

Request for Proposal

Funding Period:
March 31 – April 1, 2023

Contact information:

The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust
P.O. Box 351946
Westminster, CO 80035
Diane Tomecek, President

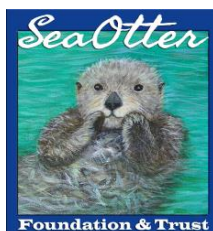
www.SeaOtterFoundationTrust.org
grants@SeaOtterFoundationTrust.org

303-475-1805

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In an effort to be environmentally conscious, applications ***must be*** submitted electronically as a PDF to the following e-mail address:
grants@SeaOtterFoundationTrust.org.

Please contact us with any questions, concerns or a desire to submit



*Our mission: Ensuring the survival and recovery of sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*) in their habitats by building funds to support research, conservation and education.*

Hello everyone!

Welcome to a Special Funding RFP for The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust (SOFT). We are excited and exceptionally honored to have you considering an application to our organization.

Here are some specifics for this special grant opportunity:

- Eligible Priority Area: Sea Otter Research
- Eligible awards: Salaries/Wages for field biology work (no salaries/wages for laboratory work or contractors) and others as described herein (Part IV)
- Please refer to our Indirect Cost Policy on our website: www.seaotterfoundationtrust.org/who-we-fund/
- Eligible Applicants: see details herein (Part IV)
- The application is best filled out in Word as the text boxes can be resized to suit your need(s). Save as a PDF for electronic submittal. **All** applications must be submitted electronically to grants@seaotterfoundationtrust.org.
Please note some important dates: the deadline for applications: March 31, 11:59 p.m. MDT; notification of awardees: Begins May 10.
- The **maximum of \$20,000**. However, please be conscientious with your request; do not automatically apply for the maximum. Be purposeful with your budgets.
- We encourage partnerships and collaboration, therefore we expect applicants to utilize financial resources wisely and not duplicate efforts (refer to Part V, D).
- SOFT requires a 6-month update report and a final 12-month final report (refer to Part VIII, Certification & Acceptance for additional details and other specific requirements). Requirements & forms are provided with funding award.

The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust (SOFT) **does not fund** corporations (without an associated nonprofit 501(c)(3)), individuals (without the backing of a higher education institution), general operating costs (see our indirect vs. direct cost policy), fundraising, marketing initiatives or website design or general website maintenance costs.

We wish you the best of luck and look forward to reviewing your applications! Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Diane Tomecek
President & CEO

Important Dates:

Application
Deadline:

March 31
11:59 p.m. MDT

Grantees
selected
& Notified:
Begins
May 10

Checks issued:
May 15

Follow-up
Reporting
Requirements

6-month
update report:
Sept. 30

12-month
final report:
March 2023

Sea Otter Foundation & Trust Grant Application Form

PART I: CONTACT INFORMATION

Legal Name of Organization or Higher Education Institution seeking funding:

Seattle Aquarium Society

DBA (if applicable):

Seattle Aquarium

Mailing Address (and Physical Address if it is different and not confidential):

1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59,
Seattle WA 98101

Phone:

(206) 386-4300

Fax:

FEIN/EIN

91-1189249

Website:

www.seattleaquarium.org

Email Address:

info@seattleaquarium.org

**Name of CEO, University Advising Professor,
Exec Dir:**

Robert W. Davidson

Phone:

(206) 693-6161

Email:

B.Davidson@seattleaquarium.org

Applicant Contact Name (if different from above):

Title:

Zachary Randell, Research Scientist

Course of Study (if applicable):

Phone:

(408) 660-7842

Email:

z.randell@seattleaquarium.org

PART II: ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Nonprofit Organization/Higher Education Institution Information

Year Founded: 1977

Mission Statement:

Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment

Vision Statement (if available):

The Seattle Aquarium aspires, through its example, to help define the role of a great aquarium in the 21st century as a catalyst for public engagement in the wonder, science and future vitality of the oceans and Puget Sound. We intend to be a leader in each component: life sciences, interpretive exhibits, educational outreach, research, conservation, public policy and economic impact.

PART III: TAX EXEMPTION/ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Tax Exemption Status:

- ☒ 501(c)(3) – **attach IRS certificate to application (nonprofit organizations)**
- ☐ Are you a past applicant or award recipient? Do we have your IRS certificate? If yes, then there is no need to reattach; simply check this box

- ☐ Name of Fiscal Agent/Sponsor/Government Entity/University or College:

Not applicable

- ☐ If you are not a nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] or Higher Education Applicant, please describe your current status or purpose in requesting funding from SOFT:

Not applicable

PART IV: GRANT REQUEST INFORMATION

Maximum grant: \$20,000

(Be **conscientious** with your request - **do not automatically apply for the maximum**)

- Eligible Priority Area: Sea Otter Research only
- Study must be completed within 12-months Eligible Priority Area: Sea Otter Research only or have a substantial interim output deliverable (for multi-year studies)
- Eligible Applicants:
 - PhDs (award received 06/30/2020 – Present)
 - PhD Candidates*
 - Master's degree students*

*Academic Institution or Sponsoring Nonprofit Organization must accommodate the applicant's salary/wage request

- Eligible Awards: *
 - Salaries/Wages for Field Biology Work **only** (no salaries/wages for laboratory work, contractors or generalized sea otter survey work)
 - Travel expenses to/from study area (not to exceed 2% of project budget)
 - Equipment, vessels and/or supplies for corresponding field biology work
 - For additional information and a comprehensive list of acceptable funding areas, i.e. what is fundable and what is not, please review & download our Indirect Cost Policy (**modified 2022**): www.seaotterfoundationtrust.org/who-we-fund/

Type of Grant Requested (select one):

Amount of Request:

\$20,000.00

☒ Program or Project Support

Name of Program or Project: Nearshore complexity and climate resilience: do sea otters modify benthic community structure?

☐ Other

Sea Otter Research Request – Please briefly describe your study's purpose.

☐ Research – 12 month study

☒ Research – Multi-year study (please describe what is expected to be accomplished in the 1st 12 months).

In the first 12th months of this study (May 1st 2022 – May 1st 2023) we will conduct ROV surveys in areas offshore of Neah Bay where sea otters are consistently present and absent. We will use the Seattle Aquarium's BlueROV2 and AI methods of image analysis to rigorously evaluate how benthic community structure varies given sea otter presence and absence. In addition to being the first full deployment of the ROV in the field, the research proposed here is a necessary first step towards investigating the extent to which sea otters modify the resilience of the benthos, particularly following disturbance events.

PART V: PROJECT/PROGRAM NARRATIVE

A. Describe in detail your program/study/project as it relates to sea otter research, conservation & education.

(Please expand text box or attach additional pages as necessary)

Overview

Following near extirpation during the Maritime Fur Trade, the recovery of sea otters along the Pacific northeast is a priority of coastal conservation. The [Elakha Alliance](#) for example is leading a collaborative effort to one day reintroduce sea otters along the Oregon Coast; and in California, non-profit and federal entities are working to transport surrogate-reared pups beyond the current central California sea otter range. *Crucially, these conservation efforts stem not only from a desire to recover sea otter populations, but also the ecological functioning sea otters are believed to provide.* This proposal seeks to document evidence that sea otter presence in the western Strait of Juan de Fuca, Washington, associates with distinct patterns of community structure relative to adjacent locations lacking sea otters. Photographic evidence for such an association already exists, and we propose to expand upon these observations using Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) methods of image analysis. The field work proposed here is but one (important) step of a larger collaborative research and conservation project among Tribal, state, federal, and non-profit partners. Our ultimate objective is to establish a long-term monitoring program that will evaluate the extent to which sea otters modify the resilience of coastal ecosystems, particularly following climate-change related disturbance events. If successful, this long-term program would provide ample fuel for ongoing conversation efforts that seek to recover sea otter populations—and the ecological functioning they provide—throughout the Pacific northeast.

Background

Sea otters exert profound effects upon temperate rocky-reef ecosystems via consumption of invertebrate prey. High-latitude rocky reefs are a well-known example, where the presence or absence of sea otters—and their consumption of herbivorous sea urchins—control the emergence of the forested versus urchin-barren community states (Estes & Duggins, 1995). We now understand similar effects extend to soft-sediment ecosystems, and recent research has demonstrated how eelgrass genetic diversity increases with sea otter foraging activity (Foster et al, 2021). While the consumer-resource interactions driven by sea otter foraging are reasonably well understood, the idea that sea otters might mitigate some of the negative ecological effects of climate change remains uncertain, but is an idea gaining traction (Wilmers et al., 2012). Sea otters cannot affect the creation or strength of, e.g., anomalous warm-water or marine disease events, but they may limit some of the negative ecological fallout that would otherwise occur in their absence. A recent study in the Aleutian Archipelago found that along locations lacking sea otters, *Clathromorphum* spp. beds (slow-growing calcareous algae) were structurally weakened by increasing ocean acidification and thus were more susceptible to sea urchin grazing. Unfortunately, a concomitant warm-water event increased the rate at which sea urchins grazed upon the weakened algae, and the net effects of the two physical variables channeled through sea urchin grazing destroyed the *Clathromorphum* spp. beds. The authors argued that if sea otters had been present to regulate sea urchin abundance and behavior, such a loss could have been significantly mitigated (Rasher et al., 2020).

It is conceivable sea otters along Washington's coast may similarly buffer the benthos, though the precise pathways of disturbance and affected species are anticipated to differ. Co-PI Dr. Shawn Larson leads video surveys of rockfish via scientific SCUBA divers at several locations offshore of Neah Bay, Washington. Sea otters consistently forage in the proximity of one site (Site 5) and are absent from all others. Following the 2013/2014 El Niño Southern Oscillation event, anomalous warm-water event, and sea star wasting outbreak, a striking pattern emerged: the sites lacking sea otters that once exhibited a diverse community of sessile invertebrates, e.g., sponges, bryozoans, tunicates, hydroids, and fleshy red and understory algae were all removed, presumably through consumption by omnivorous sea urchins, as urchin-barrens were observed to form. In contrast, Site 5—the one site with a persistent group of sea otters—retained its diverse community of benthic invertebrates and algae, despite also experiencing widespread sea star loss due to the broader disease event. While we cannot establish causality from these data, they are suggestive that sea otter consumption of sea urchins may confer a protective role upon the benthos by preventing the establishment of an urchin barren following climate-change related disturbance events. If true (or even if partially true), this buffering capacity against urchin barrens would buy critically important time necessary for kelp to begin to recover following disturbance events.

ROV survey design

Here we propose to build upon a previous Sea Otter Foundation and Trust (SOFT) grant to rigorously survey the rockfish monitoring sites offshore of Neah Bay that we described above. Using the BlueROV2 purchased with a SOFT grant, we will survey two "areas" overlapping with and without sea otters, i.e., we will statistically evaluate whether the two areas differ in terms of benthic community structure. Within each area we will survey five "sites", with each site being a distinct drop-point for the ROV, i.e., a separate location where the vessel drops anchor. Sites will be no less than 50m apart (ensuring statistical independence), and all sites will be along a consistent depth profile (15-20m) to minimize variation in community structure associated with changes in depth. As of our desired scale of inference is to differentiate the two areas (areas where sea otters are present versus absent), sites are our focal unit of replication; thus, if field logistics allow, we will survey additional sites to maximize sample size. Within each site we will survey no less than five transects (transect length and width i.e. total benthic area surveyed per transect, to be determined based on forthcoming ROV tests), with each transect no less than 5m apart, again to ensure between-transect independence. These transects (1) will provide replication not for our focal scale of inference (between-areas) but to generate more robust calculations of species-specific sample means and sample standard deviations for our site replicates. And as discussed below, multiple transects will (2) provide additional information from which to map benthic community structure onto underlying habitat layers, enabling additional spatial analyses such as habitat-suitability modeling.

Overview of analytical design

Our analytical approach is a multi-step process: we will first use Artificial Intelligence (AI) methods of image analysis to generate metrics of community structure and substrate type from the ROV-derived imagery, and then we will overlay those data onto (existing) benthic maps of the seafloor in order to perform spatial analyses.

(continued below)

We first will analyze the raw imagery from the ROV using CoralNet (Williams et al., 2019) to generate metrics of percent-cover from aggregated/colonial species such as sponges, hydroids, red algae, understory brown algae, as well as for substrate type, e.g., sand, cobble, shell debris, mud, hard substrate, etc. In a separate but parallel analysis (using the same imagery) we will use VIAME (Dawkins et al, 2017) to generate abundance metrics for conspicuous objects such as sea urchins, sea stars, medium/large-bodied anemones, demersal fish, etc. We have already established proof-of-concept analytic pipelines using both CoralNet and VIAME, and a synopsis document covering those (and other ROV related tests) is linked [here](#). Next, because we have obtained an acoustic GPS for our ROV, we will map our abundance and percent-cover data onto existing (from NOAA surveys) side-scan sonar derived habitat layers that cover the western Strait of Juan De Fuca, including our survey areas around Neah Bay. This mapping component opens numerous spatial analysis options, including habitat-suitability modeling (Havron et al., 2017). Such approaches will be particularly useful when evaluating the effects of sea otters upon the difference in community structure, as the habitat suitability modeling will allow us to account for between-site and between-area differences in, e.g., substrate type, depth, and complexity that can be important in determining benthic community structure and dynamics (Randell et al., 2022).

Bibliography

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- Estes, J. A., & Duggins, D. O. (1995). Sea Otters and Kelp Forests in Alaska: Generality and Variation in a Community Ecological Paradigm. *Ecological Monographs*, 65(1), 75–100. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.2307/2937159>
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- Havron, A., Goldfinger, C., Henkel, S., Marcot, B. G., Romsos, C., & Gilbane, L. (2017). Mapping marine habitat suitability and uncertainty of Bayesian networks: a case study using Pacific benthic macrofauna. *Ecosphere*, 8(7). <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.1859>
- Randell, Z., Kenner, M., Tomoleoni, J., Novak, M. (2022). Kelp-forest dynamics controlled by substrate complexity. *PNAS*, 119(8). <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2103483119>
- Rasher, D. B., Steneck, R. S., Halfar, J., Kroeker, K. J., Ries, J. B., Tinker, M. T., Chan, P. T. W., Fietzke, J., Kamenos, N. A., Konar, B. H., Lefcheck, J. S., Norley, C. J. D., Weitzman, B. P., Westfield, I. T., & Estes, J. A. (2020). Keystone predators govern the pathway and pace of climate impacts in a subarctic marine ecosystem. *Science*, 369(6509), 1351–1355. <https://doi.org/10.1126/SCIENCE.AAV7515>
- Williams ID, Couch C, Beijbom O, Oliver T, Vargas-Angel B, Schumacher B, et al. (2019) Leveraging automated image analysis tools to transform our capacity to assess status and trends on coral reefs. *Front Mar Sci*. 6: 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2019.00222>

Describe your work (past & present) as it relates to sea otters:

The Seattle Aquarium has been very active in sea otter conservation and research since the opening of the Aquarium in 1977. Co-PI Dr. Shawn Larson's work has expanded and deepened our connection with the species. Aquarium staff host a sea otter symposium every other year that brings together scientists and policy makers.

Some highlights:

Sea otter conservation endocrinology: For over 20 years the aquarium has been monitoring sea otter reproduction and stress hormones using non-invasive fecal samples and ELISA hormone assays, resulting in three scientific publications.

Sea otter conservation genetics: Since 1996 we have studied sea otter historical and current genetic diversity and population structure throughout the sea otters' range. We have published six scientific papers spanning samples ranging from 10,000 years before present to modern samples.

Sea otter ecology: We have conducted Washington sea otter foraging and surveys-for over a decade and Aquarium biologists have been monitoring the status of the WA population and their prey items to track the health of the population, resulting in one scientific publication thus far (with two more in the works). Dr. Randell has conducted sea otter research and field work since 2012, including radio telemetry tracking of instrumented sea otters, closed-circuit rebreather sea otter capture diving, and he has participated in a USGS/NASA project developing next-generation sea otter flipper tags.

Major publication: In 2015, co-PI Dr. Larson co-edited a book titled *Sea Otter Conservation* pulling together leaders in the sea otter research field to shed light on over 100 years of study.

Conservation support: co-PI Dr. Larson sits on the advisory board of the Elakha Alliance and assist them in their efforts to re-establish sea otters in Oregon. Co-PI Dr. Larson is the sea otter species lead on the IUCN Otter Specialist Group, and recently was co-author on the reassessment of sea otters resulting in the 2021 Endangered Status listing.

C. What *specific* Sea Otter Population is served through this project or program:

The Washington sea otter population is central to this study, particularly the individuals living along the western Strait of Juan de Fuca and around Tatoosh Island. However, the intent of our project is to provide information about the ecological effects of sea otters along the Pacific northeast in general. Towards that end, current sea otter conservation efforts in Oregon and California (the Southern sea otter population) would benefit from our research regarding the effects of sea otters upon ecological resilience.

D. Why should your project be funded in lieu of other projects? What makes your project unique and innovative? We value innovation and studies that are investigating new and unusual sea otter research.

Sea otters and coastal resilience

The broader impact of our research extends well beyond the seafloor of Neah Bay that we propose to survey. We seek to evaluate the degree to which sea otters modify ecological functioning and coastal resilience in the wake of climate-change related disturbance events. Finding evidence of this would provide ample ecological support for ongoing/future conservation efforts seeking to restore sea otter populations. Granted, this one study alone will not provide the final, definitive verdict on this question regarding sea otters and ecological resilience. But the research we propose here is the necessary first step towards full-scale field implementation of the ROV along the Outer Coast of Washington, and we have designed this study to directly evaluating whether sea otters associate with distinct patterns of benthic community structure.

ROVs increase our capacity to survey the benthos

Setting sea otters aside, both the field and analytical methods we propose are innovative. Using ROVs to survey relative shallow areas of the benthos is novel as ROVs have typically been large, expensive, and only deployable from large vessels. As technology has improved and prices have decreased, we now have the ability to deploy unmanned systems such as ROVs alongside divers in order to expand the spatial extent across which we survey the benthos. We understand that ROVs are not a replacement for scientific SCUBA divers, and instead will provide a novel data stream of benthic community information across areas larger than divers alone can survey. Such advancements in benthic survey methodology are necessary to rigorously evaluate the question of sea otters and coastal resilience.

AI methods to process imagery at scale

Given the large amounts of imagery we intend to collect with the ROV, it would be impractical for a human to review it all. Fortunately, improvements in the accessibility of AI algorithms and software packages enable the use of automated solutions. Once these algorithms have been rigorously trained and tested on our specific ROV imagery, we can apply them at scale. That is to say, we are only limited by how much imagery we can collect, which itself will radically increase via the use of the ROV. Even computational requirements are less of an issue given recent computational advancements paired with the accessibility of cluster computing. Furthermore, complexity can be layered with these analyses. For example, an algorithm previously trained on sea stars can later be trained to detect urchins. The more imagery we annotate—and the more we review and correct algorithm predictions—the more capable our algorithms become. As new species/categories are trained, we can reanalyze previously processed imagery to produce new insights.

E. Are there other programs or organizations that have similar goals? Describe how you currently partner with them or will partner with them in the future. As we value partnerships and collaboration, please describe your study partnerships in general.

In the process of applying for grants to initiate this project we have expanded and/or established relationships with numerous Tribal, non-profit, state, and federal entities in Washington. It has been a pleasure coordinating with representatives from these groups, and we look forward to future proposals and fieldwork. Below we briefly comment on the nature of our collaborations (*alphabetically listed by entity*)

Cape Flattery School District, Neah Bay High School (NBHS). As part of the North Pacific Coast MRC project (see below) we are working with Mr. Camden Jones, a NBHS science teacher. Dr. Randell is planning on lecturing about kelp forests, sea otters, coastal ecosystems, and climate change, and how our ROV and AI methods allow us to evaluate the state of nearshore ecosystems. Furthermore, we are coordinating with Mr. Jones to demonstrate the ROV with his students, e.g., we are exploring the logistics of running the ROV in the Makah Marina.

The Makah Tribe. The Seattle Aquarium and the Makah Tribe have had a relationship for the past 10 years, including a formal Memorandum of Understanding. The Makah were the first of the coastal Tribes we reached out to about this new project**. We are working closely with Makah Fisheries Management (MFM) personnel such as William Jasper, a MFM Groundfish Biologist, and Jonathon Scordino, a MFM Marine Mammal Biologist, to coordinate our ROV field work out of Neah Bay. In particular, MFM personnel have offered the use of their vessels in order to run the ROV along survey offshore of Neah Bay. This vessel support, in conjunction with the Seattle Aquarium's own vessel, will enable our ROV surveys in late-spring / summer 2022. Furthermore, MFM personnel invited us to join them as a partner on a Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) proposal (which was funded), and as part of that project we will provide them assistance with AI methods of analyzing drop-camera imagery from urchin barrens.

** We have also spoken with natural resource managers from the Quileute, Hoh, and Quinault Indian Nation, all of whom expressed enthusiasm for the larger project we envision. As the full project gets underway and we expand our areas of operation down the Olympic Coast, we will further engage these, and other, coastal tribes.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA NMFS). We are working closely with NOAA NMFS personnel, including Dr. Blake Feist who is a co-PI on the North Pacific Coast MRC project. Blake also has a small ROV, and we are working together to develop best-practices for shallow benthic surveys. Finally, and as part of the MRC project, we will accompany NMFS divers with the ROV to survey the OCNMS subtidal sites along the Outer Coast in late July/early August 2022.

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS). We are working closely with the Sanctuary and have multiple personnel as co-PIs on our North Pacific Coast MRC project. We are currently coordinating logistics with Jenny Waddell to run our ROV off of the R/V *Storm Petrel* out of Port Angeles. Furthermore, we are coordinating our outreach and engagement activities closely with Nicole Harris, especially around the MATE Olympic Coast Regional ROV Competition (see [here](#) for information), where Dr. Randell will serve as a judge and will bring the Aquarium's ROV out to the Olympic Coast in order to demonstrate it for school children engaged with the MATE competition.

Puget Sound Restoration Fund (PSRF). We are collaborating with PSRF on multiple project such as abalone restoration and kelp-forest surveys, with joint field work including scientific SCUBA operations currently underway. Dr. Jodie Toft has been a strong supporter of our project as a co-PI on numerous proposals, and she is interested in our ROV and AI developments as those have application to PSRF's work in Puget Sound.

Quileute Tribal School (QTS). Similar to the work described with NBHS, we are coordinating with Alice Ryan, a teacher at the QTS, to plan engagement activities centered around sea otters, kelp forests, climate change, and how our ROV and AI methods of analysis allow us to tackle ecological questions along the coast. In particular, Alice is very active with the MATE ROV competition, and Dr. Randell plans to travel to La Push with the ROV to demonstrate the real world applicability of ROV technology. Similar to the outreach in Neah Bay, we are exploring ways in which to run the ROV somewhere where a class can gather and watch the real-time ROV imagery of their local seafloor.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). We assist USFWS, now overseen by Teal Waterstrat, with their annual range-wide sea otter population counts.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). We are working closely with Dr. Henry Carson on WDFW's shellfish group, as our ROV survey methods could directly contribute to their annual stock assessment surveys of benthic invertebrates. We also partnered with WDFW's groundfish team, particularly Robert (Bob) Pacunski, who has extensive ROV experience in deeper waters. Finally, we are working with Dr. Casey Clark on the marine mammal team, to coordinate both sea otter foraging and distribution surveys.

F. What other sources of funding have been obtained or are being sought for this project or program:

Port of Seattle: we are currently awaiting the Commissioners of the Port of Seattle to vote on a project (80k) that would fund a kelp study in Elliot Bay within Puget Sound, Washington, using the ROV. While this research is geographically distinct from our broader vision of Outer Coast research, it would be an opportunity to further develop and test the ROV in waters that are logistically very easy to access. The Commissioners will vote on this project April 26th.

North Pacific Coast Marine Resources Committee (NPC MRC): at the very end of December 2021, the MRC voted to approve our project proposal. At present we are awaiting final approval from WDFW, which funds the outer coast MRCs. This project will support part of Dr. Randell's salary (20k) and will allow him to conduct ROV tests, some preliminary field work, AI analyses, and education and outreach.

PART VI: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Nonprofit organization – complete Parts A - E

Higher Education Institution applicant – complete Parts B - E

A. Nonprofit Organization

Current Budget for Fiscal Year Ending:

12/31/2022

Income:

\$23,387,410

Expenses:

\$22,886,058

B. Program/Project Budget:

\$60,091

Dates: from:

June 1st, 2022

to: June 1st, 2023

Income (anticipated or actual):

\$20,000

☒ Anticipated ☐ Actual

Expenses (anticipated or actual):

\$60,091

☒ Anticipated ☐ Actual

C. Amount of Grant Request (from PART IV above):

\$20,000.00

The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust distributes on an annual basis.

The funding period: May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023.

D. Is this a multi-year project? Do you anticipate additional funding requests?

Yes, this will be an ongoing, multi-year project. The funding we are asking for here will help us initiate the fieldwork for this project, and the Seattle Aquarium envisions supporting this project as a long-term research and conservation project for decades.

E. Please attach a detailed budget for your specific project (**required**).

☒

Attached

PART VII: CHECK PROCESSING INFORMATION

Legal Name of Institution for Grant Award Check:

Seattle Aquarium Society

Mailing Address of Institution for Grant Award Check:

Seattle Aquarium
1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59
Seattle, WA 98101

PART VIII: CERTIFICATION & ACCEPTANCE

By signing below, I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I accept that if awarded funding, a 6-month project summary update and final 12-month project report for this funding period will be provided to The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust (SOFT) for use in SOFT's impact statements and/or SOFT's marketing materials. In addition to the update and final reports, **I agree to work in partnership with The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust for filmed interviews and other promotional marketing & media related to my funding grant in order to provide updates and educational promotion to the general public about the awarded grant.**

The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust will provide any report forms and other necessary materials for written follow-up reporting regarding funding awards.

In addition to the above, I accept that if my/the work proposed herein, changes in any way, I or named organization, must inform the Sea Otter Foundation & Trust regarding the change or changes as soon as possible and understand that the Sea Otter Foundation & Trust reserves the right to revoke the funding grant (for a full refund to Sea Otter Foundation & Trust) if the scope of work changes inexorably from the work scope stated within this application or accompanying reports.

CEO/Executive Director/Advising Professor

Date

Higher Education or Other Project Applicant

Date

The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust (SOFT) looks forward to working with you and/or your organization to ensure the survival and recovery of sea otters in their habitats.

The Sea Otter Foundation & Trust
303-475-1805

www.SeaOtterFoundationTrust.org
grants@SeaOtterFoundationTrust.org