



Budongo Conservation Field Station

Guidelines for Media Visits

General Remarks

Thank you for your interest in the Budongo Conservation Field Station (BCFS). 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. As scientists, we have a responsibility of informing 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 and (2) permission to report on specified aspects of our research, conservation or training activities.

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 program 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 with mandate to do research, training and conservation activities. We are committed to the conservation of the Budongo Forest and its wildlife. The media are partners with BCFS in our mission. Donations to BCFS are welcome.

Procedure

- Firstly, a media team (e.g. film, radio, magazine or newspaper) should send their proposal to the Director, describing the context and story of the proposed programme, together with timelines stating how long they will be at BCFS, when and where they expect the results will be broadcast or published.
- The media team will need clearance from the National Forestry Authority and the Uganda Media Centre following agreement with BCFS.
- BCFS charges fees for programs such as these and the government agencies will also charge their own fees.
- The media group will acknowledge that Budongo Forest Reserve is managed by the National Forestry Authority and Budongo Conservation Field Station receives its core funding from the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland.

In the forest

- If the media work involves entering the Budongo Forest, no more than 3 persons may enter at a time and should at all times be accompanied by a BCFS member of staff.
- All persons entering the forest must be in good health and should 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 for further details.
- While working in the forest, decisions about individual recordings or shots must be made together

with the accompanying Research/ Field Assistant, student or senior staff member present, whose decision is final.

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