

# Guidelines for Media Visits

## General Remarks

Thank you for your interest in the Budongo Conservation Field Station. Before taking your request further, we would like you to read the following guidelines for media visits. These are intended to make your visit more fruitful, not less.

As scientists, we have a responsibility to inform the public about our ongoing research activities, both to facilitate ongoing conservation efforts and to promote public understanding of science. However, we want to make sure that this is done in a responsible and accurate way. Your permission to report on the work conducted at BCFS consists of (1) permission to use the BCFS facility and its support staff (granted by the Project Director) and (2) permission to report on our research (granted by the Scientific Director)

## Specific Points

The results of our research must be reported accurately and BCFS will resist any attempt to sensationalise or misrepresent our results or activities.

Co-operation between your and our team is essential. We will insist on full transparency during all phases of your visit and reserve the right to terminate the collaboration if it goes against this spirit.

We want to be happy with all content and material collected before it is broadcast or published. We expect that a copy of your finished programme will be made available to BCFS free of charge for educational purposes.

We will turn down any request that might significantly disrupt ongoing research activities.

BCFS is a non-profit NGO. We are committed to the conservation of the Budongo Forest and its wildlife. Donations to BCFS are welcome.

## Procedure

Initially, a media team (e.g. film, radio, magazine or newspaper) should send their proposal to the Project Director, describing the context and story of the proposed programme, together with a timeline stating how long they will be at BCFS and when and where they expect the results will be broadcast or published.

## In the Forest

If the media work involves entering the Budongo Forest, no more than 3 persons at a time may enter, at all times accompanied by a member of BCFS staff. All must be in good health and have passed through the mandatory 5-day quarantine period since entering Uganda. This and other rules apply to all BCFS staff, students, and visiting scientists as well as media people. Please consult the BCFS website [www.budongo.org](http://www.budongo.org) for further details. While working in the forest, decisions about individual recordings or shots must be made together with the accompanying Field Assistant, student or senior staff member present, whose decision is final.

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