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2017 Bats for the Future Fund Request for Proposals

Opp ID: 174090 | Research | Last edited on 18 May 2017

[Full Details](#)

Website <http://www.nfwf.org/bats/Pages/bff-2017-request-for-proposals.aspx>
(<http://www.nfwf.org/bats/Pages/bff-2017-request-for-proposals.aspx>)

Sponsor National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) (/funding/results?sponsorid=13424&sponsorParentId=13424)

Amount Upper \$500,000 usd Lower \$50,000 usd
The Bats for the Future Fund (BFF) will award up to approximately \$1 million in grants.

The BFF Fund has two categories of grants. Grants will range from \$50,000 to \$500,000. Matching funds are not required, but are... [more »](#)

Applicant Type Academic Institution
Commercial
Government
Nonprofit
Small Business

Citizenship or Residency United States

Activity location United States

Abstract The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), is soliciting proposals to test or deploy White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) treatments and management tools that lead to solutions to combat WNS and the fungal pathogen *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (Pd), as the causal agent.

The program seeks to promote the survival of bats in North America. The goals of the BFF are to:

- Prevent (or slow) the spread of WNS in North America
- Promote survival and recovery of (WNS-affected) bats through effective management solutions (treatment and management tools)

The objectives of the BFF are to:

- Advance management tools and treatments that minimize WNS-induced declines in bat populations by funding actions to identify, test, and deploy solutions that provide the greatest potential to improve survival and recovery of affected populations, or prevent exposure of bats to Pd
- Fund innovative research leading to management solutions for WNS that will perpetuate long-term, stable, and viable populations of bats

Epidemiological Focus

BFF grants will be awarded preferentially for projects that focus on treating or managing WNS at the leading edge of its march across North America, but this does not preclude work in other areas that advance BFF goals and objectives as stated in this RFP.

Program Priorities

The BFF will support research that develops or advances, tests, and deploys one or more tools or other activities that address the stated priorities below. Proposals that focus on treating or managing the host, pathogen, and/or environment to reduce spread and impacts of WNS will be considered. The topics that follow each category listed below do not represent a comprehensive list of what may be funded, rather they are examples of the types of activities for which the NFWF sees a need. Safety and feasibility at individual through ecosystem scales will be evaluated for all proposed actions. All applications must describe the benefits and risks of the proposed management solutions, including non-target effects to organisms and the environment.

Category 1: WNS Treatment and Management Strategy Grants will support management tools and treatments that provide the greatest potential to improve survival and recovery of affected populations or prevent or limit the exposure of

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Potential Collaborators

405 from inside your institution (/related/faculty_matches?inside_org_filter=true&cid=174090&ot=funding_opp&rt=person)

500+ from outside institutions (/related/faculty_matches?oid=174090&ot=funding_opp&outside_org_filter=true&rt=person)

Funding Contact Person

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bat populations to the disease.

Eligibility Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, federal government agencies, state government agencies, local governments, municipal antimicrobial or antifungal agents, antagonistic pathogens (mycoviruses, partitiviruses), probiotics, bacteria or fungi that are capable of reducing, inhibiting or preventing the growth and/or establishment of Pd. Please note that management tools that are in preliminary stages of development are likely to be a better fit for Category 2 below.

- Vaccines or other immune-modulating techniques to reduce host susceptibility to WNS.
- Genetic/genomic manipulation of Pd or host to reduce Pd's ability to proliferate, survive or spread.
- Development of scalable delivery systems and implementation, and/or advancement of registration of management solutions to reduce impacts of WNS on bat populations.
- Habitat modification or amelioration strategies with the goal to improve survival of WNS-affected bats.
- Testing field efficacy and feasibility across varying environmental and biological settings or using treatment agents and/or management strategies in combination or under varying conditions.
- Evaluation of non-target or collateral effects, or environmental impact of effective management solutions.

Category 2: WNS Innovation Grants will support the development of treatments and tools with the potential to produce management solutions for WNS that will support **bat health**, stable, and viable populations of bats or prevent spread of the disease. Innovative projects should present novel ideas to improve survival of WNS-affected bats or promote recovery of affected populations. Proposals submitted to Category 2 may be exploratory in nature in order to produce critical information about the potential efficacy and application of these tools. Competitive proposals will aim to develop management solutions for WNS with revolutionary tools and techniques to minimize short and long-term impacts of the disease. Proposed innovations may be focused on host, pathogens, and/or environment. Please note that management solutions that are already in advanced stages of development are likely to be a better fit for Category 1 above.

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