



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

phillipisland
nature parks australia

GO VOLUNTEER!

Join our Research Team at Phillip Island Nature Parks

Swamp wallabies in a modified landscape: Ecology and human perceptions on Phillip Island

Phillip Island is located 90 km south-east of Melbourne, Australia, which includes a matrix of agricultural land, native vegetation and urban centres. It is well known for its marine mammals and sea birds, particularly penguins, but also supports an abundant population of **swamp wallabies** *Wallabia bicolor*. Hence, interactions between wallabies and the island's human population are inevitable.



We are looking for energetic volunteers to support a PhD research project that aims to identify how wallabies use space, and move within and between different habitat types. We also aim to determine the impact of wallabies on vegetation, and try to understand the perceptions of people towards wildlife.

He or she will assist with the following activities:

- Moving and setting up wildlife traps
- Capturing and handling wallabies
- Cleaning and maintaining field equipment
- Building GPS tracking devices
- Building fences
- Vegetation sampling
- Data entry

Fieldwork depends on weather and sometimes involves early morning and late evening shifts as well as working on weekends.

It is an advantage if you bring:

- A scientific background such as a degree in ecology, wildlife conservation or equivalent
- Experience in fieldwork and/or animal handling
- A capacity to work independently

This volunteer position provides a great opportunity to gain experience in wildlife ecology and conservation within a unique landscape and an international research team.

The full time positions are available from **mid August until the end of December 2015** (minimum stay 4 weeks (preferably longer)). Accommodation can be provided. Having your own car is an advantage but not mandatory for the position.

Interested applicants should send a short written expression of interest (max 500 words) and a CV to **Manuela Fischer** (fischer.m@unimelb.edu.au) by July 31st.

