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Sawfish Network Newsletter December 2011: Project update, details on Phase 2 and additional funders

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Sawfish Network Newsletter

Edition 2
December 2011

Dear Lucy,

Welcome to the second edition of the Sawfish Network Newsletter. Things have been progressing well over the past couple of months and the Sawfish Network now has over 100 members! We would still welcome any additional information that you may have on sawfishes so please feel free to submit this through the [online survey](#) or forward the link to your friends. Our aim is to have representation in the network from the 100+ countries where sawfish have historically been or are present, so we really need your help to get the word out! We will also be in touch in the new year with a request for your suggestions of conservation actions for sawfish so stay tuned!

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Sawfish Conservation Strategy: Phase 2

In the first edition of this newsletter, we highlighted what will be achieved during Phase 1 of this

project; the main goal is to create a Global Sawfish Conservation Strategy with a number of recommended global conservation actions. We will also be using this first phase to increase interest and publicity for the plight of sawfish. However, we have already started to think about Phase 2 of the project. This will involve working with the Sawfish Network to implement the recommended conservation actions as well as set up regional and activity-focused workshops to come up with more location-specific conservation activities.

Project Funding Update

We are pleased to announce that we have received additional funding from three additional sources since October. The [IUCN Species Survival Commission Sub-Committee for Species Conservation Planning](#) and the [Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund](#) have kindly provided funds that will increase the success and publicity of the workshop. Also, Lucy Harrison (Program Officer, IUCN Shark Specialist Group) and Alec Moore (SSG Indian Ocean Region Member) were invited to give a talk at [Chester Zoo](#) in the UK to raise funds for the Sawfish Conservation Strategy. Over 140 people attended this lively evening of sharks, wine and cheese, discussion and sawfish, and \$800 was raised from ticket sales and a raffle! Lucy Harrison's talk on the world of sharks can be seen [here](#) on the SSG YouTube page. Thank you to Alec Moore for initiating this important outreach and fundraising event and to the Chester Zoo team for organising the event!



Wanted: Sawfish Images! Do you have any that we can use for publicity materials and the [website](#)?

As we move forward with this project, we would welcome any images that we can use for publicity materials and for the website - full acknowledgments and copyright will be given of course! Highlighting sawfishes in their natural environment, as well as in interactions with humans (with researchers or fishers), is a vital part of raising awareness for this project. If you have any images that we may use for these different purposes please contact Lucy Harrison (iucnshark@gmail.com) - we can also organise for you to be contacted each time we wish to use an image so that you are able to control the extent to which your image is used.

Thank you again for your participation in this project.

Best wishes for the Holiday Season and the New Year,

Sawfish Network Team

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