



OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE

Working Instructions

WIN Number:	408	Field Station Songbird High Clean	Revision #:	0
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PROCEDURE

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

Aviary Setup:

1. Collect the necessary supplies:
 - a. Perching devices (rope, branches, or other approved device)
 - b. Hanging feeders (3-4)
 - c. Floor food trays (1-2)
 - d. Floor bird baths (2)
 - e. Floor Waterer (1-2)
 - f. Wall feeders (4)
 - g. Cuttlebone holders (2-4)
 - h. Bungee cords
 - i. Zip ties
 - j. Hanging platforms (2-3)
 - k. Heating pad
 - l. Nest boxes
 - m. Net
 - n. Approved disinfectant and spray pump, foamer, or bottle
 - o. Hose
 - p. Scrub brush and cleaning supplies
2. Hang up a minimum of 2 approved perching devices (ropes or branches) and tie or zip tie the devices to the hooks on the walls to secure them.

3. Fill hanging bird feeders with finch seed from the storage container.
 - a. Place the dome shaped cover over each feeder and hang them around the room using bungee cords and/or zip ties.
4. Fill floor trays with finch seed and place them on the ground.
 - a. Floor feeders allow the birds who are unable to fly the opportunity to feed.
5. Fill water baths with sink water and add a small branch to each tray.
 - a. The water bath trays should have a small hole drilled along the side to allow overflow water to drain and prevent drowning.
 - b. The branch allows birds to enter and exit the bath without drowning.
6. Fill the floor waterer with sink water and place it on the floor.
 - a. Avoid placing floor devices under perching equipment to avoid contamination via defecation.
7. Hang the hanging platforms on the perching equipment using zip ties/bungee cords.
8. Remove the heating pad from the dirty room by cutting the zip ties and clean with approved disinfectant.
 - a. Once it is clean, take the heating pad to the clean room, reattach with zip ties and plug in to the outlet.
9. Fill wall feeders with grit and hang them in various locations on the wall.
10. Add more nest boxes to the wall (if applicable).

Moving Animals to Clean Aviary:

1. In the dirty aviary, remove all supplies from the room (trays, feeders, enrichment devices, perching devices, etc.) and place them into a bag or on a cart.
2. Open the window that connects to the adjacent aviary to allow the birds to fly to the clean side.
3. Gently hover a lightweight, long branch to move birds through the window.
 - a. Allow the birds to perch on the branch and gently hover the branch near the window to the other room.
4. Catch any remaining birds with a net using proper techniques as demonstrated by the trainer, until all birds are moved to the clean aviary.
5. Transferring occupied nest boxes:
 - a. One person in the dirty aviary will gently remove an occupied nest box from the wall and transfer it to the person in the clean aviary through the window.
 - b. Mimic the placement of the nest boxes from the dirty side to the clean side.
 - c. Replace empty nest boxes (no fledglings present) with a clean nest box.
 - d. Repeat until all nest boxes are moved from the dirty room to the clean room.
6. Visually confirm all birds are moved to the clean aviary, then place the window panels on both sides of the room to block access to the dirty aviary.
7. Place dirty supplies into a trash bag and take them to the dirty cage wash at NAF.

Aviary Cleaning:

1. Sweep and discard all debris on the floor, remove the drain cover and clean the drain.
2. Attach the hose to the water source in the room.
3. Spray the floor and walls, then turn off the water.
4. Use dish soap and a long scrub brush or other approved cleaning device to remove visible debris from floors and walls.
5. Spray the room with water to rinse out all soap residues.
6. Fill the mop bucket with approved, properly diluted disinfectant.
7. Mop the floor with disinfectant.
8. Dip a flat mop into the mop bucket and wipe the walls and ceilings with the properly diluted disinfectant.
9. Rinse the floors and walls with water.
10. Use a squeegee or other approved device to push excess water to the drain.
11. The room is now ready to be set up with clean equipment for the next high clean.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

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