

2021 EAAFP Small Grant Fund Application Form

Personal Details of Applicant

Title: Ms Chan Ying Chi
(Mr, Ms etc) Family name 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)

Name of Working Group or Task Force: Shorebird Working Group

Title of Chair/Coordinator: Mr Lanctot Richard
(Mr, Ms etc) Family name Given Name/s

Email address: richard_lanctot@fws.gov

Eligibility of Projects

- The focus of the project is migratory waterbirds and their habitats. Yes ~~No~~
- The project will improve the understanding of factors important for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the EAAF. Yes ~~No~~
- The applicant agrees to provide a final report within 3 months of the completion of the project. Yes ~~No~~
- 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 ~~No~~

- The applicant will acknowledge the support of the EAAFP in any publications, presentations and reports arising from this work. Yes No

Project Details

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

Establishment and Coordination of the EAAF Shorebird Migration Tracking Group

Part A. Project Proposal

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

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|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Objectives: | <p>To establish and coordinate the EAAF Shorebird Migration Tracking group, including the following objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. establish group membership and tracking project directory to determine existing work occurring within the EAAF, 2. establish and maintain a website to orchestrate the group’s knowledge and activities, 3. coordinate/lead on-line meetings to facilitate exchange of ideas and techniques, promote collaborations between researchers, and between researchers and conservation organizations, and 4. garner support to projects and initiatives that promote shorebird conservation in the EAAF using science-based tracking information. |
| 2. Background: | <p>People living in the EAAF have a long history of banding shorebirds as a means of documenting their movements. Today, a growing number of citizen scientists along the whole flyway give their time and talent to provide resightings of banded birds (e.g., Lagassé et al. 2020). These efforts have led to many insights into the distribution and schedule of shorebird migrants. More recently, PTT and GPS satellite transmitters, geolocators, cell phone based trackers, and other technologies have been used by researchers to determine the pathways of migratory shorebirds. These technologies have advanced our understanding of individual migration strategies and itineraries, and filled knowledge gaps in regions with less band resighting efforts (e.g. Chan et al. 2019). This science-based information has been instrumental in identifying the importance of the Yellow Sea (e.g. Battley et al. 2012), leading to historic designations of important areas as part of a new World Heritage Site (e.g. Piersma et al. 2017).</p> <p>While increasing number of tracking studies has been conducted by various institutions/groups across the flyway (see https://chanyingchi.github.io/EAAF-tracking-group-page), there is little coordination and lack of prioritization on species and populations to be tracked. In addition, the wide variety of techniques, their constant development, difficulties in analyzing data, and raising funds to purchase the tracking devices have created challenges for people wanting to begin using these techniques. Given the urgent need to conserve migratory shorebirds that are in decline across the EAAF, it is imperative to create a Shorebird Migration Tracking Group that can provide a mechanism to share information and techniques, allow and promote collaborations across the nonbreeding range of a species and across multiple species using the same site, utilizing the full potential of tracking data in conservation of shorebirds in this flyway.</p> <p>The need for this group was apparent during enthusiastic discussions by participants of the 1st EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting held in November 2020. As a person very interested in the application and use of tracking technologies (see part C below), I am submitting this proposal to help steward this group along. The group is open to anyone interested in studying or learning about shorebird migration.</p> <p>The group will have two main methods of communication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an e-mail listserv that will be used to announce activities and important news, and 2. a server on the Discord platform, for chatting (also video calls are supported) and sharing of files between members. |

	<p>Currently three types of activities are planned for the group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of project directory of past and current shorebird telemetry studies occurring within the EAAF. For each project, principal investigators will be asked to list the species, tracking device, years of study, organisation, contact person and email, and a link to their project website (optional). This will allow us to begin to understand what has and has not occurred to date, helping to identify knowledge gaps and prioritize future collaborative projects. A draft of the directory can be found here: https://chanyingchi.github.io/EAAF-tracking-group-page 2. Creation of website that that will include a project directory, blogs written by members on news from their tracking projects, relevant tracking and conservation literature, etc. A Discord server is also created to facilitate communication within members and share resources on analytical methods, online meeting recordings, etc. 3. Regular online meetings which include a workshop/discussion/seminar on a topic on migration and movement ecology or tracking techniques.
<p>3. Project plan, timeline and methods:</p>	<p>I recently announced the formation of the group via the EAAF Partnership’s Shorebird Working Group listserv on 29th January 2021. As of 1st February, 24 people had already signed up. A few people showed interest in helping with organizing, and it is expected that the organization team will be formed in late-February 2021. To learn more about existing tracking efforts, the initial announcement also asked people to fill in a form about their tracking projects if they wish to list their projects on the directory mentioned above. The tracking group coordinator will also collect information from published articles/reports/datasets on finished tracking projects, so that those without a coordinator anymore would still be listed on the directory.</p> <p>The next step will be the creation of a website, with the initial launch planned for May 2021. I will continued to update the website by soliciting information from members, as well as outputs from monthly zoom meetings (see below).</p> <p>Regular online meetings will be held every 1-2 months, with the first one in May 2021. A physical meeting will be planned after COVID travel restrictions are eased, possibly at the next EAAF Meeting of the Partners or the next EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting.</p> <p>I anticipate the Shorebird Migration Tracking Group will continue to expand as people learn about it, contribute information to it, and realize the benefits. My long-term goal is to build relationships among the shorebird research community so as to stimulate collaborative projects that would harness the full potential of tracking projects in determine sites of importance and local habitat management for multiple species in space and time. This information, in turn, will help direct conservation actions on the ground. Initiatives like this are underway in North America, and I anticipate learning and growing with them.</p>
<p>4. Likely benefit to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitat / or key research outputs:</p>	<p>This opportunity for discussion and networking around shorebird tracking will contribute to the following Key Results Area of the EAAFP Strategic Plan: KRA 2.2 Sharing of knowledge about conservation and sustainable management of migratory waterbirds enhanced</p> <p>The group will also facilitate new collaborations between research groups, and between researchers and conservationists. That will contribute to: KRA 3.5 Collaborative research programs providing valuable support for conservation and sustainable management efforts, and sustainable use of resources for local livelihood benefits</p> <p>The resulting collaborations will likely provide scientific evidence for conservation of threatened shorebird populations in the flyway, contributing to: 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.</p>
<p>5. Alignment with EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces priorities:</p>	<p>This objectives of this group align 100% with Priority Action 2.4 of the EAAF Partnership’s Shorebird Working Group’s 2019-2020 plan, which is to “coordinate and promote collaborative migration ecology studies along EAAF.” The proposal also has been developed with the support by the SWG Chair.</p>

6. Explain the part of your project for which you are seeking funds in this Application:	We are asking for funds to cover costs associated with the coordination and development of the new EAAF Shorebird Migration Tracking Group, including salaries for website development and a coordinator, who develop and maintain listserv, project directory, and website; and host monthly zoom meetings. Additional funds are needed to pay for web-hosting fees, domain fees, and the cost of a Zoom license to hold regular online meetings.
7. Scientific References cited in the Application:	<p>Battley, P. F., Warnock, N., Tibbitts, T. L., Gill Jr, R. E., Piersma, T., Hassell, C. J., ... & Riegen, A. C. (2012). Contrasting extreme long-distance migration patterns in bar-tailed godwits <i>Limosa lapponica</i>. <i>Journal of Avian Biology</i>, 43(1), 21-32.</p> <p>Chan, Y. C., Tibbitts, T. L., Lok, T., Hassell, C. J., Peng, H. B., Ma, Z., ... & Piersma, T. (2019). Filling knowledge gaps in a threatened shorebird flyway through satellite tracking. <i>Journal of Applied Ecology</i>, 56(10), 2305-2315.</p> <p>Lagassé, B. J., Lanctot, R. B., Barter, M., Brown, S., Chiang, C. Y., Choi, C. Y., ... & Wunder, M. B. (2020). Dunlin subspecies exhibit regional segregation and high site fidelity along the East Asian–Australasian Flyway. <i>The Condor</i>, 122(4), duaa054.</p> <p>Piersma, T., Chan, Y. C., Mu, T., Hassell, C. J., Melville, D. S., Peng, H. B., ... & Wilcove, D. S. (2017). Loss of habitat leads to loss of birds: reflections on the Jiangsu, China, coastal development plans. <i>Wader Study</i>, 124(2), 93-98.</p>

Part B. FOR CONFERENCE APPLICANTS ONLY

(For Task Force or Working Group members delivering their own work as a presentation, paper or poster)

Conference Title:	Location:	Date:
Presentation Abstract (250 word maximum):		

Part C. FOR ALL APPLICANTS

Experience Relevant to Project:

<p>I completed a PhD thesis at the University of Groningen under Prof. Theunis Piersma focused on migration and conservation of threatened shorebirds in the EAAF. In this program, I was a member of the Global Flyway Network and used small satellite transmitters to identify coastal sites of conservation importance for the Great Knot, an endangered shorebird species widely distributed in the flyway.</p> <p>I have published papers on the development of an external tag-attachment method suitable for knot-like shorebirds, and on applications of shorebird satellite tracking on coastal conservation in the EAAF, both in the scale of the flyway and in sites within the Yellow Sea.</p> <p>During my PhD, I completed 4 expeditions of fieldwork along the Chinese coast, and 4 expeditions to Northwest Australia to deploy satellite transmitters on birds. I have worked with teams of many nationalities and backgrounds, and know many people tracking shorebirds within the flyway and throughout the world.</p> <p>I am experienced with visualization of spatial data and have helped the EAAF Partnership to make interactive species distribution maps in 2020. I can build websites, such as my personal website https://chanyingchi.github.io.</p>
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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.

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)			
Computing & clerical (details)	Listserv, project directory, website development and maintenance, and coordination of monthly meetings (18 months) 4140 Website hosting fee (2 years) 183 Domain name rental (2 years) 23 Zoom subscription fee (2 years) 380		4140 183 23 380
Other (details)			
Total amount requested from Small Grants Fund: (All amounts in USD)			4726

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):

Funds will provide a small salary to coordinate the group; develop and maintain listserv, project directory, and website; and host monthly zoom meetings for the next 18 months. I will help coordinate the group as it takes off and will serve as the lead person that people can communicate with about group activities. I plan on forming organising committees to expand activities of the group as the group grow.

Website hosting fee and domain name rental fee is based on information on bluehost.cn.

Zoom subscription fee is based on information on <https://zoom.us/pricing>. This video chat service is chosen as it is accessible worldwide.

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:

Application Checklist

All relevant sections of this Application have been completed.	Yes	No
Full payment details have been provided on the final page.	Yes	No
Application is being submitted electronically as one single document.	Yes	No
Application is being submitted in MS Word format.	Yes	No
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	No

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

EAAFP will acknowledge the receipt of your Application.

Applications close at 5pm (Seoul Time) on 5 February 2021
Results will be announced on 3 March 2021 on EAAFP Webpage and via email

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 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.