

# Duncan Mills Scholarship Awards



**EUROPARC**  
**Atlantic Isles**

Conservation Without Frontiers

## Introduction

Duncan Mills was the first Chairman of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Regional Park who campaigned tirelessly for National Parks in Scotland. Sadly Duncan died before he saw Loch Lomond and the Trossachs become Scotland's first National Park. In recognition of his work an annual Scholarship has been established by EUROPARC Atlantic Isles, in association with Loch Lomond and the Trossachs. The Awards will enable the recipient to undertake a study visit to one or more protected areas anywhere in the world to gather experience, which will benefit in their future careers and /or areas of interest. The Awards are worth £750 each; two Awards, one in each of the two categories listed below, will be made.

## Guidelines

1. The Duncan Mills Scholarship Awards are intended to enable applicants from the EUROPARC Atlantic Isles' protected areas to make a study visit to a country or countries of their choice, other than their own.
2. Selection of the successful applicants will be made by the Board of EUROPARC Atlantic Isles.
3. The successful scholar may be requested to attend a meeting of the EAI Board to give a short presentation on their plans. If this is the case, EUROPARC Atlantic Isles will pay travel and accommodation costs as necessary.
4. The Duncan Mills Scholarship Awards have a value of £750 to pay towards travel, accommodation and out of pocket expenses for the scholar to travel to a country (or countries) of their choice. The monies will be reimbursed to the scholar upon receipt of evidence of costs involved in two instalments. The first instalment of £600 will be given prior to the visit, the second instalment of £150 upon production of a study visit report.
5. The report will be approximately 5,000 words long and where possible to include pictures of the study tour. It will be made available to EAI for further dissemination. It should be submitted to the Development Officer within three months of completing the visit.
6. The study visit should be made within 12 months of the award of the scholarship. An extension can be granted if a request is made citing special circumstances.
7. The successful applicant will be invited to attend the next appropriate EAI meeting or seminar in order to give a short presentation of their visit and

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report. Again EUROPARC Atlantic Isles will pay travel and accommodation costs as necessary for this purpose.

## Application criteria

- 1 The applicant should apply for an Award under one of the two categories listed below.
- 2 The proposed study tour should demonstrate how additional knowledge concerning an aspect of work relating to protected landscapes shall be gathered and incorporated into the applicant's work and that of his or her organisation. A statement should therefore be made in the application explaining how the proposed study tour will benefit landscapes.
- 3 Applicants should demonstrate how the study tour will contribute towards their personal professional development.
- 4 The proposed study tour should be additional, as opposed to an existing project that would proceed without a Duncan Mills Scholarship Award.
- 5 Applications are especially welcome from candidates who are not senior managers or executive officers.

## Application procedure

A candidate should be nominated by a line manager or senior officer. An application shall consist of:

- A covering letter of nomination, including the candidate's experience
- an outline of the proposed study tour (no more than a 1,000 words)
- a detailed budget
- a statement concerning how the Scholarship would support personal professional development outcomes.

## Award categories

**Management Best Practice.** This category includes learning about how a protected area is managed for environmental or economic benefits, including climate change mitigation, biodiversity or ecosystem conservation, and sustainable tourism projects. Work looking at integrating management outcomes, planning for the future, and ensuring greater collaboration between protected areas are particularly welcome.

**Involving People.** This category includes those areas of work that focus on people - residents, young people, volunteers, minority groups and so forth, in particular in such areas as communication, community engagement, health and education.

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