



2024 U.S. Partnership Grant Program – Request for Proposals

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Overview

Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture (Pacific Birds) is requesting proposals from U.S. partners for its 2024 Partnership Grant Program.

Pacific Birds helps partners identify, prioritize, and implement conservation actions that benefit birds and the habitats they need. These actions include but are not limited to conserving habitat, inspiring action for bird conservation, developing and synthesizing data, increasing organizational capacity, and creating and sustaining partnerships that enact local or regional habitat conservation work.

Migratory Bird Joint Ventures are cooperative, regional partnerships located in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Pacific Birds is a habitat-based Migratory Bird Joint Venture with a mission of creating the ideal environment for bird habitat conservation. Joint Ventures accomplish their work when partners work towards common conservation goals.

Learn more about [Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture](#).

Learn more about [previously awarded projects](#).

Learn more about [Migratory Bird Joint Ventures](#).

Grant Focus

Proposals for projects that support the Pacific Birds mission and vision and address the conservation priorities and actions listed below will be considered for funding. *We strongly recommend that you connect with the respective Conservation Coordinator about proposed projects, before applying.*

Conservation Priorities

Coastal Habitats → Coastal Wetlands in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska

For Coastal Wetlands in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, proposed projects/ programs should sustainably benefit coastal wetlands and native birds. Coastal wetlands include habitats within and surrounding estuaries and freshwater wetlands that extend inland within the coastal drainages.

In particular, we welcome proposals that:

1. Initiate, strengthen, or facilitate actions aligned with strategies in the [2024 Coastal Wetlands Strategic Plan](#).
2. Increase the capacity of collaborative partnerships including partnership development, coordination, outreach to new partners, and local strategic planning.
3. Advance the strategies identified in the Pacific Americas Shorebird Conservation Strategy and/ or the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Coastal Habitats → Hawai'i Wetlands

For Wetlands in Hawai'i, proposed projects should provide long-term benefits for wetlands and native birds.

In particular, we welcome proposals that:

1. Initiate or strengthen actions aligned with strategies for wetland conservation identified in the [Strategic Plan for Hawai'i Wetlands 2024](#) (see page 18).
2. Further conservation actions as defined in site narratives at any of the top twenty sites (page 21) and in the narratives for the top twenty sites (appendix 5).

Western Forests → Oak and Prairie

For Oak and Prairie, proposed projects/programs should sustainably benefit this habitat and native birds. If a partner-driven oak and/or prairie strategic plan is available for your geography, projects should reflect priorities identified in that plan.

In particular, we welcome proposals that:

1. Increase the effectiveness and capacity of local and collaborative oak and prairie partnerships including, but not limited to, coordination, outreach to new partners, and strategic planning.
2. Advance strategies that regionally benefit oak and prairie habitats including but not limited to advancing landowner incentive programs, building prescribed fire capacity, conservation workforce development, increasing landowner access to technical assistance, and increasing awareness of the value of oak and prairie habitats and related threats to target audiences.

Grant Specifics

Grant Max and Match

Grant applications will be accepted up to a maximum of \$15,000 but most awards will be in the range of \$5,000 to \$10,000. Pacific Birds is expected to award 5-7 grants in 2024.

Match funding is not required. Projects that include match will receive additional consideration.

Indirect costs are limited to ten percent of the total budget.

Funds from Pacific Birds may not be used to support political advocacy, fundraising, lobbying, litigation, terrorist activities, or Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations.

Funds will be restricted to the items outlined in the grant application budget. If you are awarded a grant, any budgetary changes will need to be approved by Pacific Birds in advance of expenditure.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Native American tribal governments, Native Hawaiian Organizations, and educational institutions. Tribal governments include all Native American tribal governments (both federally recognized tribes and those tribes that are not federally recognized). We are unable to make grants to for-profit corporations, federal agencies, or individuals.

Project Timing

Priority will be given to projects that can be completed by July 31, 2025. All other projects must be completed by July 31, 2026. Time extensions for awarded projects will not be allowed. Please do not apply if your proposal cannot be completed by one of the above dates.

Geography

Grants will only be awarded to projects within these regions of the Pacific Birds service area: Alaska, Hawai'i, and the western portions of Washington, Oregon, and northern California.



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice (DEIJ)

Pacific Birds is committed to integrating DEIJ into our conservation efforts, embracing a long-term journey of intentional learning and adaptation to ensure a positive impact on both nature and diverse communities. Pacific Birds has adopted the definitions of DEIJ provided by the American Ornithological Society.

Proposals that are led by or provide benefits to Indigenous (federally recognized Tribes and those Tribes that are not federally recognized) or underserved communities within the scope of this opportunity are particularly encouraged to apply.

Reporting Requirements

Depending on the funds allocated, reimbursement requests and a short report showing how funds were spent, and the benefit obtained will be due by July 15, 2025, or July 15, 2026.

A template for the report and a reimbursement request form will be provided to successful applicants. By accepting a grant you permit Pacific Birds to report on grant activities on our website and/or in newsletters.

Compliance

All federally funded projects will be required to meet the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Financial Assistance Award Terms and Conditions.

Proposals involving ground disturbance will either need to demonstrate compliance with the following FWS pre-award compliance requirements or demonstrate that the requirements are not applicable. Federally funded projects involving ground disturbance will require the following before the Grant Agreement can be executed:

(a) Documentation of compliance with 36 CFR, Part 800, which implements the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), for all project activities;

(b) FWS documentation demonstrating compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act for all project activities;

(c) Documentation from the FWS Regional Office or field station demonstrating that contaminants will not preclude the incorporation of those lands acquired in the project into the National Wildlife Refuge System (applicable only if such lands will be acquired in the project).

Contact Pacific Birds if the proposed project includes the use of funds for implementation that requires permits. Permits will need to be in place before applying for the Pacific Birds Partnership Grant program.

Timetable

May 16, 2024 - Request for proposals made available

July 1, 2024 – Applications due no later than 11:59 pm PDT

July 23, 2024 – Pacific Birds Staff and Awards Review Subcommittee completes the review and ranking process and provides recommendations to the Pacific Birds United States Steering Committee

August 15, 2024 – Applicants are notified of the outcome of their proposal

September 9, 2024 - Awards contracted

How To Apply

Please submit a completed Partnership Grants Application form as a PDF document by July 1, 2024, no later than 11:59 pm PDT via email with the subject line: *2024 Pacific Birds Partnerships Grants* to Natalie Myers (Communications and Marketing Coordinator) at natalie_myers@pacificbirds.org.

Questions?

- Helen Raine (Hawai'i Wetlands), helen_raine@pacificbirds.org

- Sara Evans-Peters (Oak and Prairie), sara_evans_peters@pacificbirds.org
- Laura Farwell (Coastal Wetlands in PNW and Alaska), laura_farwell@pacificbirds.org

Application Review Considerations

All proposals will be screened for relevance, accuracy, completeness, and compliance with the RFP. The following criteria will be used by the Review Committee to rank proposals. Proposals should clearly address the components relevant to the proposed project.

Specifically, proposals will be evaluated primarily on the extent to which they meet the following four criteria:

1. How well does the project align and advance one or more of the topics identified in the 2024 Partnership Grant Conservation Priorities section?
2. Does the project have clear implications for the conservation of birds and their habitats (scale, duration, significance, geography, engagement)?
3. Does the project have clearly defined and achievable goals and S.M.A.R.T. objectives (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound)?
4. Does the project fill an information/ funding/ capacity gap?

Secondary criteria that will be considered include:

1. Does the proposal represent a partnership among public, private, and/or other organizations with appropriate local investment?
2. Does it represent a new and/or unique partnership for Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture?
3. Does it strengthen existing partnerships for Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture?
4. Does the project involve one or more Indigenous, local community groups, or historically underserved communities? Does this project address issues of social and environmental justice and contribute to building equity and inclusion?
5. Are all budget items and charges reasonable for the work described?