



Applying for a Research Permit in Acadia National Park

Do I need a research permit?

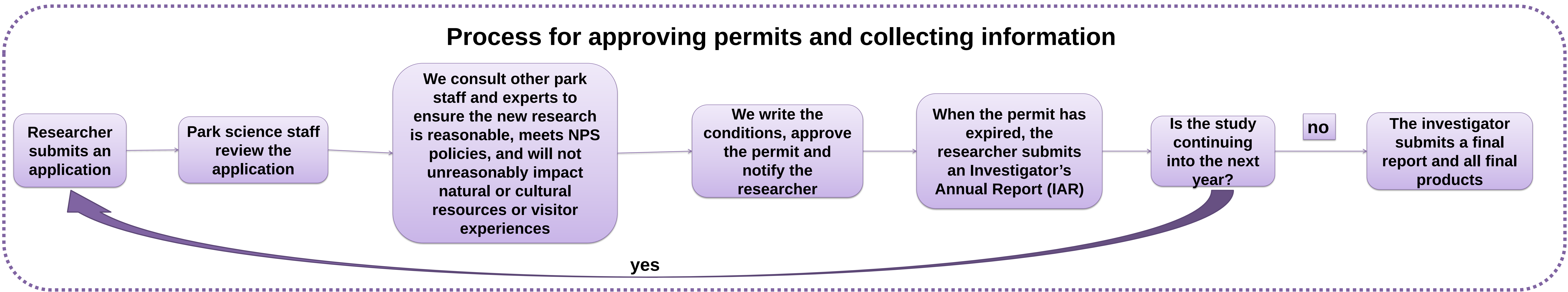
If you are planning to conduct research in Acadia National Park, you must apply for a research permit.

Every year, around 70 research permits are issued in Acadia National Park. It is the policy of the National Park Service to guarantee that management of park sites is enhanced by the highest quality scientific information. Understanding our natural and cultural resources is vital to improving park management and expanding scientific knowledge. Research will generally be allowed as long as it can be conducted safely and in a manner that does not threaten or diminish the resources of or visitor experiences in Acadia National Park.

How do I apply for a research permit?

1. Review the information on the park research-related webpages:
<http://www.nps.gov/acad/naturescience/research.htm>
2. Then go to the online Research Permit and Reporting System (RPRS) at: irma.nps.gov/rprs/

- Key points to include in your permit application**
- Purpose of the study
 - Methods, including dates of fieldwork and location
 - Description of how the study may impact natural and cultural resources and visitor experiences
 - A data management plan
 - A safety plan
 - Whether you are collecting and if so, what you are collecting



What are Acadia National Park's rules and policies for research permits?

- Other permits required for research**
- Researchers must get all necessary permits prior to your NPS research permit being approved.** These permits include any required permits from Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Maine Department of Marine Resources, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for research that involves handling of fish, migratory birds, or other regulated species.
- Research involving the use of vertebrate animals in research, then your project requires review by the NPS Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC),** even if you already have from another IACUC: <http://nature.nps.gov/biology/iacuc/>
- If you need additional permits, be sure to allow time for their review and approval.**

When to apply

All research permit applications must be submitted at least 30 days in advance of planned field activities. Some permits may require longer to review and approve, so submitting 45-60 days in advance of fieldwork is advisable.

Policies related to collecting specimens

No specimens (biological or physical) may be collected unless specifically authorized on your research permit.

All specimens collected in Acadia National Park are property of the NPS, as per federal regulations. After the study is completed, the specimens collected must come to Acadia National Park to be accessioned and cataloged.

You are responsible for cataloging your specimens with the required information.

What reports are required and where do they go?

Reports and final products

Investigator's Annual Reports (IARs) include brief summaries of the status and findings of projects. IARs are available to the public online.

Final Reports summarize the purpose, methods, findings, and implications of the studies. These reports are available to the public online.

Data We ask researchers to archive data in an appropriate permanent online repository (such as DataONE) and share it with NPS. The data are permanently archived in park records.

GIS Data Information about the location of the study are used to track research locations in the park to ensure that researchers do not interfere with other research or park activities.

Specimens All biological and physical specimens and associated data are kept in the William Otis Sawtelle Collections at Park Headquarters.

