

This form is provided as a guideline.

All project applications must be submitted electronically: [Research Grant—1 Year Project](#)



RESEARCH GRANT—1 YEAR PROJECT APPLICATION (SAMPLE)

The information supplied is limited to the space provided and submitted on this form. An application received in any other format will be discarded. Additional attachments are not permitted.

General Information about Your Project

Research project title			
Park(s) where research will be conducted			
Funding and project duration Project start date must be between March 23, 2026, and September 30, 2026.	Total funding request for 2026	\$	
	Project start date		
	Projected project completion date		

Outline Your Project Costs

BUDGET

Priority will be given to those applications where matching cash or in-kind contributions are included. It is very important to note any matching or in-kind funds in the budget.

Personnel

Principal Investigator(s)

List first and last name	Funds requested from WNP	Cash/in-kind contribution(s): Amount, type, and source
	\$	\$
	\$	\$ Note: Online form is limited to 5 entries.
	\$	\$

Clearly describe the specific duties each Principal Investigator (PI) will perform, their expected deliverables, and why funding is being requested. Cash or in-kind contributions require explanation only in the context of the duties and expected deliverables. If no PI personnel apply, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 200 WORDS](#)

Supporting Personnel

List first and last name and position/role	Funds requested from WNP	Cash/in-kind contribution(s): Amount, type, and source
	\$	\$
	\$	\$ Note: Online form is limited to 5 entries.
	\$	\$
Total Personnel Cost(s)	\$	\$

Provide a detailed description of the specific duties each supporting personnel will perform, along with their expected deliverables and the purpose of the funding request. If stipends are part of the request, include a detailed breakdown of stipend expenses by category, ensuring the total matches the stipend amount requested. Cash or in-kind contributions only need explanation as they relate to duties and expected deliverables. If no supporting personnel apply, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 200 WORDS](#)

Other Expense(s)

Category	Funds requested from WNP	Cash/in-kind contribution(s): Amount, type, and source
Supplies and material	\$	\$
Consulting services	\$	\$
Computer services	\$	\$
Subcontract(s)	\$	\$
Equipment	\$	\$
Travel and subsistence	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$ Note: Online form is limited to 3 entries.
Total Other Expense(s)	\$	\$

Budget Totals

\$	Total Funding Requested from WNP	Total must match the 2026 funding request listed on page 1.
\$	Total Cash and In-Kind Contribution(s)	

For each applicable category, provide a detailed explanation.

- **Consulting Services:** Identify the individual(s) providing consulting services. Describe their role, responsibilities, expected deliverables, and clearly state the consulting fee(s) per person. If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 100 WORDS](#)
- **Equipment:** Itemize any equipment purchases over \$100. Include the purpose of each item and how it supports the project. If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 100 WORDS](#)
- **Travel and Subsistence:** Outline travel plans, including destination, purpose, duration, person, and a breakdown of anticipated costs (e.g., lodging, meals, transportation). If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 100 WORDS](#)
- **Other:** Explain any expenses listed under the "Other" category, including the purpose of the expense, and why it does not fit into the standard budget categories. If not applicable insert, N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 175 WORDS](#)

If this application is a request for seed money to justify proposing a larger project to another agency, or if the proposed research will augment an already funded or proposed non-WNP project, clearly explain the relationship. If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 250 WORDS](#)

Who Is Involved with Your Project

RESEARCH PARTICIPANT(S)

Primary principal investigator (PI)	Name Company/organization name Address City, state, zip Phone Email
Additional principal investigator (PI)(s)	Name Company/organization name Address City, state, zip Phone Email <div>Note: The online application allows for a total of four additional PIs requiring all contact information as noted.</div>
Benefiting/Host park superintendent submitting this proposal	Name Park name Address City, state, zip Phone Email
Benefiting/Host park chief of interpretation	Name Phone Email <div><input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if chief of interpretation position is currently vacant.</div>

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PI(S) CONDUCTING THE RESEARCH

List only those qualifications directly related to this application. Include a list of other WNP-funded research conducted by the PI(s). [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 WORDS](#)

List the name(s) of research participant(s) who will acquire advanced degree(s) because of working on this project, if any:

Tell Us about Your Project

ABSTRACT

Provide a summary of your project. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 300 WORDS](#)

JUSTIFICATION

The submitting park should answer these questions:

1. Delineate where this project ranks in the submitting park's research priorities for all funding sources. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 75 WORDS](#)
2. Are National Park Service-appropriated funds available for the project? [YES/NO](#)
3. If the park did not solicit this proposal, explain why the project is important to the park. If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 75 WORDS](#)
4. Describe how this research enriches visitors' understanding of the park's complex histories and ecological challenges. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 75 WORDS](#)
5. Explain the implications for interpretation and resource management. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 75 WORDS](#)
6. Outline how the research will benefit park visitors. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 75 WORDS](#)

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES, DESIGN, AND METHODOLOGY

Be concise. Include the facilities and sites to be used.

[RESPONSE LIMITED TO 1,000 WORDS](#)

EXPLAIN HOW THE RESEARCH WILL ENHANCE THE INTERPRETIVE MISSION OF THE PARK.

[RESPONSE LIMITED TO 150 WORDS](#)

DESCRIBE THE PLAN FOR AN INTERPRETATION-RELATED PRODUCT OF THE RESEARCH.

[RESPONSE LIMITED TO 150 WORDS](#)

SPECIFY PRODUCT(S) AND/OR MATERIAL(S) OF THE RESEARCH (articles, theses, maps, checklists, etc.).

[RESPONSE LIMITED TO 150 WORDS](#)

CULTURAL HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This section is optional but encouraged if applicable to the project. It offers an opportunity to describe how the research will foster connections with local, tribal, and/or underrepresented communities, and demonstrate and/or cultivate awareness and respect for ecological and cultural knowledge. Highlighting how the research advances accessibility, and improves access and opportunities within the park, will enhance the overall impact of the proposal.

1. Describe how the research project will foster stronger connections between the National Park Service, and local, tribal, and/or underrepresented communities. If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 100 WORDS](#)
2. Explain how the project will demonstrate and/or cultivate cultural awareness and respect for the ecological and cultural knowledge of local, tribal, and/or underrepresented communities. If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 100 WORDS](#)
3. Outline the ways in which the research will contribute to advancing accessibility, and improved opportunities within the park, both currently and in the future. If not applicable, insert N/A. [RESPONSE LIMITED TO 100 WORDS](#)

Thank you for submitting your research project for consideration.

ACKNOWLEDGED AND SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE BENEFITING/HOST PARK:

1. Western National Parks Association (WNP) is the grant funder (grantor).
2. The benefiting/host park is the grant awardee (grantee).
3. Applications must reflect a start date no earlier than March 23, 2026, and no later than September 30, 2026.
4. Approval of an application does not guarantee funding. If selected, the benefiting/host park will receive the [2026 Research Grant Awardee Handbook](#), which includes the grant agreement, funding disbursement schedule and stipulations, and full terms and conditions. This handbook requires electronic signatures from the park superintendent, chief of interpretation, and primary principal investigator to finalize the grant award. Terms outlined in the handbook are final and cannot be modified.

5. I understand that salaries, wages, and fringe benefits are strictly ineligible expenses, and any application including them will be disqualified from funding consideration.
6. If awarded a fiscal year 2026 WNP research grant:
 - a. It will be for one year.
 - b. Per the guidelines in the 2026 Research Grant Awardee Handbook, if the park cannot accept grant checks directly, the park must identify a regional NPS office that can receive payment disbursements on its behalf to satisfy the grant's payment stipulation.

If awarded a research grant, does your park have the ability to accept checks for grant fund disbursement? [YES/NO](#)

By submitting this application, I confirm that I have reviewed and understand the above information and have reviewed the draft 2026 Research Grant Awardee Handbook provided by WNP. I verify that both I and the chief of interpretation have reviewed this application and approve its submission to WNP for consideration.

INSERT NAME	ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE	SELECT DATE
Name: Benefiting/Host Park Superintendent	Signature: Benefiting/Host Park Superintendent	Submission Date