

Permittee:

Study #:

TBD

Institution:

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

Accession #:

Park Specific Conditions

TBD

Deliverable Due Date(s):

Permit #: TBD

Renewal Date:

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The permittee, in exercising the privileges granted by this permit, shall comply with the regulations of the Department of the Interior's National Park Service (NPS), and all federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances, or regulations which are applicable to the area of operations covered by this permit.

The permittee is liable to perform the duties as described in the permit or as limited by any conditions set forth in this permit. Any deviations must be submitted in writing prior to conductance of such activities. The conductance of such additional activities cannot begin until the permittee has an amended permit authorizing the additional activities.

Everglades National Park (ENP) reserves the right to ensure compliance with unannounced visits from any NPS staff member or their designee. Records, facilities, storage, procedures and methodology, personnel, and samples are subject to inspection.

This permit grants the permittee access to the park free of charge when shown at the park entrance station; however, the permittee is responsible for all fees associated with transportation and camping, if required.

The permittee is required to have a clearly visible and legible copy of this permit in any vehicle left on the side of the road or in a closed area for which the permittee has authorization to enter (the permit must be displayed on the dashboard of the vehicle). When parking alongside any roadway, the permittee must park completely off the road to avoid obstructing traffic and exit the vehicle safely. Unauthorized parking is subject to towing at the owner's expense.

A valid copy of this permit, and all other applicable state and/or federal permits, shall be in the permittee's possession at all times while conducting research activities. A permit is valid only if it has all the attachments originally sent and the dates are still current.

Unless explicitly authorized in the permit specific conditions, no federal T&E (threatened or endangered) species may be collected under this permit. Accidental deaths, injury, or collection of T&E or any species not included in this permit must be documented and ENP staff must be informed of their occurrence immediately, no later than 48 hours after the event. **Failure to do so may result in criminal prosecution. In the case of T&E species, the permittee must cease all sampling activities while the SFNRC re-evaluates the techniques used. In either case, pending the results of the circumstances, the NPS may suspend all activities or modify the permit.**

All wildlife species must be monitored and/or taken in a humane manner in accordance with a valid Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) review. Should ENP determine monitoring and/or collection practices are inhumane, such activities will immediately cease and collections will not resume until an acceptable method has been determined by ENP and the permittee has been issued an amended permit citing changes to the monitoring and/or collection method. Any inhumane taking will subject the permittee to the penalties of the Animal Welfare Act, including revocation of this permit.

When conducting research in the Park, cultural resources such as archeological sites, shipwrecks, human remains and/or other artifact features may be encountered. These resources are protected by laws and policies including the Antiquities Act and the Archeological Resources Protection Act. **If cultural resources are encountered, they should be reported immediately to the Chief of Cultural Resources.** A scientific research permit does not allow for the documentation or excavation of an archeological site, which requires an Archeological Research Protection Act Permit issued by the Regional Archeologist. As these sites can be vulnerable to looting and vandalism, disclosure of site locations is prohibited by law. Permit holders are responsible for all cooperators, support staff and contractors working pursuant to the terms of the contract. If there are any questions, **Chief of Cultural Resources can be contacted at 305-242-7755.**

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Disturbing submerged natural features, such as seagrass; disturbing historic artifacts or features; or violating any other regulations while engaging in activities associated with this permit may result in criminal prosecution as well as administrative sanction. The permittee must comply with all posted signs unless explicit authorization has been given to the contrary.

When possible, the permittee should avoid conducting sampling activities in view of the public. This may often be unavoidable, so investigators/technicians must be easily identifiable as to their intent (i.e. research), and the permittee should be prepared and willing to explain all facets of the project to inquiring public when asked.

All structures and materials placed in the field must be clearly marked with the permittee's name, institution, and study number. These items must be **removed at the conclusion of each project**. The permittee **must provide GPS coordinates** to the Research Permit Coordinator for every piece of infrastructure (i.e. monitoring station, well, instrumentation, marker, etc.) installed within ENP within 48 hours of installation. Should this project go into hiatus for any reason (e.g. lack of funding, etc.), the permittee must notify the Research Permit Coordinator to discuss and evaluate the future of any installations associated with the project.

In the event that a permittee's structures, equipment, and/or instrumentation are damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster (i.e. hurricane, fire, flood, etc.) or any other means, the permittee may replace what was damaged or destroyed by the same methods and means approved by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) Wilderness Committee and employed when first installed. Any deviation from what was originally approved must be reviewed and approved by the MSD Wilderness Committee and other park staff prior to implementation.

With the exception of those motorized equipment activities explicitly authorized by this permit, the use of motorized equipment in designated wilderness areas is prohibited. Likewise, the construction or installation of structures/infrastructure in designated wilderness is prohibited without explicit authorization. Should use of motorized equipment or installation of structures in wilderness be required, the permittee must present justification for such actions to the MSD Wilderness Committee and be granted an amended permit prior to such actions taking place.

Aviation Requirements

All permittees, or those working under their permit, who, while conducting their research, require the use of **any** aviation assets within ENP **must** contact the ENP Fire and Aviation Flight Following Office (305-242-7868) not less than 24 hours prior to the proposed flight with a completed Flight Request Form. **If this contact/request is not made, air operations cannot take place.**

Where possible, ENP Fire and Aviation will utilize ENP park aircraft to fulfill permittees aviation requirements. If this use of primary ENP aircraft is not feasible, ENP Fire and Aviation will obtain another carded aircraft authorized to operate within ENP.

All permittees, or those working under their permit, **must** follow ENP flight following procedures, either by Automated Flight Following (AFF), or manually with the pilot providing lat/long coordinates. The pilot will be required to check in every 15 minutes via radio on EVER FIRE RPT Digital 171.77500tx/172.7750rx NAC 61F. **If flight following is not completed, air operations cannot take place.**

Permittees, or those working under their permit, are allowed onboard aircraft operating within ENP **only** if

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they are escorted by qualified aircrew acting as the flight manager.

To conduct helicopter operations without an escort (to operate as the flight manager), permittees, or those working under their permit, **must** have successfully completed the Interagency B-3 course, and **must** have successfully completed the Interagency S-271 Helicopter Crewmember course. Likewise, to conduct fixed wing operations without an escort, permittees, or those working under their permit, **must** have successfully completed the Interagency B-3 course. Additionally, a Project HECM taskbook must have been completed and signed off by a qualified aviation management HECM. However, if the S-271 course was taken prior to 12/4/08, a taskbook is not required. All other passengers on helicopter and fixed wing flights must have successfully completed the Interagency B-3 course. **If the required training is not completed, unescorted air operations cannot take place.** For training information, the permittees, or those working under their permit, should contact the ENP Fire and Aviation Flight Following Office (305-242-7868), or the Aviation Manager (305-246-9112).

Permittees, or those working under their permit, and all DOI employees, are allowed onboard aircraft operating within ENP **only** if they are wearing proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Flight crewmembers and aircrew members engaged in special use activities, except airplane operations above 500 feet AGL, are required to wear approved PPE including flight helmets, fire-resistant clothing (NOMEX), all-leather or leather and NOMEX gloves, and leather boots. **If the required PPE is not worn, air operations cannot take place.** PPE is not required, but is recommended, for flights conducted entirely (less takeoff and landing) above 500 feet AGL in airplanes. For specific information on approved PPE, the permittees, or those working under their permit, should contact the ENP Fire and Aviation Flight Following Office (305-242-7868), or the Aviation Manager (305-246-9112).

Curatorial Responsibilities

The permittee **must** contact the South Florida Collection Management Center (SFCMC) to obtain an accession number (required for the collection of all materials/specimens, whether kept as voucher specimens or destroyed through analysis). Contact SFCMC Registrar (Jennifer Stafford) at 305-242-7813 or Museum Curator (Nancy Russell) at 305-242-7826.

No materials/specimens can be collected, until an accession number has been issued by the SFCMC staff.

All voucher specimens (including materials/specimens kept for identification purposes) remain the property of the National Park Service, and must be accessioned and cataloged into the park's museum collection, which is managed by the South Florida Collection Management Center (SFCMC) at Everglades National Park.

All specimens must be returned to the SFCMC; they should not be sent directly to other repositories. SFCMC staff will send the specimens and loan forms to the requested repositories.

Prior to collecting voucher specimens in the park, the permittee must contact the SFCMC Museum Curator, to discuss repository for voucher specimens, discuss anticipated curation costs, and cataloging of specimens into the NPS museum catalog database (ICMS).

The permittee must request a NPS catalog number, from the Museum Curator or SFCMC staff, for every specimen collected that will be permanently retained.

The permittee will not request NPS catalog numbers for specimens that will be consumed through analysis.

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Park accession numbers must appear on all reports and field notes.

All voucher materials/specimens sent to the South Florida Collection Management Center (SFCMC) must be accompanied with field notes, GPS coordinates of collection sites, other collection site observations, etc.

The permittee will comply with all policies stated in the South Florida Collection Management Center (SFCMC) *Curatorial Responsibilities* document (provided to the permittee when the SFCMC accession number is assigned).

Communications and Related Procedures

Prior to **every** field trip in Everglades National Park, the permittee **must** contact, **by phone (not radio)**, the **ENP Communications Center** and, at least 24 hours in advance, **the District Ranger(s)**, or their designee, for the area(s) research activities will take place. District locations can be found in the map below, and may be verified with the Communications Center or the Permit Coordinator.

Contact Location	Phone Number Email
Communications Center	305-242-7740
Al Mercado Pine Island District	305-242-7787 Adalberto_Mercado@nps.gov
Tom landimarinio Gulf Coast District	239-695-4219 Tom_landimarinio@nps.gov
Tony Terry Flamingo District	239-695-3096 Tony_Terry@nps.gov
Dan Kiger (temp) Northeast District	305-251-4886 Daniel_Kiger@nps.gov
Brandon Moore (temp) Florida Bay District	305-852-0304 Brandon_Moore@nps.gov

When contacting the ENP Communications Center, the permittee **must** provide the dispatcher with the permittee's permit number, departure point, destination, mode of transportation, number of people in the field party, names of field staff, and the estimated time of return to the departure point. Upon completion of work and return to the departure point, the permittee **must immediately** contact the Communications Center, by phone, to advise them that the days field operations are finished. (*ENP Communications Center must be contacted at the beginning of each field day and at the end of each field day*). **If going to knowingly be overdue of the estimated time of return to departure point, the permittee must use every means and effort necessary to contact the ENP Communications Center to notify them of the delay.**

Note: Park radio traffic should be kept to a minimum. If the permittee must use a park radio for communications with other members of his/her field party, the permittee must make sure that all radios are

See SFNRC website for additional information pertaining to ENP Research Permits
(http://www.nps.gov/ever/learn/nature/sfnrc_permits.htm)

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on the local park channel (channel 1). All other channels energize park radio repeaters thereby transmitting messages park-wide.

At least 24 hours prior to **every** field trip into Everglades National Park, the appropriate District Ranger(s) or their designee **must** be notified of all field activities to occur within their district.

If the permittee cannot establish contact with the Communications Center and District Rangers(s)/Ranger Staff(s), field operations cannot take place.

When conducting field activities, within ENP, the permittee must carry a radio or cell-phone for emergency purposes. All emergencies should be immediately reported to the Communications Center. Permittees with access to park radios can contact the Communications Center on channel 2. The Communications Center call sign is KIE 784. Permittees should use "624 and their last name" for identifying themselves to the Communications Center.

Permit Renewal Requirements

It is the permittee's responsibility to renew their permit if desired. Please note that a minimum of 3 months are needed for permit reviews and processing requirements. ENP will not send notice that the permit has expired (**see "Header" for renewal date**).

The permittee **must** apply for permit renewal and submit an electronic version of their proposal, via the National Park Service Research Permit and Reporting System, at <https://irma.nps.gov/rprs>.

Permit renewals will only be considered if the permittee submits an application and a research proposal. The research proposal must indicate any changes to the original proposal (changes in scope of work, personnel, sampling locations, etc.).

Reporting Requirements

Once, per calendar year, the permittee **must** submit to the National Park Service Natural Resources Information Division (NPS-NRID) an **Investigator's Annual Report (IAR)**. The IAR must be submitted via the National Park Service Research Permit and Reporting System, at <https://irma.nps.gov/rprs>. (The IAR is used by the National Park Service Natural Resources Information Division to maintain a history of research accomplishments, track current research projects, and track the amount of money spent on research throughout the national parks). **The permittee will be notified by the National Park Service Natural Resources Information Division (NPS-NRID) or the ENP permit coordinator as to when an IAR must be submitted. IARs are typically due on the last day of March of each calendar year.**

A **comprehensive annual report** (both electronic copy and hardcopy) **must** be submitted, to the EVER research permit coordinator, **no later than six months** after the permit expires (or, if a multi-year permit, **no later than six months** after each annual cycle that the permit is active). The comprehensive annual report should have an introduction, description of methods, results (provide data analysis, graphs, charts, figures, etc.), discussion of results, information on the location of sampling sites (GPS coordinates), a conclusion, provide information on species and quantities of specimens collected, and include all other ancillary data. A special report does not necessarily have to be composed specifically for the permit. If a separate report composed for another entity (e.g. funding source) has been completed and includes all required information, a copy of this report would be satisfactory. At this time the permittee must also submit all other obligatory deliverables (ex. voucher specimens, maps, photos, copies of field notes, electronic copy of data, etc.). This includes all documentation that was derived as a result of the study within the park (**see "Header" for deliverable due date(s)**).

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The IAR submitted via the RPRS website is not a substitute for a comprehensive annual report.

Comprehensive annual reports should be mailed to the following address (electronic copies may be emailed to the Research Permit Coordinator):

Everglades National Park
Attn: Research Permit Coordinator
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, FL 33034-6733

Failure to submit annual reports or other deliverables will be justification for denying issuance of any other collection permits to the person or the institution the person represents and revocation of current permits.

The permit number should be included on all correspondence.

Authorized Personnel

Only persons identified in this research permit are permitted to perform tasks associated with this permit. The permittee is responsible for the actions of any individual operating under the authority of the holder's permit. Additional persons must be screened carefully by the permittee to ensure compliance. Names added to the permit at a later time must be given to SFNRC before they participate in any activities.

Each person will be responsible for having a copy of the permit on his/her person while engaged in research in the park. Everyone working under this permit should carry a photo I.D.

In addition to those investigators listed on the first page of this permit, the following individuals are also authorized to conduct research activities:

Amendments/Additions to Permit Specific Conditions