1. Open source, FOSS or proprietory software solution?

*Prototype – with future plans of commericalisation. Need to avoid using libraries that would require our solution to be an open source solution. This will be a closed software solution. Also, keep in mind any libraries that we use need to be able to conform to this idea.*

1. What is the set up with the currently deployed camera traps; ie, how is the image data being collected from the traps at the moment? (edited)

*12 camera, all same model, 2 locations, 6 cameras each location.   
1 Camera in each location is currently emailing photos to Dr Client, the other cameras are having their photos retrieved manually from the SD cards.*

1. What is the format of the machine learning model that the Agricultural & Animal research center have developed?  Is it a library or some kind of software component that needs to be installed into the detection system that we develop?

*The framework is called ‘Tensorflow’. We will be provided with a model that we should be able to integrate into our system. The model will take an image and return a prediction image along with an object containing data such as classification labels, accuracy and confidence levels.*

What are the variables that are observed? For example: outline/shape of image; colorisation of image; heat signature (are the camera's only for visual, or do they take infrared/head images too); is sound recorded;

*The data that is collected is to be retained by the client for their Machine Learning Model. We are not to be given access. Our system is only going to use the model provided to us by the client. Our job is purely to feed the model the images and do stuff with the output from the model. The inner workings of the model are not for us to worry about.   
Also, no sound is going to be recorded.*

I assume all these variables get passed as input in to the model that you, Dr Client, provide us? Is there a response variable, or this unsupervised learning? I am assuming that the predictor variables must reach some minimum threshold inside their domain, and a minimum number of variables must be doing this at the same time in order to make a positive ID - is this assumption close to how the machine learning models operate? (edited)

*Again, it is not our job to deal with the Machine Learning Model, it is the property of the client (research team) we just need to be able to incorporate it into our system. How it works, training it, etc, not our responsibility.*

1. Are there separate groups of researchers, UNE and outside UNE, who will be accessing the recorded data, and will their access area in the cloud be distinct from the area where the public has access; ie a specialised repository for researchers and a seperate generalised repository for the public?

*As this is a prototype, the main users will be UNE based researchers, Dr Client being the main user.   
In terms of what data is available to who, the public is only going to see the notification/alert system + total sightings per area. While researchers can request the raw data via a webform on the website which Dr Client would review and authorise on a case-by-case basis.*

1. What is the total amount of funding available in the budget for developing this system?

*$300,000 for the development of the system. This does not include the hosting of the system on AWS. This cost will be covered by the client’s grant funding. Within the first 3 months, we need to provide the client with a ball-park figure for the monthly costs of hosting our proposed system on AWS.*

1. What is the scale of the system? i.e. How many cameras does the system need to support, how many pictures does each camera take per day, and how big is each picture? (edited)

*12 Cameras MAX. Within the last 3 months (of the 1 year contract), all 12 need to be online and working for the field trail Milestone.*

*Each camera takes 3 photos per motion detection.   
Each image is 750x750 resolution, ~500kBs per JPEG image.   
As for the number of photos, that will depend on the camera trap placement.*

1. Please clarify how the cameras transmit information. What is send via SMS and what is sent via email?

*Only via EMAIL. No SMS required.  
Email is using SMTP to send data.   
Email will contain the 3 images as attachments.  
The idea being that each camera will have its own email address that it sends to, so we know which trap the images have come from as the email itself will not provide any ID information. The unique email addresses is all we have to go off in terms of trap ID it seems.*

1. Does the project responsibilities include the maintenance and setup of the cameras? Do we need the capacity to monitor the status of the cameras via some kind of maintenance screen?

*No, the client is 100% responsible for camera maintenance and setup.*

*Our system does not need to monitor the health of the camera network, however, there is a system in place where the cameras send out a heartbeat email directly to Dr Client each day with the overall health of the camera setup. This is outside of scope for us.*

1. Does the project scope include the networking of the cameras? For example cameras could be located in remote areas and not have access to mobile networks.

*No it doesn’t, assume all cameras have been setup in a position with adequate 3G coverage.*

1. What platforms do you want the app to run on? Android, IOS etc...

*IOS and Android. Newest version only.*

1. Who is going to be managing the database system for that collected information? Any particular organisation or a project member?

*Our team needs to setup the DB and manage it. Only Dr Client will access the data (either directly him/herself or by releasing the data to other researchers).*

1. Does the project goal include to export the system when it is successfully completed? i.e. we might need to develop the system in various languages if the system is going to be exported to other countries.

*This is only a prototype for now, so that functionality isn’t needed. Later, if it is successful, this is something that may be added to a commercial version of the system, but that is to be determined later.*

1. What size of the database system to be stored? Does the database system have a cloud computing that can easily share the new information to update? If there is not, do you want to develop these functions to be involved in the project? (edited)

*AWS cloud based database services are to be used. Keeps everything running on AWS. Nice and neat.*