

# Requirements for Qualifying for a Section 10 Recovery Permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for handling of the American Burying Beetle

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For general information regarding permits issued by the Service visit <http://www.fws.gov/permits/>

Application form 3-200-55 for recovery permits is the permit application required for surveying and trapping federally listed species. For an application for a section 10 recovery permit visit <http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-200-55.pdf>

The following conditions apply to lead Permittees, Subpermittees, Assistants, and Pending Permittees qualification requirements:

1. Lead permittee must have at least a bachelor's degree in wildlife management, entomology, wildlife ecology or similar field, and the necessary field survey experience.
2. Subpermittees (those individuals that are assisting the lead Permittee, are formally added to the permit, and work independently of the lead permittee) must have at least a bachelor's degree in wildlife management, entomology, wildlife ecology or similar field, and the necessary field survey experience.
3. Assistant (those individuals that are assisting THE Lead Permittee, but are not formally added to the permit, and do not work independently of the Lead Permittee or Subpermittee) must meet the following requirements:
  - a. Have the necessary field survey experience.
  - b. Must train under the direct supervision of the authorized Lead Permittee(s). (Direct supervision is defined as the Assistant working along side the Lead Permittee. Meaning the Lead and the Assistant are checking the same traps along the same transect).
  - c. Must have a minimum of 30 credit hours in biology or related sciences.
  - d. Be knowledgeable about the American Burying Beetle through reviewing published literature.
  - e. Once trained the Assistant must work under the direct or indirect supervision of the Permittee or Subpermittee. (Indirect is defined as the assistant working the same survey as the Subpermittee or Permittee, but not necessarily the same transect. Meaning the Permittee or Subpermittee needs to be in the general vicinity to aid the assistant).
4. Pending Permittees (those individuals that are going to assist the Lead Permittee and Subpermittees, are to be formally added to the permit, and desire to work independently of the Lead Permittee):
  - a. Must gain the necessary field survey experience.

- b. Must train under the direct supervision of the authorized Lead Permittee(s) until all USFWS requirements are met.
- c. Must have a minimum of 30 credit hours in biology or related sciences.
- d. Be knowledgeable about the American Burying Beetle through reviewing published literature.
- e. Once trained the Assistant (former Pending Permittee) must work under the direct or indirect supervision of the Permittee or Subpermittee. [Indirect is defined as the Assistant (former Pending Permittee) working the same survey as the Subpermittee or Permittee, but not necessarily the same transect. Meaning the permittee or subpermittee needs to be in the general vicinity to aid the Assistant (former Pending Permittee)].

5. Necessary field survey experience:

- a. Can be attained by one or more of the following methods:
  - i. Working with a section 10 permitted biologist authorized by the USFWS to conduct surveys for the American Burying Beetle. (Note: Individuals that previously held permits that have expired or the USFWS has suspended or revoked do not qualify under this condition).
  - ii. Attending USFWS certified training. (Dates for training events are not regularly scheduled, and are dependent on demand and USFWS availability).
- b. Must include the following:
  - i. completion of at least 6 nights of baited pitfall surveys using the USFWS's most recent recommended method;
  - ii. must have captured and handled, with supervision, at least 6 American Burying Beetles (including a male, female, young of the year and adult),
  - iii. must have captured and handled, with supervision at least 3 other species of *Nicrophorus*. (This is necessary to ensure the pending permittees will know what characteristics to look for to distinguish between the sex and age of the American Burying Beetle and the different types of *Nicrophorus* species).

6. Documentation of completed requirements needs to be submitted to the USFWS, Division of Endangered Species—Permits, Albuquerque, NM, so that an individual may be added to the permit and any restrictive conditions pertaining to individual permittees pending authorization may be lifted. Documentation must identify the following:

- a. Complete citation of all literature reviewed.

- b. Unofficial college transcript.
- c. Field experience - survey reports and associated survey data forms indicating your name as a surveyor and reference letter from a qualified section 10 biologist confirming the dates of your participation and the authenticity of the data forms and reports. Sufficient data forms must be submitted to confirm that you have met the minimum number of survey nights and minimum capture amount of *Nicrophorus* species.
  - i. Field experience – *if applicable* - submit any authored or co-authored published or unpublished reports on the American Burying Beetle indicating your participation;
- d. Until such experience is gained and documentation provided to the USFWS, this permit does not authorize individuals to conduct the above listed American Burying Beetle activities without direct supervision of the authorized lead permittee.