



## AAS Spring 2026 TRUST REPORT

23 April 2026

The Trust met virtually on 20 April 2026. For the Spring 2026 session, the Trustees granted ten awards totaling **\$6494.12**.

- Pallavi Bantha (M.S., ASU) was awarded \$300 to microbial communities and immunocompetence in turtles
- Robin Buff (AAS) won \$2394.12 to purchase walkies talkies for the Audubon camps
- Alexa Dillon (M.S., ASU) was awarded \$300 to study genomics and parasites in Black River Madtoms
- Haley Greer (M.S., UCA) was given \$600 to investigate thermal refugia of Eastern Collared Lizards
- Calvin Leischner (M.S., UCA) made \$300 to quantify encounter rates in Eastern Collared Lizards in an Arkansas glade
- Dustin Kohler (M.S., ATU) won \$700 Cerulean Warbler habitat use. This is his 2<sup>nd</sup> award for the project. He was awarded \$1300 in the last session.
- Abby McIver (Ph.D., ASU) was given \$300 to study immune function in Red-eared Slider turtles
- Anne Puchalsky (MS, UAF) won \$500 to study King Rail genetics and nesting success in Desha Co., Arkansas
- Ethan Saffle (M.S., ASU) was given \$600 to study warblers scats to assess diets in the Ozark National Forest
- Ben Stratton (Ph.D., UAF) won \$500 to investigate box turtle ecology among solar arrays managed for native prairie vegetation

I thank Dr. Than Boves, Lynn Foster, Dr. Maureen McClung, and Cherrie-Lee Phillip for reviewing the proposals, and Megan Foll, AAST Treasurer, for keeping the trust finances in order.

Sincerely,

*R. Kannan*

Dr. Ragupathy Kannan, Chair  
Arkansas Audubon Society Trust