

2007 Call for Projects Application for Funding

All applicants must complete this form (available from our website -- www.clayoquotbiosphere.org). Please attach any letters of support specific to your application. Any additional information should not exceed 2-3 pages. Applications must be received by our office by 4pm on or before October 4, 2007. Applicants may be invited to meet with the committee to present their application. Approval of funding will be announced on December 15, 2007.

1. Lead Organization

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact person: _____ Job Title: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

2. Project Details

Project Title: _____

Requested Amount: _____ Total Project Budget: _____

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Is this a new or an existing project? _____ When are the funds required? _____

3. Project Partners (please use additional pages as required)

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact person: _____ Job Title: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact person: _____ Job Title: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____



The Clayoquot Biosphere Trust supports research, education, and training initiatives for conservation, sustainable economic development and community health in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Region.



Clayoquot
Sound
Biosphere
Reserve

Introduction to your organization:

Description, goals and objectives of the project, as well as a timeline for completion:

How does this project help to achieve the goals of the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, as stated on the CBT's website (www.clayoquotbiosphere.org/organization/goals.php)?



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Proposal to the Terrestrial Committee of the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust

WildCoast Project Carnivore Diet Project:

Request for Funding from CBT:	\$4000.00
Funding from PRNPR:	\$10,000.00
Project Lab Equipment already purchased by PRNPR:	\$3000.00
Dissecting Scope loan from CBT:	\$2000.00

This proposal has links to CBT mandate objectives for research, education and training.

The WildCoast Project is a research initiative that is try to understand the increase of carnivore-human interactions by studying predators, prey and people. A key part of the predator research is to understand the diets of wolves and cougar. This includes what these predators are hunting at different times of the year, in different areas and in different habitats. To address this knowledge gap the project has developed and employed a technique to search systematically for carnivore scats within the study area. This work has been quite successful in that over 300 carnivore scats have been collected.

An initial set of 100 scats has been analyzed for diet to date. A technician in Victoria did this work. This person developed his diet analysis skills as part of the Central West Coast Wolf Study Project. Over the course of several years, this person analyzed hundreds of scats. That wolf study has now concluded and the technician has moved to Malaysia to work on tiger conservation.

An extensive search was made for someone else who could carry on the carnivore diet aspect of the project. A request was sent out through the network of wildlife specialists in Western Canada, as well as through the BC Provincial Wildlife Veterinarian and the Parks Canada Veterinarian. Leads were provided and pursued. One expert was contacted at University of Montana and another at University of Washington State. The professor in Montana had just retired and the lab in Washington State specializes in herbivores.

The decision was taken to develop the capacity to analyze carnivore scats locally. Scat analysis provides a great deal of data and insight into the ecology of carnivores. The collecting and analysis of carnivore scat will be a key part of a long-term predator-prey monitoring program for this region.

As part of the first scat analysis contract (100 samples), a comprehensive training manual was produced and a reference collection of the hair samples from all potential prey species was assembled. The park has purchased the equipment required for the lab analysis. The Clayoquot Biosphere Trust has provided a dissecting scope.

This proposal is to request consideration of jointly investing in developing the capacity to conduct this sort of analysis locally. The equipment required now resides locally.

There is a local person who possesses a unique set of skills that would allow him to fulfil the specific needs of this contract. He has extensive knowledge of and experience with the technique for systematically searching for, collecting, processing and documenting scats. He has worked on the WildCoast Project both as a volunteer and as a field technician for several years.

He also conducted an Honours research project at the University of Victoria that involved the preparation and analysis of isotope samples under the direction of a recognized pioneer of this technique, Dr. Tom Riemchen. Isotope analysis is one component of the carnivore scat analysis work that will allow the investigation of the proportion of marine prey (river otter, seal, sea lion, salmon, etc.) in the diet of local carnivores.

This person has observed first hand the other scat processing and analysis techniques involved, at the lab where the work on the first 100 samples was conducted at the University of Victoria.

The current contract will focus on:

- Collection, processing and documenting of carnivore scats

- Complete diet analysis of carnivore scats
- Processing of wolf and cougar hair samples for isotope analysis
- Train and work with volunteers
- Further develop the training materials
- Produce a report and a powerpoint on the predator-prey transect / scat collection program that summarizes and analyzes results
- Produce a report and a powerpoint on the analysis of carnivore scats that summarizes and analyzes the results
- Provide educational talks and demonstrations locally on the techniques involved in and the results of carnivore scat analysis (a first talk is scheduled in conjunction with the RIC Young Naturalist Program at the Tofino Botanical Gardens)

This request is that the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust would fund an amount of \$4000.00. PRNPR would fund \$10,000.00 of the project.

Thanks you for considering this proposal.

Bob Hansen