



REQUIRED Cover Page

APPLICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

**All applicants please complete this cover page.

Choose one: <input type="checkbox"/> Creative activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional Enhancement activity	Date of Last PDG Award (Semester and Year awarded): Spring 2007 Date of ATU Faculty Appointment (Semester and Year): Summer 2006
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1. **Project Title:** Publication of Wildlife Monograph entitled "Habitat Use, Behavior, and Community Structure of Migratory Wetland Birds in the Rainwater Basin"

2. **Name of Principal Investigator/Project Director:** Elisabeth Brennan

3. **School (abbrev):** PLS **Department:** Biological Sciences

5. **Campus Mail Address:** 1701 N. Boulder Ave 6. **PI/PD Campus Phone:** 356-2018

7. **Amount Requested:** \$3000.00 8. **Total Cost of Project:** \$10,000.00

9. **Does this project involve:** 10. **Duration of Project:** May – October 2007

Yes No

- human subjects?
- animals/animal care facility?
- radioactive materials?
- hazardous materials?
- biological agents or toxins restricted by the USA Patriot Act?
- copyright or patent potential?
- utilization of space **not** currently available to the PI/PD?
- the purchase of equipment/instrumentation/software currently **available** to the PI/PD?

NOTE: If the answer is "yes" to any of the above questions, the investigator must attach appropriate documentation of approval or justification for use/purchase.

SIGNATURES

Chauli Gaym 4/30/07
Department Head Date

M. Brown 5-1-07
Dean Date

<p>This Section to be completed by the Office of Academic Affairs</p> <p>PDC Committee Award Recommendation: Yes ___ No ___</p> <p>PDC Committee Proposal Rank: ___ of ___ Total Proposals.</p> <p>Recommendation of VPAA: Yes ___ No ___</p> <p>Recommendation of President: Yes ___ No ___</p> <p>Award Date: _____</p>
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B. ABSTRACT

Publication of original research is essential to increasing the knowledge within the scientific community. Publications enhance the stature and reputation of the university they are affiliated with and are used as a means of evaluating individual faculty member's scholarly activity. The purpose of this proposal is to fund the publication of a paper written by the principal investigator as a Wildlife Monograph entitled "Habitat Use, Behavior, and Community Structure of Migratory Wetland Birds in the Rainwater Basin."

C. PURPOSE / OBJECTIVES

I have submitted a manuscript to the Wildlife Society for publication as a Wildlife Monograph (see Attachment). The manuscript represents the culmination of original research that I and several colleagues conducted over 3 years, investigating the habitat use, behavior, and community structure patterns of wetland birds during migration. The purpose of this grant is to obtain partial funding to support the publication costs of a Wildlife Monograph.

D. SIGNIFICANCE / NEED

Wildlife Monographs are a unique series of publications, presenting substantial, focused scientific investigations pertaining to the knowledge and management of wildlife. They offer results from major studies, including definitive synthesis and cohesive treatment of the topic. My research represents one of the only studies examining the importance of habitat use and wetland management on migration stopover sites for migratory wetland birds. There is a saying among researchers that goes, "It's not research until you publish it." While I do not necessarily agree with the previous statement, the importance of publishing one's research and making the knowledge available to the scientific community cannot be overestimated.

In addition to contributing to the overall (albeit scarce) body of knowledge regarding the importance of habitat use of wetland birds during migration, publication of this research will enhance the reputation of Arkansas Tech's research program. I am working on establishing a waterfowl and wetlands research lab at Arkansas Tech and publication in a major journal as lead author with Arkansas Tech University in the by line, will increase program and school recognition among professional wildlife scientists and will help establish Arkansas Tech as the premiere institution within Arkansas for fisheries and wildlife. Finally, publication of this research will contribute to my development as a productive faculty member at Arkansas Tech. One of the three categories on which faculty members are annually evaluated is scholarly activity; of which publication of original research in scholarly journals is considered an essential component.

E. PROCESS FOR ATTAINMENT OF OBJECTIVES / GOALS

Overall publication costs for a Wildlife Monograph are paid by the authors and are approximately \$10,000. This grant proposal requests partial funding (\$3,000) as part of a larger grant request. The Rainwater Basin Joint Venture has already contributed \$5,000 towards publication costs, while Texas Tech University has contributed \$2,000. However, without funding requested in this grant, the Monograph will not be published.

F. DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

The manuscript will be published as a Wildlife Monograph (see Attachment), which is a publication of the Wildlife Society. All members of the Wildlife Society subscribing to The Journal of Wildlife Management will receive a copy of the monograph. In addition, I will make a

PDF copy of the article available for download on my university web site. Arkansas Tech Faculty Development Grants will receive recognition as a major funding source of the publication if this grant is funded.

G. REPEATED REQUESTS

This proposal is not a repeat request.

H. BUDGET

PROPOSED BUDGET FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT (include budget categories as appropriate)		
1.	Non-work study stipend Fringe benefits @ .4% (4/10 percent) of non-work study stipend	0.00
2.	Supplies (please list items to be purchased and estimated price per item including taxes and shipping, if appropriate):	0.00
3.	Travel (please list travel expenditures by date and estimated costs):	0.00
4.	Capital Outlay Publication costs ¹	3,000
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET \$		3,000.00

¹ Publication costs for a Wildlife Monograph typically total \$10,000. This grant proposal request partial funding as part of a larger grant request. The Rainwater Basin Joint Venture is contributing \$5,000 towards publication costs and Texas Tech University is contributing \$2,000.

I. BIBLIOGRAPHY: Provide standard citations for material referenced.

J. APPLICATION VITA (maximum: 3 pages)

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EDUCATION

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY Lubbock, TX
Ph.D. Wildlife Science (Wetland Ecology) August 2006

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY - CARBONDALE Carbondale, IL
M. S. Zoology (Wildlife) May 2002

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY Lexington, VA
B. A. Biology May 1999

EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Wildlife Biology

Arkansas Tech University, Department of Biological Science, Russellville, AR, 7/2006 – present, Department Head: Professor Charlie Gagen

Teaching Activities

- Upper division courses taught: Wetland Ecology and Management, Wildlife Management, Principles of Ecology, Waterfowl Ecology and Management, Senior Seminar
- Graduate level courses taught: Research Methods II, Wetland Ecology and Management
- Averaged 4.43 out of 5.00 from 2006 on all course student evaluations compared to the department average of 4.34 over the same year.

Research Activities

Publications

- Brennan, E.K., L.M. Smith, D.A. Haukos, and T.G. LaGrange. 2005. **Short-term Response of Wetland Birds to Prescribed Burning in Rainwater Basin Wetlands.** Wetlands 25:667-674.

Assistant Professor of Wildlife Biology continued

Grants and Awards

- Principal Investigator on funded Arkansas Tech University Undergraduate Research Council proposal title, "Evaluation of Moist-Soil Seed Production on Wetland Reserve Program Wetlands in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley of Arkansas" worth \$2,600 (2006). This project includes funding to support one undergraduate student.
- 2004 Environmental Protection Agency – State, Tribal, and Local Government Wetland Protection Grant Program
- Nebraska Chapter of the Nature Conservancy J.E. Weaver Competitive Grant
- American Ornithologists' Union Student Membership Award

Presentations at Professional Meetings

- Brennan, E.K., L.M. Smith, M. Vrtiska, and T.G. LaGrange. **Local and Landscape Variables Influencing Migratory Bird Habitat Use and Behavior in Rainwater Basin Wetlands.** Presented at the Annual Mid-West Fish and Wildlife Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, December 2006.
- Brennan, E.K., L.M. Smith, and N.E. McIntyre. **Assessing Species Co-occurrence Patterns of migratory Wetland Birds at Multiple Temporal Scales.** Presented at the 90th Ecological Society of America Conference, Montreal, Canada, August 2005.
- Brennan, E.K., M. Vrtiska, T. G. LaGrange, and L.M. Smith. **Temporal Changes in Local and Regional Variables Predicting Migratory Bird Habitat Use in Nebraska's Rainwater Basin Wetlands.** Presented at the 12th Annual Wildlife Society Conference, Madison, WI, September, 2005.
- Brennan, E.K., M. Vrtiska, T. G. LaGrange, and L.M. Smith. **Evaluating Migratory Bird Habitat Use in Nebraska's Rainwater Basin Wetlands: A Multi-Scale Approach.** Presented at the Wetlands and Migratory Birds: Protecting and Restoring Wetlands of International Significance, Kansas City, MO, October 2004.

Service Activities

- Advisor for ATU Chapter Fisheries and Wildlife Society
- Advisor for ATU Ducks Unlimited Chapter