

1. **Job Title:** [Gnaraloo Turtle Conservation Program](#)

Added here on 8 Nov 2011

Job Type: volunteer position

Opportunity location: Gnaraloo Station is situated on the Ningaloo Marine Park

Closing date (if specified): 19 Feb 2012

Opportunity Description:

Contact: rmedman@vt.edu

WWW Link:

'Like' us on Facebook (Gnaraloo Turtle Conservation Program) for reports, field diaries and photos of research.

Period:

17 November 2011 – 19 February 2012 (maximum 2 week participation with the program)

Location:

Gnaraloo is a working pastoral station and wilderness tourism location, including 60km of pristine untouched coastline. It is situated adjacent to the Ningaloo Marine Park in the Ningaloo World Heritage Area in North West Australia and has significant rookeries of loggerhead, green and hawksbill sea turtles.

Background information:

Gnaraloo has managed a successful scientific program, the Gnaraloo Turtle Conservation Program (GTCP), since 2008 to monitor and protect onsite rookeries, with involvement of the Department of Environment and Conservation (WA) and engagement of scientific and community volunteers. It has been established that the Gnaraloo rookery is part of the third largest loggerhead turtle population in the world and is one of two mainland areas in Western Australia with the highest nesting densities for loggerheads. Loggerhead and green sea turtles are endangered species and hawksbill sea turtles are critically endangered.

The objectives of the GTCP include biodiversity protection, conservation of endangered marine species, protection of critical coastal nesting sites/habitat, community engagement, capacity building in volunteers and increased awareness of conservation issues.

The opportunity on offer:

Refer to the GTCP Information Flyer for Community volunteers.

All community participants with the GTCP must attend an onsite information session regarding the program, research there under and site protocols concerning turtles before they will be allowed to participate in the program. Depending on demand, these information sessions may be held during the evening on a Friday, Saturday, and/or Tuesday.

After participating with a morning patrol by the GTCP scientific team, the rest of your day at Gnaraloo will be yours to enjoy as you choose. You will have a lot of free time to enjoy all that the outback has to offer. The desert meets the sea at Gnaraloo and you will have a chance to see the real Australia. You will find white sandy beaches, clear water and coral reefs in the Ningaloo Marine Park adjacent to Gnaraloo that are accessible for snorkelling, swimming and kayaking and renowned for its untouched marine biodiversity. You may enjoy some hiking and bushwalking in the vicinity or watch shooting stars 'under the sky of a thousand stars'. The area is home to a range of native wildlife, including kangaroos, emu, goannas, birds of prey, turtles, dolphins, whales and stingrays, to name a few!

Community volunteers must be entirely self sufficient during their stay at Gnaraloo (for transport, meals and recreational activities).

Things to bring (as an absolute minimum)

? A friendly, flexible attitude.

? Essential: long sleeved trousers, shirts, closed shoes and a wide brimmed hat.

? Sunscreen.

? Sunglasses.

? Fly screen.

? Sleeping bag and torch (no power onsite from 23h00 – 07h00).

? Water bottle 2L.

Benefits/Costs:

Community volunteers are responsible for their own transport to Gnaraloo. Public bus transport is available from Perth to Carnarvon, a journey of 890km. Gnaraloo is another 150km north of Carnarvon (partly sealed and partly unsealed roads). While community volunteers with their own vehicles are preferred, we may be able to put you in touch with other participants with vehicles, allowing you to share transport from Carnarvon to Gnaraloo.

You are responsible for all your meals for the duration of your stay. There are plenty of shops in Carnarvon where you can stock up on food and supplies before you arrive at Gnaraloo.

Standard accommodation prices apply (at low season rates). Backpacker style accommodation is available at the Homestead Fishing Lodge. If you have a large group, reduced rates may apply.

To apply:

All queries, requirements and arrangements may be discussed with Mr. Bobby Edman, GTCP Community Volunteer Coordinator 2011/12, by e-mail (preferred to phone calls): rmedman@vt.edu.

For more info, contact:

Bobby Edman: rmedman@vt.edu