

## Iowa DOT Research Request for Proposal (RFP)

It is the intent of Iowa DOT Research to enter into agreement with the responsible bidder whose submitted proposal is the most advantageous, cost and other factors considered. Other factors include but are not limited to meeting or exceeding mandatory requirements, proposed staffing, and meeting required time schedule.

- Original RFP is posted at <https://iowadot.gov/research/Requests-for-Proposal>
- Questions should be submitted to the project manager, identified below.
  - Questions are due no later than 14 calendar days prior to the proposal due date. Questions and responses will be posted on <https://iowadot.gov/research/Requests-for-Proposal> no later than 7 calendar days prior to the proposal due date.
- Responses must be submitted in pdf form to [Proposal.Research@iowadot.us](mailto:Proposal.Research@iowadot.us)
  - Use the following naming convention for the PDF submission:
    - ResearchProposalNumber\_Agency\_PrincipalInvestigatorLastName.pdf
- Responses must comply with the proposal guidelines in “Required Format for Iowa DOT Research Proposals.”
  - <https://iowadot.gov/research/Research-Process/Proposal-Deliverable-Guidelines>

**RFP #:** SPR 3880

**RFP Title:** Assessment of Wildlife-Road Conflicts for Protected Species

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**RFP Posted:** March 19, 2024

**Proposals Due:** On or Before May 1, 2024 at 12:00 Noon Central Standard Time.

**Project Manager:** Khyle Clute, [khyle.clute@iowadot.us](mailto:khyle.clute@iowadot.us), (515)-239-1646

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### Budget

- Funding limitations have been established. Proposed budgets shall not exceed \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- Proposed budgets are not limited. They will be considered during the evaluation process.

### Timeline

- Timing limitations have been established. Proposed timelines shall not extend beyond \_\_\_\_\_.
- Proposed timelines are not limited. They will be considered during the evaluation process.

### Literature Review

- A Literature Review has been performed as part of project development and should not be included as a task in the proposal. The Literature Review is available for download here:
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  - A Literature Review has not been performed and may be included as a task in the proposal.
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## Problem Statement

Roads pose a significant conservation risk for wildlife species in Iowa. This is especially true for several species of greatest conservation need (SGCN). Frequently, roads impact these species by dissecting or isolating habitats or separating overwintering and active season habitats. In addition, some species are attracted to roads as a place to warm in the sun, leaving them vulnerable to traveling vehicles. For imperiled species, the effects from roads are amplified because of their already declining populations. To mitigate these risks, a better understanding of how specific sections of roads are impacting habitats of SGCNs needs to be documented and practical mitigation solutions need to be developed.

## Objectives

The main objectives are to identify sites where roads are posing a conservation risk for SGCNs, examine how those road sections are creating that risk, and determine practical mitigation efforts suitable for those sites. While there are hundreds of possible sites to investigate, this effort will focus on ten sites to be determined collectively by the technical advisory committee and the research team.

## Minimum Project Tasks

1. Review relevant data sources to identify problematic sites
2. Select ten sites of interest to investigate
3. Field visits to investigate sources of risk associated with each site, specific to the identified species
4. Develop site-specific documentation detailing species, habitat layout, habitat conflicts present and recommended mitigation solution(s)

## Deliverables

1. Quarterly Progress Reports to the TAC
2. Draft Final Report
3. Final Report
4. Section 508 Compliant Technology Transfer Technical Brief

## Additional Information

Potentially relevant data sources to identify problematic sites include:

1. Iowa Department of Natural Resources has inventory data (NAI) with documented locations of SGCNs. This GIS-based dataset will be available for use to the research team.
2. Iowa Department of Transportation has crash inventory data that can be queried for locations where vehicle-SGCN interactions may have been documented. Additional crash information not stored in this GIS-based database may be available for use to the research team pending a signed Memorandum of Understanding. <https://data.iowadot.gov/>
3. iNaturalist - <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
4. HerpMapper - <https://www.herpmapper.org/>

## Non-Discrimination Statement

Iowa DOT ensures non-discrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Any person who believes that they are being denied participation in a project, being denied benefits of a program, or otherwise being discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability, low income and limited English proficiency, or if needs more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact Iowa DOT Civil Rights at 515-239-7970 or by email at [civil.rights@iowadot.us](mailto:civil.rights@iowadot.us).