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Film & TV Unit
NO ANIMALS WERE HARMED™

A Program of  American Humane™

Guidelines

For the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media

Call American Humane early in pre-production when using animals.

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Questions or concerns about the animals on a film?
Call American Humane's 24-Hour Animal Safety Hotline:
800-677-3420

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Introduction

The AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION has been working with producers to facilitate safe, effective, and efficient performances by animal actors since 1940. American Humane's extensive experience as experts in the unique needs of both animal actors and filmmakers will greatly benefit your production.

American Humane plays a vital and beneficial role in the entertainment industry for animals AND for producers:

- Animal safety is increased
- Human safety is increased
- Production is protected from unwarranted controversies

American Humane is the only organization authorized and structured:

- To document production's humane care of animals,
- To issue an official stamp of approval ("end credit disclaimer"),
- To credibly and objectively represent a production when animal accidents happen or public concerns arise.

The public has come to expect that American Humane will have the answers on any production released or aired in the American marketplace no matter what its legal structure or where it may have been filmed.

American Humane does not charge for its services for SAG Productions filmed in the Continental U.S.

Background: A mainstream animal protection organization, American Humane was formed in 1877 and is the oldest, most credible national humane charity. American Humane is also the only national charity that works to protect both children and animals. As such, it has been a leading voice on such topics as the human/animal bond and the link between cruelty to animals and human violence.

American Humane's role in the entertainment industry is a multifaceted one:

First, American Humane is a key member of a production's safety team. Acting as the animal actor's safety representative on the set, American Humane's efforts also increase the safety of the human cast and crew, and reduce liability risks (human and animal) for the producer.



Second, American Humane is a vital element of a production's marketing program. American Humane serves as the producer's objective, credible witness to their responsible employment of animals. American Humane provides information to the public through American Humane's "No Animals Were Harmed™" End Credit Disclaimer, as well as American Humane's Ratings and Reviews of projects that use animals. This information is published on American Humane's website (www.AHAFilm.org), American Humane's publications, and other print and electronic media.

Third, as a service to individual productions and to the entertainment industry as a whole, American Humane spends hundreds of hours each year responding to the media and a concerned public. American Humane continues to answer questions about specific productions throughout their distribution life (such as when families rent videos or watch a movie on cable and are worried about specific scenes) that would be extremely difficult for producers or distributors to process. Requests for reassurance and information about animals in American productions come to American Humane from individuals, the media, and regulatory agencies from around the world.

Fourth, American Humane can support your project with pre-production planning assistance regarding the needs and challenges of various species; risks and options regarding desired effects, actions, or stunts; and perspective on the various types of animal suppliers (although American Humane does not recommend specific animal trainers).

Fifth, American Humane can also support the content of your project with research and information about animal species, humane issues, or with referrals to other animal experts. We can also provide humane posters and products as set dressing.

Producers and actors have long recognized the value of American Humane's work on behalf of animal performers, and American Humane's critical role of documenting the industry's humane and responsible employment. Since 1980, American Humane's role has been codified in the SAG/Producer's Agreement, which commits the producers to humanely using animals appropriately trained for the work required, and authorizes American Humane to be the only organization to monitor animals in motion picture productions. American Humane's oversight includes film, television, commercials, music videos, and computer images. All production oversight is coordinated by American Humane's Film and TV Unit in Los Angeles.

At its most fundamental level, American Humane's role is to prevent legally defined cruelty to animal actors. In reality, the industry today is primarily comprised of caring and responsible individuals; therefore, American Humane's role has evolved, for the most part, to that of a safety expert and advocate. American Humane works proactively and collaboratively with filmmakers, beginning early in pre-production, throughout filming, and continuing through the project's release or airing.

The motion picture and television production industries have endorsed a high standard of animal care, as outlined in these American Humane Guidelines. American Humane aggressively advocates that each production meet this standard, and provides ongoing guidance on how to do so. Those productions that collaborate with American Humane and meet this standard of care qualify for an American Humane "No Animals Were Harmed™" End Credit Disclaimer.



Basic Principles

For the Use of Animals in Filmed Media

- No animal will be killed or injured for the sake of a film production.
- If an animal must be treated inhumanely to perform, then that animal should not be used.
- General anesthesia and sedation are high-risk procedures and are prohibited for the sole purpose of filmmaking (although allowed for necessary veterinary care).
- Storytelling needs of producers can be achieved humanely by working with American Humane and adhering to American Humane's *Guidelines*.
- Animals are NOT props! (Even if they are supplied by the props department.)
- American Humane's *Guidelines* apply to all animals used in the production, even if an animal is used as background, or off camera to attract the attention of an animal being filmed.
- American Humane's *Guidelines* prescribe a high standard of care that the film and television production industries have voluntarily agreed to provide to animal performers. This standard is more comprehensive and more compassionate than any state's anti-cruelty laws.
- American Humane will enforce all applicable anti-cruelty laws as necessary.

Definitions

- ANIMAL means all sentient creatures – including birds, fish, reptiles, and even insects.
- ANIMAL HANDLER means any person having the responsibility of feeding, watering, cleaning, manipulating, loading, crating, shifting, transferring, immobilizing, restraining, treating, training, working, and moving any ANIMAL. The term ANIMAL HANDLER includes, but is not limited to, animal coordinators, trainers, wranglers, historic re-enactors and any other member of cast or crew, or private party, providing or taking responsibility for an ANIMAL (for example, the props or stunts department). ANIMAL HANDLER excludes veterinarians who are on set for the sole purpose of ensuring the health of an ANIMAL.
- MOTION PICTURE or FILMED MEDIA means a series of pictures projected on a screen in rapid succession with objects shown in successive positions slightly changed as to produce the optical effect of a continuous picture in which objects move. The terms MOTION PICTURE or FILMED MEDIA include, but are not limited to, film, television, music video, and computer images. These terms are used interchangeably throughout these *Guidelines*.



Producers Checklist

For Working with the American Humane Association

Notify American Humane early in pre-production that ANIMALS will be used in your project. An early, and collaborative, relationship with American Humane can help your production work with animals safely, humanely, and efficiently. During distribution release or airing, American Humane can be a valuable asset to your marketing and publicity efforts. Including American Humane as a collaborative member of your team and providing us with the tools to respond to the public and the media on your behalf is easy.

Problem Solving / Public Relations Checklist

- Consult with your animal coordinator and/or American Humane about potential public issues relating to specific species and/or stunts. (During Pre-Production and Principal Photography)
- Provide American Humane with names and phone numbers, including emergency numbers, of executive producer and publicist to facilitate coordination of response to animal emergencies. (During Pre-Production and Principal Photography)
- Encourage the crew to ask American Humane questions. You want your crew – your project’s first audience – to leave the set assured all is well – not worried or starting unnecessary rumors. (During Principal Photography)
- Provide American Humane with copies of the Electronic Press Kit and other press information regarding the ANIMAL action so that American Humane can be prepared to respond to the questions they will stimulate. (During Post-Production and Distribution)

Pre-Production & Principal Photography Checklist

- American Humane needs information to appropriately document your responsible employment of animals. **Provide** us with:
 - A copy of the script (early in pre-production) and any edits relating to ANIMAL action.
 - The names of the ANIMAL HANDLERS and veterinarian as soon as they are selected.
 - The location or types of film sets and environmental conditions to be encountered, as soon as they are determined.
 - The call sheets, crew lists, and script changes in a timely manner during filming to allow analysis of the ANIMAL action and appropriate assignment of American Humane personnel.
- Give it the Personal Touch.** Tell your crew (ANIMAL HANDLERS, veterinarians, and other members of the crew) whose jobs impact animals (props department, pyrotechnics, stunt coordinators, makeup artists) that:
- You Care!** Tell your crew that you are committed to the humane care of the animal performers. (Yes, while this is normally understood on most productions, **the difference a specific instruction from the producer or the director can make is amazing!**)



- ❑ **You want American Humane’s “No Animals Were Harmed™” End Credit Disclaimer and/or a favorable rating or review.** This will alert them to collaborate with American Humane and provide advance, timely and accurate information about all the ANIMAL action.
- ❑ **American Humane is on the set – Announce it!** Often just the knowledge that American Humane is on the set provides your crew with the assurances they need to be confident the animals are well cared for. Post signs in appropriate locations on the set. Include American Humane’s 24-hour hotline phone. Include American Humane on your call sheets.
- ❑ **Educate your crew** and prevent accidents. Provide copies of American Humane’s *Guidelines* to:
 - ❑ All ANIMAL HANDLERS and veterinarians.
 - ❑ All cast and crew members whose jobs impact ANIMALS. This may include assistant directors, props, makeup, costume, special effects, pyrotechnics, etc.
- ❑ Be efficient. Provide ANIMAL HANDLERS with accurate information concerning the required animal action, the environment in which the ANIMAL will be required to perform, and the call time for the ANIMAL.
- ❑ Become informed about, and comply with, all relevant federal, state, and local laws and ordinances pertaining to the use of the ANIMALS. When filming in other countries, it is important to have early information regarding the laws pertaining to the import, export, and/or use of the intended species in those countries. Your animal coordinator should be able to provide this information. If not, American Humane may be able to assist you.
- ❑ Most ANIMALS used in “exhibition,” including MOTION PICTURES, are covered by the Federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The AWA requires the “exhibitor” to have the appropriate USDA permits. Professional movie industry animal trainers already have these permits.
- ❑ Cooperate with and facilitate American Humane’s documentation of the ANIMALS, their care, and how the ANIMAL action is performed, including photographs, receipts, veterinary records, or other appropriate means.
- ❑ Provide demonstrations for cast and crew of any training or cueing methods, safety precautions, or ANIMAL action that might be misunderstood and/or raise concerns. Smart productions make sure that all cast and crew understand the ANIMAL care and ANIMAL action they are observing.
- ❑ Include American Humane in all safety meetings related to scenes involving ANIMALS.
- ❑ Include studio teachers in safety meetings concerning ANIMALS if young performers will be working in their proximity.
- ❑ Ensure that actors working with ANIMALS have adequate training and experience in advance with the types of ANIMALS to be used, and provide appropriate training and preparation time as needed to provide for both the actors’ safety and the humane treatment of the ANIMALS. This is especially important when using horses.



CHAPTER 1.

American Humane Association's General Guidelines

This section applies to all ANIMALS. Later sections will include additional specific guidelines by category.

101. Only ANIMAL HANDLERS who are knowledgeable about and familiar with the species of ANIMAL used, and with set protocol, should be used.
102. American Humane staff, the ANIMAL HANDLERS, and veterinarian (when appropriate) should communicate and collaborate regarding the care and management of ANIMALS during preparation, rehearsal, and filming.
103. Only ANIMALS that are in appropriate condition to perform the work shall be used.
104. ANIMALS must be trained and prepared in advance to perform the required action.
105. No ANIMAL shall be allowed to become overheated or suffer discomfort.

The production company must supply adequate water, shade, and protection from the cold, rain, and other elements both on and off camera. ANIMALS must be observed for changes in temperament that indicate discomfort. Note: this includes all ANIMALS involved with the production, including background ANIMALS, unscripted ANIMALS brought by extras, and privately owned ANIMALS belonging to cast or crew members.
106. Adequate exercise and rest shall be provided during the shooting day.

Each ANIMAL's needs must be addressed individually, considering such factors as the species, age, and condition of the ANIMAL; the exertion required to accomplish the action; as well as the terrain, climate, and weather conditions. Observe and monitor the ANIMAL's resting breathing rate.
107. If an ANIMAL becomes fatigued or stressed, a rest period shall be provided before proceeding with additional takes.

This will vary according to the physical and mental demands of the action, the fitness of the ANIMAL, the amount of training and preparation the ANIMAL has had for the action, etc.
108. All ANIMALS used are to be maintained in facilities that provide proper humane care for each type of ANIMAL. When necessary for a particular ANIMAL or species of ANIMAL, special environmental conditions and facilities for shelter and protection shall be (1) safe from sharp objects that may cause injury, (2) temperature controlled when necessary for the health or comfort of the ANIMAL, (3) well ventilated, (4) located in an area that minimizes stress, (5) kept in a sanitary condition, and (6) constructed to prevent escape. In certain situations, USDA's temporary housing standards applicable to traveling exhibitors may apply.
109. All ANIMALS are to be transported safely, humanely, and in accordance with applicable laws.
110. After traveling, ANIMALS must be allowed adequate time to rest and acclimate prior to beginning work.



111. ANIMALS must be checked daily for injury and/or illness.
112. ANIMALS that are lame or ill may not be used until the condition has been corrected. **ANIMALS with mechanical (i.e., non-painful) limitations or defects that give the visual appearance of lameness or injury can only be used if a veterinarian has examined the ANIMAL, determined that using the ANIMAL in the manner intended will not cause the ANIMAL pain or stress, and provided American Humane with a letter so certifying.**
113. Care must be taken to assure that ANIMALS do not escape the set or location. However, production must also have a plan for their safe recapture should escape occur.
114. A sufficient number of adequately trained ANIMAL HANDLERS must be utilized to protect the cast, crew, and ANIMALS.
115. Training and/or cueing equipment, such as collars, leashes, muzzles, whips, and other devices, must be used safely and humanely.
116. No ANIMAL shall be put under stress or in danger when being used to attract the attention of another ANIMAL being filmed.
117. American Humane documents the use of “animal substitutes” for live animals to enable us to accurately represent to the public how seemingly dangerous scenes are filmed safely. Fake ANIMALS, dead ANIMALS or ANIMAL parts, animatronics, CGI, or other techniques used to simulate live ANIMALS should be documented with photographs and receipts, whether a service (CGI), a prop rental, or a purchase as a food product. When appropriate, this should include the name of the technician and the vendor company supplying the product or service and/or any additional pertinent information or appropriate documentation.
118. If dead ANIMALS or ANIMAL parts, are purchased from, or provided by, a taxidermist, an ANIMAL shelter, slaughterhouse, food supplier, or other source, American Humane must be provided with documentation that demonstrates that they were destroyed in the normal course of the source’s operations, and were not killed for the production.
119. If ANIMALS are purchased or leased for the production and are returned to the seller or owner upon completion of the ANIMAL action, American Humane must be provided with a receipt or document indicating that the ANIMALS were returned to the seller or owner in good and healthy condition.



CHAPTER 2.

Veterinary Care Guidelines

201. On or before arrival at a location site, one or more veterinarians, knowledgeable in the species of ANIMALS to be used, must be located to insure availability in case of an emergency. The name, address, and phone number of the veterinarian must be provided to American Humane in advance, and should be placed on the call sheet.
202. A veterinarian, knowledgeable in the species of ANIMALS being used, must be present at all times during the rehearsal and filming of scenes in which stunts or special effects create a risk of injury to the ANIMALS (e.g., racing scenes, stampedes, charges, runaways, wagon crashes).
203. When very large numbers of ANIMALS, including livestock, are used, one or more veterinarians should be on the set, to assure the ability to respond to ANIMAL emergencies.
204. Additional veterinarians may be required when ANIMALS are to be used on sets at different locations.
205. A veterinarian should be present on the set when filming in locations that are so remote that local veterinarians could not respond quickly to an ANIMAL emergency.
206. To address possible ANIMAL emergencies, the following should be considered:
 - The establishment of a communications systems to enable urgent information to be conveyed quickly;
 - Facilities for holding, restraint, or examination of ANIMALS by the veterinarian;
 - Facilities to transport or arrangements for evacuating sick or disabled ANIMALS from remote locations or where access is difficult; and
 - The ability to humanely euthanize or relieve the pain of ANIMALS suffering from severe injury or illness.
207. If an ANIMAL is injured, sick, or becomes incapacitated, it shall be treated immediately. Such ANIMAL shall not resume work until it has been determined by the ANIMAL trainer or the veterinarian that the condition has been corrected. If veterinary care is required, the veterinarian shall assess the extent of the injury and send a copy of his or her report to American Humane. American Humane staff may accompany the ANIMAL to the veterinarian's office and remain until a diagnosis/prognosis is made.
208. During production, in the event of a death or an injury resulting in subsequent euthanasia of an ANIMAL, a necropsy of the ANIMAL must be performed. The result of the necropsy shall be provided to American Humane.
209. No drugs, including anesthetics, sedatives, and chemical laxatives may be administered to an ANIMAL for the purpose of filmmaking. Under certain circumstances, upon American Humane's and the ANIMAL's veterinarian's approval, American Humane may permit the administration of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.
210. Known pregnant ANIMALS shall not be used in action scenes.



211. The birth of ANIMALS shall not be induced for filming purposes. The natural birth of ANIMALS may be filmed “documentary style” (which means that the filming process shall have no impact on the birth process and no actors will appear in the birth scene). A veterinarian must be present.
212. ANIMALS coming from different facilities and/or locations shall be housed in such a manner as to prevent the spread of sickness or disease.
213. Sick ANIMALS must be isolated from other ANIMALS on the set. When possible, sick ANIMALS shall be removed from the set.

CHAPTER 3. Technical Guidelines for Production

Cast and Crew

301. Quiet On The Set – At the ANIMAL HANDLER’S discretion, all non-essential personnel with the exception of the American Humane Animal Safety Representative(s), must be removed from the set during ANIMAL stunts, action, or whenever wild or exotic ANIMALS are performing.
302. Cast and crew shall not be allowed to pet, fondle, or play with ANIMALS off camera if the ANIMAL HANDLER or American Humane Animal Safety Representative believes it is not in the best interest of the ANIMAL, or believes that it is unsafe.
303. As necessary for the concentration and safety of the ANIMALS, cast and crew members shall limit distracting motion, noises and smells, such as food, perfume, or alcohol. In some cases, Crafts Services may need to be moved away from the ANIMAL action. ANIMAL HANDLERS shall provide production and American Humane with written pertinent instructions for each species and/or individual ANIMAL, as appropriate. These instructions must be attached to the call sheet.

CHAPTER 4. Costumes, Makeup, Rigging, & Props

401. Costuming and/or props shall be made available to American Humane to inspect prior to filming. Costuming and/or props shall be comfortable, provide ease of movement, and shall not restrict the ANIMAL’S breathing, or cause the ANIMAL to overheat.

Consideration should be given to how easily the costume can be removed in case of emergency.
403. ANIMALS shall be adequately conditioned and trained to wear or use costumes or props.
404. Props used in stunts such as spears, barbed wire, fences, etc., should all be rubber, balsa wood, or other non-injurious material.
405. All ANIMAL rigging and equipment must be in good condition. The ANIMAL HANDLER, American Humane, and the property master should review this.



406. Tie-downs shall not be used on ANIMALS not properly trained to wear them, or if the ANIMAL struggles or resists. ANIMALS shall not be tied down any longer than what is necessary to accomplish the shot.
407. Any colors, dyes, makeup, or adhesives used on ANIMALS must be toxin-free and approved by the ANIMAL HANDLER and/or American Humane. These products must be applied in a well-ventilated area. The ANIMAL HANDLER shall provide American Humane with the product's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or equivalent.
- Although a product may be toxin-free, it still may produce a severe adverse reaction when applied to animals. Spot tests should be performed 24 hours or more prior to filming to insure against allergic reactions.
408. Before using adhesives, consideration must be given as how to assure safe and painless removal. Appropriate tests should be performed prior to filming.

CHAPTER 5.

Location and/or Set Safety

501. The American Humane Animal Safety Representative and the ANIMAL HANDLER shall inspect working areas prior to each day's rehearsal or filming to identify hazards, obstacles, or environmental conditions that may injure ANIMALS and people working with these ANIMALS.
502. Safe footing shall be provided on any location or set that an ANIMAL is required to traverse, and on the path the ANIMAL traverses to and from the location or set.
- When ANIMALS are working on a studio stage, non-skid mats should be placed in the area of action when needed to prevent slipping. When appropriate, non-skid boots on livestock should also be used.
- In outdoor locations, the area must be checked for railroad ties, holes in the ground, street or floor debris such as tree roots and stones that could trip an ANIMAL, or slick or unstable ground, street, or walkway conditions.
- Stream bottoms must be cleared before being traversed by livestock.
503. Obstacles that might strike an ANIMAL in the face or on the body as it traverses a scene must be removed (e.g., low hanging branches must be removed before riding or chase scenes).
- All nails, splinters, and wires must be cleaned up or otherwise made safe for the ANIMALS.
504. Deep muck, mire, and quicksand should be avoided.
- If an ANIMAL is in muck, observe and monitor the physical condition of the ANIMAL and terrain before, during, and after the take.
505. When scenes employ simulated or real dust storms, blizzards, or rain, steps shall be taken to protect the ANIMAL's eyes, ears, nose, and mouth.



506. ANIMALS should not be exposed to contaminants, such as slow moving stagnant water, putrid odors, or toxins. Care must be taken near railroad tracks that the ANIMALS do not ingest creosote.
507. Raised platforms must be strong enough to support the ANIMALS.
508. Helicopters must remain at least 50 feet away from any ANIMAL.
- Per AMPTP Safety Bulletin #3, when a helicopter sequence is to be performed, all persons involved – including the American Humane Animal Safety Representative – shall be thoroughly briefed as to any potential hazards and safety questions prior to the filming.

CHAPTER 6.

Special Effects

601. Ammunition used around any working ANIMALS shall be limited to quarter loads.
- Cotton or other type of buffering device should be supplied for the ANIMALS' ears when they are in close proximity to shooting, explosives, or other loud noises, unless the ANIMAL has been conditioned to be comfortable around the sound of gunfire and is at a distance that the explosive or noise will not injure the ANIMAL's hearing or eardrums. When the use of cotton or other buffering device is necessary, the ANIMAL must be conditioned to having the material placed in the ears. The material is to be removed when the immediate action involving explosives is finished.
602. Explosives may never be used so close to equines or other ANIMALS that it could put them in jeopardy or subject them to powder burns. The level of explosives should be determined in consultation with the ANIMAL HANDLER, American Humane Animal Safety Representative, and an explosives expert. The amount should be limited to the smallest amount of explosives possible to achieve the shot.
- The ANIMALS should be checked carefully after each take to see how quickly they calm down. The number of takes should be limited, and emergency procedures, including escape prevention, should be in place.
603. Squibs must be positioned in such a way to assure that they do not endanger the ANIMALS.
604. The Naphthalene bomb is banned on sets where ANIMALS are present.
605. In scenes where ANIMALS must appear where fire is present, the fire must be controlled, and the ANIMALS must be preconditioned to it, so as to avoid endangering them. If open fires are used, extra care must be taken to protect the ANIMALS' coats and tails.
606. Carbon dioxide and artificial smoke are hazardous to certain ANIMAL species. These substances should not be used around ANIMALS unless first consulting with the ANIMAL HANDLER and the American Humane Animal Safety Representative. Birds are especially sensitive to airborne chemicals, materials, or pollutants.



CHAPTER 7.

Stunts

701. Stunts and potentially dangerous ANIMAL action in a script shall be reviewed with American Humane prior to filming.
702. ANIMALS must be adequately trained and prepped for stunts.
703. Safety measures shall be reviewed with American Humane, and demonstrated at American Humane's request.
704. Stunts that will be strenuous or pose risks for any ANIMALS must be reviewed in a safety meeting. American Humane must be notified of and invited to participate in such meeting. (Also see Veterinary Guidelines above.)
705. Only candy glass or equivalents shall be used for breakaway scenes. Tempered glass is not permitted.
706. No tripping devices, wires, or pitfalls are permitted for use with any ANIMAL.
707. Any strenuous ANIMAL action, such as chase or running scenes, must be staged to prevent animals from being overworked.

This can be accomplished in one of two ways: a) by providing sufficient rest periods between takes or b) by providing a sufficient supply of backup ANIMALS, so the ANIMALS can be rotated.
708. Swimming should be limited to experienced ANIMALS and strict attention must be given to the ANIMAL's logical limits of endurance. A plan for emergency rescue must be in place. If water is swift, someone experienced in swift water ANIMAL rescue should be consulted in the development of the emergency rescue plan.
709. ANIMALS may not be allowed to swim in water of an unhealthy or toxic quality.
710. Care must be taken that ANIMALS do not become too chilled in swimming or rain scenes.
711. Branding of ANIMALS must be simulated. No actual branding is allowed.
712. All fight scenes shall be simulated. No real ANIMAL fight can be disguised as a simulated fight by the use of muzzles.
713. All hunting and fishing scenes shall be simulated.



CHAPTER 8.

Species Specific Guidelines

801

Dog Guidelines

- 801.1 All dogs (pets, dogs brought by extras, and dog actors) on set, except for puppies under the age of six months, must have been vaccinated for rabies, parvo, distemper, bordetella, and the corona virus at least two weeks prior to coming onto set. Proof of vaccination or the name and phone number of the veterinarian who vaccinated the dog must be provided to the American Humane Animal Safety Representative upon request.
- 801.2 American Humane must be notified prior to filming scenes involving either the birth of puppies or the use of puppies under the age of eight weeks. American Humane, upon consulting with the dog's or puppies' veterinarian, may require special precautions to minimize stress or exposure to diseases.
- 801.3 American Humane's *Guidelines for the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media* apply to anyone bringing an animal to the set, including dogs provided by members of the cast or crew.
- 801.4 Per federal requirements, to exhibit a dog in filmed media, the owner or exhibitor is required to have a USDA Exhibitor's Permit, or to obtain an exemption from such permit requirements from the USDA prior to filming.
- 801.5 American Humane recommends, for safety and efficiency, that producers hire animal trainers experienced in motion picture production to supply all dogs for production. However, if production chooses to have private owners, including cast and crew, provide dogs, all guideline requirements must be implemented.
- 801.6 Pet dogs provided for the production by extras or other cast and crew require a variety of health and safety precautions to keep the dogs and their human coworkers safe. Privately owned dogs may or may not be socialized and trained to interact safely with other dogs and/or groups of people. They may or may not carry contagious zoonotic diseases.
- 801.7 Producers shall distribute, in advance, to extras/owners who are bringing dogs to the set, the "Special Requirements for Extras / Others Who Supply Dogs" instruction sheet (see the last page of this *Guideline*). Although the Special Requirements apply to extras and owners, production is always ultimately responsible for safety of the animals and humans on the set.
- 801.8 The needed precautions ("Special Requirements") to ensure human and ANIMAL safety include:
- 801.8A Water
- Extras/owners shall bring a water bowl that is heavy enough not to be tipped and large enough to satiate an overheated dog's thirst.
 - Extras/owners shall make water available to the dog between takes.



801.8B Control

- The dog must wear a collar and be kept on a leash at all times except when it is being held in a secure pen, fenced area, or crate.
- Dogs shall not be left unattended at any time.
- If a dog charges, threatens, or bites any person or animal, it shall be removed immediately from the set and location.

801.8C Proof of Vaccination

- All dogs shall be licensed. The owner must provide proof of licensing.
- Extras/owners must provide proof of the dog's vaccinations against rabies, parvo, distemper, bordetella, and the corona virus. The dog must have received its vaccinations at least two weeks prior to coming onto set.

801.8D Prohibition against Dogs in Heat

- Dogs may not be on set if they are in their heat cycle.

801.8E Housing/Comfort

- Extras/owners shall coordinate with production as to who will provide shade, crates, and/or fencing for the dog in advance of the dog's arrival on set.

801.9 Dog bites and dog attacks are becoming more common and are often severe. As the popularity of pet dogs has shifted from the hunting, working, and herding varieties to today's more urban pet/protection dog with more aggression-prone genetics, dog bites have become a national public health crisis. If a dog bite incident occurs on your set, production should take the following steps:

801.9A Dog bites that require medical attention

- A doctor should examine any dog bite to a human that breaks the skin.
- A veterinarian should examine any dog bite to another dog that breaks the skin.
- Any dog bite that requires medical or veterinary attention should be reported to the local animal control agency or public health agency (as appropriate in the jurisdiction).
- The person bitten (or the owner of the animal bitten) and the animal or health agency, should be provided with information about the biting dog, its licensing and vaccination information, and its owner's name and address.



802

Cat Guidelines

- 802.1 All cats (pets, cats brought by extras, and cat actors) on set, except for kittens under the age of six months, must have been vaccinated for rabies, distemper, and feline leukemia at least two weeks prior to coming onto set. Proof of vaccination or the name and phone number of the veterinarian who vaccinated the cat must be provided to the American Humane Animal Safety Representative upon request.
- 802.2 American Humane must be notified prior to filming scenes involving either the birth of kittens or the use of kittens under the age of eight weeks. American Humane, upon consulting with the cat's or kittens' veterinarian, may require special precautions to minimize stress or exposure to diseases.
- 802.3 When working with dogs, in addition to assuring the safety of the cats, the cats must be trained and prepped to work with the dogs so that the work is not stressful.

803

Bird Guidelines

- 803.1 No bird can be released after dark unless it is trained to stay in a lighted area, or the area is enclosed.
- 803.2 No bird can be released, indoors or outdoors, unless it is trained to be retrieved or is otherwise safely retrievable.
- 803.3 When Homing Pigeons are used, American Humane must be provided with information about the banding of the birds, including the jurisdiction in which they were banded and by whom they were banded.
- 803.4 Birds, including chickens, may only be stacked in containers that do not permit birds to defecate on one another.
- 803.5 When not in transportation or working, birds should be housed in containers that permit each ANIMAL to make normal postural and social adjustments with adequate freedom of movement.

804

Fish Guidelines

- 804.1 Fish or other aquatic ANIMALS may not be harmed for filming purposes.
- 804.2 When using fish, a handler knowledgeable in the type of fish being used should be on set.



- 804.3 Fish and other aquatic ANIMALS must be maintained in containers or tanks suitable for their species, and must receive adequate and appropriate care, including aeration, temperature regulation, regular feeding, etc. If the tank was set up by a professional, that company/expert should be on call, and their name should be provided to American Humane.
- 804.4 When fish or other aquatic ANIMALS are purchased live for a scene and are later returned to their place of acquisition, receipts showing both the purchase and the safe return must be sent to the American Humane office.
- 804.5 If fish or other aquatic ANIMALS are purchased live for a scene and are later adopted at the end of filming, a letter from the adopting party(s) must be sent to American Humane indicating that the ANIMALS were received in good health and condition.
- 804.6 Fishing scenes are best simulated with dead fish, animatronics, or methods other than using live fish. If live fish are used, an expert knowledgeable in the specific type of fish should be present and should determine how to structure the scene without harm to the fish. The use of live fish and the techniques employed must be approved by American Humane.
- 804.7 Should a scene call for a fish to be out of water, consideration must be given to the species that are most tolerant (i.e., Catfish, Carp, etc.). A fish may not be out of water longer than 30 seconds without prior approval from American Humane. Fish must be rotated so that no fish is used more than one time in a row and no fish can be used more than three times in one day.

805

Insects & Arachnids

- 805.1 Nothing can be done to an insect that will cause permanent harm, or permanently alter its physical characteristics or behavior.
- 805.2 When using insects, an ANIMAL HANDLER knowledgeable of that particular insect or insects should be on set.
- 805.3 Care should be taken to assure the collection of all the insects used. None should be allowed to remain on the set or location. Particular care shall be taken when using a species not indigenous to the area.
- 805.4 When insects are brought on set for filming, to the extent possible, precautions should be taken to minimize the number of bugs flying into the lights.



Horse & Livestock Guidelines

In addition to all the *Guidelines* outlined above, these additional *Guidelines* apply to all horses and other livestock without regard to their prominence or insignificance to the production. As with the rest of these *Guidelines*, this section applies to all ANIMALS used in MOTION PICTURE productions, including any privately owned ANIMALS furnished to the production by Historic Re-enactors, other private suppliers, stunt coordinators, directors, or any other members of the cast or crew.

In productions involving large numbers of animals (e.g., historic re-enactments), a responsible “chain of command” shall be established to coordinate the work during the production. American Humane shall be provided this information in writing. The designated “commander” of each unit will be directly responsible for the conduct of the people and the care of the horses under his/her care.

806.1

Housing & General Care

- 806.1A Sufficient barns and/or pens must be made available so that horses or livestock from different geographical regions can be housed separately. The housing must be completed before the arrival of the ANIMALS.
- 806.1B The manner in which horses and other livestock are housed shall take into account their ages and the climates to which the ANIMALS are accustomed.
- 806.1C Horses and livestock must be provided with sufficient clean water.
- 806.1D Horse and livestock feed decisions shall take into consideration such factors as the ANIMAL’s customary diet, changing climates, and working conditions.
- 806.1E Other than designated cast members, only experienced ANIMAL HANDLERS may work with livestock or ride horses on a production.
- 806.1F No cast member, extra, or ANIMAL HANDLER shall be allowed to ride or work with a horse unless they have adequate riding skills and knowledge of horses to be able to function proficiently and safely. At a minimum, all riders must be skilled enough not to jerk or twist the horses’ mouth. **It is the Producer’s responsibility to ensure that cast members obtain adequate training to prevent such accidental cruelty.**
- 806.1G All background extras who are required to ride on a production must first be auditioned by the wrangler boss to determine their riding ability. Only riders from the approved wrangler boss list may be hired. **Production must provide adequate lead time for such demonstration and determination prior to filming.**
- 806.1H Spectators and crew should be discouraged from petting the horses and never, under any circumstances, should anyone other than the owner or person responsible for the ANIMAL be allowed to mount/ride any horse.



- 806.1I Boot spurs may be used only after discussing the necessity with the ANIMAL HANDLER and the American Humane Animal Safety Representative. When such use is deemed necessary, boot spurs may be used only by experienced stunt persons and wranglers who consent to use them gently. Whenever possible, spur use should be simulated by a combination of establishing shots and the substitution of flexible rubber spurs.
- 806.1J Horses should be shod appropriately for the action required. The factors to be considered include the breed and size of horse, the action to be performed, and the terrain on which they will be working. Horses working on cement or asphalt should wear barium or other appropriate shoes. If necessary, skid and hock boots should be used in downhill slides or rodeo-slide stops.
- 806.1K Whenever a large group of horses is used for a particular scene, especially when they are brought together from different areas, there should be a veterinarian present to check for appropriate papers and give each horse a basic health examination before they are allowed to come in contact with the other horses.
- 806.1L Horses are never to be left unattended.
- 806.1M Horses used on sets shall be calm, well behaved, and controllable in all situations. Horses must be properly trained to function around large crowds, in tight formations, and under gunfire as well as be able to be kept on a picket line in close proximity to other horses. Horses should not be head shy and shall function well with other horses. Geldings are preferable. For practical purposes the use of mares is acceptable but discouraged. No stallions shall be used without first contacting American Humane.
- 806.1N All equipment and tack will be safe and serviceable. Before and after every use all tack and harness will be thoroughly inspected for any damage or wear that could potentially cause injury to either the horse or rider.
- 806.1O No alcohol will be used around horses at any time.
- 806.1P Prior to and after each use, all horses will be thoroughly groomed, especially in the head, neck, and saddle area, and their hooves picked.
- 806.1Q Each horse will be thoroughly inspected for saddle and girth sores and other injuries after each use and at the end of the day. It is the responsibility of the individual, and of the coordinator to insure that this is done.
- 806.1R When filming intense action, more than one mile away from the nearest water trough, water must be supplied to the area.
- 806.1S The horses should receive adequate rest periods during down time and/or ample water at the location. If it is different than the staging area, the A.D. must be aware of the necessity of water breaks (i.e., in regards to “just one more take” or “can it wait till lunch” or “rap,” etc.) Also clean fresh water (treated) must be supplied when the ANIMALS are from different regions.
- 806.1T Have the horsemen stand down (dismount) between setups, saving the horses’ backs. No sitting on the horses for long periods between filming. Unhitch teams between long takes.



- 806.1U There will be no unnecessary riding or running horses while off camera. Ride and dismount as a professional.
- 806.1V Return to base camp after filming must be orderly (no racing back to camp).
- 806.1W Reasonable overnight rest and shelter adequate to protect horses from the elements shall be provided.

806.2

Horse Stunts

- 806.2A Only trained falling horses may be used to perform horse falls, only trained jumping horses may be used in jumping scenes, and only trained rearing horses may be used in rearing scenes. Rearing horses are not to be pulled over backwards.
- 806.2B For horse falls, the ground the horse will land on shall be prepared to cushion the fall.
- 806.2C The ground should be softened either by spreading four or five yards of sand, peat, or other soft substance, or by digging up the ground, making sure that all rocks and rough clods are removed. The area should not be less than twenty feet square; twelve to eighteen inches deep and filled with sand or other similar materials. It must be checked for rocks, glass, etc. The softened earth should not be covered by materials that may lessen the effectiveness of the prepared ground. For example, grass clippings rather than sod should be used.
- 806.2D The entrance and exit routes to the prepared horse fall areas must be checked for hazards as well.
- 806.2E. Horse jumps or falls into water should not be over six feet. Horses must be properly trained to perform these stunts. The water depth must be adequate to cushion the fall. Appropriate underwater footing must be provided and the exit pathway must also provide secure and stable footing.
- 806.2F. In horse jumping scenes, the top rails of the jumps shall be breakaway or scored balsa wood.
- 806.2G Sliding or riding down sand banks or earth slides should be done only by experienced riders on experienced horses.
- 806.2H Saddle drags should only be done on experienced horses. Untrained horses can be easily spooked and injured and can cause a runaway.
- 806.2I In scenes where horses paw, strike, or kick stationary scenery or props, breakaway materials must be used, or the horse action must be simulated using an artificial horse leg or other such device.
- 806.2J An adequate number of pick-up riders shall be provided during stampedes, charges, runaway and wagon crashes. The riders and their horses should be experienced and the horses should be in excellent condition.
- 806.2K Runaway wagons must be inspected to insure the freedom of the horses before the wagon crashes.



- 806.2L When moving large groups of horses or livestock, care should be used to prevent stampedes. A sufficient number of riders must be provided to control the set. This is especially important for cattle scenes.
- 806.2M When a large number of animals are being used for the purpose of stampeded scenes where the animals are restricted to a certain path or enclosed area (such as a Western town), the streets must be watered down to prevent dust from restricting the vision of trailing animals. The hitching rails must be designed in a manner that the vertical post is flush with the horizontal post. The posts must be designed or attached without the use of nails, spikes, or any material that can impale or lacerate should the rail become dislodged through contact. Prior to a stampede scene, American Humane shall inspect the area with the stunt coordinator and/or the wrangler to determine if the hitching rails are constructed properly. In the event that the hitching rail is positioned in an area that is potentially dangerous to any animal being used, then that hitching rail shall be removed. If the rail(s) become a continuity problem, the same rail(s) must be removed or replaced by a balsa wood-hitching rail with the same building restrictions applied. Should American Humane, the stunt coordinator, or the wrangler determine that the hitching rail is unsafe in any manner, appropriate steps must be taken to correct the problem.
- 806.2N When any animal(s) is used for a stampede scene that may occur by any cliff, hill, knoll, or other steep face of earth, an adequate number of pick-up riders must be in an area along that same cliff, hill, knoll, or other steep face of earth, positioned in an area that enables pick-up rider(s) to retrieve any animal(s) that may wander or stray from the herd that is being filmed. Neither the animal(s) nor pick-up riders shall be allowed any closer than twenty-five (25) yards from the edge of any cliff, hill, knoll, or other steep face of earth without an adequate number of pick-up riders. The same rule also applies when placing or holding the herd in an area waiting to be filmed. At no time may any animal(s) be left unguarded as prescribed above unless approved in advance by American Humane. In the event that an American Humane Animal Safety Representative is not on location, then it is the production company's responsibility to alert American Humane in advance of the upcoming scene(s) to discuss the details of the scene to be filmed. In the event that a helicopter is being used to film the scene, the same rules apply.

806.3

Harness/Artillery Scenes

- 806.3A With regard to harness or artillery horses, the harness must be well fitted. Only trained ANIMALS broken to the hitch can be used and ANIMALS matched in size to the hitch. No undersized horses should be matched to oversized ANIMALS. Only an artillery harness designed to be used in conjunction with the operations of pulling or towing artillery pieces may be used.
- 806.3B Six-horse gun sections should always have an outrider either in uniform on camera, or a wrangler off camera, to aid in the adjustment of harness or repairs while the drivers stay mounted or hold their teams.



- 806.3C Adequate adjustment and fitting of harness to the horses are necessary to reduce soiling of necks from collars or the flanks from the britching.
- 806.3D All activity, while moving guns, should be done in a walk or trot. Gunners may ride the limber box at these gates. No artillery men should be on the limber box when the team is at a canter or gallop.
- 806.3E On hot days, adequate spraying of teams with water while harnessed during repeated takes of a scene will minimize the sweat beneath leather from collars, harness, or britching.
- 806.3F If using heavy guns (3-inch ordinance guns or 12 pounders), a tractor or 4X4 should be available to haul the cannon back to starting position one to save the artillery horses for additional takes.
- 806.3G If only moving a short distance on each take, have the gun, limber, and team physically rolled backwards rather than making the team do large repeated circles back to position one.

806.4

Explosives/Gunfire

- 806.4A Only qualified experienced cannoneers approved by the re-enactor coordinator shall be used in battle scenes where cannon fire is necessary.
- 806.4B For battle scenes where cannon fire is necessary, a minimum of four experienced and qualified artillery personnel must be used who have been checked out and approved by the re-enactor coordinator.
- 806.4C After unlimbering of the gun, all six-horse hitches must be behind their individual gun before any of the cannons are fired.
- 806.4D When firing pistols from horseback, the weapon should be no closer than 45 degrees from the horse's head. This will decrease the chances of powder flashes causing burns to the horse's corneas.
- 806.4E When firing pistols or carbines from the ground, the weapon should not be pointed towards the horse's face, eyes, or ears.
- 806.4F When firing any type of artillery piece when horses are present, quarter loads must be used. Artillery pieces being fired must be a minimum of 25 feet from the nearest horse.
- 806.4G All mortar potholes must be filled after battle scenes if the hole is no longer necessary. This is to prevent any injury to horses that may be used in that same area for different scenes.



806.5

Saber/Sword Fights

- 806.5A The use of sabers in scenes while on horseback must be done with the utmost safety. All sabers should be dull. However, please keep in mind they are still pointed on the tips. Therefore, all activity with the saber should be done with the blade in a vertical position.
- 806.5B All saber fighting should be done with an experienced horse, one that is accustomed to close body contact.
- 806.5C When engaged in the melee (hand-to-hand fighting) with sabers, riders should at all times keep their sabers above the heads of both riders and horses.
- 806.5D No activity should occur with the saber blade below the head level of the horse, thus being careful not to strike the horse in the head or ear area.
- 806.5E When sabers are in the carry position, the blade should be in a neutral position at all times, meaning either straight up or resting in the hilt (handle) and should rest on the right thigh of the cavalryman. This will stabilize the blade and minimize any lateral or horizontal positioning of the blade during a march or charge.

806.6

Rodeo Scenes

When staging rodeo scenes for filming or collaborating with existing rodeos to procure rodeo scenes for a film, filmmakers must, at a minimum, comply with the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) Rules for the Humane Treatment of Rodeo Livestock, as outlined below. When filming existing rodeos that are regularly scheduled events in order to include such footage in a film production, filmmakers must select rodeos that, at a minimum, comply with the PRCA Rules. The following rules have been modified to include reference to filming and to create consistency with the American Humane's *Guidelines*. The PRCA has approved such modifications.

The following rules are taken directly from the PRCA rule book.

806.6A PRCA R9.O General

These rules are intended to ensure the humane treatment of rodeo animals that are used in staged or documentary footage for MOTION PICTURE productions. No ANIMAL shall be treated inhumanely by any individual.

806.6B PRCA R9.1 Sore, Lamé, Sick or Injured Animals

ANIMALS for all events will be inspected prior to filming and no sore, lame, sick, or injured ANIMALS, with defective eyesight, shall be filmed at any time. Should an ANIMAL become sick or injured between the time it is scheduled to be used and the filming, that ANIMAL shall not be used. If an ANIMAL has been declared unsatisfactory for an event, that ANIMAL may not be used for another event without the approval of a veterinarian.



- 806.6C PRCA R9.1.1 Veterinarian
A veterinarian shall be present for every performance and for the selection of stock.
- 806.6D PRCA R9.1.2 Removal of Injured Animal
A conveyance must be available, supplied by the stock contractor or production, and shall be used, where practicable, to remove ANIMALS from the arena in case of injury. The conveyance must be large enough to remove a horse or a bull. Injured calves shall be removed from the arena in a pick up truck, calf stretcher, or by conveyance. ANIMALS removed from the arena, pursuant to this section, shall be placed in a situation as isolated and comfortable as possible to reduce stress.
- 806.6E PRCA R9.1.2.1 Must be Humane
Any injured livestock shall be humanely removed from the arena before continuing the rodeo or scene.
- 806.6F PRCA R9.2 Rowels
No locked rowels, or rowels that will lock on spurs, may be used on bareback horses or saddle broncs. Spurs must be dulled.
- 806.6G PRCA R9.3 No Sharp Objects in Cinch, Saddle, Girth or Flank Straps
No sharp or cutting objects in cinch, saddle girth, or flank straps shall be permitted. Flank straps used for horses must be either sheepskin- or neoprene-lined and shall be of the quick-release type. Sheepskin- or neoprene-lined flank straps shall be placed on the ANIMAL so the lined portion is over both flanks of the ANIMAL. In bull riding, a soft cotton rope at least 5/8 in diameter is acceptable as a flank strap and does not require the sheepskin or neoprene lining.
- 806.6H PRCA R9.4 Prods and Other Artificial Stimuli
Standard electric prods may not be used for the purpose of making an ANIMAL perform. No other artificial stimuli may be used without the express permission of an American Humane Animal Safety Representative.
- 806.6I PRCA R9.5.1 Construction of Chutes
Chutes must be constructed to prevent injury to an ANIMAL. Maintenance personnel and equipment shall be available at chutes to assist in removal of any ANIMAL should it become necessary.
- 806.6J PRCA R9.5.2 Conditions of Arena
The arena must be as free as possible of rocks, holes, and unnecessary obstacles.
- 806.6K PRCA R9.5.3 No Small Animals
No small ANIMALS or pets shall be allowed in the arena, unless part of an act approved by American Humane.
- 806.6L PRCA R9.5.4 Removal of Livestock After Competition
Livestock must be removed from the arena after each filmed competition is completed, unless the ANIMAL is necessary for use in the background to complete the scene.



806.6M PRCA R9.6 Neckrope Must Be Used in Calf or Tie-Down Roping

In calf or tie-down roping, a neckrope must be used. Calves may not be intentionally flipped backward. Contestants must adjust rope and reins in such a manner that will prevent the horse from dragging the calf. The rope is to be removed from the calf's body as soon as possible after the "tie" is approved. Roping calves shall be strong and healthy.

806.6N PRCA R9.7 No Stimulants or Hypnotics

No stimulants or hypnotics may be given to any ANIMAL used for contest purposes or scenes.

806.6O PRCA R9.8 Animals Excessively Excited in Chute

Any ANIMAL that becomes excessively excited and lies down in the chute repeatedly or tries to jump out of the chute repeatedly, or in any way appears to be in danger of injuring itself, must be released immediately.

806.6P PRCA R9.9 Confinement and Transportation.

No stock shall be confined or transported in vehicles beyond a period of 24 hours without being unloaded, properly fed, and watered.

806.6Q R9.10 Abuse of Animals

If a person abuses an ANIMAL by any unnecessary non-competitive or competitive action, he/she may be disqualified or dismissed for the remainder of the film due to unnecessary roughness against livestock or any animal being used in film. Person or persons involved in any act of ANIMAL abuse or any act of intentional cruelty shall be in violation of American Humane's *Guidelines* and/or state statutes pertaining to ANIMAL cruelty, resulting in possible prosecution.

All ANIMALS in riding events must have been entered into and performed in at least one prior rodeo as a bucking ANIMAL before being filmed. **NO GREEN HORSES CAN BE USED DURING FILMING.**

806.6R PRCA R9.12 Tie-Downs Covered

All chain, metal, and wire tie-downs and bosals must be covered.

806.6S PRCA R9.13 Apparent Injury During Competition.

Should a riding event ANIMAL show evidence of injury inflicted by the contestant during competition, he/she may be disqualified or dismissed for the remainder of the film. Said ANIMAL cannot be used until such time as the injury is completely healed.



807

Exotic Animals

807.1

General

- 807.1A When potentially dangerous exotic ANIMALS are on set, the ANIMAL HANDLER must provide production with information instructing cast and crew how to behave in the presence of such ANIMALS. The information shall be attached to the call sheet and must be conveyed to all persons who will be working with or near the ANIMALS.
- 807.1B Children may only be near potentially dangerous exotic animals while rehearsing or filming in a controlled environment monitored by an ANIMAL HANDLER.
- 807.1C When not on set and whenever possible, a quiet, private area must be provided to exotic animals. Smaller exotic ANIMALS should have a separate room that is temperature controlled when necessary. Larger exotic ANIMALS should be provided a separate sheltered area where cast and crew are prohibited from visiting.
- 807.1D A plan should be in place to prevent the escape of any wild or exotic animals and to safely recapture them, without harm to the animal, should they escape.

807.2

Apes & Monkeys

- 807.2A Stages should be checked by the ANIMAL HANDLER for escape routes and potential hazards. Because apes and monkeys can quickly climb heights and are capable of opening and closing doors, drawers, and other objects, any products containing harmful chemicals or sharp items must be removed from the area. Props used on set should be checked by the ANIMAL HANDLER and American Humane Safety Representative.
- 807.2B Human contact with apes and monkeys should be limited to those persons necessary for filming. People with colds or other contagious viruses should remain at a distance from apes or monkeys.

When apes are to be used in productions for two or more consecutive days, care must be taken to ensure adequate rest. ANIMAL HANDLERS must know each ANIMAL's capabilities for dealing with workloads.

When an ape is working on set for more than three consecutive full days (six or more hours per day), a play area, empty room, or private park where the ape may exercise and relax must be provided.

Working apes after sundown is discouraged and should only occur when the ape has been conditioned to work after sundown.

Clothes used on apes must be loose fitting, easy to take on or off (Velcro® is preferred), and may not obstruct the ape's ability to walk, hear, or see.



Prior to filming, apes must be introduced to characters or moving objects that are frightening or otherwise unnatural. For example, apes should be familiar with any animatronic objects or costumed persons such as clowns or beasts.

Stages should be kept cool around apes. Apes should not be on set for reasons other than filming, rehearsing, preparing, or otherwise becoming familiar with objects, persons, or other animals that will be in the scene.

Apes should not be used as stand-ins or for lighting adjustments.

808

Reptile Guidelines

- 808.1 When using snakes and other ANIMALS in the same scene, care must be taken to protect the safety of both the snakes and the other ANIMALS. Each must be accustomed to being around the other.
- 808.2 When venomous snakes are used with other ANIMALS or actors, safety precautions must be used for the welfare of all concerned. These precautions may include the use of barrier glass, the use of professional snake wranglers as stunt people or, if necessary, the mouth of the venomous snake may be sutured.
- 808.3 In the event that suturing of venomous snakes is necessary, it must be done only by experienced snake handlers accustomed to the procedure. Such action must be approved in advance by American Humane and meet the following requirements:
 - 808.3A A topical application of a local anesthetic must be applied to the affected area prior to suturing.
 - 808.3B Sutures may not remain in the snake for more than 72 hours.
 - 808.3C When sutures are removed, antibiotics must be applied to the affected area.
- 808.4 Under no circumstances can the fangs of snakes be pulled.
- 808.5 Snake fangs may be cut only when necessary for suturing a venomous snake.
- 808.6 Snakes may not be milked.
- 808.7 Carbon dioxide or dry ice may not be used around snakes or other reptiles.

809

Wildlife Guidelines

- 809.1 It is production's responsibility to assure the safety of the natural ANIMALS in the filming area, and to consult the agency or persons responsible for the removal of wildlife from location sets. Any such ANIMALS that remain on the set are subject to American Humane's *Guidelines*. If native ANIMALS are not to remain on the set, they must be carefully removed, relocated, properly housed, and cared for, then safely returned to their habitat after filming.



- 809.2 Production may not intentionally harm and must take precautionary measures to protect nests, dens, caves, caverns, etc.
- 809.3 Care must be taken to ensure that non-indigenous animals are removed from the area after production.

Any person or persons who knowingly and willfully violate any part of the American Humane Association *Guidelines* or any act of intentional cruelty or neglect shall be in violation of American Humane's *Guidelines* and/or state statutes pertaining to animal cruelty, resulting in possible prosecution.



DISTRIBUTE IN ADVANCE

Guidelines

for the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media



www.AHafilm.org
Film & TV Unit
NO ANIMALS WERE HARMED™

A Program of  American Humane.

Special Requirements for Extras / Others Who Supply Dogs

Although the Special Requirements apply to extras or other private owners, production is always ultimately responsible for the well-being of any animal (or human) on a set. Please be aware, for safety reasons, the AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION discourages a production's use of an extra's dog in lieu of a professionally trained animal. Dog bites and dog attacks are becoming more common and are often severe. As the popularity of pet dogs has shifted from the hunting, working, and herding varieties to today's more urban pet/protection dog whose genetics tend to be more aggression-prone, dog bites have become a national public health crisis. Please assure the safety of the humans and dogs on your set.

1. **Guideline Applicability.** American Humane's *Guidelines for the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media* apply to anyone bringing an animal to the set.
2. **Training and Socialization.** Extras/owners that bring their dogs to a film set should make sure that their dogs are well trained, socialized, and comfortable in groups of dogs and humans.
3. **Water.**
 - A. Extras/owners shall bring a water bowl that is heavy enough not to be tipped and large enough to satiate an overheated dog's thirst.
 - B. Extras/owners shall make water available to the dog between takes.
4. **Control.**
 - A. The dog must wear a collar and be kept on a leash at all times except when it is being held in a secure pen, fenced area, or crate.
 - B. Dogs shall not be left unattended at any time.
 - C. If a dog charges, threatens, or bites any person or animal, it shall be removed immediately from the set and location.
5. **Proof of License and Vaccination.**
 - A. All dogs shall be licensed.
 - B. Extras/owners must provide proof of the dog's vaccinations against rabies, parvo, distemper, bordetella, and the corona virus. The dog must have received its vaccinations at least two weeks prior to coming onto set.
6. **Prohibition Against Dogs in Heat.** Dogs may not be on set if they are in their heat cycle.
7. **Housing/Comfort.** In advance, extras/owners shall coordinate with production as to who will provide shade, crates, and/or fencing for the dog.
8. **Dog Bite Incidents.**
 - A. Dog bites to humans or other animals that break the skin should receive prompt medical/veterinary attention.
 - B. Dog bites that require medical or veterinary care may be required to be reported to the local animal control agency or the public health agency (check local regulations). A veterinary examination and/or quarantine of the dog that did the biting may be required.
 - C. Any person bitten (or owner of an animal bitten) by a dog should be provided with the dog owner's name and address and copies of the dog's licensing and vaccination records.

American Humane Association - Film & Television Unit		
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"Protecting Animals in Film and Television Since 1940"





IMPORTANT REMINDER!

If you are using an animal not supplied by a USDA-certified animal supplier (e.g.: belonging to cast or crew),

The animal owner MUST obtain a USDA Exhibitor's License Waiver (one-time use of animal) *prior to* using the animal. The USDA and AHA take this requirement seriously.

Don't stress! Here's how to apply:

- 1) **WRITE A LETTER:** Prior to production using the animal, the animal owner, NOT production, must write a letter to the USDA in their Region (see below for details). The letter may be faxed for expedited requests; *make sure to request that the USDA fax the waiver back to you.* The letter must state:
 - a. the type and age of animal used;
 - b. the location and date on which the animal will be used;
 - c. that this is a one time only event;
 - d. what the animal is expected to do; and
 - e. any potential danger the animal may encounter.
- 2) **REVIEW & RESPONSE:** Once this information is reviewed and accepted, the waiver is granted. The animal owner will receive a letter from USDA granting a one time exception to exhibit the animal(s) on the date and location specified.
 - a. This waiver/exception is given under the condition that AHA is permitted to monitor the animal action.
 - b. Both the owner & production should retain a copy of the letter on set.
- 3) **FUTURE USE OF THE ANIMAL:** Once the animal is used, as authorized by the waiver, that animal may NOT be exhibited again until the owner has successfully obtained an Exhibitor's License from the USDA.

USDA Western Regional Office (West of the Mississippi)
Ph: (970) 494-7478 - Fax: (970) 494-7461

USDA Eastern Regional Office (East of the Mississippi)
Ph: (919) 716-5532 - Fax: (919) 716-5696

In addition, please refer to AHA's GUIDELINES FOR THE SAFE USE OF ANIMALS IN FILMED MEDIA ("Special Requirements for Extras / Others Who Supply Dogs", p. 30).

* NOTICE *

When you hear the words:

“Unauthorized Shot”

from our Animal Safety Representative, you must **STOP** and **FIX** the problem *prior to* shooting.

Otherwise, you are putting your production at risk of being liable
&
not earning the “No Animals Were Harmed™” end credit disclaimer.



Film & TV Unit
NO ANIMALS WERE HARMED™

A Program of  American Humane.