PROTOCOL FOR RESEARCHERS AT TRISTAN DA CUNHA

(‘Tristan da Cunha’ includes the islands of Tristan, Nightingale, Gough and Inaccessible (and their islets), and their territorial waters to 12 nautical miles, and here also refers to their Exclusive Economic Zones to 200 nautical miles.)

(To be completed by each person applying for an Environmental Research Permit)

I, ___________________________ agree to the following principles:

1. Research should be an educational process leading to mutual learning among researchers and the collaborating individuals, communities and institutions.

2. Just as the propriety rights of scientific knowledge are well established and respected, such rights are due to the producers and providers of traditional knowledge and contemporary innovations from local communities.

3. Research should respect local cultural values and norms.

4. Benefits should accrue to all partners in a fair and equitable manner.

5. Informed consent should be obtained within the limits of practicality.

6. All researchers must request permission to visit Tristan da Cunha (TDC) from the Island Council, via the Administrator’s Office. (See also ‘Terms and Conditions’ for Visitors to Tristan da Cunha, available from the Administrator’s Office enquiriestdc1@gmail.com)

7. In particular, I agree to follow all procedures required by the TDC Government and Conservation Department and to follow the Environment Charter.

8. Community approval is through initial contact to the TDC Conservation Department. They will assist in the approach to the community if they feel...
the work is appropriate. In the discussion with the Conservation Department and community, the following should be presented as part of the prior informed consent approval process.

When first contacting a community or individual to seek access, the researcher:

- Should carry out all communications in the locally understood language.
- Must explain the nature and purpose of the proposed research, including its duration, the geographic area in which research would take place, and research and collecting methods.
- Must explain the foreseeable consequences of the research for resources, people and stakeholders, including potential commercial value.
- Should explain the potential non-commercial values, such as academic recognition and advancement for the researcher.
- Should explain any social and cultural risks.
- Should explain the guidelines that the research is following, as well as his/her practice in previous similar research projects.
- Should be willing to provide copies of relevant project documentation, or summaries thereof, preferably including the project budget, in the local language. In the case of commercial prospecting, researchers must share such documents.
- Must agree on a protocol of acknowledgements, citations, authorship, and inventories as applicable, either citing local innovators or conservators, or respecting request for anonymity.
- Must share findings at different stages with the providers.
- Must not engage in bribery or making false promises.

In terms of benefits

- Researchers should be prepared to pay an annual Environmental Research permit fee of £250 for the main applicant and to pay £250 for each additional person who comes to Tristan to carry out the research. This fee supports the ongoing work of the TDC Conservation Department.
- Researchers are encouraged to employ members of the TDC Conservation Department and the Darwin Team in their research.
- All community informants or TDC Conservation Department staff should be paid at their TDC daily rate.
- Before leaving the community a short preliminary description of the findings of the work should be delivered in the local language.
- A written report on the research should be sent to the Head of the TDC Conservation Department and community as soon as possible with an executive summary in the local language.
Arrangements must be made to have the executive summary discussed with the community.

Any publications arising out of the work must be sent to the Head of the TDC Conservation Department, community and the Island Council.

If the research results are ongoing, periodic reporting (at least annually) to the Head of the TDC Conservation Department and Council should be done.

Contributions of all parties will be acknowledged in all materials produced, included joint authorship if possible.

If requested, access to original collected data should be provided to TDC Conservation Department. All details regarding data management and storage should be furnished to TDC Conservation Department.

Each permit will be subject to annual and periodic review and can be revoked at any time if this agreement is violated.

Signed:

Date:

For further information, contact:
Trevor Glass, Head of Conservation, Tristan da Cunha Government.
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