

Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society Grants

The Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society (Chapter) funds projects that are consistent with its mission and goals. The mission of the Chapter is to serve and represent wildlife professionals in all areas of wildlife conservation and resource management. The Chapter fulfills its mission through four main goals:

1. Develop and maintain a program that facilitates continuing education and professional development of wildlife professionals,
2. Promote sound stewardship of wildlife and their habitats through the application of scientific information,
3. Increase public awareness and appreciation of wildlife, and
4. Develop an active and diverse membership and maintain an organization that provides excellent service to members.

Through its grant program, the Chapter aims to provide funding for a variety of projects that are consistent with our goals. Eligible uses of the funds include supplies, equipment for schools and nonprofit organizations, printing and communications. Ineligible uses include salaries, stipends, per diem and personal equipment. Students, wildlife professionals, and nonprofit organizations that are active in wildlife conservation are eligible to apply.

Funding Availability

Funds are generated through annual meeting registration, auctions, and workshop proceeds, and are available on an annual basis. The amount of funds available will vary from year to year, depending on the Chapter's program and priorities. Grants typically range between \$100 and \$1,000.

Application Process

The Chapter will call for proposals at the Annual Meeting in February and in the Summer issue of the Chapter newsletter. Proposals are due by November 15th of each year. Proposals will be reviewed by the Grant Committee and final funding decisions will be made by the Board. Grants will be awarded at the Annual Meeting. Please note that grants to students will be awarded through their respective university. The Montana Chapter TWS is not responsible for paying indirect costs. Proposals may be sent by email to [Vanna Bocadori](mailto:vbocadori@mt.gov) (vbocadori@mt.gov)- Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Questions concerning the grant program may be directed to Vanna Bocadori at (406) 494-2082.

Proposal Format

Proposals should be 2-3 pages in length, typed, single spaced, and should contain the following sections:

- a) Title
 - b) Applicant's name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and affiliation. If the applicant is a student or wildlife professional, please provide a Curriculum Vitae and the name of your advisor. If the applicant is representing a club or organization, please provide the organization's mission statement and a brief description about membership and the types of activities completed and/or sponsored in the recent past.
 - c) Please indicate whether the applicant is a current member of the State, Regional, and/or National Chapter of The Wildlife Society.
 - d) Scope and Objectives – Provide a description of the background and objectives of the project. Specifically explain how the project relates to the Chapter's mission and goals.
 - e) Project Implementation – Provide a brief summary of how project objectives will be accomplished.
 - f) Expected Outcomes – Provide a description of anticipated products or outcomes of the project.
 - g) Budget and Timelines – Provide an itemized budget for the overall project, showing amount requested, cost sharing (if applicable), and time schedule for the project.
 - h) Supporting Materials – if this is an educational project, please provide pertinent educational materials to the Montana Chapter for review.
- Funding requests should not exceed \$1,000.

Proposal Rating

Proposals will be rated based on the following criteria:

- a) Significance of the proposed project in regard to its research and/or educational value for wildlife conservation.
- b) Adequacy of proposed implementation in relation to the project objectives.
- c) Importance of project in relation to the requested funds.

Preference will be given to members of the Montana Chapter

Acknowledgements

Grant recipients will be expected to present final results or a progress report of their project to the Grant Committee within one year of grant allocation. Additionally, grant recipients may be asked to present their project at a future Annual Meeting of the Chapter and/or provide a write-up for the Chapter newsletter. All printed materials supported by the Chapter shall contain an acknowledgement of support.

Grants Committee Timeline

The Grants Committee will adhere to the following timeline in carrying out the responsibilities of this committee:

Call for proposals at the Annual Meeting (Grants Chair)

Call for proposals in the Summer Newsletter (Grants Chair)

Accept proposals through November 15 (Grants Chair)

Give copies of proposals to committee members by November 25 (Grants Chair)

Review proposals and make recommendations to Chapter Board by January 1 (Grants Committee members)

Awards decision made by February 15 (MT Chapter Board)

Award grants at Annual Meeting in late February (MT Chapter President)

Notify all applicants as to the status of their proposal by mid-March (Grants Chair)