

# AUBURN UNIVERSITY

## Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

### Policy on the Social Housing of Social Species

Social animals should be housed in stable pairs or groups of compatible individuals. The PI and the project veterinarian must confer to determine any exceptions to group housing of social animals. If individual housing of social species must occur for experimental reasons, the period and type of individual housing must be reviewed by the IACUC as part of the experimental protocol.

Social incompatibility is an acceptable reason to house animals individually when health or welfare may be compromised from group housing and provision of structural adjustments (e.g. perches visual barriers, refuges) does not prevent monopolization by dominant animals.

ADOPTED: December 18, 2012

REAFFIRMED: October 4, 2021