



Scientific Translation of Research Knowledge (STORK) Grant Guidelines

Context

In accordance with its 2022–27 Strategic Plan, the U.S.- NABCI Committee has identified five priority goals that advance bird conservation in North America and across the hemisphere. These include several areas for enhancing work with Latin American and Caribbean partners to increase full annual cycle conservation opportunities:

2022–27 Strategic Plan Goal 3. **Promote strategic conservation delivery guided by well-developed strategies and measured outcomes**

Subgoal 2. Enhance capacity for full annual cycle conservation

1. *Identify and reduce barriers to participation in migratory stop-over and wintering grounds conservation efforts*
2. *Foster collaborative opportunities for full annual cycle conservation that intentionally and consistently engage international partners throughout the hemisphere*

U.S.- NABCI seeks to promote full annual cycle conservation in ways that are guided by the best available science and that are collaborative, inclusive, and non-colonial. A critical component of achieving this objective is identifying and reducing systemic barriers to research and conservation efforts in locations used by North American breeding birds during the migratory and non-breeding periods.

As populations of migratory birds breeding in the United States and Canada continue to decline, it has become evident that the collective conservation community requires the best available science from across the full annual cycle of birds to develop effective and just conservation actions. However, critical scientific information of high conservation value being produced in Latin America and the Caribbean often does not reach the broader community due to systemic barriers of English-language translation for publication in English language peer-reviewed ornithological and other scientific journals (see Ramírez-Castañeda 2020, Steigerwald *et al.* 2022, Valenzuela-Toro & Viglino 2021). Publishing findings in peer-reviewed journals is not only a key metric in the professional evaluation and career advancement of ornithological researchers in Western science, but is often the method by which information is disseminated and judged to be valuable. Moreover, publishing in peer-reviewed journals is an important step towards establishing oneself as an expert in the field and developing networks that can lead to further grant, research, and conservation opportunities. Although there are many excellent Spanish and

other language journals available, many Latin American and Caribbean professionals desire to publish in English language journals in order to reach a wider audience, especially potential readers and collaborators in positions to collaborate or provide funding for their efforts. English-language requirements imposed by journals are barriers to the careers of developing ornithologists lacking English proficiency as well as the transfer of information that is necessary to conservation. Overcoming these barriers often requires significant capital or reliance on favor-based networks and increased time and effort not expended by English-speaking scientists.

Program Objectives

To help address these barriers, NABCI has created the STORK Grant fund for professional translation of scientific research. These grants will provide monetary support to researchers from countries in the Western hemisphere outside of the United States that wish to publish scientific findings in English-language peer-reviewed journals, but are in need of professional translation assistance. Through this grant, we aim to help address publication barriers for scientists, elevate the voices of researchers and conservationists from Latin America and the Caribbean, emphasize the critical role of science from across the full annual cycle of birds in developing conservation strategies, and increase awareness surrounding English-language hegemony in peer-reviewed journals.

Granting Scope

The U.S.-NABCI Committee will select up to 4 authors per year to receive professional translation services. Grants will be awarded semi-annually, coinciding with the twice-yearly meetings of the U.S.-NABCI Committee. Successful awardees must wait at least one full grant cycle after receiving an award before being considered eligible for future grants.

Applicant Eligibility

In order to be considered, the lead author of the manuscript to be translated must have an active affiliation with an institution based primarily outside of the United States and/or be a current resident of a country other than the United States.

Manuscript Eligibility

Materials eligible for translation services are restricted to original research intended for publication in an English-language peer-reviewed scientific journal. Preference will be shown to manuscripts intended to be submitted to a journal focused on either ornithology or conservation. Manuscripts can be written in any language but must be in a form ready for scientific publication (i.e., not an entire dissertation/thesis) and formatted to a target journal (e.g., approximately within the page limit, including appropriate sections, etc.). To be considered for eligibility, authors must be able to demonstrate a connection between their research and the conservation of migratory bird species, in line with the 2022-27 U.S.-NABCI Strategic Plan.

Logistics

Funding from the grant will only be applied to a professional translation service; it does not cover the remaining costs of developing the manuscript. U.S.-NABCI will use a reputable professional service for

rendering translation services. Following translation, U.S.-NABCI will make available to the author a panel of volunteers who may be able to further assist in advancing the manuscript to publication (e.g., help translate reviewer comments, responses to reviewers, etc.).

Statement of Confidentiality

U.S.-NABCI will not in any way disseminate, share, distribute, or otherwise make use of the contents of manuscripts provided for translation. U.S.-NABCI respects the intellectual ownership of any submitted research and is committed to maintaining research confidentiality between authors and grant reviewers. U.S.-NABCI will adopt a zero tolerance policy for any breaches of confidentiality.

STORK Grants - Instructions for Applicants

To Apply: Fill out the STORK Grants application form and return via email to bwilkinson@fishwildlife.org. Please put STORK Grants Application in the subject line. Note that applications are not required to be submitted in English to be considered.

Questions or more information: Bradley Wilkinson, bwilkinson@fishwildlife.org

Applicant Information

Name:

Country of residence:

Organizational affiliation:

Are you the lead author of the manuscript to be translated? (Y/N):

Are you a student or early-career scientist (< 5 years post-graduation)? (Y/N):

Manuscript Information

Title of manuscript:

Target journal for publication:

Manuscript abstract:

Conservation Statement

Please provide a short statement (300 - 500 words) summarizing how your research may be useful for promoting the conservation of migratory birds: