

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR A NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
COLLECTION PERMIT**

**New River Gorge National River
Gauley River National Recreation Area
Bluestone National Scenic River**

You will need to visit the following website to submit your collection permit application:
<http://science.nature.nps.gov/research/ac/ResearchIndex>

We have tightened our requirements for Collection Permits, and every researcher **MUST** submit a Study Proposal in addition to the Collection Permit Application. See attached Word files for your reference; 1) Study Proposal outline, 2) Example Study Proposal. At the bottom of the collection permit application window on the website, you will be prompted to submit a study proposal. Please take the time to upload your Study Proposal with your permit application.

If you plan on collecting specimens, the NPS now **requires that all researchers** complete the **Repository Form**. The official repository for plants, including mosses, ferns, and lichens, is the West Virginia University Herbarium, any exception to this rule will need prior approval in advance of submitting the form. Any collection of animal specimens will need further review and approvals. The Repository Form must be printed from the website, completed and **signed by the curator or other responsible party**. This is a very important requirement that helps keep track of these government specimens.

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