

# Visitor Access Protocol for Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara, the CSIRO Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory Murchison and the Boolardy Accommodation Facility

Australia Telescope National Facility - Operations

Updated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024 by John Reynolds

## 1. PURPOSE & INTENT

The purpose of this memo is to outline categories of visitors and the procedures for access to the ASKAP Observatory site, and the supporting site of the nearby Boolardy Accommodation Facility.

This memo supplements the access arrangements granted under the Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA), and under the Site Licence Agreements between CSIRO and the various guest projects sited at the Observatory (SKA-Low, MWA and Edges).

Access to the Observatory is limited in order to maintain radio quietness of the site, enable compliance with existing agreements, including the ILUA, and to limit the disruption to normal work at the Observatory.

## 2. CATEGORIES OF VISITORS AND GRANTING ACCESS

### 1) CSIRO staff and affiliates with essential business supporting ASKAP, other telescopes hosted on the Observatory, or related infrastructure.

Essential business will be defined by the Site Entity Leader ([mrose@csiro.au](mailto:mrose@csiro.au)), the Head of ATNF Operations, other relevant Research Program Director, ASKAP Project Leader, the CBIS Executive Manager (WA/SA/NT), or other business unit manager, in consultation with the Research Director Australia Telescope National Facility (ATNF) Operations.

Visits will be authorised by the relevant CSIRO Manager. In this context, the *Manager* is a staff member or CSIRO affiliate who has responsibility for:

- conduct of an activity;
- management of Staff members or CSIRO affiliates; and/or
- allocation of resources.
- 

A *CSIRO affiliate* is a person associated with CSIRO but who is not a Staff member, namely

- contractor or consultant; or
- secondee or visiting scientist; honorary or post-retirement or volunteer fellow; or
- student or trainee.

### 2) Licensees (e.g. SKAO staff, MWA staff, EDGES staff) and their agents

- a) Access for specific purposes is granted under Site Licence Agreements.

### 3) Stakeholders, Education, Outreach and Media Visits (including other CSIRO staff members that do not fall under category 1 above)

- a) Visits for work not directly related to activities on the ASKAP site or the Boolardy Accommodation Facility require authorisation of the Site Entity Leader ([mrose@csiro.au](mailto:mrose@csiro.au)).
-

- b) Approval will be based on the strategic importance of the visit as assessed and recommended by the relevant Research Director or ASKAP Project Leader.

#### 4) Public

- a) The public is invited to tour the Observatory on organised tours that may be conducted once every year or two.

#### 5) Access for members of the Wajarri Yamatji Claim Group

- a) Members continue to have access to the Observatory, in accordance with the MRO Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) Access Protocol.

### 3. PROCEDURES

- The Site Entity Leader ([mrose@csiro.au](mailto:mrose@csiro.au)) has delegated responsibility for the overall management of access to the Observatory on behalf of CSIRO.
  - Overall management of the Boolardy Accommodation Facility is shared within CSIRO Space and Astronomy and CSIRO Business and Infrastructure Services (CBIS).
  - All persons staying at the Boolardy Accommodation Facility and/or visiting the Observatory, including 1-day visits must book online using the [ATNF Reservation System](#).
  - Priority for Boolardy accommodation will be given to persons (including Licensees) with essential Observatory and Boolardy works. Other visitors may be able to arrange accommodation at the nearby homesteads if Boolardy Accommodation Facility is not available.
  - All work activities and requests for on-site staff resources at the ASKAP site must be co-ordinated through the ATNF Operations ASKAP Team Leader.
  - All contractors, employees and visitors to the Observatory are required to undertake cultural awareness training to ensure they understand and comply with the objective and provisions of the ILUA. The training will be arranged by the Site Entity ([mrose@csiro.au](mailto:mrose@csiro.au)).
  - All activities on the Observatory are to be undertaken in compliance with relevant HSW policies, procedures, plans and legislation. This applies to all types of work undertaken by staff, contractors, consultants, service providers and transport operators and it applies to visitors.
  - All activities at the MRO and Boolardy are to be conducted in a manner that will ensure compliance with the CSIRO MRO/Boolardy [Observatory Radio Emissions Management Plan](#).
  - All persons driving to/from Geraldton and the MRO or Boolardy should have appropriate 4WD training.
  - Regular ASKAP working hours are from midday to 5:30pm on Monday, 7:30am to 5:30pm Tuesday-Thursday and 7:30am to midday on Friday. Where visits occur outside these hours, payment for any overtime costs incurred to make CSIRO staff available to facilitate access will be the responsibility of the relevant CSIRO project, CSIRO business unit or external group seeking access.
-

## Workflow for visits to ASKAP and the Boolardy Accommodation Facility

