

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
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ONE SHIELDS AVENUE  
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8734

October 14, 2008

TO: Federal, State and Provincial Natural Resource Trustee Agencies  
Marine Conservation Organizations  
Members of Marine Industry  
Tribes and First Nations  
University Marine and Wildlife Programs  
Wildlife Research Institutes and Organizations

RE: Annual **Call for Proposals** in the area of **Pacific Marine Wildlife and Ecosystem Health** supported by the SeaDoc Society, Wildlife Health Center, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis. Proposals are due **no later than 5:00 pm November 5, 2008** (this is not a postmark deadline).

The mission of the SeaDoc Society is to ensure the health of marine wildlife and their ecosystems through science and education. The program scope encompasses the health of all marine vertebrates and the biotic and abiotic environments upon which they depend for survival with a current emphasis on issues facing the inland marine waters of Washington State and British Columbia (Puget Sound/Northwest Straits/Georgia Basin; an area commonly referred to as the Salish Sea). All SeaDoc Society-funded projects, regardless of where they are conducted, must have implications for understanding or enhancing the health of this region and its wildlife. The goal of this research is to provide objective science on issues concerning wildlife and ecosystem health in an effort to inform and guide effective policy and management. The SeaDoc Society does not take policy positions nor does it serve in an advocacy role.

Parties interested in seeking funding from the SeaDoc Society should follow the proposal guidelines and format instructions (posted at [www.seadocsociety.org](http://www.seadocsociety.org)). One original hard copy of the proposal and 10 photocopies (11 copies total) as well as an electronic copy (CD) must be received no later than **5:00 pm (PST) November 5, 2007** (this is not a postmark deadline). Please follow proposal/project guidelines and proposal format. Late proposals, or proposals not adhering to this format, will not be reviewed. Proposals will be reviewed by the SeaDoc Society Science Advisors, which is comprised of scientists from academia, natural resource trustee agencies, and non-governmental marine-focused organizations. The Science Advisors will recommend meritorious proposals to the SeaDoc Society Board of Directors, which will select and announce awards by **January 15, 2008**.

Requests are limited to **\$35,000**, which can be spent between January 15 and December 15, 2009. In addition to funding traditional data-collection and analysis, the SeaDoc Society is accepting proposals to fund a mini-sabbatical limited to **\$15,000** for a researcher to analyze and write up long-term data sets.

The data must address one of the specified priority issues and the deliverable for this is a manuscript accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

### **Project Topics**

This year the SeaDoc Society requests proposals only for projects that scientifically address one of the priority issues or questions identified in the RFP.

For a detailed description of grant guidelines, proposal format, and the review process see [www.seadocsociety.org](http://www.seadocsociety.org). If you have questions, call Lavonne Hull at (530) 752-3854.

**\*\*Please pass this RFP on to colleagues\*\***

Sincerely,

Joseph K. Gaydos  
SeaDoc Society Regional Director



**UC DAVIS WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER**  
**SeaDoc Society**

**GUIDELINES for 2008 GRANT PROPOSALS**  
**October 2008**

These guidelines are to be used in preparing a proposal and should not be included as part of the submitted proposal.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Senior scientists from college/university biology, marine, wildlife and toxicology programs; federal, state and provincial natural resource trustee agencies; Tribes and First Nations, wildlife research institutes; marine conservation organizations; and commercial fisheries and maritime groups. Individuals not formally affiliated with an organization, agency, institute, First Nation, or industry group are not eligible. Individuals who have without-salary appointments at an institution or organization must submit proof of the appointment with their proposal.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** All university and college faculty; officers or principal scientists at natural resource trustee agencies, Tribes or First Nations; directors, investigators and senior staff persons at wildlife research institutes, marine conservation organizations, and commercial fisheries or maritime groups.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Submit 11 hard copies of your proposal (1 original and 10 copies) and one electronic copy (on CD in MS Word format) of your proposal to

Ms. Lavonne Hull  
The SeaDoc Society  
UC Davis Wildlife Health Center  
1 Shields Ave.  
Davis, CA 95616  
(530) 752-4167

Do not alter the proposal format. Proposals which do not follow these guidelines will be returned without review. Proposals must be received **no later than 5:00 pm November 5, 2008** (this is not a postmark deadline; they must arrive by 5 PM).

**FOCUS OF GRANTS:** The mission of the SeaDoc Society is to ensure the health of marine wildlife and their ecosystems through science and education. The program scope encompasses the health of all marine vertebrates and the biotic and abiotic environments upon which they depend for survival with a current emphasis on issues facing the inland marine waters of Washington State and British Columbia (Puget Sound/Northwest Straits/Georgia Basin; an area commonly referred to as the Salish Sea). **All SeaDoc Society-funded projects, regardless of where they are conducted, must have implications for understanding or enhancing the health of this region and its wildlife.** The goal of this research is to provide objective science on issues concerning wildlife and ecosystem health in an effort to inform and guide effective policy and management. The SeaDoc Society does not take policy positions nor does it serve in an advocacy role. Proposals must address one of the following priorities:

### **Invertebrates**

#### Invasive tunicates

- How do the 3 common tunicate species (*Ciona savignyi*, *Didenum* sp., and *Styela clava*) affect native community structure? Are current removal techniques effective?

### **Fish**

#### General

- The interaction of hydrographic features on the distribution of wintering concentrations of both marine birds and their forage fish or prey items should be studied.

#### Eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*)

- While the Fraser River eulachon stock has been identified as depressed, very little is known about the status of stocks, distribution, or life cycle of this important forage fish species in Washington State's Inland waters.

#### Pacific herring (*Clupea harengus pallasii*)

- The need exists for coordinating annual gadid and herring surveys with existing PSAMP water-column monitoring to search for correlations and predictive relationships between temperature and fish abundance.

#### Pacific sandlance (*Ammodytes hexapterus*)

- Very little is known about the status of stocks, distribution, or life cycle of this important forage fish.
- A means for estimating sandlance biomass needs to be developed.

## **Birds**

### General

- Inland marine areas that are highly utilized by summer populations of subadults and nonbreeders should be identified. These may be critical areas for the long-term well-being of certain species and should be considered for habitat preservation, restoration and/or management activities.
- The interaction of hydrographic features on the distribution of wintering concentrations of both marine birds and their forage fish or prey items should be studied.
- Studies are needed to identify specific seasonal prey items utilized by marine bird species. Knowledge of seasonal prey availability and food chain dynamics must be better understood.
- What are the impacts that harvest bycatch or derelict fishing gear are currently having on specific species of marine birds?

### Tufted puffin (*Fratercula cirrhata*)

- Breeding numbers in the inland waters of Washington have fallen from over 1100 birds to 13 pairs in the Strait of Juan de Fuca and their breeding colonies are now restricted primarily to Protection Island. What are the causes for this decline?

## **Mammals**

### Minke whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*)

- Data on the population status of Minke whales in Washington needs to be published in peer-reviewed literature.
- Abundance estimates need to be made for Minke whales in the Inland Waters of Washington and British Columbia.
- The stock structure of minke whales in the eastern North Pacific, including British Columbia, needs to be better studied to understand the relationship of whales in the Salish Sea to the greater stock.

## **Anthropogenic Stressors**

### Climate related natural and anthropogenic changes

- What species will be most impacted by expected changes? Are there proactive management considerations that should be considered?

### Energy-related projects

- What are the impacts or predicted impacts of alternative energy development (tidal turban energy, wind farms, wave buoys) on the sea floor, the attenuation of tidal or wave energy and the attraction / avoidance / mortality of marine organisms, especially species of concern?

### Habitat loss and degradation

- The physical processes affected by armoring are generally better studied than the biological processes. There is a need to better understand the biological processes affected by shoreline armoring.
- There is no system to track cumulative, ecosystem-level effects of fragmented losses on shoreline habitat and the ultimate impact on fish and wildlife populations.

### Harvest

- What are the population-level and ecosystem-level impacts of harvest on species such as California sea cucumber, Pacific cod, Pacific herring, Pacific hake, seaweeds and unclassified marine invertebrate.
- What are the impacts of shellfish harvest and culture practices (e.g. beach graveling) on other species, including species in decline?

**DURATION OF FUNDING:** Funding is available for work performed from January 15, 2009 to December 15, 2009.

**FUNDING MECHANISM:** **Funds will be reimbursed in arrears upon receipt of invoice.** Spending authority on the grant starts as soon as a Research Agreement between UC Davis and the grant recipients' home institution is signed by all parties. Drafting the Research Agreement is done by UC Davis and is forwarded to a grant recipients' home institution. The Principal Investigator and his/her academic department or institution assumes full financial responsibility for conduct of the grant. Expenditures in excess of the amount of the award will not be covered by the SeaDoc Society. Final payment will be delayed until receipt of an accepted final report.

**EVALUATION PROCESS:** Proposals adhering to these guidelines are reviewed by the SeaDoc Society Science Advisors, which is comprised of scientists from diverse disciplines representing academia, governmental agencies and the non-governmental sector (see <http://www.seadocsociety.org>). Each proposal is evaluated in detail by Science Advisors and by one external reviewer (usually selected from those suggested by the Principal Investigator). Each proposal is ranked according to the following criteria: scientific merit; achievability (staff expertise and project feasibility); potential of project to inform management and conservation efforts aimed at insuring marine wildlife and ecosystem health; and grantsmanship (how well the proposal is written). Numerical scores are tabulated. A meeting of the Science Advisors is then convened, and the

numerical scores are used as a point of reference for discussion of each proposal by the entire committee. **In the event that a SeaDoc Science Advisor is a principal investigator, co-investigator, or collaborator, he/she is excused from the room during discussion and review of his/her proposal.** The external reviewers' comments on each proposal are shared with the Science Advisors at this time. Each non-collaborating SAC member then votes as to whether the proposal is of high, medium or low priority for funding. The Science Advisor's prioritization of proposals is conveyed to the SeaDoc Society Board of Directors, which is comprised of twelve members representing marine wildlife and ecosystem stakeholder groups (natural resource agencies, non-governmental organizations, Tribes, and concerned citizens). The Board of Directors makes the final decision on proposals to fund, based on thoughtful consideration of the prioritization of proposals by the Science Advisors.

**BUDGET LIMITATIONS:** Proposals should not exceed **\$35,000** for research projects and **\$15,000** for mini-sabbatical requests and funds must be spent between January 15 and December 15, 2009. Funds **can** be used to pay for the following: laboratory fees; equipment; supplies; travel (for data collection/project implementation only); salary for postdoctoral fellows/graduate students and student and laboratory assistants; animals and animal care. **Disposition of all nonexpendable equipment (non-disposable supplies that cost over \$5,000) shall rest with the University of California at Davis at the termination of this agreement.** Funds **cannot** be used for office personnel, on-going maintenance and operations, telephone charges, mail expenses and presentation of findings at scientific meetings. Principal Investigators (PI) or technical staff that routinely receive their regular salaries from federal, state (including universities), or endowed sources, may not generally charge their services against SeaDoc Society funds. Exceptions may be allowed for principal investigators or technical staff to charge portions of their salaries when they are not being paid by their institutions (e.g., on a leave of absence or in cases where their position is less than full time or less than 12 months per year). Clear documentation must be provided with the estimated budget for any request for PI or pre-existing technical staff salaries that indicates their eligible status with their employer (on leave, reductions in time base) and the specific tasks that they will perform on the project. Because Provincial, State, and Federal Agencies as well as Tribes have a research and management mandate, the SeaDoc Society will consider demonstration of matching funds advantageous when reviewing these proposals. The SeaDoc Society acquires funding from multiple sources to support its competitive grants program. Some sources may have stated policies regarding payment of indirect costs, which may require the SeaDoc Society to renegotiate indirect costs on recipients' grants after awards are made. **At the maximum, the SeaDoc Society does NOT pay indirect costs in excess of the University of California off-campus overhead rate of 26%.**

**PROGRESS & FINAL REPORTS:** Progress reports will be due September 1, 2009 and should apprise the SeaDoc Society Executive Director of funds expended and work performed to date towards achieving the specific aims of the project. A final report will be due no later than March 1, 2010. Final reports should include all data and findings. Final payment will be delayed until receipt of an accepted final report. If a final report is not submitted, the data collected will become the property of the SeaDoc Society on January 1, 2015 at which time the SeaDoc Society will have the ability to analyze and publish these data.

**FUNDING EXTENSION REQUEST:** It is expected that work as outlined in this proposal will be accomplished within the time frame indicated. However, should funding for a project need to be extended, a request for extension of funding may be submitted to the Wildlife Health Center Assistant Director, Marine Programs. This request should present a compelling reason for extension of funding and must be accompanied by a progress report.

**ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROTOCOL:** Any proposal involving the use of live animals under the jurisdiction of the Animal Welfare Act or routinely covered under an institution's Veterinary Care Plan must have the approval of an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The SeaDoc Society Science Advisors will attempt to identify an academic cooperator and appropriate IACUC for proposals from groups without an IACUC. Proposals for projects involving the use of animals (clinical or experimental) must submit a copy of an approved animal care and use protocol. In lieu of an approved protocol, one copy of an Animal Care and Use Protocol application should be submitted with the proposal. Funding will not be allocated, and work on the project cannot commence, until the application has been submitted and approved by an Animal Care and Use Committee. Copies of all permits and documentation must be received by the SeaDoc Society before funding will be awarded.

**MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS AND PROTOCOL APPROVALS:** Any permits, licenses or approved protocols must be in place before funding can be awarded. This includes all necessary permits from state, federal and provincial natural resource trustee agencies, and approved protocols for the use of radioisotopes, certain chemicals or recombinant DNA technology (required at some universities). The SeaDoc Society will assume that such permits will be obtained and/or maintained by the investigators for use at their facilities. Failure to obtain or maintain such permits will be grounds for denial or revocation of a SeaDoc grant, at the discretion of the Wildlife Health Center Assistant Director, Marine Programs.

**PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:** It is important to the SeaDoc Society that research findings are used to help guide and improve management of living marine resources. Recipients of SeaDoc grants are strongly encouraged to publish their findings in appropriate peer-reviewed journals. Copies of publications resulting all or in part from SeaDoc grants must be sent to the Wildlife Health Center. Submitted manuscripts, manuscripts that are approved for publication and galley proofs can be sent in lieu of a progress or final report, but we still need to receive a copy of the final publication. Publications resulting, all or in part, from SeaDoc Society grants must include the following acknowledgment: *“This project was supported (or supported in part) by the SeaDoc Society through the Wildlife Health Center, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis.”* In addition to publishing findings, recipients of grants are strongly encouraged to present their findings to managers, stakeholders, and other scientists who can use the information to improve resource management. As part of the progress and final reports, recipients of SeaDoc Society grants must submit a list of publications and presentations resulting from or expected from the funded research.

**MINI-SABBATICALS:** For the first time, the SeaDoc Society is accepting proposals to fund a mini-sabbatical (funding limited to \$15,000) for researchers to analyze and write up long-term data sets. The data must address one of the specified priority issues and instead of a final report, the deliverable for a mini-sabbatical is a manuscript accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Proposals for mini-sabbaticals should follow the same proposal format used for research projects, paying particular emphasis to the alternate information provided under 6) Experimental or Implementation Plans. The SeaDoc Society will work to provide housing on Orcas Island, Washington for mini-sabbatical. This will be arranged after the proposal has been accepted and a time-period for the mini-sabbatical can be agreed upon by both parties. Investigators should be sure to include funding for travel to and from Orcas Island in their budget and should be specific about the timing that is most convenient for them to come to Orcas Island to analyze data and write their manuscript. The cost of page-charges for publication can be included in the budget for investigators applying for a mini-sabbatical.

*Future funding is contingent upon compliance with these guidelines and timely receipt of progress and final reports.*

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**SUMMARY OF DEADLINES FOR 2008 SEADOC SOCIETYGRANTS**

<b>OCTOBER 14, 2008</b>	REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DISTRIBUTED
<b>NOVEMBER 5, 2008</b>	FULL PROPOSALS DUE
<b>JANUARY 15, 2009</b>	FUNDS AWARDED
<b>SEPTEMBER 1, 2009</b>	PROGRESS REPORT DUE
<b>DECEMBER 15, 2009</b>	AWARD PERIOD ENDS
<b>MARCH 1, 2010</b>	FINAL REPORT DUE

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Questions may be directed to:

Dr. Joe Gaydos, SeaDoc Society Scientist and Regional Director, 360-376-3910, [jkgaydos@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jkgaydos@ucdavis.edu)

- or -

Lavonne Hull, SeaDoc Society Administrative Assistant, 530-752-3854, [lwhull@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lwhull@ucdavis.edu)

Proposal guidelines and forms are available for downloading from the SeaDoc Society website:

<http://www.seadocsociety.org>

**SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO:**

Ms. Lavonne Hull  
The SeaDoc Society  
UC Davis Wildlife Health Center  
1 Shields Ave.  
Davis, CA 95616  
(530) 752-4167

# The SeaDoc Society

## PROPOSAL FORMAT

Use 3/4" margins, and 12-point, single-spaced type. Avoid non-standard abbreviations whenever possible. The principal investigator's last name and page number should be placed in the upper right corner starting from the second page forward. Please organize your proposal as follows:

- 1) TITLE OF PROPOSED PROJECT:** Less than 200 characters, and should clearly describe the project. Please do not use abbreviations.
- 2) NAME(S), AFFILIATION(S) AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATOR, AND CO-INVESTIGATOR(S), AND GRADUATE STUDENT(S)** (if applicable; a co-investigator is an individual who will have substantial involvement in data gathering and data analysis).
- 3) ABSTRACT:** The abstract should serve as a succinct and accurate description of the proposed work when separated from other portions of the proposal. Write in lay terms. Do not exceed 500 words. Clearly state the purpose, aims, and significance of the project. Briefly describe your experimental design or implementation plan.
- 4) BACKGROUND INFORMATION** – Do not exceed 2 pages. In addition to providing essential information that will enable reviewers to understand your project purpose, goals and methodologies, please indicate the specific topic or question called out in the Call for Proposals that your project will addresses.
- 5) HYPOTHESIS AND SPECIFIC AIMS** – Include explicit hypotheses and specific aims if the project is a scientific investigation, or intended outcomes if project has a conservation or management emphasis. Do not exceed 1 page.
- 6) EXPERIMENTAL or IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR EACH SPECIFIC AIM** – Do not exceed 3 pages in total. Be sure to indicate the resources already in place and ready to be used for this project, including facilities and major equipment. Include an explanation of arrangements with other organizations. If wild or captive animals are to be manipulated or handled in an experimental setting, be specific as to the species, housing and care, and include the cover page of an approved or submitted Animal Care and Use protocol for your institution. **FOR MINI-SABBATICAL PROPOSALS** –explain in detail what data sets are available, who has ownership of the data, when they were collected, what specific questions will the data answer (must be one of the topics in the Call for Proposals), why these data have not been analyzed previously, and what will be required in addition to dedicated time and funding to analyze these data. Additionally, because the end product for mini-sabbaticals is an accepted manuscript in a peer-reviewed journal, please describe your timeline for analysis, journal to which you will be submitting the manuscript, expected turn-around time for review and estimated time for addressing comments and re-submitting the manuscript.
- 7) SIGNIFICANCE TO SEADOC SOCIETY PROGRAM PRIORITIES:** Describe how the project pertains to priorities identified in the Call for Proposals. The SeaDoc Society funds projects that will inform and guide management and species recovery. Specifically describe how the proposed project will produce new information needed to better understand factors for species declines or to enact recovery strategies and how results have the potential to produce information that improves management or benefits species recovery. If the project is not taking place in the inland waters of Washington State and British Columbia, describe how the project has implications for understanding or improving wildlife and/or ecosystem health in this region. Do not exceed 1 page.
- 8) LITERATURE CITED**
- 9) DETAILED BUDGET AND JUSTIFICATION:** Provide a detailed project budget organized into the following budget categories. Please keep this section to less than 2 pages total
  - i. Personnel:** For the principle investigator, co-investigator, graduate student(s) and/or technicians, list each individual's name, his/her role on project (e.g. PI, Co-I, student), % of his/her 12-month appointment to be spent on the proposed project, his/her annual base salary + benefits, and the total requested \$ amount. For example: if you are requesting 6 months of salary + benefits for a graduate student, you would give his/her name, describe his/her role as "student"; note that he/she will spend 50% of his/her time on the project, and request the equivalent of 6 months salary + benefits for the individual. Be sure to provide clear documentation for requests for PI or pre-existing technical staff salaries that indicates their eligible status with their employer (on leave, reductions in time base) and the specific tasks that they will perform on the project.

**ii. Travel:** Itemize by trip. Travel for research purposes is acceptable. The SeaDoc Society does not fund travel to conferences to present findings. For mini-sabbatical proposals, please request the necessary funds to travel to and from Orcas Island, where housing will be provided upon mutual agreement of mini-sabbatical timing by the investigator and the SeaDoc Society.

**iii. Equipment:** For purchases of non-disposable supplies that cost  $\geq$  \$5,000 per unit. Note: The University of California at Davis has the option to take ownership of equipment after the completion of the project.

**iv. Supplies:** Itemize by category; publication page charges can be included in proposals for a mini-sabbatical.

**v. Indirect Costs:** State as both a % rate and a total \$ amount. The SeaDoc Society acquires funding from multiple sources to support its competitive grants program. Some sources may have stated policies regarding payment of indirect costs, which may require the SeaDoc Society to renegotiate indirect costs on recipients' grants after awards are made. The SeaDoc Society does NOT pay indirect costs in excess of the University of California off-campus overhead rate of 26%. UC Davis submitters should not request indirect costs.

**vi. Matching Funds**

Because Provincial, State, and Federal Agencies as well as Tribes have a research and management mandate, the SeaDoc Society will consider demonstration of matching funds advantageous when reviewing these proposals.

**vii. Total Requested \$ Amount**

For each budget category, provide a succinct justification for expenditures within budget categories that exceed \$1500 (with the exception of personnel), and for other budget items requiring justification, as specified in the Budget Limitations section of the grant guidelines.

If the proposed project will be supplemented by other forms of support, i.e. if the Principle or Co- Investigator(s) has or is applying for other grants that support or will support work relevant to the success of the proposed project, list the titles of these grants, the source of funds, the \$ amount of the grant, and briefly how these funds will support your SeaDoc Society-proposed project.

**10) ABBREVIATED CURRICULUM VITAE OF PRINCIPAL AND CO-INVESTIGATOR(S)** Do not exceed 2 pages each. In reverse chronological order, list post high school education and specialized training, present and past pertinent employment, and publications or related achievements. Limit publication/achievement list to the last 5 years.

**11) EXTERNAL REVIEWERS:** Please list the names, affiliations, current phone numbers, mailing addresses and e-mail addresses for three external reviewers. Reviewers should have expertise in your proposed research area, and should be capable of objectively reviewing your proposal. Please do not submit the names of personal friends, or names of colleagues with whom you are actively collaborating. Proposals not listing external reviewers will not be considered. The Wildlife Health Center reserves the right to assign an external reviewer not named by the PI if none of the listed reviewers are available or appropriate.

**Note: Letters of support and collaboration will be accepted, but must be included with the application and received no later than 5:00 pm. on November 5, 2008.**

**Proposal submission deadline: 5:00 pm (PST) November 5, 2008**