

Overview and Grant Funding Policy for Grant Awards of the Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund

MBRWF Mission Statement:

The mission of the Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund (MBRWF) is to initiate, augment, or simply fund projects or activities to help maintain viable and sustainable wildlife populations into the future, especially in Jackson Hole, through support of research, education, habitat protection and habitat restoration. <http://www.rayneswildlifefund.org>

Directives to fulfill the Mission Statement (in Bert's words):

- The MBRWF shall act alone or join with other organizations or individuals, or have organizations join it where appropriate.
- The MBRWF shall underwrite projects or activities that have local impact on either Jackson Hole or adjacent regions.
- Projects or activities should focus on wildlife populations with an emphasis on non-game animals and native plants.
- Projects or activities should preferably have a research or scientific foundation—this can be either original research or building on the research done by others. Research must be published or otherwise made available to the public.
- Projects or activities should have a focus that will result in action, not just studies. If there is an educational component, the focus should be on adult students.
- Whenever possible efforts should be made to leverage the impact of these projects or activities through collaboration with other organizations or individuals who share common objectives.
- The goal is to establish a sustainable fund that will have a positive long-term impact.

Grant Policy of the Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund

This policy was based on the MBRWF mission statement and directives and was developed for the purpose of soliciting, reviewing and underwriting grant requests. The MBRWF is a relatively small organization which generally funds projects from \$1-5,000 and will not consider grant requests over \$10,000.

- The MBRWF prefers projects that can be completed in one year, although multi-year projects will be considered for continuous funding. No existing project will be re-funded until the MBRWF has received a progress report of the project's previous year's results.
- All projects must have stated objectives that can be measured and evaluated when the project is completed.
- The MBRWF prefers projects that are supported locally and judged to be important by the MBRWF Board of Directors and the people who live and work in Jackson Hole.
- Grant monies must be used directly on the project described in the application.

- The MBRWF is organized exclusively for charitable, scientific and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- In the event that a project is funded through a non-profit conduit, the MBRWF would require a copy of the verification letter from the IRS confirming 501(c)(3) status and a letter indicating that the conduit organization agrees to accept the funds without any additional costs or overhead. Both documents must be attached to the grant application.
- The MBRWF will consider co-sponsoring joint venture funding efforts with other organizations that share common objectives.
- Whenever possible, efforts should be made to leverage the impact of funded projects or activities through collaboration with other organizations or individuals who share common objectives.
- The MBRWF will not fund the endowment of 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations or programs related to Political Actions Committees (PACs) or political campaigns.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals that meet the criteria below in a clear, specific and demonstrable manner will be favored.

- The objectives of the project are consistent with the mission of the MBRWF.
- The grant request is consistent with the directives and the MBRWF Grant Funding Policy.
- The proposed project has clearly stated objectives that can be completed in one year. If more than one year is required, the request must have a clear explanation for continuance. Progress and final reports are required.
- The project has the capability to produce measurable results, based on achieving the project's stated objectives.
- The project has the potential to have a measurable impact on the sustainability of wildlife populations in Jackson Hole Wyoming.
- The applicant and/or organization has the capacity to implement the project.
- The MBRWF would receive adequate recognition for its supportive role in funding the proposed project.
- The MBRWF is a direct sponsor of the project or it will provide significant leverage for the accomplishment of the project.

Preparing and Submitting a Grant Application

A completed MBRWF grant application form (not pdf format) with relevant attachments (resume of applicant(s) and if funded through a non-profit conduit, a copy of the verification letter from the IRS confirming 501(c)(3) status and a letter indicating that the conduit organization agrees to accept the funds without any additional costs or overhead) should be sent to:

Email: megandbertrayneswildlifefund@gmail.com

Project Report Requirements

By January 15th of the year following the awarding of the grant, submit either a current status report or final report if project is complete. Reports should:

- describe how the granted money was used;

- discuss how the project objectives in the approved grant application were achieved or explain why not;
- state the conclusions and effectiveness of the project.

Along with this project report, a one page executive summary with a photograph is required. This summary will be posted on the Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund website <http://www.rayneswildlifefund.org> and will be used for reporting to the Raynes Fund donors and general public through local media. Reports should be submitted to:

Email: megandbertrayneswildlifefund@gmail.com

Revised February 2014

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