

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Northeast Wildlife Damage Management Research and Outreach Cooperative FY2008

The WDM Coop is dedicated to the efficient application of shared and limited resources to address high priority wildlife damage concerns while minimizing the costs of central administrative structure. Created in 1999, the WDM Coop is a multi-state effort between the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency Directors, land grant institutions, Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, government agencies and private organizations. The WDM Coop comprises the geographical region of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia. Qualified individuals within this region associated with any State Agricultural Experiment Station, college, university, other research institution or organization, federal or state wildlife agency, private organization, or corporation are eligible to participate.

The WDM Coop supports the sharing of information, techniques and research interests relating to wildlife damage management. Research funded under this RFP will support the WDM Coop's goals to develop new techniques for reducing conflicts between people and wildlife, investigate new methods for assessing wildlife damage in agricultural and urban landscapes, integrate biological and social aspects of wildlife damage management, and enhance the development and adoption of cost effective and socially acceptable management strategies.

There is approximately **\$30,000** available to fund relevant and select research projects during FY 2008. Approximately half will be devoted to wildlife field research and the development of new management techniques, and the remainder to human dimensions research and/or outreach projects. The WDM Coop will fund an individual project at a maximum of **\$20,000** over a two-year duration (shorter time frames are permitted).

Proposal Submission Guidelines

Please use the "*Project Application Form*" available in Word or PDF on our website for formatting your proposal and budget. Proposals can be submitted electronically or in hard copy, but must be received by **December 3, 2007**. The budget should include major expenditures, and the maximum **indirect cost rate** allowed for all projects will be **20.0%**. Research should preferably pertain to wildlife damage management for priority species including deer, Canada geese, beaver, coyote and bear, however, all research proposals will be considered. In addition, research proposals submitted must include a strong field research component. Finally, funding on-going research that is near completion will be a high priority. Outreach projects must have a clear deliverable (publication, video, etc.) that will benefit the Northeastern states.

Proposals will be evaluated based on relevance to the targeted species listed, problem statement, overall scientific and technical approach, feasibility of achieving objectives in the stated time, extent of regional participation or application, and an outreach or extension component to insure that results be made available across the Northeast. Research projects should have a clear study design, replication, and potentially publishable results. Proposals that include matching funds are encouraged. The WDM Coop Policy Team will initially review submitted proposals. After the top proposals are ranked, Dr. Paul D. Curtis and Dr. Gary J. San Julian will make a final funding decision.

Special considerations: WDM Coop Policy Team Members are prohibited from submitting research proposals themselves, but are encouraged to circulate the RFP to other scientists in their agency or institution.