

AMPHIBIAN ARK

2011 SEED GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT & GUIDELINES



Amphibian Ark is pleased to announce the 3rd annual call for proposals for its Seed Grant program!

- This competitive \$5,000 grant is intended to fund start-up **rescue** projects for species that cannot currently be saved in the wild.
- Successful proposals will reflect AArk values; **please pay careful attention to the grant guidelines** (below and also at <http://www.amphibianark.org/about-us/aark-activities/aark-seed-grant/>) for details on what types of projects are favored.
- Past grantees can be seen at the web link listed above.
- Inquiries can be directed to Kevin Zippel, Program Officer KevinZ@AmphibianArk.org.
- We would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Andrew Sabin Family Foundation, Ronna Erickson, Josie Lowman, Wildlife Conservation Society, Woodland Park Zoo, the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and the other AArk supporters (www.amphibianark.org/acknowledgements.htm) who helped establish this grant.

Important dates:

- grant application deadline: 1 May 2011
- grant decision date: 15 May 2011
- grant payment date: 1 June 2011
- progress report due 1 June 2012

Priority Guidelines - please read very carefully!

Required:

- An *ex situ* component. While we do highly value *in situ* conservation, research, assessment, and education, our funds are extremely limited and so we must insist that all proposals include an *ex situ* component. Note that *in situ* conservation, research, assessment, and education can be included as valuable components of any good proposal that otherwise **focuses on rescuing species**. Ideally, our support of your *ex situ* component will help you secure funds for these other components as we tend not to fund “graphic panels” or other components for which other funding could be found. For projects that do not relate to *ex situ* rescues, consider applying for ASG seed grants (rdmoore@conservation.org).
- Working with species that **need** to be rescued. Proposals must relate to rescuing species whose threats cannot be mitigated in nature in time to prevent their extinction and which therefore require urgent *ex situ* intervention to persist. This status should be determined by relevant field experts, e.g., the IUCN/SSC Amphibian Specialist Group field experts through AArk Conservation Needs Assessment Workshops

(www.amphibianark.org/assessmentresults.htm), or similar processes. While we appreciate efforts to keep regionally threatened but globally stable species common, our limited funds are restricted to projects involving species that need help at a **global** level.

- **Working with species within their native range country.** Unless capacity absolutely cannot be built in the range country in time to prevent imminent extinction, the AArk will not fund projects that remove animals from their range country. In addition, every effort should be made to enable national biologists to lead the program.
- **Adhering to recommended biosecurity standards.** Regardless of where the rescue population is held, measures must be taken to isolate it from allopatric (non-overlapping) species that might be in the collection as well as from the original threat (e.g., chytrid). Please refer to our recommended biosecurity standards (www.amphibianark.org/pdf/Husbandry/A%20guide%20to%20husbandry%20and%20biosecurity%20standards%20for%20amphibians.pdf).
- **Newly launched programs.** The concept of a ‘seed’ grant is to fund projects at the very beginning of their life in order to help them attract larger and/or long-term funding for the duration of the program. We do not favor projects that are already well established or have significant funding, although we do not mind seeing some funding in place for complementary components (like fieldwork or education).

Content Guidelines

1. Project Title
2. Names, institutional affiliations, and email addresses of project leaders
3. Total funding amount requested from Amphibian Ark in USD\$
4. Executive summary (300 words or less), including brief background, methods, and anticipated outcomes, with emphasis on actions utilizing AArk funds. Please stress the conservation significance of the work, including the specific conservation need of all species involved (e.g., AArk Priority, IUCN threatened or DD, national priority, etc.) and how the work will help address the threats to the species.
5. Introduction, identifying the main conservation problem, the proposed corrective actions, the anticipated outcomes, and how these relate to the AArk values
6. Methodology, including a succinct description of the proposed work with enough technical detail for evaluation by experienced reviewers

The cumulative length of sections 1-6 should be 3 pages or less.

7. Budget, **no more than 1 page**, with distinction between funds requested from AArk and those from other sources, with the latter specified as ‘requested’ or ‘received’ and from where. Clearly identify the role of AArk Funding as a proportion of overall project cost. All costs should be in USD\$. See sample below.

Budget category	Item/amount (Examples)	Requested from AArk	Other sources/status
Field study	field vehicle rental, fuel, \$60/day, 10 days	0	\$600 received from ASG
	food: 5 people \$20/day, 10 days	0	\$1000 received from ASG
	lodging: 5 people, \$50/day, 2 days	0	\$500 received from ASG
	local guide \$30/day, 10 days	0	\$300 received from ASG
	PI salary for 14 days	0	\$3000 pledged from employer

	10 data loggers, \$50/each	0	\$500 requested from RWPZ
	\$5/Bd swab, \$20/test, 20 samples	0	\$500 requested from ARAV
Ex situ facility	retrofit existing building	0	\$5000 in house
	1 st year keeper salary	0	\$6000 requested from WCS
	keeper to husbandry workshop	0	\$2500 requested from AZA
	Air conditioner	\$250	0
	Generator	\$1000	0
	Water supply filtering system	\$200	0
	Foot baths/solutions, \$50	\$50	0
	Disposable gloves, \$100	\$100	0
	supplies for live food culture	\$500	0
	mat.s for 20 aquariums, \$10/each	\$200	0
	mat.s for 20 filters, \$10/each	\$200	0
Field collection	field vehicle rental, fuel, \$60/day, 10 days	\$600	0
	food: 5 people \$20/day, 10 days	\$1000	0
	lodging: 5 people, \$50/day, 2 days	\$500	0
	local guide \$20/day, 10 days	\$200	0
	PI salary for 14 days	0	\$3000 pledged from employer
Education	graphics for display	0	\$500 requested from DWCT
	presentations at local schools	0	\$1000 requested from DWCT
Threat mitigation	reforestation project	0	\$5000 requested from CI
	fish removal	0	\$5000 requested from ASG
	trail management	0	\$5000 requested from CI
Total		\$4,800	\$39,400
Percentage		11%	89%

8. Scientific citations are not necessary, but limited to half page if included

9. Timeline of work (example below) and intended dissemination of results

Activity	Jul-Sep 2011	Oct-Dec 2011	Jan-Mar 2012	Apr-Jun 2012
fieldwork	X	X		
<i>ex situ</i> facility	X	X	X	
field collection			X	X
education			X	X

10. We require 2 types of supporting letter.

- All applicants--whether applying as individuals or as employees representing their organizations--must include at least one **letter of endorsement** from someone at an unrelated organization. That person should be a recognized leader in the field or at least from an internationally known organization.
- Employees representing their organizations must also submit a **letter of institutional support** from their employer. This letter is simply to verify that the employer (1) is aware that the applicant is proposing the project and (2) will provide the necessary time and space to complete the proposed work. One such letter is required for each project leader on the application who has a different employer.

Format Guidelines

- Proposals should be submitted in English in font type no smaller than Times 12, with a minimum of one inch (2.5 cm) margins all around.

- The body of the proposal (including content points 1-6 above) must not exceed 3 pages, excluding budget (≤ 1 page) and literature cited ($\leq 1/2$ page). Proposals longer than 4.5 pages in body length will not be reviewed.
- All materials should be submitted together attached to a single e-mail as .doc or .pdf files. **File titles should include the name of the grant's principal researcher.** Only e-mailed proposals will be accepted. Submit proposals to: Dr. Kevin Zippel, Amphibian Program Officer, KevinZ@AmphibianArk.org. All correspondence should have "AArk Seed Grant Proposal/principal researcher's name" in the subject line.

About the Amphibian Ark

Amphibians are an important component of the global ecosystem, as indicators of environmental health and contributors to human health. They watched the dinosaurs come and go, but today almost half of them are themselves threatened with extinction. Addressing the amphibian extinction crisis represents one of the greatest species conservation challenges in the history of humanity. The global conservation community has formulated a response in the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan (<http://amphibians.org/newsletter/ACAP.pdf>), and an integral part of that response is the [Amphibian Ark](#) (AArk), in which select species that would otherwise go extinct will be maintained in captivity until they can be secured in the wild. Without immediate captive management as a stopgap component of an integrated conservation effort, hundreds of species could become extinct. The AArk is a joint effort of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), and the IUCN/SSC's Conservation Breeding Specialist (CBSG) and Amphibian Specialist (ASG) groups. The AArk mission is ***working in partnerships to ensure the global survival of amphibians – focusing on those that cannot be safeguarded in nature.*** The AArk facilitates *ex-situ* programs implemented by members around the world through workshops, publicity, and building partnerships to save species.