

Sonoran Joint Venture Award Program

Award Program Objective

The objective of the Sonoran Joint Venture (SJV) Award Program is to support the investigation and conservation of all birds and their habitats within SJV boundaries by providing funds through a competitive program.

Project Eligibility

Proposals for projects that support the SJV mission and objectives are eligible for funding. This includes: habitat management, research, monitoring, education, community involvement, outreach, ecotourism, and training.

Available Funding:

1. The amount of funding available each year will vary based on contributions from Congressional appropriations and partners. The maximum amount that can be applied for by one project will be set by the board each year. Typical project awards in past years are in the \$3,000-\$25,000 range.
2. The SJV Award Program does not require matching funds; however proposals that include matching funds are encouraged. Matching funds may be cash or in-kind partner contributions. Matching funds may be from any source; they need not be solely non-federal. There is no required match ratio between SJV and partner contributions. The SJV, in general, will not support administrative costs. Projects that have little or no overhead or administrative costs are preferred.

Project Considerations:

1. The Award Program proposals do not require partnerships, but proposals that have partnerships are encouraged. Partnerships that include new partners to the SJV, as well as those that include nontraditional partners, are especially encouraged. Partners may include those contributing funds, in-kind services, land base, technical assistance, coordination, etc.
2. Proposals addressing the bird conservation goals and objectives of the four major bird initiatives, North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight, National Shorebird Conservation Plan, the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, and/or the SJV Implementation Plan (including species, habitat, and focus area priorities) are a requirement. Proposals addressing multiple species are encouraged over single species projects. However, single species projects that address a specific SJV or bird initiative objective are encouraged.

3. Funds requested for salaries must be tied directly to deliverable products, such as plans, databases, reports, on-the-ground work, etc. that address SJV objectives. Salaries of permanent employees coordinating projects may be used for match.
4. Projects that address threats that impact the distribution and abundance of priority species and the quality or quantity of priority habitats are encouraged.
5. Projects or segments of projects that include other SJV values such as: monitoring, outreach or education, involvement of indigenous or local communities, avitourism, and training are encouraged.

Timetable

1. An official Request for Proposals (RFP) will be made available by December 1 of each year. Proposals will be accepted year round and held for evaluation during the review and ranking period.
2. Proposals should be submitted to the SJV Coordinator and Science Coordinator electronically by April 1 of each year to be reviewed and ranked for that year's funding.
3. The SJV Science Coordinator and a subcommittee of the Technical Committee will complete the review and ranking process by May 1.
4. The Technical Committee subgroup will provide their recommendations through the JV Coordinator to the Management Board for approval as soon as possible after May 1. Notification to awardees will be made following board approval.

Reporting Requirements and Final Report

Successful grantees will provide the SJV with progress reports every six months until the project is completed and a final report no later than six months after project completion.

Other funding sources:

North American Wetlands Conservation Act and Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act Proposals

If you are considering submitting a proposal to either of these funding sources, refer to the following websites for instructions: <http://northamerican.fws.gov/NAWCA/grants.htm> and http://northamerican.fws.gov/NMBCA/eng_neo.htm. Assistance with preparing proposals for either of these sources is available from SJV staff. Coordination with the SJV on these proposals most often results in greater consideration in the review process.

Summary of Project Considerations

I. Biological Value

- A. Benefits to priority bird species as identified by a national bird initiative or by the SJV, secondarily benefits to other taxa.
- B. Benefits to priority habitats as identified by the SJV (including # of acres or miles impacted).
- C. Benefits to a focus area identified by the SJV.

II. Threat

- A. Addresses threats that impact the quality or quantity of priority species and/or habitats and/or other values below.
- B. Has threats that are immediate and quantified, especially if the project is not initiated.

III. Partnerships

- A. New partners, nontraditional partners, the number of partners.
- B. Match ratio.
- C. Opportunity–match that might be lost, partners' needs, other opportunities forgone.

IV. Plan Objectives

Addresses a stated objective or recommendation in an existing bird initiative plan.

V. Other Project Values

- A. Addresses a monitoring need.
- B. Addresses an outreach or education need.
- C. Involvement of indigenous or local community (including the # of people contacted).
- D. Addresses a training need.
- E. Likelihood of success/completion.

**SONORAN JOINT VENTURE AWARD PROGRAM
PROJECT APPLICATION**

1. Applicant Information

Project Title:
 Project Location:
 Organization:
 Project Officer:
 Contact information (phone, email, address, fax):
 Financial Officer:
 Contact information (phone, email, address, fax):
 Funds Requested:
 Date submitted:
 Continuing SJV project (yes/no):

2. Project Information

Project Summary:
 Project Need:
 Conservation Implications (including how the project addresses priority SJV birds, habitats, and/or focus areas, and how the project addresses SJV and/or bird initiative plan objectives):
 Objectives of project:
 Methodology:
 Partners and their contributions (partner letters of support are encouraged):
 Timetable:
 Project Location Map:

3. Budget

The following is sample budget layout.

Budget Categories (such as):	SJV Request	Applicant Contribution	Partner(s) Contribution(s) (monetary)	Partner(s) Contribution(s) (non-monetary value/in-kind)	Total
Salaries					
Materials					
Travel					
Printing					
Other (specify)					
Total					

4. Compliance

Describe what is needed for environmental, cultural, archaeological, and legal compliance. Every successful awardee is responsible for obtaining all necessary permits and complying with all environmental and cultural/archaeological regulations.

This application must be submitted electronically to Robert Mesta (Robert_mesta@fws.gov) and Carol Beardmore (carol_beardmore@fws.gov) by April 1 2004. Proposals should be no more than 3-5 pages excluding maps and partner letters.