

The David S. Lee Fund for the Conservation of Caribbean Birds

2021 Awards

Size of Award: Several grants up to approximately \$1,000 each.

Application Deadline: February 19, 2021 at 5 p.m. EST.

Address Questions and Send Application to: Will Mackin,
willmackin@gmail.com; copy to: info@birdscaribbean.org

Announcement of Awards: by March 15, 2021

Donations to the Fund: Tax-deductible (U.S.) at: bit.ly/GiftForCaribbeanBirds

Inspiration: David S. Lee (1943–2014) was a naturalist and conservation biologist and an important early member of BirdsCaribbean (then The Society of Caribbean Ornithology). David was perhaps best known for his studies of seabirds of the Gulf Stream, yet he published hundreds of scientific papers and articles in the popular press on natural history, and he spearheaded conservation projects for birds, crocodiles, bats, turtles, and tortoises worldwide.



Goal of the Fund: The David S. Lee Fund for Conservation seeks to continue David's passion for protecting wildlife. The fund will support direct, innovative conservation work in the Caribbean Region for birds and their habitats. The fund will be managed by BirdsCaribbean and used for annual small grants. Applicants should demonstrate how their project will work with conservation groups and local communities in the Caribbean.

Eligibility: Scientists/naturalists working in the Caribbean, in conservation organizations or academic programs, may apply. Applicants should be students or early career ornithologists, conservationists, or wildlife professionals (i.e., not established faculty or senior staff of a conservation organization, less than 10 years post-graduation). A student must be enrolled in accredited Masters or PhD program in ecology, biology, conservation, or related field to be eligible. Applicants must be paid or sponsored members of BirdsCaribbean at the time of application.

Use of Funds: The funds can cover travel to field sites, living expenses in the field, or costs for equipment and supplies to conduct conservation projects. Examples of equipment and supplies include traps, cameras, automated recording units, nest boxes, etc. Ineligible costs include salary or other wages, overhead fees, etc. Projects that foster collaboration between scientists/naturalists



in different island groups of the Caribbean, such as joint projects to test conservation techniques for similar species, will be favored.

Application Guidelines:

1. Proposals may be submitted in English, French, or Spanish. All should have an English version of the abstract. We can help translate if needed.
2. Applications should be emailed as a Microsoft Word document.
3. The application should include a cover page, proposal (see guidelines below), and a *curriculum vitae* for the applicant.
4. Separately, by email, three individuals who can attest to your effectiveness in previous work should submit letters of recommendation. For students, this would include your academic advisor.

Evaluation:

1. A committee appointed by BirdsCaribbean will review the proposals and award the grants.
2. The awardee will be required to submit a report one year from the day of the award explaining how the award money was spent and the results of the project to that point. The awardee is also asked to write an article for BirdsCaribbean's blog about their work (informal article for a lay audience).
3. Awardees are encouraged to present the results of their work at the biennial International Conference of BirdsCaribbean and publish in The Journal of Caribbean Ornithology.

Application Checklist

- ✓ Application cover page
- ✓ Proposal text and budget
- ✓ Curriculum vitae
- ✓ 3 letters of recommendation (sent separately by references to BirdsCaribbean)
- ✓ Membership to BirdsCaribbean paid (if you need a sponsored membership, contact Lisa.Sorenson@BirdsCaribbean.org) – join here: bit.ly/JoinBirdsCaribbean, renew here: bit.ly/RenewBirdsCaribbean

Send all application materials to: Will Mackin - willmackin@gmail.com with copy to: info@birdscaribbean.org

Subject of email: Proposal to the David S. Fund for the Conservation of Caribbean Birds



APPLICATION TO THE DAVID S. LEE FUND
FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CARIBBEAN BIRDS

Applicant's Name:

Applicant's Address:

Telephone & Fax:

E-mail:

Institution, NGO, or Government Affiliation(s):

Name and contact information of Thesis or Scientific advisor:

Title of Proposal:

Amount Requested:

Timetable – initiation and completion of field work:

Names, titles, and addresses (including e-mails) of three references who have been asked by you to send letters of recommendation:

Electronic Signature: In submitting this file for review, I certify that the information is true to the best of my knowledge and that I will comply with reporting guidelines for the grant if my proposal is funded. If the project cannot be implemented, I will refund the money to the David S. Lee Fund.

Name: _____ Date: _____



Davis S. Lee Fund for the Conservation of Caribbean Birds Proposal Guidelines

The narrative text of the proposal is limited to four double-spaced pages of text (21.6 x 28 cm or 8.5 x 11 in), with 2.5 cm (1 in.) margins and 12-point font. Supporting documents including the budget table, references, maps and figures do not count against page totals.

Title: Provide a short, descriptive title to your project.

Abstract (less than 150 words): Summarizes the goals and measures of success for the project.

Introduction: Provides relevant background information to the conservation problem, including any preliminary data or tests that inform your work. What are the objectives for the project? Why is your project necessary and how will it help the population of the target species? How is the project different from previous work?

Methods: How will you implement the project? How will you monitor the impact of your work on the population? How and by whom will data be analyzed?

Expected Results and Outcomes: What are your expected results and how will they advance conservation of your study species? How do you anticipate sharing and publishing your results in order to help with conservation efforts and in your country and others?

Facilities, Permits, and Connection to Local Community: Describe the availability of proposed study site(s), lab(s), equipment, etc. necessary to conduct the research, including travel between islands. List the permits that will be necessary to authorize the work and explain how you plan to obtain them in time to complete the work. Explain how you are reaching out to the local community, NGOs, and relevant government agencies/ institutions to make sure your work assists local conservation goals.

Budget Table: List the budget items necessary to complete the work in \$USD. Include items from other sources and explain how the costs covered by the David S. Lee fund will add to the project. Include in-kind contributions including volunteers' transportation and time, if any. If other applications have been submitted for the same costs, include them here along with notification deadlines. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals to multiple funding agencies, however they may not accept more than one funding award for the same budget item. A sample table is included below. Please delete the information there and edit/ add rows as needed to produce your table (you may provide your budget in a pasted in excel file).

Impacts from COVID-19: Let us know the potential impacts of the pandemic on your proposed work and how you will adapt/ modify your plans based on different scenarios (e.g., if you are not able to travel to carry out field work this spring or summer). Note that it is possible to extend your grant beyond one year to allow for enough time to complete your project.

Sample Budget Table

Item	Justification	Lee Fund Request	Other sources (incl. in-kind)	Total Cost
Sherman Rat Traps (10 @ \$30/trap)	Purchase of 10 live-capture traps to check for rats without killing non-target animals	\$300.00		\$300.00
Sherman Rat Traps (2 @ \$30 trap)	Use of 2 Sherman rat traps already in possession of researcher		\$60	\$60
Shipping costs	Shipping of traps	\$50		\$50
Boat fuel (5 trips @ \$75/trip)	Travel to study site	\$375		\$375
Use of boat (5 trips @ \$100/trip)	Donated by local partner		\$500	\$500
Total		\$725	\$560	\$1,285