



Protect, Connect and Restore Corridors and Migratory Pathways

2026 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 more than \$141 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, connect, and/or restore wildlife corridors or migratory pathways across both terrestrial and/or aquatic habitats. **This will be our only open call for conservation-related funding proposals in 2026.**

Eligibility

Nonprofit organizations that:

- Have US 501c3 organization status OR apply via a valid US 501c3 intermediary partner.
- Meet The Walt Disney Company Global Charitable Giving Guidelines ([link](#)).

Corridors & Pathways Grant Categories:

This year, grants will be considered in two categories

Category	Protection, Connection, and Restoration	Innovation
Focus	Protecting, connecting, and/or restoring wildlife corridors or migratory pathways. Air, land, and water/ocean-based corridors will be considered.	Driving innovations to support protection, connection, and/or restoration efforts. This could include innovative technologies or approaches to habitat or wildlife monitoring, community engagement in conservation, etc.
Grant Maximum	\$150,000	\$50,000
Grant Term	Two Years	Two Years

**** Organizations may submit a maximum of three (3) inquiries for consideration. US 501c3 organizations serving as an intermediary may support submissions for multiple projects (three per each non-US organization). ****

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

Application and Reporting

Interested applicants should submit a simple inquiry through our online Cybergrants platform by **May 23, 2026**; approved inquiries will be invited to submit a full proposal for consideration as a next step. To submit an inquiry:

1. As of late 2025, “FrontDoor” has transitioned to “Bonterra Nonprofit Hub,” the updated platform for nonprofit registration and account management. Please confirm whether your US 501c3 organization has an existing Bonterra Nonprofit Hub account login.
 - Already have a Bonterra Nonprofit Hub login? Use your existing credentials to log in.
 - Need new Bonterra Nonprofit Hub account credentials? US 501c3 organizations may follow instructions in [this User Guide](#) and claim account credentials [here](#).
 - If another user has already claimed your organization's account, you may contact your Bonterra Nonprofit Hub account owner for login details.
 - Once the Bonterra Nonprofit Hub account has been claimed, the account owner can create and manage user accounts for other team members as needed.
2. Log in using your Bonterra Nonprofit Hub credentials and invitation code **DCF2026** at <https://www.cybergrants.com/disney/dcfinquiry> to complete and submit your Disney Conservation Fund inquiry.

The grant term will be two years with a final report due two years after funding is awarded (December 2028). Grantees will be expected to report on tangible outcomes achieved related to species and/or habitat protection, connection, restoration, and other areas as relevant to the project.

Awards

Awards will have the following restrictions:

- Funds should support strategies and operations of the protection/connection/restoration 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

- May 23, 2026 – Inquiries due (11:59pm Eastern Time UTC-4:00)
- Early July 2026 – Selected programs invited to submit full proposals by the deadline on August 1
- December 2026 – Grant decision announcements



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DCF PROGRAM CHANGES IN 2026

1. What is different about this year's DCF grant opportunity? ***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?
8. If my NGO receives this grant, are we eligible to apply for funds next year?
9. What are Disney's Charitable Giving Guidelines?
10. How do I receive an invitation to apply?
11. Can I submit more than one proposal?
12. If I have applied in the past, do I need to create a new login to access the CyberGrants system?
13. How do I combine my applications under one login if I submitted multiple applications under different logins?
14. Can multiple people work on the same application on the online system at the same time?
15. What do I do if I submitted my application prematurely?
16. Do non-US organizations need to submit a W-8 form?

FUNDING AND REPORTING

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

WHO IS MY CONTACT?

1. What is different about this year's DCF grant opportunity?

As we continue to strategically align with future priorities and focus areas as well as global conservation frameworks and standards, for a second year the Disney Conservation Fund is offering a grant opportunity focused on protecting, connecting and restoring wildlife corridors and migratory pathways.

This year, a broader pool of applicants are eligible to submit proposals (no longer restricted to former grant recipients), and proposals will be considered in two categories: Protect, Connect, Restore grants with a request maximum of \$150,000; and Innovation grants with a request maximum of \$50,000. This year's submissions will be reviewed by restructured review committees comprised of Disney Cast Members with a diversity of expertise and background to help the DCF determine most impactful investments.

CRITERIA

[Top](#)

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, connecting, 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/Connection 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
 - **Protection of new areas** through creation of formal protections including Marine Protected Areas or land-based protected areas, community conservancies;
 - **Connecting** protected areas through establishment of functional corridors through natural and artificial means; or
 - **Continued protection** of already safeguarded spaces through wildlife ranger patrols, monitoring, or sustainable management efforts to engage and build capacity among relevant communities to protect wildlife along corridors/pathways, etc.
- **Restoration projects** aimed at leading activities and addressing key threats to support re-establishment of ecosystems (land or water/ocean-based) and animal populations that support healthy communities of people and wildlife.
- **Innovation projects** in service of the categories above, that also propose new technologies or approaches to support protecting, connecting and restoring corridors and migratory pathways.

Required: The Disney Conservation Fund will give priority consideration to programs (or projects that are part of a program) that:

- Propose feasible activities, and effective, ethical science and approaches to advance protection, connection 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.

- Where relevant, demonstrate approaches aligned with latest guidance, including but not limited to:
 - (Connectivity): Thematic Report on Ecological Connectivity and Land Restoration ([link](#))
 - (Rewilding): IUCN Guidelines for Rewilding ([link](#))
 - (Reintroductions): IUCN Guidelines for Reintroduction and Other Conservation Translocations ([link](#))
- Community Co-Development: Demonstrate 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](#)).
- Contribute to the conservation of endangered, threatened or vulnerable species and their habitats in the wild.
- Align with Disney’s priorities, as described below.
- Consider welfare of the animals involved in the study. Specifically, the principal investigator should affirm:
 - Capture/restraint techniques minimize stress and the potential for physical injury or psychological harm
 - Immobilization/anesthesia is done under the direct supervision of a veterinarian or other trained professional
 - 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, connect, or restore critical sites globally. Priority will be given to locations aligned with regions where The Walt Disney Company has business operations including offices, theme parks, resorts, or tours.

TIMELINE

[Top](#)

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

Inquiry Deadline: 11:59pm ET (UTC –4:00), May 23, 2026

Invited Full-Application Deadline: 11:59pm ET (UTC –4:00), August 1, 2026

Notifications/Grant Distribution: December 2026

Final Annual Report Deadline: December 2028, check CyberGrants for exact date

Please do not contact us any earlier than late January 2027 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 May 23, 2026.

Once invited to the next stage of full-application, completed proposals must be received by **11:59pm ET (UTC - 4:00), August 1, 2026**.

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 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 projects/programs focused on protecting, connecting and/or restoring wildlife corridors or migratory pathways. Air, land and water/ocean-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 submit a different project for consideration for this opportunity should they meet the other eligibility criteria.

8. 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.

9. 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 that equals or exceeds the requested grant amount for at least the last year (to avoid "tipping"), and be able to provide supporting documentation upon request.

10. 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 the deadline on August 1, 2026.

11. Can I submit more than one proposal?

Yes, organizations may submit a maximum of three inquiries for consideration. Our review team will invite most competitive inquiries to submit a full proposal.

Exception: If a US 501c3 organization is serving as a funding intermediary, it may support submissions for multiple projects (three per non-US organization as outlined above). If you have questions, please contact us.

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

(Updated 5.2026)

If you have already claimed your [Bonterra Nonprofit Hub \(formerly FrontDoor\) account](#), you may continue to use those login credentials to access the application. If you have not claimed your [Bonterra Nonprofit Hub 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. For help setting up your Nonprofit Hub account, refer to the User Guide [here](#).

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. 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.

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

Submitting a W-8 is optional in 2026. 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](#)

17. 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, DCF grant opportunity offerings change from year to year, and posted programs may not be representative of those eligible for this current opportunity.

18. What size grants do you entertain?

- Applicants may apply for one of two grant levels:
 - Protect/Connect/Restore grant maximum, \$150,000 (grant term: 2 years)
 - Innovation grant maximum, \$50,000 (grant term: 2 years)
- Funds should support strategies and operations of the protection/restoration 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.

19. Does the Disney Conservation Fund support budget items related to: 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 #18, above.

In general, we like to see funds directed to maximize conservation impact. The Disney Conservation Fund prefers no more than 25 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 corridor/pathway 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/connection/restoration effort.

Budget Recommendation: As the Disney Conservation Fund team explores upcoming networking/capacity building opportunities over the next two years, we recommend budgeting \$5K to support potential travel for 1-2 representatives from your team to participate. We will share additional information and discuss feasibility or alternatives with selected grantees as available.

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

Each grant recipient organization will be expected to submit a **final report 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](https://www.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.”

21. 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.

22. 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.

23. Are other funding opportunities available?

Please continue to check [our Disney Conservation website](#) for updates about future grant opportunities. The DCF team can also add you to a distribution list to receive updates when available: please email Disney.Conservation@disney.com to be added. To support our data management processes, this distribution list will be deleted annually – **please email us each year if you would like to remain included.**

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](#).

CONTACT

[Top](#)

Who is my contact?

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