



## NEOTROPICAL GRASSLAND CONSERVANCY

### **Program Descriptions and Eligibility**

Applicants of any nationality or citizenship are eligible to apply for Memorial Research Grants (MRG) if they meet the specific program guidelines, but must be affiliated with a university or government agency in South and Central America.

### **Memorial Research Grants**

Memorial Research Grants (MRG) provide funding for a variety of research topics in the grasslands of the American tropics. See the web site for more information of specific grants.

Applicants must complete the general and program specific fields in Section I (cover sheet), and complete in full Sections II – VI of the application provided below. Applications are reviewed by a panel of researchers affiliated with the Neotropical Grassland Conservancy, and grants are awarded based on the general merit and feasibility of the proposal, conservation potential, and how closely the proposal matches the specific grant and the mission of the Neotropical Grassland Conservancy.

### **Application Deadlines, Submissions, and Additional Information**

Applications for Memorial Research Grants (MRG) are due by the first of March, and may be submitted electronically to:

[info@conservegrassland.org](mailto:info@conservegrassland.org)

or mailed to:

The Neotropical Grassland Conservancy  
6274 Heathcliff Drive  
Carmichael, CA 95608-0909

Requests for clarification and/or additional information should be directed to:

[info@conservegrassland.org](mailto:info@conservegrassland.org)



NEOTROPICAL GRASSLAND  
CONSERVANCY

**Memorial Research Grant Application**

(All information will be kept confidential.)

Section I – Cover Sheet

**Applicant's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

**University Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Citizenship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail this Cover Sheet along with completed Sections II – VI to:**

NEOTROPICAL GRASSLAND CONSERVANCY

6274 Heathcliff Drive  
Carmichael, CA 95608-0909

## Section II – Memorial Research Grants for 2007

**Please check next to all grants to which you are applying.**

- Sue Wijdenes Grant (New Initiatives) – \$5,000**
- Derald G. Langham Grant (Plants) – \$2,000**
- W. J. and Virginia W. Moorhouse Grant (Birds) – \$2000**

## Section III – Photograph (Optional)

**If possible, please include a photograph(s) of applicant and study organism or system. Photographs are a very powerful tool for aiding the NGC in securing funds. Photographs should be send electronically to: [info@conservegrassland.org](mailto:info@conservegrassland.org).**

## Section IV – List of Projects (2,000 Words Maximum for Each Project)

**List on a separate sheet of paper. Provide the project title, introduction, objectives, methods, conservation significance, and locations. Specify which pieces of equipment from section VI above will be used with the project.**

## Section V – Research Budget

**List all expenses covered for the overall project in a detailed budget. If the budget exceeds the MRG, please indicate how the remaining budget will be supplied.**

## Section VI – Waiver

**I, the undersigned, authorize the Neotropical Grassland Conservancy to use any material submitted to aid them in securing donations. By signing below, I also declare that the information provided is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.**

---

Applicant's Signature

Date



# NEOTROPICAL GRASSLAND CONSERVANCY

## Who We Are

The Neotropical Grassland Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation dedicated to promoting the conservation of savannas, gallery forests, wetlands, and associated ecosystems in Central and South America.

## What We Do

We promote conservation through our programs and grants: 1) the Research Equipment Program (REP), which supports local scientific infrastructure; 2) the Student Grant Program (SGP), which supports graduate students enrolled in Latin American institutions, pursuing careers in grassland conservation; and 3) Memorial Research Grants, which directly fund conservation research.

## Research Equipment Program

The Research Equipment Program (REP) provides basic science equipment to scientists and students in the American tropics. Conservation research efforts and opportunities are often truncated by a lack of basic equipment, such as microscopes, GPS units, cameras, binoculars, and science textbooks. Surprisingly, a used pair of binoculars can make the difference between a student embarking on a Master's project in conservation or switching over to an agricultural focus with better funding.

## Student Grant Program

The Student Grant Program (SGP) was designed in response to feedback from Venezuelan university professors. Graduate student research projects are often Grant hindered by lack of funds for basic needs such as transportation, lodging, meals and consumable field supplies. As little as \$500 can launch a lifelong career in conservation.

## Memorial Research Grants

Memorial Research Grants (MRG) directly promote and fund conservation research. Grants are one-year, unrestricted funds that can be used for direct or indirect costs,

including salary. Specific grants may be restricted to certain taxa or new research initiatives. See individual grants for details.

Please note that, unless specifically stated, these grants are not restricted to conservation-oriented projects, but you will need to address the issue of how this grant may impact conservation efforts in your area under the section "conservation implications" of your project.

## Why It Matters

The dual threat of agriculture and cattle ranching puts the health of the relatively ignored savanna and wetland ecosystems at risk. If these ecosystems are to be preserved then in-country scientists, landowners, and students will make the difference between habitat preservation and destruction.

## How It Works

Researchers in our growing network outline their projects, request specific equipment or student grants, and describe its impact. Equipment stays with the research group to encourage further studies and professional development. At the end of the year, we receive an update on each project. The impact of these programs, particularly for young professionals, is immense.

## How We Measure Success

We measure success by the number of researchers impacted and projects assisted. For major equipment donations, success is measured by its continued use for multiple projects and students. We use donated funds to expand our programs, to purchase equipment, and to support conservation students in Latin America. Our dedicated interns and board members volunteer their work and donate all administrative costs, so every dollar you give goes directly toward conservation.