Duckworth Laboratory
Department of Archaeology

Destructive Sampling

a. Tissues received from the Duckworth Collection, or DNA extracted from these samples, cannot be transferred to a third party without express written permission by the Director of the Duckworth Laboratory.
b. Collections will be used only for the purposes stated in the Description of Research. The Description of Research may not be amended, nor may the material be used for other purposes without written permission from the Director of the Duckworth Laboratory.
c. All collections should be photographed before and after sampling using the DC SOP 6- Sample Removal Inventory Form (this will be provided by the Collections Manager). Photographs must be of sufficient detail to discern the area which has been sampled. Copies of all forms must be deposited with the Duckworth Laboratory.
d. The researcher must provide a list indicating the catalogue number of the remains/specimen, the kind and amount of material removed, the purpose for removal, and the date of the removal.
e. Resulting analytical data and duplicates of tangible products - e.g., SEM photographs, histology slides, or (in the case of aDNA and biochemical sampling) GenBank accession numbers or computer readable copies of sequences - shall be deposited in the Duckworth Collection to become part of the specimen's permanent record.
f. We request return of any unused portions of samples when the project is over. If a piece of skin, hair, bone, teeth, or fluid-preserved tissue has been used for biochemical analyses, we require the return of an aliquot of DNA to prevent need for additional destructive sampling of the same specimen. If slides of sectioned materials are made, we request representative examples be returned.
g. We request detailed protocols for the extraction of aDNA from our specimens (both successful and unsuccessful). We also would like lists of genes that have been successfully amplified and sequenced from our specimens. We will compile lists of both successful and unsuccessful protocols to assist researchers with what we know can be a difficult task.
h. The introduction of chemicals from casting of objects and elements can be detrimental to the integrity and preservation of the collection. Therefore, requests for casting of elements or materials (e.g., dental casting or cranial endocasts) will be treated as destructive sample.