

POLICIES GOVERNING RESEARCH AT THE SODA SPRINGS DESERT STUDIES CENTER

Introduction. It is the policy of the Board of Governors of the California Desert Studies Consortium to encourage and facilitate research and research-related activities at the Desert Studies Center. In doing so, the Board implicitly assumes a measure of responsibility for the appropriateness (for a desert field station) of proposed research, for compliance with regulations affecting use of animals, collection of plants or animals, disturbance of archaeological sites, and alteration of the natural environment. The Board too has a strong interest in the progress of ongoing research at the Center and learning of published results.

Individuals or groups seeking to use the Desert Studies Center for research or research-related activities shall complete an application for review and approval before commencing work, whether their research is to be conducted at the Center or at other desert locations. The Desert Studies Center is located within the Mojave National Preserve. Research and research-related activities within the Preserve require approval from the National Park Service, Barstow, California. NPS may be reached by calling 760-252-6102 or <http://science.nature.nps.gov/research/ac/researchindex> . Copies of permits from NPS must be **attached** to the application. NPS permits can take 30-60 days for approval, so plan accordingly. If this presents a problem, call the number above and ask to speak with the Science Advisor, who can discuss if expediting approval is possible. Research involving the capture of birds, mammals, or invertebrates also requires a Scientific Collecting Permit from the California Department of Fish and Game:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/pdffiles/fg1379.pdf>. This can require 12 weeks to obtain. An alternative, when capturing non-protected reptiles or amphibians outside of parks and preserves is to obtain a California Fishing License (consult fishing regulations for allowed species at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/>).

Publications. Researchers agree to acknowledge the Desert Studies Center in publications, to provide an annual progress report and to furnish two copies of publications based on research conducted at the Desert Studies Center whether the work was done on or off the site.

Recognition. Individuals conducting research at the Desert Studies Center will be appointed a Research Associate, Desert Studies Center, for the duration of the project.

Application Review

Research applications will be reviewed under the following criteria:

1. An appropriate campus committee (IACUC) has approved research procedures involving the use of live animals and a copy of the approved protocol is **attached** to the application.
2. Individuals planning research involving trapping or collecting of plants or animals, disturbing archaeological or historical sites, or visibly altering or disturbing the environment have obtained appropriate authorization and permits from state, federal or county agencies and permission of landowners where private lands are involved and copies of said permits are **attached** to the application.
3. The proposed research appears substantive, feasible, and free of substantively adverse environmental effects; and where such effects are planned, the proposal includes appropriate mitigation and restoration.
4. The individual responsible for conducting the research has the appropriate training or supervision to conduct the proposed research.
5. The individual agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Center.

Field Research Conducted at the Desert Studies Center.

In addition to the criteria stated above, individuals planning to conduct field research at the Desert Studies Center shall adhere to the following regulations.

1. Removal of specimens requires appropriate permits and prior approval by the Site Manager.

2. Areas used for research must be returned to their original condition at the completion of the project; where individuals fail to do so, their funding agency or campus may be asked to fund the restoration.

3. Researchers will provide the Site Manager with a sketch of the field study area on maps.

4. Individuals planning enclosures, trenches or other visible alterations to the surface or vegetation must obtain prior approval of the National Park Service for work in the Mojave National Preserve or Bureau of Land Management for work on public land.

5. Failure to adhere to the policies and regulations of the Desert Studies Center may result in termination of project support at the Center.

Following a review, the Director will approve, disapprove or refer the proposal to appropriate individuals for their advice.

**APPLICATION FOR RESEARCH
DESERT STUDIES CENTER**

1. NAME:

INSTITUTION OR AFFILIATION:

2. MAILING ADDRESS:

3. CONTACTS: WORK PHONE: _____
RESIDENCE PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____

4. DATE YOU PLAN TO BEGIN: _____

EXPECTED DATE OF COMPLETION: _____

5. PROJECT TITLE: _____

6. FUNDING SOURCES AND AMOUNT: _____

7. PLEASE **ATTACH** A ONE-PAGE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT.

8. DO YOU PLAN TO COLLECT OR **USE PLANTS OR ANIMALS**? YES: ____
NO: _____. IF YES, PLEASE **ATTACH** COPIES OF APPLICABLE PERMITS
AND PROTOCOLS FOR HANDLING VERTEBRATES.

9. DO YOU PLAN TO DISBURB OR VISIBLY ALTER THE ENVIRONMENT?
YES:_____ NO:_____. IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS, INCLUDING
PLANS FOR RESTORATION.

**I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE REGULATIONS
GOVERNING RESEARCH AT THE SODA SPRINGS DESERT STUDIES
CENTER.**

SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING
FACULTY (Student Applicants)

SIGNATURE OF DEPARTMENT CHAIR OR DEAN (Student Applicants)

Return application with attached permits and protocols to:

rfulton@fullerton.edu

Desert Studies Center

PO BOX 1

BAKER CA 92309