**DARPA Safe Genes & GBIRd Program: Priorities of the GBIRd Steering Committee**

As we move into the first major funding opportunity, we will move faster, creating step-wise dependent process. Critical to this process is identification of priorities to avert work stoppage. My intent is to ensure the programs move forward and does not get stuck due to lack of sequential alignment of higher priority activities. Below is a list of activities discussed by Steering Committee members that seem critical in short term to GBIRd and/or Safe Genes objectives. Some context is given. Please Review and Comment on my assessment of issues discussed.

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| Issue | Identified by: | Potential Consequences | **Proposed** Actions: |
| Regulatory Process | NWRC, TAMU | May lack the ability to move mice from construction location to simulated natural environments | Identify Initial steps with Reg Authority, including who will be lead authority, who will be sponsors, etc. |
| Genetic Character-ization | NCSU | Confirmation of the Locally Fixed Allele hypothesis cannot occur without Genomic Characterizations of invasive mouse populations. | Identify collections of genomic materials that have at least 100 individuals from an island. Pursue authorization to use. |
| Island Selection | NCSU | Genetic Characterization cannot start without identification of a relatively biosecure island. Progress on understanding Locally Fixed Alleles is necessary for Safe Genes Progress. Community engagement cannot begin until potential islands are identified. State/Territorial Regulatory requirements are different, based on island location. | Convene joint Island Selection & Genetic Characterization meeting. Pursue necessary permits to collect genomic materials from selected islands if necessary. |
| Animal Use Protocol | TAMU, NCSU, NWRC, UofA | DARPA requires an animal use protocol – Without approval of the protocol, work will not commence | Convene meeting to ID, or Royden compiles, steps necessary for DARPA Animal Use Protocol Approval. Identify lead for this activity. |
| Funding | Holdover | Multiple aspects of the program are not yet funded. | Continue to focus on fundraising across partnership – highlighting funding sought & by whom. ID which areas at risk of slowing program due to funding need. |
| Regulatory Framework | All | Predictable coordinated regulatory framework is being put in place for this new tech.  | Sequential conferences – regulatory framework & annual GBIRd |
| Strategy Development | IC | Without the finalized strategic plan, more opportunities exist for miscommunication. Having the plan can assist with proposal development | Finalize Strat Plan and other key docs (e.g. Containment Strategies & NAS Response) |