

# InterRidge Statement of Commitment to Responsible Research Practices at Deep-Sea Hydrothermal Vents



As members of an international research community we encourage all scientists to abide by the following guidelines:

- 1) Avoid, in the conduct of scientific research, activities that will have deleterious impacts on the sustainability of populations of hydrothermal vent organisms.
- 2) Avoid, in the conduct of scientific research, activities that lead to long lasting and significant alteration and/or visual degradation of vent sites.
- 3) Avoid collections that are not essential to the conduct of scientific research.
- 4) Avoid, in the conduct of scientific research, transplanting biota or geological material between sites.
- 5) Familiarize yourself with the status of current and planned research in an area and avoid activities that will compromise experiments or observations of other researchers. Assure that your own research activities and plans are known to the rest of the international research community through InterRidge and other public domain databases.
- 6) Facilitate the fullest possible use of all biological, chemical and geological samples collected through collaborations and cooperation amongst the global community of scientists.

The full Statement of Responsible Research Practices is available at: <http://www.interridge.org/irstatement>

