



**Ducks Unlimited
Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl (IWWR)**

Unsolicited Proposals

The Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research (IWWR) serves as the science arm of Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC). DUC and Ducks Unlimited Inc. (DUI) (collectively referred to as DU) recognize that partnerships with researchers from North America's universities and other research institutions are essential for attaining DU's conservation vision. The following guidelines describe the process that IWWR uses to receive and review research proposals for unsecured research support. This category includes all proposals that DUC might support with limited discretionary funds. These projects are selected through a two-step process that involves review of pre-proposals and final proposals.



Ducks Unlimited Canada
Conserving Canada's Wetlands

Scope of Proposals

DUC will consider supporting field research anywhere in Canada. Retrospective analyses, modeling, or laboratory work on problems of importance to DUC may be supported regardless of where the work is conducted.

Generally, grants for fieldwork in the United States or Mexico will be made and administered by DUI in Memphis, Tennessee. For guidance about applying there, please contact Scott Yaich at the address below.

Field research in the United States or Latin America may be supported directly by DUC in the following exceptional circumstances: the information is judged to be of extraordinary importance to migratory waterfowl in Canada (e.g., research on declining scaup populations); the work is part of a cross-border project (e.g., Fraser River Delta / North Puget Sound); or a unique research opportunity exists in circumstances where the results would be clearly transferable to Canadian ecosystems (e.g., hydrology and nutrient cycling in prairie potholes in northern North Dakota).

Application Process

Pre-Proposals

Pre-proposals for unsecured research support may be submitted at any time. They are typically five pages in length, including a preliminary budget, and should describe the basic research idea, objectives, general approach and methods to be used. Staff will review pre-proposals to assess DUC's likely interest in supporting the research. Of particular importance in the initial screening is the relevance of the proposed research to DUC's conservation mission. Please explicitly state how results of proposed research will benefit DUC. For topics of interest, subsequent discussions between project proponents and IWWR staff will help modify project ideas and increase the likelihood that research proposals closely match DUC's interests and funding capabilities.

Responses to pre-proposals will generally be made within 8 weeks after submission. Many proposals will be declined at this stage. Other proponents will be asked to submit a more detailed final proposal for more rigorous peer review.

To maximize the likelihood of funding the following year, pre-proposals should be received by June 30, which falls ahead of IWWR's annual budget preparation deadlines. Earlier submissions will usually improve the chances of success.

Final Proposals

Final proposals should follow the format described below, and will be sent for confidential internal review, and possibly external review. Review criteria include the relevance of the proposed research to DUC's conservation work, the scientific soundness and achievability of the work, and the qualifications of principal investigator(s), including graduate students if applicable.



Proposal Format

- The format for these is flexible, but should include: an introduction to the problem (including a statement of relevance to DU); objectives and major hypotheses; the basic design of observations or experiments; general methods; a timetable; and literature cited.
- Proposed and, as appropriate, multi-year budget with a list of any secured matching support (including personal support) and other pending applications
- Not more than 10 pages in length
- Resume of principal investigators

If a final proposal for unsecured funds is approved in concept, IWWR staff will then help the principal investigator seek funds to support the study. This typically means providing partial support with discretionary funds.

Where to Apply

To apply for unsolicited research support, please submit materials to:

Stuart Slattery, Manager of Conservation Science and Planning
 Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research
 Ducks Unlimited Canada
 P.O. Box 1160
 Stonewall, Manitoba, Canada R0C 2Z0
 Phone : (204) 467-3323
 Fax : (204) 467-3410
 Email : iwwr@ducks.ca

For the United States and Mexico:

Science support in the United States from DUI is managed separately. For guidance about applying to DUI, please contact:

Scott Yaich, Chief Scientist
 Ducks Unlimited Inc.
 One Waterfowl Way
 Memphis, TN 38120
 Phone: (901) 758-3874
 Fax: (901) 758-3850
 Email: syaich@ducks.org

Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged.



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