



Disney Conservation Grants 2020

Organization Name	University Department	Project Title	Project Description	Species	Geographic Region	Country/Region
Archbold Expeditions		High-resolution Tracking of Gopher Tortoises	Tracking gopher tortoises using new high-resolution, remote technology to monitor juvenile tortoises and enable improved population viability analyses. The project also engages volunteers in habitat restoration, inspiring more than 500 urban and rural youth in educational activities, and sharing research findings and restoration lessons with relevant stakeholders.	Gopher Tortoise	North America	United States
Association of Zoos and Aquariums		AZA Saving Animals from Extinction	Focuses the collective expertise within AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums and leverages their massive audiences to save species. Intends to raise the ability of accredited organizations to become engines for conservation awareness and change.	Multiple	Global	Global
Atlanta Audubon Society		Project Safe Flight Atlanta	Making Atlanta, Georgia, a more bird-friendly city by implementing solutions that will have a direct impact on the conservation of migrating birds and can be modeled by urban centers across the United States. By focusing on research, specific conservation projects, and education initiatives, Project Safe Flight Atlanta has the opportunity to save thousands of birds each year in Georgia.	Multiple	North America	United States
Audubon Canyon Ranch		Living with Lions Community Conservation Project	Increasing public understanding and appreciation of mountain lions in San Francisco's North Bay. Working to minimize human-wildlife conflict and identify priority mountain lion habitats while collaborating with partners on regional conservation priorities.	Puma	North America	United States
Beneath the Waves		Shark Survival Inside Protected Areas	Evaluating the benefits of big protected areas on the behavior and health of threatened sharks in the Bahamas using cutting-edge technologies. Building capacity for behavioral change in local Bahamian students via conservation training and leadership opportunities.	Reef Shark, Tiger Shark	Marine	Bahamas
Borneo Nature Foundation		Protecting Orangutans in Borneo's Peatlands	Reducing the threat of fires to the largest orangutan population in the world by restoring drained and deforested peatlands, encouraging behavior change in local communities, and tackling fire impacts by improving local fire-fighting capacity and developing fire-prevention networks in Borneo.	Bornean Orangutan	Asia	Indonesia



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Chicago Zoological Society		Knowledge Sharing for Dolphin Conservation	Building on previous work to evaluate and improve dolphin viewing practices and engage stakeholders to reduce human impacts on bottlenose dolphins off the coast of Florida. Assessing red tide algae blooms' impact on coastal communities and ecosystem recovery, and engaging stakeholders in citizen science and conservation education.	Bottlenose Dolphin	Marine	United States
Conservation Fusion		Inspiring Leaders; Protecting Lemurs: Madagascar	Continuing previous work that is building conservation leaders and connecting communities in Madagascar to the science of conservation through active participation in conservation education and leadership training. Highlighting tangible benefits of ecotourism and restoring critical lemur habitat by planting more than 60,000 trees annually.	Aye-aye, Black and White Ruffed Lemur, Greater Bamboo Lemur, Jolly's Mouse Lemur, Red-fronted Brown Lemur	Africa	Madagascar
Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International		Protecting Grauer's Gorilla Habitat	Enhancing conservation engagement in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and improving food security with community agriculture and animal husbandry projects, all to help increase the community value of protecting critically endangered Grauer's gorillas and their habitat.	Grauer's Gorilla	Africa	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Elephants Without Borders		Disneynature Elephants: Hope for People and Elephants	In honor of "Disneynature Elephants", working to address human-elephant conflict head-on with the novel EleSenses repellent toolkit, demarcating wildlife corridors and maintaining waterholes to help keep elephants in National Parks. Support will also go towards building an education center for the program in Botswana.	African Elephant	Africa	Botswana
Environment Society of Oman		Chasing Oman's Endangered Vulture Populations	Conserving the endangered Lappet-faced and Egyptian vultures by assessing and advocating to reduce electrocution and poisoning threats to vultures, monitoring the population, and promoting improved perceptions of vultures with targeted education campaigns.	Egyptian Vulture, Lappet-faced Vulture	Europe/Middle East/Australia	Oman
Fauna & Flora International USA		Empowering Community Conservation of Utila Iguana in Honduras	Building local support to conserve the critically endangered Utila spiny-tailed iguana and its mangrove habitat through citizen science, a youth-focused outreach campaign, and stakeholder buy-in for a new IUCN Iguana Conservation Action Plan.	Utila Spiny-tailed Iguana	Central/South America	Honduras



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Florida Wildlife Federation	University of Central Florida - Dept. of Biology	Artificial Intelligence and Panther Conservation	Applying artificial intelligence (AI) tools to camera trap data to assess population density and abundance of endangered Florida panthers, developing an efficient and accurate AI model to increase processing speed of camera trap data. These data will be used to emphasize the panther as an integral part of a unique community identity in south Florida through education outreach.	Puma	North America	United States
Global Penguin Society (Wildlife Conservation Network)		Penguins, People, and the Planet	Building on previous work to continue the conservation of the Magellanic penguin in Patagonia through both large-scale conservation and focused local efforts. Tracking penguins at sea to understand feeding & breeding areas and inform the creation of marine protected areas. Targeting local education efforts at communities and schools near colonies to help the next generation value penguins, mitigating plastic pollution, and transferring information to decision makers to drive conservation action.	Magellanic Penguin	Central/South America	Argentina
Gorilla Rehabilitation and Conservation Education Center		Saving Wildlife: African Apes (Year 7)	Working with communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo to reduce hunting, and explore strategies to reintroduce rehabilitated gorilla to the wild. Increasing protection of great apes by local communities, and funding analysis and implementation of additional conservation strategies.	Grauer's Gorilla	Africa	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Greater Farallones Association		LiMPETS: Youth in Ocean Conservation	Empowering youth to actively participate in scientific data collection along the California coast. Delivering LiMPETS (Long-term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students) to middle school and high school students statewide, increasing their awareness and stewardship of the ocean environment. Bringing this program to new underserved schools in the San Francisco Bay Area, expanding monitoring into a critical area for kelp restoration in Sonoma County, and providing valuable data to researchers and resource managers.	Black Abalone, Ochre Sea Star, Pinto Abalone, Purple Sea Urchin, Red Abalone	Marine	United States
International Crane Foundation		Sarus Cranes-Floating Rice-Livelihoods	Conserving rich biodiversity in the Ayeyarwady Delta by supporting sustainable floating rice agriculture through workshops, product marketing, and awareness campaigns. Increasing conservation of these managed natural wetlands will increase farmers' income and maintain critical habitat for endangered Myanmar Sarus Cranes and biodiversity.	Sarus Crane	Asia	Myanmar



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International Crane Foundation		Saving Wildlife: Cranes (Year 7)	Expanding and strengthening efforts for recovery of the Siberian crane and supporting work to monitor and protect the relevant stopover sites along the birds' more-than-three-thousand-mile migration path.	Siberian Crane	Asia	China
International Rhino Foundation		Protecting Zimbabwe's Rhinos	Protecting Zimbabwe's critically endangered black rhinos from poachers by translocating rhinos from high-risk areas to safer locations. Working with local communities to prevent poaching while educating school children about the importance of wildlife conservation. Tracking and monitoring rhinos to ensure their safety, treating wounded rhinos and returning them to the wild, and helping authorities pursue, apprehend and prosecute poachers.	Black Rhinoceros	Africa	Zimbabwe
Jane Goodall Institute For Wildlife Research, Education & Conservation		Jane Goodall Roots & Shoots	Sustaining and expanding this strong network around the world to increase the time that kids spend in nature, engage them as environmental stewards, and empower them as future conservation leaders who care for people, animals, and the environment.	Multiple	Global	Global
Lebanon Reforestation Initiative		Eurasian Otter Conservation in Lebanon	Reviving the population of critically endangered Eurasian otters in riparian habitats in Lebanon by studying the remaining otter populations, identifying and prioritizing restoration and conservation areas, and developing a national decree for the conservation of the species.	Eurasian Otter	Europe/Middle East/Australia	Lebanon
Lion Landscapes (Houston Zoo)	University of Oxford, Department of Zoology, WildCRU	Coexistence Co-op: Consolidation and Expansion	Reducing human-carnivore conflict and preventing poisons from killing lions and critically endangered vultures. Training communities how to better protect their livestock from predation and to understand the dangers of using poisons, this project builds essential local capacity, secures livelihoods, and improves the health of people, their livestock and the environment.	African Lion, Hooded Vulture, Lappet-faced Vulture, Ruppell's Vulture, White-backed Vulture	Africa	Kenya
Los Angeles Audubon Society		Least Tern & Shorebird Conservation	Combining species monitoring and community education to protect and preserve habitat for least terns and other shorebirds across beaches in Los Angeles, California. Focusing on restoring dune and coastal habitats at Venice Beach, training volunteers to support tern colony monitoring and data collection, and engaging students in tern, plover, and beach habitat conservation.	California Least Tern	North America	United States



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Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History Foundation		Backyard Bat Survey	Partnering with residents in under-served neighborhoods of Los Angeles County, California, to track and record bat activities for the first large-scale study of bat habitat usage in urban and suburban habitats. Inspiring L.A. residents to become stewards of local environments and gathering scientific data to inform policy and land management decisions for the benefit of conservation.	Big Brown Bat, California Myotis, Canyon Bat, Greater Mastiff Bat, Hoary Bat, Pallid Bat, Pocketed Free-tailed Bat, Silver Haired Bat, Western Red Bat, Western Yellow Bat, Yuma Myotis	North America	United States
Mote Marine Laboratory		Atlantic White Shark Conservation Research	Studying white sharks in the North Atlantic ocean with satellite tags to understand their life history and critical habitats used. The project hopes to reveal the threats this species faces from fishing, environmental contaminants and climate change, and inform public policy makers for conservation and fisheries management.	White Shark	Marine	Canada
National Audubon Society		Bahamas Piping Plover Recovery Initiative	Protecting critical coastal habitats that wintering Piping Plovers and other declining shorebird species depend on in remote islands of The Bahamas, where they spend up to ten months each year. Building on previous work to garner community and government support to protect and manage these sites, build local awareness and economic opportunities and reduce threats and build resilience to climate change for the species and their habitats.	Piping Plover	Central/South America	Bahamas
New Nature Foundation		Integrated Community Conservation Action - Uganda	Working with communities living near national parks in Uganda to reduce threats to chimpanzees and other wildlife. Educating people about biodiversity, building fuel-efficient stoves and providing biomass briquettes to reduce wood extraction from the forest and inspire sustainable behavioral changes needed to protect the region's wild places.	Forest	Africa	Uganda
New York City Audubon Society		Tidal Connections in Jamaica Bay	Recruiting and training local wildlife enthusiasts to monitor migratory shorebirds utilizing Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge is a key stopover for migrating birds and they are working to build public stewardship of the bay's wildlife through outreach, education, and volunteer engagement.	American Oystercatcher, Semipalmated Sandpiper	North America	United States
Okapi Conservation Project (Wildlife Conservation Network)		Conservation Education in Okapi Reserve	Reducing the demand for illegal bush meat and illegal mining and poaching activities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Improving community welfare, promoting sustainable use of natural resources and preservation of okapi habitat by working with farmers' co-ops and women's groups to improve agricultural production, reduce deforestation, and monitor wildlife.	Okapi	Africa	Democratic Republic of the Congo



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Osa Conservation (DBA Friends of the Osa)		Linking Landscape, Wildlife and Community	Monitoring threats of illegal hunting, logging, land-use change, and climate change to white-lipped peccary and jaguar in Costa Rica through technology and citizen science. Linking landscapes, wildlife & people across this uniquely biodiverse area.	Jaguar, White-Lipped Peccary	Central/South America	Costa Rica
Painted Dog Conservation (Wildlife Conservation Network)		Protecting Painted Dogs in Zimbabwe	Building on previous work, established a field base for conducting anti-poaching patrols throughout more than 2.5 million acres of protected areas and buffer zones in Zimbabwe to protect African painted dogs and other threatened species. Dismantling snares and freeing trapped animals, identifying major poaching hotspots, and providing outreach efforts through camp and afterschool programs.	African Painted Dog	Africa	Zimbabwe
Perry Institute for Marine Science		Saving Wildlife: Corals (Year 7)	Collaborating with experts in the Caribbean to protect the shrinking Bahamian reefs through a comprehensive study, training, and actions such as limiting harmful human contact with existing reefs, promoting natural coral reef ecosystem resilience, setting up coral nurseries, and experimenting with reef rehabilitation techniques.	Elkhorn Coral, Staghorn Coral, and Star Coral	Marine	Bahamas
Proyecto Titi		Saving Wildlife: Monkeys (Year 7)	Supporting efforts in Colombia to protect and expand forest habitat, reduce the illegal wildlife trade, recycle more than three million plastic bags, and create alternative income sources for community members.	Cotton-top Tamarin	Central/South America	Colombia
Reef Relief		Coral Reef Youth Education Program	Building a bridge between the public and Florida marine environments through youth education and memorable hands-on experiences to improve the overall health of coral reefs locally and globally.	Elkhorn Coral, Staghorn Coral	Marine	United States



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Royal Society for the Protection of Birds		Saving India's Critically Endangered Vultures	Promoting Vulture Safe Zones in India with focused policy, advocacy, monitoring and outreach aimed to clear vulture-toxic veterinary drugs from the environment.	Long-billed Vulture, Red-headed Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture, White-backed Vulture	Asia	India
Save the Golden Lion Tamarin		Saving Wildlife: Monkeys (Year 7)	Supporting efforts in Brazil to restore enough forest fragments and golden-lion tamarin populations to save the species from extinction.	Golden Lion Tamarin	Central/South America	Brazil
Sea Turtle Conservancy		Recovering Green Turtles in Tortuguero	Protecting the largest green turtle population in the Atlantic and training aspiring conservationists through a research assistantship program in Costa Rica. Expanding conservation capacity in Latin America and the Caribbean while supporting a sustainable ecotourism economy that directly benefits the local community.	Green Sea Turtle, Leatherback Sea Turtle	Marine	Costa Rica
Southern Tanzania Elephant		Enhancing Human-Elephant Coexistence: Rungwa	Increasing human-elephant coexistence in one of the most vulnerable regions for elephants and people in Tanzania. Monitoring elephant populations to better understand drivers of crop consumption and movement patterns. Building capacity in local communities to increase resiliency towards living with elephants and connecting people with elephants to increase awareness of conservation efforts.	African Elephant	Africa	United Republic of Tanzania
The Manta Trust (Action for Mantas)		Manta Conservation and Capacity Building	Working directly with communities and managers in Pacific Mexico to protect a local population of the oceanic manta ray by reducing impacts on marine ecosystems and developing sustainable fishing practices. Building local research and conservation capacity to improve the understanding and management of artisanal fisheries and their effects on sharks and rays in this region.	Oceanic Manta Ray	Marine	Mexico
The Marine Mammal Center		Hawaiian Monk Seal Conservation and Education Program	Promoting the recovery of endangered Hawaiian monk seals through science-based rehabilitation, highly trained volunteer stranding response, expanded youth education, coordinated partnerships and messages to promote action to protect this species. Reducing threats of habitat loss, marine debris and negative human interactions and inspiring the local community to ensure the future of Hawaiian monk seals.	Hawaiian Monk Seal	Marine	United States



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The Talarak Foundation		West Visayas Species Recovery Project	Developing a community-led reintroduction site for critically endangered species of endemic hornbills in the Philippines. Supporting long-term program success through community education, capacity building, livelihood development and sustainability teachings to developing conservation as a second nature for those that live within nature.	Rufous Headed Hornbill, Visayan Tarictic Hornbill	Asia	Philippines
Trees, Water & People		Community-led Forest Conservation in Guatemala	Partnering with six indigenous communities in southeastern Guatemala to save the last of the region's forests through participatory conservation to conserve 2,000+ hectares, re-forest farmlands with 30,000 native trees, identify endangered species, improve livelihoods with forest products, and reduce deforestation using improved cookstoves.	Forest, Highland Guan, Horned Guan, Pink-headed Warbler, Baird's Tapir, Ocelot	Central/South America	Guatemala
Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation		India Turtle Conservation Program	Sustain and expand species recovery of the critically endangered Red Crowned Roofed turtle in India through nest protection and rear-and-release programs.	Red Crowned Roofed Turtle	Asia	India
Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation		Reintroduction Strategy for Radiated Tortoises	Launching a comprehensive Confiscation to Reintroduction strategy to counteract poaching by reintroducing some of the 25,000 Radiated tortoises from centers in Madagascar. Demonstrating the effectiveness of a soft release strategy to generate high site fidelity in released tortoises, combined with community engagement to achieve long-term protection.	Radiated Tortoise	Africa	Madagascar
University of Central Florida Research Foundation	Biology	Oysters, Endangered Birds, and Children	Understanding the impact of oyster restoration on threatened and endangered wading and aquatic bird species in the Indian River Lagoon, Florida. Training community members as citizen scientists to gather data and images from oyster reefs. Partnering with the STEM Learning Center at Nemours Children's Hospital in Orlando, Florida to engage in-residence children in data analysis and inspire conservation passion.	Multiple	Marine	United States
Wild Landscapes		Bhutan to Burma Wildlife Corridor	Conserving Northeast Indian landscapes and securing a wildlife corridor from Bhutan to Burma for iconic wildlife including tigers, elephants, and rhinos by promoting community education, economic upliftment and female empowerment.	Multiple	Asia	India



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Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust		Saving the World's Rarest Duck	Establishing a new population of Madagascar pochard birds in Lake Sofia, Madagascar, and restoring the site to a healthy, flourishing wetland. Supporting both the pochard population and surrounding communities through the development of sustainable livelihoods, benefitting 12,000 people in the area who rely on the lake for water, food and other resources.	Madagascar Pochard	Africa	Madagascar
World Hope International		Community Conservation Action for Gibbons	Conserving endangered Southern Yellow-cheeked crested gibbons and their unique habitat by strengthening community-ecotourism to provide wildlife-friendly livelihoods to indigenous youth whilst motivating sustainable community development and improved attitudes to wildlife. Kick-starting a wildlife club to nurture cultural roots with nature and empowering indigenous leadership to take ownership of gibbon conservation resulting in a renewed stewardship role of the forest.	Southern Yellow-Cheeked Crested Gibbon	Asia	Cambodia
World Parrot Trust USA		Ensuring Blue-throated Macaw Survival in Bolivia	Conserving the rarest parrot in the world, the Blue-throated Macaw, by protecting and restoring habitat in Bolivia, safeguarding nests and chicks, and encouraging local people to take part in the conservation of birds and habitats.	Blue-throated Macaw	Central/South America	Bolivia
Xerces Society		Bring Back the Pollinators	Engaging farmers, gardeners, land managers, businesses, government agencies, and everyday people in conserving vital pollinators across the United States. Protecting endangered bees, butterflies and the habitats they depend on and translating best available science into practical, on-the-ground conservation. Spreading awareness about the importance of pollinators and the steps everyone can take to protect these essential creatures.	Insect	North America	United States
Zoological Society of London (ZSL America)		Conserving Tsavo's Black Rhino Population	Partnering with the Kenya Wildlife Service to conserve the critically endangered black rhino in the Tsavo Conservation Area by monitoring and securing this key rhino population, reducing human-wildlife conflict, and building financial resilience of two neighboring communities to counteract the wildlife trade and bushmeat hunting.	Black Rhinoceros	Africa	Kenya