

Zoo Conservation Outreach Group



RON MAGILL CONSERVATION HEROES AWARD

Eligibility requirements and application procedures

The Award—what it seeks to accomplish

The Ron Magill Conservation Heroes Award recognizes outstanding contributions to *in-situ* wildlife conservation in Latin America and the Caribbean Basin by promoting capacity building and project development. The award provides Latin American and Caribbean field conservationists with opportunities to fulfill their conservation potential by funding capacity building—in the form of professional training—and providing project development assistance—in the form of field equipment purchases or data collection and monitoring services. In doing so, the award also serves as a bridge between ZCOG's dual missions to provide direct support for wildlife conservation and promote capacity building through professional development.

Funding criteria—how the award must be used

The maximum amount of funds awarded is \$4,500 USD. Funds can be used to (1) purchase field equipment or data services that aid in wildlife/conservation monitoring, or (2) cover professional development training costs for field staff. When possible, ZCOG will serve as the purchasing agent for goods, services, and/or training courses awarded.

Eligibility requirements—who should apply

The award is open to Latin American or Caribbean conservationists conducting *in-situ* wildlife conservation research in the region. Preference will be given to conservationists working with emblematic or endangered species and field projects focused on data collection and/or monitoring. Preference also will be given to current ZCOG field conservation partners and projects that are connected to a local zoological institution. The project PI should submit the application, although preference will be given to funding professional development opportunities for junior project members.

Recognizing conservation heroes—additional funding preferences

Preference will be given to applicants whose projects have had a demonstrated impact on the conservation status of a species. Projects that employ nationals also will be given preference, as will projects that demonstrate a clear commitment to involving local communities in their conservation and monitoring efforts. Finally, preference will be given to projects that engage local, national, and international audiences and that have published peer-reviewed articles or otherwise contributed towards the advancement of scientific knowledge.

Application procedures—how to apply

Concept applications will be made available on the [ZCOG website](http://www.zcog.org) on March 1 and are due by May 1, 2017. After reviewing concept applications, finalists will be invited to submit a full proposal. Concept applications received by May 1 will be considered for eligibility for the July 15 full proposal deadline. Award decisions will be announced by September 1, 2017 and funds must be used within twelve months. ZCOG will not reimburse for expenses incurred prior to the award. For additional questions, please contact scholarships@zcog.org.