

# AQUATIC ZEBRAFISH CORE

## Euthanasia of Juvenile and Adult Fish

- Fill mating cage with 1-inch layer of ice and add system water to about 0.5 inch beneath rim.
- Collect fish to be euthanized in mating tank with insert with system water.
- Lift insert with fish out and quickly put in ice water bath, rock insert up and down quickly to allow quick distribution of cold water. Fish will be stunned within seconds. A fast temperature change is important for quick and efficient euthanasia. Note the cessation of gill movement and wait 10 minutes before disposing of fish.
- For juvenile fish that are small and could fall through the slots of the tank insert, a net may be used to immerse the fish in the ice water.
- Euthanasia of fish can be “reversible” and fish can wake up from state of suspended animation. Dispose euthanized fish in carcass freezer without warming.
- Place euthanized animal(s) in a red biohazard bag labeled with the protocol number, “euthanized by lab”, the species, the technicians initials, and the date of euthanasia. Immediately dispose of bag in designated carcass freezer.