

Protecting Whooping Cranes and Coastal Habitats in Texas

Expedition Packing List

REQUIRED COVID-19 SAFETY ITEMS

In addition to the items included below, please also bring:

- Proof of COVID-19 vaccination, including booster doses if available
- Sufficient funds to cover any required COVID testing (only if required by your home country; cost is approx. \$150 USD for PCR test)
- Enough face masks for the entire length of the project. Even when mask use is no longer required on site, all participants must still bring a supply of masks with them in the event they are needed. (N95, FFP2 or equivalent are recommended.)
- Multiple travel antigen (rapid) tests for COVID-19
- Personal thermometer for daily health checks
- Hand sanitizer for personal use (at least 60% ethyl alcohol)
- Enough personal medications, or other necessities, to cover possible time in quarantine beyond your planned travel days

GENERAL

- Expedition Logistics Document
- Your travel plans, rendezvous details, and Earthwatch's emergency contact information
- Photocopies of your passport, flight itinerary, and credit cards in case the originals are lost or stolen; the copies should be packed separately from the original documents
- Passport and/or visa (*if necessary*)
- Certification of vaccination (*if necessary*)
- Documentation for travel by minors (*if necessary*)

CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR FOR FIELDWORK

- Please plan to dress in layers, as temperatures and conditions will be variable throughout the day. Please be aware and understand that weather is variable, and you may not end up using all the equipment and attire you bring with you.
- Lightweight, long-sleeve shirts—to be worn for both sun and mosquito protection (*Required*)
- Short-sleeve shirts to be worn as a base layer (*Required*)
- Lightweight field pants—cotton-nylon blend hiking pants with zip off legs work well (*Required*)
- Midweight non-cotton fleece or sweater for warmth over the base layer (*Recommended*)
- Midweight jacket that offers wind protection and warmth. (*Required*)
- Do not bring jeans (they do not dry quickly) and yoga/sweatpants (mosquitoes can bite through them). **They are not acceptable for fieldwork.**
- Wide brimmed hat for sun protection (*Required*)
- We find that a comfortable pair of sneakers/tennis shoes (hard soled and closed toe) are best for fieldwork. They provide good support and traction in the muddy coastal marsh research sites and can easily be taken off when fieldwork is completed. Hard-soled, tightly fitted dive booties may also be worn (*Required*)
- Socks to be worn in the field—will get wet and muddy (*Required*)

- Mid-calf or higher rubber boots are **not acceptable for fieldwork** as they can over-top with water (leaving volunteer wet) or get stuck on the deeper mud at the research sites
- Packable rain gear—for use on boat (sea-spray) and in the event of rain. These are also handy as a windbreak during cold fielding conditions (*Required*)
- Pair of rubber sandals or Crocs to be worn in the field—these are great for putting on at end of day in field when feet are wet and muddy
- Pair of lightweight gloves and a toque for cold morning boat rides (*Required*)

CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR FOR LEISURE

- At least one set of clothing to keep clean for end of expedition
- At least one set of clothing to wear outside in the evenings (*we recommend a long sleeve shirt and long pants for warmth and to prevent bites from mosquitoes*)
- Pair of light shoes or sandals

FIELD SUPPLIES

- Reusable water bottle, wide-mouth Nalgene recommended (*Required*)
- Waterproof case for any cell phone or electronics you plan to take in the field—these items will get wet.
- Binoculars—we will be using binoculars throughout our time in the field. We recommend that you bring your best pair (8x40 or higher magnification is preferred) with you so you can get a great view of the wildlife. (*Highly Recommended*)
- Walking poles for stability in the marshes.
- Small daypack or dry bag to keep your personal items together and dry when in the field (*Required*)
- Sunscreen lotion SPF 30+
- Flashlight with extra batteries and extra bulb
- Sunglasses
- Insect repellent (higher Deet concentration results in best mosquito production); (*Required*)

BEDDING AND BATHING

Bed linens, blankets, pillows, and bath towels will all be provided.

PERSONAL SUPPLIES

- Personal toiletries
- Antibacterial wipes or lotion (good for cleaning hands while in the field)
- Personal first aid kit (e.g., anti-diarrhea pills, antibiotics, antiseptic, itch-relief, allergy meds, pain reliever, bandages, blister covers, etc.) and medications
- Spending money

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Comfortable shoes to change into after conducting fieldwork
- Flip flops or sandals for the shower or to wear around the accommodation
- Scarf for time on boat if you are sensitive to windy conditions (high zipping rain jacket can also suffice here)
- Camera, film or memory card(s), extra camera battery
- Hardware for sharing digital photographs at the end of the expedition
- Dry bag or plastic sealable bags (e.g., Ziploc) to protect equipment like cameras from dust, humidity, and water



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- Books, games, art supplies, etc. for free time
- Earplugs for light sleepers

Note: Do not bring more luggage than you can carry and handle on your own. If traveling by air and checking your luggage, we advise you to pack an extra set of field clothing and personal essentials in your carry-on bag in case your luggage is lost or delayed. *Please note laundry facilities will not be available during the expedition.*