**Table 10.5-1.** **Decision matrix for evaluating old taxidermy mounts.**

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| --- | --- |
| ***Criteria*** | ***Considerations*** |
| Historic value | * Known origin * Length of time in the museum * Prepared by known taxidermist * Representative of historic taxidermy procedures |
| Identification | * Known species, common * Known species that is now protected * Unknown species |
| Origin | * Value based on specific geographic origin * Value based on general geographic origin |
| Research value | * Specimen has been used in research * Specimen is likely to be used in research * Extinct species * Rare or endangered species * Protected species |
| Value as voucher | * Voucher for published research * Voucher for unpublished research |
| Quality of mount | * Excellent * Good * Fair * Poor |
| Need for conservation work | * Needs cleaning * Needs simple repairs * Needs complex repairs * Requires significant intervention |
| Presence of arsenic or other poisons | * Poisons suspected * Poison tests are positive * Mount can be exhibited without danger to visitors * Mount cannot be exhibited without danger to visitors |