

**Stephens' Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*), San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*), and Pacific Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*)**

**Minimum Qualifications**

1. Trapping Experience

Supervised trapping experience is required. An individual must provide verifiable documentation of conducting a minimum of one complete "season" of trapping or a minimum of 40 trapping sessions (i.e., calendar nights) with the target species under the direct supervision of a permitted individual. Training should include identification of habitat for the target species, appropriate traps and trap placement design within the survey area (i.e., what traps to use and where to place traps to maximize capture potential), setting and baiting traps, and trap checking procedures (i.e., frequency and timing of trap checks to minimize harm to target species and other co-occurring small mammals). This criteria helps to assure the individual has the experience necessary to select appropriate trapping locations, properly set traps, safely extract and handle all species that might be incidentally captured, and have the broader experience to deal with situational events or crises.

For San Bernardino kangaroo rat, experience should include trapping in a variety of different habitats in which the target species may occur. For Stephens' kangaroo rat, experience should include trapping in a location where Dulzura kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys simulans*) and Stephens' kangaroo rat co-occur. The individual must be able to distinguish between the two animals in situations where they both may be captured. Trapping at multiple locations throughout the range of Stephens' kangaroo rats is preferred due to regional variability in identifying characteristics.

For Pacific pocket mouse, experience should include setting traps at high sensitivities, and familiarity with the range of habitat conditions across which the subspecies may occur. Relevant trapping experience with other small mammals, particularly other subspecies of the above taxa, may be considered toward fulfilling the above requirements: however, this will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

2. Species Handling Experience

Supervised handling of the target species in the field is required. An individual must provide verifiable documentation of handling a minimum of 10-20 individuals of the target species under the direct supervision of a permitted individual. Supervised handling experience should include all activities for which the individual is requesting authorization (e.g., extracting from traps, taking measurements, marking, extracting blood samples, etc.).

Relevant handling experience with other small mammals may be considered toward fulfilling the above requirements: however, this will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

References (name and contact information) for trapping and handling experience should be provided.