



**Policy Statement #17–09 Field and Wildlife Studies
Faculty of Science, Mahidol University–Institutional
Animal Care and Use Committee (MUSC–IACUC)**

The MUSC–IACUC is responsible for the oversight of all research, testing and training activities involving animals in the field and wildlife studies. In the case of field studies, protocols must provide sufficient information such that the IACUC can evaluate the location and nature of the field site, impact on study animals, risks to other wildlife or to the surrounding environment, as well as occupational health of personnel involved in the study.

1. It is the responsibility of the investigator to obtain all necessary permits from agencies or authorities where activities are conducted prior to the start of research and to include relevant permit information within the Animal Proposal.
2. A single research project may be subject to laws requiring permits such as Wildlife Protection Act, B.E. 2535 (A.D. 1992). The IACUC relies on the expertise of the permitting agency to provide investigator with assessments and requirements related to wildlife population management, disease control, and transport.
3. IACUC review of field studies focuses mainly on humane care and use of wildlife, and includes institutional oversight of associated participant training, safety and occupational health assessment. IACUC also ensure compliance with the regulations and permit requirements of pertinent laws and national regulations.
4. It is noted that permitting agencies may have varying processes for issuing permits, and permits may be issued before or after IACUC approval of a project and occupational health and safety (OHS) permit. Applicant should be responsible for providing copy of permit to IACUC prior to the actual start of the research.
5. The principal investigator should be aware that she/he is responsible for the OHS of all personnel involved in the study, and for the assessment and communication of risks and hazards that may impact human health and safety.
6. Studies that involve only observation and do not harm or alter the activity or behavior of the animals can use the exempt protocol form.