**DOS Conservation Science Grants**

**Application Form**

### The Delaware Ornithological Society (DOS) Conservation Science Grants support innovative investigations into bird conservation challenges. DOS encourages projects with a strong emphasis on species and habitat conservation and management. We also are interested in projects that greatly enhance our understanding of the conservation requirements of bird species of conservation concern. To be eligible for funding, projects must be located within the state of Delaware or within the Delaware Estuary in Pennsylvania or New Jersey (see https://delawareestuary.org/about-the-estuary/estuary-map/). Projects in adjacent areas with results that are transferable to this focus area may be considered at the discretion of the committee (please contact us before submitting). Grants are reviewed annually by a grant review committee appointed by the DOS Conservation Chair.

**Size of grants:**

Not to exceed $3,000

**Eligibility:**

Open to non-profit organizations; university-affiliated researchers, including graduate students; and to qualified unaffiliated researchers. University-affiliated proposals must be submitted by the Principal Investigator or by a student (with letter of support from advisor/PI).

**Timeline:**

Applications must be received by 4pm EST on **March 15, 2025. Applicants will be notified by April 15, 2025.**

**Ineligible activities:** travel to conferences, travel other than for direct field or lab work, meals and lodging, PI or graduate student salary, overhead, administrative expenses.

**Proposal Evaluation**

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. **Delaware relevance.** How much will the project impact bird conservation in Delaware or on the Delaware Bay?

2. **Inclusion of Bird Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN).** Does the project have potential benefit to bird SGCN in Delaware or in the state in which research is conducted, and if so, how many species? Does the project have ancillary benefits for non-bird SGCN species?

3. **Intellectual merit.**

4. **Applicability to Conservation.**  How immediate and applicable are the anticipated results of the project to on-the-ground conservation efforts?

5. **Need.** Does the project fill a particularly important gap in current knowledge?

6. **Feasibility.** Is the project feasible given the time and resources available?

7. **Match.** Are other matching funds or in-kind contributions secured or anticipated? Greater weight will be given to proposals that leverage funds or volunteer effort.

**Reporting Requirements**

1. Recipients are required to submit a final grant report including a Summary of Activities, Summary of Findings, and List of Publications.

2. Recipients must present their project at a meeting of DOS within 1 year of the closing date of the grant.

3. Acknowledgement of DOS funding is required in any publications or presentations. Notification of publications and presentations is also requested. Please send citations to the grant committee at [grants@dosbirds.org](mailto:conservation@dosbirds.org).

4. Recipients are strongly encouraged to consider publication of a research summary in the *Delaware Ornithologist*, the annual scientific journal of DOS.

5. Funds are to be spent within one year of the award date, unless the proposal has specified a request to fund a two-year project.

6. In the case of a two-year funding request, recipients must submit a status report at the end of the first year.

Any questions about the grant program or the application process should be directed to [grants@dosbirds.org](mailto:grants@dosbirds.org).

# **DOS Grant Application Form**

# **NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

**Name of Applicant**

Address:

Phone: Fax:

E-mail: Website:

Principal Investigator:

Primary Advisor: Dept.:

(if student applicant)

Advisor Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Advisor E-Mail:

(if different than above)

**Type of Applicant:**

* Non-profit 501(c)(3) Organization Project
* University Project (non-student applicant)
* Unaffiliated Individual Project
* University Project (student applicant)

**Federal EIN (for non-profit applicants) #**

**Name of Project**:

**Amount Requested:**

**Total Project Budget:**

**Duration of grant requested:**

* One Year
* Two Years

**Summarize the proposal** and how it fulfills the DOS grant criteria (300 words maximum):

**Have you previously applied to this organization?**

* Yes
* No

**Is this request being submitted exclusively to this funder?**

* Yes
* No

**Are all permits and approvals required to complete the work granted or anticipated?**

* Yes
* No (If no, explain in proposal narrative)

**How did you learn about this grant opportunity? List website or reference.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**AGREEMENT**

*I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that all information included in this proposal is correct. For 501c3 applicants, I certify that the tax-exempt status of this organization is still in effect. For individual applicants, I certify that funds will be used only for charitable purposes and not for personal benefit. If a grant is awarded to this organization or individual, the proceeds of that grant will not be distributed or used to benefit any organization or individual supporting or engaged in unlawful activities. I certify that all necessary permits and approvals are in place to conduct the proposed research, or will be in place before the use of any funds.*

Signature of Applicant Date

# **DOS Conservation Science Grants**

**PROPOSAL NARRATIVE**

**Please attach a proposal narrative of three pages maximum. It should provide the information listed below in this order:**

* + Project background
  + The issue or need to be addressed
  + The goals and objectives for this grant
  + Describe the project methods
  + Describe the project budget and justification for the budget. See more information below.
  + Anticipated project timeline
  + How will you measure the impact of the project?
  + How will the results be publicized and communicated?
  + Literature cited

**PROGRAM/PROJECT BUDGET**

Please submit your project budget using the Excel template provided. Include a budget justification/narrative (not to exceed 1 page) in the proposal narrative above. The budget justification should clearly explain how each budget item is related to the goals of the project.

**APPLICATION PACKAGE**

**Please submit your application package as follows (no more than three files):**

* Grant Application (PDF)
  + Proposal Narrative (3 pages max.)
  + Budget Justification / Narrative (1 page max.)
  + One-paragraph descriptions of key personnel and their relevant qualifications.
  + CV of Applicant
* Itemized Budget (Excel or PDF)
  + Identify the amounts & sources of revenue; note which sources are committed or pending.
  + Use the Excel Template provided.

**Letters of support should be submitted directly to the review committee at** [grants@dosbirds.org](mailto:grants@dosbirds.org).

* Student applicants should submit a letter of support from their Advisor or Principal Investigator. Individual applicants should submit a letter of reference from a previous advisor or employer.

# **DOS Conservation Science Grant Application**

**FINAL CHECKLIST**

##### Be sure your application includes (limit to no more than three files):

* A brief introductory cover letter
* A completed Grant Application Form with contact information
* A completed Grant Proposal Narrative not exceeding three (3) typed pages (excluding attachments)
* An itemized budget, listing support and expenses, for this specific grant using the supplied excel template
* Budget justification/narrative (not exceeding 1 page)
* One-paragraph descriptions of key personnel and their relevant qualifications
* CV of Applicant
* Grantee report (if previously funded by DOS)
* Letter of support (if applying as a student or individual). Letters of support should be sent directly to [grants@dosbirds.org](mailto:grants@dosbirds.org).

**Submission Instructions**

Completed applications and all required attachments should be submitted by email to [grants@dosbirds.org](mailto:grants@dosbirds.org) by 4pm EST on March 15, 2025 Letters of support (if required) should be submitted directly to [grants@dosbirds.org](mailto:grants@dosbirds.org) by the writer.