

## Morning of Collecting Checklist

- Nets (at least two types, plus a small one)
- Plastic bags, containers or bottles
- Notepad, pen, hard surface to write on
- Camera batteries (and film)
- Plastic box with clear sides.
- Magnifying glass
- More plastic boxes
- Towels, small and big
- Maps, good maps.
- Colored stickers and/or labels.
- Plastic one or two liter containers.
- Water testing kits: hardness, pH, salt, temp, etc.
- Turkey baster
- Optional: Camcorder
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## Checklist After Returning

- Remove wastes from the fish's bags.
- Cover all open fish containers!
- Double check records/paperwork.

## Research Checklist (Before you Leave)

- [www.fishbase.org](http://www.fishbase.org) : what fish are found where you are going?
- [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov) : importation rules
- [livebearers@aquaria.org](mailto:livebearers@aquaria.org) : find out if others have been there or have advice
- Copeia (or other Journals) : find original descriptions and other useful information
- [www.cdc.gov/travel/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/index.html) : immunizations and other health issues
- LFC : what people already have, what they'd like you to get.
- NFC : what people already have
- Travel and guidebooks : all the normal touristy things you should know.
- Culture Shock! : all the cultural, social, and political things you should know.

## Checklist at Each Fish Gathering Location:

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- Write down exactly where it is!
  - Write all water chemistry results.
  - Make sure you have at least a male and a female of all collected species.
  - Make sure you have some extra water.
  - Mark water, fish, log page, etc. with same colored sticker.
  - If possible: photo fish and location; record photo numbers.
- Have patients, don't hurry or rush.
- Add to the summary log.

## Checklist for Luggage

- All the things listed in 'morning of collecting'
  - Form 3-177, it's instruction form, and *Know before you Go* from the USF&W.
  - Magazine articles and web printouts on collecting fish.
  - Extra labels
  - Extra film
  - Guidebooks
  - Original descriptions of fish, other articles which will help you find and identify fish.
  - Some extra cash
  - Declorinator and fish drugs
  - Plastic window screen type mesh
  - Plastic bag or insulated box to carry fish.
  - Your sense of humor and adventure!
- Visit fish stores, aquariums, zoos, and parks!