Environmental Management of Tropical Reef and Island Ecosystems

**Intensive Field Course Field Conditions**

During this course, you will spend your time on Magnetic and Lizard Islands. Both islands are Terrestrial National Parks, and their surrounding Coral Reefs are protected by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Magnetic Island is 7km from the city of Townsville (pop. 175,000) and is connected by regular ferry services. The Island has about 2000 permanent residents and all the facilities one would expect in a suburb of a regional city including hospitals, post office, super markets, etc. For more information see www.magnetic-island.com.au

Lizard Island is located 400km north of Magnetic Island. Lizard has no permanent residents, other than the staff that work at the Resort and the Lizard Island Research Station. We will be staying at the Research Station for 5 nights. We will bring all our own food and equipment to the station. They provide bedding and there is a phone line for outgoing calls, plus internet access via satellite link. For more information on the Research Station see http://amonline.net.au/lizard/index.htm

The fieldwork in this course will involve group snorkeling over shallow coral reef environments and bush walking. This includes a significant amount of physical activity including snorkeling between 5 and 7 hours a day. It is imperative that students bring their own mask, snorkel, fins, and a properly fitted full-length wetsuit (minimum thickness 3mm neoprene, maximum 5mm). Despite the tropical location, we will be working in mid-winter and water temperatures will be 22-25° C, so wetsuits are essential. We recommend that students also bring a small dive bag that can carry wet snorkeling gear to and from our field sites, and a hat and long-sleeved shirt to protect against sunburn while in boat transit. Weather conditions will vary between clear sunny days with light winds, to partly cloudy “Trade wind” conditions with 20 knot winds and intermittent rain showers. Day time maximum temperatures will be 25-28° C, and night time temperatures 10-18° C. More info on Australian weather conditions is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/

**Field Course Packing Checklist**

Here is a Check-list of items that students should bring with them to Australia.

**Travel Documents**
- Passport
- Air tickets
- Visa
- Personal ID
- Travel insurance documents
- Contacts for next of Kin in USA

**Clothing etc.**
- Shorts and t-shirts (3-4 sets is enough)
- Bathing suit
- Warm clothes (sweater, jeans)
- Hat
- Raincoat
- Sunglasses (preferably polarised) with head-strap
- Shoes (suitable for bush-walking)
- Socks
- Towel
- Sandals / casual footwear (eg. Tevas)
- Shoes for reef-walking (Tevas will do, or dive booties)
- Sleeping bag (not essential but can be more comfortable than blankets on cold nights)

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Snorkeling / Field gear

- Mask
- Snorkel
- Fins (and dive booties if needed for open heel fins)
- Wetsuit (long arm and leg, min 3mm neoprene)
- Waterproof watch with timer/stopwatch function
- Dive bag / backpack to hold above items, for transport to field sites
- Camera & film / portable video (disposable underwater cameras can be purchased in Australia)
- Flashlight (waterproof would be good)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Day pack (could double as dive bag if suitably sized)
- Nalgene or similar water bottle
- Pocketknife (Leatherman or Swiss army type - Please keep in checked baggage when traveling by air)

Lecture materials

- Field notebook
- Lecture notebook
- Spare lined paper
- Manila folders for storing hand-outs etc.
- Pens, pencils, erasers, etc.
- 3.5" floppy disks (2 minimum with plastic cover)
- Blank optical disks (1 x CD-R, 1 x DVD-R)
- Laptop computer (OPTIONAL – if students already have their own laptop then they should bring it as it will be useful for assignments and data analysis).

Toiletries / personal items

- Sunscreen
- Ear-drops (alcohol based, for preventing external ear infections)
- Antiseptic cream
- Bandaids
- Insect repellent
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Feminine Hygiene items (if applicable)
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Anti-fungal cream (for treating minor fungal skin infections)
- Mild painkillers/ Analgesic (Ibuprofen or Aspirin based, over the counter tablets)
- Personal prescription medicines if needed (obtain in USA before departure)
- CD walkman or similar

For more information on North Queensland, the Great Barrier Reef, Coral Reef Ecology and weather, see the Tevete'1 Marine Website “Links” page www.tevene.com/tvm/links.htm