



Guideline for conducting Research on Diamond Route properties

This guideline is intended to provide an overview of the intent and means by research is conducted on properties that fall within the Diamond Route. The intent of conducting research on the properties is to enhance conservation objectives, obtain a greater understanding of species, ecosystems, and provide training opportunities for postgraduate students and researchers.

In order for a research project to be undertaken on one or more properties, the following apply:

1. All researchers are required to sign the standard Diamond Route MOA, the reserve indemnity as well as to provide a full research proposal to the Research Manager and Reserve Manager before commencement of “the project”.
2. Researchers are to obtain the necessary permits from the relevant provincial authorities in order to conduct/collect the research samples. Copies of these permits must be submitted prior to the project commencing.
3. Any specimens collected for permanent reference purposes, whether for identification, future research or for collections, must be deposited at a recognized National Museum. Management reserves the right to retain copies of any specimens for its own purposes.
4. Researchers shall liaise with the Research Manager and Reserve Manager regarding their research activities on the reserve.
5. Research activities have to be conducted in such a way that operational requirements of the Reserve are not affected and due warning is to be given to the Research Manager and Reserve Manager regarding field schedules.
6. Researchers shall be accompanied by a guard during their fieldwork, and will pay for the use of the guard and/or overtime, where necessary (if required). Self-catering accommodation is made

available at R100 per person per night plus the cost of fuel for generators subject to availability and prior booking.

7. Researcher shall adhere to Reserve rules and regulations when doing fieldwork in the Reserve. These include no off-road driving, adhering to the speed limit, No unnecessary disturbance of plants, animals or the environment. No collection of firewood or fire-making.
8. Researchers agree to participate or present the findings of the research at the annual Diamond Route Research Conference.
9. The Researcher agrees to write suitable popular articles for marketing purposes should the need arise. A six monthly report at the end of June, and all outcomes based annual report on the year's research findings by year-end are required.
10. Two hard copies and an electronic copy of the final thesis/report and all publications arising from the research are to be provided.
11. All articles and reports must acknowledge the Diamond Route and carry the Diamond Route logo.