



## AUSTRALASIAN BAT SOCIETY INC.

PO Box 481  
LINDFIELD  
NSW 2070

ABN: 75 120 155 626

25 June 2011

### **Australasian Bat Conservation Fund Principles**

#### **Purpose of the fund**

The Australasian Bat Conservation Fund is to provide support, for activities, projects or research undertaken by members of the Australasian Bat Society Inc. that promote the conservation of bats in Australasia.

#### **Source of funds**

The Australasian Bat Conservation Fund will be funded by money raised by membership fees, Conference profits, interest accrued on money held by the ABS in accounts and other income.

#### **Annual funding amounts**

The amount of funds available each year to support bat conservation projects will be determined by the amount of money unspent from the previous financial year (1 Jan - 31 Dec for the ABS). That is, the amount of money generated by the ABS through membership fees, interest and donations (unless provided for a specific purpose) or other means that remains unspent (or allocated to be spent) at the end of the financial year. Up to, but no more than 100% of this money can be spent by the Australasian Bat Conservation Fund in the following year.

#### **Funding amounts for individual projects**

Grants of up to \$500 Australian dollars are available for individual projects

#### **Eligibility**

**Who:** Any member of the Australasian Bat Society Inc. can apply for a grant from the Australasian Bat Conservation Fund

**Activities funded:** The Australasian Bat Conservation Fund is open to applications for any proposal that;

- Improves or promotes the conservation of bats and their habitat in Australasia,
- Raises positive public awareness of bats in Australasia,
- Undertakes scientific research that contributes to bat conservation in the Australasia,
- Supports the role that wildlife carer and rehabilitation organisations play in bat conservation in Australasia.

Projects may include (but not limited to);

- Scientific research, student projects, on ground bat conservation work, education programs or materials, equipment or materials purchased to support bat conservation programs or projects.

**Activities not funded:** The ABS is interested in supporting a very broad range of projects. However, funding is unlikely to be available for the following purposes:

- conference travel, attendance at meetings, or other short-term activities mainly involving travel where these are the principal elements of the grant proposal,
- activities which are properly the responsibility of other funding bodies or other government agencies ,
- recurrent funding of existing projects,
- a project in which the conservation of Australasian bats component is incidental to its main aims,
- payment of salaries, wages etc.

**Where:** The Australasian Bat Conservation Fund is only available for projects undertaken in the Australasian region. That is the islands east of 'Wallace's Line' including; Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, and the islands of the south-west Pacific.

**How:** Members must submit an application proposal outlining the project's objectives, methodology, timeline, budget details and contribution to bat conservation (see the attached proposal guidelines). All applications will be assessed by the ABS executive on merit of how well the project matches our objectives, its viability and expected conservation improvements, the project's potential to receive funding from other sources, and how the project compares with other funding proposals. Only applications determined by the ABS executive to be suitable for funding will be eligible to receive funding.

## **Applications**

**Timing:** Applications can be submitted at any time of the year. Members will be notified if the fund is fully committed for the year.

**Assessment of applications:** Applications will be assessed by the ABS executive (including the extended executive). At times if needed the ABS may call on additional experts to assist in determining a project application. Applications will be assessed against the following criteria (for ABS exec reference - not public)

### **Criteria**

- Does it meet eligibility criteria? (i.e from a member, in the region, meets at least one of the objectives?)
- quality of the application - does it include all the information required for us to make an assessment?
- how well the project meets the ABS objectives
- the projects potential contribution to bat conservation
- Likelihood to achieve the conservation goal
- Competency of the applicant to complete the proposal
- Is it value for money?
- Referees comments and reports
- Relative importance of ABS contribution

- Potential problems with the project
- other considerations

**Notification:** Applicants will be notified of the success or otherwise within 6-8 weeks of receipt of the application. Sometimes the ABS may need to contact applicants to gather more information to assist us assessing the application.

ABS members will be notified if during the year if the funding for that year is exhausted.

### **Payment of funding**

Successful applicants will be required to sign an assistance agreement that describes the ABS's commitment to your project and asks you, in turn, to agree to meet the conditions of assistance (set out below). The assistance agreement must be signed and returned to the ABS in order to receive funding.

On receipt of the assistance the successful applicant will receive 80% of the total amount granted. The final 20% will be paid on receipt of the article to the Australasian Bat Society Newsletter regarding the project (see conditions of assistance below).

### **Conditions of assistance**

To receive assistance successful applicants must agree to;

- Submit an article to the Australasian Bat Society Newsletter about the project and its achievements.
- Supply the ABS with a written final report, photographs or other evidence documenting your achievements, and samples of any materials produced as a result of your project.
- Acknowledge the support of the ABS in publications or public presentations etc. about the project.
- The results of ABS funded work being made freely available wherever possible.
- Indicate that they have obtained (or will obtain) the necessary permits to carry out the project.
- Any specimens which may be collected as a result of support by the fund must be offered to an approved public zoological collection.



## Australasian Bat Conservation Fund Project Proposal Application Guidelines

Please ensure you read and understand the most recent version of the Australasian Bat Conservation Fund principles before preparing your application.

Applications should be prepared in electronic format (e.g. Microsoft Word, PDF, or equivalent). Please ensure your application is concise and to the point, proposals should not be more than four pages long (min font size 12).

So that we can assess your project proposal, please ensure it includes the following information.

1. Your name, address, date of birth and details of any relevant qualifications/ skills/ experience.
2. The names of any other people who will be working with you on the project and details of their involvement (i.e. co-partner, supervisor, assistant etc.)
3. Project title
4. Where will the project take place?
5. Brief description of the project, stating: aims and justification, methods, including project design (if applicable), if any progress has already been made to date, and expected completion date.
6. The significance of the project to the conservation of Australasian bats.
7. How much funding are you seeking? *Maximum \$500 available.*
8. If your project involves live bats, do you have, or are you intending to obtain all necessary permits? *The awarding of the grant will be contingent on receiving the required permits.*
9. How will the grant be spent if successful? *Please provide specific details.*
10. Details of all other sources of funding for the project.
11. Names and contact details of two referees who can comment on your project and your ability.
12. A brief CV including any relevant publications, qualifications.
13. A statement that you will agree to meet the conditions of assistance.
14. Your signature and date of submission.

Please submit your application via email titled "Australasian Bat Conservation Fund application" to:  
The President, Australasian Bat Society [president@ausbats.org.au](mailto:president@ausbats.org.au)