Conducting Research in Yellowstone

Research conducted under Yellowstone Research Permit YELL-2019-SCI-5486

“Know Before You Research” Guidance

Why Are There Regulations On My Permit?

- To protect Yellowstone resources
- To protect park visitors and visitor experiences
- To protect you, the researcher

Research conducted under Yellowstone Research Permit YELL-2018-SCI-8060

Before You Arrive…

- NPS field resources, such as a uniformed escort, are extremely limited, and are not guaranteed. For some permits, especially new ones, they may be required.
- For field assistance, contact the Research Permit Office 6-8 weeks in advance of your trip.

- If you have been approved to collect specimens, you must contact the Curator's Office prior to starting fieldwork to discuss curatorial responsibilities: 307-344-2565.

Lodging

- Low cost lodging in and around the park is very limited, especially in the summer.
- The Research Dorm at Lake ("Utah Dorm") is closed.

Please visit the following sites for information on lodging/camping options:

Campgrounds in the park (reservations required at some):
https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/campgrounds.htm

Hotels in the park:
https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/lodging.htm

AMK Ranch – University of Wyoming/ Grand Teton NP Partnership:
http://uwnps.org/

Backcountry Camping and Stock Use

Backcountry campsites and stock support usually require reservations 8 weeks in advance.

Review the Backcountry Camping website for initial trip planning, including a map of which campsites allow stock.
www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/backcountryhiking.htm

The list of permitted stock outfitters is found at:
https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/stockbusn.htm

Horse and Llama Packing Information is located at:
www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/horseride.htm

For more information:
Yellowstone Backcountry Office
307-344-2160
yell_backcountry_office@nps.gov

Preparing For Your Field Visit

- Review field protocols with your research team.
- Review your research safety plan and all conditions in your permit.
- Confirm that you have personal protective equipment for the whole team.
- Contact the Research Permit Office if you have remaining questions about your permit.
- Visit the Yellowstone Research Permits webpage for current information on conducting research in the park and important links to road conditions, closures, etc.: https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/management/researchpermit.htm

Complete a Trip Itinerary on the Researcher Check-In Website

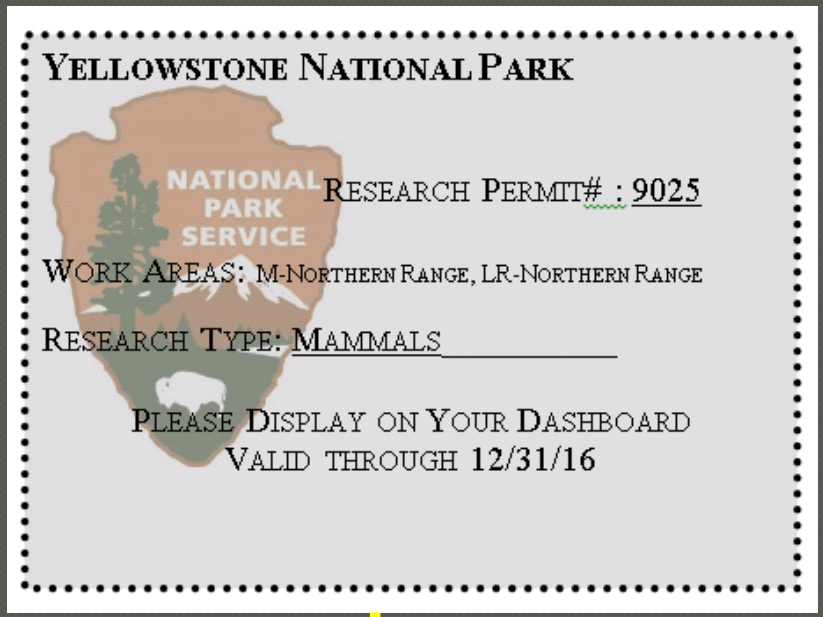
- You MUST check-in online one week prior to fieldwork: https://irma.nps.gov/RCI/
- This gives Law Enforcement Rangers the information they need about where you will be and what you are doing.
- Late check-ins must contact the Research Permit Office at 307-344-2239.

You Have Arrived- What Next?

Carry Your Signed Permit At All Times!

You must carry your fully signed permit at all times while conducting research:

- To receive entrance into the park during research.
- To reference collection amounts, permitted locations, or permit-specific conditions.
- In case you are contacted by visitors or rangers in the field.


YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RESEARCH PERMIT# : 9025

WORK AREAS: M-NORTHERN RANGE, LR-NORTHERN RANGE

RESEARCH TYPE: MAMMALS

PLEASE DISPLAY ON YOUR DASHBOARD
VALID THROUGH 12/31/16

ALWAYS PLACE YOUR DASHBOARD DISPLAY IN CAR BELOW WINDSHIELD

Researchers Must Work Out of View of the Public, Unless Authorized on Your Permit.

If public view is authorized:

- Wear bright safety vests to signify official business.
- Be prepared to interpret your research activities to the public.

Research conducted under Yellowstone Research Permit YELL-2017-SCI-8002

Filming & Photography

Filming your research activities may require a film permit – contact the Film Permit Office prior to filming at 307-344-2722.

Any use of a photo taken within a closed area requires NPS approval prior to use.

Research conducted under Yellowstone Research Permit YELL-2017-SCI-5828

Your Permit Does NOT Authorize Entry Into Closed or Restricted Areas, Unless SPECIFICALLY Listed on Your Permit

- Thermal Area Closures
- Bear Management Areas
- Wolf Den Closures
- Bird Nesting Closures
- Trout Spawning Closures
- Most Service Roads
- Temporary Closures

If you have questions about the proximity of your study sites to closures, contact us and we can provide maps of established closures.

Safety Plans & Protective Equipment

Research conducted under Yellowstone Research Permit YELL-2019-SCI-8056

- Review your safety plan with your team.
- Everyone carries bear spray and is trained to use it.
- Wear long pants, boots, and gaiters for work in thermal areas.
- Dress for weather conditions.

Research conducted under Yellowstone Research Permit YELL-2017-SCI-4026

Field Equipment

- All equipment left in the field, including plot markers, must be authorized in advance.
- Equipment must also be clearly labeled with the following information: Name, Phone Number, Study Number #XXXX.
- All equipment must be GPS'ed and actual location coordinates provided to the Research Permit Office.

Aquatic Invasive Species

- Help us protect Yellowstone's waters from aquatic invasives! https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/cleandraindry.htm
- If you work in lakes, rivers, streams, or wetlands, you must decontaminate your equipment, waders, and/or boat.
- All boats require a permit and an AIS inspection: https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/boating.htm

Wilderness Areas & Group Size

- Most of Yellowstone is a Recommended Wilderness Area.
- To reduce trampling and ground disturbance, carry out field activities with the minimum number of people needed to safely conduct work. We recommend groups of 3.
- Collect the minimum number of specimens needed to accomplish research, and no more than authorized on your permit.

President Johnson signing the Wilderness Act in 1964.

Fieldwork During the Park's Administrative or Oversnow Periods

- Work during the fall (early November – mid December) or spring (mid March - late April) administrative period requires extra coordination.
- Contact the Research Permit Office at least 3 weeks in advance of any Administrative Travel: 307-344-2239.
- You must call the Administrative Travel Line prior to daily entry into the park: 307-344-7115.
- You must contact the Research Permit Office for gate combination access to the park.
- If you are using snowmobiles, you must use an approved BAT machine and obtain a pass (tag for your jacket) and snowmobile placard prior to entry.
- If you are camping during the Administrative or Oversnow Periods, you must coordinate with the Central Backcountry Office prior to arriving in the park for a backcountry permit: 307-344-2160.

Annual Reporting

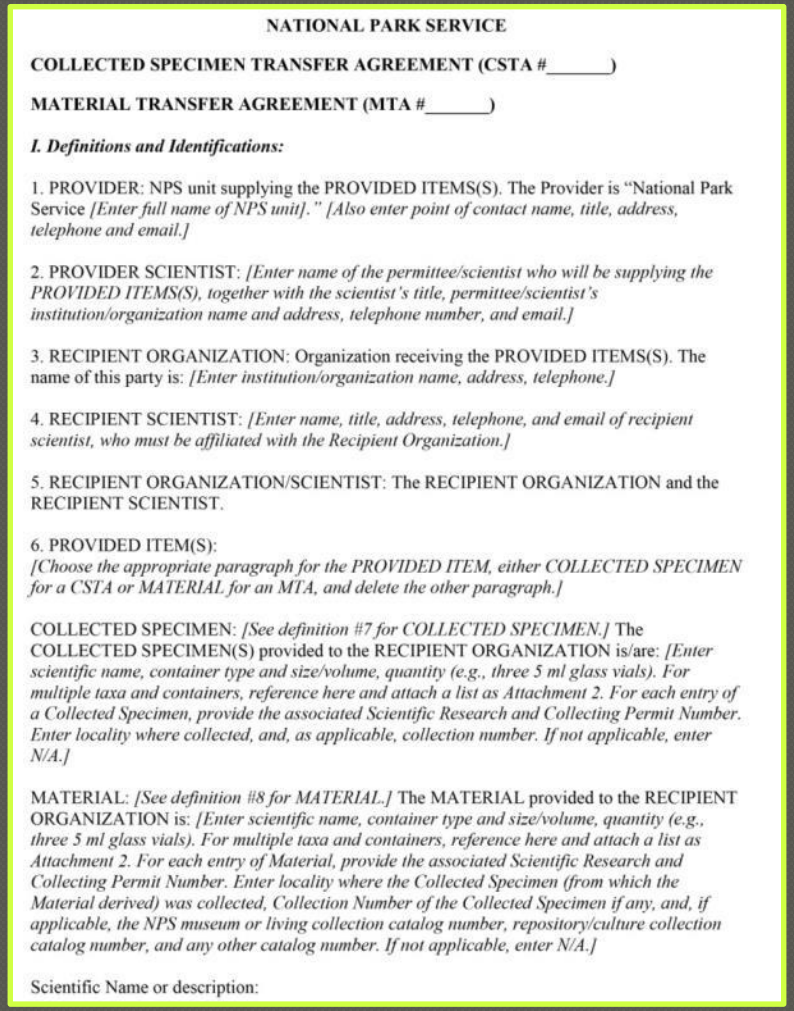
- At the end of each field season, complete each check-out report: https://irma.nps.gov/RCI/
- Complete your Investigator Annual Report by March 31st: https://irma.nps.gov/rprs
- Send electronic copies of all publications resulting from work under your permit to yell_research@nps.gov.

Curating Collected Specimens

- All specimens collected in parks are considered property of the NPS, on loan to the researcher.
- At the end of each season, contact the Yellowstone Curator's Office at 307-344-2565.

Transferring Specimens

- Transferring research specimens to another scientist requires permission from Yellowstone and the completion of a National Park Service Material Transfer Agreement (as opposed to a university MTA).
- Contact the Research Permit Office at 307-344-2239 for help with transferring specimens to other institutions or researchers.



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COLLECTED SPECIMEN TRANSFER AGREEMENT (CSTA #_____)

MATERIAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT (MTA #_____)

I. Definitions and Identifications:

1. PROVIDER: NPS unit supplying the PROVIDED ITEMS(S). The Provider is "National Park Service *[Enter full name of NPS unit]." [Also enter point of contact name, title, address, telephone and email.]*

2. PROVIDER SCIENTIST: *[Enter name of the permittee/scientist who will be supplying the PROVIDED ITEMS(S), together with the scientist's title, permittee/scientist's institution/organization name and address, telephone number, and email.]*

3. RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION: Organization receiving the PROVIDED ITEMS(S). The name of this party is: *[Enter institution/organization name, address, telephone.]*

4. RECIPIENT SCIENTIST: *[Enter name, title, address, telephone, and email of recipient scientist, who must be affiliated with the Recipient Organization.]*

5. RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION/SCIENTIST: The RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION and the RECIPIENT SCIENTIST.

6. PROVIDED ITEM(S):
[Choose the appropriate paragraph for the PROVIDED ITEM, either COLLECTED SPECIMEN for a CSTA or MATERIAL for an MTA, and delete the other paragraph.]

COLLECTED SPECIMEN: *[See definition #7 for COLLECTED SPECIMEN.]* The COLLECTED SPECIMEN(S) provided to the RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION is/are: *[Enter scientific name, container type and size/volume, quantity (e.g., three 5 ml glass vials). For multiple taxa and containers, reference here and attach a list as Attachment 2. For each entry of a Collected Specimen, provide the associated Scientific Research and Collecting Permit Number. Enter locality where collected, and, as applicable, collection number. If not applicable, enter N/A.]*

MATERIAL: *[See definition #8 for MATERIAL.]* The MATERIAL provided to the RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION is: *[Enter scientific name, container type and size/volume, quantity (e.g., three 5 ml glass vials). For multiple taxa and containers, reference here and attach a list as Attachment 2. For each entry of Material, provide the associated Scientific Research and Collecting Permit Number. Enter locality where the Collected Specimen (from which the Material derived) was collected, Collection Number of the Collected Specimen if any, and, if applicable, the NPS museum or living collection catalog number, repository/culture collection catalog number, and any other catalog number. If not applicable, enter N/A.]*

Scientific Name or description:

Help to Create a Legacy of Responsible Research

- Complete your check-in on the RCI website by Sunday prior to work in the park.
- Always keep a copy of your permit with you.
- Put your dashboard display under your vehicle windshield.
- Set a good example.
- Stay safe, and if something unexpected happens out there, call us and report it!

It is a privilege to work in a national park. These lands belong to everyone – we must ensure that future researchers have access to answer new and important research questions!

Research conducted under Yellowstone Research Permit YELL-2019-SCI-8102

Questions or Concerns?

Email or call the Research Permit Office at:

yell_research@nps.gov
307-344-2239

Phone Numbers

Curator's Office: 307-344-2565

Backcountry Office: 307-344-2160

Film/Photo Permits: 307-344-2722

Yellowstone Roads: 307-344-2117

Yellowstone Roads (if you are approved for Administrative travel):307-344-7115