

Policy for Consumptive Use of Tissues
Section of Mammalogy
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

This policy refers to destructive sampling of any tissues or specimen parts (e.g., frozen tissues, clips of skin or hair from prepared study skins, bone scrapings, etc.). Permission for consumptive use of samples is at the discretion of the curatorial staff of the Section of Mammalogy. Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis. Requests for permission should be on institutional letterhead and should briefly address the following:

1. purpose and merit of the research
2. protocol to be used
3. evidence of the researcher's competence with the protocol (e.g. a list of select publications or a curriculum vitae)
4. evidence of financial resources to complete the research project

If the requestor is a graduate student, the letter of request must be co-signed by a faculty advisor.

Any unused tissues or samples should be returned to the Section of Mammalogy, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. In addition, we may request that a sub-sample of any successfully isolated genetic material be forwarded to us at the end of the project. We may require that sampling be performed under the supervision of Mammalogy staff.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (LACM) should be listed in the acknowledgements section of any publications that result from the use of granted tissues. We also request 2 copies of said publications for our archives. Any sequences reported to GenBank, or any other genetic library, should be identified by their respective LACM (or LAF) catalog numbers. In addition, the accession numbers of those sequences should be reported to the Section of Mammalogy.