

**FIELD NATURALISTS SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
LIRABENDA ENDOWMENT FUND
RESEARCH GRANTS**

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS 2012

The Field Naturalists Society of South Australia Inc. (FNSSA) established the Lirabenda Endowment Fund (LEF) with the intention of making available research grants to encourage and promote research into the biota and natural environment of South Australia. The Lirabenda Research Grants Committee considers all applications for grants from the Lirabenda Endowment Fund with this intention in mind.

The following are general guidelines to provide applicants with information on projects that the Lirabenda Endowment Fund is likely to support:

1. Projects that increase knowledge and understanding of native species and their habitats.
2. Projects relating to management and conservation of South Australian species and their environment.
3. Projects that investigate factors relating to declining or threatened species of plants and animals. Preference is given to species that are endemic to South Australia.
4. Projects leading to improved management of species that cause environmental damage in South Australia.

Applications are encouraged from research institutions for supervised project funding at the Honours Degree, Masters Degree and PhD levels and projects conducted by researchers at South Australian Research Institutes.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Read carefully before submitting your application for a Lirabenda Research Grant:

- (a) Applications should be lodged both by email and by post. A signed original, together with one copy of the application, should be posted by the due date.
- (b) Lirabenda Endowment Fund grants are for one year only. If the research proposed is part of a larger study the applicant must describe a project with a one-year time-frame.
- (c) Funds are primarily to cover field expenses for researchers to pursue their studies. Items of equipment may be funded at the discretion of the Committee. Salaries and attendance at conferences will not be considered.
- (d) A summary of the results of projects and research must be published in *The South Australian Naturalist* and/or provided by oral presentation at a meeting of the FNSSA.
- (e) The FNSSA reserves the right to publish results on its website of research conducted while the researcher is in receipt of a Lirabenda Research Grant.
- (f) All successful applicants will be contacted by a member of the FNSSA and will be expected to provide evidence of progress. The recipient of a Lirabenda Research Grant will be expected to inform their FNSSA supervisor of any difficulties relating to the project.
- (g) All researchers must obtain an appropriate Permit to Undertake Scientific Research from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) before undertaking any research in a National Park, Conservation Park, Recreation Park, Game Reserve, Regional Reserve or Wilderness Protection Area or on any species of plant or animal protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972. Research conducted on vertebrate animals will also require approval from an Animal or Wildlife Ethics Committee.
- (h) All project leaders and researchers must ensure contact is made with the relevant District National Parks and Wildlife Manager before beginning research in a National Parks and Wildlife Act or Wilderness Protection Act reserve, and maintain liaison with nominated regional and district staff when undertaking fieldwork.
- (i) Applicants should indicate clearly the parts of their project for which they are seeking LEF support. Any funding that is being sought from any other grant-giving body must be declared on the Lirabenda Endowment Fund application form.

- (j) All successful Lirabenda Research Grant recipients of funding from the Lirabenda Endowment Fund must enter into an agreement outlining the conditions of the grant.
- (k) One copy of the final report and/or the agreed end product of the research must be forwarded by both email and by post to the Hon. Secretary, Lirabenda Research Grants Committee upon completion of a project. The report must include a statement of how money was spent.
- (l) Unless otherwise negotiated, an initial payment of 80% of the total grant will be paid to a successful applicant upon acceptance of the grant conditions. The remainder of the grant will be paid after receipt of the final report and the acceptance and recognition by the Research Grants Committee that the report has fulfilled all criteria.
- (m) All reports must acknowledge the FNSSA Lirabenda Endowment Fund.

GENERAL NOTES

- The Lirabenda Research Grants Committee may decide to make no awards in a particular year.
- The maximum amount available for all grants in any one year will be determined by the FNSSA Council before applications are called.
- For 2012 the suggested maximum award will probably not exceed \$3000.
- Late applications will not be considered.
- Successful applicants must return a completed and signed Letter of Agreement by Friday 2 March 2012 or they may forfeit the grant.
- The decisions of the Lirabenda Research Grants Committee will be final and no further discussion with unsuccessful applicants will be entered into by the FNSSA Council and Committee.
- For projects shortlisted and deemed of equal merit/value by the Lirabenda Research Grants Committee, preference will be given to a project which has not been funded by a Lirabenda Endowment Fund Grant in the previous year.

Final applications on the appropriate form should be posted to:

The Hon. Secretary,
Field Naturalists Society of South Australia,
Lirabenda Endowment Fund,
GPO Box 1594,
ADELAIDE SA 5001.

AND to Jenny Mealor, Lirabenda Endowment Fund Committee.
Email: jmealor@chariot.net.au (subject: LEF grants)

For General Enquiries:
Email: jmealor@chariot.net.au (subject: LEF grants)
Phone: Jenny Mealor 8365 2491