**SPRATS 2025-26: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**Thank you for your interest in getting involved with the Sea Spurge Remote Area Teams.**

* **Please read the SPRATpack first, and fill out all three pages of this EOI form.**
* **Answer all of the questions even if you are a previous SPRAT.**
* **Please return this form by Sunday 28 September 2025 with your name saved in the file name.**

**Send completed forms by return email to:** **sprats.tas@gmail.com**

**Offers to participants will be made in mid-October 2025.**

1. **PERSONAL DETAILS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Phone number(s) |  |
| Email |  |
| Age next January (yrs) |  |
| Gender  | Male Female Other: Prefer not to say |

**2. BUSHWALKING EXPERIENCE & COMPETENCIES**

*2.1 Please give a brief summary of your most significant bushwalking experience in the past 3 years. Include any remote area (including off track) experience. Include kayaking experience if selecting Sector 1.*

*2.2 Do you have your own bushwalking equipment and can you organise your own food? YES or NO*

*2.3 Are you capable of undertaking a 12-day off-track expedition in moderate to hard terrain,
carrying at least 7 days food at a time? YES or NO*

*2.4 Are you capable of undertaking 3-week off-track expedition in very hard terrain,*

 *including swimming rivers with your pack, and carrying up to 10 days food at a time? YES or NO*

*2.5 Are you a confident off-track navigator? YES or NO*

*2.6 Do you know how to operate a GNSS (GPS) device? (devices will be supplied by SPRATS) YES or NO*

*2.7 Do you know how to operate an InReach as a satellite communicator? YES or NO*

*2.8 Do you have a currently-registered PLB that you can bring with you? YES or NO*

*2.9 Are you willing to be a sector leader? If so, please outline your relevant background. YES or NO*

*2.10 Are you willing to be an assistant sector leader? If so, please outline your relevant background. YES or NO*

**3. FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE**

 *It is not essential to have had experience or qualifications in any of the following, but it may be an advantage.*

*3.1 Please outline any bush-regeneration/weeding experience you have.*

*3.2 Please describe any sea spurge or marram grass weeding experience you have. If you are a returning SPRAT, list the sectors you have done before.*

*3.3 Are you experienced and confident in the identification of marram grass? YES or NO*

*3.4 Please describe any field surveying, botanical and/or animal identification expertise you have.*

*3.5 Do you have current qualifications in herbicide handling (eg Chemcert) - please specify? YES or NO*

*3.6 Are you willing to perform cut & paint & injection methods using glyphosate or other herbicides? YES or NO*

*3.7 Are you willing to perform herbicide spraying using Firepower (haloxyfop-R methyl ester)? YES or NO*

**4. HEALTH & SAFETY**

*4.5 Do you have First Aid qualifications that will be current in January? YES or NO*

 *If so, please specify, eg CPR only; Provide; Remote; Wilderness.*

*4.6 You may have to deal with very bad weather or other adverse circumstances. Rescue, if needed, could be delayed by days. Bearing such things in mind, do you have any medical conditions or physical limitations that could affect your ability to participate, or that PWS, SPRATS and other team members should be advised of? If so, please declare them here, or discuss them with a SPRATS organiser prior to applying. YES or NO*

**5. SECTOR(S) APPLIED FOR**

*Please indicate your preference in rank order for the sector(s) you are prepared to take on.*

*If you are not interested in doing a particular sector, leave it blank.*

*If in section 7 of this EOI you nominate as a pair or group, please make sure all of your group’s members have made the same preferences.*

*Please note there is no certainty that all suitable applicants will be accepted. Sometimes there are more applicants than places, and multiple criteria need to be considered when making allocations. Be assured that SPRATS organisers adopt a fair and reasonable selection process.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | People | Field Days | Field dates\* | Transport | Difficulty | Prefer-ence |
| Pilot Beach 1 | 6-8 | 8 | 23 to 30 Nov 25 | From Strahan, boat in, boat out | Moderate: base camping. |  |
| Pilot Beach 2 | 6-8 | 9 | 15 to 23 Jan 26 | From Strahan, boat in, boat out | Moderate: base camping. | \*\* |
| 1 | 3 to 5 | 5-6 | 4 to 9 Jan 26 | From Strahan, own kayaks | Experienced open water kayakers only. |  |
| 2 | 5 | 12 | 4 to 15 Jan 26 | From Strahan, heli in, boat out | Hard: mostly easy walking but with some rock scrambling with and without packs.  | \*\* |
| 3 | 5 | 12 | 4 to 15 Jan 26 | From Strahan, heli in, boat out | Moderate: mostly easy with minor scrub; 12km walk-out at end. |  |
| 4 | 5 | 12 | 4 to 15 Jan 26 | From Strahan, heli in, boat out | Hard: extensive scrub and rocky coast, 25km walk-out at end |  |
| 6 | 4 or 5 | 23 | 4 to 26 Jan 26 | Heli fm Strahan, heli to Hobart | Very hard: thick scrub and river crossings, long duration. |  |
| 7-8 | 4 or 5 | 18 | 4 to 21 Jan 26 | Heli from Hobart, walk out | Hard: thick scrub, river crossings, large steep hills, muddy track, long duration. |  |

 *\* It is compulsory to attend a pre-deployment briefing. Except for Pilot Beach 1& 2, this will be on the day before deployment.*

*\*\* It may be possible to combine Sector 2 and Pilot Beach 2 by staying on at Pilot Beach at the end of Sector 2. If you would like to do this, please give them the same preference number, and indicate below.*

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**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

 *Might you be prepared to take on the communications officer role from 23 to 30 November and/or part or all of the period 03 to 23 January 2026? If yes, for what period? (Please feel free to enquire about what this role involves.) YES or NO*

 *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**7. GROUPING WITH PARTNERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

 Please ensure you have spoken to the nominated party member(s) and they reciprocate this pair/group request on their form.

*7.1 Please nominate any person or people whom it is essential that you participate with. (eg a partner or family member)*

*7.2 Please nominate any person or people you would like to participate with if possible.*

**8. TRANSPORT**

 SPRATS will not be providing transport to Strahan but where possible will facilitate rides for non-Tasmanians and car-pooling for Tasmanians.

*8.1 Do you require assistance with transport from Hobart or northern Tasmania and/or return? YES or NO*

*8.2 Are you able to assist other SPRATS get to Strahan and/or return? YES or NO*

*8.3 If yes, from where, and how many SPRATS volunteers are you able to assist (other than you and your partner, if any)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*8.4 If you are able to take others in your car, is it OK for your name and email address
be provided to other SPRATS requiring lifts and/or who are interested in car-pooling? YES or NO*

**9. HOBART ACCOMMODATION**

 While SPRATS cannot be responsible for accommodating non-Tasmanians in Hobart or Launceston, some other volunteers may be able to assist.

*9.1 Will you require overnight accommodation in Hobart or northern Tas on Friday 2 Jan? YES or NO*

*9.2 If you live near Hobart or in northern Tasmania, would you be prepared to billet any SPRATS before
 or after your sector? YES or NO*

*9.3 If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*9.3 If you are able to billet anyone, would it be OK if your name and email address was provided to anyone requiring a billet? YES or NO*

**10. VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION**

 **If you are selected to participate in Wildcare SPRATS you will be volunteering with the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) and therefore you must be registered online at PWS** [**Better Impact**](https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?OrganizationGuid=aa3c186c-ebde-4f84-9091-6abaef6dc2be&ApplicationFormNumber=1)**.**

**11. KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE**

 **All PWS volunteers, including SPRATS volunteers, must undertake training in Keeping Children Safe, whether or not there is a possibility of children being involved in the volunteering activity.**

 This is not onerous: you need to read the “Keeping Children Safe Training Document” accessible [here](https://nre.tas.gov.au/about-the-department/volunteering/volunteer-child-and-youth-safety-and-wellbeing), and declare that you have done so on your Better Impact profile [log in and go to Qualifications-Training].

**12. WILDCARE MEMBERSHIP**

SPRATS operations are planned and managed by volunteers. SPRATS is a volunteer group under the umbrella of Wildcare Tasmania Inc, and its operational expenses are partly funded by Wildcare grants. SPRATS participants are strongly encouraged to join Wildcare. Individual membership costs $35 annually, and opens the door to a wide range of volunteering opportunities. You can join or renew at <https://wildcaretas.org.au/join>. Note that SPRATS does not have membership fees.

PLEASE NOTE THAT VOLUNTEERS IN PILOT BEACH SECTORS 1 & 2 **MUST** HAVE CURRENT WILDCARE MEMBERSHIP, AS THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE OPERATING PARTLY ON PRIVATE LAND.