

### The FFI 100% Fund

Fauna & Flora International's 100% Fund provides small grants (up to £5000) for conservation projects focusing on endangered species. Priority is given to activities that directly conserve species, and to supporting activities such as community education. Applications are particularly welcomed from institutions and individuals in developing countries. Grants are not provided for degree courses, for research undertaken as part of a higher degree or for student expeditions. Grants are awarded three times a year, and applications are considered on the basis of the need for the project, its likelihood of success, its budget and cost-effectiveness, the degree of local involvement, and the potential for project sustainability. Application forms are available from Dr Abigail Entwistle, Fauna & Flora International, Great Eastern House, Tenison Road, Cambridge CB1 2DT, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 1223 571000; Fax: +44 (0) 1223 461 481; E-mail: info@fauna-flora.org

### African Elephant Conservation Fund

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) invites submission of grant proposals for the conservation of the African elephant throughout its range. This programme supports projects that develop local ability to manage, conserve, research or protect the African elephant through the provision of funding, training, and equipment. The purpose of the grant programme is to assist in the perpetuation of African elephants by enhancing the following: protection of at-risk elephant populations; habitat/ecosystem conservation and management; applied research on elephant populations and habitat including surveys and monitoring; conservation education; protected area/reserve management in important elephant range; development and execution of elephant conservation action plans; and efforts to decrease human–elephant conflict.

Proposals may be submitted by any African government agency responsible for African elephant conservation and protection, the CITES Secretariat, and any organization or individual with experience in African elephant conservation.

Proposals may be submitted in English or French, but French versions may require additional processing time. An original and three copies should be accompanied by a covering letter. Documentation must demonstrate the participation and/or endorsement of the local government(s). Projects with matching funds (cash) or

in-kind support (salaries, equipment, etc.) equal to or exceeding the amount requested from FWS are preferred. Limited funds are available and preference will be given to proposals requesting \$75,000 or less, but higher amounts may be requested. Funding is usually for 1 year or less. Projects that require more than 1 year of funding will be required to compete on an annual basis through submission of additional proposals.

Proposals may be submitted throughout the year. Proposal review and processing may require up to 8 months. Details of how to apply to the African Elephant Conservation Fund are available from: Dr Richard G. Ruggiero, Staff Biologist, Office of International Affairs, US Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, ARLSQ 730, Arlington, VA 22203-1622, USA. Tel: +1 703-358-2460; Fax: +1 703-358-2849; E-mail: Richard\_Ruggiero@mail.fws.gov

### Workshops on biological surveys: techniques for conservation expeditions

A series of workshops, organized by the BP conservation programme in association with the Expedition Advisory Centre, will take place in London, UK, from 19 to 24 April 1999. They will be led by senior scientists with extensive field experience from institutions and organizations including Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Natural History Museum, The Bat Conservation Trust, BirdLife International, Fauna & Flora International, the Harrison Zoological Museum, Oxford University Museum and Cambridge University.

The emphasis of the workshops will be on achieving conservation gains through application of scientific techniques, resource location and networking. There will be a strong practical element with a high level of group interaction between the speakers and participants. The workshops are aimed at young scientists and conservationists who are planning, or have an interest in planning, field research expeditions. They will be valuable for experienced field workers as well as those with little or no experience.

#### Summary programme

*Measuring biodiversity:* An insight into the techniques available for assessing the diversity of communities and populations.

*Reptiles and amphibians:* covering systematic and non-systematic sampling methods for amphibians and most reptilian sub-groups.

*Large mammals and primates:* field surveying techniques for large mammal and primate species.

*Plant collection:* a day of demonstrations and practical work to show how making a collection can be time-effective and simple. Specimen collection, preparation, identification and cataloguing will be covered.

*Small mammals and bats:* techniques for trapping, marking, tracking, collecting, surveying, monitoring, roost counts and dietary studies will be discussed, and equipment demonstrated.

*Sound recording:* audio theory, the selection of appropriate equipment, and the documentation, analysis and archiving protocol for captured sounds.

*Measuring biodiversity—habitats:* focusing on the study of plant communities—the day will cover habitat assessment, ecological surveys, vegetation classification and mapping.

*Ornithological surveys:* methods for censusing birds will be thoroughly reviewed and discussed, highlighting typical problems that arise in the field, and demonstrating equipment.

*Terrestrial invertebrates:* a detailed analysis of entomological fieldwork methods, while illustrating conservation significance of results, and their potential to provide a wider ecological insight and discover species new to science.

*Marine:* because of the challenging logistical nature of marine expeditions this half-day workshop will be aimed at people wishing to organize their own marine expedition but, in contrast to participants in other workshops during the week, do not necessarily have any firm plans.

*Conservation education:* this workshop will examine how short-term biological projects can contribute to an integrated approach of biodiversity conservation, focusing on education to raise awareness within the local community.

The cost of each workshop will be £25 for non-students and £15 for students or second non-student member of any research team attending. There will be a reduction of £5 per person for the price of each workshop after the first booking.

For more information and a booking form please contact:

Shane Winsor, Expedition Advisory Centre, Royal Geographic Society (with the Institute of British Geographers), 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR, UK. Tel: + 44 (0) 171 591 3030; Fax: + 44 (0) 171 591 3031; E-mail: eac@rgs.org

Robin Mitchell, BP Conservation Programme, BirdLife International, Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge

CB3 0NA, UK. Tel: + 44 (0) 1223 277318; Fax: + 44 (0) 1223 277200; E-mail: bp-conservation-programme@birdlife.org.uk

### **Jerwood Scholarships—University of Oxford**

Through the generosity of the Jerwood Foundation up to five scholarships will be awarded annually to give high-calibre science graduates from British universities the opportunity to gain experience in conservation research at Oxford University. Scholars will join Oxford University's Wildlife Conservation Research Unit for approximately 5 months. Each scholar will receive a maintenance grant and will participate in fieldwork on conservation research projects in the UK. Most Jerwood Scholars will participate in two projects and will gain experience of a variety of field techniques and associated work. While in Oxford, each scholar will join the Department of Zoology and will also experience college life through an association with the Middle Common Room at Lady Margaret Hall (a college with a particular commitment to conservation studies). At the end of their scholarship, scholars will be required to write a short report, and will be issued with a certificate of Fieldwork Experience, recording the work with which they have been involved.

The projects on which Jerwood Scholars will undertake fieldwork include many on British mammals, including work on riparian and highland species. Other projects include conservation aspects of farming, such as the impact of set-aside on wildlife (and is relevant also to those with interests in invertebrates and botany, as well as vertebrates; see: <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~wcrinfo>).

Applicants should have a science degree from a British University) (generally in biological sciences and normally a Class 2.1 or above, and should have no higher qualification than an MSc). They should be eager to participate in arduous fieldwork (some of it overnight, sometimes alone), and associated laboratory and office work, and must be willing to work hard and flexibly as members of a team. There is no closing date; selection will be by interview (and timing may be determined by the seasonality of various projects).

Applicants should send a CV, plus the names and addresses of two referees (ideally including an e-mail address), in an envelope marked Jerwood Scholars to: Dr D. W. Macdonald, Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, Department of Zoology, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PS, UK.