

[Legal Notice No. 31]

PROTECTION OF WRECKS AND WAR RELICS ACT

(Cap. 150)

LICENCE TO CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES

I, Hon. Bartholomew Parapolo, Minister for Culture and Tourism, under section 4(2) of the *Protection of Wrecks and War Relics Act* (Cap. 150), grant this **licence to Ewan Stevenson, Team Leader, Sealark Exploration Team (“the Licensee”)**, who appears to me to have a legitimate reason to carry out activities mentioned in section 4(1) of the Act in the areas specified in Schedule 1 (“**licensed area**”), subject to the conditions and restrictions specified in Schedule 2.

SCHEDULE 1

LICENSED AREAS

The points at sites in Guadalcanal, Malaita and Choiseul Province with the following Global Positioning System coordinates:

- (a) Guadalcanal Province -
 - (i) B-17 Aircraft at Vilu, B-17 dive site, 09° **18.18.8769**’ South, 159° **48.053**’ East;
 - (ii) Bonegi One dive site, 09° **22.717**’ South, 159° **52.243**’ East;
 - (iii) Bonegi Two dive site, 09° **23.135**’ South, 159° **52.490**’ East;
 - (iv) SBD-3 Dauntless aircraft dive site, off Matanikau, 09° **25.808**’ South, 159° **58.640**’ East;
 - (v) Unknown dive site, Tambea, 09° **159**’ South, 159° **39.570**’ East;
 - (vi) TBF-1 Avenger aircraft, Nura Island, 09° **31.704**’ South, 160° **47.903**’ East: and
- (b) Malaita Province - unknown aircraft dive site, South Are’Are, 09° **22.906**’ South, 161° **10.455**’ East; and
- (c) Choiseul Province - unknown aircraft land site, Choiseul Bay, 06° **40.511**’ South, 156° **24.854**’ East.

SCHEDULE 2

CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS OF LICENCE

1. This licence is granted only for the purpose of recovery and removal of World

War II human remains, mapping, recording with GPS, photos and video of World War II sites, for three weeks during the period commencing on 1 July 2023 to and including 31 July 2023.

2. The licence is granted exclusively for the licensed areas and must not be used to carry out activities in any other restricted area.
3. This licence expires on 1 August 2023.
4. The Licensee is responsible for meeting the relevant costs of activities conducted under this licence including the recovery and transportation of human remains, the incidental hiring of local workers to assist in carrying out the activities under section 4(1) of the Act and the payment of fees to landowners before entering any customary area.
5. The Licensee must provide to Solomon Islands National Museum with an audit record or report of all human remains recovered within the licensed area before exporting the remains out of Solomon Islands.
6. The Licensee must liaise with the Guadalcanal Provincial Government, the Malaita Provincial Government and the Choiseul Provincial Government and the WWII section of the SINM to ensure that WWII wrecks and relics within the licensed area are not removed or relocated.
7. The Licensee, if the licensed area comprises of customary land or part of customary land, whether or not the customary land or a part thereof includes foreshores or reefs, must ensure that customary protocols or courtesies relevant to customary land owners of that customary land must be complied with in good faith.
8. The Licensee must comply with relevant laws and ordinances in respect of the appropriate Province having jurisdiction over the licensed area and must liaise in good faith with the appropriate authority in the Provincial Executive.
9. The Licensee must all times ensure that appropriate safety precautionary measures are followed to avoid loss of human life in carrying out activities under this license. If necessary, the Licensee is solely responsible for the engaging of the Explosive Unit of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force to scan the licensed area for potential risks of poisonous gases and live ammunition from World War II unexploded devices.
10. The Licensee must ensure that no piece of World War II materials must be taken out of the country without approval granted by the Ministry for Culture and Tourism.
11. This licence immediately becomes null and void if the Licensee breaches any of the conditions and restrictions of this license or any provision of the Protection of Wrecks and War Relics Act (Cap. 150). On the occurrence of any serious breach, the Licensee must forfeit all privileges and will not be issued a license for similar activities in the future.

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Dated on this sixth-day of June 2023.

HON. BARTHOLOMEW PARAPOLO
MINISTER FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM
