

# December 2019 Update

2020 ZAHP Grant Applications, African Swine Fever, and More

## 2020 ZAHP Grant Opportunities

The Zoo and Aquarium All Hazards Preparedness, Response and Recovery (ZAHP) Fusion Center is pleased to announce a fourth year of funding opportunities to increase preparedness and response activities across the Exotic Animal Industry (EAI). Since 2017, ZAHP has funded 35 projects enhancing preparedness at the facility, local, or regional level.

This year, through continued financial support from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), we are pleased to offer two levels of funding:

- [ZAHP Preparedness Grants](#): These grants of \$2,000 each are available for projects that seek to improve preparedness at the individual facility or local level. Any exotic animal facility in the United States is eligible to apply for this opportunity. Sample projects may include, but are not limited to:
  - A meeting or workshop that would enhance preparedness at a specific facility or at multiple facilities within a limited geographic area.
  - Supplies, equipment, and/or training needed to improve safety or preparedness at a specific facility.
  - Professional safety/preparedness assessment of a facility.
- [ZAHP Capacity Building Grants](#): These grants of \$5,000 - \$10,000 each are available for projects that seek to build capacity for preparedness, response, and/or recovery in the Exotic Animal Industry (EAI) beyond the individual facility or local level. Any exotic animal facility in the United States is eligible to apply for this opportunity; organizations collaborating with EAI facilities are also eligible to apply (a [Statement of Support](#) from the collaborating facility must be provided). Sample projects may include, but are not limited to:
  - A training or workshop to increase capacity for response at the regional or national level.
  - Purchase of equipment for response or recovery that would be used by or for multiple facilities
  - Development of a training, tool, or equipment that would address a gap in knowledge/ability in a broad portion of the EAI.

Limit one application per organization. Past applicants and recipients of ZAHP Micro-grants are welcome to apply. Additional information and specific requirements are included in the application packet for each grant opportunity (linked above). Applicants must be eligible to receive federal funds.

Applications for both opportunities are due no later than 11:59 PM Eastern Time on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Completed applications, as well as any questions, should be sent via email to [azielinski@aza.org](mailto:azielinski@aza.org).

## African Swine Fever

African Swine Fever (ASF) is a viral Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) that affects swine species. This disease is not currently circulating in the United States but is found throughout the world, with recent detections in Eastern Europe. ASF is not a zoonotic disease, nor is it a food safety issue.

ASF is devastating to the pork industry, as mortality runs near 100% in infected pigs. Like

many viruses, ASF virus spreads on clothing, equipment, and can survive in infected pork products for MONTHS. The virus may arrive from foreign countries due to the trade that occurs between infected countries and the US, or from illegally smuggled pork products. [A recent seizure of 1 MILLION pounds of illegal pork from China](#) highlights that these smuggling operations are a real threat to the US pork industry.

While zoological collections may not seem to be at the highest risk, it's still important that facilities that manage warthogs, red river hogs, peccaries, javelinas or other suid species familiarize themselves with clinical signs of ASF infection. [This video from the United States Department of Agriculture](#) provides more information.

The [Secure Zoo Strategy](#) website is an excellent resource for disease planning, and includes biosecurity strategies which may be very useful in preventing ASF from affecting your swine should the disease emerge in the US.

Please visit the [USDA website](#) for more information on ASF.

## Preparedness Focus: First Aid

December's preparedness focus is [First Aid](#). As public gathering spaces many zoos and aquariums have supplies and trained staff available to administer first aid. Your facility likely already has protocols in place for handling medical emergencies that may occur on grounds, but it is important to review these plans regularly to allow for any necessary revisions. Consider the following:

- Do you have staff members trained in first aid?
  - Does trained staff include individuals from multiple departments?
  - Have any staff members taken [Stop the Bleed](#) training to learn how to help in a bleeding emergency?
  - If you store high potency narcotics on grounds, are staff members trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of an overdose and respond?
- How will first responders know where to go once they arrive on grounds?
  - Is your local dispatch familiar with your facilities grounds and gates?
  - Do you have a plan in place for staff to meet and direct responders once they arrive on site?
  - Guests may call 911 before your staff even knows there is an issue. If this occurs, does your local dispatch have a way to notify someone at your facility who may be able to help direct responders?
- Is there clear messaging in place to ensure guests can easily locate first aid services if needed?
  - Are first aid stations noted on the facility map?
  - Is there a number posted that guests can call for assistance if there is not a designated location or if they are not physically able to get to that location?
- Do you keep additional first aid supplies to account for unique risks at your facility?
  - If you have venomous snakes do you keep antivenin on-site?
  - Do you have trauma kits available for use in the event of a major injury?
  - If you store high potency narcotics on site do you have medication to treat an accidental overdose?
- What are your response protocols for animal medical emergencies?
  - Does your facility have full-time veterinary care?
  - If veterinary care staff is not on-site, are any other members of the animal care adequately trained to respond safely?

If you are just getting started with planning, consider looking to our [Contingency Planning Modules](#) for more industry specific information. Additional information on crisis communication plans for businesses is available on [ready.gov](#). [Do 1 Thing](#), a non-profit organization that aims to build more disaster resilient communities, asks the community to do one "thing" to enhance preparedness each month.

