Guidelines For Collecting Birdstrike Remains For Species Identification





Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

Whole or Partial Carcass - Feathers

- Pluck the best variety of feathers available
 - Breast, back, wing, tail
 - include any feathers with color or pattern
 - If have only a small amount of material, send all feathers available
- Do not cut feathers, plucked feathers usually have down and tissue attached for lab analysis
- Photos and field IDs are welcome, but do NOT replace sending feather material



Blood & Tissue ("Snarge")

☆ Collect ALL remains available Use clean collecting supplies Keep remains as dry as possible

- Scrape off any dry samples
- Wipe material off with alcohol
 - do not use bleach, water or other cleansers
 - include all feathers
- FTA[®] DNA collecting cards



FTA[®] DNA collecting cards

- Use sterile applicator to wipe off material
- Press applicator to card to transfer material
- Allow card and applicator to dry before sealing in bag
- Include applicator and any available feathers with the card





Shipping

REGULAR SHIPMENT (US Postal Service)

Smithsonian Institution Feather Identification Lab E-600, MRC 116 PO Box 37012

Washington, DC 20013-7012

OVERNIGHT SHIPMENT (FED EX, UPS, DHL, etc.)

Smithsonian Institution Feather Identification Lab, MRC 116 National Museum of Natural History 1000 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, DC 20560

Include AFSAS, WESS, or FAA 5200-7 report Secure all material in re-sealable plastic bag

* SHIPMENT FROM OUTSIDE THE U.S *

Any material from foreign countries must be treated prior to shipment and include the following documents:

Certificate of Origin
Certificate of Treatment
USDA APHIS permit for SI

Do's & Don'ts

<u>Do's</u>

- Collect best variety of material available
- Pluck feathers
- Use alcohol or FTA[®] cards to collect snarge
- Send dried samples
- Use online reporting
- Include report number and contact information
- Practice good hygiene at all times
- Always follow the safety or BASH protocols for your organization

<u>Don't's</u>

- Don't send single feathers if more material is available
- Don't send carcasses or smelly samples unless frozen and shipped in a cooler overnight
- Don't cut feathers or use tape
- Don't use water, bleach or other cleansers to collect snarge
- Don't send remains without incident report or contact information

Contact Information

Feather Identification Lab

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202-633-0801 lu whattonj@si.edu edu dahlanno@si.edu



Websites

<u>USAF</u> www.afsc.af.mil/organizations/bash <u>US Navy</u> safetycenter.navy.mil/aviation/operations/bash <u>Civil</u> http://wildlife-mitigation.tc.faa.gov/wildlife/