1. General
   A. According to the Animal Care and Use Protocol at the termination of the research study, animals will be assigned to one of three categories:
      a. No harm will occur. Animals are available for redistribution or adoption (both procedures must be coordinated through Veterinary Services).
      b. The animals will be euthanatized.
      c. The animals will die prior to euthanasia due to the experimental design of the research. This is termed "death as an endpoint" and requires special justification for approval by the IACUC.
      d. Occasionally, however, an animal falls into a fourth category. It does not survive the entire research study (i.e. the animals die of some known or unknown cause unexpectedly prior to collection of useable data). From a research standpoint, these animals have not been utilized as an experimental subject (Note: "credit" for these lost subjects from an "Animal Numbers" standpoint on your protocol may be approved by the IACUC more readily if you have the Unscheduled Death documentation listed below).
      e. From an animal health and husbandry standpoint, these animals may be an indicator of health problems in a colony.
      f. From a regulatory standpoint, these animal deaths must be tracked and reviewed by the Veterinarian and IACUC.

2. Reporting Policy
   A. Which animals must be reported:
      a. All animals that are found dead by a caretaker, technician, investigator, veterinarian, etc. must be reported, even if you expected the animal to die and it is so stated in the protocol. If possible, these animals should be preserved for examination by the Veterinarian by bagging, tagging and placing in a designated refrigerator (please do not freeze).
      b. Animals that are euthanatized before the completion of the study (before collection of useable data).
         i. Examples include a sick or hurt animal where the treatment would nullify the experiment, animal genetic or for other reasons do not fit the model criteria, etc.
      c. Do not report animals that are euthanatized as part of the termination of a research study (unless you are specifically requesting that a necropsy or other laboratory work be performed by the Veterinarian).
      d. Animals that die in a field study that were not expected to die.

   B. How to report animals
      a. Complete the ANL (Animal Death, Necropsy Request & Lab Submission) form
      b. Complete all boxes on the side of the paper labeled "ANL Form".
c. If the death was unexpected or the animal was euthanatized prior to data collection, mark "Yes" to this question on the form.
d. If the death was expected (and the protocol specifically addresses the issue of "Death as an endpoint", mark "No" to the question on the form.

3. Tracking Animal Deaths
   A. All completed ANL Forms will be submitted to Veterinary Services.
   B. The Clinical Veterinarian will screen ANL Forms.
   C. The data from the ANL form will be entered into the appropriate database.
   D. Necropsy, Lab Findings, Diagnoses, etc. will be reported (by verbal and/or written form) to the appropriate individual(s) (usually the investigator that submits the request).
   E. The first week of the months of January, April, July and October, (or when requested) a report summarizing animal deaths will be submitted to the IACUC by Veterinary Services.