

Attention students, aquarists and biologists

Up to \$1000 for Conservation Research

The NANFA Conservation Research Grants Program

Etheostoma chermocki - Vermillion Darter (pair) Photo by Michael Wolfe

The North American Native Fishes Association (NANFA) sponsors a cash awards program to support research relating to the conservation of North America's indigenous fish fauna. NANFA wishes to support research that contributes to the sustainable existence of North American native fishes, especially those that are imperiled. Such a grant could be awarded to someone in academia, a conservation group, or to an independent researcher, including a home aquarist. The maximum award for any proposal recommended by our review panel will be \$1,000. NANFA may award multiple awards in one year for amounts less than or equal to \$1,000.

Application Guidelines

- Qualifying applicants must be members in good standing of NANFA. Membership dues will be accepted at <http://www.nanfa.org/join.shtml> or can be mailed to NANFA, P.O. Box 1596, Milton, WA 98354-1594. Annual dues are \$30 (U.S.), \$35 (Canada and Mexico), and \$44 (all other countries).
- Research proposals should be no longer than 2 double-spaced pages, plus a separate short budget and timeline. Proposals should include a clear statement as to how this research will benefit the study organism and/or its environment.
- Proposal format should be as follows:
 - Question to be investigated
 - Objectives
 - Description of work (methods, design, assumptions, constraints)
 - Benefits
 - Accomplishments (related research efforts)
- Proposals should be accompanied by a one-page resume from the applicant, and a letter of recommendation from the applicant's major professor or from someone familiar with your background and research. This letter of recommendation should include an email address for verifying references. Submission will be accepted electronically either as a .pdf or .doc file. If you have any queries as to whether you qualify for this grant, please contact Bruce Lilyea, below.
- Please list other sources of financial support for your project.
- Researchers must obtain all necessary permits for conducting their research.
- We ask that the recipient write a non-technical article on their research for *American Currents*, NANFA's quarterly journal, to be submitted as soon as the research is complete. Recipients are also encouraged to attend an annual NANFA Convention to present research findings.
- The deadline for applications is January 20 (each year). The award decision will be made by the committee and announced by March 31 (the same year).

Submit completed applications to:

Dr. Bruce Lilyea
NANFA Conservation Research Grant
Grant Committee Chairperson
Phone: 863-513-7611
Email: bruce.lilyea@gmail.com



Founded in 1972, NANFA is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to the appreciation, study and conservation of North America's native fishes.

Since 2001 NANFA has awarded the Conservation Grant. Past recipients include:

2017

Madison Snider, masters student, Environmental & Conservation Sciences Graduate Program, North Dakota State University, "Anti-Predator Behavior in Amargosa Pupfish and Pahrump Poolfish."

2016

Joshua Stonecipher, graduate student, Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee, "Conservation status and population genetic structure of the Smallscale Darter (*Nothonotus microlepidus*)."

2015

Jonathan Davis, a professor at Young Harris College in Young Harris, Georgia. The study addressed the growth patterns under varying temperature and river discharge regimes of the undescribed Sicklefing Redhorse, a vulnerable species probably worthy of federal listing.

2014

Michael Moore, Virginia Tech, "Occupancy modeling for the Clinch Dace (*Chrosomus* sp. cf. *saylori*) in the Upper Clinch River System, Virginia using minnow trapping, backpack electrofishing, and eDNA sampling."

2013

Anthony Honick, Duquesne University, "Tracking range expansion and genetic population structure of five Pennsylvania threatened darter species using environmental DNA (eDNA) and molecular genetic techniques."

2012

Kenneth J. Oswald, Visiting Scientist with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Lecturer in the Northern Kentucky University Honors Program, "Evolutionary Conservation Genetics and Estimation of Water Quality Parameters for Tonguetied Minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)".

2010

Suzanne M. Gray, Department of Biology, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, "Turbidity tolerance in blackline shiners: Implications for conservation and recovery."

2009

Josh Perkin, "Evolutionary response of a relict ironcolor shiner (*Notropis chalybaeus*) population to a spring environment."

Solomon David, "Ecology, biogeography, and conservation of the spotted gar (*Lepiosteus oculatus*) in Michigan."

Benjamin Keck, "Genetic diversity among disjunct populations of the Greenfin darter, *Nothonotus chlorobranchius*."

2008

Richard Harrington, a doctoral candidate at Yale University under the direction of Tom Near, "Analysis of Genetic diversity and Hybridization in the Barrens Darter, *Etheostoma forbesi*."

Jacob Egge, an assistant professor at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, "Conservation Genetics of the Least Madtom, *Noturus hildebrandi*."

Ben Koch, a doctoral student at the University of Wyoming, "Impacts of Non-Native Trout on the Food Base in High-Elevation Cutthroat Trout Refugia in Colorado."

2007

Anna L. George, Tennessee Aquarium Research Institute, Cohutta, GA, and David A. Neely, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA, "Conservation Genetics and Larval Biology of Popeye Shiner, a Rare Fish in a Fragmented Ecosystem."

Allison Pease, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, "Ecological Effects of an Introduced Cichlid in the Rio Panuco Basin."

Mike Sandel, University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa, AL, "Inbreeding Depression and Conservation Genetics of Spring Pygmy Sunfish, *Elassoma alabamae*."

2006

Robert Hopkins II, Southern Illinois University, IL,
"Investigation of Nesting Biology of the Stone
Darter, *Etheostoma derivativum*."

Nicholas J. Lang, St. Louis University, MO, "An
Assessment of the Impact of the Invasive Reed *Arundo
donax* on the Rio Salado River Basin, Coahuila, Mexico,
with Particular Emphasis on the Rare and Endemic Rio
Salado Darter, *Etheostoma segrex*."

Brian Zimmerman, Bowling Green State University,
OH, "Microhabitat Use by the Redside Dace
(*Clinostomus elongatus*)."

2005

Michael Bessert and Chenhong Li, Nebraska,
"Conservation Genetics of the Plains Topminnow
(*Fundulus sciadicus*)."

Jenjit Khudamrongsawat, Alabama, studied the
conservation genetics and population structure of the
federally endangered Vermilion Darter and the closely
related Warrior Darter.

http://www.nanfa.org/education/conservation/nanfa_khudamrongsawat_report.pdf

2004

**We thank the Potomac Valley Aquarium
Society and Chesapeake Area Killifish Club for their
generous \$300 donation to the 2004 grant.*

Richard Bush, graduate student at the University of
California in Davis, "Native Trout Conservation to
Benefit California's Threatened Steelhead."

Aaron Schrey, doctoral student at the Fisheries and
Illinois Aquaculture Center of the University of
Southern Illinois in Carbondale, "Genetic
discrimination of pallid and shovelnose sturgeon."

2003

Karen Lawrence, Southeast Missouri State University in
Cape Girardeau, MO, "Water Turbidity and Color
Communication in Darters."

2002

Claire McGrath, study addressed the interactions
between native greenback trout and non-native brook
trout in the Arkansas and South Platte River systems in
Colorado.

2001

Jean Krejca, University of Texas, study addressed the
Mexican blind cave catfish, *Prietella phreatophila*.