

# University of Notre Dame Environmental Research Center (UNDERC-EAST)

## Application to Conduct Research

Due March 1

**(for UNDERC-WEST appropriate National Bison Range and Confederated Salish/Kootenai processes are required - contact UNDERC Director for information)**

### Background

Part of the mission of UNDERC is to facilitate important environmental research on a significant national resource, the Land O' Lakes site. By obligation of the gifts that bequeathed the site to the University of Notre Dame, the conduct of research at UNDERC must be carried out in a way that preserves the pristine nature of the site, reflecting minimal human influence. Toward this end, proposed projects are reviewed and assessed not only for their potential scientific advancement but also for their likely impact on the site.

This application requests relevant information so that projects undergo careful review to ensure the pristine nature of the site is not compromised. Project approval may be requested for up to five years, though project funding and other research projects may affect site availability. Investigators wishing to continue projects beyond that timeframe must submit an application to continue approval at that time. Projects may not commence until approval has been granted.

Applications are reviewed by the Science and Education Advisory Committee who make recommendation to the Land O' Lakes Advisory Board for final decision. The Director of UNDERC is charged with monitoring and enforcing terms of the project approval as appropriate.

### I. Project Title:

- New Project  
 Major change in old project

### II. Contact Information

Name of Principal Investigator

Title/Department (indicate institution if other than University of Notre Dame)

Office Phone Number with area code

Cell Phone Number with area code

Number of participants, names and institution

Funding (source and amount)

Attach all necessary collecting and Notre Dame (IACUC permits if vertebrate animals are used).

### III. Habitat used

- Lake  
 Forest  
 Stream  
 Meadow  
 Wetland  
 Bog

**IV. Key Project Components.** Check all boxes which accurately describe this project.

- Use of restricted lakes (a)
- Use of vertebrate or invertebrate animals
- Death of vertebrate animals
- Use of endangered/threatened species
- Use of invasive species already existing in proposed study areas
- Use of invasive species not already existing in proposed study areas
- Addition/removal of organisms to/from the environment
- Large scale (b) vegetation manipulation
- Large scale (b) manipulation of soil or water
- Addition/removal of compounds or materials to/from the environment
- Use of non-restricted lakes, streams, or wetlands
- Use of data collecting equipment that will be left in the field

(a)Restricted Lakes: Plum, Inkpot, Moccasin, Bergner, Roach, Kickapoo, and Raspberry. **Note** that most research conducted on these lakes (other than monitoring) is unlikely to be approved.

(b)Large-scale manipulation of the system is defined as any experimental manipulation that is not contained within mesocosms, i.e., has open boundaries on land and streams, or impacts a complete lake or wetland. Uncontained experimental manipulations have the potential to modify the food webs or ecosystem functioning of large areas of forest or streams, or whole-lakes or -wetlands.

**V. Project Description.** Provide in lay terms, single-spaced and 10 pt. Times New Roman:

Project's scientific and applied value. Why is this important? (no more than 1 page)

Project's location, time of year and estimated duration of fieldwork (no more than 1 page)

Project's methods, including samples and specimens collected, and materials, compounds, or species to be added to the environment (no more than 2 pages). Use species common names.

**VI. Impact on the site. Check the box below that, in your opinion, most closely describes the impact on the pristine nature of the site as a result of the proposed project.**

- Non/negligible
- Minimal
- Moderate
- Significant

Non/negligible should reflect no impact on the ecosystem's food web, so that ecosystem functioning remains undisturbed.

In lay terms (no more than 1 page), justify the above box that you selected and include how the project is expected to impact vegetation, soils, lakes, streams, wetlands, invertebrates, or vertebrates. Also indicate how your project may impact recreational use of the property, impact on the pristine view - (e.g., research structures and equipment that is visible from roads or lakes), and sound-scapes (e.g., mechanical noise from equipment, construction, vehicles, etc.)

**If you have indicated that the project is expected to have greater than negligible impact, indicate the expected duration for recovery from that impact.**

- Immediate
- One week
- 1-3 months
- One year
- > One year
- Permanent

Justify the recovery time that you selected above (no more than 1 page).

## VII. Signature

By signing below, you are agreeing to comply with all relevant policies of the University of Notre Dame, the Land O'Lakes property, and UNDERC, as well as any Federal, state, or local regulations. **An annual Renewal form and a project progress report (1 page, single-spaced) must be provided to the UNDERC Director by March 1 of each year for inclusion in the UNDERC Annual Report.** Failure to comply may result in immediate termination of the project

Signature

Updates with respect to unanticipated environmental impact or modifications of any procedures must be communicated in writing to the UNDERC Director.

**\*\* REMINDER - housing requests must be made using the UNDERC Housing Form by March 1 of each year.**

**Please review applicable fee charges as indicated on our web page at:**

**<https://underc.nd.edu/underc-east/facilities/fee-schedule/>**