

## NEWSNOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Chelonian Research Foundation Linnaeus Fund: 1999 Grant Recipients

ANDERS G.J. RHODIN



Chelonian Research Foundation (CRF), established in 1992 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt private operating foundation, 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 8th Annual Linnaeus Fund Awards selection on 31 December 1999, CRF awarded a total of \$16,000 divided among 11 research projects. Awards granted were as follows:

- BOUCHARD, SARAH; AND BJORN DAL, KAREN A. Diet selection in the slider turtle, *Trachemys scripta*: ontogenetic shifts and associative effects between plant and animal diet items.
- CONWAY, KRISTEN. *Podocnemis expansa* and *P. unifilis* as protein resources: locally-based use and potential conservation in the Department of Santa Cruz, Bolivia.
- CUNNINGHAM, JESSICA. A population genetic and phylogenetic study on South African Testudinidae with emphasis on the *Psammobates* group.
- GEROSA, GUIDO. Pilot project to establish the Phang Nga focal point for sea turtle conservation at Phra Thong Island, Thailand.
- HOLLOWAY, ROHAN. Trade of freshwater turtles in Cambodia.
- LEUTERITZ, THOMAS E.J. Distribution, status, and biology of the radiated tortoise, *Geochelone radiata* (Shaw, 1802) in south west Madagascar (second field season).
- LUISELLI, LUCA. Assessing the impact of human hunting activities on the free-ranging populations of the threatened forest tortoises (genus *Kinixys*) in the

Niger Delta, Nigeria.

- PERÄLÄ, JARMO. Evolutionary relationships and taxonomic revision of *Testudo* (Chelonia: Testudinidae).
- REDFEARN, ERIN C. Anaerobic metabolism during nest emergence in leatherback sea turtle hatchlings.
- SARKER, SOHRAB UDDIN. Investigation and protection of eggs, young and adult female sea turtles during breeding season along Bangladesh coast.
- TRAUTH, STANLEY E.; AND JOHNSON, RONALD L. Demography, genetic structure, and identification of reproductive fidelity in the alligator snapping turtle (*Macrocllemys temminckii*) from Arkansas.

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 funded. Priority is given to the following general research areas: taxonomy and systematic relationships, conservation, distribution and zoogeography, ecology, natural history, and morphology, but other topics are also 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 at this time are typically in the \$1000–2000 range for each project, with about ten or more projects funded annually. There will be increased grant support from year to year as the endowment fund grows – it has a current value of \$161,000. The annual application deadline is November 15, with funding selection on 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, Terry E. Graham, and Kurt A. Buhlmann. Submit applications to:

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