

## TO PERSONS WISHING TO APPLY FOR A SCIENTIFIC COLLECTOR'S PERMIT

Enclosed are copies of the following:

- **Application for a Scientific Collector's Permit**
- **State Statutes and ODWC Commission Rules Pertaining to Scientific Collector's Permits**
- **Annual Scientific Collection Report Form**
- **Special Notes Pertaining to the Completion of the Application Form**

Please complete and forward the following to ODWC 30 days in advance of needing your permit.

1. Completed and signed application.
2. Check, money order, or credit card information for a \$10.00 payment.
3. If a new application, a letter of recommendation from at least one well-known biologist, or from an academic/scientific institution, who will vouch for the applicant's integrity and character. This letter must contain a brief statement about the purpose of the project.
4. If a renewal, the Annual Scientific Collection Report for the previous year.

Mail to: Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation  
Fisheries Division or Wildlife Division (depending upon the taxa you wish to collect)  
PO Box 53465  
Oklahoma City, OK 73152



# Application for Scientific Collector's Permit Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Mail completed application to:  
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation  
ATTN: Scientific Collector's Permit,  
PO Box 53465, Oklahoma City, OK 73152

<b>DEPARTMENT USE ONLY</b>	
Permit # _____	
Issue Date _____	
Renewal: Yes _____ No _____	
Approval: _____	
Division Chief	

**FEE: \$10.00**

Check Enclosed (payable to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation)

Visa  Mastercard Card No: \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please allow 2-4 weeks for processing**  
**\*Permit expires at the end of each calendar year**

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY – SPECIFIC PERMIT RESTRICTIONS/CONDITIONS
---------------------------------------------------------------

**1. Applicant Information: (Please Type or Print)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License Number & State: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Eye Color: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Justification:** Briefly state educational and biological training (include degrees held):

--

Briefly describe the research objective below. Also attach the research proposal describing the project.

--

**3. Collection Purpose:**

- Scientific Research                       Biological monitoring                       Educational  
 Museum Collection                       Environmental Surveying                       Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Federal Permit:** An additional federal permit is required to collect, handle, capture, or kill migratory birds and / or federally endangered or threatened wildlife.

Federal Permit Number (if applicable; please refer to special 4(d) rules on page 12) \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Location:** Identify the county or counties and/or specific water body where collection will occur; you must attach justification for "statewide" requests.

Counties	Water body	WMA (if applicable)

**Do you plan to collect on ODWC lands?**  No  Yes; **If Yes, please list each area above**

- You must obtain permission from the area biologist at least two weeks prior to collection on a WMA.
- Contact information for each area is listed on ODWC's website.
- If you do not possess a valid hunting or fishing license, access to some Wildlife Management Areas requires the purchase of a Conservation Passport. A Scientific Collector's Permit is not equivalent to a hunting or fishing license and does not exempt you from the need to purchase a Conservation Passport. Consult with the WMA Biologist to determine if a Conservation Passport is needed.

**6. Species:** List the species that will be handled or collected during this study, the method of collection, anticipated numbers and the disposition (see codes). Attach additional sheets if necessary. If working with a large number of species, you may list higher taxonomic units such as family or order; however, all individual species that are collected must be documented on the annual collection report regardless of their disposition. Any species with a closed season that may be collected must be listed below (refer to the attached information sheet or OAC Title 800 for the current list).

**Disposition Codes:** Release at point of capture (R), Release with mark/tag (RT), Deposit in museum collection (M), Hold in captivity (H), Kill for study purposes (K)

Species/Taxa (Common or Scientific Name(s))	Method of Collection	Anticipated Number of Specimens to be Caught	Disposition

If depositing specimens in a museum please specify the museum: \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Signature:**

**\*\* This permit does not authorize the holder to collect wildlife with firearms, bows and arrows or fish with hook and line without a legal Oklahoma hunting and/or fishing license. This permit also does not allow you to access private property. Landowner permission is always required to access private lands.**

I, the undersigned applicant, do hereby certify that the statements made in this application are true and correct, and that I will in no way abuse the privileges granted under this permit. I agree to conform to all rules and regulations promulgated by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. I fully understand that under this permit I am authorized to take and transport within or out of state, wildlife or their nests or eggs of the species listed above for scientific purposes only. I also understand that I am not permitted to secure any specimens on public or private lands without prior approval from the land owner or a representative of the land management agency. I have full knowledge of the fact that I am not permitted to sell, offer to sell, or have in my possession for sale any specimen taken.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation  
PO Box 53465  
Oklahoma City, OK 73152

### ANNUAL COLLECTION REPORT - SPECIMENS CAPTURED

Name \_\_\_\_\_ PERMIT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ PERMIT YEAR \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State Law (OS Title 29: 4-118 Part E) requires that you submit a report of your collecting activity during each calendar year. A failure to report collecting activity is justification for revocation of your permit or denial of future permit applications. In accordance with that Section of Title 29, we require, as relevant information, that the Annual Collection Report contain an accounting of all animals that are captured or restrained regardless of their final disposition. Therefore, the collection report is not limited to those animals that are killed, and includes animals that are captured or held in temporary possession.

Please complete the form below by listing the wildlife specimens captured under your permit during the calendar year. Indicate NONE if no activities were conducted. Make additional copies of this page if needed. Please return this form with your renewal application and \$10.00 fee. If permit will not be renewed the following calendar year then collection reports are due to ODWC by March 1<sup>st</sup> of the following calendar year.

The Annual Collection Report form is divided into three sections in order to collect relevant data for each species in relation to its status and rarity.

**Part A** addresses the reporting of species that require a federal permit (migratory birds and federally threatened or endangered species)

**Part B** addresses the reporting requirements for certain rare species and species of conservation concern. These species are listed in Appendix 1.

**Part C** addresses relatively common or widespread species that are not addressed in Parts A or B.

#### **Part A.**

In an effort to streamline the reporting process, a copy of your federal report may be used to comply with the state reporting requirement. If you captured/netted migratory birds and/or federally-listed threatened or endangered species in accordance with a federal permit, please attach a photocopy of the annual report that you submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or include your information below in part B.





## Appendix 1.

The following species are of conservation interest in Oklahoma and require individual reporting on the Annual Collection Report for the Scientific Collector's Permit.

### Amphibians:

Three-toed Amphiuma (*Amphiuma tridactylum*)  
Western Lesser Siren (*Siren intermedia netting*)  
Ringed Salamander (*Ambystoma annulatum*)  
Mole Salamander (*Ambystoma talpoideum*)  
Ouachita Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus brimleyorum*)  
Cave Salamander (*Eurycea lucifuga*)  
Grotto Salamander (*Eurycea (Typhlotriton) spelaeus*)  
Oklahoma Salamander (*Eurycea tynerensis*)

Four-toed Salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*)  
Ozark Salamander (*Plethodon angusticlavius*)  
Kiamichi Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon kiamichi*)  
Rich Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon ouachitae*)  
Sequoyah Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon sequoyah*)  
Texas Toad (*Anaxyrus speciosus*)  
Bird-voiced Treefrog (*Hyla avivoca*)  
Crawfish frog (*Rana (Lithobates) areolata*)

### Reptiles

Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*)  
Western Chicken Turtle (*Deirochelys reticularia*)  
Northern Map Turtle (*Graptemys geographica*)  
American Alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*)  
Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*)  
Round-tailed Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma modestum*)  
Lesser Earless Lizard (*Holbrookia maculata*)  
Desert Side-blotched Lizard (*Uta stansburiana*)

Checkered Whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tessellatus*)  
Southern Prairie Skink (*Plestiodon septentrionalis*)  
Northern Scarlethsnake (*Cemophora coccinea*)  
Western Mudsucker (*Farancia abacura*)  
Gulf Crayfish Snake (*Regina rigida*)  
Texas Longnose Snake (*Rhinocheilus lecontei*)  
W. Black-necked Gartersnake (*Thamnophis cyrtopsis*)  
Wandering Gartersnake (*Thamnophis elegans*)

### Fish:

Southern Brook Lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon gagei*)  
Shovelnose Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*)  
Alligator Gar (*Atractosteus spatula*)  
American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*)  
Bluntnose Shiner (*Cyprinella camurus*)  
Pallid Shiner (*Hybopsis amnis*)  
Prairie Speckled Chub (*Machrybopsis australis*)  
Blackspot Shiner (*Notropis atrocaudalis*)  
Kiamichi Shiner (*Notropis ortenbergeri*)  
Peppered Shiner (*Notropis perpallidus*)

Bluehead Shiner (*Pteronotropis hubbsi*)  
Blue Sucker (*Cycleptus elongatus*)  
Plains Topminnow (*Fundulus sciadicus*)  
Long-nosed Darter (*Percina nasuta*)  
Black-sided Darter (*Percina maculata*)  
Crystal Darter (*Crystallaria asprella*)  
Western Sand Darter (*Ammocrypta clara*)  
Arkansas Darter (*Etheostoma cragini*)  
Least Darter (*Etheostoma microperca*)  
Goldstripe Darter (*Etheostoma parvipinne*)

### Invertebrates:

Oklahoma Cave Crayfish (*Cambarus tartarus*)  
Cave Crayfish (*Cambarus subterraneus*)  
Southern Hickorynut (*Obovaria jacksoniana*)  
Ouachita Kidneyshell (*Ptychobranthus occidentalis*)  
Western Fanshell (*Cyprogenia aberti*)  
Rich Mt. Slitmouth Snail (*Stenotrema pilsbryi*)

Prairie Mole Cricket (*Gryllotalpa major*)  
Diana Fritillary (*Speyeria diana*)  
Regal Fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*)  
all cave isopods (genus *Caecidotea*)  
all cave amphipods (genera *Alloclangonyx* or *Stygobromus*)

### Birds: (see instructions for part A for migratory birds)

Greater Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*)      Lesser Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*)

### Mammals:

Desert Shrew (*Notiosorex crawfordi*)  
Southeastern Bat (*Myotis austroriparius*)  
Western Small-footed Bat (*Myotis ciliolabrum*)  
Little Brown Bat (*Myotis lucifugus*)  
Yuma Bat (*Myotis yumanensis*)  
Tricolored / Eastern Pipistrelle (*Perimyotis subflavus*)  
Canyon Bat (*Pipistrellus hesperus*)  
Pallid Bat (*Antrozous pallidus*)  
Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesqueana*)

Western Big-eared Bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*)  
Black-tailed Prairie Dog (*Cynomys ludovicianus*)  
Colorado Chipmunk (*Tamias quadrivittatus*)  
Texas Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys elator*)  
Northern Rock Mouse (*Peromyscus nasutus/difficilis*)  
E. White-throated Woodrat (*Neotoma leucodon*)  
Swift Fox (*Vulpes velox*)  
Eastern Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale putorius*)  
Western Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*)  
Ringtail (*Bassariscus astutus*)

## OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE STATUTE, TITLE 29

### §4-118. SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES LICENSE.

- A. No person may kill or capture wildlife or take their nests or eggs for scientific purposes without having first procured a license from the Director.
- B. A scientific purposes may be issued to anyone sixteen (16) years of age or older when the Director is presented with:
1. A written testimonial from one well-known scientist or from any well-known scientific institution, the testimonial certifying to the good character and fitness of the individual; and
  2. A signed application listing
    - a. the species sought,
    - b. the means to be used to take such species, and
    - c. the reason for collection.
- C. The annual fee for such license shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00).
- D. Each license shall list the species that the licensee is permitted to take, the means of taking and the period during which such may be taken.
- E. Each licensee shall report to the Director at the end of each year the number and species of wildlife taken or killed and any other relative collection data as the Department may require.
- F. Upon application, licenses may be renewed without complying with the provisions of paragraph 1, subsection B of this section. However, no license may be renewed before the receipt of an annual report.
- G. Upon conviction that any licensee killed or captured wildlife, took nests or eggs for other than scientific purposes, or took any game by means other than that described on the license, the licensee shall be punished in the same manner as though the license had never been issued and the license shall be void.

## OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE REGULATIONS, TITLE 800

### 800:25-26-1. Purpose

The purpose of this Subchapter is to establish application procedures for obtaining a permit for the collection of fish and wildlife species for scientific purpose.

### 800:25-26-2. Application and fees

- (a) Anyone sampling or collecting fish or wildlife, or their nests or eggs for scientific purposes, must first have authorization from the Department. A fee will be charged to cover the costs of processing and handling the issuance of the permit. The issuance of a scientific collector permit shall constitute written authority from the Department for such collection activities.
- (b) The following are the procedures for obtaining a scientific collector permit

- (1) Applications may be obtained by contacting the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation at P.O. Box 53465, Oklahoma City, 73152 or by appearance at Department Headquarters, 1801

N. Lincoln Blvd.

- (2) The application must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from at least one well-known scientist, or from any well-known scientific institution, who will vouch for the applicant's integrity and character. The letter must contain a brief statement about the purpose of the project.
- (3) Permits expire at the end of each calendar year. A new application must be filed each time an applicant applies for a permit. A letter of recommendation may be required for each application.

### **800:25-26-3. Use**

- (a) A copy of the approved application must be carried with the collector permit when sampling or collecting in the field.
- (b) The permit holder must notify the Law Enforcement Division at least twenty-four hours prior to the time of sampling or collecting in any county. Notification must be made prior to each trip, unless prior arrangements to the contrary have been made with the Game Warden(s) in the counties involved.
- (c) Instructors in charge of educational classes may take classes into the field and allow students to collect in their presence under their permit. If students collect or sample fish or wildlife when the instructor is not present, they must have their own permit.
- (d) Except as stipulated in (e), persons who sample or collect fish or wildlife under a scientific collector permit are not required to possess a fishing or hunting license.
- (e) The permit does not authorize the holder to collect game, furbearing, or predatory species with firearms, bows and arrows, or fish with any hook and line method without a valid Oklahoma hunting and/or fishing license. The following species may not be taken under a scientific collector permit: deer, bear, elk, antelope, or wild turkey.
- (f) This permit does not authorize sampling or collecting on State or Federal Refuges or Wilderness Areas.
- (g) Only those specific species, areas, and methods approved by the Department will be covered by the permit. Any variations from the above rules must be covered by specific written approval by the Director and said approval shall be attached to and carried with the permit.
- (h) A Scientific Collector's permit shall not be used to collect those species of wildlife for which a statewide closed season has been established by the Oklahoma Wildlife Commission, unless specifically authorized.
- (i) A Federal Permit is required in addition to the state permit, if migratory birds, threatened or endangered species are to be collected.

### **800:25-26-4. Reporting**

- (a) The permit holder must submit a report listing all fish and wildlife collected within thirty (30) days of the end of the calendar year.
- (b) Failure to submit a report, even if no fish or wildlife were collected, is cause for revoking the permit. No renewals will be issued without receipt of completed report forms.

## Scientific Collector Permit Application Instructions

### Valid Dates:

An Oklahoma Scientific Collector's Permit is valid for up to one calendar year (January 1 through December 31). Your permit is valid from the date that it is issued through the end of that calendar year.

### Permission to Collect:

A Scientific Collector's Permit authorizes the permit holder to collect wildlife species within the state of Oklahoma, but it **does not provide authority to enter onto public or private property for collection purposes**. You must obtain verbal or written permission to collect wildlife on **both** private property (from the landowner or lessee) and public property (manager or representative of the federal, state or local agency). Please note that as of 2011 all individuals over the age of 18 must possess either a **Conservation Passport**, a hunting license or a fishing license before they can enter a wildlife management area that is owned by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (OS Title 29-4-138). A complete list of applicable areas can be found on our website: [www.wildlifedepartment.com](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com).

### Capture or Possession of Wildlife:

A license or permit is required of anyone who captures or holds in possession fish or wildlife in Oklahoma (OS 29: 4-110 A and 29: 4-112 A). A Scientific Collector's Permit is required to authorize the capture and temporary possession of animals that are used in capture/mark/release studies (e.g. the mist-netting and banding of birds or bats).

### Completing the Application Form:

1. Applicant Information: Please list accurate personal information on the application form. All of this information is required to process your application; name, phone, sponsoring institution, email, address, driver's license #, date of birth, height, and eye color.
2. Justification: Provide us with your educational and biological training such as degrees held and describe the research objective. Please attach a copy of your research proposal if it involves endangered or closed-season species.
3. Collection Purpose: Please specify your purpose(s) for collecting wildlife in Oklahoma by checking one or more of the boxes that apply. If you check the "other" category, please specify the purpose in the blank space provided.
4. Federal Permit: In addition to a state permit, a federal permit is required to collect, handle, capture, or kill migratory birds and/or federally endangered or threatened wildlife. Please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Tulsa Field office at (918) 382-4500 if you need federal permit information.
5. Location: Fill out the table as accurately as possible. List the counties in which you will be collecting and any applicable state wildlife management areas. For aquatic collections, list the specific water body or water bodies in which you will be collecting. Be as specific as possible. You must submit a more detailed justification for statewide requests. Please take note of the information below the location table regarding collecting on ODWC lands.
6. Species: List all of the species/taxa that will be handled or collected, the method of collection, the anticipated numbers that will be collected and the disposition of these animals. If working with a large number of species, you may list higher taxonomic groups such as genera, families or orders but note that all individual species must be documented on the annual collection report. Any species with a closed season that may be collected must be listed individually. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

## Capture/Collection of Threatened and Endangered Species:

Oklahoma statute prohibits the collection, capture, take or harassment of threatened and endangered species. The following three species are listed as threatened or endangered by the State of Oklahoma (OAC 800:25-19):

Oklahoma Cave Crayfish (*Cambarus tartarus*)    Longnose Darter (*Percina nasuta*)  
Blackside Darter (*Percina maculata*)

Additionally, the state of Oklahoma is within the range of twenty wildlife species that are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA):

Whooping Crane ( <i>Grus americana</i> )	Piping Plover ( <i>Charadrius melodus</i> )
Least Tern ( <i>Sterna (Sternula) antillarum</i> )	Red-cockaded Woodpecker ( <i>Picoides borealis</i> )
Rufa Red Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> )	Black-capped Vireo ( <i>Vireo atricapillus</i> )
Arkansas River Shiner ( <i>Notropis girardi</i> )	Ozark Cavefish ( <i>Amblyopsis rosae</i> )
Neosho Madtom ( <i>Noturus placidus</i> )	Leopard Darter ( <i>Percina pantherina</i> )*
Amer. Burying Beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> )	Ouachita Rock Pocketbook ( <i>Arkansia wheeleri</i> )
Winged Mapleleaf ( <i>Quadrula fragosa</i> )	Neosho Mucket ( <i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i> )
Rabbitsfoot ( <i>Quadrula cylindrica</i> )	Scaleshell ( <i>Leptodea leptodon</i> )
Gray Bat ( <i>Myotis grisescens</i> )	Indiana Bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> )
Northern Long-eared Bat ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> )	Ozark Big-eared Bat ( <i>Corynorhinus t. ingens</i> )

\*Please refer to Special 4(d) Rules and Exemptions

Anyone who wishes to obtain authorization to collect threatened or endangered species must specifically state the species, the collection location (at least to the county level) and the number of individuals to be collected. Written justification/explanation is required by the applicant in order to obtain authorization to collect state-listed species. Unless a special exemption exists, a federal permit (typically an ESA Section 10 permit) is required from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in order to collect/capture any federally-listed species.

\*Special 4(d) Rules and Exemptions

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a special 4(d) rule (Vol. 43, No. 19, 01/27/1978) for the Leopard Darter that defers permitting and authorization for collection activities (included in definition of 'purposeful take' under the ESA) to the states; therefore, possession of a valid Oklahoma Scientific Collector's Permit exempts individuals from also requiring a Section 10 incidental take federal permit. Upon approval, applicants that include the Leopard Darter in Number 6 of the application will receive a copy of the letter of concurrence from the USFWS-Oklahoma Ecological Services Field Office with their approved permit.

## Capture/Collection of Species with Closed Seasons:

Oklahoma wildlife regulations designate a year-round closed season for specific wildlife species. If you wish to be authorized to collect any closed-season species, your permit application must specify the species and the collection location (at least to the county level). Additionally, written justification may be required depending upon the nature of the study and the number of specimens requested. Detailed location information is required for these species when submitting annual collection reports.

**Amphibians:** The following amphibians have a year-round closed season (OAC 800:25-7-9)

Three-toed Amphiuma ( <i>Amphiuma tridactylum</i> )	Oklahoma Salamander ( <i>Eurycea tynerensis</i> )
Ringed Salamander ( <i>Amystoma annulatum</i> )	Four-toed Salamander ( <i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i> )
Mole Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma talpoideum</i> )	Western Slimy Salamander ( <i>Plethodon albagula</i> )
Ouachita Dusky Salamander ( <i>Desmognathus brimleyorum</i> )	Ozark Salamander ( <i>Plethodon angusticlavius</i> )
Cave Salamander ( <i>Eurycea lucifuga</i> )	Kiamichi Slimy Salamander ( <i>Plethodon kiamichi</i> )
Grotto Salamander ( <i>Eurycea (Typhlotriton) spelaeus</i> )	Rich Mountain Salamander ( <i>Plethodon ouachitae</i> )
	Sequoyah Slimy Salamander ( <i>Plethodon sequoyah</i> )

**Birds:** The following resident birds have a year-round closed season (OAC 800: 25-7-14). (Please note: The collection of all migratory birds is regulated under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and therefore the collection of birds other than resident game birds requires a federal permit in addition to this state permit.)

Greater Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*)                      Lesser Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*)

**Invertebrates:** In addition to threatened and endangered species, the following invertebrates have a year-round closed season (OAC 800: 15-7-5).

Buckhorn/Pistolgrip (*Tritigonia verrucosa*)

**Mammals:** The following mammals have a year-round closed season (OAC 800:25-7-62)

Swift Fox (*Vulpes velox*)

Western Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*)

Eastern Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale putorius*)

Ringtail (*Bassariscus astutus*)

**Reptiles:** The following reptiles have a year-round closed season (OAC 800:25-7-8)

Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*)

Lesser Earless Lizard (*Holbrookia maculata*)

Western Chicken Turtle (*Deirochelys reticularia*)

Desert Side-blotched Lizard (*Uta stansburiana*)

Northern Map Turtle (*Graptemys geographica*)

Com. Checkered Whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tessellatus*)

American Alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*)

Western Mudsnake (*Farancia abacurra reinwardtii*)

Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*)

Gulf Crayfish Snake (*Regina rigida rigida*)

Round-tailed Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma modestum*)

Wandering Gartersnake (*Thamnophis elegans*)

**The following information is provided as a special advisory for Scientific Collector's Permit applicants who wish to collect bats or animals within cave environments.**

### **Considerations for White-nose Syndrome in Bats during Scientific Collecting Activities:**

If you have applied for a Scientific Collector's Permit to trap, salvage, or collect bats or cave-dwelling species, you are or should be aware of White-nose Syndrome (WNS) and the danger that it poses to populations of cave bats in North America. If you are not familiar with this disease, please take the time to familiarize yourself. A few websites that provide good information and additional links are:

NSS (National Speleological Society) <http://caves.org/WNS>

US Fish & Wildlife Service <http://www.whitenosesyndrome.org>

USGS National Wildlife Health Center [http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease\\_information/white-nose\\_syndrome](http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease_information/white-nose_syndrome)

Even if you are aware of WNS, it is recommended that you check one or more of these websites regularly because new information is posted often.

Because the fungus associated with WNS appears to grow at relatively low temperatures (<20° C) the noticeable signs during summer are more likely to be scars and damage to wings and other membranous tissues as opposed to the namesake white fuzz on the nose and wings. See the following website for descriptions and pictures of affected tissues –

[http://www.fws.gov/northeast/PDF/Reichard\\_Scarring\\_index\\_bat\\_wings.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/PDF/Reichard_Scarring_index_bat_wings.pdf)

**Examine all bats handled or collected in Oklahoma for wing damage and score them according to this index. Pictures of suspicious damage should be taken and submitted (contact below).**

Report any signs of WNS to the OK Dept. of Wildlife Conservation as soon as possible:

[melynda.hickman@odwc.ok.gov](mailto:melynda.hickman@odwc.ok.gov) or 405-990-4977.

It is currently unknown whether humans are contributing to the spread of WNS by moving a causal agent from place to place on equipment. Because the human spread of WNS is considered a possibility, the following special notes apply to your Wildlife Collector's Permit – **Any equipment (nets, traps, gloves, etc.) that has been in contact with bats outside of Oklahoma must be disinfected with a 10% bleach solution, or other USFWS recommended disinfectant, before being used in Oklahoma. Any equipment that has contacted bats or has been inside caves or mines in confirmed WNS-affected states may not be used in Oklahoma.**

**The following information is provided as a special advisory for Scientific Collector's Permit applicants who are collecting in aquatic systems.**

**It's The Law! You must remove all aquatic plants and zebra mussels from boats, trailers and other gear prior to launching boats in state waters.**

When conducting any field work in aquatic environments, be sure to take the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of aquatic species from one water body to another.

**Clean:** Pressure wash any boat, kayak, canoe or other vessel with hot water (140°F) and remove any plant fragments, mud, and aquatic organisms that are visible.

**Drain:** Drain all water from your boat, motor, bilge, live wells, hauling tanks, coolers and ballast. Always use clean source water if hauling aquatic specimens off site.

**Dry:** If pressure wash is not available, allow the boat, trailer, and equipment to dry thoroughly for at least five days before using in a new water body. If equipment cannot be thoroughly dried, treat with a 10% bleach solution to decontaminate.

If you find something you believe to be an Aquatic Nuisance Species, contact fisheries biologist Curtis Tackett at [curtis.tackett@odwc.ok.gov](mailto:curtis.tackett@odwc.ok.gov) or 405-365-5060.

For more information about aquatic nuisance species check out these websites:

[www.wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/ans.htm](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/ans.htm)

[www.protectyourwaters.net](http://www.protectyourwaters.net)