

Team:

Project 2. Research Proposal Draft Feedback

KEY: 5 = exceptional, 4 = very good, 3 = good, 2 = fair, 1 = poor

HOW EFFECTIVELY DOES THE...

title (2%)...

- convey the specific goals of the study (along with name, affiliation, working group).....

introduction section (16%)...

- begin by describing the significance of the broad biological principle that is addressed.....
- introduce the focal species and its specific conservation problems.....
- make adequate reference to the primary literature.....
- use previous work to provide the necessary background information for your question
- lay out the logical justification for carrying out the proposed research.....

objective and predictions section (5%)...

- state the biological objective(s) or question(s) addressed by the research
- state the specific prediction(s) of the experiment to be performed.....
- provide a brief rationale and explanation for the objective(s) and prediction(s).....

experimental methods section (22%)...

- provide clear and sufficient detail about the ...
 - location and relevance of conditions for the experiment to be performed
 - experimental subjects.....
 - necessary treatments and controls.....
 - measurements to be collected from subjects for comparisons.....
- explain convincingly why each treatment and control should be included
- explain how bias would be controlled adequately in the experimental design.....
- explain how the experiment would achieve adequate replication

possible results section (15%)...

- describe each result expected if the prediction were either upheld or not upheld
- provide effective graphs of results that match the different interpretations

significance section (5%)...

- describe the importance of this research for answering a question about the species
- describe the significance of the research to a broader area of biology

writing overall (15%)...

- develop the ideas, motivations, and justifications adequately, clearly, and concisely
- use correct grammar and spelling
- use effective sentence, paragraph, and section structure
- use proper citation format in the text
- use proper format for the literature cited section

proposal make the case that the research is (20%)...

- significant – will lead to novel information that is important for conservation.....
- definitive – designed to clearly and directly address a critical prediction.....
- feasible – can be completed ethically and in a realistic timeframe and budget.....

OVERALL SCORE : /100

(/100 with late penalty)

NOTES FROM THE BPA PROGRAM OFFICER: