



Thanks for your interest in grizzly bear conservation science! These instructions are intended for the Grizzly Bear Program's scat collection kits. For a quick video demonstration, check out [friresearch.ca/scat](http://friresearch.ca/scat)

## SCAT DNA COLLECTION PROTOCOL

1. Wear gloves, bears may have parasites that can make you sick!
2. Using the wooden stick in your collection kit, scoop 0.5 cm<sup>3</sup> of scat from the inside of the scat.

0.5 cm<sup>3</sup> of scat is roughly the size of a pencil eraser:



A sample larger than this will not dry out properly.


3. Transfer the scat sample into a vial containing silica beads and snap the lid back on.
4. Gently tip the vial upside down a couple of times to make sure plenty of silica beads surround the scat sample.
5. Leave the biodegradable wooden collection stick upright in the middle of the scat to indicate to others that it has been sampled.
6. Fill out the required information on the vial label: the date and time of collection, the name of the person who collected the sample, and the location of the sample.

**Location information is critical** so please provide precise coordinates, i.e. latitude/longitude or UTM Nad83 coordinates or a legal land description (see instructions on back).

7. Store your sample in a cool and dry place out of the sun.



## GET THE COORDINATES OF YOUR SCAT SAMPLE:

1. If you have cell service, find your location on your phone using Google Maps  or another map app (which will likely have a similar protocol):
  - a. iPhone: open the Google Maps app, touch and hold an area of the map that isn't labeled until a red pin appears. At the bottom, tap "Dropped pin", scroll down to see the coordinates (e.g. 53.399100, -117.582000 in latitude/longitude format).
  - b. Android: Open the Google Maps app, touch and hold an area of the map that isn't labeled until a red pin appears. The coordinates show up in the search box at the top.
2. If you don't have cell service take note of your precise location (e.g., on a paper map, an address, or by road intersections), then look up the coordinates on a device as soon as possible.

Computer: open Google Maps, right-click the place or area on the map. Select *What's here?*. At the bottom, you'll see a box show up with the coordinates.

3. If available, you can also use a hand-held GPS, vehicle GPS, or offline map app (e.g., Avenza Maps) while collecting your scat sample in areas with no cell service.
4. Preferred location coordinate formats:
  - a. **Latitude/longitude:** 53.399100 -117.582000 (decimal degrees), 53° 23.946' N 117° 34.920' W (degree minute), or 53° 23' 56.76" N 117° 34' 55.20" W (degree minute second)
  - b. **UTM:** 11N 461303 5916826
  - c. **Legal land description:** NE4-51-25-W5 (NE quarter of Section 14, Township 51, Range 25, West of the 5th Meridian)