

# JEFF MAURER CHAUTAUQUA RESEARCH GRANT

## 2016 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua's mission is to enhance appreciation and understanding of the Mono Basin's diverse and abundant bird life and to educate the public about this area's value to birds and people.

The Mono Basin is one of the most intensively studied natural areas in California. Deep personal concern for the plight of birds sparked a legal struggle that resulted in the California Supreme Court's 1983 Public Trust decision. The decision reaffirmed the state's duty to balance the public trust with water allocations and thereby protect the people's common heritage resources. Guided by this new direction, the State Water Resources Control Board modified the water diversion licenses of the City of Los Angeles in 1994. The decision is still in effect today, and science played a critical role in shaping the outcome.

To further the legacy of ecological research in this region, the Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua's organizing partners will award this grant to a qualifying applicant.

This grant is named in honor of Jeff Maurer, biologist, birder, educator, gardener, musician, ultimate frisbee athlete, and friend to many. Jeff's focus, spirited curiosity, and concern for biological resources were exemplary. He was able to achieve much with limited funding.

**GRANT AMOUNT:** \$500-2500 depending on project needs and competing applicants.

**ELIGIBILITY:** *Individuals* and *organizations* planning or currently conducting biological/ecological or related research in the Mono Basin and Eastern Sierra. Projects are prioritized based on relevance and connection to the Mono Basin, Yosemite, and Eastern Sierra regions. Applicants may apply for the Grant in consecutive years; however, the project must be distinctly different in each year and must demonstrate compelling reasoning for continued funding.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Fill out or follow category headings in Grant Application, attach appropriate documentation, and email to: [bartshe@monolake.org](mailto:bartshe@monolake.org) or U.S. Mail: Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua Grant Selection Committee, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541.

**PROJECT TIME PERIOD:** The 2016 grant award can go toward research planned for May 2016–April 2017.

**GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE:** The grant selection committee must receive applications by 5 p.m. **April 29, 2016.**

**GRANT SELECTION PROCESS:** Each member of the grant selection committee reviews and confidentially scores each application category. Scores are compiled, and the application that receives the highest score is awarded. Individual members of the selection committee will abstain from scoring applications if the organization they represent has submitted a proposal. Applications are scored higher if the research shows a clear connection to the Mono Basin-Yosemite region.

**ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION:** The grant selection committee will contact the chosen applicant by **May 6, 2016** via email and written notification. We will also announce the recipient publicly in the Chautauqua program and at the 2016 Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua picnic, Sunday, June 19.

**JEFF MAURER CHAUTAUQUA  
RESEARCH GRANT  
APPLICATION**

**PROJECT TITLE:**

*APPLICANT (please include name, organizational affiliation, and contact information for person responsible for the project):*

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

*PROJECT SUMMARY (please generally describe your project in 500 words or less):*

*PROGRAM BUDGET (please outline your project budget and indicate how grant funds will be used):*

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

- 1. Local Partnerships** *(please describe in 350 words or less how this project interacts with ongoing research, land management, conservation and/or education efforts in the Mono Basin, Eastern Sierra, and/or Yosemite Region):*
- 2. Conservation Value** *(please describe in 350 words or less how this project is applicable to the conservation of the Mono Basin and/or Yosemite ecosystems):*
- 3. Education** *(please describe in 350 words or less any educational component of the research project):*
- 4. Chautauqua** *(please indicate whether you or a researcher involved in the study would be willing to share findings or ongoing work at a future Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua held the third weekend in June?):*

**PLEASE ATTACH CV OF APPLICANT AND ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTION / MISSION STATEMENT** *(if applicable).*