

Avian Research/Conservation Grant – Upper Peninsula of Michigan

Sponsored by the Laughing Whitefish Audubon Society (Marquette, MI)

Grant Description

Amount: up to \$500.00 awarded yearly

Eligibility: This grant is open to individuals or groups doing avian research and/or avian-related conservation in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Individuals or groups may submit only one research/conservation proposal in any given year.

Application Deadline: The application must be received by January 15 of the calendar year in which the grant money will be used.

Notification of awards: All applicants will be notified about their status by March 31.

Submission:

- Applications may be submitted as a single email attachment in Microsoft Word or PDF format to the following email address: ajoyal@nmu.edu. Please put “Avian Grant” in the subject line.
- OR applications may be mailed to
Laughing Whitefish Audubon Society, 346 W. Crescent St., Marquette, MI 49855
- Research applicants must also arrange to have one letter of reference emailed to ajoyal@nmu.edu (Microsoft Word or PDF) or have the letter mailed to the above address.

Format & Content of Application:

1. Cover Sheet on a separate page, giving the following information in the order listed

Your name or your organization’s name:

Your mailing address:

Your telephone and email:

Title of Research Study or Title of Conservation Project

Name of person supplying reference letter (Research Grant only)

The person’s telephone and email:

2. Proposal not to exceed the equivalent of 3 single-spaced typewritten pages which includes the following:

- **SIGNIFICANCE:** Explain the significance of the research question and/or conservation project. How will the impact the knowledge about and/or management of avian species in the Upper Peninsula? For Research Grants only: How will the results be disseminated?
- **BACKGROUND:** What is already known about the research problem and/or conservation project? Cite any previous studies or research with which you are familiar.
- **PROPOSAL AND METHODS:** What is/are the objective(s) of the proposed research and/or conservation project? Describe the research methods or research design. For a conservation grant, describe the project design or planned action. What is/are the expected outcome(s)? For Research Grants: What is the status of any required permits for this project?

See the SCORING CRITERIA on page 2 of this form.

3. For Research Project: Attach a resumé of no more than 2 pages in length.

For a Conservation Project: Discuss the background of your agency/group & any other conservation projects that have been undertaken.

4. Attach a one-page budget and a timeline for the project

- Describe the projected expenses & how the requested grant funds will be spent.
- Please give a starting date and timeline for the project.
- Please indicate any financial award(s) and their amount that you have already received for this project. If this is an on-going project, list only awards that will be used during the same year that you will use the “Avian Research and/or Conservation Grant” sponsored by the Laughing Whitefish Audubon Society.

5. For research grants: one letter of reference should be mailed (or emailed) separately from the grant application

Applicants are encouraged to contact the following people for questions or assistance:

Ann Joyal, ajoyal@nmu.edu, 906-226-6749

Dr. Alec. Lindsay, alec.lindsay@gmail.com , 906-362-8675

Gary Palmer, palmerjg@gmail.com

Scoring Criteria:

1. Significance of the research and/or conservation project:
 - Will this research advance knowledge and/or conservation of avian species in the Upper Peninsula?
 - For Research Projects: How will the results be disseminated?
2. Quality of the background research:
 - Was the background research thorough and relevant to the topic of the proposal? For conservation grants, was the background research thorough and does it support a need for the project?
 - Did the background research include citations from among the following: relevant literature, interviews or information from local authorities or agencies, citations from other pertinent sources?
3. Quality of the proposal:
 - Are the objectives clearly defined?
 - Is the project well-designed? (appropriate analysis, adequate sample size, etc.) (conservation: appropriate design and planning)
 - Are the methods appropriate?
 - Are the outcomes reasonable and achievable?
 - Is the time-line reasonable?
 - Is the budget justifiable?
 - Have any necessary permits been acquired, or any needed permission been obtained? If permits have been obtained, please include copies. Otherwise, explain the status of the permits. If no permits are necessary, please explain.
4. Quality of the overall proposal:
 - Is the proposal well-written, easy to understand, and free of spelling and grammatical errors?