TITLE: Donation of Rodents for Feed

PURPOSE
To describe the conditions for donating euthanized rodents to non-profits for feed sources.

Definitions
- Wild-type: an animal that has not been genetically modified in any way.
- Birds of Prey Foundation (BPF): non-profit organization with the mission of rehabilitating and releasing injured and orphaned raptors back into the wild.
- Denver Zoo: serves as a primary regional resource for local wildlife conservation through programs that encourage the protection of animals and their ecosystems, promote the advancement of conservation science and provide enjoyable conservation education for visitors.

CONDITIONS FOR DONATION
- Wild-type rodents must be separated from transgenic animals and those treated with hazardous chemicals. Only wild-type rodents that have not been treated with potentially hazardous chemicals or agents can be donated as a food source.
  - Genetically modified animals are required to be appropriately disposed of per the NIH-OBA recombinant DNA rules. Contact the Biosafety group at EH&S for more information: (303) 492-6025.
  - If animals are euthanized with the intention of using them for animal food, chemical agents that result in tissue residues cannot be used, unless they are approved by the US Food and Drug Administration. Carbon dioxide is the only chemical that does not result in tissue residues. These carcasses should be disposed of in a manner that will keep them separate from those intended for food.
  - All rodents going must be euthanized prior to pick up.
  - Rodents that are no longer used for research and meet the above criteria may be donated to BPF. The IACUC accepts this as an Institutional policy and does not require individual organizations to be listed on the protocols.

PROCEDURE FOR DONATION
- Cages containing appropriate animals (described above) for donation to the Birds of Prey Foundation, Denver Zoo or similar organizations should be marked as such. Mark cages with “BPF” or “Raptor” or “Zoo” to indicate that the animals can be humanely euthanized with carbon dioxide and set aside for donation.
- Researchers may euthanize their own animals with carbon dioxide while following the SOP for Carbon Dioxide Euthanasia and appropriately mark the bag in which the animals are placed and coordinate with the OAR animal facility supervisor about which freezer to store animals.
- Animals with plastic or metal ear identification tags must have the tags removed after euthanasia but prior to being frozen for donation.
• Animals that have been subjected to surgery where a foreign body has been implanted (telemetry device, synthetic skin graft, etc.) must have those implanted devices removed after euthanasia prior to donation.
• Animals designated for food should be kept in freezers entirely separate from other euthanized animals, or kept in distinct parts of the freezer, so it is clear that only non-genetically modified animals are collected.


The CU Boulder Institutional Care and Use Committee shall periodically review this policy and propose changes as it deems necessary.