

Research/Teaching Opportunities and Procedure

Applies to: Academic Institutions, Non-Profit Organizations, and Consulting Firms

Where are our public lands?

KDFWR owns and/or manages approximately 6% of the Bluegrass State (1,545,476 acres). The below link provides comprehensive information about public areas in Kentucky:

<http://fw.ky.gov/More/Pages/Wildlife-Management-Areas-and-Public-Hunting-Areas.aspx>

How do I get permission to conduct research on public lands?

Fill out the below form for KDFWR approval of research on public lands. Submit it electronically to Chris Garland (chris.garland@ky.gov) **four weeks prior** to the anticipated start date of your research project. If your request involves federally-owned land, you will also need to contact the appropriate federal entity for permits and permission. KDFWR will contact you with the status of your research application within four weeks of submission. If management conflicts exist, we will do our best to work with you to find alternative sites for your project.

<http://fw.ky.gov/Licenses/Documents/KDFWRResearchapp.pdf>

As an outside entity, how do I get permission to conduct research in caves (public or private)?

Fill out the below form for KDFWR approval of cave research. Submit it electronically to Sunni Carr (Sunni.Carr@ky.gov) **four weeks prior** to the anticipated start date of your project. If your request involves federally-owned land, you will also need to contact the appropriate federal entity for permits and permission. KDFWR will contact you with the

status of your application within four weeks of submission. If management conflicts exist, we will do our best to work with you to find alternative sites for your project.

<http://fw.ky.gov/Licenses/Documents/KDFWRResearchapp.pdf>

Why do I have to get permission to conduct research on public lands and caves?

Our system of approval is important for several reasons: 1) We would like to ensure that our management activities do not inadvertently disturb/disrupt teaching and research projects on public lands; 2) By being aware of research activities, we can better manage fish, wildlife, and habitat resources for the Commonwealth 3) In light of the serious threat of White Nose Syndrome to Kentucky's bats, KDFWR needs to be aware of cave activities occurring; and 4) KDFWR would like to assist academic institutions and other partners in selecting the most appropriate sites on public lands for research activities.

Do I need permission to conduct class surveys (e.g. small mammal trapping) on public lands?

Yes. Fill out the below, brief form within **four weeks** of the anticipated date of your class project. Submit the form electronically to Chris Garland (chris.garland@ky.gov). KDFWR will contact you with the status of your research application within four weeks of submission. If management conflicts exist, we will do our best to work with you to find alternative sites for your class project.

Do I need a permit?

If you are trapping, releasing, or possessing wildlife, you will need a permit. Please follow the below link to our Scientific and Educational Collecting Permit Site for comprehensive information:

<http://fw.ky.gov/Wildlife/Pages/Scientific-and-Educational-Collecting.aspx>

Data reporting

Annual data reporting is required for holders of all Scientific Collecting Permits and for all Educational Collecting Permits issued. Your data is important to us, and helps us

manage our fish and wildlife resources. Please follow the below link for details on data reporting:

<http://fw.ky.gov/Wildlife/Pages/Scientific-and-Educational-Collecting.aspx>

What actions do I need to take if my research involves federal lands?

If you seek to conduct research on federal lands in Kentucky, you will also need to contact the appropriate federal entity to obtain permits and permission. Examples of federal lands include, but are not limited to: Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, Daniel Boone National Forest, Mammoth Cave National Park, Clark's River National Wildlife Refuge, Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Big South Fork National Recreation Area, Fort Knox, and Fort Campbell.

Who should I contact if I have questions or concerns about this process?

Chris Garland (chris.garland@ky.gov)