

# **BioBlitz! Oklahoma, 2014**

## **Black Kettle National Grassland, Washita Battlefield NHS, and City of Cheyenne**

### **Participant Guidelines**

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#### ***Special Restrictions at Washita Battlefield site***

The Washita Battlefield is one of the three properties included in BioBlitz! 2014 inventory. The nature of this sacred site influences the type of BioBlitz! activities held at this location. At the Battlefield, BioBlitz! participants should:

- Remain on marked trails*
- Not physically collect any specimens*
- Limit inventory activities to observations and pictures*
- Visit only during daytime*

BioBlitz! and National Park Service staff thank you for respecting the moving story of this important historic place.

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#### ***Role of Expert Biologists***

BioBlitz! could not happen without the participation of biologists from around the region who volunteer their time and expertise.

Expert Biologists fill a variety of roles at BioBlitz!.

They can: Collect/observe and inventory organisms in their taxa group

- Identify and help others identify species in taxa group

- Interact with Citizen Scientists

  - By leading group activities and supervise collecting by Citizen Scientists

  - By giving talks about their area of expertise

  - By instilling a conservation ethic regarding the collection of organisms and use of the natural area.

Because of their knowledge and expertise, Expert Biologists are allowed to:

- Handle and collect vertebrate animals

- Collect and preserve invertebrate animals

- Collect and preserve plants and plant material

Expert Biologists are required to:

- Release all vertebrate animals in the area in which they were captured. With prior permission and proper state and federal permitting, vertebrates may be kept for specimens. Please contact BioBlitz! coordinator, Priscilla Crawford, 405-255-8106, if interested in retaining specimens of vertebrates.

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#### ***Role of Citizen Scientists***

BioBlitz! could not happen without the participation of Citizen Scientists from around the region who volunteer their time and enthusiasm.

Citizen Scientists can participate in a variety of ways at BioBlitz!.

They may: Conduct inventory on their own

- By getting checklists of taxa at Base Camp and marking off what they see

- By taking pictures of observed species and having them identified by expert biologists

- Interact with Expert Biologists

  - By attending any of the scheduled activities

  - By chatting with them at Base Camp

  - By observing their collections at Base Camp

  - By getting help with identification of photographed organisms

As Citizen Scientists you are permitted during BioBlitz! to assist with the biological inventory. To protect organisms from harm and needless death, Citizen Scientists are only allowed to collect organisms when accompanied by or under the supervision of an Expert Biologist. For example, using sweep nets when on the Insect Walk or collecting invertebrates while with an aquatic biologist.

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*Lists of species should be brought to base camp and delivered to the Taxa Team Leader no later than **3:45 p.m.** on Saturday to be included in the inventory total.*