

Attention students, aquarists and biologists

# Up to \$1000 for Conservation Research

## The NANFA Conservation Research Grants Program

*Etheostoma chermocki* - Vermillion Darter (pair) Photo by Michael Wolfe

**The North American Native Fishes Association (NANFA)** sponsors a cash awards program to support research relating to the conservation of North America's indigenous fish fauna. NANFA wishes to support research that contributes to the sustainable existence of North American native fishes, especially those that are imperiled. Such a grant could be awarded to someone in academia, a conservation group, or to an independent researcher, including a home aquarist. The maximum award for any proposal recommended by our review panel will be \$1,000. NANFA may award multiple awards in one year for amounts less than or equal to \$1,000.

### Application Guidelines

- Qualifying applicants must be members in good standing of NANFA. Membership dues will be accepted at <http://www.nanfa.org/join.shtml> or can be mailed to NANFA, P.O. Box 1596, Milton, WA 98354-1594. Annual dues are \$30 (U.S.), \$35 (Canada and Mexico), and \$44 (all other countries).
- Research proposals should be no longer than 2 double-spaced pages, plus a separate short budget and timeline. Proposals should include a clear statement as to how this research will benefit the study organism and/or its environment.
- Proposal format should be as follows:
  - Question to be investigated
  - Objectives
  - Description of work (methods, design, assumptions, constraints)
  - Benefits
  - Accomplishments (related research efforts)
- Proposals should be accompanied by a one-page resume from the applicant, and a letter of recommendation from the applicant's major professor or from someone familiar with your background and research. This letter of recommendation should include an email address for verifying references. Submission will be accepted electronically either as a .pdf or .doc file. If you have any queries as to whether you qualify for this grant, please contact Bruce Lilyea, below.
- Please list other sources of financial support for your project.
- Researchers must obtain all necessary permits for conducting their research.
- We ask that the recipient write a non-technical article on their research for *American Currents*, NANFA's quarterly journal, to be submitted as soon as the research is complete. Recipients are also encouraged to attend an annual NANFA Convention to present research findings.
- The deadline for applications is January 20 (each year). The award decision will be made by the committee and announced by March 31 (the same year).

### Submit completed applications to:

Dr. Bruce Lilyea  
NANFA Conservation Research Grant  
Grant Committee Chairperson  
Phone: 863-513-7611  
Email: [bruce.lilyea@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.lilyea@gmail.com)



**Founded in 1972, NANFA is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to the appreciation, study and conservation of North America's native fishes.**

**Since 2001 NANFA has awarded the Conservation Grant. Past recipients include:**

**2017**

Madison Snider, masters student, Environmental & Conservation Sciences Graduate Program, North Dakota State University, "Anti-Predator Behavior in Amargosa Pupfish and Pahrump Poolfish."

**2016**

Joshua Stonecipher, graduate student, Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee, "Conservation status and population genetic structure of the Smallscale Darter (*Nothonotus microlepidus*)."

**2015**

Jonathan Davis, a professor at Young Harris College in Young Harris, Georgia. The study addressed the growth patterns under varying temperature and river discharge regimes of the undescribed Sicklefim Redhorse, a vulnerable species probably worthy of federal listing.

**2014**

Michael Moore, Virginia Tech, "Occupancy modeling for the Clinch Dace (*Chrosomus* sp. cf. *saylori*) in the Upper Clinch River System, Virginia using minnow trapping, backpack electrofishing, and eDNA sampling."

**2013**

Anthony Honick, Duquesne University, "Tracking range expansion and genetic population structure of five Pennsylvania threatened darter species using environmental DNA (eDNA) and molecular genetic techniques."

**2012**

Kenneth J. Oswald, Visiting Scientist with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Lecturer in the Northern Kentucky University Honors Program, "Evolutionary Conservation Genetics and Estimation of Water Quality Parameters for Tonguetied Minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)".

**2010**

Suzanne M. Gray, Department of Biology, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, "Turbidity tolerance in blackline shiners: Implications for conservation and recovery."

**2009**

Josh Perkin, "Evolutionary response of a relict ironcolor shiner (*Notropis chalybaeus*) population to a spring environment."

Solomon David, "Ecology, biogeography, and conservation of the spotted gar (*Lepiosteus oculatus*) in Michigan."

Benjamin Keck, "Genetic diversity among disjunct populations of the Greenfin darter, *Nothonotus chlorobranchius*."

**2008**

Richard Harrington, a doctoral candidate at Yale University under the direction of Tom Near, "Analysis of Genetic diversity and Hybridization in the Barrens Darter, *Etheostoma forbesi*."

Jacob Egge, an assistant professor at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, "Conservation Genetics of the Least Madtom, *Noturus hildebrandi*."

Ben Koch, a doctoral student at the University of Wyoming, "Impacts of Non-Native Trout on the Food Base in High-Elevation Cutthroat Trout Refugia in Colorado."

**2007**

Anna L. George, Tennessee Aquarium Research Institute, Cohutta, GA, and David A. Neely, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA, "Conservation Genetics and Larval Biology of Popeye Shiner, a Rare Fish in a Fragmented Ecosystem."

Allison Pease, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, "Ecological Effects of an Introduced Cichlid in the Rio Panuco Basin."

Mike Sandel, University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa, AL, "Inbreeding Depression and Conservation Genetics of Spring Pygmy Sunfish, *Elassoma alabamae*."

**2006**

Robert Hopkins II, Southern Illinois University, IL,  
"Investigation of Nesting Biology of the Stone  
Darter, *Etheostoma derivativum*."

Nicholas J. Lang, St. Louis University, MO, "An  
Assessment of the Impact of the Invasive Reed *Arundo  
donax* on the Rio Salado River Basin, Coahuila, Mexico,  
with Particular Emphasis on the Rare and Endemic Rio  
Salado Darter, *Etheostoma segrex*."

Brian Zimmerman, Bowling Green State University,  
OH, "Microhabitat Use by the Redside Dace  
(*Clinostomus elongatus*)."

**2005**

Michael Bessert and Chenhong Li, Nebraska,  
"Conservation Genetics of the Plains Topminnow  
(*Fundulus sciadicus*)."

Jenjit Khudamrongsawat, Alabama, studied the  
conservation genetics and population structure of the  
federally endangered Vermilion Darter and the closely  
related Warrior Darter.

[http://www.nanfa.org/education/conservation/nanfa\\_khudamrongsawat\\_report.pdf](http://www.nanfa.org/education/conservation/nanfa_khudamrongsawat_report.pdf)

**2004**

*\*We thank the Potomac Valley Aquarium  
Society and Chesapeake Area Killifish Club for their  
generous \$300 donation to the 2004 grant.*

Richard Bush, graduate student at the University of  
California in Davis, "Native Trout Conservation to  
Benefit California's Threatened Steelhead."

Aaron Schrey, doctoral student at the Fisheries and  
Illinois Aquaculture Center of the University of  
Southern Illinois in Carbondale, "Genetic  
discrimination of pallid and shovelnose sturgeon."

**2003**

Karen Lawrence, Southeast Missouri State University in  
Cape Girardeau, MO, "Water Turbidity and Color  
Communication in Darters."

**2002**

Claire McGrath, study addressed the interactions  
between native greenback trout and non-native brook  
trout in the Arkansas and South Platte River systems in  
Colorado.

**2001**

Jean Krejca, University of Texas, study addressed the  
Mexican blind cave catfish, *Prietella phreatophila*.