

Taronga Field Conservation Grants

Principles of Funding

Field Projects will be selected using the *criteria* listed below, but only after the following *principles* have been accepted; if any one of these principles cannot be satisfied, then the institution should consider very carefully whether the project should be undertaken at all.

1. Only projects that demonstrate measurable conservation outcomes in the field will be supported. Projects with an education component are strongly encouraged but measurable outcomes must relate to the species/habitat impact expected rather than community impact alone.
2. Projects must consider the implications of climate change effects on the success of their project
3. Project applications will specify a defined period of participation or support from Taronga zoos.
4. It is understood that *in situ* conservation projects do not need to have captive breeding/management components, nor that the focal/target species need to necessarily be held in zoos.
5. Where *in situ* conservation projects involve reintroduction or relocation, such processes must be endorsed by relevant government bodies and adhere to all relevant policies and conventions governing the movement and reintroduction of animals and plants, and their component parts established by the IUCN (Reintroduction Guidelines and Position Statement on Translocation of Living Organisms), CITES and IATA.
6. Humane treatment must be a priority for all animals impacted as part of this project and captive populations must be held in conditions considered acceptable by ZAA.
7. Taronga recognises the importance of sensitive integration of wildlife conservation goals and human needs in successful *in situ* conservation programs.
8. No project should present an unreasonable level of risk to participant safety, project financial stability or reputation.
9. Projects and their personnel must adhere to all laws of the country in which the project is undertaken.

All applicants should note that **applications of less than \$10,000 have a greater chance of success**. If funds requested exceed this amount, a modular budget should be presented with clear priorities for funding by the Taronga Foundation, and their expected outcome.

All funds should be requested in Australian dollars.

Field Conservation Grant Proposal Application

Project Title. <i>120 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM</i>		
<i>Name(s) of project leaders and organisation and contact details</i>		
Name	Email	Organisation
Please indicate whether the applicant/organisation is a registered charity, business entity or non-profit organisation.		
Budget summary (in Australian dollars)		
Total project budget		
Funds sought from Taronga Foundation		
Period of support requested		
Project summary stating the purpose, methods and expected conservation impact of work in lay terms. <i>1200 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM</i>		

1. The following questions are based on the specific criteria that will be used to assess each project. Please answer each question, providing examples and evidence of how the project meets each criterion

a) Please describe the expected measurable conservation benefits of your Project and how they address i) key threatening process and ii) population and habitat viability? *Successful applications will state clear outcomes achievable within the stated time frames. All programme goals should specifically address primary threatening processes and be measured in terms of biological processes. 2000 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.*

b) Describe the expected conservation scope of the Project. i.e. does it impact at a population, species, habitat, ecosystem or global level? *High scoring projects will accurately describe how the project will positively impact multiple species or ecosystems; e.g. through removal of significant threatening process, or amelioration of global issues such as climate change. 1000 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.*

c) Describe the project design and how this will logically lead to the stated expected outcomes.

Successful applications will demonstrate that the project has a high likelihood of success because:

- *The proposed actions are directly related, and/or have the capacity to bring about the desired outcome, taking into account origin or threat, geographic location & relationship to the threatening processes;*
- *The effects of climate change have been considered, and if the target area and species are at the border of changing climate bands, this has been incorporated into the design;*
- *The methods proposed are likely to be successful, as they have considered the social, cultural or political context of the project;*
- *Possible pitfalls have been considered and appropriate contingency actions considered; and*
- *The project is linked to previously identified regional or global conservation priorities. 2000 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.*

d) What is the expertise and track record of partners in effecting conservation outcomes?

Successful applications will provide details of expertise and documented evidence of success in similar projects, taking into account sector expertise and history within the regions. 500 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.

e) Describe the anticipated scenario if action is delayed or no action is taken.

High scoring projects will provide evidence that the project is necessary and clearly urgent – there is an opportunity that is time sensitive, or the situation will worsen significantly if the project is not put into action now. 1000 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.

f) How long will the project continue to deliver benefits and what is the required ongoing input?

High scoring projects will demonstrate that benefits will be long lived or that there is a clear strategy for developing the capacity of local stakeholders to continue into the future with little ongoing input. 500 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.

g) Is the project embedded into the local community and governments, does it incorporate capacity building into the plan, and have buy in from governing bodies?

Successful applications will provide evidence that there are working teams on the ground which include a high proportion of local staff, with a clear goal of building capacity, and the project has well-developed working relationships at all levels within the region, from local villages through to government agencies. 500 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.

h) Is Taronga funding sufficient for the overall success of the project?

Successful applicants will demonstrate that funding for the project, aside from requested involvement by Taronga zoos, is either not necessary or is secured. 500 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.

Other Benefits

These questions do not increase the conservation benefit score of your project but may influence the final decision between two high scoring projects; we encourage you to contact Taronga or other zoos to determine if your project can contribute to these issues.

i) Are there educational and awareness raising opportunities with species managed in Taronga zoos?

Funding chances may be increased if the target species is held in one or both of Taronga's zoos. This may provide an increased opportunity for Taronga to deliver educational content and provides a broader platform of communication opportunities through Taronga's zoo interpretive team and capital project interpretations, thereby engaging and involving a wider audience in the project. 400 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.

j) Does participation of Taronga or other ZAA institutions add value to the project, or are there development opportunities for Taronga staff?

It may increase the chance of funding if it matches the skill base of Taronga or ZAA staff or if there are opportunities for staff involvement and skill development. 400 CHARACTERS MAXIMUM.

Additional information is not necessary but may be provided that will not count towards the page limit:

- a) Curriculum vitae of project leaders (maximum of 2 pages each)
- b) Letters of reference, recommendation and collaboration
- c) Copies of permits (if applicable)

Proposal Review and Timeline

Project applications will be reviewed by the Taronga Conservation Committee which is comprised of conservation staff from many divisions. If the geographic or scientific area of a proposal falls outside of the area of expertise of the committee, external advisors will be called on to review the application and advise the committee. All applications must be submitted electronically to

Dr. Monique Van Sluys
Conservation and Recovery Programs
Taronga Conservation Society Australia
fieldgrants@zoo.nsw.gov.au

The deadline for proposal submission is **5pm 31 July 2019 Australian Eastern Standard Time**. No late proposals will be considered. The review panel will be convened by late September and we aim to have final decisions sent to all applicants by late October.

Please ensure that all contact details are correct as this is how we will contact you to notify you of successful funding. We regret that due to the number of applications unsuccessful applicants will not be notified.

Definitions for Terms in Field Project Criteria

Conservation outcomes: outcomes that directly benefit the conservation status of a species or ecosystem, ie. protection of habitat; increased protection of the target/focal species. Activities such as education, research or planning may contribute to achieving conservation outcomes, but are not conservation outcomes themselves. It is very important that the outcomes are measurable in ecological terms.

Ecosystem: a community of organisms, the environment within which they live and interact, and their interactions (ie. decomposition, nutrient release, etc.).

In situ wildlife conservation: in the field, as distinct from in captivity. Usually also relates to activity within the range or future range of the focal/target species.

Threatening processes: processes or activities that threaten wildlife, habitats or ecosystems, e.g. habitat loss, climate change, hunting/poaching, introduced species, pollution and identified diseases.