

## Guidelines for destructive sampling of UWGM specimens

***Destructive Sampling*** – If your research requires you to alter a museum specimen in any way (e.g. microdrilling, making a thin section, microprobe mounts, etc.) you must receive permission from the Geology Museum in advance. All requests must be submitted in writing to the Museum Curator and are subject to approval by the Museum Director. In the case of students, the request must be from the student's academic advisor. The request should include the following information:

- The purpose of the research and its scientific merit
- The sampling methods to be employed and why they are necessary
- Evidence of the researcher's competence with the sampling method
- The volume of material that will be consumed as a result of the sampling method
- The specimen(s) to be sampled
- Why the specimen(s) in question is (are) essential to the study

In all cases, the investigator should be able to provide reasonable assurance that the results of the study will be published in a peer-reviewed academic journal.

Type specimens are not available for destructive sampling. Specimens that are comparatively rare, both in general and in the context of the UWGM collections, are unlikely to be approved for sampling unless a particularly compelling case has been made to do so.

If the destructive sampling application is approved, the researcher will be informed of the decision and any restrictions imposed. All products of destructive sampling are regarded as part of the specimen and must be returned unless specifically addressed in writing by the UWGM.

***What to do with component parts from UWGM specimens*** – All component parts (e.g. billets, thin sections, powders, instrument mounts, etc.) must be returned to the UW Geology Museum. To keep track of component parts from UWGM samples, please keep a list cross-referencing lab numbers with UWGM specimen numbers until those specimens can be returned and cataloged with the original specimens. Please do not label component parts with UWGM numbers yourself.

***For thin sections:*** Make sure to cross-reference the slide number with the UWGM specimen number until the slide is returned to the museum. Keeping a separate list or labeling the thin section box top is sufficient.

***For powders:*** Store powders from UWGM specimens in sample vials. Label the vial with the corresponding UWGM specimen number.

***For billets, sample fragments, or specimens where the number has been removed as a result of destructive sampling methods:*** Place the sample into a plastic sample bag and label the bag with the corresponding UWGM specimen number.

***For multi-sample instrument mounts:*** Create a reference diagram of the mount, illustrating the location of the UWGM specimens on the mount. Return this diagram along with the mount so that it can be properly curated.

If you are in need of storage materials (e.g. boxes, bags, vials) to properly keep track of your component parts, please contact the Museum Curator, Carrie Eaton, [carrie@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:carrie@geology.wisc.edu), 608.262.4912.