Request for Pre-Proposals and Small Grant Proposals
Oiled Wildlife Care Network
Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center, UC Davis

Deadlines
Pre-Proposals = **15 October 2021** by 5:00 pm (PST)
Small Grant Proposals = **23 December 2021** by 5:00 pm (PST)

The Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN), a collaborative program between the California Department of Fish and Wildlife - OSPR and the Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center at University of California, Davis' School of Veterinary Medicine, is currently seeking research and technology development proposals from wildlife professionals interested in furthering OWCN goals for the 2022 – 2023 funding period.

Specifically, we are soliciting:
- Pre-proposals for full research projects (> $15,000/yr for up to three years, with yearly re-application)
- Small grant proposals for lower cost/pilot research projects (up to $15,000 for one year of funding)
- **Proposals with <u>direct</u> application to OWCN readiness and response will be prioritized!**

Goals of the OWCN's Research & Technology Development Program

- Improve Animal Care
    - Identify new, and refine current, wildlife rehabilitation techniques
    - Develop and validate new oiled wildlife treatments & diagnostics
    - Determine and test methods for mitigating the effects of oil on wildlife
- Assess Wildlife Health
    - Investigate medical conditions that may affect care during oil spill response
    - Compile biomedical health parameters of commonly oiled wildlife species
    - Determine the health impacts of oil exposure, including those that persist after release
    - Assess the impacts of medical treatments and chemical countermeasures on wildlife
- Determine Wildlife Population Information that Aids in Preventing and Caring for Oiled Wildlife
    - Determine the demography & distribution of wildlife species in California
    - Understand how populations respond to oil spills (to improve rehabilitation protocols)
- Develop New Technology for Oiled Wildlife Care
    - Generate methods to detect/quantify oil exposure in wildlife, and to document their effects
    - Assess applicability of radiotelemetry techniques to monitor survival of wildlife after spills
    - Develop hardware to improve oiled wildlife rehabilitation & husbandry

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NOTE: Projects with greater than 50% of effort focused on Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) issues will <u>not</u> be considered. Research done on species that are <u>not</u> found in California <u>must</u> be applicable to those species or ecosystems that do occur in California.

Pre-Proposal/Small Grant Proposal Review: Complete pre- and small-grant proposals will be reviewed by the OWCN's Scientific Advisory Committee and evaluated & scored for relevance to the goals of the OWCN, its scientific merit/quality, and the ability of investigators to perform work/distribute findings. Pre-proposals that are successful will be invited to submit a full application. Full proposals and submitted small grant proposals will undergo rigorous scientific review, including an external review by a non-collaborating expert. Final funding recommendations from the Scientific Advisory Committee are given to the OWCN Advisory Board, which has final approval of projects.

Pre-Proposals and Small Grant Proposal Applications

Proposals must use at least 3/4" margins and 12-point single-spaced type. **Sections 3-7 of proposals must not exceed two pages** or they will not be reviewed. Required sections include:

1) TITLE of PRE-PROPOSAL (< 100 characters): The title must clearly describe the project.
2) APPLICANT(S) INFORMATION: Name, affiliation, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address for principal investigator; name and affiliation only for all co-investigator(s). Letters of support for all collaborators should be included in Appendix.
3) HYPOTHESES AND OBJECTIVES: State the explicit hypotheses and specific aims.
4) EXPERIMENTAL PLAN: Describe the experimental design of the project (including statistics and sample size calculations) that clearly addresses listed objectives.
5) SIGNIFICANCE TO OILED WILDLIFE HEALTH: Describe how the project is pertinent to the goals of the OWCN (see box on previous page; please be specific).
6) PROJECT DURATION (1-3 years): If proposing the first year of a multi-year study, pre-proposal should describe the first year of work only. If second/third year of funded work, please indicate that as well.

7) ESTIMATED BUDGET: One-paragraph budget, outlined according to the following categories: Personnel; Equipment; Supplies; Travel; and Other Expenses. Acceptable costs include salaries (though PI salary may be a detriment if already supported), office expenses, equipment (> $5,000 but items become OWCN property after completion), animal care costs, lab fees and research-related travel (not conference or publication costs). Final budgets from selected pre-proposals should not deviate substantially. Indirect costs are not allowable costs on grants.
8) APPENDICES
   a. Literature cited
   b. Brief (1/2 page) biography for PI/Co-I(s)
   c. Letters of collaboration – Required for all non PI/Co-I personnel and support (e.g., labs)
   d. Brief (1/2 page) statement regarding supplemental funds (applied for or received)

Review and Application Schedule

Small Grant Proposals	
27 Aug 2021:	RFP distributed
23 Dec 2021:	Small Grant Proposals due
1 Apr 2022:	Grants selected
1 Jul 22- 30 Jun 23:	Funding period
31 Dec 2023:	Final project report due

Full Proposals	
27 Aug 2021:	RFP distributed
15 Oct 2021:	Pre-proposals due
1 Nov 2021:	Requests for Full Proposals distributed
23 Dec 2021:	Full Proposals due
1 Apr 2022:	Grants selected
1 Jul 22 - 30 Jun 23:	Funding period
31 Dec 2023:	Final project report due

Pre-proposals and small grant proposals must be submitted electronically as a single attached document (proposal and signed letters, if any; scanned images OK) in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format to Katie Leasure at kaleasure@ucdavis.edu. Please contact Ms. Leasure at (530) 752-7526 with questions.

**All proposals must arrive at the Wildlife Health Center by e-mail
no later than 5:00 pm (PST) on 15 Oct 2021 (Pre-Proposals) or
5:00 pm (PST) on 23 Dec 2021 (Small/Full Grant Proposals)
or they will not be reviewed**

For additional information on the OWCN's grants program (including detailed application instructions and successful applicants from previous years), please visit www.owcn.org