



Wader Quest Grant Application Guidance

Wader Quest was established to provide financial support to small-scale conservation projects, particularly those that:

- Deliver tangible and sustainable conservation outcomes.
- Demonstrate clear benefit to wader species (resident or migratory).
- Meaningfully engage local communities.
- Would otherwise face challenges in accessing conventional funding sources.

All applications are assessed against these founding principles. However, the trustees retain discretion to evaluate each proposal on its individual merits, with the overarching objective of improving the survival prospects of wader species.

The trustees may also consider supporting research, appeals or initiatives led by other organisations, provided that effective, evidence-based wader conservation forms a central component of the project, where the charity's contribution would provide a significant benefit to the initiative.

Projects should ideally be directed to one or more of the following funding priorities:

- Educational programmes, especially aimed at school children and youth to conserve and protect waders and their habitat
- Conducting ecological studies of little-known wader species.
- Investigating the status of Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable or Near-threatened wader species.
- Attempting to further the knowledge of current Important Bird Areas (IBAs) of significant importance to waders, through breeding surveys and conducting systematic counts.
- Investigating potential new IBAs or ornithologically little-known areas for waders.

Priority will be given to projects:

- Conducted by Nationals of the country where the activity will take place
- Containing an educational element, that engage with local communities and/or have an element of long-term sustainability of the project, such as training of local counterparts or raising awareness of wader conservation within the wider community

- Providing an improvement in the understand of the conservation needs of a under studied wader species through research

There are circumstances that will exclude certain applications including:

- Applications that do not align with the mission, vision, and objectives of Wader Quest.
- Are from organisations or individuals that are from countries or jurisdictions that are under UK, EU, or UN sanctions.
- Are solely for items that would be considered incidental or for travel and subsistence. Travel and subsistence, and incidental spend can make up no more than 25% of the total grant application amount.

As a condition of applying for grant funding from Wader Quest, you agree that should you be successful, that:

- You will undertake the project entirely at your own risk and Wader Quest is not responsible for any loss, injury or damage to personnel or equipment. Applicants are strongly recommended to obtain adequate insurance and to consider all health and safety issues relevant to the work being undertaken.
- You are acting on your own behalf and are responsible for obtaining all permissions and other legal requirements to carry out the project.
- The name of Wader Quest may not be used to gain access to restricted areas, institutions or persons nor as a justification for undertaking this project without prior written authority.
- Respect of the culture and laws of the country where the project is being undertaken should be considered and given at all times.
- If your project involves handling and ringing of birds, you must comply with relevant national legislation and hold appropriate permits and permissions.
- Equipment is to be used for the project as proposed only and not for any other purpose whatsoever without prior written authority.
- Submit an article for the newsletter, if requested by Wader Quest.
- Provide images for non-commercial publicity and promotion, for example at Wader Quest meetings and other meetings Wader Quest might attend on the Charity's website, social media, publications and other communication channels such as the newsletter.
- Fully acknowledge the support of Wader Quest in all publications and publicity material.