



2021 Call for Proposals

Fund Objectives

WWF-Canada's organizational goal is that by 2030, Canada is home to greater numbers of stable and increasing wildlife populations. The Arctic Species Conservation Fund supports high-quality stewardship and research initiatives focused on wildlife and habitats in the Canadian Arctic. WWF-Canada relies on partnerships with Indigenous peoples and the best available information to jointly advocate for policies and legislation that are effective for the conservation of the Arctic environment. We are pleased to issue a call for proposals to identify projects that will achieve meaningful outcomes for the conservation of Arctic species and the people who depend on them.

Eligibility

Applicants from all backgrounds (community groups, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, governments, universities, independent researchers, non-government organizations, etc.) and fields of study (Indigenous Knowledge, Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, natural sciences, social sciences, etc.) are eligible to apply. Projects can take place anywhere across northern Canada. Applicants can request up to \$20,000.00 CAD per year. Proposals for multi-year projects will be accepted, but funding will be determined on an annual basis.

Evaluation Criteria

1) Expected conservation outcomes

Wherever possible, applicants should identify feasible and tangible conservation outcomes for wildlife and habitats that will result from their projects, and how a partnership with WWF-Canada can help facilitate these outcomes (i.e. What decision-making process will your project contribute to? What specifically will change through the successful implementation of the project? How will wildlife and people benefit through this work? How many species will benefit from this work?)

2) Involvement and relevance of proposed project to northern communities

Applicants are required to discuss how their project will affect local communities, outline the involvement of northerners in their project including team members and implementation crew, and must demonstrate community support for the project if applicable.

3) Relevance to WWF-Canada's 2021 Arctic Conservation Priorities

WWF-Canada's 2021 Arctic Conservation Priorities are attached to this Call for Proposals. Applicants must specifically reference how their project will result in tangible outcomes that address one or more of these areas in their proposal.

Proposals are due **April 2nd, 2021** and must be submitted to arcticspecies@wwfcanada.org.

Application Format

Proposals can be submitted in English, French or Inuktitut in the following format*:

- I. Background information and context of the project
- II. Project description
 - a. Objectives
 - b. Methods
 - c. Workplan
- III. Anticipated outcomes and where possible, a list of measurable benefits to conservation with associated metrics and target dates of achievement
- IV. Relevance to northern communities and involvement of northern residents in the project
- V. List of all major project partners
- VI. Full project budget, including secured and unsecured funding from other sources, and a detailed indication of how WWF-Canada funds will be used (daily rates are required for personnel time)

****The application format can be altered for northern organizations. Any individual or group who requires assistance in preparing a proposal are encouraged to reach out to discuss the desired project by phone****

Granting conditions

Applicants will be notified of the results of their proposal by **May 14th, 2021**. Recipients of the WWF-Canada Arctic Species Conservation Fund will be required to sign a WWF-Canada contribution agreement by **July 30th, 2021** and submit three reporting items during project implementation:

a) Interim report

Roughly one month after the completion of the first major project milestone, recipients will be required to submit an interim report outlining the implementation of the project, preliminary results, updated work plan, etc. along with a financial report of funds spent to date.

b) Communications media

Recipients will be required to submit an agreed upon amount of media (photos, videos, maps, etc.) from the project to be used for communications purposes in partnership with WWF-Canada. Formats, quantities, uses, and limitations will be agreed upon prior to signing the contribution agreement.

c) Final report

Recipients will be required to submit a detailed final report by **March 4th, 2022** (or earlier). The final report should include project findings a description of the relevance of the work to conservation including any relevant metrics, an assessment of the project's success, and any future plans as well as a full financial statement

Failure to sign a WWF-contribution agreement by **July 30th, 2021** may lead to funds being re-allocated. Recipients may be required to demonstrate proper insurance prior to signing a funding agreement. Recipients will be required to acknowledge WWF-Canada's assistance in any presentations, publications, or events pertaining to the funded project.

Contact information

Any questions pertaining to the WWF-Canada Arctic Species Conservation Fund should be directed to Brandon Laforest, Senior Specialist, Arctic Species and Ecosystems at blaforest@wwfcanada.org or **867-222-1276**.



2021 Arctic Conservation Priorities

Arctic Habitats

- Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area projects at any stage of development
- Initiatives that enable communities to participate in Land Use Planning, Environmental Impact Assessments, Strategic Environmental Assessments, Species at Risk listing processes etc.
- Studies on the resilience of Arctic habitats
- Studies on the effectiveness or need to improve existing protected areas
- Projects that demonstrate the potential of economic opportunities for northern communities through conservation programming
- Nature Based Solutions projects seeking to identify, restore or protect areas of carbon storage

Arctic Marine Mammals

- Understanding the effects of underwater noise, ice breaking and oil spill events on marine mammals
- Understanding the impacts of ship-based contaminants (black carbon, grey water, heavy metals, invasive species, microplastics, scrubbers etc.) on marine mammals and Arctic marine habitats
- Identification and characterization of critical habitat for marine mammals
- Projects that help with the evaluation and/or design of mitigation measures used by industry to reduce effects of disturbance on marine mammals from industrial development and shipping
- Evaluating impacts of disturbance on walrus at their haul-out sites

Barren-ground Caribou

- Research furthering our understanding of the effects of roads, development sites and other forms of disturbance on caribou and their habitats
- Identification and characterization of critical habitat for caribou
- Actions that help create or implement existing management plans and recovery strategies for caribou

Polar Bears

- Research contributing to the understanding of the drivers of problem polar bears in communities
- Development and implementation of methods to reduce human-polar bear conflict in communities
- Innovations and community-based initiatives to manage polar bears and attractants in communities
- Projects that bridge the gap between Indigenous Knowledge, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific understandings of polar bears