

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FUNDING WINDOW

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (EE) EE Grant Proposal's – GOALS & OBJECTIVES

January 24, 2014 (Revised – Additional Heritage Grant Opportunity)

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (EE) as defined in A.R.S. § 17-296, means educational programs dealing with basic ecological principles and the effects of natural and man related processes on natural and urban systems and programs to enhance public awareness of the importance of safeguarding natural resources.

The intent is to fund projects that will give the greatest return for the Heritage funds invested consistent with the stated funding goals and objectives. For grant cycle year **2014** there is **\$16,000** available to support **EE grant proposals** submitted. EE grant applicants can request a grant amount minimum of **\$500** and maximum amount not to exceed **\$10,000** within this funding sub-category.

Projects for which EE grant proposals are submitted must be consistent with one or more of the **Goals and Objectives** listed below in order to be considered for grant award.

GOAL 1: Professional Educator Development-Workshops. The emphasis of this goal is to develop and implement professional educator training workshops in conjunction with the Department's Wildlife Education Program, that integrate topics on Arizona wildlife conservation and management into elementary and high school classrooms. The training may be orientated toward a specific school district, Arizona county or available to all interested professional educators statewide. Proposed workshops must emphasize the tools and information needed by educators to implement and improve STEM programs aligned with Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards. Workshop training will ideally span across academic disciplines, address more than one grade level, and develop useable products that can be shared with other professional educators. Preference will be given to continued and sustained training, as opposed to one-time workshops.

GOAL 2: Professional Educator Development-Preservice Science Teaching. The intent of this goal is to provide funds to support the development of programs that provide hands-on opportunities for preservice science teachers to improve understanding of science content and to practice developing curriculum and other classroom resources for elementary or high school students. Programs must be developed in conjunction with the Department's Wildlife Education staff. Preservice teachers supported under this proposal must be enrolled at an accredited university and supervised by a qualified mentor from that facility.

Pre-service teacher projects must support STEM and be aligned with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. Preference will be given to project proposals with useable classroom products that can be easily shared with other professional educators.

GOAL 3: Curriculum Development and Integration

- a. The development and/or update of a school-wide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) instructional activity or curriculum that:
 - 1) Promotes the use of current scientific research and data involving habitat and wildlife in Arizona.
 - 2) Promotes wildlife biology, conservation, and/or management as relevant STEM fields or career choices.
 - 3) Can be shared with other schools and educational programs statewide.

- b. The development and implementation of classroom-ready lesson plans utilizing the Department's web-based GIS program called **HabiMap**, in a format that can be shared with other schools and education programs statewide.

Application proposals **must be focused on wildlife species native to Arizona** and emphasize one or more of the following topics:

- Use of current scientific research and data involving wildlife in Arizona.
- Wildlife biology, conservation, and/or management.
- The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.
- The Department's web-based GIS program called HabiMap.
- Wildlife corridors.
- Urban wildlife-human conflicts.
- Other topics may be considered, if approved in advance by the Department's Wildlife Education Branch. Please contact Eric Proctor, Wildlife Education Coordinator at eproctor@azgfd.gov for further information.

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