

# Turtle Survival Alliance

## Summary (Complete information follows)

**Eligibility** – Any current North American TSA Partner working toward the conservation of turtles either through advances in captive husbandry, designing or evaluating captive habitats, or generating field data useful to the goals of TSA as an organization.

**Funding** - The TSA has allocated \$5,000 US for this year's Partner Grants Program. Awards may range from \$500 up to \$2,500 US.

**Due Dates** – For spring 2006 funding cycle, applications must be **postmarked by May 1, 2006**. Final decisions made by June 1, 2006. Contract letters to grant recipients will be mailed by August and the checks presented during the TSA Annual Conference in St. Louis, August 11-13. The official start date will be Sept. 1, 2006.

### Types of activities funded

- Scientific, question-driven experiments in captive husbandry; (e.g., effects of different lighting quality on a species, effects of UV sterilization on pond systems, or effects of facility renovation/modification, etc.)
- Collect and disseminate information or conduct applied research to enable individuals or citizen initiatives to more effectively maintain and succeed with their assurance colony efforts;
- Complete or participate more fully in TMGs, including TMP development and TMG coordinator/partner training, to increase a TMG's effectiveness;
- Build or participate with *in-situ* conservation efforts;
- Build or enhance the capacity of assurance colonies, which could include training, TMG development, membership expansion, strategic planning, and equipment purchases.

**GRANT PERIOD** – The period for awards granted through the Grants Program is typically one year from the respective start date. If the proposed project requires a longer duration in order to ensure successful completion, TSA will consider an 18- or 24-month grant period.

### For more information, contact:

Mike Forstner  
mf@turtlesurvival.org

**Web link** – <http://www.turtlesurvival.org/TSA%20RFP%202006.pdf>

## **TSA Request for Grant Proposals**

*The goal of the TSA grants program is to directly provide financial support to partners whose activities strengthen our mission.*

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Any current North American TSA Partner working toward the conservation of turtles either through advances in captive husbandry, designing or evaluating captive habitats, or generating field data useful to our goals as an organization is eligible to apply for funding. The applicant must be a current partner in the organization and committed to both completing and reporting results from the project.

Each applicant may submit only one application for funding in each cycle. Partners who have received funding through the TSA grants program may reapply, as long as previous projects have been successfully completed. If an applicant was funded during the previous grant cycle and wishes to apply in the next cycle, an interim report of results from current funding will be required alongside the new grant funding application.

A high priority is placed on supporting partner initiatives derived from TMG goals for the taxa/taxon in question.

Applicants submitting projects outside current TMG priorities will be considered for funding if their project will demonstrably benefit the goals of the TSA as a whole.

### **TYPES OF ACTIVITIES FUNDED**

To accomplish this goal, the TSA Grants Program will consider grant applications for a wide array of activities, including:

- Scientific, question-driven experiments in captive husbandry; (e.g., effects of different lighting quality on a species, effects of UV sterilization on pond systems, or effects of facility renovation/modification, etc.)
- Collect and disseminate information or conduct applied research to enable individuals or citizen initiatives to more effectively maintain and succeed with their assurance colony efforts;
- Complete or participate more fully in TMGs, including TMP development and TMG coordinator/partner training, to increase a TMG's effectiveness;
- Build or participate with *in-situ* conservation efforts;

- Build or enhance the capacity of assurance colonies, which could include training, TMG development, membership expansion, strategic planning, and equipment purchases.

***Examples:***

- A request of funds to enhance a Partner's facilities by covering currently outdoor ponds with a greenhouse where the greenhouse frame, plastic, and end walls would be supported by grant funds. *This would fall under the category of capacity building.*
- A partner may hold a species without successful reproduction and submit funds to modify/enhance the habitat by adding UV lights, misting systems, or the equivalent. Then report the outcome of those changes on the colony. *This would fall under evaluating captive husbandry.*
- A partner might request funds for heaters in a facility or in a captive habitat to allow better control over environmental parameters. Here the goal would be to monitor and record temperatures in heater modified areas to evaluate the relative success of that change on husbandry success. *This would fall under many if not all of the activity areas.*

We emphasize that all results and final reports must be made available to the TSA partnership, allowing maximum impact to the overall success of our goals.

**TYPES OF ACTIVITIES WE DO NOT FUND**

- Importation of live animals, permit fees, or shipping charges
- Lobbying activities (activities that attempt to influence specific pieces of legislation)
- Terminal or invasive research requiring sacrifice of healthy animals

We reserve the right to reject applications that compromise TSA goals/objectives.

**\* PRIORITY PROGRAM AREAS \***

There are many opportunities for Partner involvement in turtle conservation. For 2006, the TSA Steering Committee has identified several program areas as particularly relevant.

- Projects which assist in the development, growth or success of TMGs;
- Husbandry research likely to widely impact the Partnership;

- Capacity building within the Partnership for developing Assurance Colonies (especially F1s);
- Launching special initiatives or creating unique opportunities to strengthen Partner involvement in the TSA.

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The TSA Steering Committee has established evaluation criteria to strategically focus the Grants Program's limited funds. Preference will be given to projects that are likely to accomplish the following:

- Addresses one or more of the Priority Program Areas;
- Has a likelihood of success and demonstration of broad impact to Partnership;
- Builds partnerships or promotes creative collaborations;
- Has the potential to leverage financial, volunteer, or in-kind resources;
- Provides long-term benefits to captive turtle conservation and the TSA partnership as a whole;
- Has the potential to be replicated by in-situ conservation efforts; and/or
- Helps build the group's capacity to better assist in global turtle conservation efforts.

## **AWARDS**

The TSA has allocated \$5,000 US for this year's Partner Grants Program. Awards may range from \$500 up to \$2,500 US.

## **ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Never applied for a grant before? Want to see if your idea is in the ballpark? Want a little help developing your application? Steering Committee members are here to help you. Potential applicants seeking advice on how to complete the grant application form or wishing to discuss potential projects are encouraged to contact a Steering Committee member for assistance. Pre-application discussions can help you work the kinks out of your proposal and increase your chances for success.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE**

Proposals must be prepared based on the questions and format contained in the 2006 Grants Program Application Format. For the Spring 2006 funding cycle, applications must be **postmarked by May 1, 2006**. The TSA Steering committee will review and prioritize applications and make will make final decisions by June 1, 2006. Contract letters to grant recipients will be mailed by August and the checks presented during the TSA Annual Conference in St. Louis, August 11-13. The official start date will be Sept. 1, 2006.

Please do not fax your application. Send your application via first-class mail postmarked by the dates noted above and by e-mail. Given the potential problems with mail delivery between the United States and other North American Partners applicants may want to consider sending applications by overnight or express delivery. See application form for complementary e-mail application and delivery.

Please do not call in advance for results. You will receive a written acknowledgment within one month of the application deadline and a written notice of the final decision as noted above. If the TSA Steering Committee requires more information, they will contact you.

## **GRANT PERIOD**

The period for awards granted through the Grants Program is typically one year from the respective start date. If the proposed project requires a longer duration in order to ensure successful completion, TSA will consider an 18- or 24-month grant period. Clearly note the requested grant period in your application. The grant may fund a component of a larger project of longer duration. Funded applicants may apply for follow-up funding to support new initiatives or to build on successes of previously funded efforts, as long as previous projects have been successfully completed.

## **COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT**

An important strength of the TSA is the linkage between the funding component and the distribution of results to the Partnership and members. It is the explicit goal of this program within the TSA to leverage knowledge and skills held among the Partnership outward by communicating methods and results that will assist in the worldwide turtle conservation effort. This expectation will be included within contracts for funded projects.

The TSA Grants Program is a project of the Turtle Survival Alliance. Funding for the project is provided by the donations of our contributors and supporting partners.

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**APPLICATION PROCESS AND STRUCTURE**

Only applications that adhere to the following guidelines will be considered.

**APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

Complete the cover sheet (type or print)

Attach the cover sheet as page 1 of your proposal

**PROPOSAL OUTLINE** – the following information should be included under the sub-headings listed below.

- **Summary**  
Overview of the project
- **Introduction**  
The purpose of the request should be clearly stated. Sufficient background information should be provided in the introduction to enable reviewers to understand the significance of the project and why the funds are being requested. Be sure to include overall goals and specific objectives.
- **Methods**  
Briefly describe how the project will be conducted. Include information on techniques to be used, data analysis, and how information will be utilized and disseminated once the project is completed.
- **Projected Outcomes and Anticipated Benefit to TSA**  
Describe how the results will be used or applied toward the conservation of the species or its habitat, or the enhancement of a TMP for this species. How will the success of the project be evaluated?
- **Project Schedule**  
Provide a timetable (beginning and completion) for the major project components
- **Budget**  
Itemize individual expenses into the following major categories: Labor, Travel, Equipment and Supplies, Other. See next page for budget form
- **Other Sources of Support:**  
Funding, logistical and technical. Are matching funds available and have they been applied for?

**TURTLE SURVIVAL ALLIANCE PARTNER GRANT**

## **BUDGET FORM**

**Itemize individual expenses into the following major categories:**

**Labor, Travel, Equipment and Supplies, Other. See below.**

**Budget Item Method of Calculation Total**

**Labor**

**Travel**

**Equipment & Supplies**

**Other**

**Total Project Budget**

**Total Requested from TSA**

**Other Funding Support**

**Other Sources of Support:** funding, logistical and technical. Are matching funds available and have they been applied for?

## **APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

**Name of Applicant and Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total cost of this project:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Requested:**

**Percentage of Total Project:**

**Name of principal contact: Dr. \_\_ Mr. \_\_ Ms. \_\_**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**E-Mail:**

**Name(s) of Persons Conducting Program:**

**Species Targeted:**

**Country:**

**Brief Description of Project (goals, outcomes and actions):**

**Time Frame of Project (from/to):**

**Other Confirmed Funding Sources:**

**Other Organizations/Partnership(s) Involved:**

**I understand that a report of significant outcomes to date is due within one year of receipt of funds, or before I apply for any additional funds. I understand and agree that award recipients, including the name of this organization and project information may be released and publicized.**

**Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Title**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**\_\_\_\_\_