



APPLICATION PACKET

Western
National Parks
Association

2023 | WNPA Research Grant
Request for Proposals

January 23, 2023
Second Funding Round

YOUR RESEARCH MATTERS TO OUR NATIONAL PARKS

For our national parks to flourish, every generation must be able to connect with the public lands that are part of our natural and cultural heritage. As a researcher, you can play a role in bringing the parks to the people and people to the parks.

Since our founding in 1938, Western National Parks Association (WNPA) has funded scientific, historical, and social science research in national parks to help advance their management, preservation, and interpretation. Conducting a meaningful scientific inquiry is only the beginning of WNPA-funded research. One of WNPA’s key goals is interpretation—turning research findings into relevant, engaging narratives that both inform and engage visitors as lifelong supporters and protectors of parks.

To achieve this goal, our grantees work closely with both the benefiting park chief of interpretation and the superintendent. WNPA’s Research Committee looks most favorably on proposals that include a plan for creating interpretation-related products of research. Products might include workshops, posters, presentations, maps, guidebooks, fact sheets, and other educational materials that the park can share with visitors.

For us, supporting research is more than just an extension of the efforts of our National Park Service partners; it is a means by which we help reveal and share the significant stories parks hold. We look forward to learning more about your proposed project and impacts.

Thank you for your contributions, support, and commitment to the national park ideal and WNPA mission.



Marie Buck
Chief Executive Officer
Western National Parks Association



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GENERAL INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

WNPA supports the acquisition of knowledge by providing grants in support of research that benefits the management, preservation, and interpretation of National Park Service (NPS) resources served by WNPA. The research grant program supplements research programs of the NPS. Grant proposals are reviewed annually by WNPA's Research Committee, which consists of board members and other volunteers with extensive backgrounds in science and other relevant experience.

GRANT PROCESS

- If you plan to submit a proposal, the first step is to communicate your interest by clicking on the link to [Register Your Research Grant Proposal](#). This allows WNPA to gauge interest and alert interested parties when funds have been expended.
- Proposals are typically generated in one of two ways:
 - National Park Service (NPS) official determines a need for research and finds a principal investigator (PI).
 - Researcher contacts the park with an idea for research.
- Submissions must be completed electronically through the WNPA web portal **from January 23, 2023 through April 28, 2023 or until the allocated funding is exhausted**. The full RFP, including guidelines and application samples, is also available for download in PDF format on the web portal. [WNPA Web Portal | Research Grants](#)
- WNPA Research Committee reviews submitted grant proposals and approves funding awards on a first come first serve basis in the order proposals are received.
- Parks and primary principal investigator(s) will be notified by email of funding decisions within 21-days from the submission date.
- Shortly thereafter, those approved for funding will receive an electronic copy of the 2023 WNPA Grant Awardee Handbook.
 - This document includes the grant agreement, which requires electronic signatures of the superintendent, chief of interpretation, and primary principal investigator as the final step in the grant approval process.
 - The handbook will be routed for signatures through DocuSign.
 - Once fully executed by all parties, a final copy will be delivered to all signers automatically by DocuSign.

FUNDING CRITERIA

Where We Fund

Grant projects must originate in a WNPA-affiliated park in the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. A listing of affiliated parks can be found in the Learn More about WNPA section or visit [WNPA | Discover Our Parks](#).

What We Fund

All fields of scholarly research are supported, including anthropology, archaeology, botany, citizen science, ecology, geology, history, natural story, social science, and zoology.

Who May Apply

- The park superintendent and/or their key staff identifies the need for research and seeks a qualified principal investigator (PI) or institution/organization before submitting a proposal. Qualified researchers may contact the superintendent directly regarding unsolicited proposals.
 - All WNPA research proposals must be approved and submitted by the park superintendent.

- Consideration will also be given to proposals submitted by active National Park Service (NPS) employees. Graduate students may not serve as project PIs but may be listed as a co-PI if the primary PI is the academic supervisor.
- A single park may submit no more than three proposals every year, including proposals from ongoing, multiyear projects requesting another year of funding.
- Superintendents submitting more than one proposal in a year must rank each proposal in terms of its priority for park needs.

How Much We Fund

Research grants are for one year with a **funding limit of \$20,000** per project per year. For information regarding multiyear funding, see the section titled Multiyear Projects below.

GRANT GUIDELINES

Research Project Start Date

Proposals must reflect a start date no earlier than sixty-days from the date of the proposal submission and no later than September 30, 2023.

Budget

- Travel, equipment, and supplies required by a PI to conduct their research must appear on the budget form and be explained in detail.
- All requests for salaries, stipends, or payment for any individual must indicate what work is to be done to merit the payment and rate of pay for reimbursement. Graduate student stipends will be supported but not tuition payments.
- An itemized list of equipment purchase exceeding \$100 is required on the budget form. The purchased items become the property of the NPS when the project is completed unless other arrangements have been made with WNPA.
- Any supporting documentation resulting from WNPA-funded research, such as oral history tapes, photographs, collections, and specimens, becomes the property of the NPS; the PI and park superintendent are responsible for following current NPS policies and procedures involving disposition of such documents or items.

Non-qualified expenses: WNPA **will not** provide monies for the following and may deny funding if such are included:

- Publication costs.
- Active National Park Service employee salaries and/or benefits.
- Administrative or overhead costs of other organizations and institutions.
- Augmenting the salary of faculty members at institutions of higher education during the period covered by the term of faculty appointment or to reimburse faculty members for consulting if they receive a regular full institutional salary covering the same period of employment as the research project. WNPA regards research as one of the normal functions of faculty members at institutions of higher education.

Multiyear Projects

Under special circumstances, multiyear proposals, up to three years, will be considered, based on the following conditions:

- The initial proposal states the time it will take to complete the research.
- Each year's objectives, methods, participants, and estimated budget (with justification) are explicitly outlined.

- First year must be deemed successful, which includes submission of adequate and timely reporting as required by WNPA.
- Funding beyond the first year’s budget is requested through the continuation research proposal process each year.
 - This request is a concise summary of progress to date, objectives for the next year(s), and any significant changes to the initial proposed project(s) and budget(s), together with the one-page budget and its justification for the year. Visit [WNPA Web Portal | Research Grants](#) to submit your renewal budget request electronically or download a hard copy for reference.
 - Funds for second and third years will not be released until all reporting requirements for prior years have been met.

Note: (1) A park may have only one ongoing, multiyear project under way at any given time.
 (2) Approval of first-year funding does not automatically assure funding of second or third years.

GENERAL TIPS FOR COMPLETING YOUR PROPOSAL

- One of WNPA’s key goals is interpretation—turning research findings into relevant, engaging narratives that both inform and entertain park visitors. The Research Committee looks favorably on applications that include a plan for creative interpretation-related products of research that will have a direct impact on visitor interpretation.
- If the proposal 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-WNPA project, clearly explain the relationship.
- Priority will be given to those proposals for which matching cash or in-kind contributions are included. It is very important to note any matching or in-kind funds in your budget.
- A proposal that is only a slight modification and/or extension of a one-year project in progress will be declined. If the PI believes a one-year pilot project will likely lead to a subsequent request to WNPA for further work, the proposal should be written as a multiyear project.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Online Grant Application

All proposals and renewal budget request(s) must be approved and submitted by the benefiting/host park superintendent online through the WNPA web portal. To access the online applications or to download a hard copy of the full RFP for reference, visit [WNPA Web Portal | Research Grants](#).

Deadline for Submission

For fiscal year 2023 second round project funding consideration, all proposals and renewal budget request(s) must be submitted through the WNPA web portal **from January 23, 2023 through April 28, 2023 or until the allocated funding is exhausted.**

WNPA Program Administrator

After reading all the provided materials, should you have questions or need assistance, contact Julie Tainter, business resource manager, at 520-789-7400 or julie.tainter@wnpa.org.

WNPA Headquarters is located at
 12880 N. Vistoso Village Drive
 Tucson, Arizona 85755

Learn more about WNPA, visit wnpa.org.



Resource Appendix

The following documents and links may prove helpful in crafting your proposal.

[Research Proposal Examples](#)

Past research proposals deemed outstanding by the WNPA Research Committee.

[Past Funded Research Projects](#)

Searchable database of WNPA-funded research final reports.

Research Proposal Evaluation Form.....Page 7

Illustrates the general review approach of the WNPA Research Committee.

Submit a Compelling Research Project.....Page 8

Compelling examples of research supported by WNPA's research grant program.

Tell Your Story.....Page 9

Outlines a variety of examples for how you might share your research project.

Sharing Your Research with WNPA.....Page 11

Supports our mission and goals while spreading the word about your research.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL EVALUATION FORM

This is the form the Research Committee will use to evaluate your proposal.

Sample

Research Proposal Evaluation Form

****For use by WNPA Research Committee****

Title: _____

Principal Investigator(s): _____

Park: _____

Date: _____ Reviewer: _____

Elements 1 through 8 are to be rated on a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 being inadequate and 7 being superior. Circle the appropriate rating for each element.

	Inadequate						Superior	
1 Currency/importance of problem and research objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
2 Appropriateness of methods	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
3 Impact/implications beyond the park	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
4 Clearly defined interpretive products	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
5 Qualifications of PI(s)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
6 Opportunities for leveraging additional resources	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
7 Implications for resource management	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8 Overall evaluation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

Other issues specific to this proposal that should be considered:

The finalists should earn high scores in all areas. Other factors that might set a proposal apart include citizen science (public involvement in research), innovation (interactive brochure, video for visitor center), bilingual materials, an understudied subject, outreach via the mass media or a critical window of opportunity.

SUBMIT A COMPELLING RESEARCH PROJECT

The examples below touch briefly on the scope of research supported by WNPA's research grant program and represent compelling projects. Click [Research Proposal Examples](#) to view past research proposals deemed outstanding by the WNPA Research Committee.

EXAMPLES



Photo courtesy of NPS

Archaeology | Aztec Ruins National Monument “Closing the Gap at Aztec Ruins: Refining the Dating Sequence Using Corn and Pottery”—Though much of Aztec Ruins National Monument's architectural construction has been dated with tree-ring analysis, WNPA supported Paleo Research Institute's study to illustrate changes in material culture and site occupation at Aztec Ruins National Monument. Using accelerator mass spectrometry radiocarbon dating techniques, researchers dated corn samples and provided evidence proposing early interpretations of Aztec Ruins National Monument's occupation were incorrect. These findings provide NPS and the public with another perspective on the human story of Aztec Ruins National Monument.

History | Nicodemus National Historic Site “Collecting and Sharing the History of Nicodemus through Site Bulletins”—Four descendants of people who live in the community of Nicodemus were paired with two NPS staff from Nicodemus National Historic Site to research, write, and develop eight site bulletins to share the history of Nicodemus. The bulletins reflect the heritage of those who lived in Nicodemus, covering topics such as education, spiritual and gospel music, and quilting. The process of developing the bulletins also strengthened the individual and community relations with the historic site and NPS staff and fostered a desire in the descendants to get involved with the interpretation of their history.

Earth Science | Great Basin National Park “Meadow and Lake Sediment-Based Reconstructions of Holocene Fire Histories for Sub-alpine and Montane Ecosystems in Great Basin NP”—Great Basin National Park and Ohio University collaborated on a WNPA-funded research project to study and reconstruct Holocene fire histories for subalpine and montane ecosystems in the park. With biophysical changes on the extreme end of the range of variations, this project's intent was to improve the understanding of how regional climate change will affect fire frequency by documenting the fire regimes (frequency, severity, and extent) and assessing linkages between past fire regimes and long-term trends in temperature and drought conditions.

Citizen Science | Saguaro National Park “Graduate Student Mini-Grants for the 2011 BioBlitz” and “Evaluating Efficacy of Community Engagement Programs at Saguaro”—The WNPA-funded BioBlitz project provided grants for paying advanced graduate students to organize several projects (a study of endophytes, a bird survey, preparations to update a 1940 survey of 13,000 saguaros, and a beetle inventory) and oversee their assigned citizen-scientist volunteers. A BioBlitz is a 24-hour survey of all the living species within a designated area, and this event was the largest in Saguaro's history, with 2,000 schoolchildren, 1,500 members of the public, and more than 600 ambassador volunteers collecting data. The second WNPA-funded project focused on studying community engagement. This included offering underrepresented local populations free park admission and programming opportunities followed by tracking how many people used the free passes and took part in the programming opportunities.



Photo courtesy of NPS

Life Science | Pinnacles National Park “Lead Exposure, Altered Stress Response, and Reproductive Success in the California Condor”—In 2013 Pinnacles National Park lost 20 percent of the condors they manage. Researchers at University of California, Santa Cruz, in conjunction with Pinnacles National Park and US Fish and Wildlife Service, received a WNPA research grant to study the effects of chronic lead exposure on the California condor's stress response. This research assessed the biological effects of multiple contaminants on condor health and survival. The outcomes of the study helped park management to work with partners to develop best practices for treatment of low, middle, and high blood lead levels; develop additional research questions to document how chronic lead poisoning impacts reproduction; and to interpret and share research with the public and park visitors to promote awareness and understanding that will support condor recovery in the wild.

TELL YOUR STORY

A vital part of your research is sharing it with others. It is quite possibly the most significant way you as a researcher can help protect further research opportunities at other national parks across the country. Your contributions can help park staff make informed, science-based decisions to protect and preserve park resources. Sharing your research in an engaging way encourages others to make lasting, meaningful connections to the park and the resources it shelters. By doing this you help others see the value and importance of preserving our natural and cultural resources.

Many Audiences to Reach

There is a wide variety of audiences with whom you can share your research—visitors to the park, staff members, teachers, members of the community, children, and students of all ages. By sharing your purpose (research question), what you’ve done (methods) and discovered (data and discussion), and what the big takeaway message is (implications for the park), you can spread your knowledge to countless people.

How to Share Your Research

Here are a few ideas on how to share your research—but use your creativity, too. This is by no means a complete list. Decide on your target audience(s), then choose a means of presentation that will best reach them.

Remember—your research is more likely to reach and engage your audience if

- You include anecdotes and interesting stories from your research.
- You encourage some level of participation—many people learn better by doing.
- You keep science terms and jargon to a minimum—explain in everyday language.

Don’t forget to keep WNPA in the loop about what you are doing, so we can help you share your research!

Ideas for Sharing Your Research Project

- Research assistants or shadows
 - Enlist a visitor, volunteer, teacher, or student to assist and/or shadow your field study.
- NPS park website and/or WNPA website
 - Pinnacles National Park posted some of their research data regarding the California condors and lead poisoning on the NPS website for all visitors to see.



Lead Bullet Risks for Wildlife & Humans

Understand the Role of Hunting

Viable, thriving ecosystems include checks and balances. Hunting has been part of natural balances for thousands of years, depending upon grazing and browsing animals just like the coyote and mountain lion. Scavengers like condors can benefit from eating the scraps that hunters or predators leave on the land. Hunters that use non-lead ammunition carry on the proud tradition of wildlife conservation by preventing condors and other animals from being exposed to lead, a toxic substance.

- Social media
 - Create a Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter account to highlight and document your research work.
 - This could also include a blog that features the principals involved in the project and the focus of the research. Most importantly, tell the national park’s stories.

- Lecture or workshop presentation
 - Give a 30-to-40-minute talk about your research experience or offer a one-day workshop.
 - Pinnacles National Park research was presented at three scientific conferences.
 - Condor presentations were updated based on research from the Pinnacles National Park project to include information on how chronic exposure to lead threatens the species.
- Fact sheet
 - Prepare key topic headings, around 900 words of text, and interesting, high-resolution images.
 - Collaborate with park staff to create a fact sheet summarizing your research results.
- Journal article
 - Write an article aimed at everyday people (not fellow scientists) and look for relevant journals or news outlets that may publish it.
 - Pinnacles National Park created a manuscript of their research and submitted it to the *Journal of Comparative Physiology*.
- PowerPoint presentation
 - Create a PowerPoint presentation (self-contained and self-explanatory, not a guided presentation) for display on a monitor so visitors can view it at their own pace.
 - Spark more interest by having a relevant, hands-on item (such as a feather) nearby.
- Poster
 - Craft a poster (ideally 3' x 4') that is visually captivating and not a poster for a science meeting.
 - Include the large concepts and key points about the “why” of your research.
 - Emphasize images and graphics and use a large font for easy readability.
- Discovery packet for visitors or students
 - Collaborate with park staff to create a packet of instructions and equipment to carry out a small-scale version of your research.
 - Include background information about your research project.
 - Park staff can use these packets to guide visitors in doing the research themselves.
- Classroom data and analysis activity
 - Provide a data set along with background information and photos of your research, as well as guiding research questions.
 - Work with park staff to create an educational packet that middle and high school teachers can use in their classrooms to teach students how to analyze and interpret real-world research data.
- Activity for field trip or classroom
 - Collaborate with park staff to make a fun, educational, hands-on learning experience, such as a product or game, that students can use to enhance learning on field trips or in the classroom.
- High-tech product or session
 - Make an educational product or experience with new technology: record a podcast, hold a video call with a classroom of students, or film a virtual tour of your research area to share online.



The endangered California condor

SHARING YOUR RESEARCH WITH WNPA

Supports Our Mission and Goals

Since 1938, WNPA has worked to connect generations to parks in meaningful ways, all with one simple goal: create advocates who want to preserve and protect these special places for everyone, for all time.

Sharing your research results, information, and assets gives WNPA the ability to create a story that inspires people to become a park advocate—more park advocates lead to more donations, and more donations equates to more funding for research!

Along with website content and social media channels, here are a few examples of how WNPA shares stories:

WNPA Blog Story



Bat Biologists Monitor CAVE Bats for White-Nose Syndrome

May 27, 2021

The Battle and the Battleground Bats, those insect-eating mammals we see at dusk as they flutter...

[Read more »](#)

WNPA Appeal Campaign



New, amazing things are encountered every day within our parks, and funding from WNPA makes these discoveries possible. For example, Pinnacles National Park found what may be a new species of jewelweaver within its borders.

Your contributions allowed us to give \$10,000 to Pinnacles National Park, providing the salaries and equipment needed to fully catalog and protect this rare plant through a complete genetic analysis. NPS funding was not available for this project, so it is only because of WNPA's research grant program that this critical work will occur. Your investment in WNPA makes this research possible, and together we forge the trail for scientific discoveries of the future.

Support Parks Now

WNPA Newsletter Article

Outfoxing the Red Fox

By Nina Kolbe, pursuing a Master of Arts in science and environmental journalism at the University of Arizona

About 30,000 years ago, during the last big ice age, a small ice-melting stream in the deep mountains of what is now the Rocky Mountains found a trick once and a trick for a punch helped the red fox thrive in the global environment.

The adaptable descendants of these first native foxes still live in the mountains of western North America. In fact, red foxes are among the most widely distributed and adaptable in the world, spanning most of the Northern Hemisphere, as well as parts of Europe and northern Africa.

But a group of red foxes in Nevada's Great Basin National Park is working to solve a puzzle. Priscilla Alden, a graduate student at the University of California, Davis, is discussing just how important it is to red foxes and why being a skilled forager native to western North America can be a major disadvantage for you can say "take it easy" too. Priscilla Alden conducted this Western National Parks Association funded study, but not much was known about these foxes.

Red foxes are divided into distinct subspecies. Today most of the foxes that live at Lake Tahoe's in western North America are invasive subspecies that were released or escaped from fur farms and spread across the country like wildfire. Some of the few remaining native subspecies in North America live in the Sierra Nevada, Rocky Mountains, and Great Basin mountain ranges. Because of their unique ecology, Alden said, "The non-invasive red foxes from early this period, but these found at high elevation have a lot of adaptations that make them unique." They even "do well in areas with black snow, which helps them blend in with snow and ice. Snowed-out like snow prevent them from being to deep snow, and extra fat keeps them warm in cold snowy habitats. These adaptations make Great Basin National Park, with its high peaks and long winters, prime territory for red foxes being native red foxes.

Alden had strong hunches that the park's red foxes weren't your average fur farm foxes, so he set out to figure out where the foxes come from.

He wasn't disappointed. Alden and three summer sources the "high" tracks of the park for DNA samples of hair and soil we collected. It didn't take long. "Sometimes that would be a lot of fox tracks, sometimes not, and then when you'd get up into habitat that between good fences and the fence from previous tracks that would be the same subspecies, the foxes would be in a good place like where meadows and around the house or 1000 feet," he said.

Alden and her team analyzed the types of DNA in the samples. The mitochondrial DNA, which is the part of the cell that contains their own copy of DNA, and the DNA genome, which is the part of the cell that contains the rest of the fox's DNA.

He said that the foxes were from the Great Basin National Park, but they were also from the Great Basin National Park. Alden said that the foxes were from the Great Basin National Park, but they were also from the Great Basin National Park.

Alden concluded that the Great Basin red foxes were closely related to those that live in the mountains of the Colorado Rockies, not relatives of the invasive fur farm foxes. A follow-up study discovered that the red foxes living in the Great Basin National Park were genetically diverse, as would be expected for a native subspecies.

That number might not seem like a lot, but any number of red foxes is a good thing. The many organisms that depend on foxes for food and water change and human expansion. Their numbers are declining. And the loss of red foxes is a loss for the management and conservation of all the animals that share the same habitat.

WNPA YouTube

Research | Pre-analysis of Mexican Spotted Owls Walnut Canyon National Monument

WNPA Year in Review | Fiscal Year 2020

388 views • Dec 30, 2020

Western National Parks Association
93 subscribers

Check out the many ways Western National Parks Association (WNPA) supported its more than 70 national park partners during fiscal year 2020 (October 1, 2019–September 30, 2020). Help WNPA do even more for national parks by donating or becoming a member at [SHOW MORE](#)



Sample Grant Applications

NEW RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL—APPLICATION (SAMPLE)

The information supplied is limited to the space provided and submitted on this form. A proposal 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	Total funding request for 2023	\$	-		
	Project start date				
	Projected project completion date				
Project duration	Is this a multiyear project?		Yes		No
	If so, estimate amount of funding request	\$	-	Year 2	Year 3

Outline Your Project Costs

BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Principal Investigator(s)

List first and last name	Funds requested from WNPA	Cash or in-kind contribution(s) Specify amount, which type, and source

Supporting Personnel

List first name, last name and position/role	Funds requested from WNPA	Cash or in-kind contribution(s) Specify amount, which type, and source

Total Personnel Cost(s)	\$	\$
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OTHER EXPENSE(S)

Category	Funds requested from WNPA	Cash or in-kind contribution(s) Specify amount, which type, and source
Supplies and material	\$	\$
Consulting services	\$	\$
Computer services	\$	\$
Subcontract(s)	\$	\$
Equipment (itemize items over \$100 below)	\$	\$
Travel and subsistence	\$	\$

Total Other Expense(s)	\$	\$
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BUDGET TOTALS

Note: This should match the amount of the funding request.	Total Funding Requested from WNPA	\$
	Total Cash and In-Kind Contribution(s)	\$

Explain the duties that will be performed by any funded individual noted above. Also, itemize subcontract(s) cost(s), equipment costing more than \$100, and travel and subsistence. If this is a multiyear project, be sure to outline subsequent year(s) budget(s).

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 WORDS.

If this proposal 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-WNPA project, clearly explain the relationship.

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 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 Note: The online application allows for a total of four additional PIs requiring all contact information as noted.
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 <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if chief of interpretation position is currently vacant.

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

Specify product(s) of research (articles, theses, maps, checklists, etc.) in addition to final report to WNPA (see research guidelines):

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) Are NPS-appropriated funds available for the project (yes/no)?
- 2) Where does this project rank in the submitting park’s research priorities for all funding sources?
- 3) Did the park solicit the proposal? If not, why is the project important to the park?
- 4) How will this research enrich visitor’s understanding of the park?
- 5) What are the implications for interpretation and resource management?
- 6) How will the research benefit park visitors?

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 WORDS.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES, DESIGN, AND METHODOLOGY

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

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 1,000 WORDS.

HOW WILL YOUR RESEARCH ENHANCE THE INTERPRETIVE MISSION OF THE PARK?

Be concise in your explanation. Include one paragraph describing the plan for an interpretation-related product of the research.

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 WORDS.

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PI(S) CONDUCTING THE RESEARCH

List only those qualifications directly related to this grant request. Include a list of other WNPA-funded research conducted by the PI(s).

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 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 (WNPA) is the grant funder (grantor).
2. The benefiting/host park is the grant awardee (grantee).
3. All WNPA grants are for one year.
4. If this proposal is approved for funding, WNPA will issue the 2023 Grant Awardee Handbook, which outlines the grant agreement, as well as all terms and conditions of the research grant. This document requires electronic signatures of the benefiting/host park superintendent and chief of interpretation, as well as the primary principal investigator accepting the grant terms and conditions, for WNPA to proceed with funding.

By submitting this proposal, I confirm my understanding of the above disclosures and verify that I, and the benefiting/host park chief of interpretation, have reviewed this proposal and approve its submission for consideration by WNPA.

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

This form is provided as a guideline.
 All renewal budget requests must be submitted through the WNPA web portal.
[WNPA Web Portal | Research Grant Renewal Budget Request](#)

RESEARCH GRANT RENEWAL BUDGET REQUEST (SAMPLE)

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

This application is applicable only to the second and/or third year of a multiple-year project.

General Information about Your Project

WNPA grant number	Title of research project	Park code(s) where research is being conducted

Funding	Total funding request for 2023	\$	-			
	Phase of research this request represents			Year 2		Year 3
	Projected project completion date					
Project duration	Will you submit a 2024 funding request?			Yes		No
	If so, estimate future funding request amounts	\$	-	Year 2	\$	-

Outline Your Next Phase Project Costs

BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Principal Investigator(s)

List first and last name	Funds requested from WNPA	Cash or in-kind contribution(s) Specify amount, which type, and source

Supporting Personnel

List first name, last name, and position/role	Funds requested from WNPA	Cash or in-kind contribution(s) Specify amount, which type, and source

Total Personnel Cost(s)	\$	\$
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OTHER EXPENSE(S)

Category	Funds requested from WNPA	Cash or in-kind contribution(s) Specify amount, which type, and source
Supplies and material	\$	\$
Consulting services	\$	\$
Computer services	\$	\$
Subcontract(s)	\$	\$
Equipment (itemize items over \$100 below)	\$	\$
Travel and subsistence	\$	\$

Total Other Expense(s)	\$	\$
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BUDGET TOTALS

Note: This should match the amount of the funding request.	Total Funding Requested from WNPA	\$
	Total Cash and In-Kind Contribution(s)	\$

Explain the duties that will be performed by any funded individual noted above. Also, itemize subcontract(s) cost(s), equipment costing more than \$100, and travel and subsistence. If this is a multiyear project, be sure to outline subsequent year(s) budget(s).

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 WORDS.

If this proposal 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-WNPA project, clearly explain the relationship.

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 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 <i>Note: The online application allows for a total of four additional PIs requiring all contact information as noted.</i>
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 <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if chief of interpretation position is currently vacant.

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

Specify product(s) of research (articles, theses, maps, checklists, etc.) in addition to final report to WNPA (see research guidelines):

Tell Us about the Next Phase of Your Project

PROGRESS REPORT

Be thorough in your summary of the progress made to date.

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 1,000 WORDS.

OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROJECT PHASE

Outline clear objectives for the next year.

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 1,000 WORDS.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE INITIAL PROPOSED PROJECT

Provide a detailed accounting of respective changes.

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 WORDS.

NOTABLE CHANGES TO THE INITIAL BUDGET

Itemize and explain important alterations to the initial budget submitted to WNPA.

RESPONSE LIMITED TO 500 WORDS.

THANK YOU FOR SUBMITTING YOUR RESEARCH GRANT RENEWAL BUDGET REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION.

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

1. Western National Parks Association (WNPA) is the grant funder (grantor).
2. The benefiting/host park is the grant awardee (grantee).
3. All WNPA grants are for one year.
4. If this request is approved for funding, WNPA will issue the 2023 Grant Awardee Handbook, which outlines the grant agreement, as well as all terms and conditions of the research grant. This document requires electronic signatures of the benefiting/host park superintendent and chief of interpretation, as well as the primary principal investigator accepting the grant terms and conditions for WNPA, to proceed with funding.

By submitting this request, I confirm my understanding of the above disclosures and verify that I, and the benefiting/host park chief of interpretation, have reviewed this application and approve its submission for consideration by WNPA.

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



Learn More about

Western
National Parks
Association

Western National Parks Association

OUR MISSION

In partnership with the NPS since 1938, WNPA advances education, interpretation, research, and community engagement to ensure national parks are increasingly valued by all.

OUR COMMITMENT

National parks tell the story of America, embodying its beauty, culture, and heritage. WNPA helps discover, preserve, and share that story through a continued commitment to discovery—new knowledge, new understanding, and new ways to engage with mankind.

OUR ROLE

As a nonprofit education partner of the NPS, WNPA supports more than 70 parks across the West, developing products, services, and programs that enrich the visitor experience, understanding, and appreciation of national parks.

The most visible expression of our mission is the operation of park stores in national park visitor centers, with many of the offerings developed and published by WNPA. Each store is unique, presenting products that give guests a tangible and enduring connection to the park's individual theme—its majestic scenery, biodiversity, fascinating natural and/or cultural history. Visitors find a variety of educational materials, from trail and field guides to in-depth academic studies, along with authentic arts and crafts, collectible park logo items, and even food products. Young guests can discover children's books, educational toys, and popular Junior Ranger merchandise. Our award-winning books and products extend visitors' experiences far beyond their time in the park.



Edison Eskeets, former Navajo trader at Hubbell Trading Post, presents a rug talk at The National Parks Store in Tucson, Ariz.

At The National Parks Store in Tucson, Arizona, a variety of educational programs are offered. Past topics include American Indian basketry, flute making, pottery techniques, and Navajo rug weaving, with attendance exceeding five thousand people annually. The premiere community event of the year is the sponsorship of The National Park Experience Pavilion at the Tucson Festival of Books. The pavilion provides the opportunity for 20 national parks from the western United States to connect with more than 140,000 festival attendees, bringing our national parks to the people.



The National Park Experience Pavilion at the Tucson Festival of Books, Tucson, Ariz.

Along with educational programming, WNPA provides direct financial aid to the national parks, supporting cultural, historical, and educational activities developed by park rangers. These activities enhance visitor experiences, create opportunities to connect with youth, and engage the local community. Thousands of events have been funded, including an international youth indigenous cultural exchange, living history demonstrations and encampments, several cultural festivals, Junior Ranger camps, art exhibitions, and archaeological and geographical surveys.

Historically WNPA has funded a broad range of research projects, all of which help advance the management, preservation, and interpretation of our national parks. For us, supporting research is more than just a way to amplify the efforts of our National Park Service partners; it is a means to help reveal and share the important stories parks hold.

To learn more about Western National Parks Association, visit www.wnpa.org.

WNPA Partner Parks

Western
National Parks
Association

Arizona

Canyon de Chelly National Monument
Casa Grande Ruins National Monument
Chiricahua National Monument
Coronado National Memorial
Fort Bowie National Historic Site
Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site
Montezuma Castle National Monument
Navajo National Monument
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument
Saguaro National Park
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
The National Parks Store
Tonto National Monument
Tumacácori National Historical Park
Tuzigoot National Monument
Walnut Canyon National Monument
Wupatki National Monument

California

Channel Islands National Park
Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site
John Muir National Historic Site
Mojave National Preserve
Pinnacles National Park
Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

Colorado

Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site
Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Curecanti National Recreation Area
Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve
Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site

Kansas

Brown v. Board of Education National Historical Park
Fort Larned National Historic Site
Fort Scott National Historic Site
Nicodemus National Historic Site

Montana & Wyoming

Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area
Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument

Nevada

Great Basin National Park
Lake Mead National Recreation Area



New Mexico

Aztec Ruins National Monument
Bandelier National Monument
Capulin Volcano National Monument
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
Chaco Culture National Historical Park
El Malpais National Monument
El Morro National Monument
Fort Union National Monument
Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument
Pecos National Historical Park
Petroglyph National Monument
Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument
White Sands National Park

Oklahoma

Chickasaw National Recreation Area
Washita Battlefield National Historic Site

Texas

Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument
Big Thicket National Preserve
Chamizal National Memorial
Fort Davis National Historic Site
Guadalupe Mountains National Park

Lake Meredith National Recreation Area
Lyndon B Johnson National Historical Park
Padre Island National Seashore
Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park
San Antonio Missions National Historical Park

Utah

Golden Spike National Historical Park
Timpanogos Cave National Monument

Trails

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail
Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail
Santa Fe National Historic Trail
Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

wnpa.org/discover-our-parks