

Ethical Decision-Making in Field Innovation to help Animals

Presented by:
Joyce Briggs
Jesse Winters



6TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
on Non-Surgical Contraceptive
Methods of Pet Population Control

ACC & D
BOSTON | JULY 22-24, 2018



TWO of ACC&D's Ethical Dilemmas



Today's Session

- What is an ethical dilemma ?
- ACC&D's pathway to address resource gaps to aid with decisions
- Project output:
 - Animal sheltering
 - Guidance materials, &
 - Online interactive tool
- Next Steps

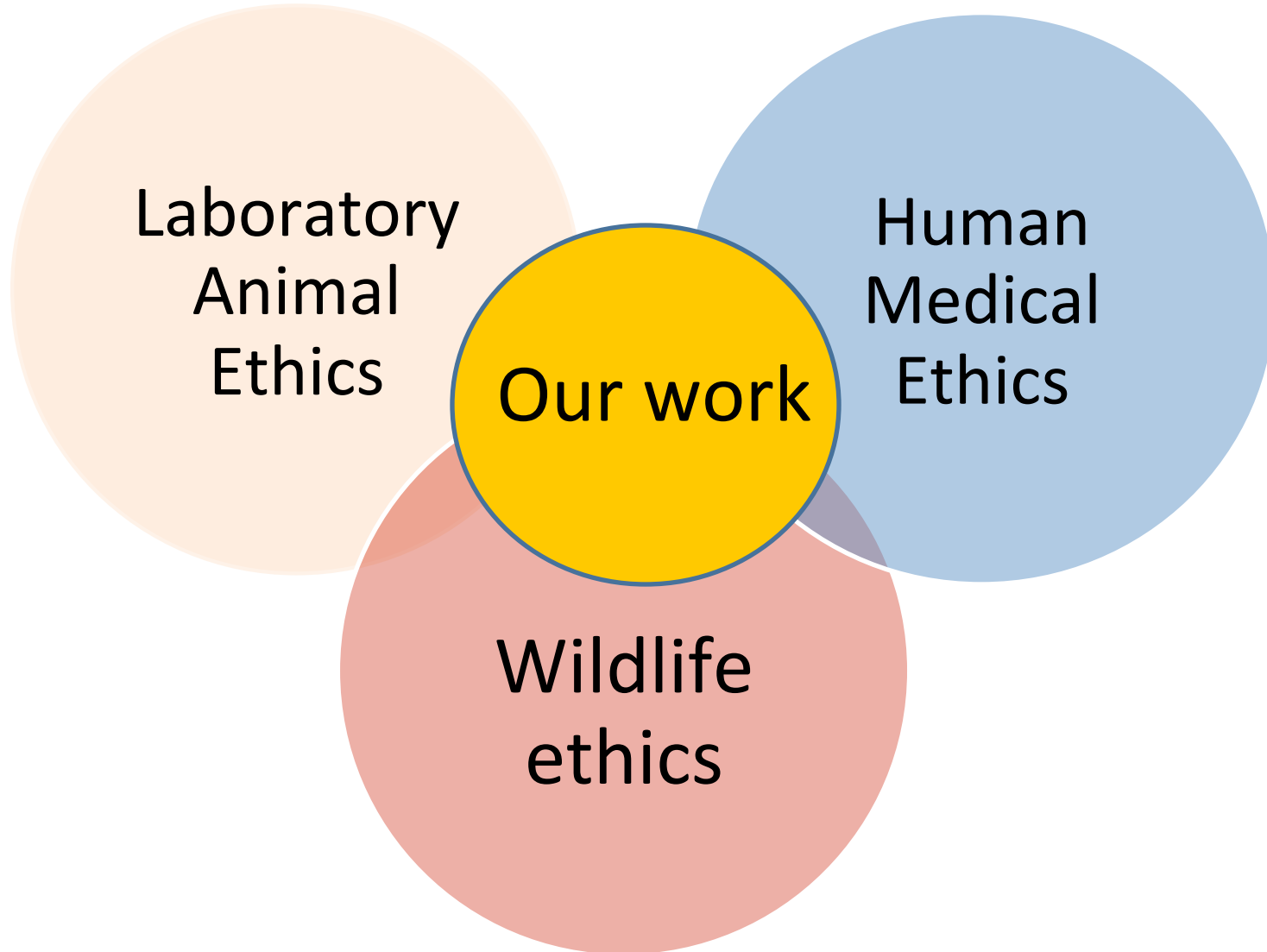


Anatomy of Ethical Dilemmas



- A choice has to be made (not choosing is a choice)
- Choices are mutually exclusive
- Consequences of each choice results in something morally unacceptable
- Creates conflict between ethical values

Field research with dogs/cats





Think Tank, February 2017

Denver, Colorado

24 participants from 5 countries

Hosted by the Institute for Human-Animal Connection in the Graduate School of Social Work; University of Denver

Made possible by funding from:



international
cat care



Participants from left to right: (back row) Carla Forte Maiolino Molento, Kate Atema, Peter Sandøe; (middle row) Andy Sparkes, Sarah Endersby, Michael Barrett, Amy Fischer, Kevin Morris, Apryl Steele, Jesse Winters, Roger Haston, Lisa Moses, Deepashree Balaram, James Serpell, Carly Robins, Vic Spain, James Yeates; (front row) Valerie Benka, Joyce Briggs, Carmen Espinosa, Monica List, Susan Getty, Phil Tedeschi.

Three areas of focus



- Sheltering - animal welfare agency initiatives
- Veterinary - clinical trials and novel treatments
- International welfare initiatives
(global scope, sensitive to work in developing countries)

Sheltering focused on Moral (di)Stress

“When one knows the right thing to do, but institutional constraints make it nearly impossible to pursue the right course of action.” *A. Jameton, 1984*



Project #1: Sheltering

Navigating Ethical Dilemmas Workshop

- ½ day workshop





**Pilot Workshop:
Navigating Everyday Dilemmas in the
Animal Shelter**

Facilitators



Lisa Moses, VMD, DACVIM

Practicing vet: Pain and Palliative Care
at MSPCA-Angell, Boston
Started as Animal Welfare officer, 30+
years in animal protection
Bioethicist with appointments at
Harvard Medical School and Yale
University



Jesse Winters, ASPCA

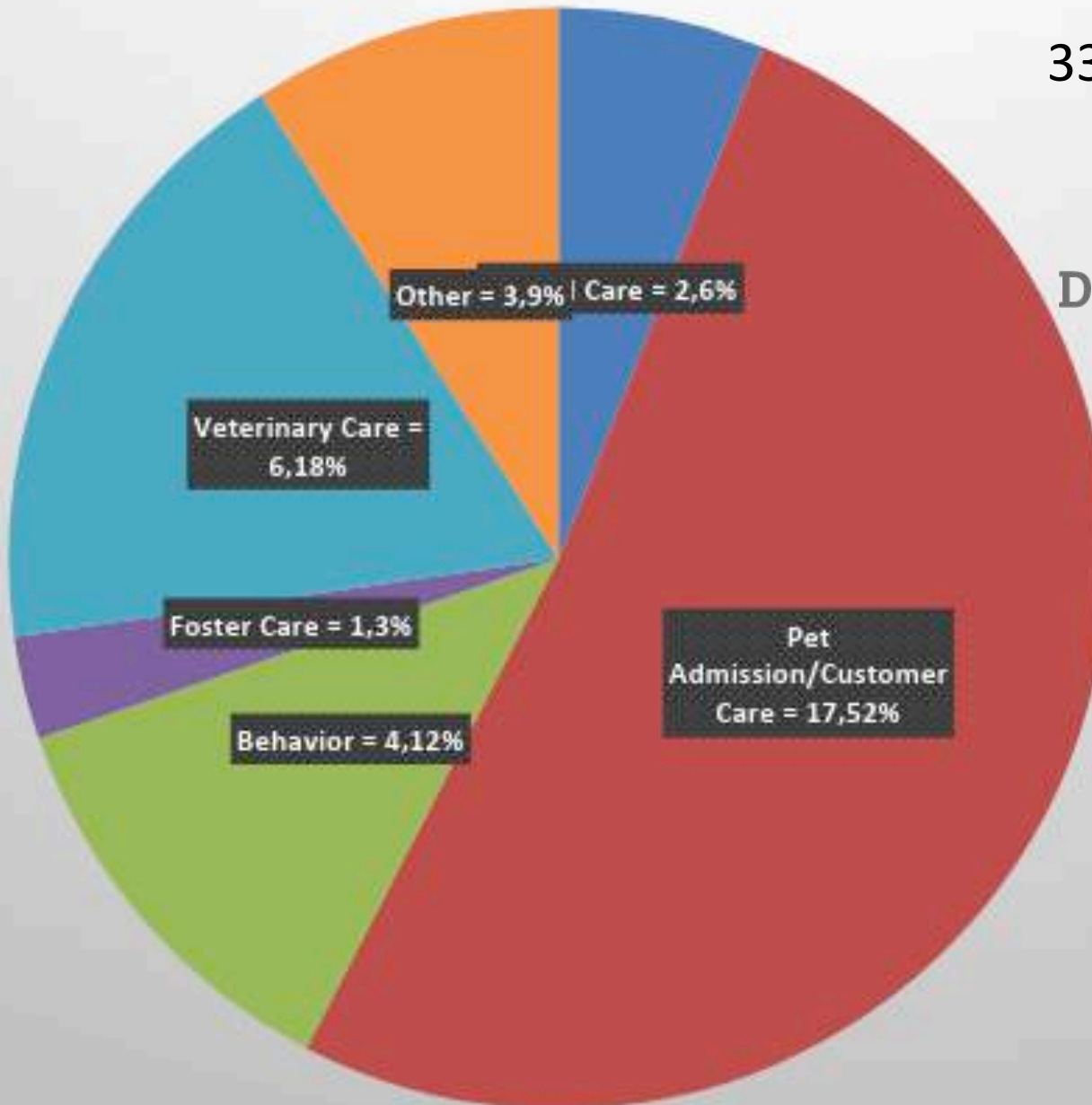
Senior Director, Shelter Outreach
20+ years in sheltering, consulting
and program implementation,
facilitation and strategic planning
Board of Directors - ACC&D

Who's Here

33 staff participated



Dumb Friends League.
COMPASSION ALWAYS ♥



- Animal Care = 2
- Pet Admission/ Customer Care = 17
- Behavior = 4
- Foster Care = 1
- Veterinary Care = 6
- Other = 3



- Identified what an ethical dilemma is
- Become acquainted with concept of moral stress
- Compared competing ethical obligations
- Practiced an Ethical Analysis
- Applied Ethical Principlism to a sheltering dilemma

Outcomes from Debrief



- Increase animal welfare ethical literacy at the national level
- Find and/or develop tools/paradigms for ethical decision-making
- Increase awareness of moral stress, distress, and injury at the staff and organizational level
- Find and/or develop training for awareness, self-care



Today's Session

- What is an ethical dilemma ?
- ACC&D's pathway to address resource gaps to aid with decisions
- Project output:
 - Animal sheltering
 - Guidance materials, &
 - Online interactive tool
- Next Steps



Project #2: Veterinary Trials & Novel Treatments

Guidance Document:
Ethical Decision-Making for field
innovations in animal welfare

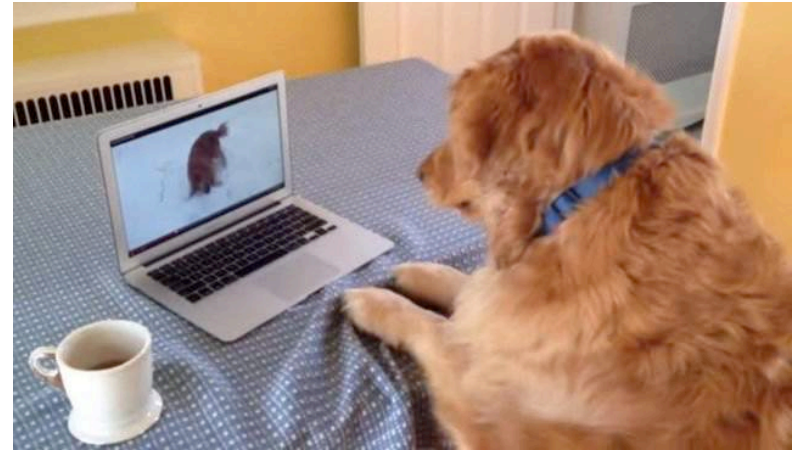


Select Think tank leadership:

- **James Yeates**, Chief Veterinary Officer, RSPCA
- **Peter Sandøe**, Professor of Bioethics, University of Copenhagen
- **Dr. Vic Spain**, Epidemiologist; former Senior Director, Research & Development, ASPCA

Project #3: International Welfare Initiatives

Online Interactive Tool



Select Think tank leadership:

- **Kate Atema**, Director, Global Community Animal Welfare Program, IFAW
- **Dr. Deepa Balaram**, Outreach Director, Global Alliance for Rabies Control
- **Dr. James Serpell**, Professor of Ethics & Animal Welfare, University of Pennsylvania SVM

Filling the Gap – Projects 2 & 3

Laboratory
Animal
Ethics

Customized
guidelines

Human
Medical
Ethics

Wildlife
ethics



Project Funding and Leadership

Project Consultant: Dr. Lou Tasker


ACC&D Director of Programs: Valerie Benka

Seed funding from :

The William and Charlotte Parks Foundation
Supporting Animal Welfare and Protection

[Home](#)
[About the Foundation](#)
[Mission Statement](#)
[Types of Grants](#)
[Eligibility](#)
[Grants Awarded](#)
[Grant Writing Basics](#)
[Grant Admin Area](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Apply On-Line](#)

William and Charlotte
Parks Foundation
700 Professional Drive
Gaithersburg, MD
20879



The 2017 Grant
Application Process
is now CLOSED.

Audience

- Involved in Field research or innovation involving dogs and/or cats
- Animal welfare, scientific & veterinary communities, governmental, nongovernmental, intergovernmental organisations
- Resource for consultation by
 - ethical review bodies
 - project funders
 - journals

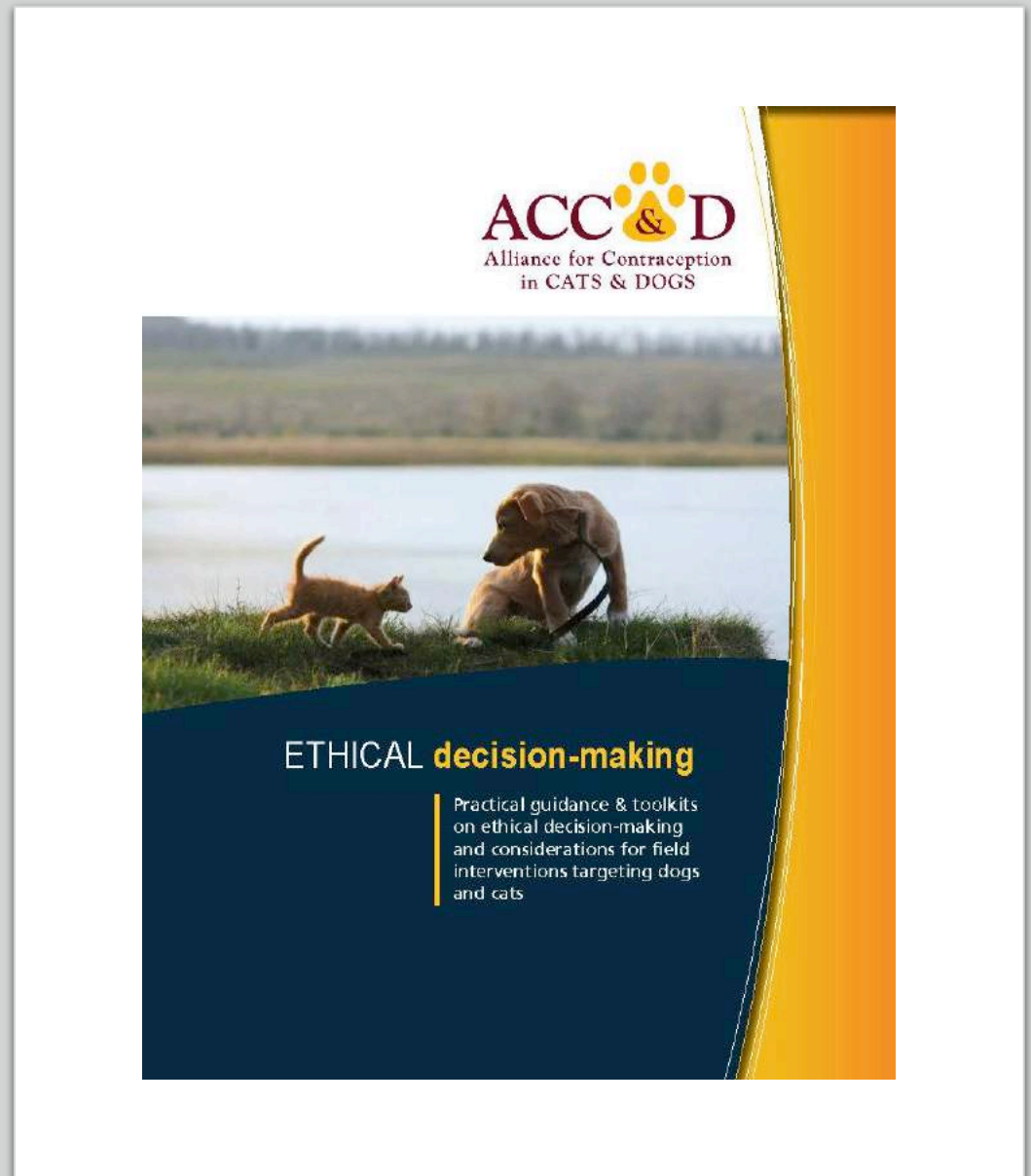


Resource Structure

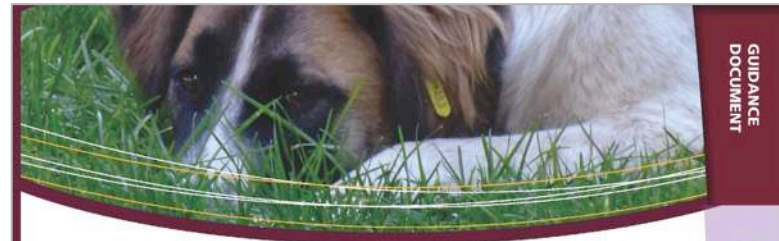


Guidance document

- Dr. Lou Tasker lead
- ACC&D Staff
- Under review by Think Tank Committee members



Contents



GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Guidance Document

Introduction

- The inspiration for this resource
- Who this resource is for
- How to use this resource
- The framework for this resource

Why do an ethical review?

Ethics

- What is ethics?
- Ethical theories
- Ethical Principles
- Animal Ethics

Ethical considerations when planning, implement

- Ethical considerations when planning an intervention
 - The necessity of the intervention
 - Advance research
 - Identifying external (legal, regulatory)
 - Identifying stakeholders and risks
 - Consent
 - Conflicts of interest
 - Exit
- Ethical considerations while implementing
- Ethical considerations upon completing a project

Summary

References

Further Information

4

ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING GUIDANCE FOR FIELD INTERVENTIONS TARGETING DOGS AND CATS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Introduction

Domestic dogs and cats are found throughout the world, their global estimates at 700 and 500 million, respectively. Though the contexts in which cats and dogs live vary widely, there is a common thread of nongovernmental and intergovernmental organisations, veterinarians, and government agencies intervening in the lives of dogs and cats, and the communities in which they live. This is done to address concerns about perceived overpopulation, zoonoses, public health nuisances, animal welfare, impacts on wildlife, and impacts on people.

Although interventions are commonly undertaken with the admirable intention that animals (individuals, the target population, or future populations) benefit, there is the potential to cause harm. This harm can manifest not only for the cats and dogs who are targets of the intervention, but also for other stakeholders, both human and non. Those in charge of interventions therefore have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all actions are justified, to guarantee that work is humane for dogs or cats, and to consider the broader communities in which the animals live.

The purpose of this resource is to aid organisations and individuals seeking to improve the welfare of dogs and cats through field interventions by providing an overview of the ethical considerations associated with such work. We define "field" as outside a laboratory; it can range from clinical studies in a local veterinary office to projects in a local neighbourhood to projects in another country. "Interventions" can be as common as trap-neuter-vaccinate-return (TNVR) and animal birth control (ABC) programs, or as novel as research and testing of non-surgical fertility control technologies.

The inspiration for this resource

This project was inspired by two research initiatives led by the Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs (ACCD). One involved a promising non-surgical contraceptive vaccine for free-roaming cats, and the other involved a novel method to identify free-roaming animals who are non-surgically sterilized or vaccinated against rabies. The former project took place in a facility custom designed to simulate a "real-world" environment for free-roaming cats, and the latter in conjunction with a rabies vaccination campaign for owned and community dogs in rural Kenya.

The process of developing and implementing these studies raised some ethical questions, yet resources focused on conducting ethical research with and on animals outside a laboratory were noticeably lacking. In short, the projects went beyond the scope of an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), a framework for compliance with federal policies, guidelines and principles related to the use of animals in research, teaching and testing. They went beyond this scope because some of the animals were owned, and the research took place within the context of communities, adding a clear human element to ethical decision-making. Meanwhile, an Institutional Review Board (IRB) is responsible for protecting the rights and welfare of human research subjects, with no application to animals. Components of each ethical review framework were relevant to ACCD's research, but neither was wholly applicable. These limitations hold true for some other countries.

5

ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING GUIDANCE FOR FIELD INTERVENTIONS TARGETING DOGS AND CATS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

FOUNDRATIONS FOR ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

KEY STAKEHOLDERS




Stakeholders

- Your text

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS



Key Stakeholders

Contributed by: Lou Isaker & Kate Atena

This brief toolkit introduces the topic of stakeholders in an intervention. It begins by describing stakeholders you might encounter who and benefits that stakeholders may experience during target population is owned or community dogs and conducting stakeholder analysis to identify stakeholders be performed in advance of starting a project. Ack discussion of how to effectively and ethically engage owners, and communities.

Stakeholders include any animals and human communities, populations, or organisations a particular innovation or intervention in a not homogenous. Specifically, some individuals than others (e.g. animals of different ages animals, animals in poor vs. acceptable we underserved vs. advantaged communities)

Common stakeholders in a field-based animal welfare

- The dogs or cats that are targeted by the intervention
- The dogs and cats (individuals and populations) or intervention but could come into contact with virtue of being part of the same community. E by the same caretaker or guardian, other animals the intervention or innovation.
- Other domestic animals (e.g., livestock, equine dogs may come into contact with either directly

20
ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING GUIDANCE FOR FIELD

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Owners, guardians, keepers, and caretakers that provide some form of care to dogs and cats.
- The community that comes into physical contact or shares the same environment with dogs or cats.
- Your organisation, specific individuals in that organisation and wider colleagues
- Your donors
- Organisational collaborators (e.g., local authorities, local nongovernmental and/or intergovernmental organisations, research organisations or institutions, academic partners)
- Veterinarians, veterinary technicians, animal welfare officers, and animal care staff.
- Research participants included in any monitoring and evaluation plans.

Wider community of organisations or individuals that have an interest in the findings of the innovation or the effectiveness or impact of the intervention, as identified through stakeholder analysis. Each innovation or intervention will have different stakeholders, and each of those stakeholders will be affected differently and at different stages (initial planning through final evaluation and reporting or publication). Details on conducting stakeholder analysis are below.

Harms and Benefits

Any intervention has the potential to harm and/or benefit stakeholders, which contributes the ethical questions around implementation. It is important to attempt to identify whether harms are mild, moderate, or severe.

	Animal	Human
Mild	Short-term mild pain, suffering, or distress. Annoyance or irritation	Annoyance or irritation
Moderate	Short-term moderate pain, suffering, or distress, or long-lasting mild pain, suffering, or distress	Personal standing or reputation
Severe	Severe pain, suffering, or distress, or long-lasting moderate pain, suffering, or distress	Physical or psychological harms, impacts on livelihoods

21
ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING GUIDANCE FOR FIELD INTERVENTIONS TARGETING DOGS AND CATS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

FOUNDATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKING

ETHICAL CHALLENGES

KEY STAKEHOLDERS



Stakeholder Analysis

Stakeholder	Interest	Effect	Who is affected	Risk severity	Action steps
Stakeholder	Stakeholder's specific interests in the intervention or study	How stakeholder affects (positively or negatively) the innovation or intervention	How stakeholder is affected positively or negatively by intervention	Are the risks/ negative effects on the stakeholder, mild, moderate or severe?	Steps to avoid or mitigate negative effects, and to maximise benefit positive effects.

Case Studies

Worked examples to analyze stakeholder needs/issues, as well as other ethical considerations

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

CASE STUDIES AND EXAMPLE STAKEHOLDER GRIDS

There are three case studies and associated completed grids below. The examples are not intended to be exhaustive, but rather to provide inspiration to use the approach to identify and mitigate harms to stakeholders:

Example 1: Community-based dog population management and associated monitoring, evaluation for impact assessment

Example 2: Cat trap-neuter-return

Example 3: Clinical trial in veterinary practice

Case study 1:
Community-based dog population management and associated monitoring, evaluation for impact assessment (Ollivier, 2018)

Following decades of culling (strychnine poisoning) a municipality agrees to work with local animal welfare organisations to establish a managed humane dog population management programme is devolved to the smallest unit and established through an animal manager by community volunteers (animal manager dogs). Volunteers are empowered to provide help select the most appropriate dogs for capture, often with the help of volunteers, members, consent is obtained for neutering dogs are transported short distances to a facility for anaesthesia, aseptic techniques, humane handling and evaluation of animal welfare etc.) When return home, they are transported back to community members or volunteers take responsibility for aftercare.

The project is designed following a baseline survey:

- Household questionnaires delivered on door-to-door visits to record the number owned and/or cared for in the community
- A street survey that recorded the number of females, lactating, animal welfare indicator route to monitor changes in dog density and

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

intervention (e.g. ICAM 2015)

c) A community participatory exercise that 'mapped' the presence of dogs and dog-related issues (positive and negative) on a local map created by the group to help visualise and guide the discussion between participants and to form a stakeholder group that can help with conducting the intervention (e.g. ICAM 2015). The results of the baseline monitoring are presented to community representatives who are involved in the design and conduct of the intervention. Results are also reported to the municipality and NGOs, and they may be subsequently published in further reports or peer-reviewed literature

A table for identifying positive and negative impacts on stakeholders for a community-based dog population management programme:

Stakeholder	Impact	Effect	How achieved	How avoided	Action steps
Dog owners	Participatory exercise	Engagement	Community members are invited to participate in a participatory exercise to map the presence of dogs and dog-related issues on a local map. The exercise is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Community members are invited to participate in a participatory exercise to map the presence of dogs and dog-related issues on a local map. The exercise is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Engage community members in a participatory exercise to map the presence of dogs and dog-related issues on a local map. The exercise is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.
Dog owners	Baseline survey	Engagement	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Engage community members in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.
Volunteers	Baseline survey	Engagement	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Engage community members in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.
Municipality	Baseline survey	Engagement	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Engage community members in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.
Non-governmental organisations	Baseline survey	Engagement	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Community members are invited to participate in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.	Engage community members in a baseline survey to record the number of dogs owned and/or cared for in the community. The survey is facilitated by a community member and supported by a facilitator.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

31 ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING GUIDANCE FOR FIELD INTERVENTIONS TARGETING DOGS AND CATS

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

32 ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING GUIDANCE FOR FIELD INTERVENTIONS TARGETING DOGS AND CATS

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

LIST OF ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

An Online Tool !

[Online Tool](#)

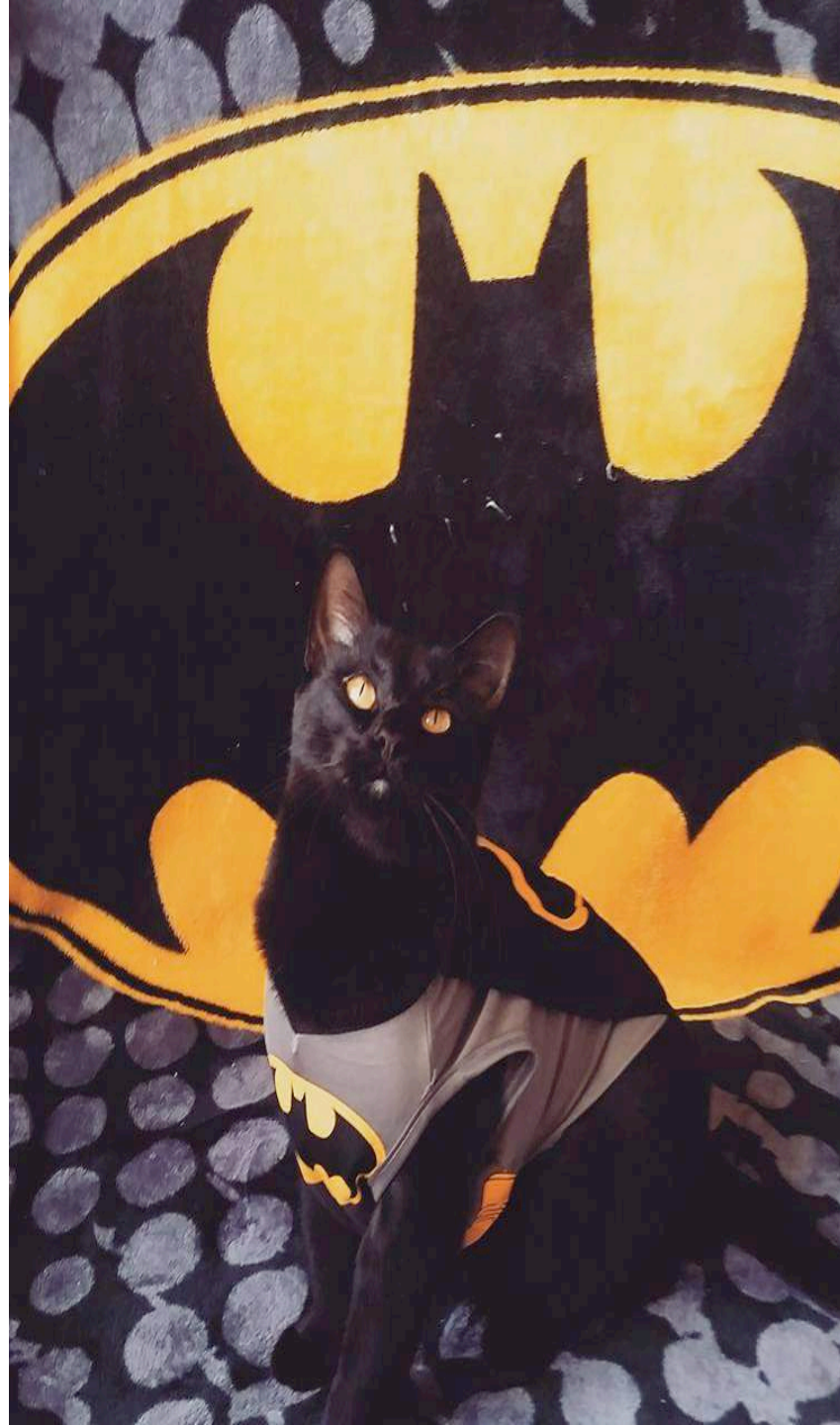


Our role, our aspirations

- Serve as incubator, getting this launched
- Initially host on ICAM coalition website
- IFAW interested in beta test this internally to readdress their Project Review process.
- Perhaps interest you in beta testing this.
- Seek to transition this to a broader missioned organization to manage/refine/continue to build and potentially build a community on this topic.
- Provide a resource for the field and it's funders

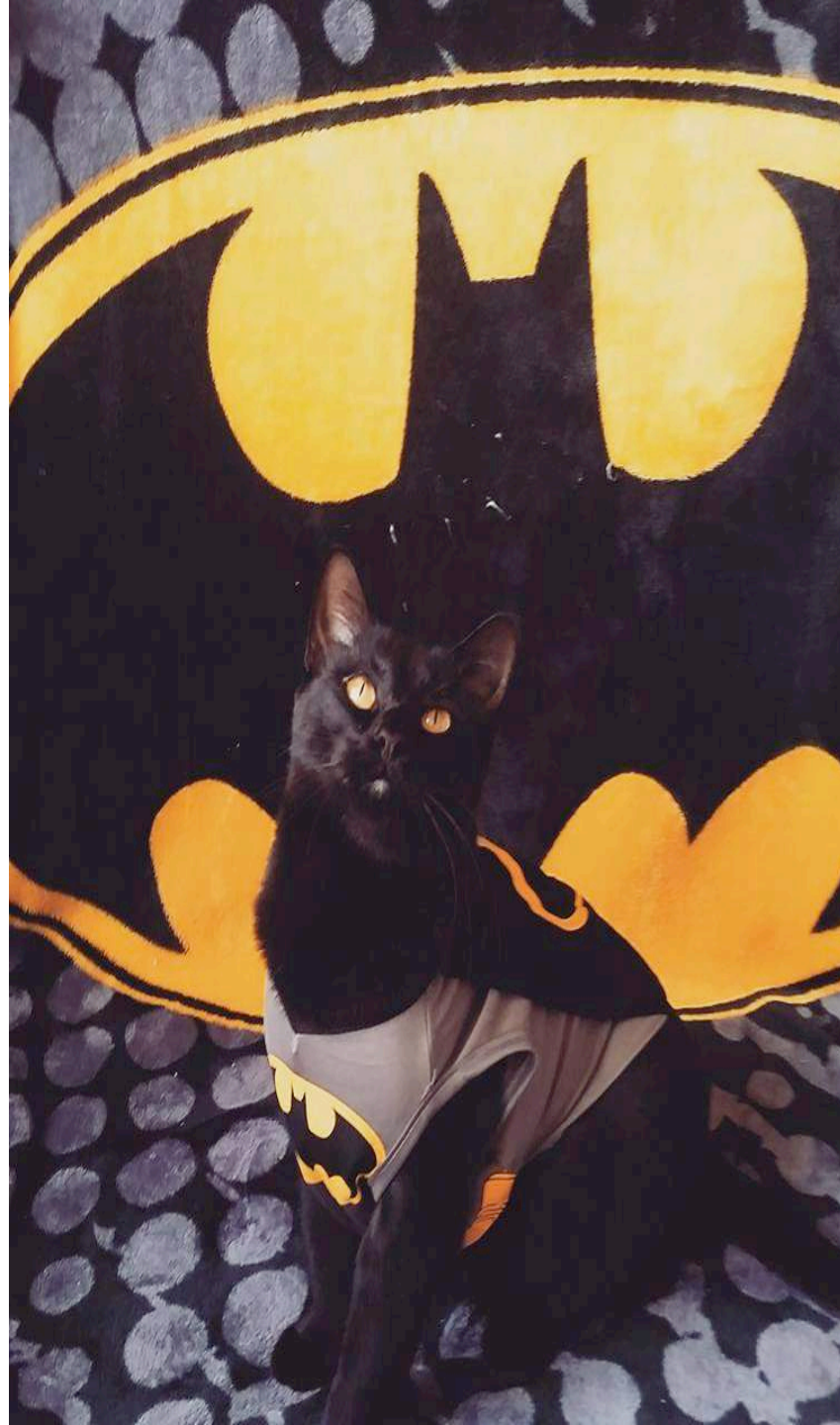
“Grasshopper’s resume”

- Unknown birth/parentage
- Stray at animal control
- Participant GonaCon study
- Beloved pet.



Acknowledgements

- William & Charlotte Parks Foundation
- Animal Assistance Foundation, ASPCA, International Cat Care
- Think Tank Participants
- Dr. Lou Tasker
- Kate Atema/IFAW
- Valerie Benka
- Susan Getty
- Nancy Barr



Questions, Comments

