

HABITAT MANAGEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

Request for Proposals

Funded by the Natural Resources License Plate Fund



Program Description:

The Iowa Wildlife Diversity Program has small grants available for habitat management projects directly related to wildlife diversity conservation in Iowa. Approved projects will be funded on a single-year basis but can be submitted for additional funding in subsequent years though it should be noted up front if a project will likely be multi-year. The maximum funding request per proposal is \$7,500.

This funding will begin on or before May 15, 2027. Due date for proposals is November 10, 2026.

Request Procedures

Who Should Apply: All DNR Partners including County Conservation Boards, Sportsman's Groups, non-profit conservation organizations. Any organization involved in land management with wildlife conservation purposes.

Requests for funding should be concise and contain information according to the following guidelines. Failure to include all of these elements will result in the proposal getting a lower score. Proposals will be submitted through the program Slideroom which will have discrete sections where you will enter your text or upload a document for each of the sections below. You can also preview the full application [here](#).

1. Applicant: Please list the organization that is applying.
2. Contact Person: Please list the name of person who should be communicated with regarding the proposal.
3. Email Address: of the contact person
4. Telephone Number: Of the contact person
5. Applicant/Organization Address: Office Address for the contact person
6. County: In which the project will take place (if multiple list all); **roughly 14 word limit**
7. Project 911 Address: The address where the project is taking place or NA if not applicable.
8. Latitude/Longitude Coordinates: If you did not list address, must list coordinates! Can be centerpoint of the project or if the proposal is for equipment or doesn't have a single location, list the coordinates for two example locations where work will occur.
9. Grant Amount Requested: How much are you requesting from the Wildlife Diversity Program
10. Project Title
11. Project Summary: Basically, an abstract for the proposal, 2-3 sentences; **Maximum of 75 words.**

12. Project Objectives: list and briefly describe the specific goals of the project. These objectives should support the goals of [Iowa's Wildlife Action Plan](#) (IWAP) and benefit Species of Greatest Conservation Need. **500 Word Limit**
13. Is this a continuation of a previous project funded by the Wildlife Diversity Program? Yes/No
14. If YES; how many years has the project been funded previously?
15. Project Area – Describe the area where the management project will take place including the landscape context, size, habitat types and its current value for non-game wildlife.
16. Upload Map or Photos of Project Area: This is optional but is very much appreciated by the reviewers and can boost scoring. If you are including multiple photos or maps they will need to be combined into a single pdf before uploading.
17. Project Procedures: explain in detail how the management practices will accomplish project objectives. Be sure to mention specific actions as well as the longevity of those action in providing benefit to non-game wildlife. Please include and explanation of any considerations and accommodations that will be made to protect any threatened or endangered species in the area. Include information on why you have chosen to take the approach you are taking to accomplish the objectives. **LIMITED to 500 Words.**
18. Justification: What is this project's significance in supporting wildlife diversity in Iowa? How specifically does this project contribute to the goals of the Iowa's Wildlife Action Plan? Why should we fund this project? **LIMITED to 500 words.**
19. Personnel: identify the personnel that will be primarily responsible for planning and conducting the management project and their qualifications. Others who will be involved with the project should also be identified (including a description of the tasks they will perform).
20. Resume: This is optional but you can upload a 2 page resume of the primary personnel.
21. Budget Table: a table to list each expense item with cost (Category, Cost per Item, Number of Items, Total cost are the column headings). Also include a TOTAL row that summarizes the cost into the total amount needed.
22. Budget Narrative: A place to include any explanations of items and costs listed in the itemized budget.
23. Will additional Funding be needed to accomplish this project? YES/NO
24. Has that additional funding already been secured or if not what would happen if you received funding from us and not elsewhere?
25. Calendar – give expected initiation time, estimated dates for each task, and date of completion. Note whether the project will likely be resubmitted for future years funding.
26. Will this project be completed within 1 year? YES/NO
27. If not completed in a year, what are the plans to finish the project?
28. MINORITY STATEMENT – I have reviewed the Iowa Code Section 8.11 defining "Minority Persons": YES/NO

Click One: The proposed grant will have a positive, negative or neutral impact on minority persons.

Proposal Submittal

Proposals must be submitted through the [Iowa DNR's Slideroom Portal](#). Under the **2027 Wildlife Diversity Habitat Management Grants**.

Project Eligibility

1) Projects to be considered will have management for non-game wildlife as their primary focus, some **examples** of which are:

- a. Reconstruction of non-game wildlife habitat.
- b. Restoration of degraded non-game wildlife habitat.
- c. Purchase of important habitat management equipment.

2) The money provided can not be used for reimbursement on projects already completed before the grant money is available on or before May 15, 2027.

3) If the project will cost a great deal more than what is requested in the grant application, the source of additional funding must be listed and secured. Projects with other funding sources pending will not score as highly and would not be notified whether it had been accepted prior to the additional funding being secured.

4) Projects that have been funded for 3 or more years can continue to be submitted for funding but after three years of funding, they will automatically be docked points in scoring. This is to make sure a variety of projects are being supported.

Review Procedures

All proposals received will be reviewed by an IDNR technical review committee and will be scored based upon:

1. Relationship to the goals of the Wildlife Action Plan. In particular, the project should be shown to benefit Iowa's Species of Greatest Conservation Need.
2. Budget considerations.
3. Adherence to request procedures.
4. Number of years a project has been funded through this fund.

DUE DATE: Proposals must be received **before midnight on November 10, 2026**.

NOTIFICATION: Notice of proposals acceptance or decline will be sent to all applicants by March 1, 2027.

FUNDING DISBURSEMENT: Funding will be available by May 15, 2027.

GRANT AGREEMENT: If your grant proposal is awarded funding, your organization will be required to sign a Small Grant Agreement with the Iowa DNR. A generic copy of this agreement is available on [our webpage](#) for reference.

Questions? Questions can be submitted **by email** to Stephanie Shepherd,
stephanie.shepherd@dnr.iowa.gov.