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Feather Identification Lab

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FEATHER IDENTIFICATION LAB - General Information

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### SHIPPING

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>U.S. Postal Service</b><br/>(routine / non-damaging cases)</p> <p>~~~~</p> <p>Feather Identification Lab<br/>Smithsonian Institution<br/>NHB, E600, MRC 116<br/>P.O. Box 37012<br/>Washington, DC 20013-7012</p> | <p><b>Overnight Shipping</b><br/>(priority / damaging cases)</p> <p>~~~~</p> <p>Feather Identification Lab<br/>Smithsonian Institution<br/>NHB, E600, MRC 116<br/>10<sup>th</sup> &amp; Constitution Ave., NW<br/>Washington, DC 20560-0116</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- Include report number or copy of report (AFSAS for military, 5200-7 for civil)
  - Include contact information if not on report

**Feather Lab contact information: 202-633-0801**  
**dovec@si.edu or heackerm@si.edu**

### COLLECTING REMAINS

#### Whole Feather

- Whole bird: Pluck a variety of feathers (breast, back, wing, tail)
- Partial bird: Collect a variety of feathers with obvious color or pattern
- Feathers only: Send all material found
- Do not cut feathers from bird (we need the down at the base); Do not use any Sticky substance (ex. tape)
- Place remains in reclosable bag; If remains are fleshy/moist can fold material in paper (ex. paper towel, coffee filter) and use more than one reclosable bag.

#### Small Amount of Material

- Wipe area with paper towel; Send all material / entire towel in reclosable bag
- If needed, spray area with alcohol or water to loosen material for collection

#### WEBSITES

Air Force: <http://safety.kirtland.af.mil>  
Civil Aviation: <http://wildlife-mitigation.tc.faa.gov>  
Birdstrike Committee: [www.birdstrike.org](http://www.birdstrike.org)

\* Basic safety measures and good hygiene when collecting material is encouraged. Use latex gloves, face mask and eye protection; always thoroughly wash hands after handling remains.

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