

**Behavioral ecology and population genetics of diademed sifakas (*Propithecus diadema*) and black-and-white ruffed lemurs (*Varecia variegata*)** – Drs. K. Milich, E. Wroblewski, G. Bonadonna, and B. Raharivololona

**Project Rules and Regulations:**

1. All researchers, students, and assistants must agree to abide by the regulations of the field sites where they are working and the organizations running those field sites (MFG and MBG) and the laws of Madagascar.
2. All researchers, students, and assistants must understand that good relations with the local community are paramount to the success of their and our work. At times, meetings may be held between project team members and members of the local communities, all team members are expected to attend if they are invited. Furthermore, it may be necessary at times to temporarily forego your research activities in order to deal with any number of situations that can negatively impact the long-term integrity of the ecosystem or safety of the field site, and you must be willing to adjust your daily activities accordingly if a threat arises.
3. All researchers, students, and assistants are expected to provide copies of all of the data they collected to the project database. In addition, all researchers, students, and assistants must participate in communal work at the field site as possible – e.g., recording weather data, backing up the database, trail tag replacement, etc. This work should not occupy too much of your research time but is essential to the long-term preservation of the site and must be taken as a serious responsibility.
4. All researchers, students, and assistants will need to be able to work cooperatively at their field site. Students are expected to maintain a regular communication with the fieldwork supervisor and the project principal investigators.
5. All researchers, students, and assistants must agree to help maintain the shared project spaces, as well as your private rooms. It is a privilege to use these spaces at the field sites. This involves the following: keeping the project supplies and equipment clean and in order; keeping lab inventories and notifying the principal investigators of supply deficiencies or necessities as soon as possible; maintaining equipment (e.g. scales, computers, binoculars, GPS, camera traps, recording equipment, and all other sensitive field equipment provided by the project) in good working condition, following the specific instructions for each of those equipment items. In addition, all researchers, students, and assistants should respect the field station overall and reduce the wear and tear on all facilities.
6. Everyone is expected to behave in a way that is compatible with conservation of the forest. This includes control of trash and prohibition from harassing, collecting, capturing, or exporting fauna or flora, dead or alive.
7. Please respect the established trails; DO NOT modify them or make new ones without permission of the site and project directors.
8. Visitors may not use any substance considered illegal by the legal system of their home country or Madagascar.
9. Everyone is expected to dress appropriately when in common spaces around the field station.

10. Normal wear and tear or accidental damage to materials at the research site can happen during field work. However, precautions must be taken to limit damage; individuals must carefully use and provide proper maintenance for buildings, furniture, other installations, equipment and field gear, linens, and kitchen wares, among others. Every individual will be financially responsible for any damage caused by neglect or abuse. Carving or marking on surfaces, wooden or otherwise, natural or constructed is totally prohibited.

11. Noise must be curtailed after 9:00 pm.

12. The use of alcohol and tobacco products may be restricted at the individual field sites, and all rules enforced by the governing organizations of these field sites should be followed.

13. All researchers, students, and assistants may not act in ways that may endanger themselves or others. This refers to reckless or negligent behavior in general and includes activities such as handling venomous or dangerous reptiles or other animals, consuming fungi, plants, or other organisms without permission and/or instruction from a competent authority, climbing trees or vines, as well as any other dangerous acts.

14. All researchers, students, and assistants must follow Malagasy regulations and recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to local communities, all people involved in the project, and lemurs. Vaccination against COVID-19 is required for all people working on the project, including getting booster shots as recommended. If vaccines are not available further options will be discussed. Anyone presenting COVID-19 symptoms while at the field site must interrupt the fieldwork immediately, isolate, and get tested as soon as possible; if the infection is confirmed, seek treatment at the nearest health clinic/hospital, as needed.

15. When travelling from or to the study sites, all researchers, students, and assistants must submit a travel plan and get the approval from Drs. Milich, Wroblewski, Raharivololona, and fieldwork supervisor. Any person travelling to or from the site must wear a mask and follow the guidelines to reduce the risk of infection with SARS-CoV-2. All researchers, students, and assistants should avoid non-essential travelling from the site.