eyes (especially the underside of the eye), rough hair coat, and slow to blink</li> <li>• Active bleeding: any frank (red) blood that is actively oozing or dripping</li> <li>• Foreign objects</li> <li>• Caging malfunction/broken caging</li> <li>• Prolapse (rectal or penile): Tissue that is normally held within the body is hanging outside of the body</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Body Condition/Thin body</li> <li>• Dermatitis: Inflamed/irritated skin or skin lesions</li> <li>• Fighting/Minor fight wounds: animals observed fighting and/or pinpoint lesions</li> <li>• Masses or swelling: Anywhere on the body, with no open wounds</li> <li>• Eye conditions: Swelling, discharge, discoloration, or bulging</li> <li>• Gait/Locomotion: Problems moving around normally, staggering, or limping</li> <li>• Abnormal skin color: Yellow, red, or pale</li> <li>• Alopecia</li> <li>• Red substance in cage</li> <li>• Scant stool (very small stool quantity) or No stool</li> <li>• Blood present in stool</li> <li>• Abnormal stool quality (mounding or liquid stool, smell and/or color)</li> <li>• Vomiting or regurgitation</li> </ul> |

**3. Feed:**

- a. Look in each cage and remove ALL old biscuits from the previous day.
  - Use the grabber device to remove food through the food hopper opening.
  - If food cannot be accessed through the hopper opening, shift NHP's to a different section of the cage, lock animals out of the cage containing biscuits, & open the cage door to remove old biscuits.
  - Close the cage door, replace all locks and carabiners, and return animals to the cage.

**4. Appetite Recording:**

- a. Record leftover biscuits (if applicable) in the morning before AM feeding, on the approved Appetite Log.
- b. For paired animals split biscuit counts in half.
  - Ex: 14 total biscuits leftover, record 7 in the "Leftover Feed" column for each animal.
- c. **AM feeding:**
  - Before feeding, check the appetite log for biscuit portions for each NHP.
  - Separate all NHP's for feeding.
  - Place new biscuits in the food hopper for AM feed according to the number listed for each animal on the appetite log.

- Repair NHP's at minimum 15 minutes after feeding.
- d. **PM feeding:**
  - Feed NHP's at least 3 hours after AM feed.
  - Separate all NHP's for feeding.
  - Place new biscuits in the food hopper for PM feed according to the number listed for each animal on the appetite log.
  - Do not remove any existing biscuits from the cage.
  - Repair NHP's at minimum 15 minutes after feeding.
- e. **Fasting:**
  - Do not feed NHP's with a yellow tag placed on the front of their cage. This indicates that the NHP is being fasted for sedation or another veterinarian or research related reason.
  - Refer to "Nonhuman Primate Cage Tag" for additional information.
- f. **Vitamin:**
  - Offer one (1) multivitamin to each NHP daily. Do not offer multiple vitamins as treats.

#### 4. **Water:**

- a. Check each lixit to ensure automatic water lixits are functioning.
- b. Push the pole or other approved lixit testing device into the cage until the lixit is touched.
- c. Push the middle needle at the center of the lixit in any direction to test operation.
- d. Look for a stream of water coming from the lixit opening (a drop is not sufficient, look for a steady trickle or stream).
  - If no water is present, first check that the supply hose is attached properly.
  - The supply hose is located behind the cage and is connected to water pipes on the wall of the housing room.
  - If the problem persists, report to the supervisor immediately.
- e. **Water Regulated Animals:**
  - Do not provide water to NHP's with a purple "no water" tag placed on the front of their cage. This indicates that the NHP is being water regulated for a research-related reason.

#### 5. **Enrichment:**

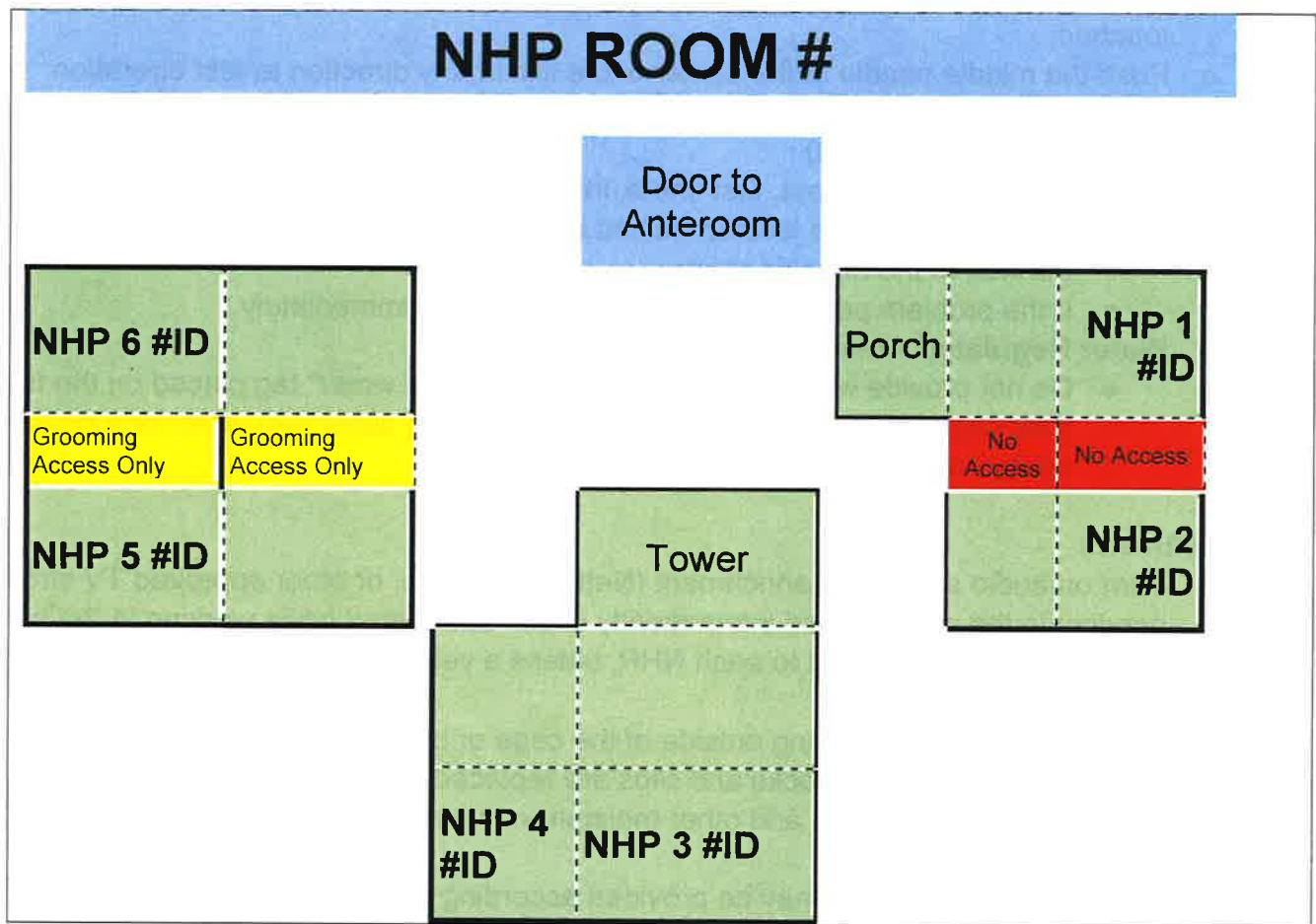
- a. Turn on audio and visual enrichment (Netflix, YouTube, or other approved TV streaming service) in the morning and intermittently check and restart while working in the area.
- b. Offer dry food enrichment to each NHP, unless a yellow fasting tag is placed in front of the cage.
  - Enrichment can hang outside of the cage or be put inside of the cage, if put inside, ensure all locks and clips are replaced afterwards.
  - Fruits, vegetables, and other moisture-containing food items are provided by the lab.
  - Extra enrichment may be provided according to the veterinary staff. Check the enrichment for additional enrichment labeled with the NHP name prior to providing.

- c. Check each cage and ensure there is at least one toy per NHP inside the cage.
  - Hanging enrichment and/or toys outside of the cage are not counted.
  - Remove and replace toys when visibly soiled or when excessive wear/tear prohibits effective sanitation.

**6. Social Housing/Pairing:**

- a. Look at the “NHP Map” document posted in the room & verify that animals are paired correctly.
  - Green: Full access to cage(s)
  - Yellow: Grooming access
  - Red: No access
- b. Ensure all cage dividers are set according to the “NHP Map” document posted in the housing room.
- c. Do not pair animals that have been separated and do not modify cage configurations and pairing status if there is a colored tag placed (e.g., red tag for Veterinary Staff separation & green tag for Lab Staff separation) on the front of their cage.

### NHP Map



**7. Cage Cleaning:**

- a. Inspect each cage and remove visible feces and food debris from perches by scrubbing with a brush or other approved device.
  - Shift animals to a neighboring cage in order to clean perches.
- b. Before cleaning pans, tilt each pan upward (if applicable) so that all liquid debris flows to the back of the pan.
  - Clean cage pans by spraying each pan with a hose until the debris exits the pan.
  - To facilitate cleaning, you may need to pull out the cage pan by a few inches in order to remove the debris.
  - If applicable, return the cage pan to the “down position” by pressing down on the side of the pan.

**8. Room Cleaning:**

- a. After cage pans are cleaned, hose the floor with water to remove visible debris from the floor.
- b. Spray all debris present behind the cages and in the walking areas to the back of the room near the floor grates.
- c. Check walls in the housing room and remove any debris by spraying with a hose or using a paper towel and disinfectant to remove debris.
- d. Discard large debris using a dustpan prior to removing the floor grates.
  - This is to prevent drains from clogging.
- e. Remove floor grates and place them to the side away from the drain openings.
- f. Spray the remaining debris into the floor grates.
- g. Pull the lever inside the metal panel located at the back of the room to flush drains with water.
  - Ensure the drains are clear of debris, then turn off the drain flush lever.
- h. Replace all floor grates.
- i. Squeegee the floor to ensure there are no puddles of water left on the floor.
- j. Mop the housing room floors with approved disinfectant.

**NHP Cage Tags**

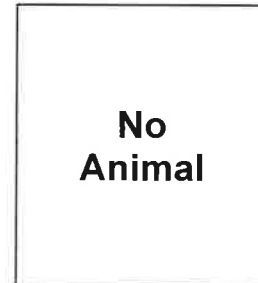
No Food (Do not feed)



No Water (Do not give water)



Veterinary Staff Separation



No Animal (animal is removed from cage)



Laboratory Staff Separation



CAUTION (Water Lixit NOT  
Attached- Reconnect Lixit After  
Cage Manipulation)



Animal name, ID#

**Please contact Supervisor & Vet staff if you think a tag has been placed in error.**

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

| REVISION HISTORY |           |                |             |
|------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| REVISION NUMBER  | AUTHOR(S) | EFFECTIVE DATE | REVISION(S) |
|                  |           |                |             |
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