



Disney Conservation Fund 2025 Grant Opportunity Details

Disney Conservation is committed to saving wildlife and building a global community inspired to protect the magic of nature together. Since 1995, Disney Conservation has directed \$132 million and the expertise of our dedicated teams to support organizations working with communities to save wildlife, inspire action and protect the planet.

We are pleased to offer a new opportunity for eligible organizations to apply for a two-year conservation grant to advance their community-based efforts to protect, restore and/or rewild wildlife corridors or migratory pathways across both terrestrial and/or marine habitats. **This will be our only open call for conservation-related funding proposals in 2025.**

Eligibility

Nonprofit organizations that:

- Have received Disney Conservation Fund support for a conservation program in or after 2015.
 - Note: Organizations that have an active DCF grant are also eligible for this additional award if they meet other eligibility criteria.
- Have US 501c3 organization status OR apply via a valid US 501c3 intermediary partner.
- Meet The Walt Disney Company global charitable giving guidelines [here](#).
- Are leading existing projects/programs (versus creating new initiatives to fulfill this funding opportunity) focused on protecting, restoring and/or rewilding wildlife corridors or migratory pathways. Both land and/or marine-based corridors will be considered.**

**** Only one submission per organization will be considered. US 501c3 organizations serving as an intermediary may support submissions for multiple projects (one per each non-US organization). ****

Please contact the DCF team (Disney.conservation@disney.com) with any questions about eligibility.

Application and Reporting

Interested applicants should submit a simple inquiry through our online platform by April 13, 2025; approved inquiries will be invited to submit a full proposal for consideration as a next step. To submit an inquiry:

1. Confirm whether your US 501c3 organization has an existing FrontDoor account.
 - You may contact your FrontDoor account owner for login details if you do not already have them.
 - OR US 501c3 organizations may claim their front door account and designate an account owner [here](#). Once the FrontDoor account has been claimed, the account owner can create and manage user accounts for other team members as needed.

2. Log in using your FrontDoor credentials at <https://www.cybergrants.com/disney/dcfinqury> to complete and submit your inquiry.

The grant term will be two years. If awarded, a progress report will be due one year after funding (August 2026), and a final report due two years after funding is awarded (August 2027). Grantees will be expected to report on tangible outcomes achieved in the areas of species and habitat protection/restoration and community engagement.

Awards

Awards will have the following restrictions:

- Funds should support strategies and operations of the protection/restoration/rewilding program the organization presented in the application (rather than another program).
- Funding should not be used for purposes intended to benefit a Government Official, either directly or indirectly, or intended to influence an act or decision by a Government Official.
- Use of funds should align with The Walt Disney Company global charitable giving guidelines [here](#).

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of Disney employees with a range of expertise relevant to the objectives of this funding opportunity.

Timeline

- April 13, 2025 – Inquiries due (11:59pm Eastern Time UTC-4:00)
- Early May 2025 – Selected programs invited submit full proposals by the deadline on June 1
- July 2025 – Grant decision announcements



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DCF PROGRAM CHANGES IN 2025

1. Why is DCF offering a different grant opportunity this year, and will the “normal” opportunity return next year? ***NEW***

CRITERIA

2. What criteria are used to evaluate each proposal? ***NEW***
3. What are the priority regions for the Disney Conservation Fund?

TIMELINE

4. What is the timeline for Disney Conservation Fund funding? ***NEW***
5. When is the application due? ***NEW***

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATIONS

6. Who is eligible for this year’s grant opportunity? ***NEW***
7. My NGO has an active DCF grant - am I eligible? ***NEW***
8. My NGO has received multiple types of grants from the Disney Conservation Fund (i.e. Saving Wildlife, Disney Conservation Heroes, Friends for Change, Coins for Change, Disneynature) – do these “count” toward eligibility?
9. If my NGO receives this grant, are we eligible to apply for funds next year?
10. What are Disney’s Charitable Giving Guidelines?
11. How do I receive an invitation to apply?
12. Can I submit more than one proposal?
13. If I have applied in the past, do I need to create a new login to access the CyberGrants system? ***NEW***
14. How do I combine my applications under one login if I submitted multiple applications under different logins?
15. Can multiple people work on the same application on the online system at the same time?
16. What do I do if I submitted my application prematurely?
17. Do non-US organizations need to submit a W-8 form? ***NEW***

FUNDING AND REPORTING

18. Where do I find a list of previously funded projects?
19. What size grants do you entertain? ***NEW***
20. Does the Disney Conservation Fund support: Ex-situ project components, overhead costs, salaries, benefits, travel, tuition, infrastructure, or media?
21. If I am funded, when are reports due?
22. If I’m not funded, will you reconsider later?
23. Can I obtain feedback on my proposal?
24. Are other funding opportunities available? ***NEW***

WHO IS MY CONTACT?

1. Why is DCF offering a different grant opportunity this year, and will the “normal” opportunity return next year?

Many long-time DCF grant recipients are familiar with our former grant program which operated on a 2-year cycle, known as “Inspiring Action” or “Annual Grants.” These programs are evolving into opportunities like the one outlined above, replacing former opportunities as we strategically align with future priorities and focus areas as well as global conservation frameworks and standards.

CRITERIA

2. What criteria are used to evaluate each proposal?

This grant opportunity is focused on supporting programs with **demonstrated and future potential impact in protecting, rewilding, and/or restoring wildlife corridors or migratory pathways**. We believe that a healthy planet depends on the connectivity of habitats and wildlife populations and thus are seeking programs working on community-based efforts to build these vital connections around the world. We define:

- **Protection projects** as efforts to safeguard – whether through formal designations or ongoing on-the-ground efforts - critical corridors or migratory pathways for wildlife and people. This could include creation of Marine Protected Areas or land-based protected areas, community conservancies, as well as wildlife ranger patrols, efforts to engage relevant communities in protecting wildlife along corridors/pathways, etc.
- **Rewilding and restoration projects** as those aimed at leading activities and addressing key threats to support re-establishment of and/or connection between ecosystems (land or marine-based) and animal populations that support healthy communities of people and wildlife.

Required: The Disney Conservation Fund will give priority consideration to holistic programs that address a significant and urgent conservation need (or projects that are part of a program) and demonstrate the following:

- Proposal of feasible activities to advance protection, rewilding or restoration outcomes for wildlife/habitats over the next two years, including evidence of scientific rigor, plans to evaluate impact, adequate support through relevant collaborations (other nonprofit organizations, government agencies, communities, etc.), additional funding sources, relevant permits, etc.
- Community Co-Development: Considerations to ensure that local people are involved in the decisions, conservation efforts, and benefits from the program, either through a Free and Informed Prior Consent (FPIC) effort or similar. This could include but is not limited to community-based education programs or support of sustainable community development projects directly connected to protecting species and habitats.
 - For additional resources on this topic, please see: Free Prior and Informed Consent – An Indigenous Peoples’ right and a good practice for local communities ([Link](#)).
- Contribution to the conservation of endangered, threatened or vulnerable species and their habitats in the wild.
- Alignment with Disney’s priority regions/species, as described below.
- Consideration of the IUCN [Guidelines for Reintroduction and Other Conservation Translocations](#) for any species rewilding effort.
- Consideration for welfare of the animals involved in the study. Specifically, the principal investigator affirms:

- o Capture/restraint techniques minimize stress and the potential for physical injury or psychological harm
- o Immobilization/anesthesia is done under the direct supervision of a veterinarian or other trained professional
- o Exposure to noxious stimuli and presumptive negative effects are minimized with administration of anesthetic and/or analgesic agents where appropriate

3. What are the priority regions for the Disney Conservation Fund?

Through this opportunity the fund seeks to support programs working to protect, restore, or rewild critical sites globally. Priority will be given to locations aligned with regions where The Walt Disney Company has business operations including theme parks, resorts, or tours.

Organizations may submit one project application for this grant opportunity. US 501c3 organizations serving as an intermediary may support submissions for multiple projects (one per each non-US organization). Please contact Disney.conservation@disney.com with any questions about eligibility.

TIMELINE

[Top](#)

4. What is the timeline for Disney Conservation Fund funding?

Inquiry Deadline: 11:59pm ET (UTC -4:00), April 13, 2025

Invited Full-Application Deadline: 11:59pm ET (UTC -4:00), June 1, 2025

Notifications/Grant Distribution: July 2025

Annual Progress Report Deadline: August 2026, check CyberGrants for exact date

Final Annual Report Deadline: August 2027, check CyberGrants for exact date

Please do not contact us any earlier than late July 2025 regarding the status of your proposal. It is our policy to notify all applicants at the same time regarding the status of their application.

5. When is the application due?

Completed inquiries must be received by 11:59pm ET (UTC -4:00) on April 13, 2025.

Once invited to the next stage of full-application, completed proposals must be received by 11:59pm ET (UTC -4:00), June 1, 2025.

Late proposals cannot be considered out of fairness to all applicants. Please note Disney Conservation Fund or CyberGrants support will NOT be available after 6:00pm ET, on this date.

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATIONS

[Top](#)

6. Who is eligible for this year's grant opportunity?

To be considered eligible for this grant opportunity, organizations must:

- Have received Disney Conservation Fund support for a conservation program in or after 2015.

- Note: Organizations that have an active DCF grant are also eligible for this additional award if they meet other eligibility criteria.
- Have US 501c3 organization status OR apply through a valid US 501c3 intermediary collaborator.
- Meet The Walt Disney Company global charitable giving guidelines [here](#).
- **Be leading existing projects/programs (versus creating new initiatives to fulfill this funding opportunity) focused on protecting, restoring and/or rewilding wildlife corridors or migratory pathways. Both land and/or marine-based corridors will be considered.**

7. My NGO has an active grant– am I eligible?

Yes. Organizations with an active DCF grant are eligible to apply for this opportunity should they meet the other eligibility criteria.

8. My NGO has received multiple types of grants from the Disney Conservation Fund, which grant types received in or after 2015 “count” toward eligibility?

- **Coins for Change** and **Disneynature** support has been provided through the Disney Conservation Fund and does count for the purposes of eligibility for this opportunity.
- Organizations who have received **DCF Saving Wildlife, Inspiring Action**, or other types of grants are eligible to submit for this opportunity.
- **Disney Conservation Hero** awards are considered toward eligibility for this opportunity.

9. If my NGO receives this grant, are we eligible to apply for funds next year?

Future Disney Conservation Fund grant opportunities are in development, and we will share updates as available. In general, organizations with active grants may not reapply for continued funds for the same project until current grant expenditure is complete.

10. What are Disney’s charitable giving guidelines?

Please view our full global charitable giving guidelines [here](#). Organizations must have been established for at least one year, have an annual income of at least \$50,000 (to avoid “[tipping](#)”), and be able to provide supporting documentation upon request.

11. How do I receive an invitation to apply?

An invitation is not required to submit an inquiry, and **submission of an inquiry is the first step** to being considered for this grant opportunity. Organizations should self-identify whether they are eligible based on the eligibility criteria as listed above or contact Disney.conservation@disney.com with any questions. If your inquiry is chosen to move forward to the next phase, you will receive an invitation and further instructions to submit a full proposal by May 2025.

12. Can I submit more than one proposal?

No, each organization is limited to one application. Please consider the previous page of the FAQ for additional details about Disney’s priority regions. If you have questions, please contact .

Exception: If a US 501c3 organization is serving as a funding intermediary, it may support submissions for multiple projects (one per each non-US organization).

13. If I have applied in the past, do I need to create a new login to access the CyberGrants system?

If you have already claimed your [CyberGrants FrontDoor account](#), you may continue to use those login credentials to access the application. If you have not claimed your [CyberGrants FrontDoor account](#), you will need to do so before being able to submit this year's application. When registering, if you are able to use the same email address you used for previous applications, please do so. This will ensure that you retain access to your historical applications and impact reports.

14. How do I combine my applications under one login if I submitted multiple applications under different logins?

We are able to combine the applications associated with various logins into one account. Just contact us at Disney.conservation@disney.com and provide the email addresses you would like to combine.

15. Can multiple people work on the same application on the online system at the same time?

No. CyberGrants has a security feature that only allows one user to log in and complete information at a time. If you log at the same time as someone else using the same login information, one of you will be blocked from the system with the risk that your work will not be saved.

16. What do I do if I submitted my application prematurely?

If you have submitted your Disney Conservation Fund application in error, please contact the Disney Conservation Fund team at Disney.conservation@disney.com to change the status of your application.

17. Do non-US organizations need to submit a W-8 form?

Non-US organizations must work with a US 501c3 intermediary partner to be eligible for this grant opportunity. US organizations will provide their W-9 form as a part of the grant application process.

FUNDING AND REPORTING

[Top](#)

18. Where do I find a list of previously funded projects?

Please visit www.disney.com/conservation to access a listing of past programs supported. Please note, these programs may not be representative of those eligible for this current opportunity.

19. What size grants do you entertain?

At the inquiry stage, applicants may apply for the grant amount needed for the proposed project over the next two years. If invited to submit a full proposal, applicants will be asked for a more detailed project budget for the potential two-year grant term. Awarded grants will have the following restrictions:

- Funds should support strategies and operations of the restoration/rewilding program the organization presented in the application (rather than another program), and/or general organization operations.
- Funding should not be used for purposes intended to benefit a Government Official, either directly or indirectly, or intended to influence an act or decision by a Government Official.
- Use of funds should align with The Walt Disney Company global charitable giving guidelines [here](#).

20. Does the Disney Conservation Fund support: Ex-situ project components, overhead costs, salaries, benefits, travel, tuition, infrastructure, or media?

A detailed budget document will be required as a part of this application, and an expenditure report will be requested as part of a final report at the completion of the grant term. Use of grant funds is restricted only as specified in #19, above.

In general, we like to see funds directed to maximize conservation impact. The Disney Conservation Fund prefers no more than 18 percent of funds to be directed toward overhead costs including administrative fees, manuscript fees, etc. We do consider funding salaries, tuition, benefits and travel expenses, as well as support infrastructure budget items as long as large cost items can be justified upon request as supporting strategies and operations of the wildlife conservation program. We understand the importance of engaging conservation storytelling through video and photography. We can consider requests for a reasonable portion of funds to support media/photography/video projects that will be used to directly impact conservation outcomes. We do not fund any budget items that support government officials, staff, agencies, etc. that may be working with your organization on a conservation project.

The Disney Conservation Fund will consider support for ex-situ projects/project components if justifiable as part of a broader protection/rewilding/restoration effort.

21. If I am funded, when are reports due?

Each grant recipient organization will be expected to submit an **annual progress report one year and two years after funding is awarded**. Additionally, requests for storytelling updates and resources should be expected ahead of Earth Month (April) each spring.

Report Extensions: If the reporting timeline is not feasible considering your fieldwork timeline or if other unforeseen circumstances require an adjustment, please visit “Grant Seeker Resources” at disney.com/conservation to submit a request for a report extension. *Grant modifications must be approved by the DCF team.*

Please note, organizations and projects with overdue reports are considered *ineligible* for continued funding, unless the DCF team has approved an extension request. To determine if reports are pending, log into your organization's existing CyberGrants account (<https://www.cybergrants.com/disney/UniversalPT-US-Org>), leave the invitation code blank. Scroll to the bottom of the page to review "Applications Requiring Action."

22. If I'm not funded, will you reconsider later?

Inquiries and full applications are not re-visited after the review is completed. The committee reviews applications once per year only.

23. Can I obtain feedback on my proposal?

As possible, the DCF team will provide feedback on full proposals as a part of grant notification communications. Due to the number of inquiries we receive, we cannot provide individual feedback at the inquiry phase of our process.

24. Are other funding opportunities available?

Please continue to check [our Disney Conservation website](#) for updates about future grant opportunities.

Emergency Funding: The Disney Conservation Fund has a long history of supporting organizations working with communities to prepare for and respond to disasters or conservation emergencies. The Disney Conservation Fund is proud to be supporting the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) to help carry forward this commitment to helping communities and animals when they need it the most. For more information on how to apply for an IFAW Disaster Response Grant and the program criteria please visit the [IFAW website](#).

Disney Environmental Sustainability – Nature Strategy and Conservation

P.O. Box 10000

Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

E-mail: Disney.conservation@disney.com

Leslie Huetter, Manager, Leslie.M.Huetter@Disney.com

Caitlin Cox, Sr. Representative, Caitlin.E.Cox@Disney.com