BREC Research Permit Application

Research in BREC Parks

The Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge (BREC) encourages the use of public parks for research, service learning and environmental education on subjects such as ecology, wildlife studies, and invasive species. Such research is vital to helping us protect, manage and interpret these resources to the Baton Rouge community.

Research Permit Policy

All research taking place on property owned or managed by BREC requires a permit. No fee is required but permits must be submitted to the Conservation Department and approved before any work begins. Applications can be submitted anytime but are encouraged to be submitted at least two weeks in advance of scheduled field work.

Annual progress reports are required for all work extending beyond the calendar year and should be submitted by December 1st. Where impacts to park resources or visitor experience are anticipated, these impacts must be minimized and the clear research benefits articulated. Any impacts to the park as a result of research must be repaired or mitigated under the discretion of BREC Staff within a reasonable time following research completion. Permits may be denied or revoked if damage is deemed excessive or unnecessary.

To benefit from park research, BREC requires copies of reports and publications; published or unpublished data must be made available upon request and is encouraged to be submitted along with any summarizing reports.

NOTE: Collection or handling of wildlife may require additional state and/or federal permits and licenses, depending on the nature of the research. See list of contacts at the bottom of this application for more information.

Permit Process

Please fill out the following form and submit to BREC Natural Resource Management by email at: Naturalresources@brec.org or by mail to:

BREC Natural Resource Management Division
6201 Florida Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

The permit review process should take two weeks or less. Please call the Assistant Director of NRM if you do not hear from us. Submission of an application for use of a BREC park does not necessarily guarantee that parkland will be made available for requested research.

Primary Research/Contact Person

Title:

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Primary Phone:

Cell Number:

Email:

Names of Additional Field Personnel:

Affiliated Institution Contact

Institution Name:

Department:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

List of Academic Partners:

For Students Requesting Permit

Advisor's Name:

Advisor's Institution/ Organization:

Advisor's Phone Number:

Advisor's Email:

Project Summary

Title of Proposed Research:

Summary of Proposed Research:
Please include background, aims, methodology, expected outcomes and timeline. If a formal academic proposal exists, please attach and skip this section.

Please check the topic that best describes your research area.

- ☐ Conservation biology
- ☐ Environmental education
- ☐ Habitat restoration
- ☐ Land/watershed management
- ☐ Plant ecology
- ☐ Water quality
- ☐ Wildlife biology
- ☐ Hydrology
- ☐ Fisheries
- ☐ Geology
- ☐ Invasive plants
- ☐ Social science
- ☐ Soil science
- ☐ Human history/archeology

Equipment

If you are leaving research equipment of any type (e.g., insect traps, site markers) please describe and submit a photo of the equipment so that our field staff will recognize these items and their purpose. Note that any equipment or markings (including flagging or stakes) left in a park must be clearly marked with your research permit number, or it will be subject to removal. All equipment and markings must be removed upon completion of the study.

Collections

Please describe in detail any expected collections and permits/approvals required. Include in your description: the number of samples required, the amount contained in each sample, and the disposition of organisms/samples (i.e., retention by investigator, placement in Herbarium (name), museum (name), University (name), etc.). You are responsible for documenting your acquisition of all necessary state and institutional permits. State permits are required for the collection of any state or federally listed plants on public land, as well as the handling and capture of wildlife.

Plants:

Animals:

Other; soil, seed, rocks, etc.:

Project Timeline

Describe the anticipated length of your research project including time spent in the parks all the way through completion of the final report.

Site of Proposed Research (Park List):

List parks and specifically where within the park(s) you will be working. Please identify all the places where you will be doing research, how many locations there are and describe them. Will they be on or off trail? Will GPS locations be collected? Please attach a map.

Supporting Documents Attached

Please check off those included in your applications.

- ☐ Research Proposal if appropriate
- ☐ Map with Plot/Equipment locations
- ☐ State/Federal Permits
- ☐ Letters of Support
- ☐ Additional Materials

Reporting

Project reports are expected from all research conducted in the BREC park system. Formalities are not required, but researchers are encouraged to use the standard Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions format typical of scientific research. Annual progress reports are required for all long-term studies extending beyond a 12 month period. We ask that annual reports be submitted no later than December 1st in order for information to be included in BREC annual reports.

Additional Permit Information

State Permits

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/misc-licenses-and-permits

Federal Permits

US Fish and Wildlife Services
http://www.fws.gov/permits/

By signing below, you agree that the information you have provided is true and accurate and that you will follow all applicable BREC policies and procedures when conducting field work within a BREC park. Additionally, you are assuming all risk associated with conducting research in a BREC park and agree that BREC will not be held liable for equipment lost, stolen or damaged or any injuries incurred within the park.

Signature: Date: