

BIOS COLLECTING POLICY

- All Collecting Policies of the Bermuda Government must be observed. The following represents an overview of government policies. If you have questions, please contact the BIOS Lab Operations Officer.
- Group leaders are responsible for ensuring group members adhere to the BIOS Collection Policy.
- BIOS does not sanction collecting for any purpose other than education or research.
- Several species are completely protected and cannot be collected for any reason without special permit. Protected species include, but are not limited to:
 - The spiny or Bermuda Lobster
 - Many shelled mollusks including Calico clam, ziggy scallop, & West Indian top snail (there is a \$5000 fine for collecting top snails or their shells)
 - All corals
 - See "Marine Conservation" pamphlet and BIOS bulletin boards for complete lists of protected species
- Some marine and terrestrial sites as well as Bermuda's caves are protected. Do not under any circumstance disturb these sites. An overview of these sites is available on the BIOS web site:
<http://www.bbsr.edu/pubs/ar01/ar01mpa/ar01mpa.html>.
- Whalebone bay is considered a "protected" area by BIOS because it is used so frequently for our field trips. Please do not collect specimens from this area or disturb the habitat.
- Do not collect anything for recreational purposes.
- Collecting for educational purposes is restricted to **one or two specimens per species** (bacteria, viruses, phytoplankton, zooplankton, and other microscopic critters in marine waters are exempt).
- Return all live organisms to their original habitat when observations are complete. Remains of non-survivors should be added to the Ferry Reach detrital pool.
- If you need to take specimens back with you for bona fide research, contact the BIOS Lab Operations Officer ("Bruce Williams" <bwilliam@bbsr.edu>) to get the necessary permits from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. ***This process can take several weeks. Please plan accordingly.*** We request that you contact us at least 2 weeks before arrival in Bermuda if such a permit is required.

Please sign a copy of this form, either for yourself or on behalf of your group, and return it to BIOS along with your registration forms.

I _____ have read the BIOS Collecting Policy and agree to abide by
the collecting rules and guidelines as set out within.

Signature

Date

Please see Dr. Gerry Plumley or J.P. Skinner if you have any questions about these policies.