

Category definitions last updated 31 July 09

### **Aggression**

Behavior aimed at intensifying ritualized dominance for a more serious expression of the situation, or to cause psychological impact, or physical distraction. Direct physical aggression, in addition to vocal and indirect aggression, such as eye stare, is more common.

### **Attack**

Behavior aimed at taking the initiative in using force against another animal in order to harm, and possibly kill, that animal.

### **Defense/Submission**

Behavior which expresses the animals' capability of resisting aggression [as in: part of Ritualized Dominance, Aggression, Attack] and thus protect oneself. This includes the act of submitting, yielding, or surrendering to another animal.

### **Food Related**

Behavior associated with nourishment [incl water].

### **Greet**

Behavior where animals meet each other and/or react in a specified manner, with a social expression.

### **Groom/Care**

To remove dirt and parasites from the skin or fur (of another animal). Giving or soliciting care.

### **Investigative**

Behavior related to observing (by close examination or systematic inquiry) the environment.

## **Predatory**

Behaviors associated with wild wolf way of life in which food is obtained by the killing and consuming of prey-animals. In captivity predatory behavior can be displayed towards small animals or are a component of aggression. If it is displayed in aggression, it signifies a heightened psychological state driven by the predatory instinct.

## **Rest**

Behavior of sleep or repose for a period of time, including getting up and extending oneself.

## **Ritualized Dominance**

Behavior that an animal with a higher status/rank conveys through an inhibited form of aggression. The resulting social stability facilitates subsequent cooperation between group members (because lower ranked animals will not incur the high costs of challenging more dominant animals, although testing will occur).

## **Scent/Mark/Elimination**

Behavior where a distinctive odor is deposited by an animal on the ground or other surface, as by urinating, which functions as an identifying signal to other animals. Not to be confused by expelling feces or urination not associated with scent-marking.

## **Social**

Behaviors underscoring/reinforcing the organized hierarchy within the group.

## **Threat**

Behavior indicating imminent danger or the animal itself being the potential source of danger.

## Category – Ethogram

Last update: 1 Aug 2009

While behaviors may occur in a variety of categories based on the scenarios, this list is a broad generalization of the most representative category related to the behavioral code. There are a few exceptions where the Ethogram code appears in more than one category.

Attack category is only assigned when all 4 Ethogram codes are observed.

| <u>Category</u>        | <u>Ethogram codes</u>   |
|------------------------|---|
| Aggression             | HR, LU, MB, SeqAG, STK, TG  |
| Attack                 | BT + GB + HS + PN   |
| Defense/Submission     | AG, CH, CW, EA, EB, EPT, EPTS, ESC, ETSB, FS, GL, H 1 – H1234, IP, JS, LC, LV, PA, REF, RL, ROB, RUC, SA, SL, SNP, SO, SP, T3 – T3.5 or T4, WRL |
| Food-Related           | CA, CO, DK, DR, ET, GD, GW, LC, MO, PK, RG, SR, SeqFA, TOW  |
| Greet                  | BMS, BW, FB, LK, RA, RO, SeqGR, SFN, TW   |
| Groom/Care             | FW, GM, SCR, SHK, SPW, SWM, SZ, WH  |
| Investigative          | AP, CL, DG, EX, JP, LK, PL, PO, RN, SF, SPW, T2, TT, TG, WD, WK, WN   |
| Predatory              | FG, HS, JSL, PC, RN, STK  |
| Rest                   | RB, RC, RSD, RSS, RSX, RT, ST, STRBW, STRFA, STRHB, YN  |
| Ritualized Dominance   | AM, BI, BMH, CS, CR, EP, FO, FOL, FS, GB, GL, H 1 – H 1234, HSL, IG, LC, MT, PN, RU, SFG, SL, SOVR, SQ, STA, STL, T1                            |
| Scent-Mark/Elimination | DF, FLU, OM, RL, RLU, RO, SCP, SCT, SR, US, USQ   |
| Social                 | GN, HC, HD, IC, JS, PW, RA, RN, SeqPL, WR   |
| Threat                 | BH, BK, HL, SeqTH, STA, STK, THT  |

See the spreadsheet for graphics depicting the results of the data collection.

Possible new Ethogram Code:

Shriek (SHR) Category Defense/Submission

A loud, sharp, piercing cry or sound often in a frantic response to dominance.