

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Minutes for January 28, 2002

**Call to Order**

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi met on January 28, 2022, via Zoom. Quorum was confirmed and the meeting was called to order at 10:00 am with the following members present.

Total Number of Members Present in Voting Capacity: 9

# required for quorum: 6

**Meeting Attendance**

Meeting Chair:

<u>Chair name</u>	<u>Voting Status</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Scientific</u>	<u>Arrive late</u>	<u>Left Early</u>	<u>Teleconference</u>
Felix Omoruyi	Voting	Full	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom

Members Present:

<u>Member name</u>	<u>Voting Status</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Scientific</u>	<u>Arrive late</u>	<u>Left Early</u>	<u>Teleconference</u>
Kesley Banks	Voting	Full	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Eric Christensen	Voting	Full	Affiliated	Non-Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Michael Garcia	Voting	Full	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Jean Sparks	Voting	Full	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Shayna Whitaker	Voting	Full/Vet	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Daniel Coffey	Voting	Alternate, Orbach	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Charles Sassine	Voting	Alternate, McCracken	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
John Scarpa	Voting	Alternate, Seemann	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Paula Baker	Non-Voting	Alternate, Vet Whitaker	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom
Angelica Chapa	Non-Voting	Alternate, Sparks/ Omoruyi	Affiliated	Scientific	N/A	N/A	Zoom

Staff and Guest Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Teleconference</u>
John Scarpa	IACUC/IBC Coordinator	Zoom
Rebecca Ballard	Director, Research Compliance	Zoom

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**I. Conflict of Interest**

Members are reminded of their obligation to disclose any conflict of interest related to any of the items on today's agenda. The Chair called for any disclosures of conflict of interest. No conflicts were declared.

**II. Minutes**

Minutes from December 10, 2021, were reviewed. The Chair invited additional comments, questions, and/or concerns. Having none, the motion to approve was made, seconded, and carried.

Vote yes:	8	Recused:	0
Vote no:	0	Excused:	0
Abstain:	1		

**III. New business**

The Committee reviewed new business items.

Education: Members were provided the following educational opportunities and reminded to forward their training certificate to ORC if they attend.

- 1) **ICARE Virtual Sessions Webinar:** OLAW Conversations (Top Noncompliances from an OLAW, USDA....); 19 Jan 2022, If attended, please send certificate (email invite was sent 13 Jan)
- 2) **NAS ILAR Workshop - Animal Welfare Challenges ... on Wildlife, ...;** 9 & 10 Feb 2022, On-Line, FREE, but need to register.

**IV. Amendment**

<b>IACUC #:</b>	<b>22-18</b>
Protocol title:	Metabolic rate experiments to optimize rearing and restocking protocols, focus southern flounder
Principal Investigator:	Simon Geist
Primary Reviewers:	D. Orbach and E. Christensen
Conflict of Interest:	N/A
Species:	Southern Flounder ( <i>Paralichthys lethostigma</i> ) and Spotted Seatrout ( <i>Cynoscion nebulosus</i> )
Amendment Type:	Change Location
Summary:	I am requesting to remove TH314M as alternative location for conducting research under this protocol which was established as fall back option when experiments at TPWD MDC, Flour Bluff were not allowed due to COVID regulations. TPWD MDC Flour Bluff will remain as sole location for this protocol.

Discussion: Primary reviewer comments were reviewed. No issues noted with the change requested.

The Chair invited additional comments, questions, and/or concerns. Having none, the motion to approve was made, seconded, and carried.

Vote yes:	7	Recused:	0
Vote no:	0	Excused:	0
Abstain:	2		

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## V. Continuing Review

**IACUC #:** 2020-09-009  
**Protocol title:** Development, verification, and implementation of an eDNA detection assay for diamondback terrapins in the Texas Coastal Bend t  
**Principal Investigator:** Baxter  
**Primary Reviewers:** Wei Xu & Michael Garcia  
**Conflict of Interest:** N/A  
**Species:** Turtles (Diamond-backed Terrapin *Malaclemys terrapin* & Red-Eared Slider *Trachemys scripta elegans*)  
**Summary:** Develop eDNA assay for diamondback terrapin; 2) Test assay for effectiveness; and 3) Implement assay into the field  
**CR Update:** Tissue samples have been collected and custody transferred to the Marine Genomics Lab at TAMUCC (Dr. Portnoy). The lab techs are in the process of isolating genetic material.  
 Adverse Events reported? No  
 Alternatives to Animal Use? No  
 Alternatives to Potentially Painful Procedures? No  
 Not Unnecessarily Duplicative? Yes  
 CITI Training: verified OHP Enrollment: verified

**Discussion:** No changes. No reportable event. CITI and OHP was verified. The protocol does not discuss if only adult turtles are used or an indication of size. The PI is trapping turtles and bringing them in to develop an eDNA method. There is no direct biopsy (post-meeting note, yes there is). Pit tagging would be impacted based on size. The manufacture of the pit tag was not specified. This was not an issue that would stop the approval of the continuing review but a good point to clarify.

The Chair invited additional comments, questions, and/or concerns. Having none, the motion to approve with stipulations with a review period of one year was made, seconded, and carried. Stipulation reviewable by chair/vice chair.

Stipulations include: Clarification on turtle size

Vote yes:	9	Recused:	0
Vote no:	0	Excused:	0
Abstain:	0		

## VI. Other

**1) IACUC #:** 2021-10-031  
**Protocol title:** Bottlenose dolphin health assessment  
**Principal Investigator:** D. Orbach  
**Conflict of Interest:** D. Orbach (not present)  
**Species:** Common Bottlenose Dolphin *Turisops truncatus*  
**Summary:** A Federal Aviation Authority certified pilot listed on P.I. Orbach's National Marine Fisheries Services research permit will fly an unmanned aerial vehicle over groups of dolphins to collect videos of their bodies. Remote biopsy tissue samples will be collected with a modified crossbow and floating arrows to assess the stress hormone levels of these dolphins.  
**Protocol Objectives:** (1) establish baseline data on the skin lesion prevalence and severity of free-swimming

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common bottlenose dolphins in South Texas and (2) establish baseline on stress hormone levels of free-swimming common bottlenose dolphins in South Texas.

This submission was approved with stipulations at the November 2021 IACUC meeting. The stipulations included “provide crossbow training certificate.” The PI completed the training in December but receiving the certificate is delayed because of delays with the federal government issuing paperwork. The PI is requesting to modify or delete stipulation “to provide crossbow training certificate”. Until a certificate is received by PI, study collaborators who have a training certificate will be performing this study task.

Discussion: Clarified that the collaborator who will do the crossbow training is listed on the permit. Are they going out past the city limits? There are firearm laws that would apply within city limit waters. The PI is operating under NOAA permit and following those requirements. It will be in Corpus Christi Bay. The crossbow is a firearm and projectile and could have liability concerns. This is not an animal welfare issue but should be checked off through the MAESTRO firearm compliance flag. ORC will alert the PI to the issue and verify as an administrative verification.

The Chair invited additional comments, questions, and/or concerns. Having none, the motion to approve with a review period of one year was made, seconded, and carried.

Vote yes:	9	Recused:	0
Vote no:	0	Excused:	0
Abstain:	0		

### 2) Texas A&M 15-99-07-C1 Policy review

Minor edits were recommended: Adding TAMU-CC as qualifier on the scope of the policy application. The other recommended changes were to edit the IACUC membership requirements to more closely match the language from PHS and our Standard Operating Procedure.

The next IACUC meeting is scheduled at 1:00 PM (regular start time) on February 18, 2022.

Reminder - 2022 meetings will be held via ZOOM.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.