

# Steps in the Application for Research Endorsement process

A trial to support Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' involvement in research on Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service managed areas within the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area.

*Native Title Act 1992, Environmental Protection Act 1986, Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection Act 1993*

## Pre-Application:

The application for research endorsement form (ARE) should be completed as early as possible. Opportunities for co-design and involvement of Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples are negotiated at this point.

### The researcher should:

**Engage with Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples** for the area to build relationships, and strategies to support greater involvement in research.

Note: The ARE form provides examples of best practice research with Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples.

### Make contact with the Department of Environment and Science (DES) to find out:

- Information required for an application to be submitted (i.e. all application form fields completed and all supporting material attached including the completed ARE).
- Any additional information needed by the delegate to decide an application.

### Rainforest Aboriginal People may:

#### Provide feedback and advice to the researcher.

For example; research priorities, potential risks including sensitive cultural areas or totem species.

#### Endorse the research project.

May include signed ARE, a letter of support or documented agreement for involvement in the research project and any proposed conditions to manage risks to cultural values, rights and interests.

#### Not endorse the research project.

This will be considered during the permit assessment. DES may contact the relevant Rainforest Aboriginal People for further information and grounds for the decision.

## Application & Assessment:

A completed application is made to DES using the relevant form [www.qld.gov.au/environment/parks/permits/science-education](http://www.qld.gov.au/environment/parks/permits/science-education).

DES will ensure that the application is valid and undertake an assessment. Once an application is accepted it is assessed and must be decided within the statutory timeframe (40 business days)

DES also undertakes a validation process for granting the permit (future act) under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.

### The researcher should:

Submit a completed application that:

- Contains enough information to address and satisfy legislative requirements and decide the application.
- Include a completed ARE and any supporting material (e.g. letter of support).

### Note:

- The information in the ARE about cultural values, rights and interests relevant to the proposed research is critical to the assessment of the application.
- Failure to provide a completed ARE could significantly delay the assessment process. Relevant information may be sought through a formal information request to ensure impacts on cultural values, rights and interests are mitigated.
- A permit may not be granted if the requested information is not provided or it cannot be demonstrated that reasonable efforts were made to seek this information.

See [FAQ on guidance available](#)

