



## **Mildred E. Mathias Graduate Student Research Grants**

### *Application Information 2017-18*

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The UC Natural Reserve System welcomes your interest in the Mildred E. Mathias Graduate Student Research Grant program. The program encourages students to establish independent research projects at reserves. Awardees are invited to present their findings at the biennial Mathias Graduate Student Research Symposium. Up to \$38,000 will be awarded this year; individual awards will not exceed \$3,000. An additional \$15,000 is available for the California Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program; maximum awards will not exceed \$3,000.

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### **GRANT ELIGIBILITY**

- Applicants must be enrolled as graduate students (PhD or Masters) at any University of California campus.
- Applicants must use at least one of the 39 reserves or satellite reserves in the Natural Reserve System for a significant part of their field research project.
- There are no restrictions on department or academic discipline.
- Recipients of a Mathias Grant in one or more earlier grant cycle(s) remain eligible for this cycle. Previous Mathias Grant recipients must submit a report describing their progress to date. The progress report will not become part of the application, but failure to submit one will render previous recipients ineligible in this grant cycle.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### **Overview**

All application materials should be uploaded for review via Submittable, <https://nrs.submittable.com/submit>. **The application deadline is September 11, 2017.**

A complete application contains the following items:

1. Application form (generated in Submittable)
2. Project description
3. *Curriculum vitae*
4. Letter from the reserve manager or faculty manager (as appropriate) of each reserve at which you propose to conduct research that authorizes use for your project
5. Letter of recommendation from your supervising faculty advisor indicating his/her support of the proposed research, its merits for funding by the NRS, and the ability of the student to conduct the research and meet established deadlines
6. Copies of appropriate collecting permits and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approvals, where applicable

### **Procedure**

1. Write your project description and curriculum vitae (see formatting requirements below) and email both documents to the reserve manager or faculty manager of each reserve you plan to work in requesting authorization for your proposed research. A list of reserve contacts is included at the end of this document. In the email, indicate that you are applying for a Mathias Graduate Student Research Grant and ask that the manager(s) send their letter(s) of approval directly to you. We encourage you to **reach out to manager(s) as early as possible** so that you receive their written approval well before the **application deadline of September 11, 2017**.
2. Send your project description and curriculum vitae to your faculty advisor. Inform your faculty advisor that once you submit your application, they will receive an email prompt from Submittable to upload a letter of reference. **All letters of reference must be received by September 25, 2017.**
3. Once you have received all letter(s) of approval from the reserve manager(s), initiate your application in Submittable.
4. **Don't forget to "send"** the application once you are finished by clicking on the "Apply" button at the bottom of the application form!

Completed applications will be made available to the evaluation committee on each student's campus. The campus committee decisions are expected in late October.

Applications receiving recommendations from campus committees are forwarded to a

UC-wide committee that determines which applications are funded and in what amounts. The UC-wide committee is expected to make its decisions in early December.

Award decisions will be emailed to applicants by December 20, 2017.

## FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

- All application materials **must** be submitted as Adobe PDF files. There are many ways of creating pdf files, some of which are described at <http://www.wikihow.com/Create-PDF-Files>
- The project description **cannot exceed three pages** in length. This includes all figures, tables, and the list of references. Format on a standard 8.5 inch x 11 inch page with one-inch margins on all sides.
- Your *curriculum vitae* **cannot exceed two pages** in length. Format on a standard 8.5 inch x 11 inch page with one-inch margins on all sides.
- All text must be in Times New Roman font. Body text should be in 12-point type. References, footnotes, and figure captions should be in 10-, 11- or 12-point type.
- Line spacing must be standard single or greater.
- All attached files should be named using the format "Last First Item.pdf", where *Last* is your family name, *First* is your given name, and *Item* is "Description", "CV", "Reserve Approval", or "Permits" (if applicable). For example, Rosa Peterson's application materials would contain four attached files: "Peterson Rosa Description.pdf", "Peterson Rosa CV.pdf", "Peterson Rosa Reserve Approval.pdf", and "Peterson Rosa Permits.pdf"

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

### *Primary Criteria*

#### **Research quality** (10 points)

Evaluation of research quality will be based on the importance of the problem, originality, statement of research questions or hypothesis, sampling design and analysis, preliminary data supporting the feasibility of the proposed research, and likelihood of success within the time frame indicated in the proposal.

#### **Reserve dependence** (5 points)

Research must take place on one or more NRS reserves, or the areas or regions in which the reserve or reserves are located. Adjacent areas may be used more than the reserve or reserves proper if justified in the proposal. Higher scores will be assigned for research that takes advantage of special reserve conditions, such as building on a history of related research, occurrence of unique/ special conditions or resources,

need to protect equipment, etc.

### ***Additional Considerations***

Additional considerations may be applied to differentiate similarly ranked proposals. These include, but are not limited to:

- Stage of student's career. Preference will be given to students early in their career.
- Other funding. Preference will be given to projects lacking other support.
- Relationship to dissertation research. Preference will be given to proposals for research directly related to the student's master's or PhD research.
- Underrepresented disciplines. Preference will be given to disciplines that do not normally take advantage of NRS sites and resources.
- Reserve research priorities. Preference will be given to research that directly addresses an area that has clearly been identified as a research priority for an NRS site.

### **RESERVE CONTACTS**

Reserve contact information can also be found at <http://www.ucnrs.org/by-name.html>

<b>Reserve</b>	<b>Manager</b>	<b>Manager's email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Angelo Coast Range Reserve	Peter Steel	psteel@berkeley.edu	707 984-6653
Año Nuevo Island Reserve	Patrick Robinson	patrick.robinson@ucsc.edu	831 459-4971
Blue Oak Ranch Reserve	Zac Harlow	harlow@berkeley.edu	951 760-8031
Bodega Marine Reserve	Suzanne Olyarnik	svolyarnik@ucdavis.edu	707 875-2020
Box Springs Reserve	Ken Halama	kjhalama@ucr.edu	951 657-3111
Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center	Christopher Tracy	christopher.tracy@ucr.edu	951 827-4767
Burns Piñon Ridge Reserve	Peter Bowler	pabowler@uci.edu	949 701-6114
Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve	Andy Brooks	andy.brooks@ucsb.edu	805 893-7670
Chickering American River Reserve	Jeff Brown	sagehen@berkeley.edu	530 587-4830
Coal Oil Point Natural Reserve	Cristina Sandoval	sandoval@lifesci.ucsb.edu	805 451-2403
Dawson Los Monos Reserve	Isabelle Kay	ikay@ucsd.edu	858 534-2077
Elliott Chaparral Reserve	Isabelle Kay	ikay@ucsd.edu	858 534-2077
Emerson Oaks Reserve	Ken Halama	kjhalama@ucr.edu	951 657-3111
Fort Ord Natural Reserve	Gage Dayton	ghdayton@ucsc.edu	831 459-4971

Hastings Natural History Reservation	Vince Voegeli	vincent@hastingsreserve.org	831 659-2664
James San Jacinto Mountains Reserve	Jennifer Gee	jennifer.gee@jamesreserve.edu	951 827-6835
Jenny Pygmy Forest Reserve	Todd Dawson	tdawson@berkeley.edu	510 642-6090
Jepson Prairie Reserve	Virginia "Shorty" Boucher	vlboucher@ucdavis.edu	530 752-6949
Kendall Frost Mission Bay Marsh Reserve	Isabelle Kay	ikay@ucsd.edu	858 534-2077
Landels Hill Big Creek Reserve	Mark Readdie	readdie@ucsc.edu	831 667-2543
McLaughlin Natural Reserve	Cathy Koehler	koehler@ucdavis.edu	707 995-9005
Merced Vernal Pools & Grassland Reserve	Monique Kolster	mkolster@ucmerced.edu	206 985-1206
Motte Rimrock Reserve	Ken Halama	kjhalama@ucr.edu	951 657-3111
Kenneth S. Norris Rancho Marino Reserve	Don Canestro	canestro@lifesci.ucsb.edu	805 927-6833
Quail Ridge Reserve	Shane Waddell	smwaddell@ucdavis.edu	530 754-7108
Sagehen Creek Field Station	Jeff Brown	sagehen@berkeley.edu	530 587-4830
San Joaquin Marsh Reserve	Peter Bowler	pabowler@uci.edu	949 701-6114
Santa Cruz Island Reserve	Lyndal Laughrin	laughrin@lifesci.ucsb.edu	805 893-7247
Scripps Coastal Reserve	Isabelle Kay	ikay@ucsd.edu	858 534-2077
Sedgwick Reserve	Kate McCurdy	mccurdy@lifesci.ucsb.edu	805 686-1941
SNRS - Yosemite Field Station	Anne Kelly	akelly5@ucmerced.edu	209 375-9917
Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve	Jeffrey Clary	jjclary@ucdavis.edu	530 752-9178
Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center	Jim Dice	dicej@uci.edu	760 522-7757
Stunt Ranch Santa Monica Mountains Reserve	Gary Bucciarelli	garyb@ucla.edu	310 825-5063
Sweeney Granite Mountains Desert Research Center	Jim André	granites@telis.org	760 733-4222
Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory	Carol Blanchette	carol.blanchette@lifesci.ucsb.edu	805 893-5698
Valentine Camp	Carol Blanchette	carol.blanchette@lifesci.ucsb.edu	805 893-5698
White Mountain Research Center	Glen MacDonald	macdonal@geog.ucla.edu	310 825-1071
Younger Lagoon Reserve	Elizabeth Howard	eahoward@ucsc.edu	831 459-2455