



Ditsong National Museum of Natural History Vertebrate Department Destructive sampling procedure

The Ditsong National Museum of Natural History aims to support appropriate pure and applied research on southern African fauna, while at the same time preventing duplication of research effort by maintaining records of destructive use of the collections.

Requests for destructive sampling of specimens are to be made in writing to the collection curator, and must include the following information:

- the purpose and scientific merit of the research, specifying the material required,
- the sampling protocol to be employed, and why it is the least intrusive method possible,
- evidence of the researcher's competence with the protocol, or competent supervision, and availability of the necessary funding for the research,
- justification as to why museum specimens are preferable to freshly obtained specimens.
- and reasonable assurance that the results of the study will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.

Requests for material for student projects are to be supported in writing by the academic supervisor, confirming that the student has the necessary expertise (or guidance) and funding to carry out the proposed work.

Approval for destructive use of specimens is at the discretion of the appropriate collection curator, taking into account the above requested information, where the scientific merit of the proposed study will be reviewed and assessed by Ditsong National Museum of Natural History curators and, or any other scientists in the relevant field, as well as:

- whether the taxon required is sufficiently represented in the collection, (approval for destructive sampling of rare material, or specimens of extinct or endangered species, will only be granted if a compelling case is made for such use),
- the protocol will not significantly compromise the future of the specimen,

If permission is granted for the destructive use of specimens, the above written request is attached to a signed and completed agreement sheet, which is then sent to the researcher. The agreement describes the material to be sampled, the conditions for sampling and documentation, the time frame for completion, and other conditions required. No sampling will be permitted until the researchers, have counter-signed the agreement and it has been returned to the relevant Ditsong National Museum of Natural History department.

Material derived from destructive techniques applied to specimens (e.g. microscope slides of hair, bacula, ear ossicles, hyoid bones) are to be returned to the Ditsong National Museum of

DITSONG: Museums of South Africa
Incorporating

DITSONG National Museum of Natural History, DITSONG National Museum of Cultural History, DITSONG National Museum of Military History
DITSONG Kruger Museum, DITSONG Pioneer Museum, DITSONG Sammy Marks Museum, DITSONG Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum, DITSONG Tswaing Meteorite Crater

Natural History, marked with appropriate accession numbers, upon completion of the project. Residues of destructive techniques applied to museum specimens (e.g. unused hair or feather, broken teeth marked with appropriate accession numbers), may request returned to the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History, since future researchers may again want to use similar destructive sampling.

Costs incurred returning material to the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History are to be covered by the sample purchaser.

Failure to comply with the conditions set out in the destructive sampling policy and agreement may be grounds for denying new requests.

Destructive sampling costs

- None, if sampling done by researcher and no Museum consumables (scalpel blades, tubes, chemicals, etc.) are used.
- If sampling done by Collection Manager and, or Museum consumables are used, an hourly rate of time worked and consumable costs will be charged.
- Any postage or courier costs incurred by the Museum.
- If samples of rare or threatened species are requested then fees, i.e. R70 per sample, may be charged.



Ditsong National Museum of Natural History

Destructive sampling agreement

The Vertebrate Department approves the destructive sampling of specimens as listed below, in the manner described (see attached), subject to the conditions stipulated below.

Agreement number (to be completed by DNMNH Curator): KP-DS-2021/2

Loan number (to be completed by DNMNH Curator): V-KP-2020/1

Researcher's names (students, supervisors, and any co-workers):

Shaw Badenhorst

Institution(s):

University of the Witwatersrand

Project title:

AMS dating of the cave bear skull

Anticipated completion date:

January 2022

In destructively sampling material from the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History you are required:

1. To acknowledge the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History in any publications or public use of the material.
2. To provide the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History with copies of any publications resulting from the material.
3. Not to use the material in any commercial manner without prior consent from the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History Management.
4. Not to transfer the material to a third party (excluding listed co-workers) without written permission of the appropriate Collection Manager at the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History.

Disclaimer:

The Ditsong National Museum of Natural History assumes no professional liability for erroneous conclusions or actions arising partly or wholly from the sample provided.

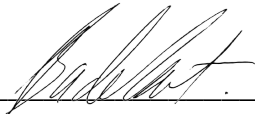
Material to be sampled:

6-8 grams of the damaged frontal bone

Conditions (relating to sampling, documentation, and return of material, to be completed by DNMNH Curator):

Signed and dated:

8 September 2021



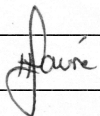
Researcher

Researcher

Researcher

Researcher

DNMNH Curator



8/9/2021