

# EAAFP Small Grants Fund 2020 - Application

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Title:	Miss (Mr, Ms etc)	Jackson Family name	Micha Victoria Given Name/s
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## Relevant Working Group or Task Force Chair/Coordinator - DETAILS

Please contact the EAAFP Programme Officer if additional guidance is needed in relation to this section (programme@eaaflyway.net)

Title:	Dr (Mr, Ms etc)	Lanctot Family name	Richard Given Name/s
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## PROJECT DETAILS

**Project Title:** Please provide a concise and informative title of your entire project (not just the component for which funds are sought)

Supporting successful delivery of and conservation outcomes from the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting

### Part A. Project Proposal

**Details of your entire project (not just the component for which funds are sought)** (2.5 page maximum)

<b>1. Objectives:</b>	The objective of my activities as detailed in this proposal is to support successful delivery of the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting with a focus on achieving conservation outcomes for migratory shorebirds and their habitats in the EAAF.
<b>2. Background:</b>	<p>The 1st East Asian-Australasian Flyway Shorebird Science Meeting, which will be held at the National Institute of Ecology in the Republic of Korea from May 5-8 2020, aims to support international efforts to study, monitor, and conserve migratory shorebirds (see <a href="http://eaafssm.com/">http://eaafssm.com/</a>). The meeting will engage shorebird biologists, wetland ecologists, researchers, practitioners, students, land managers and other professionals working on shorebird conservation from across the flyway.</p> <p>This meeting also provides a valuable out-of-session opportunity for EAAFP Working Groups and Task Force members to meet and discuss implementation of actionable items from the 10<sup>th</sup> EAAFP Meeting of Partners (2018) and prepare for relevant sessions and updates to the 11<sup>th</sup> EAAFP Meeting of Partners (2021).</p> <p>To support implementation of the meeting I have been serving as one of the volunteer members of the Science Committee (<a href="http://eaafssm.com/contents.php?con_id=science">http://eaafssm.com/contents.php?con_id=science</a>), which oversees development and implementation of the meeting' scientific program.</p>

	<p>I have also submitted three proposals to the meeting's scientific program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – an oral presentation titled: “<i>Spartina alterniflora</i> threatens important shorebird habitat in coastal China”</li> <li>2 – a symposium (co-organised with Phil Straw) titled: “Coming home to roost: exploring best practices and new developments in shorebird roost management”</li> <li>3 – a symposium (co-organised with Tong Mu) titled: “Missing links between tidal flat ecology and shorebird conservation”</li> </ul>
<b>3. Project plan, timeline and methods:</b>	<p>September, 2019 – May, 2020: <b>Volunteer on the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting Science Committee.</b> Key tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – promote interest in meeting attendance from a wide cross-section of shorebird experts and habitat managers situated geographically throughout the flyway</li> <li>2 – solicit proposals for the scientific program from a wide cross-section of shorebird experts and habitat managers situated geographically throughout the flyway</li> <li>3 – in collaboration with other committee members, review and organise program content</li> <li>4 – liaise with presenters and symposium organisers in the lead-up to the meeting as needed</li> </ul> <p>May, 2020: <b>Attend the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting and EAAFP Shorebird Working Group Meeting.</b> Key tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – deliver an oral presentation on recent research relevant to shorebird habitat conservation at the Shorebird Science Meeting</li> <li>2 – co-deliver two symposia focussed on shorebird conservation and management efforts at the Shorebird Science Meeting</li> <li>3 – participate constructively in the EAAFP Shorebird Working Group meeting and other relevant Task Force meetings</li> <li>4 – provide logistical support for successful meeting implementation (e.g. time-keeping, rapporteur, etc) as needed</li> </ul> <p>May, 2020 – February, 2021: <b>Follow up on relevant initiatives and actionable items from the EAAF Shorebird Science meeting and EAAFP Shorebird Working Group meeting</b> in the lead-up to the 11<sup>th</sup> EAAFP Meeting of Partners.</p>
<b>4. Likely benefit to conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitat / or key research outputs:</b>	<p>The EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting generally, and specifically the presentation and symposia that I am leading or co-leading, focus strongly on the conservation of migratory shorebirds and the presentation, discussion and advancement of key research outputs.</p> <p>The EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting will bring together researchers, practitioners and managers from throughout the flyway to present and workshop topics within the following thematic areas: Breeding Ecology, Migration Ecology, Non-breeding Ecology, Monitoring, and Conservation Management. This opportunity for research synthesis, discussion and networking will make a strong overall contribution to the following Key Results Area of the EAAFP Strategic Plan:</p> <p><i>KRA 2.2 Sharing of knowledge about conservation and sustainable management of migratory waterbirds enhanced.</i></p> <p>Sharing knowledge, experience, lessons learned and best practice case studies is an effective way to improve shorebird habitat management throughout the flyway. Our symposium (co-organised with Phil Straw) “Coming home to roost: exploring best practices and new developments in shorebird roost management” will engage experts and site managers to share knowledge, lessons learned, and best practice strategies for managing high tide shorebird roost habitat. A key outcome will be the collation of input into the development of a roost management guidelines document to</p>

inform policy-makers and assist site managers. This symposium will contribute to the following Key Results Area of the EAAFP Strategic Plan:

*KRA 3.5 Collaborative research programs providing valuable support for conservation and sustainable management efforts, and sustainable use of resources for local livelihood benefits.  
KRA 3.6 Best practice guidelines for waterbird and wetland conservation programs, including incorporation of traditional knowledge, developed and made available.*

Addressing threats to critical migratory shorebird habitat, especially in the Yellow Sea region where habitat loss has been linked to shorebird population declines, is a critical step in the efforts to promote shorebird population recovery. Our symposium (co-organised with Tong Mu) "Missing links between tidal flat ecology and shorebird conservation" will provide a platform for the presentation of new research into poorly understood aspects of tidal flat ecology and shorebird habitat selection. A key outcome of the symposium will be the identification of critical knowledge and research gaps that are most relevant to the conservation of tidal flats and the coastal shorebirds relying on them, which will be gathered in the form of a discussion session involving all symposium participants.

Further, in my oral presentation "*Spartina alterniflora* threatens important shorebird habitat in coastal China" I will present the results of recent research on the alarming spatial overlap between important shorebird sites in coastal mainland China and invasive *Spartina alterniflora*, which reduces the extent and quality of critical feeding and roosting habitat. It is hoped that delivery of these results will help to galvanise management efforts to control *Spartina alterniflora* where it already occurs on shorebird habitat and prevent its spread to additional sites.

This symposium and presentation will contribute to the following Key Results Area of the EAAFP Strategic Plan:

*KRA 5.2 Threatened migratory waterbirds protected from threats and populations increasing.  
KRA 5.3 Regional Action Plans developed and implemented to address critical threats in specific geographic regions of the EAAF.*

<b>5. Alignment with EAAFP priorities:</b>	The EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting is highly relevant to the EAAFP Shorebird Working Group, which will meet on May 4 <sup>th</sup> prior to the science meeting. It is also relevant to additional task forces focused on shorebird species and habitats, including: the Yellow Sea Ecoregion Task Force, Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force, Far Eastern Curlew Task Force and Monitoring of Waterbird Populations and Sites Task Force.
<b>6. Explain the part of your project for which you are seeking funds in this application:</b>	This application is for funds to cover the minimum flight and accommodation costs associated with attendance at the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting and EAAFP Shorebird Working Group Meeting.
<b>7. Scientific References cited in the application:</b>	NA

## Part B. FOR CONFERENCE APPLICANTS ONLY

<b>Conference Title:</b>	EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting	<b>Location:</b> National Institute of Ecology, Republic of Korea	<b>Date:</b> 5-8 May, 2020
<b>Presentation Abstract</b> (250 word maximum):	<b><i>Spartina alterniflora</i> threatens important shorebird habitat in coastal China</b>  China's coastal wetlands are critically important to shorebirds. <i>Spartina alterniflora</i> (smooth cordgrass) was intentionally introduced to the Chinese coast in 1979 and expanded rapidly thereafter. Its encroachment has occurred almost entirely on intertidal flats. <i>S. alterniflora</i> poses a significant risk to shorebirds because its spread onto intertidal flats renders them unavailable for foraging. It also restricts nearshore and supratidal roosting habitat. Further loss or degradation of intertidal shorebird habitat from <i>S. alterniflora</i> encroachment is likely to compound shorebird		

population declines, particularly when it occurs at important shorebird sites where intertidal flat extent is declining due to other factors (eg. land reclamation, sea level rise). However, the distribution and intensity of the overlap between *S. alterniflora*, important shorebird habitat and intertidal flat change in China is not yet well studied. We mapped the extent of *S. alterniflora* coverage in 2015 of coastal sites that are used by internationally important numbers of shorebirds, estimated change in the spatial extent of intertidal flats between 2000 and 2015 at the same set of sites, and investigated where these two threats to shorebird habitat intersect. We found that across all sites, the total area of intertidal flats decreased by 15% between 2000 and 2015; that intertidal flats decreased between 2000 and 2015 at 39 of 52 sites (75%); and that there was direct overlap with *S. alterniflora* in 28 of 52 sites (54%) in 2015 which exceeded 5% of the total area at six sites. Combined pressures from *S. alterniflora* and loss of intertidal habitat were most severe in Jiangsu, Shanghai, Fujian, Zhejiang, Tianjin and Hebei provinces. These results underscore the urgent need to develop a comprehensive control program for *S. alterniflora* in coastal areas of China that are important for shorebirds.

In addition to the above oral presentation, I have also submitted proposals to co-organise the following two 2-hour-long symposia:

- 1 – “Coming home to roost: exploring best practices and new developments in shorebird roost management”
- 2 – “Missing links between tidal flat ecology and shorebird conservation”

## Part C. FOR ALL APPLICANTS

### Experience Relevant to Project:

*Summary of experience relevant to participation/presentations in the scientific program of the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting:*

I am in the final stages of completing a PhD thesis focussed on conservation and management of shorebird habitat in heavily developed coastal regions of the EAAF at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.

Three chapters of my PhD had a primary focus on shorebirds' use of supratidal roosts, including artificial sites and working coastal wetlands, and how they could be managed for shorebird conservation. This topic will be the focus of our symposium “Coming home to roost: exploring best practices and new developments in shorebird roost management”.

The results of an additional chapter of my PhD are the focus of my oral presentation “*Spartina alterniflora* threatens important shorebird habitat in coastal China.”

During my PhD I completed 3 months of fieldwork in southern Jiangsu province, China, at a critical and heavily developed stopover region. I have also worked and volunteered on numerous other shorebird monitoring, research and tagging projects, as detailed in my CV attached to the bottom of this application.

*Summary of experience relevant to participation on the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting Science Committee:*

I have participated on several avian and conservation themed conference committees, most recently acting as the Conference Committee Chair of the Queensland Ornithological Conference in 2018.

Please **also** attach a maximum 2-page CV or list non-academic research experience and experience with migratory waterbirds/conservation e.g. work experience, volunteer experience, bird banding, birdwatching.

Amended to the end of this application.

## PROJECT BUDGET (please outline your entire project, not just the component for which funds are being sought)

Item (Please list)	\$ Budget (in USD)	Current support / Requested Support (source and amount)	Requested support from EAAFP (source and amount)
Equipment: (details)			

Consumable items (details)				
Travel and accommodation (details)	Flight: Darwin, Australia to Seoul, ROK  Accommodation	\$800 USD  \$200 USD	NA	\$1,000 USD
Computing & clerical (details)				
Other (details)				
<b>Total amount requested from Small Grants Fund:</b> (All amounts in USD)			\$1,000 USD	

**Budget justification:** Please provide brief description and justification of all major budgetary items requested, indicating any that are essential to the project and/or conference for which you are applying (250 word maximum):

This application is for funds to cover the minimum flight (Darwin to Seoul return) and accommodation costs associated with attendance at the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting and EAAFP Shorebird Working Group Meeting from ~May 2-10, 2020.

Flight costs are based on a search of skyscanner.com on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2020, which showed that the most economical route from Darwin, Australia to Seoul, Republic of Korea is on Singapore/Silk Airlines (flight time approx. 16 hours). Flight cost is ~\$1201AUD = \$810USD.

## DECLARATION

I have discussed the contents of this application with the relevant Chair/s and Coordinator/s of relevant Working Group and/or Task Forces and I certify that to the best of my knowledge all documentation and information submitted or made available by me is true, accurate and complete.

By ticking the following box you are agreeing to the above statement:  X

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

All relevant sections of this application have been completed.	Yes
Full payment details have been provided on the final page.	Yes
Application is being submitted electronically as one single document.	Yes
Application is being submitted in MS Word format.	Yes
Application has been discussed with the relevant Chair/s and Coordinator/s of relevant working Group and/or Task Forces and these have been carbon copied (cc) to this application submission as evidence they have seen and approved this application.	Yes

Applications that do not comply with these guidelines will be returned to the applicant.

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Please email your application as a single document to:  
[secretariat@eaaflyway.net](mailto:secretariat@eaaflyway.net)

EAAFP will acknowledge the receipt of your application.

**Applications close at 5pm (Seoul Time) on 3 February 2020  
Results will be announced on 3 March 2020**

### OFFICE USE ONLY:

Decision:	_____		
Authorised:	____ / ____ / ____	_____	
Entered:	____ / ____ / ____	_____	
Comments:	_____		
Lead Investigator Advised:	____ / ____ / ____	_____	

**PLEASE COMPLETE PAYMENT DETAILS ON FINAL PAGE**

## PAYMENT DETAILS

To ensure prompt payment of successful applications please complete the following details and submit with your application.

### PREFERRED PAYMENT METHOD

Electronic funds transfer (EFT)

## GRANT CONDITIONS

**In accordance with the application criteria, the following conditions must be met:**

- Funds are to be strictly exempt from organisational administration charges.
- You are required to submit one copy by email of the final report within 3 months of the completion of the project.
- You are required to acknowledge the EAAFP and the Small Grant Fund in any presentations, publications, reports or promotional material arising from this work. Please email [secretariat@eaaflyway.net](mailto:secretariat@eaaflyway.net) in order to obtain an electronic copy of EAAFP logo for use on any display material you will be preparing.
- You may be requested to write a brief article for the EAAFP newsletter.
- You are required to provide EAAFP with an electronic copy of your final report at the completion of your project, as well as a copy of any publications that result from your grant.

## NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

1. Applications should be targeted towards EAAFP key species or habitats, regions, or emerging threats or other specified Partnership objectives. All applications should demonstrate how the project will contribute to the implementation of the [EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028](#).
2. The maximum amount annually provided by the Small Grants Fund to an applicant or for a specific project is \$5,000 (USD). If the project budget exceeds this amount, then the supporting funds and funders need to be identified in the Application.
3. Funds are limited and not all applications may be funded.
4. Applications with in-kind contributions and other matching financial are preferred.
5. Grants are awarded on the strict understanding that funds will be exempt from institutional administration charges, unless Partner government law so requires.
6. Conference attendance will be supported to a maximum of \$1,000 (USD) and is only for Task Force or Working Group members delivering their own work as a presentation, paper or poster.
7. Applications must be reviewed by the relevant EAAFP Working Group or Task Force Chair or Coordinator, who will provide a statement of the relative merit of the application against the assessment criteria, prior to submission.
8. EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces are eligible for funding to go towards meetings, research, monitoring, site management, training and CEPA events and materials.
9. Students, with the support of the relevant Working Group or Task Force, are only eligible for funding toward studies being undertaken at a research institution or travel to a conference to present original research.
10. Lead investigators are responsible for obtaining all necessary permits from government authorities, indigenous communities, ethics committees etc., to undertake approved research or monitoring studies.
11. Project completion is required within 18 months of the close of the Application period.
12. Successful applicants will be required to provide a short write up of their project outcomes for the EAAFP newsletter and website and to report to the relevant Working Group or Task Force. They are also strongly encouraged to publish their results in peer-reviewed journals.

**Call for proposal opens on 3 January. Applications close at 5pm (Seoul Time) on 3 February annually. Announcements of funding will be made by 3 March.**

**A follow-up application process may be available 6 months later should funds remain.**



# 2020 APPLICATION FORM

Small Grants Fund for Working Groups & Task Forces

For office use only

Application received	
Application assessed	

## Guidance to Applicants

### 1. Eligibility of Projects

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1.1 The focus of the project is migratory waterbirds and their habitats.  | Yes |
| 1.2 The project will improve the understanding of factors important for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the EAAFP.   | Yes |
| 1.3 The applicant agrees to provide a final report within 3 months of the completion of the project.  | Yes |
| 1.4 The applicant agrees to submit 1-2-page article and photographs for inclusion on EAAFP's website and/or write a brief article for the EAAFP's newsletter. Photographers will be acknowledged. | Yes |
| 1.5 The applicant will acknowledge the support of the EAAFP in any publications, presentations and reports arising from this work.  | Yes |

### 2. Project Assessment Criteria

- |   |
|---|
| 2.1 The contribution the project is anticipated to make to the Key Result Areas listed in the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028.   |
| 2.2 The alignment of the project with priority Single Species Action Plans or overall Working Group and Task Force objectives. Applications are encouraged to contact the relevant Working Group and Task Force Chair or Coordinator to brief them on the Project Proposal. Please contact the EAAFP Programme Officer if additional information is needed (programme@eaaflyway.net). |
| 2.3 The justification for the grant funds requested relative to the overall budget of the project.  |
| 2.4 Leveraging of in-kind contributions and other matching financial.   |
| 2.5 The track record of the lead investigator and the likelihood of the project achieving its objectives.   |

### 3. Project Assessment Process (for information)

- |   |
|---|
| 3.1 Following initial Secretariat and WG/TF screening and review, the Technical Sub-Committee (TsC) will select at least 1 reviewer per 5 applications (e.g. 4 reviewers for 20 applications). Reviewers should be TsC members or other persons with appropriate expertise and a flyway-wide perspective. Considerations for reviewer selection will include geographic and technical expertise diversity. A lead reviewer will be identified to coordinate the process for each application. |
| 3.2 Reviews should ensure calibration on the ranking definitions and scoring criteria prior to beginning reviews.   |
| 3.3 Ensure that each application is reviewed by a minimum of 2 reviewers, with an offset system so pairs of reviewers are rotated in different combinations (for example, with 20 applications, Reviewer A gets applications 1-10, B gets 6-15, C gets 11-20, D gets 16-5). Reviews are encouraged to review as many additional projects as possible.   |
| 3.4 Reviewers are to recuse themselves from reviewing any application where there is a conflict of interest. These applications will be assigned to another reviewer.   |
| 3.5 Conduct independent reviews, including reading the application, scoring, ranking, and notes. Submit reviews to lead reviewer for compilation in a table. Note that all applications should be read prior to scoring to increase perspective. Submit to the lead reviewer, who will share tallied results back with the other reviewers.   |

- 3.6 Discuss the merits of all applications as a group.
- 3.7 Provide for an opportunity to reach out to applicants with questions, recommendation, or requests for more information. Communicate with the WG/TF Chairs/Coordinators if necessary.
- 3.8 Strive for consensus on overall applications ranking and recommendations on funding.
- 3.9 If there are numerous projects that are scored/ranked closely near the “funding line”, then all reviewers should review those projects prior to a final recommendation.
- 3.10 The lead reviewer will compile and deliver the final recommendations for funding to the Secretariat.
- 3.11 Review Team and the Secretariat should examine the process and recommend changes for the next cycle.