

Announcement and Instructions for NABS Research Grant Applications

Guidelines for the 2020 North American Bluebird Society (NABS) competitive research grants program are detailed below. To apply please submit a ten (10) page (maximum) proposal package including the items outlined below before November 1, 2019. Award notices will be issued by February 1, 2020. Questions about this RFP can be addressed to: bdaniel@cinci.rr.com.

1. **Cover letter** (This letter or email **need not** be included in the 10-page proposal limit).
2. **Grant proposal** (arranged with the following sections):
 - A. Project Title
 - B. Principle Investigator Information: Name, phone, email, mailing address, and the affiliation of the applicant. Student applicants please include a faculty advisor or institute official.
 - C. Introduction: Background and supporting information or justification for the proposal.
 - D. Project Motivation The hypothesis or question(s) which this research project addresses. **Very important**, please explain how you think this research addresses the NABS mission.
 - E. Research Protocol
 - i. The cavity nesting species of interest;
 - ii. Methods (e.g., study design, quality assurance, power, & methods of analysis);
 - iii. The study location(s);
 - iv. Permits (assurance that required permits at state or federal levels are in place);
 - v. Timeline (start/finish for field/lab work, analysis, and final report dates anticipated);
 - vi. Literature Cited;
 - vii. Detailed budget: please include other funding sources and the amount requested from NABS.
3. **Letters of Support** (2 for student applications, 1 for faculty applications),
4. **Curriculum vitae** (for the principle investigator)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Proposals must be submitted before November 1, 2019 via email to: bdaniel@cinci.rr.com

All items should ideally be combined into a single Adobe (.pdf) document. A single MS Word (.doc or.docx) document is acceptable but note that most Word versions will save as .pdf. The PI's last name should appear at the top right corner of each page, and each page should be numbered bottom center.

Please restrict the application to a maximum of ten pages (letters of recommendation can be short and pithy!).

Projects to build, maintain, or upgrade a bluebird trail are not eligible for NABS **research** grants unless they are being established for research purposes. In addition, assurances must be given that such trails will be adopted by a trail monitor, taken down, or inactivated after the research project has been completed.

Grant recipients are expected to submit a report to NABS summarizing the project results within 90 – 120 days after the completion of the project.

NABS's mission and additional details are given on our website: <http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/>

Some research topics currently of particular interest to NABS for meeting its mission.

NABS has identified some areas that are of particular importance to its mission. These projects involve the ability to search literature and to assemble data and format it using basic data base management methodology.

1. NABS is interested in having the North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data base on bluebirds (Eastern Bluebird 1966 – 2018; Western Bluebird 1968 – 2018; and Mountain Bluebird 1968 – 2018) downloaded and processed using data base management procedures so as to be usable entering in Geographic Information Systems and other analytical tools for the purpose of tracking bluebird abundance, distribution and populations dynamics at the continental scale as well at state and BBS ecoregion level. Some detailed guidance on such a project is available -- please contact bdaniel@cinci.rr.com for more questions or more details.
2. Similar download and assembly of data bases from the Cornell eBird program or the Audubon Christmas Bird Counts on the three bluebird species using data base management procedures so as to be usable entering in Geographic Information Systems and other analytical tools for the purpose of tracking bluebird abundance, distribution and populations dynamics at the continental scale as well at state and BBS ecoregion level. Some detailed guidance on such a project is available -- please contact bdaniel@cinci.rr.com for more questions or more details
3. NABS would be interested in supporting a project that would investigate methods to use available public information to estimate the numbers of individuals that are currently offering nestboxes for cavity nesting birds on both public (e.g., parks, wildlife reserves etc) and private lands. Preferably such an estimate would be at the national (either USA or Canada) level. Alternatively an estimate of the number of nestboxes offered at the national level would also very much of interest. Some detailed guidance on such a project is available -- please contact bdaniel@cinci.rr.com for more questions or more details.
4. NABS is interested in learning about the importance of habitat on continental level changes in bluebird populations. Currently the North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) provides information on the numbers of bluebirds on approximately 2050 sites every year. Some of these sites are showing yearly increases in the number of bluebirds reported while other sites are presenting decreasing numbers of bluebirds. NABS would be interested in knowing how the habitat (as assessed via some reliable continental land cover data set e.g., MODIS or NLCD) using appropriate tools/methods in a Geographic Information System please contact bdaniel@cinci.rr.com for more questions or more details.