



Knowsley Safari Conservation and Research

RESEARCH POLICY





Knowsley Safari is dedicated to supporting research which aims to enhance scientific knowledge in the field of animal husbandry, conservation, species specific knowledge, and within our educational programs and visitors.

All research must be compatible with the organization's Research strategic values. Priority will be given to projects in areas of specific interest to Knowsley Safari – available by request from research@knowsley.com, however we welcome applications from researchers with novel ideas so please still get in touch if you think you have a project that could be of benefit to us.

1. The research must aim to benefit individual animals, species, habitats, and/or the organisation in some way. Approval cannot be given to projects not logistically feasible, not scientifically valid or that require a Home Office License.

2. All research undertaken must be assessed and approved to ensure scientific and ethical validity, to ensure animal welfare is not compromised and that the research complies with relevant UK and EU regulations. In accordance with the Zoo Licensing Act 1981, all research carried out is subject to ethical review.

3. During the application process we reserve the right to offer your project title to another researcher should you not contact us for four consecutive weeks without explanation.

4. Knowsley Safari reserves the right to terminate a research project if dissatisfied with researchers' conduct and may seek to publish any data collected independently.

5. All reports should fully acknowledge the involvement of Knowsley Safari (unless anonymity is requested by the Safari in advance).

6. All research must be reported in full and Knowsley Safari advised in advance of publication plans. Publication in peer-reviewed journals or conference proceedings is encouraged. Copies of any publications acknowledging Knowsley Safari are to be provided upon acceptance.

7. All images, videos, interviews, samples and data collected during a study remain copyright of Knowsley Safari and authorisation should be sought prior to publication.

8. A copy of all raw data appropriately annotated to allow independent interpretation must be provided to the Research and Conservation Team on completion of the study.

9. Knowsley Safari will be informed, and must approve, prior to the transfer of any samples, research materials or confidential information to a third party for research or any other purpose.

10. Where studies involve human participants, Knowsley Safari requires researchers to consider the ethical implications of their project and ensure that data from such research is processed in accordance with the data protection act 1998.

11. Any questionnaires or equipment used by a researcher must be agreed upon in advance via the R&C Coordinator/team member.

12. Any PR activities or communication with the media must be managed in consultation with Knowsley Safari. Any behind the scenes photos or images must have the consent of Knowsley Safari before being published.



13. Researchers must ensure they sign in and out with our admissions team for each visit and agree to follow any health and safety guidelines set out for them by staff at Knowsley Safari.

14. Researchers are expected to act with responsibility and integrity at all times – whilst on site you are acting as representatives of Knowsley Safari and appropriate conduct around visitors is expected.

15. Knowsley Safari will not be held responsible for any problems arising from research carried out on site.

16. A supporting letter from the BIAZA Research Group should be submitted for any multi-institutional studies.

17. The researcher must cover all costs relating to the project.

18. It is strongly advised that zoo research guidelines available from

<http://www.biaza.org.uk/Research/research-resources/research-guidance/> should be consulted for information on how to conduct research at Knowsley Safari.

19. Researchers must follow all H&S guidance at all times, failure to do so will result in termination of the project. Risk assessments must be signed in advance of data collection.

20. Researchers must clearly be wearing their research pass, and/ or a research magnet on their vehicle at all times.

A £30 research fee must be paid prior to commencement of data collection; this allows unlimited entry to the site for your research period, and support from the relevant departments. An additional £20 deposit will be taken, which will be refunded once the full report has been received by the research team, as well as the research pass/ magnet being returned. **Failure to return any of these items within 1 month of the report submission date will result in a forfeit of the deposit.**





APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Complete the appropriate Research proposal form (found on our website) and return it via the website or to research@knowsley.com

2. The application form will be reviewed by the R&C Coordinator/team member, as well as any relevant heads of department. Any modifications or suggestions to the methodology will be discussed with the applicant in the first instance. Please allow up to 1 month for this process, so apply plenty in advance of your proposed start date.

3. The R&C Coordinator/team member will let the applicant know the final decision as soon as possible.

4. Approved applicants will then be sent Risk Assessments to read and sign, before data collection can commence.

5. Applicants must also send a copy of their university ethics approval in advance of data collection, unless explicitly agreed on before hand with R&C Coordinator/team member.

6. All researchers must pay the £50 fee prior to data collection starting. £20 of this will be refunded on completion of project (see above).

7. Applicants can request an approval letter from the Safari for their project if they wish.

8. The R&C Coordinator/team member will arrange an on-site induction with the student before data collection can commence. The student will be handed a research pass and/ or car magnet which they will use for the duration of the study.

9. All data collection must be arranged in advance via the R&C Coordinator/team member at Knowsley so that the relevant teams can be informed.

Please note – applications that require internal ethical approval from the Safari are likely to take longer to review.

