



Earthwatch Institute
1380 Soldiers Field Rd., Suite 2700
Boston, MA 02135

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Earthwatch COVID-19 Disclosure and Acknowledgement Form

Earthwatch is pleased to welcome you into the field to participate in hands-on field science. Before you join one of our expeditions or programs, we want to be sure you understand how we are responding to the coronavirus pandemic so you can make informed decisions about whether you feel comfortable to participate. Earthwatch collaborates with our scientists and partners around the world, and continually monitors health and travel guidance and advisories from trusted authorities (such as the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. State Department, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the independent company that advises us on international security issues) to assess and inform our operational decisions, policies and procedures.

While contracting a virus or other communicable disease has always been an inherent risk of everyday life and travel, contracting COVID-19, the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, is a new disease for everyone. The risk of contracting it cannot be eliminated but we are taking numerous steps to reduce transmission. The pandemic is an evolving situation and our decisions and practices may change at any time as we learn new information, or recommendations from authorities change. We will use our best judgment to make changes to our expeditions or programs in order to reduce the risk of COVID-19 (or other illnesses) for our participants, staff, scientists, field staff and the local communities in which we work. It is possible changes will happen at the last minute or during your expedition or program. Contact an Earthwatch staff member if you have specific questions about your Earthwatch expedition or program.

BEFORE FIELDING

In an effort to reduce possible transmission, we request that you take steps to limit your exposure to SARS-CoV-2 for at least 14 days prior to your expedition or program and while traveling to your expedition or program. This includes:

- limiting your travel and exposure to essential activities;
- practicing physical (social) distancing;
- wearing a mask or face covering when in public or when physical distancing is not possible;
- washing your hands frequently; and
- monitoring your health for symptoms of COVID-19.

Do not travel to your Earthwatch expedition or program if you have COVID-19 symptoms (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell), have been in close contact with someone suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19, or you are confirmed or suspected as having COVID-19 in the past 14 days. We may have additional rules. Consult your Online Expedition Briefing and Expedition Logistics Document before participating for more information.

We highly recommend that all people who are at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 as defined by the CDC, including people with chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, diabetes, liver or kidney disease, who are immunocompromised, or have severe obesity (BMI of 40 or higher) consult with their health care provider about whether to participate in an Earthwatch expedition or program at this time. Please also note that the severity of illness from COVID-19 increases with age and older adults are at highest risk.

All participants will be screened which may include questions about symptoms, recent travel and exposure to others who have been sick prior to participation. Based on this screening, Earthwatch may cancel your participation. In the event of a cancellation (by you or by Earthwatch), you will have the option to transfer to another expedition or transfer



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your funds into an Expedition Fund that you can use towards a future Earthwatch Expedition within the next three years. We will always work with you based on your individual situation.

IN THE FIELD

Earthwatch may require you to take certain precautions while in the field, and changes may be made to your expedition or program at any time while you are in the field to mitigate the spread of disease, enhance the well-being of your team, or respond to conditions in the fielding country or in the US including travel restrictions or logistical considerations.

Everyone on an Earthwatch expedition or program will practice physical (social) distancing whenever possible. This means staying at least six feet (two meters) apart from others while in the field and at the accommodations or other facilities. There will be times when physical distancing is not possible, such as in a vehicle or during certain research tasks, and during those times everyone must wear face masks. You are required to bring multiple masks for your personal use.

Personal hygiene, particularly hand washing, is an effective way to reduce the transmission of coronavirus. You must wash your hands frequently throughout the expedition or program, including before meals. Hand soap will be provided on site, but you will be expected to bring ample personal hand sanitizer with you to carry on your person and use as necessary when water is unavailable.

You must bring a personal thermometer into the field to help monitor your health if we need to take your temperature. If anyone has symptoms of COVID-19 upon arrival or during an Earthwatch Expedition or program, we will separate that person from the group and seek medical advice. We may ask you to get tested. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed to return to the expedition or program. You may be asked to leave if you exhibit symptoms of COVID-19, and we will make other decisions about who must leave the expedition or program or who is allowed to return based on a case-by-case analysis.

If a minor tests positive or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 while on an expedition, we will follow the advice of a medical professional. In the event they need to quarantine, they will be required to depart the expedition and a parent or guardian will be required to take over their care, preferably within 24-hours, but no later than 48 hours.

In the event you must depart the expedition or program because of COVID-19 symptoms or exposure, Earthwatch will help you find and get to medical care, make phone calls on your behalf, arrange transportation, open an insurance claim on your behalf with our medical insurance, and/or consult with our security assistance provider as necessary. Earthwatch has many years of experience with incident management and emergency response. We will support you throughout any incident, but any expenses associated with additional transportation, medical care or quarantine, such as accommodations for 14 days or more that are not covered by insurance will be your responsibility.

If you test positive within 14 days after your expedition you must notify Earthwatch. We will notify you should someone test positive on your expedition or within 14 days after the expedition but we will not disclose the identity of anyone who tests positive.

Your compliance and diligence will be required in order for these measures to be effective. They apply to all participants, regardless of vaccination status. If you do not comply with these expectations, or your behavior is judged to be a threat to the health and/or safety of you or anyone on your team, you may be removed from the expedition or program. You will be responsible for the costs associated with your early departure in this scenario and will not receive a refund or credit.

We appreciate your support and cooperation in helping us maintain the well-being of your team.



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I (OR THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A MINOR) HAVE CAREFULLY READ, UNDERSTAND, AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS DOCUMENT.

Participant Name:		Date of Birth: (dd-MON-yyyy)	
Participant Signature:		Date of Signature: (dd-MON-yyyy)	

Name(s) of custodial parent or legal guardian:		
Relationship to the Participant:		
Signature(s) of custodial parent or legal guardian:		
Date of Signature: (dd-MON-yyyy)		