IBA Experience and Exchange Grant Application Form
Deadline for Applications is 1 September 2023 23:59 PDT

Information about the Experience and Exchange Grants Program

Purpose: The Experience and Exchange Grants Program was initiated by IBA in 2004 to enable biologists to participate in project work and training exchanges. IBA recognizes that working visits to other projects offer biologists and wildlife managers enormous opportunities for learning, sharing expertise, collaborating in on-site problem solving, technical training, and professional growth. Moreover, these experiences broaden perspective and understanding of the biological and cultural context within which bear conservation programs must operate in different regions. Bears benefit when biologists spend more time applying shared knowledge and less time re-inventing the wheel with each new project. The program will fund travel for participants in well-conceived experience and exchange projects. Co-chairs for the program are Shyamala Ratnayeke and Frank T. van Manen.

Who may apply: IBA's Experience and Exchange Grants Program is designed to benefit a wide variety of people. Young biologists and students seeking specific types of technical training in preparation for their own projects may desire to work on an established project for a period of time. Biologists starting new projects or dealing with stubborn research questions may benefit from hosting a field visit from someone who has dealt with similar questions, problems, or research logistics in the past. Mid- or late-career biologists who have not had previous opportunity to collaborate with biologists from other countries, or who wish to broaden their understanding of bears worldwide, can learn from an international field experience and can benefit host projects by sharing their many years of experience. Other applicants involved in bear management and conservation can also be considered for grants.

The IBA Experience and Exchange Grants Program funds projects for IBA members. **Your IBA membership must be current to apply for an IBA grant.** Membership dues cannot be charged to grant funds. If you are uncertain of the status of your IBA membership, please contact IBA Director of Operations and Programs, Jennapher Teunissen van Manen.

Expected benefits: Benefits of the exchange work can be of many kinds and include the exchange of information through teaching, workshops, and non-IBA meetings; the preparation of material for publication or presentation; field experience; technical training; laying the basis for further cooperation, i.e., proposal preparation. Other benefits not mentioned here are also likely.

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

1

International Association for Bear Research and Management
907 Jessie Way
Bozeman, MT 59715 USA
https://www.bearbiology.org

Application Information and Requirements

Letters of reference: The program requires letters of reference from at least two individuals familiar with the applicants or the project are required. Letters of reference must be received by the application deadline and can be sent directly to the Experience and Exchange Grants Program co-chairs or be included as part of the application packet.

Additional Requirement: Both the host and the guest should provide a short CV highlighting area(s) of expertise relevant to Experience and Exchange Project. For workshops and training programs, only the host fills this section.

Application Form: The application form includes two sections for the host and guest contact information, five sections on the application form for your proposed work exchange and a section for budget details. All sections for the host/guest contact information, the proposed work exchange and the budget must be filled out completely. The budget must be in USD and cannot exceed the maximum grant award amount of $2,000.00 USD. Applicants should carefully follow the instructions to ensure all sections of your application are complete. Incomplete applications or requests for more than the maximum grant award amount, will not be considered.

Application Deadline: Applicants must have their completed application package (with reference letters) submitted by the September 1 deadline. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year but will not be reviewed until the next September 1 review period.

Proposal Evaluation: Grant proposals are evaluated and ranked by the Experience and Exchange Grants Committee based on the following criteria: justification and merit of the proposed work exchange, overall documentation, letters of support, budget, expected benefit to bear research and management, potential for professional development of applicants, and matching funds/in-kind support.

Notification of Grant Award: Applicants will receive notice in December of whether their project is a candidate for funding. Final funding decisions are dependent on IBA funding ability and will be made known by the end of February.

Requirements of IBA Experience and Exchange Grant Recipients: A detailed list of requirements will be provided for each recipient to sign when awarded a grant. Recipients agree to provide a summary of their project for the IBA website by May 1, 2023, an article submission to the IBN no later than the summer 2025 issue (deadline is 5 June 2025), and a project report by May 1, 2025. Reports will be posted on the IBA website and therefore should only include information recipients are willing to share publicly.

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

2

**Please email you completed application with supplemental files to <u>both co-chairs</u>.
If you have your letters of reference sent directly, please ensure they are sent to <u>both co-chairs</u> and received by the September 1 deadline.**

Frank T. van Manen: frank.vanmanen@bearbiology.org
Shyamala Ratnayeke: sratnayeke@gmail.com

<u>**Host and Guest Contact Information Section 1:**</u>

<u>**Applicant Names**</u> (*for workshops and training programs only host information is required*)

Guest (Visiting Party):

Host**:**

<u>**Guest Information**</u>

Position or Title:

Affiliation:

Work Address:

Work Country:

Work Phone:

Guest Home Address:

Guest Country:

Guest Mobile Phone:

Guest Email:

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

3

Host and Guest Contact Information Section 2:

Host Information

Position or Title:

Host Affiliation:

Host Work Address:

Host Work Country:

Host Work Phone:

Host Home Address:

Host Home Country:

Host Mobile Phone:

Host Email:

Next:
Pages 5 – 10: Please fill out each of the five sections for specific details of the proposed work exchange paying attention to character limits.

Page 11: Include all budget details and list any additional support to the work exchange.

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

4

Description of Proposed Work Exchange Sections 1 – 5

1. What are the main objectives of the proposed Experience and Exchange Project? (2000 character limit)

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

5

2. Describe the proposed Experience and Exchange Project, including proposed dates and duration (5000 character limit: 2500 on page 5 and 2500 on page 6):

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

6

Extra space for Question 2 if Needed: Continue describing the proposed Experience and Exchange Project, including proposed dates and duration (5000 character limit: 2500 on page 5 and 2500 on page 6):
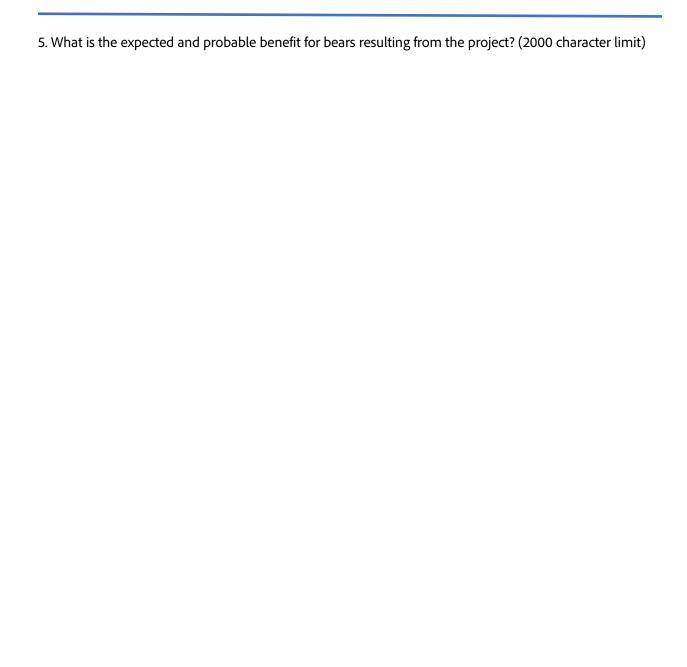
The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

7

3. What is the expected value of the project for the Guest? (2000 character limit)

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

8

4. What is the expected value of the project for the Host? (2000 character limit)

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

9

5. What is the expected and probable benefit for bears resulting from the project? (2000 character limit)

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

10

International Association for Bear Research and Management
907 Jessie Way
Bozeman, MT 59715 USA
https://www.bearbiology.org

Budget

Please note the maximum amount for the grant is $2,000.00 USD. **If more than the maximum award amount of $2,000 is requested, your application will not be considered for review.**

Total Amount Requested (USD only):

Itemized Budget

Travel costs (USD):

Meals and incidental costs (USD):

Lodging costs (USD):

Special equipment needed (USD):

List any other sources of support you have arranged for this exchange including other grants, monetary or other support (e.g., lodging, meals, equipment) from the host project, institution/agency, or community (additional sources of support provided by the host institution are an important consideration in the proposal evaluation and ranking):

>>End of Application<<

The International Association for Bear Research and Management
A U.S. tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization (EIN: 94-3102570)

11