

- SOP No:** AHT 028(f)
- SUBJECT:** Transportation of Live Fish – BOAT TRANSPORT
- POLICY:** Animal transportation should not be undertaken if fish are likely to be exposed to temperature extremes.
Boat transport should not exceed 3 hours
- PRECAUTIONS:** Acceptance and housing space must be approved and allocated by UQBR prior to the transport of aquatic animals to UQ facilities
Personal protective equipment must be specific to the area of pick up, type of animal, and size of animal, which all must be taken into account in a risk assessment, and this includes any extra safety precautions that should be made due to the nature of the animal e.g. poisonous spines.
Staff responsible for the transportation of animals must use their professional judgement on the mode/type of equipment suitable for the particular animal being transported
- EQUIPMENT:** safety glasses (RA)
gloves (RA)
fully enclosed, non slip shoes
- PROCEDURE:**
- Animals are to be transported in large plastic bins containing water that is oxygenated using air pumps. Additional oxygenation can be provided by battery-operated aerators
 - Animals are transported by boat (potentially) and then by vehicle to animal housing facilities.
 - Containers should only be half filled, have secure lids to reduce the likelihood of tipping over during transportation.
 - The use of scissor lift/ lifting trolleys is recommended where possible, this eliminates a manual handling injury and minimises agitation of the animal during transport.
 - Bins must be in a flat position and be secured to the vehicle to minimise movement, tipping over, and to avoid the risk of causing injury to passengers during transportation.
 - The vehicle air conditioner must be kept running (whenever possible), especially when the vehicle is stationary, as is the case when on the barge from north Stradbroke Island. The temperature of the vehicle is kept under 24° C (or as appropriate for the animals being transported).

RECOMMENDATIONS: **Wildlife and fisheries permits may be required if the animals will be obtained from the wild. On arrival at a UQ animal house facility, fish are acclimatised to tanks and introduced into the system; this process should take around 40 minutes. Some species may require isolation for a period of time prior to being added into a larger system due to the risks of bringing in parasites and infections.**

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REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. http://www.ccac.ca/en/CCAC_Programs/Guidelines_Policies/GDLINES/Fish/Fish_Guidelines_English.pdf