

## **Western Field Ornithologists Research Grant Application Instructions**

### **WFO Grant Program Objectives:**

The Western Field Ornithologists Research Grant Program supports student research and internships in the field biology of birds. The program supports WFO's mission of promoting the study of birds throughout western North America and supports the mission of the WFO Student Programs Committee to help develop the next generation of field ornithologists and sustain a long term bond between young ornithologists and WFO.

### **Criteria:**

1. Applicants must be current members of WFO. Membership information is available at <https://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/join.php>
2. Applicants should be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate institution. A highly-motivated student who is under 18 but has a suitable project and a supervisor at a college, university or research institution may apply.
3. The project should further our understanding of the field biology of birds.
4. The project must pertain to birds that occur within the WFO region.

### **Award:**

1. Two grants will be awarded for the 2021 field season.
2. Each award will be for an amount up to \$1,500.
3. Funds may be used for travel, supplies, lodging, and other expenses. Awardees will be reimbursed for expenses. Travel expense by car will be reimbursed at the current federal mileage rate of \$0.56 per mile.

### **Application and Selection Process:**

1. Applicants must submit a proposal to the Chair of the Science Subcommittee, Dr. John Harris by March 2, 2021. Materials should be submitted by email to [johnh@mills.edu](mailto:johnh@mills.edu).
2. The application must include the following items:
  - a. A description of the nature and significance of the project or internship, methods to be used, and timeline of the project (2 page limit).
  - b. A budget statement indicating how the funds will be spent and a justification of these expenditures (2 page limit). If WFO is being asked to provide partial funds for the grant project, a list of other organizations that have already provided funds as well as

organizations that are currently being solicited should be included. A proposal for what the grantee will do in case all of the needed funds to complete the project are not obtained should also be included.

c. Application must include a resume of the applicant (2 page limit). The resume should include the student's current academic status, past experiences in field ornithology, other scholarships or awards, past involvement with ornithological organizations, and any other relevant ornithological experience.

d. A support letter from the applicant's advisor or supervisor.

2. Proposals will be reviewed by the Science Subcommittee of the WFO Student Programs Committee. Requests will either be approved for the amount of funds requested, approved but at a lower level of funding, deferred if additional information is required to reach a decision, or not approved. If additional information is required by the Subcommittee, the Chair will request such information from the applicant. The Chair of the Subcommittee would notify the applicants regarding the acceptance of their proposal.
3. Awardees are expected to provide a report at the end of the project detailing the project results and expenditures. Awardees are encouraged to attend the WFO conference and present the results of their project at the conference. WFO retains the right to ask for a return of the funds if no progress is made in carrying out the project within two years unless a specific arrangement is made with the board before this deadline. Some projects may be funded in installments.

For further information, contact Dr. John H. Harris at [johnh@mills.edu](mailto:johnh@mills.edu)