

Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve

Expression of interest for research projects



Background Information

The Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve and Nature Refuge (SIWR), located on Cape York Peninsula and comprising of some 135,000 hectares, is a vast mosaic of closed and open forests, heath and grassland communities, rainforests, wetlands and savannas. Its southern border fronts the Wenlock River and the Ducie River forms part of northern border. It has a rich diversity of plants and animals, a number of which are of significance, including the red goshawk, Palm cockatoo, speartooth sharks, spotted cuscus, Cape York melomys, white-lipped tree frog, and the northern death adder.

The Reserve has been set aside as a tribute to the conservation work of Steve Irwin and a place for scientific research, discovery, training and education. A logistic base for research on the reserve has been set up at Coolibah, near the southern border of the SIWR and is approximately a 1.5 hour 4-W drive from Weipa, although a deep river crossing is necessary. Alternatively Coolibah can be accessed via the Telegraph road and entering via the former Bertihough pastoral station. Rangers are based at Coolibah and facilities include, phone and mobile phone connection (Telstra service only), an office, kitchen and bathroom amenities. There are campsites at Coolibah in which to pitch a tent and are walking distance to the base building and facilities.

Expressions of Interest

We are seeking applications from researchers who are interested in conducting ecological and conservation studies on the SIWR. Requests for logistical support and access to research facilities will be considered but the expectation is that researchers will be self-sufficient.

More information about the SIWR, its ecotypes, flora and fauna, as well as available infrastructure/facilities can be provided upon request.

Application Process

Applications to be submitted via email to research@australiazoo.com.au. Applications will be reviewed by a scientific panel, SIWR rangers and logistical officers from Australia Zoo. A decision on the proposed project will be provided within 4 weeks of receipt of the application.

Deliverables and Reporting

A 1 page report is required within 1 month of departure from the SIWR. The report should briefly summarise the achievements and outcomes from the research conducted on the SIWR. All publications that stem from work on the SIWR should acknowledge the support provided by Australia Zoo and Wildlife Warriors Worldwide.



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Project Title

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Chief Investigator	
Qualification	
Contact Details	

Additional Research Personnel their role and qualifications [please provide 2 page biography/CV for each investigator]

Name	Role	Qualifications

Start and End Dates (proposed time and duration on the SIWR)

Arrival to the SIWR	
Departure from the SIWR	

Project Description (250 words)

(Provide a brief description of the proposed research, giving some background and stating the aims and objectives).

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What threatened species and/or ecological communities will your project will be helping to manage and conserve. (100 words)

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Expected Outcomes, Significance and Impact (250 words)

(Provide a statement of the expected benefit that will come from the proposed research)

Resourcing: Will you be self-sufficient? If not what logistical resources and facilities would you require access to on the SIWR?

Permitting and Approvals

(Provide details of ethical and scientific permits/approvals necessary to undertake the research if required. Copies of permits and approvals are to be provided prior to any research being conducted).

Yes/No	Would you be willing to provide an article for Crikey Magazine about your research (approximately 500-700 words with photos)
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Acknowledgement of Australia Zoo's contribution (ie. access to properties and facilities, assistance with data collection) is asked to be included in any scientific publications.

