I wish to invite you to participate in my research project, described below.

**School of ….**

**University of New England**

Armidale NSW 2351

Australia

**Phone** 02 6773 **….**

**..........@une.edu.au**

**www.une.edu.au/........**

*My name is ……………….. and I am conducting this research as part of my ………. in the School of ………….. at the University of New England. My supervisors/co-researchers are ……….. and ……………...*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Research Project** | *The title of the project goes here* |
| **Aim of the Research** | *This research aims to explore…………..* |
| **What will the study involve** | *Animals will receive training using positive reinforcement (food rewards) by experienced trainers and handlers. Training sessions will be kept short, and animals will be rested or retired from training activities if showing signs of fatigue or disinterest.* |
| **Animal Management** | *Animals will be housed at the ………. for a period of ……….. weeks. The facility will have/be (temperature controlled, undercover, etc.) Animals will be fed …………. and given free access to water and exercised (daily, twice daily, weekly, etc.)*  *At the conclusion of the project animals will be ………….* |
| **Known risks** | Although the research investigator(s) conduct their study with all due care, some risk always exists when animal handling and animal procedures are performed.  **INSERT:** *known risks depending on proposed procedures e.g. anaesthetic risks, risk of oesophageal tearing during rumen collection, adverse reaction to substances, environmental or housing arrangements, panic etc* |
| **Unforeseen risks** | There may be instances when unforeseen risks arise during the research study. The research investigators will promptly inform owners of all animals participating in the study of any new information that may affect their continued willingness to participate. Owners will be offered the option of withdrawing from the study. |
| **Unforeseen Risks** | While the researchers undertake their study with all due care, there may be instances when unforeseen risks arise during the research study. The research investigators will promptly inform owners of all animals participating in the study of any new information that may affect their continued willingness to participate. After assessing the risks, owners will be provided with the option of withdrawing from the study. |
| **Adverse events** | Should anything untoward happen during the study and an animal is injured or dies while in the care of the UNE research project, the researchers will examine the circumstances and report them to you. In the event of injury, veterinary care will be provided at no cost to the owner. The owner will be informed of any such instances. |
| **Financial costs** | There will be no cost to you for the participation of your animal(s) in the research study. You will not be charged for any of the procedures performed solely for the study’s purpose. You will receive no reimbursement for the participation of your animal(s) in the research study. Should the animals require transportation to and from the research location this will be at the cost and care of ………………….. |
| **Confidentiality** | Owner and animal confidentiality will be maintained. No identification of individuals will be made when reporting or publishing the results of the research study. |
| **Participation is Voluntary** | Choosing to allow your animal(s) to be involved in this activity is voluntary and I respect your right to withdraw your consent at any time without consequence. You do not need to provide any explanation if you decide to withdraw or not participate. If you withdraw, any data collected about your animal will be retained for analysis. If you withdraw your animals, you will need to arrange for the animals to be collected from the research site within seven (7) days, at your cost. |
| **Use, storage & disposal of information** | Information from the study may be used in academic journal articles and conference presentations. Information will be stored on cloud.une.edu.au and personal information will be kept for a maximum of seven years. |
| **Approval** | This project has been approved by the Animal Ethics Committee of the University of New England (Approval No………., Valid to ../../….). |
| **Researchers**  **Contact Details** | *If you have any questions or concerns relating to the project please feel free to ask at any point.*  *Name:* [*.............@une.edu.au*](mailto:.............@une.edu.au) *or by phone on 02 6773 ….*  *Name (position title):* [*.............@une.edu.au*](mailto:.............@une.edu.au) *or by phone on 02 6773 ….*  *Name (position title):* [*.............@une.edu.au*](mailto:.............@une.edu.au) *or by phone on 02 6773 ….* |
| **Complaints** | Should you have any complaints concerning the manner in which this research is conducted, please contact:  Animal Ethics Secretary  Research Services  University of New England  Armidale, NSW 2351  Tel: (02) 6773 2890  Email: animalethics@une.edu.au |
|  | Thank you for considering this request and I look forward to further contact with you.  Regards,  *Researchers Name and signature* |