

# **Tissue and Destructive Sampling Policy**

## **Division of Mammals, NMNH**

### **Criteria for Approval of Requests**

Requests for destructive sampling of specimens or use of tissues will be evaluated and approved based on the following criteria:

- ♦ Scientific value the project
- ♦ Feasibility of the project
- ♦ Qualifications of the investigator(s)
- ♦ Evidence of sufficient lab facilities and resources
- ♦ Appropriateness of requested specimens for the study
- ♦ Approval of original collector (if needed)
- ♦ Amount of tissue or sampling needed
- ♦ Reasons why samples could not be obtained from the field or other institutions which may have superior holdings

Requests will be reviewed by divisional staff, who have final discretion for approval or denial of all or part of a request.

### **Other Information**

- ♦ Large requests may be handled in small allotments.
- ♦ International loans must follow all legal and permit requirements of the country to which the loan will be sent, including proper import permits and CITES permits. If no permits are required, then the researcher must state so in writing.
- ♦ Researchers requesting tissues or destructive sampling of specimens are cautioned that all identifications are tentative and the Division of Mammals is not responsible for ensuring their accuracy.
- ♦ Researchers must acknowledge the TERMS AND CONDITIONS listed below before requests are granted.

### **Terms and Conditions of Loans**

Tissue and destructive sampling transfers are made under the following conditions:

- ♦ Samples will be used only for the purposes stated in the description of research. Samples may not be used for any research or purpose other than that stated in the original approved document without written permission from the Division of Mammals.
- ♦ No part or by-product may be loaned or given to another researcher or institution without written permission.

- Any portion of the sample that remains, or byproducts thereof, will be returned to the Division of Mammals after the analysis is complete. If no sample remains, a written statement to that fact will be sent to the Division.
- No commercial use of the sample will be made without prior approval. That includes license, or patent based on samples or byproducts, or any information derived from them without written approval from the Division.
- Copies of all publications resulting from the use of our samples will be sent to the Division. Publications that result from tissues obtained from the Division of Mammals must acknowledge the Division and incorporate any other acknowledgment required by the collector (this usually includes acknowledging the grants etc. that made the acquisition of the sample possible).
- Sequences obtained from Divisional tissue samples should be deposited in GenBank or other public genetic database after the research has been published.
- Other stipulations may be made by the Division of Mammals dependant on the specifics of the loan request.
- Loans will be closed upon return of unused portions or by submitting a short letter as to the disposition of the sample if none is returned, and upon receipt of copies of any resulting publications. Loans of tissue samples will be made for one year unless an extension is requested and granted.