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**Re: Research Proposal-Xiaomao Wang**

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**From** Aitken, Sally <sally.aitken@ubc.ca>  
**Date** Tue 8/12/2025 2:31 PM  
**To** WANG, XIAOMAO <wangxm29@mail.ubc.ca>  
**Cc** Wolkovich, Elizabeth <e.wolkovich@ubc.ca>

 1 attachment (2 MB)  
Proposal\_XM\_Edits\_SA\_Aug2025.docx;

Hi Mao –

Your proposal looks good. I especially like your research chapters focussed on the seed trap records from Mt. Ranier. Learning about the reproductive cycles of the six conifers there will be a good topic for your comprehensive exam. I've added a few comments in the intro and in your first research chapter that should be incorporated in your final proposal, but other than those I think it is ready to go. I think you should think a little about how masting affects the likelihood of self-pollinating versus outcrossing for your first chapter. I've suggested some changes to terminology a well. Finally, most determinate tree species form reproductive buds one year before producing seed, not two years (except for yellow cedar sometimes).

I support you moving ahead with your comprehensive exam this fall.

Best wishes,  
Sally

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**From:** WANG, XIAOMAO <wangxm29@mail.ubc.ca>  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 10:12 AM  
**To:** Aitken, Sally <sally.aitken@ubc.ca>  
**Subject:** Fw: Research Proposal-Xiaomao Wang

Hi Sally,

Hope your summer has been great so far. I'm just writing you a follow up on my previous email regarding my revised proposal.

I'm hoping to schedule my comprehensive exam soon, could you please let me know if you would approve my proposal or not?

Thank you so much for your time.

Best,  
Mao

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**From:** WANG, XIAOMAO <wangxm29@mail.ubc.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 17, 2025 12:25:50 AM  
**To:** Aitken, Sally <sally.aitken@ubc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: Research Proposal-Xiaomao Wang

Hi Sally,