

# The Dave Ankney & Sandi Johnson

## WATERFOWL AND WETLANDS GRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

The Dave Ankney & Sandi Johnson Graduate Research Scholarship was established in 2013. Two scholarships are awarded biannually to graduate students working on waterfowl/wetland issues in North America, one to a MSc candidate and one to a PhD candidate.

The Delta Waterfowl Foundation administers the scholarship and an ad hoc committee, comprised of representatives from Canadian and American government and non-government organizations, selects the recipients.

Applications are due on March 1, and complete Terms of Reference for the award, and information about the application process is attached. The amount of each award is \$2,000 (Canadian Dollars).

The first scholarships were awarded in 2014. To read about previous award recipients and their research please visit: [www.deltawaterfowl.org/ankneyaward](http://www.deltawaterfowl.org/ankneyaward)

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**For more information, or to make a tax deductible (receipt provided) donation, please contact:**



**Dr. Chris Nicolai, Waterfowl Scientist**

Delta Waterfowl Foundation  
1412 Basin Ave  
Bismarck ND 58503  
[cnicolai@DeltaWaterfowl.org](mailto:cnicolai@DeltaWaterfowl.org)



**Mr. Pat Kehoe, Director of International Partnerships**

Ducks Unlimited Canada  
Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre  
1 Snow Goose Bay on Hwy 220  
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# The Dave Ankney & Sandi Johnson Waterfowl and Wetlands Graduate Research Scholarship

The award is named “The Dave Ankney & Sandi Johnson Waterfowl and Wetlands Graduate Research Scholarship”, but may be abbreviated to the “Ankney Award”. This award honors the memory of Dave and his incredible contributions to waterfowl and wetland research as well as the unending support of his wife Sandi.

**Eligibility:** The scholarship will be awarded to students studying any aspect of wildlife ecology or management in North America, with special emphasis on projects focused on wetlands, waterfowl or other game birds. The Award may be used for any research expense other than to pay a stipend for the recipient.

**Frequency and Amount:** Two awards of \$2,000 (Canadian Dollars - adjusted over time for inflation) will be made every other year, to be paid directly to the academic supervisors of the successful recipients. The amounts awarded biannually will depend on the interest accrued on the endowment and annual contributions. One award will be presented biannually to a PhD Candidate and one to a MSc Candidate.

**Application:** Applicants must submit a resume, two letters of reference from persons qualified to assess the candidate, and a research proposal (Maximum 5 pages) which should include purpose and importance of the study, methods, and a budget outlining total costs and other sources of funding received or applied for. All of these files should be combined as ONE PDF and e-mailed to Chris Nicolai: [cnicolai@deltawaterfowl.org](mailto:cnicolai@deltawaterfowl.org). Deadline for receipt of applications is 1 March, award decisions will be made by 1 April and checks will be mailed by 1 May.

**Selection:** The Delta Waterfowl Foundation will administer the scholarship, within an endowment, and an ad hoc committee, comprised of representatives from Canadian and American government and non-government organizations, will select the recipients. Members of the Selection Committee will score each applicant/project based on the background of the candidate, the merit and importance of the project and the probability of successful completion.

## Requirements of Successful Applicants:

- 1) Submit to the award committee a progress report (maximum 2 pages), including a statement of expenditures (1 April until 30 March the following year) from the award within 1 year of receiving the award.
- 2) Write a brief popular account of their research (including 1-3 good photos of the applicant and their research) for publication in newsletters of the sponsoring bodies within 2 months of receiving the award.
- 3) Acknowledge support from the Dave Ankney & Sandi Johnson Waterfowl and Wetlands Graduate Research Scholarship in all scientific presentations and publications.

## Specific duties of the Research Award Committee:

- Once the Committee (maximum of 10 members) has been established a chairperson will be appointed.
- When the Chair retires (maximum appointment period of 5 years), a new Chair will be selected from the committee and the former chair can either remain on the committee or be replaced.
- At least two months prior to the application deadline, a call for applications will be made through the Afton Listserve and all other forms of electronic media that are deemed appropriate.
- The Chair sends copies of all proposals to committee members and asks for ranking by 1 April. If rankings conflict, the Chair will arrange a conference call for discussion by the whole committee. Final decisions to be made and announced by 1 May. Award recipients will be informed directly by the Chair and then announced through aforementioned electronic media and at the discretion of each Committee member.
- Prior to the award announcement, the Committee will assess endowment assets, along with performance and annual contributions and then decided how much will be awarded that year – up to \$2,000 per award.
- The Chair will send Ankney Award Agreements to successful candidates and will then approve/issue checks once the signed agreements are returned.

**Future Contributions:** To ensure that these awards are available in perpetuity, it is of paramount importance that additional contributions are received. Donations towards the scholarship are tax deductible and can be sent to Chris Nicolai at Delta Waterfowl, 1412 Basin Ave, Bismarck ND 58503 or [cnicolai@deltawaterfowl.org](mailto:cnicolai@deltawaterfowl.org).

Information about the award, the application process and previous award recipients can be found here: [www.deltawaterfowl.org/AnkneyAward](http://www.deltawaterfowl.org/AnkneyAward)

For more information, please contact: Chris Nicolai (Chair), [cnicolai@deltawaterfowl.org](mailto:cnicolai@deltawaterfowl.org)

# Agreement Between the Delta Waterfowl Foundation and Recipients of the Ankney Award

The Delta Waterfowl Foundation is a registered charity. As such, Delta must meet certain legal requirements in disbursing grants. To fulfill these requirements, we request that you sign and date both copies of the following agreement and return one copy to the address below. We can then issue your funds. Retain the second copy for reference.

Chairperson, Ankney Award Committee

Chris Nicolai, Delta Waterfowl Foundation,

1. The Ankney Award shall be used only for the purposes outlined in the Awardee's original application. Changes in use of the funds can be made only with approval of the Ankney Award Committee.
2. Any funds not used for the purposes outlined in your original application, or not used within the agreed time frame, shall be returned to the Chair of the Ankney Award Committee by check or money order, payable to Delta Waterfowl.
3. Within 1 year of receiving the award, the awardee shall submit an accounting to the Chairperson of the Research Awards Committee of how Ankney Award funds were used. The Ankney Award funds shall be accounted for separately from other funds used in the project so that their use may be identified as an Ankney Award charitable activity.
4. A brief (max. 2 pages) progress report on the project shall be sent to the Chair of the Committee by April 1 of the year following receipt of the award (or sooner).
5. Any publications (including thesis/dissertation) and presentations resulting from the project supported by an Ankney Award, whether scientific or popular, shall acknowledge the award by name as a source of support.

Name of Committee Chair (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Chair's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Awardee (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Awardee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Committee Members in Alphabetical Order:

Ray Alisuskas, CWS  
Shannon Badzinski, CWS  
John Devney, DWF  
Pat Kehoe, DUC  
Jim Leafloor, CWS  
Todd Merendino, DU, Inc  
Chris Nicolai, DWF - Chair  
Mike Schummer, SUNY