

Scientific Research and/or collection of specimens in Kakadu National Park Information for applicants and research permit application form

Kakadu National Park (KNP) is Aboriginal land and is jointly managed by its Aboriginal Traditional Owners and the Director of National Parks. The Director of National Parks manages Commonwealth national parks through Parks Australia, which is part of the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA). Kakadu National Park, part of Parks Australia North (PAN), conducts the permit assessment process.

Assessment process

Research permit applications are assessed with regard to criteria outlined in the 5th Kakadu National Park Plan of Management. These criteria relate to the potential impacts of proposed activities on the Park's environment, natural and cultural values, and on Traditional Owners. Under the current Kakadu National Park Plan of Management, Traditional Owners must be consulted regarding proposed research activity and their approval must be obtained.

Information provided in the permit application will form the basis of consultations between KNP staff and the relevant Traditional Owners. All relevant sections of the form must be completed. **A 1:50,000 topographic map with identifiable place names, roads, land marks and river systems to allow clear identification of the proposed study sites, is ESSENTIAL.** Maps downloaded from Google Earth are not sufficient. Please include GPS coordinates of the proposed study sites. For a sample map please [click here](#).

Research permits are granted specific to the designated location(s) within the Park and must be conducted according to the approved methods. Note that preference will be given to projects that address research priorities identified in the current Plan of Management (<http://www.environment.gov.au/parks/publications/kakadu-pom.html>).

Acts, Regulations and Permit Conditions

Researchers are subject to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000*. Before the Permit is issued you will receive a set of **Permit Conditions** for consideration. This includes standard conditions for undertaking research in the Park and may also include special conditions specific to the research proposed in your application (For example "must be accompanied by an Aboriginal Traditional Owner" if the proposed study site is in a restricted area). The Permit Conditions must be signed, along with the attached indemnity form required by the Director of National Parks.

When these have been received, and your application approved, your permit will be issued. The Permittee is responsible for ensuring that people working under the Permit are familiar with, and adhere to these requirements.

Involvement of Traditional Owners

Where possible, all research and monitoring projects in the Park should involve Traditional Owners, incorporating and acknowledging their knowledge of country. Applicants who have a budget facilitating the involvement of Traditional Owners with their research will be highly regarded.

Nomenclature

Both scientific and common names (if available) must be provided for all organisms identified in the research proposal. **Please also include any photos of the species/project that would assist in the consultation process.**

Timing

Applicants should give as much notice as possible. It is recommended that at least **six weeks notice is provided for minor projects**. An example of a minor project is collection of any non-listed invertebrates or plants in public areas of Kakadu National Park. A **minimum of three months may be necessary for major projects**. These include projects that involve species of significance, consultation with Traditional Owners or require access in restricted areas.

Applicants may check on the status of their application by contacting the Permits Officer.

Renewals

Applications to renew an existing permit should be submitted prior to the expiration of that permit. It is the applicant's responsibility to be aware of the expiry date of their permit.

If an application for renewal is received prior to the expiry of the permit, the permittee may continue to operate under the conditions of the existing permit until a decision is made on the renewal application (providing it has not been withdrawn or revoked). If the application for renewal is received after the expiry of the existing permit you cannot continue to operate under the permit and must wait for an assessment of your new application.

Reporting requirements

Persons carrying out research and monitoring will be required to **provide report(s)** to Kakadu National Park (including progress reports for longer-term research and monitoring). The report must include the following:

- the applicant's name and permit number
- list of dates when work was undertaken, map of where work was undertaken
- if applicable, names and quantities of any specimens collected

Hard copies (usually 3) and an electronic copy should be provided.

For longer term projects, a full report or thesis (if applicable) must be submitted to KNP as specified by the Permit Conditions at the conclusion of the project. In addition, a one page **plain English summary** (for people with English as a second language) **with photos** for dissemination to Traditional Owners and staff and/or a presentation of research results may be requested as needed.

Note that reporting is a requirement of the Director of National Parks and that the Director reserves the right to use the data or contents of such reports.

Submission

If you need further information, please contact the Natural and Cultural Programs project officer on (08) 8938 1155 or kakadunationalpark@environment.gov.au

Original applications must be provided as a **hard copy with original signature(s)** to:

Project Officer-Natural and Cultural Programs
Kakadu National Park
PO Box 71
Jabiru NT 0886

Facsimile: (08) 8938 1115

International + 61 8 8938 1115



KAKADU NATIONAL PARK
PERMIT APPLICATION FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

1. Principal Investigators

Name _____ Organisation _____

Name _____ Organisation _____

2. Contact person

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone _____ Facsimile _____

3. Renewal

Is this application to renew an existing permit? Yes/No

If yes, complete **sections 1-5 and declaration only**. If no, please complete the remainder of the form.

Is this renewal exactly the same as the previous permit? Yes/No

4. Duration and timing of research

Requested duration of permit _____

Dates of proposed field work in the Park _____

5. Location(s) of proposed research

Provide location(s) for your proposed research. Also provide a map or image derived from a 1: 50,000 topographical map. For a sample map please [click here](#).

6. Research Proposal (Please include any photos of the species/project).

Project title _____

Rationale for research _____

Objectives of research _____

Outline of methods _____

Timetable (provide outline of schedule, including reporting requirements)

Will the research:

- threaten the conservation status of a species or ecological community? Yes/No
- adversely impact any cultural site or its values? Yes/No

If yes, please provide details. _____

7. Relevant qualifications

Outline the relevant qualifications or experience of each investigator.

8. Contact details for research participants

Provide contact details of all people who will be working in the Park on this project.

9. Further research

Will further research in the Park be required to complete this project? Yes/No

10. Collection of specimens

List specimens to be collected (if applicable). Provide scientific and common names, and number to be collected.

Will the research:

- affect a listed species or native species? Yes/No
- result in the death or injury of a member of a native species? Yes/No
- result in damage to or destruction to the nest or dwelling place of a member of a native species? Yes/No

11. Lodging of specimens

If applicable, please state where the specimens will be lodged. Note: Parks Australia requires that holotypes of undescribed taxa be lodged with the relevant body, such as the Australian National Herbarium, Australian National Insect Collection or the Northern Territory Museum.

12. Contact details for referees and if applicable, institution where specimens are to be lodged

Please provide the names and contact details (email address if possible) of at least 2 referees to verify your qualifications/experience in the field of your proposed research. If you are also collecting specimens, please also provide the contact details for the institution where the specimens will be lodged.

13. Minimising impacts

If applicable, describe the measures that will be taken to comply with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation regulations and to minimise impacts on any listed species or native species.

14. Animal ethics

If applicable, provide details of approval from an institutional animal ethics committee (attach copy).

15. Assistance with research

Will any assistance from Parks staff or Aboriginal people be required for this research? If so, please provide details.

16. Funding for Aboriginal Traditional Owner involvement

Do you have funding available for involving Aboriginal Traditional Owners of Kakadu National Park in your research? Please provide details.

17. Details of vehicles/vessels to be used

Please provide details of vehicles or vessels to be used, including registration numbers. (NB - if you propose to use a hire car, you must advise the KNP Research and Survey officer of these details prior to arrival in the Park).

18. Rationale for undertaking research in Kakadu National Park

Briefly outline why it is proposed to conduct this research in Kakadu National Park rather than at other locations.

19. Reports and publications

List the reports and/or publications expected to follow from this research.

20. Other activities

Please provide details if any of the following activities are intended:

- camping
 - off-road driving
 - use of aircraft or boats
 - possession of firearms, traps, nets etc
 - bringing plants or animals into the Park
 - access to archaeological sites
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Declaration

I declare that I have/have not been convicted of⁴ and I am subject/not subject to proceedings for, an offence under any of the following laws (including provisions of laws or legislative instruments made under the laws or provisions):

- a law of the Commonwealth or a State or Territory about the protection, conservation or management of a native species or ecological communities; or
- section 6⁵, 7 or 7A or subsection 86(1) of the *Crimes Act 1914* (Commonwealth)⁶ or sections 11.1, 11.4 or 11.5 of the *Criminal Code* (Commonwealth) in relation to an offence under a law of the Commonwealth about the protection, conservation or management of native species or ecological communities; or
- an equivalent provision of a law of a State or Territory in relation to an offence under a law of the State or Territory about the protection, conservation or management of native species or ecological communities.

I declare the information provided in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge

Applicant's signature _____

Date _____

- Please submit this application with appropriate attachments to:
Project Officer-Natural and Cultural Programs
Kakadu National Park
PO Box 71
Jabiru NT 0886
Telephone : (08) 8938 1155
Facsimile : (08) 8938 1115

¹ "group" includes a company, association or partnership

² Note. Native species is defined in s528 of the Act, and includes: a species that is indigenous to Australia, an external Territory of Australia, the seabed of the coastal sea of Australia or an external Territory, the continental shelf of Australia, the exclusive economic zone of Australia; species which periodically or occasionally visit Australia or an external Territory or the exclusive economic zone; and, species that were present in Australia or an external Territory before 1400.

³Note: Listed species means a native species that is

- a listed threatened species under the Act
- a member of a listed threatened ecological community under the Act
- a listed migratory species under the Act
- a listed marine species under the Act
- a cetacean.

Details of listed species and the EPBC Act can be found at

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/index.html>

⁴The applicant is taken to have been convicted of an offence if, within 5 years before the application is made, the applicant:

- has been charged with, and found guilty of, the offence but discharged without conviction; or
- has not been found guilty of the offence, but a court has taken the offence into account in passing sentence on the applicant for another offence.

⁵Section 6 of the *Crimes Act 1914* deals with being an accessory after the fact. Sections 7 and 7A and subsection 86(1) of the *Crimes Act 1914* and sections 11.1, 11.4 and 11.5 of the *Criminal Code* deal with attempts to commit offences, inciting to or urging the commission of offences by other people and, conspiracy to commit offences.

⁶Part VIIC of the *Crimes Act 1914* includes provisions that, in certain circumstances, relieve persons from the requirement to disclose spent convictions and require persons aware of such convictions to disregard them.