NEWSNOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chelonian Research Foundation Linnaeus Fund: 1994 Grant Recipients

Chelonian Research Foundation (CRF), established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt private operating foundation in 1992, administers a turtle research endowment fund named *The Linnaeus Fund*, for which it invites the submission of chelonian research proposals for its *Annual Turtle Research Awards*. Named after CAROLUS LINNAEUS [1707-1778], the Swedish creator of binomial nomenclature, the Fund honors the first turtle taxonomist and father of all modern systematics.

For its 3rd Annual Linnaeus Fund Awards selection on 30 December 1994, CRF awarded a total of $2300 divided between four projects. Awards granted were as follows:

DOODY, J. SEAN. A field test of the effect of incubation environment on hatchling performance of softshell turtles (*Apalone spinifera*). Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, Louisiana.

FINKLER, MICHAEL S. Impact of egg content on post-hatching size, body composition and performance in the common snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*). Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

LINDEMAN, PETER V. Habitat associations of five *Graptemys*, including two Federally listed species. University of Louisville and Murray State University, Kentucky.

POSKIN, RICHARD D., AND MOLL, EDWARD O. Systematics of the false map turtles in Illinois: the *Graptemys pseudogeographica* (Gray, 1831) complex. Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois.

Linnaeus Fund awards are granted annually to individuals for specific turtle research projects, with either partial or full support as funding allows. Priority is generally given to projects concerning freshwater turtles, but tortoise and marine turtle research proposals are also seriously considered. Priority is given sequentially to the following general research areas: Taxonomy and Systematic Relationships, Distribution and Zoogeography, Ecology and Natural History, and Morphology. Other topics may also be considered. Priority is given to projects that demonstrate potential relevance to the scientific basis and understanding of Chelonian Diversity and Conservation Biology. Award recipients agree to publish at least partial or summarized results of the supported research in a CRF-sponsored publication, such as *Chelonian Conservation and Biology*.

Awards for 1995 are expected to be in the $500 to $1000 range for each project. We anticipate that, with time, there will be increased grant support as the endowment fund grows. The annual application deadline is November 15, with disbursement prior to December 31. Submit applications in formal grant proposal format in triplicate as follows: title page, project objective, background and research rationale, materials and methods, total project expenses, funding requested from CRF, funding available or requested from other organizations, general timetable, literature cited, and curriculum vitae for all key personnel. Awards are granted through an internal review process carried out by the Director and Scientific Advisory Board of CRF, which includes ANDERS G.J. RHODIN, RUSSELL A. MITTERMEIER, PETER C.H. PRITCHARD, JOHN L. BEHLER, and TERRY E. GRAHAM. Submit applications to:

ANDERS G.J. RHODIN, Chelonian Research Foundation, 168 Goodrich Street, Lunenburg, MA 01462 USA; Phone: 508-534-9440, 508-582-9668, Fax: 508-840-8184, E-mail: RhodinCRF@aol.com

Research Activities of the Sea Turtle Research Unit (SEATRU) of Universiti Pertanian Malaysia

The Sea Turtle Research Unit (SEATRU) of Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM) was created in 1984, and has since developed into a multi-disciplinary program aimed at studying all aspects of the biology and ecology of sea turtles, threats to their survival, and how they can be managed in order to restore the various species to stable population levels. The vital information resulting from these studies have formed the basis for many important recommendations made by SEATRU to relevant government agencies for the conservation of sea turtles, particularly within the state of Terengganu in Malaysia.

Telemetry Studies. — These studies employ a combination of radio, ultrasonic, and satellite telemetry techniques, as well as microprocessor controlled data recorders to provide valuable insights into the daily lives of turtles at sea. Thus, researchers are able to locate, observe, and closely monitor the behavior of sea turtles underwater. Habitat requirements, mating and swimming behavior, as well as the diving patterns of sea turtles in Terengganu are systematically being studied.