

	<b>Washington State University</b> <b>Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee</b>	<b>Standard Operating Procedure #15</b>
	<b>Title: Guillotine Maintenance and Use</b>	
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## Standard Operating Procedures for Guillotine Maintenance and Use

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### **1.0 Purpose:**

1.1 To standardize the procedures for guillotine maintenance and use.

### **2.0 Personnel:**

2.1 Personnel using physical methods of euthanasia without anesthesia must have their proficiency verified for each type of physical method used. Individuals must contact OCV staff or an OCV designated trainer for a proficiency verification. Once the person has been certified, they may be listed as certified to perform these techniques on an approved ASAF.

### **3.0 Use:**

3.1 Guillotines should be clean, in good condition, sharp and move freely. The action should be smooth with no perceptible binding or resistance, and the blade must be rust-free, sharp, and decapitate with minimal force. Lubrication may not be needed, but if it is, the use of a Teflon® or Silicone® containing compound is recommended over petroleum-based compounds. Petroleum compounds will dry out or leave deposits that hinder operation. Any deficiencies must be repaired prior to use.

3.2 Disposable plastic containers (such as Decapicones® or Rodent Restraint Cones®) are recommended to improve positioning, minimize distress and increase personnel safety.

3.3 After each session of use, guillotines should be cleaned, disinfected and rinsed with 70% alcohol, and thoroughly dried.

### **4.0 Maintenance:**

4.1 Blades should be sharpened periodically. The frequency of sharpening depends on frequency of unit use and the species euthanized.

4.2 Blades that are no longer serviceable must be placed in a sharp's container for disposal.

### **5.0 Inspection:**

5.1 A log of guillotine use and maintenance should be kept in the lab. Guillotines and their maintenance logs will be inspected as part of the IACUC semi-annual inspections.

