

# Freedom Park Wildlife Kiosk Project

## Instructions for Researchers

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Dear Members,

Thank you for volunteering to be a researcher for this project! Please charge all time spent working on this project to E5a – Wildlife Kiosk Project for Freedom Park (JCCP&R).

This project involves collecting, organizing, and submitting data on plants and animals that are known to occur at Freedom Park. These data will be used for the wildlife kiosk that will be constructed at Freedom Park. Please review the instructions below:

### 1. Collecting Information:

- Each researcher will be assigned three species to research. (This is a trial run to determine if we will need to make changes to our process. We will likely add more species later.)
- The data required for each species includes:
  - Type of organism
    - Mammal
    - Bird
    - Reptile
    - Amphibian
    - Fish
    - Invertebrate
    - Tree
    - Shrub
    - Grass
    - Wildflower
    - Vine
    - Fern
    - Non-flowering Vascular Plant

- Common Name
  - Scientific Name
  - Two brief, concise paragraphs about the species
  - Three 1- or 2-word descriptive “Fast Facts.” These may include habitat, favorite food, predators, size, or how pollinated.
  - One interesting or noteworthy “Fun Fact”
  - One or two website links to be included on the screen (we will provide a list of recommended sites, but you can suggest others)
  - Conservation Status (use this website <http://bewildvirginia.org/wildlifeplan/plan.asp> )
  - List of resources you used to compile the information
  - Other useful websites
- You may use field guides, books, and other reliable sources of information to collect your information.
  - You may use websites, but please use .edu or .gov sites unless you are certain of the accuracy and authenticity of any .org or .com sites
  - Please keep a list of the books and/or websites you used for researching each species.

## **2. Organizing the Data:**

- The target reading level for the information is 5<sup>th</sup> grade (10 to 12 years old).
- Avoid jargon or overly complex terminology. We hope to be able to provide pop-up boxes to define words that may be unfamiliar to some readers.
- While organizing your data, you will need to review a copy of the form you will use to submit the data (attached to the email).

- You can view the mockup of the kiosk screen by clicking on this link [http://historicrivers.org/hr\\_svproj-fr.htm](http://historicrivers.org/hr_svproj-fr.htm) and scrolling down to E5a – Mockup of Kiosk Screen.

### 3. Submitting the Data

- We will send you an email that provides a link to the online form you will use to submit your data for each species.
- The form is somewhat rigid in that it has been developed to provide and maintain consistency among species descriptions.
- The form will contain an area for you to communicate extra comments to us. Please feel free to contact any of us on the committee if you need help.
- Please be careful when you enter your data into the form. Once your data is submitted, you won't be able to make changes. Don't worry! You can still make changes, but you will need to contact a committee member so they can go into the spreadsheet to make the changes.
- The due date for these initial data descriptions is provided in the email.

Once everyone has submitted their information, those data will go to a committee of fact checkers, and then to a committee of proof-readers.

We will keep you posted as to any updates or new information.

Thanks for your support! We hope this will be an interesting project.

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