



Protocols for researchers on the Tiwi Islands

These protocols provide guidance for researchers, assistants and volunteers to ensure their work respects Tiwi Islander property, privacy, cultural beliefs and practices.

Your permit

You have been issued with a permit by the Tiwi Land Council (TLC) to conduct or assist with research on the Tiwi Islands. Your permit grants access to areas of the Tiwi Islands specifically allowed under the permit. The Tiwi Islands are private property. If you wish to access other areas of the Tiwi Islands, a request must be made through the TLC. Please carry your permit with you at all times. Failure to present a permit when requested by an authorised officer is an offence under the *Aboriginal Land Act*.

Your permit allows you to carry out research; it does not allow you to undertake recreational activities such as camping, sightseeing, shooting, or fishing. Your permit also does not entitle you to invite other people such as friends, relatives, or colleagues onto the Islands. For more information about permits please visit www.tiwilandcouncil.com.

Protecting the environment

The Tiwi Islands are environmentally sensitive and largely intact. To ensure the ongoing protection of Tiwi land, you must comply with applicable NT and Commonwealth laws, and comply with all environmental and quarantine requirements and guidelines as published by the TLC.

Working on the Tiwi Islands

- Well before you arrive, provide the TLC with a comprehensive work plan, and notify the TLC of any changes as they arise.
- Introduce yourself respectfully to Tiwi people you come across in your research, and be honest and sincere.
- Please always be open, honest and respectful in your dealings with Tiwi people. Dress and behave appropriately. Wear identifying clothing if possible, such as corporate branded shirts or badges.
- Be adaptable and flexible to accommodate changing circumstances. For example, your plans may be overtaken by another agenda or set of priorities.
- Maintain the relationships, partnerships and collaborations you develop on the Islands through good communication e.g. phone calls, texts, visits, emails and other correspondence.
- Brochures, posters, information sheets etc. used to communicate your research must be approved by the TLC prior to dissemination.
- Be aware that some of the information provided to you by Tiwi people may be confidential and/or culturally sensitive and must not be passed on without approval from the individuals involved.

Photography and Film

All non-work photography by visiting researchers, assistants and volunteers on the Tiwi Islands is banned. However, if your research plans to involve photography, film or recording activities please refer to your Research Access Agreement (Clause 3) for information about your obligations.

Media

You may be keen to promote your research through the media, or be approached directly by the media to talk about your work. The TLC must be notified about media interest well in advance of any interviews taking place. Do not, under any circumstances, proceed without approval. Engaging with the media without TLC permission will compromise your ability to continue your research on the Islands. Please acknowledge the contribution of any Tiwi participants in media interactions, as well as complying with Clause 3 of your Research Access Agreement.

Social Media

Social media posts have the potential to cause offence to Tiwi people. Social media posts have the potential to cause offence to Tiwi people. Do not upload audio, video or images of people to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube or blogs without written consent from the individuals involved.

Publications

Before publishing results of scientific research conducted on the Tiwi islands please refer to your Research Access Agreement (Clause 3) for protocols. Articles and images in popular press publications or online must be approved by the TLC prior to publication.

Involving Tiwi people in your work

- Tiwi people should be provided with opportunities to meaningfully participate at all stages of your project where appropriate. This could be as guides and informants, as well as in the collection and analysis of research data. They need to be properly acknowledged and reimbursed for their contributions.
- If organising consultation or other types of meetings with Tiwi people, consider transport needs. If the meeting will go for over one or two hours, providing light refreshments is recommended.
- For advice about payment of Tiwi research assistants please contact the TLC
- Respect communities that have recently held funerals by not requesting meetings or work for a period of two weeks, or as advised by the TLC.

Project Communication

To ensure information about your research is accessible to Tiwi people you must:

- Provide copies of project images (if approved) and published material to Tiwi collaborators
- Ensure the Tiwi community has access to any resources, objects or items created as part of the research or engagement (posters, flyers, promotional material, etc.)
- Provide final research results to the TLC in a clear, useful and understandable format.

Please also refer to your Research Access Agreement (Clause 5 & 6) for information about intellectual property and data sharing.