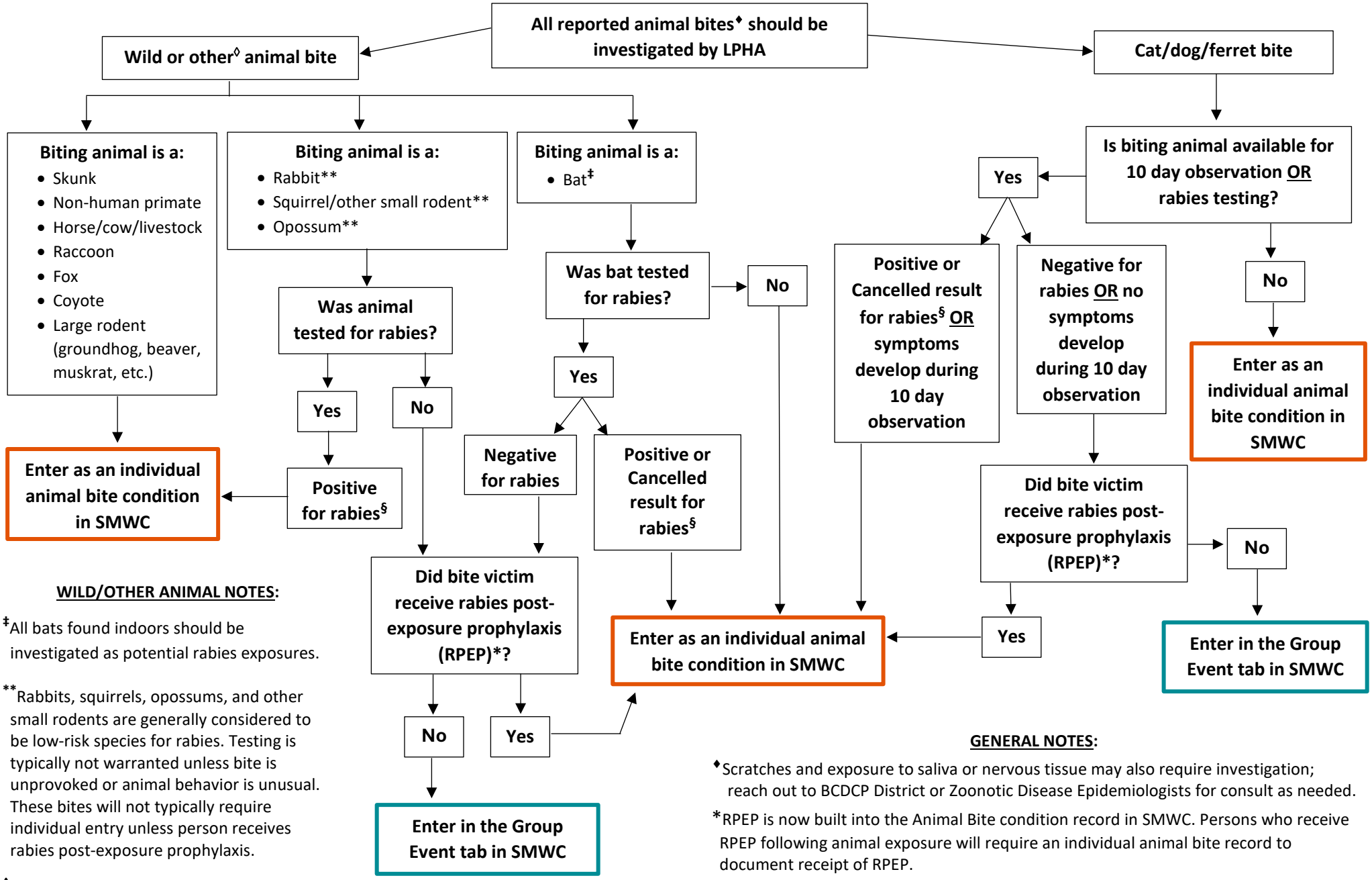
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES

Interim Animal Bite/Exposure Entry Guidance for ShowMe WorldCare (SMWC)

Revised June 2025



WILD/OTHER ANIMAL NOTES:

‡All bats found indoors should be investigated as potential rabies exposures.

**Rabbits, squirrels, opossums, and other small rodents are generally considered to be low-risk species for rabies. Testing is typically not warranted unless bite is unprovoked or animal behavior is unusual. These bites will not typically require individual entry unless person receives rabies post-exposure prophylaxis.

◊Non-mammal species including reptiles, birds, and fish cannot transmit rabies.

GENERAL NOTES:

♦Scratches and exposure to saliva or nervous tissue may also require investigation; reach out to BCDCP District or Zoonotic Disease Epidemiologists for consult as needed.

*RPEP is now built into the Animal Bite condition record in SMWC. Persons who receive RPEP following animal exposure will require an individual animal bite record to document receipt of RPEP.

§ For animals that are positive or unsatisfactory for rabies testing (cancelled result), please add the exposed person as a contact within the animal record.