

**Northern Arizona University Biological Sciences Research Annex  
Unexpected Death Reporting Form**

This form is used to report any unexpected animal death that occurs outside of normal Research Annex working hours. This form is intended to assist Research Annex staff in assessing what may have happened to the animal.

Unexpected death is considered to be any death that is un-anticipated or when an animal is euthanized due to un-foreseen or unknown complications.

Expected deaths are those that are stated in the original application, as approved by the NAU IACUC and is expected to occur within the course of the protocol.

Necropsies are typically performed on animals which die unexpectedly, so it is important to preserve the animal quickly. Bag and tag the animal and place in the refrigerator, do not freeze.

Date: 10/26/2018

Principal Investigator: [REDACTED]

Protocol Number: 17-014

Protocol Title: Natural biological rhythms of the Abert's squirrel *Sciurus aberti* along the human-wildlife boundary

Cage/ Tank #:

Animal species: Abert's squirrel (*Sciurus aberti*)

Date death (s) occurred: 10/26/2018

Number of animals: 1

Describe any clinical signs observed before death:

Prior to euthanasia, animal was alert, mobile and aware of its surroundings, however, its right hind foot had a compound fracture from the dog attack.

Is this animal currently part of an experiment?

No

If yes, what treatments have been performed? Please provide information regarding the date and amount of any research substance administered.

If death occurred in the field, specify location and circumstances.

Incident occurred at [REDACTED] on 10/26/18 at 11:00am. 2 hours after opening traps that morning, field assistants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] returned to the field site to close traps and check for animals. Upon entering the field site, they found an unleashed dog with a collar attacking a captured squirrel in its cage. After scaring away the dog, [REDACTED] approached the squirrel and found that the squirrel's right hind foot had been completely broken in the incident. [REDACTED] was immediately called to the field site to euthanize the animal via overdose on isoflurane

and cervical dislocation. The animal was determined to be a new unmarked juvenile male.

If death was due to human or technical error, please describe circumstance under which the death occurred and steps to be taken to avoid recurrence

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Date: 10/30/2018

Principal Investigator: [REDACTED]

Protocol Number: 16-012

Protocol Title: Biological rhythms of the pocket gopher *Thomomys bottae*.

Cage/ Tank #: 08

Animal species: *Tamias cinereicollis*

Date death (s) occurred: 10/21/2018

Number of animals: 1

Describe any clinical signs observed before death:

Animal was trapped the Tuesday before death (10/16/2018). Body mass (68.0g) was compatible with other animals (BM average= 68.7g) and with previous body mass records for the same animal. In September, the first assessment of body mass was 68g and second was 71g. Animal was active when released back in the enclosure and ran into the nest as soon as released. Extra nesting material (alfalfa) was provided in the last two trapping events (Sept/Oct), so animals can prepare nests for winter.

Is this animal currently part of an experiment?

This animal was part of the experiment to assess body temperature along the year in semi-natural conditions. The animal was under experimental conditions since 10/27/2017.

If yes, what treatments have been performed? Please provide information regarding the date and amount of any research substance administered.

Animal was implanted with body temperature loggers in 10/25/2017 and then re-implanted in 05/23/2018. Since then, the animal was re-trapped 1 to 2 times a month to assess health, reproductive state, body mass and collect feces.

If death occurred in the field, specify location and circumstances.

Death happened in semi-natural enclosures. Animal was found dead after not showing signs of activity for a week.

If death was due to human or technical error, please describe circumstance under which the death occurred and steps to be taken to avoid recurrence

NA