



THE STATE OF ARIZONA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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May 14, 2008

Dear Partner in Bat Conservation:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's Bat Management Program is pleased to announce the availability of Bat Grant funds for bat conservation work, and hereby requests grant proposals. Proposals should address specific priority actions as identified in the Arizona Bat Conservation Strategic Plan (ABCSP). The ABCSP, a collaborative effort between the Department and Arizona Bat Resource Group, delineates specific areas of concern for management, research, inventory and monitoring, and education that should be addressed in Arizona by land managers, wildlife managers, and scientists. The following guidelines are important to consider when preparing your proposal:

1. Projects should address one or more of the Goals outlined in the "Goals and Objectives" section of the ABCSP (Goal Categories: Research, Inventory and Monitoring, Management and Education). Within each goal section, priority actions are identified to guide efforts. In many cases, specific projects are suggested, some pertaining to a particular locality or species. These actions do not constitute a complete list of projects that should be undertaken, but are examples of suggested actions. Local managers should identify the goals that apply in their areas of authority, set priorities for actions to address these goals, and identify specific projects within these actions to carry out. Projects must benefit bats in the state of Arizona. The Arizona Bat Conservation Strategic Plan can be downloaded by going to "downloads" at http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/bat_conservation.shtml. For a color copy on CD, please contact Angie McIntire at amcintire@azgfd.gov.
2. Funding source: Heritage; Funding amount \$40,000.00 (subject to funds availability); Single or Multiple awards may be made.
3. Proposals that promote broad project participation; create community partnerships; or foster collaborative efforts among diverse stakeholders in the conservation community are preferred.
4. Proposals must be received by Monday, June 30, 2008. Project proposals should be sent electronically to amcintire@azgfd.gov. In addition, a signed hard copy must be sent to: Angie McIntire, Bat Management Coordinator/WMNG, Arizona Game and Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Hwy., Phoenix, AZ, 85086
5. We anticipate the announcement of awards will be made in late July.

Note: All information in grant application other than applicant's name will remain confidential during the evaluation process. Once grants are awarded, the applications will become available for public inspection. Sensitive biological information, trade secrets or other proprietary information will remain confidential even after grants are awarded. Thank you for your interest in bat conservation in Arizona.

Sincerely,

Angie McIntire, Bat Management Coordinator

ARIZONA BAT CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

GRANTS PROGRAM

Project Ranking Factors

This call for application seeks to allocate funding to bat conservation projects that encompass the following ranking factors:

- *Project Need/Biological Importance:* Projects that address priority actions identified in the Arizona Bat Conservation Strategic Plan; projects that fill important conservation needs by providing information necessary to recover and manage priority species, benefit priority habitats, address imminent threats, prevent species from becoming endangered; projects whose outcomes will resolve a significant documented need, issue, or concern.
- *Project Scope:* Projects with multiple benefits: 1) promote a landscape/ecosystem approach; 2) provide needed information and/or initiate management practices to conserve multiple species of conservation concern, or; 3) achieve multiple resource management objectives (such as habitat protection efforts with both terrestrial and aquatic benefits, etc). All projects must demonstrate tangible benefits to resource management.
- *Project Impact and Timeliness:* Impact: Projects that produce tangible “on-the-ground” benefits in terms of conservation effectiveness and/or in terms of visibility. All projects must demonstrate tangible benefits to resource management. Timeliness: Projects must be ready or near ready to implement. Does the project represent a critical and timely conservation opportunity?
- *Method:* Project proposals should clearly and completely describe need, objectives, expected outcomes, deliverables, and expected benefits. For Management/Habitat Improvement projects: multiple species, rare species, rare habitats, and projects that result in direct habitat conservation are preferred; for Research/Inventory/Monitoring projects: outcomes that contribute to adaptive management objectives for species or habitat are preferred; for Outreach/Education projects: project results must be measurable.
- *Partnerships/Coordination:* Projects that encourage multi-partner and multi-agency involvement (e.g. federal, state, local governments, communities, corporations, non-profit organizations, conservation organizations, sporting organizations, private landowners, etc.). Projects that enhance partnerships between and among these groups, and demonstrate support from key stakeholders will be considered high priority.
- *Total Cost:* Projects that demonstrate cost effectiveness and provide matching funding are priorities.

Project Application – Coversheet Instructions

(Each Project Application must include a coversheet)

Project Information

Project Title: A brief title describing the project.

AZGFD Region: Specify the AZGFD Region(s) in which the project will occur. Please contact Bat Management Coordinator if you are unsure.

Project Description: Write a brief description (\leq 200 words) of the project including main objectives.

Arizona Bat Conservation Strategic Plan Priority Action to be addressed: Specify the linkages between the proposed work and at least one priority action identified in the Arizona Bat Plan. The plan may be obtained by contacting the Bat Management Coordinator or at the following site: http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/bat_conservation.shtml.

Project Category: Select the category that best describes the proposed work

- Habitat Restoration or Protection/Bat Management
- Research/Inventory/Monitoring
- Outreach/Education

Project Funding

ABCP Grant Amount Requested: List amount of Bat Grant funds requested. Projects must be completed within a year upon receipt of grant award. Multi-year projects are considered, however, each phase (year) of the project must be submitted annually for funding consideration.

Other Cost Share Funds: Briefly list total of other cost-share from each funding source.

Total Project Cost: Total of Bat Grant funds and all matching/partner funds.

Participant Information

Organization: Provide the name of the applicant's organization.

Applicant: Identify the specific contact person (the person most familiar with the project). Include mailing and email addresses, and telephone and fax numbers. This individual must be authorized by his or her agency or organization to receive and administer project money.

Coordination: The proposal should be coordinated with AZGFD (Bat Management Coordinator, Regional Biologists, Research Biologists, etc.), landowner/land management agency, or other appropriate stakeholders.

Project Application Instructions

(Each Project Application must include the following sections)

Project Need/Biological Importance:

What resource issues will be addressed by this project? What are the anticipated benefits to bats or other wildlife resources?

Project Objectives:

What will be accomplished during the project pursuant to the stated priority action?

Examples of specific objectives:

- 1) Improve 2 acres of riparian habitat along Beaver Creek.
- 2) Increase roosting habitat for western red bats by planting 3 acres of cottonwood/willow habitat along lower Colorado River.
- 3) Increase public knowledge of nectar bat use of hummingbird feeders in Benson.
- 4) Protect a roost of 450 *Macrotus californicus* by installing a bat-friendly gate at XYZ Mine.
- 5) Plant 5 acres of agaves for lesser long-nosed bat habitat in Coronado National Forest.

Project Strategies:

How will the project objectives be attained? Include specific procedures, schedules, and when required key personnel and cooperators. List specific actions that will be taken to achieve the project objective. Each action statement must:

- 1) Specify fully what is to be accomplished within the time frame with the funds requested.
- 2) Identify specific methods or procedures.
- 3) Specify a recognizable end point and deliverable.
- 4) Be quantifiable and verifiable.

Project Location and Habitat Description:

Provide legal description (township, range, section). Attach a map with project site clearly marked. What are the major vegetative types and associations in project area? Include average elevation.

Land Ownership at Project Site:

Identify land ownership at project site. Please state specifically if Private Property and provide landowner's name. If project will take place on private property, is there a Stewardship Agreement between the landowner and the Department? Private property projects may require a Stewardship Agreement and may also be eligible to receive funding from the Landowner Incentive Program or other Farm Bill programs.

Project Monitoring Plan:

If applicable, identify what monitoring program exists or will be implemented to assess and quantify the results achieved by the project. Include both short term and long term monitoring.

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Also give some idea of what is required in terms of maintenance of effort, if appropriate, and identify project partners who are willing to provide long-term effort.

Budget:

Identify specifically how Bat Grant funds will be used. Also include itemized break down of cost share funding. If cost for mileage is itemized, the reimbursement rate for mileage cannot exceed the State of Arizona's reimbursement rate in effect (currently 44.5 cents per mile).

List all matching funds and their sources (e.g. cash, in-kind and volunteer labor). Volunteer unpaid services provided to AZGFD by an individual (a grantee) should be valued at the pay for similar work in the Department. If the services are something AZGFD does not perform, then use minimum wage or seek private market value of the work (provide documentation). Original cost of an existing project does not qualify as match.

Implementation Schedule:

Month and year the project is expected to be initiated and completed, as well as pertinent details. Projects must be completed within a year upon receipt of grant award. Multi-year projects are considered, however, each phase (year) of the project must be submitted annually for funding consideration, with no guarantee of availability of funding.

Partnerships/Coordination:

List partners and describe their anticipated participation. List cooperators who may provide logistic support, materials, equipment, or labor.

Expected Results or Benefits. What will the results or benefits of accomplishing this project be? For example, how will the project impact and benefit bat conservation goals and objectives? To the extent feasible, provide quantified resource benefits.