

Grant Application

Sammy Riccio



Email : hwi@hawkwatch.org

Application ID : A31RS78

Custom Ref. -

Application Start Date: 2022-05-03 22:08:07

Application Completed Date: 2022-05-11 23:03:26

1 Have you ever applied for an OWF grant before?

yes

1.1 What was the name of the project?

Bonney Butte Raptor Migration and Education Project

2 Have you ever been denied for an OWF grant before?

yes

2.1 What was the name of your project that was denied?

Bonney Butte Raptor Migration Project

3 Project Title

Increasing Access at Bonney Butte HawkWatch

4 Name of my Organization

HawkWatch International

5 If your organization is not a tax-exempt nonprofit, please list the name of your fiscal sponsor

-

If this does not apply to you, write N/A

n/a

6 Project Manager Full Name

Dave Oleyar

7	Project Manager Mailing Address - Please enter full address with city, state & zip
	2240 South 900 East Salt Lake City, UT 84106
8	Project Manager Phone Number
	(801) 484-6808
9	Project Manager Email Address
	doleyar@hawkwatch.org
10	Please provide a brief biographical statement about yourself
	Our ecosystems are in crisis. Since 1986, HawkWatch International (HWI) has been finding solutions by studying raptors with on-the-ground science and creating informed communities by engaging them with the natural world. Our mission is to conserve our environment through education, long-term monitoring, and scientific research on raptors as indicators of ecosystem health. Our team of 16 full-time staff leads over 20 different projects from Alaska to Arizona, and from Argentina to Djibouti. We share this information with state and federal wildlife managers to guide conservation plans and protect sensitive species, and with the private sector to balance development with the need for wildlife conservation. We are also committed to engaging with communities across the country through our education and outreach programs and our numerous community science projects. We believe that raptor conservation requires scientific engagement from and with the community at large. HWI's programs also help build and shape scientists through education, outreach, internships, volunteer programs, and seasonal employment opportunities for young professionals.
11	Provide any social media handles you use - Enter social handles or URLs such as instagram, facebook, twitter, youtube, etc. so that we can use to cross promote on our channels - if you do not have any, please place N/A
	Instagram: @hawkwatch Facebook: @hawkwatch Twitter: @hawkwatchint YouTube: HawkWatch International LinkedIn: HawkWatch International
12	Please indicate if you are currently following Oregon Wildlife Foundation on our social media channels
	- Instagram - Twitter - YouTube
13	Total estimated project cost
	120215.16
14	Funding that you are requesting from OWF - If your request is for more than \$5,000, please contact Tim Greseth - tim@myowf.org before submitting your application.
	5000

15	What type of project are your proposing?
	Wildlife
16	Will your project address an Oregon Conservation Strategy habitat or species?
	yes
16.1	What habitat or species is addressed?
	raptors (Northern Goshawk, Peregrine Falcon, Swainson's Hawk)
17	Start date of project- Day/Month/Year
	27-08-2022
18	End date of project
	31-10-2022
19	Location of project
	45°15'47.0"N 121°35'31.0"W
20	Has a local, state or federal biologist reviewed this project?
	yes
20.1	What is their name and contact info?
	Katie Santini kathrine.santini@usda.gov
21	Have you already or will you obtain necessary permits from all requisite agencies as applicable to proposed project?
	yes
22	What will the requested funds be used for?

Funding from the foundation will be used to accomplish two main goals—to improve the visitor experience and invest in the next generation of biologists. Funding will be used to purchase a tablet and pay for data upload fees so we can gather accurate information on who visits the site. By moving away from a pen and paper system, we will be able to continue the education beyond the HawkWatch by providing a free, email raptor ID course and sharing our findings at the end of the season. We also plan to improve the visitor experience by replacing and creating new informative signage. We will be replacing our daily count board and adding 2 directional signs to help visitors find our site more easily. To support our second goal, funding from the Oregon Wildlife Foundation will cover the costs of two packs of gear, consisting of a tent, a sleeping pad, and a pack. Funding will also go towards a few other incentives to improve access for the crew such as a stipend to help them go to and from the site, HWI apparel, and a personal raptor identification guide. Lastly, we will also invest in the tools our crew uses while on site. We will use funding to cover the remaining costs for replacing our banding blind so that crew can more efficiently carry out the trapping and banding of raptors. It will also hope to use funds to purchase additional lighting to improve the crew's quality of life in the evenings.

For the past 27 falls, HawkWatch International (HWI) has attempted to count every migrating raptor soaring past Mt. Hood at the Bonney Butte HawkWatch. Our goal is to collect long-term data that allows us to monitor the population health and trends of western diurnal raptors so that we can accurately determine their conservation needs. Raptors are known to be sensitive to a variety of human disturbances and comprise excellent biological indicators of ecosystem health. Because of this, long-term monitoring of the status and trends of raptor populations can provide early warnings of impending ecosystem declines, as well as evidence of conservation successes. HWI is currently the only organization in the state conducting these standardized population monitoring efforts on raptors migrating along the Pacific Coast Flyway. This work is essential to protecting the Oregon wilderness as we share this data with state and federal agencies to help guide conservation efforts and evaluate habitat improvement projects in the area based on migrant health. In conjunction with our monitoring efforts, we encourage visitation to our site by offering education programs. This unique outreach experience allows visitors to see science up close, learn the need behind our work, and get to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience of releasing a bird of prey. We believe that through education we can inspire a passion for conservation and empower people to take action in their communities. We provide programs on local flora and fauna, raptor migration ecology, the purpose of our research, and raptor identification. This year we are focussing on increasing access to our Bonney Butte site. We aim to do this by improving the visitation experience and removing the barrier for entry for potential Migration Crew Members. We plan to do this by updating our signage on site, integrating more technology to improve educational stewardship, and replace our deteriorating banding blind. Additionally, we will provide costly gear for crew and travel stipends, and show appreciation through upgraded camp supplies and HWI swag.

24 Upload pre-project pictures or a video -

By submitting these photos or video I warrant that I am the legal owner of this media and grant the Foundation permission to reproduce, exhibit, or publish them for all general purposes in relation to Oregon Wildlife Foundation's work. If you have questions about photo or video submissions please refer to myowf.org/grants for guidance.




https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZxpFNfkOVlw&ab_channel=HawkWatchInternational

Project Revenue	Cash	In-Kind	Committed / Pending
Oregon Wildlife Foundation Request	5000		Pending
Oregon Birding Association	1000		Committed
Private donor to supply banding blind wood		1200	Committed
Volunteer Time of Crew		66176	Committed
USFS		1980	Committed
Kinsman Foundation	5000		Committed
Jennifer P. Speers Family Trust	17000		Committed
HWI Unrestricted Individual Donors	22859.16		Committed
REVENUE	50859.16	69356.00	
		TOTAL PROJECT SUPPORT	0.00
Project Expenses	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Volunteer Field Crew Stipends	15075		15075.00
Permantent Staff Salaries (Long-term Monitoring Director (5%), Research Biologist (10%), Development & Communications Director (5%))	12909		12909.00
In-Kind Volunteer Time (2,212 hours)		66176	66176.00
Tablet and data fees to better and more quickly track visitation	350		350.00
New signage, including a new board to track the migration count and new directional signage	1200		1200.00
Counting and banding supplies	500		500.00
Two sets of personal living equipment for crew	1160		1160.00
Copy of In-Hand Guide to Diurnal Raptors for each crew member	110		110.00
Materials to rebuild banding blind	1828		1828.00
Other miscellaneous supplies (State Banding Permit, \$120, Goal Zero lights (2), \$100)	220		220.00
Transportation costs, including mileage for permanent staff traveling to the site for setup and training, a field crew access stipend to offset crew travel to the site)	1865		1865.00
Meals, including per diem for permanent staff during setup and training, as well as a volunteer appreciation meal for the crew	635		635.00
Lodging	720		720.00
Administrative Overhead	17467.16		17467.16
		TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES	0.00
Balanced budget? This cell should read "0" ---->		NET	0.00

26 Upload your Project Narrative -
Please make sure your narrative is no more than 7 pages long, single spaced, 12 pt. font (Calibri preferred).

1 Document Uploaded

27 Upload letters of support

1 Document Uploaded

28 I understand that I am required to submit a Project Completion Report, copies of any publications or social media posts crediting the Foundation's support, and post-project pictures at the completion of my project

yes

Powered by **Submit.com**

— Grant Application

Sammy Riccio

Application ID: **A31RS78**

Increasing Access at Bonney Butte HawkWatch

HawkWatch International



Pictured are the 2021 Volunteer Migration Crew Members—from left to right Crew Lead Cassidy Ruge, Karl Garrett, Isaac Grosner, Nora Holmes, and Veronica Pedraza.

Organization Mission

The mission of HawkWatch International is to conserve our environment through education, long-term monitoring, and scientific research on raptors as indicators of ecosystem health.

Link to Bonney Butte Site: <https://hawkwatch.org/bonney>

Staff Leads

Nikki Wayment - Executive Director

nwayment@hawkwatch.org

Dave Oleyar, P.h.D. - Director of Long-term Monitoring and Community Science

doleyar@hawkwatch.org

Jesse Watson, M.S. - Research Biologist and Banding Coordinator

jwatson@hawkwatch.org

Project Description

For the past 27 years, HawkWatch International has counted every migrating raptor soaring past Mt. Hood at the Bonney Butte HawkWatch. The goal is to collect standardized, long-term data that allows us to track the population health and trends of western raptors so that we can better understand their conservation needs. We continue to be the only entity in the state that

monitors raptor migration and collects population data to work with federal and state wildlife officials on conservation plans for sensitive species.

The value of long-term migration monitoring of raptors lies in their status as wide-ranging, top-level predators inhabiting most major habitats and ecoregions on the continent. Raptors are known to be sensitive to a variety of human disturbances and comprise excellent biological indicators of ecosystem health. Because of this, long-term monitoring of the status and trends of raptor populations can provide early warnings of impending ecosystem declines, as well as evidence of conservation successes. With the data gathered through our network and our Bonney Butte site, we can better guide conservation efforts for raptors and our shared environment to assure continued enjoyment of outdoor recreation and birding.

Public education is another important component of this project. Each year, the site typically welcomes a couple of hundred visitors. At HawkWatch International, we believe that allowing visitors to observe, and take part in our research, is essential to our conservation efforts. The unique outreach experience allows visitors to see science up close, learn the need behind our work, and get to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience of releasing a bird of prey. We believe that seeing raptors firsthand is one of the best ways to inspire environmental stewardship.

Visitors who come to Bonney Butte can expect to learn about raptor migration ecology, the importance of Bonney Butte and why it was selected as a HawkWatch, what information we can gather from counting and banding birds, what the health of raptors can tell us about the local ecosystem, raptor biology, and lastly, how to ID birds while in flight. We also offer tips for visitors to take home with them such as the importance of pack in pack out, fire safety, invasive species, and other more general conservation issues that affect raptors.

Project Goals Summarized

- Improve visitors' education experience by updating signage, sending out follow up surveys, and providing educational resources after their visit.
- Increase diversity of our migration crew members by investing in the next generation of raptor biologists.

The Need

The Bonney Butte HawkWatch is multifaceted in its goals. Through this project, we are able to perform scientific research, foster the growth of young biologists, educate the public on raptors, and as a result, lead to the conservation of the environment we share with these incredible birds. This year, we intend to focus on improving access to our Bonney Butte site for both visitors and crew members.

Enhancing the Visitor Experience

With education serving as a major pillar for our goals at Bonney Butte, it is of the utmost importance to us that we continue to improve the visitor experience. This year, we are investing in tablets for our Bonney Butte site so that we can better track who is visiting our sites and follow up with them after their visit. Previously, we relied on pen and paper, meaning that we

had to wait until someone could transcribe months-old handwriting from dirty, tattered pages to follow up with our visitors. With our new digital sign-in system, we'll be able to follow up with additional educational materials, such as our free raptor ID app or opportunities to continue learning directly from our scientists through live webinars. This will also provide the means to share our results at the end of the season, thus increasing access to scientific data. Finally, collecting better visitor data will allow us to better evaluate the visitor experience. By following up immediately after a visit, we're more likely to receive accurate and meaningful feedback that can help us continue to improve the visitor experience.

Another component of the visitor experience that is in dire need of attention is our signage. Like most of our sites, Bonney Butte HawkWatch is located in a fairly remote area. This makes good signage a must if visitors are to find the site, but after years of wear and tear, all of our signs need replacement. With funds from OWF, we'll be able to replace our count board that provides a snapshot of our scientific research to the public, as well as our existing directional sign. We are also hoping to secure funds for one additional directional sign, as we have found that visitors can sometimes get lost along the way. We also intend to use one of the directional signs to encourage the new visitation process.

Investing in the Next Generation of Biologists

In conservation science, field experience is paramount for career advancement. HWI provides a valuable opportunity when it comes to raptor research through our trapping and banding research at migration sites like the Bonney Butte HawkWatch. This year we need to replace our banding blind to continue offering the same kind of high-quality experience to our crews and to continue conducting this research. After many seasons of use, HWI's banding blind is in desperate need of replacement. A banding blind allows our migration crew members to remain undetected when luring a bird into the trapping arena. This restoration of our blind is needed in order for our crew members to continue to successfully trap and band migrating raptors for our research, but also to provide up-close experiences with raptors for our education programs.

Unfortunately, this field experience often requires that young scientists take low-paying or unpaid roles to gain experience. This creates a barrier to entry as many folks cannot afford to go months without receiving a paycheck. HWI is proud to provide each crew member with a daily stipend, but we are looking to grow what we offer in a way that is still sustainable for the organization. With funding from the Oregon Wildlife Foundation, we will be able to provide packs of costly gear such as tents, sleeping pads, and binoculars to two of our crew members. Our hope is that by offering equipment—and advertising its availability in our position description—we will increase the diversity of our applicants and the resulting crew.

Project Impact

Hundreds of people visit Bonney Butte HawkWatch each year, where they directly benefit from the opportunity to see wild raptors migrating up close, and to learn more about raptor migration, ecology, and conservation. This year, through our site updates we hope to make visitors' time at the site even more valuable and continue the conversation after they return home. We also hope that by better engaging members of the community, we will find local

champions who are interested in helping us grow awareness of, visitation to, and financial support for this long-term research site.

Members of the scientific community, federal and state government agencies, conservation agencies, and the general public also benefit from the project as the data that we collect is made publicly available via two separate databases—HawkCount.org and the Raptor Population Index. This data is used to identify conservation priorities and to develop State Wildlife Action Plans, thus directly impacting conservation efforts.

Our crew members benefit greatly from their time at the Bonney Butte HawkWatch, gaining valuable field experience that makes them more appealing candidates for future positions in nonprofits or government agencies, or as they apply to graduate school. Through this project, they learn to band and trap birds, identify raptors in flight, and gain confidence in public speaking and educating large audiences. By providing gear to crew members, we hope to make this opportunity available to candidates who might not have previously considered it due to financial constraint.

Finally, the surrounding community in Government Camp, Oregon (population ~200) benefits from the tourist dollars brought into this rural area by individuals who are visiting Bonney Butte HawkWatch.

Grant Recognition

HawkWatch International will recognize support from the Oregon Wildlife Foundation by listing the foundation in any printed material for our migration network and social media posts about the Bonney Butte site. Additionally, for any press releases highlighting the work at the Bonney Butte HawkWatch we will list site funders. Lastly, the foundation will be listed online under our supporter's page (<https://hawkwatch.org/about/supporters>) and as a partner on our Bonney Butte page.

Finally, we'd love to invite members of the Oregon Wildlife Foundation out to the migration site to hawk watch with our field crew and see the impact of this grant for themselves.



Bonney Butte



Raptor Migration Site

Counting & Banding Totals

Last Updated: 9/16/21	Yesterday		To Date		Historic Average	
Species	Observed	Banded	Observed	Banded	Observed	Banded
ACCIPITERS						
Cooper's Hawk	4	1	58	13	345	60
Northern Goshawk			2		27	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	19		101	24	4122	
Unidentified Accipiter			13		77	n/a
BUTEOS						
Broad-winged Hawk	1		5	1	16	<1
Essuginous Hawk					<1	0
Red-shouldered Hawk	1		1		1	<1
Red-tailed Hawk	22	1	199	20	554	97
Rough-legged Hawk					11	<1
Swainson's Hawk			2		<1	0
Unidentified Hawk			2	0	25	n/a
FALCONS						
American Kestrel	1		9	0	18	<1
Merlin			2		75	6
Peregrine Falcon			4	0	9	<1
Prairie Falcon					5	2
Unidentified Falcon			4		4	n/a
EAGLES						
Bald Eagle	2		14	0	53	<1
Golden Eagle	1		9	0	81	2
Unidentified Eagle					3	n/a
OTHERS						
Norther Harrier			5		27	2
Turkey Vulture	37		146	0	364	0
Osprey			54	0	68	0
Unidentified Raptor			5	n/a	19	n/a
TOTAL	88	2	636	58	2897	307

The mission of Hawk Watch International is to conserve our environment through education, long-term monitoring, and scientific research on raptors as indicators of ecosystem health.





