

Fish, reptile, amphibian, crayfish and freshwater mussel disposal following surveys, collection or possession as authorized under a Cultural or Scientific Collector's Permit

General Surveying Mortality in the Field

Whenever possible healthy animals surveyed in the field will be released alive unless the permittee is intentionally retaining the animal as a voucher and has been authorized by permit to do so.

Incidental mortality during permitted activities is to be minimized to the extent possible. When mortality does occur, permittees shall dispose of the animal in one of the following ways:

- 1) Small scale mortalities in remote survey locations involving a single animal or a few small individuals can simply be left in the field. If the mortality involves fish, the animal should be sunk and not left to float on the water surface. This may require the permittee cutting or puncturing the swim bladder in order to sink the fish.

Medium or larger scale mortalities anywhere or small scale mortalities at high profile locations should be disposed of by one of the options listed below and should not be discarded at the field location.

- 2) The animal can be disposed of in the trash for placement in a certified land fill.
- 3) The animal can be disposed of according to approved university protocol.
- 4) The animal can be mounted, preserved, or otherwise...
 - a. Added to the teaching/educational collections at the permittee's affiliation, or
 - b. Donated to a school, university, nature center, museum or other place of public education or outreach.
- 5) The animal can be disposed of in accordance with the **Bodies of Dead Animals Act 239 of 1982 section 287.671 Michigan Compiled Laws.**
- 6) The animal can be disposed of by other means as specifically requested and approved by the DNR's Scientific Collector's Permit Coordinator at the time of application/permitting or upon direct contact during the field season.

Long Term Live Possession, Possession in a Lab Setting

Permittees that have been authorized to possess live animals in a display or for study in a lab, when those animals die or have been euthanized because they are no longer needed, shall be disposed of in one of the following ways:

- 1) The animal can be disposed of in the trash for placement in a certified land fill.
- 2) The animal can be incinerated and ashes disposed of.
- 3) The animal can be buried on the permittee's or their affiliation's private property to a depth not less than 2 feet or readily accessible to wild animals.

- 4) The animal can be disposed of according to approved university protocol.
- 5) The animal can be mounted, preserved, or otherwise...
 - a. Added to the teaching/educational collections at the permittee's affiliation, or
 - b. Donated to a school, university, nature center, museum or other place of public education or outreach.
- 7) The animal can be disposed of in accordance with the **Bodies of Dead Animals Act 239 of 1982 section 287.671 Michigan Compiled Laws.**
- 7) The animal can be disposed of by other means as specifically requested and approved by the DNR's Scientific Collector's Permit Coordinator at the time of application/permitting.