

Lois Webster Fund					
Project History					
Year	Name	Description	Organization/Researcher	Funding Amount	Cumulative Total
2018	Black Swift Movement Ecology	Using previously tagged birds: (1) determine foraging range from nest sites and preferred foraging habitats including whether they avoid pesticide treated areas; (2) to more precisely locate wintering grounds; (3) if "aerial roosting" is performed on wintering grounds.	Bird Conservancy of the Rockies/ Rob Sparks	\$ 4,877	
	Probiotic Solutions to the Batrachochytrium Dendrobatitis Associated Declines in Boreal Toads	Identify species of bacteria living in Boreal Toads' skin that may inhibit growth of the fungal pathogen Batrachochytrium dendrobatitis (Bd) that is causing a population decline aiming to prevent deaths due to Bd.	University of Colorado Wildlife Conservation Research Fund: McKenzie Lab/ Tim Korpita	\$ 1,597	
	The Role of Urban Conservation in Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Engaging Citizens	(1) Evaluate a Ft. Collins habitat program to restore and enhance local bird and butterfly biodiversity. (2) Assess the relative social and ecological benefits of a citizen science project in collecting bird and butterfly data within urban green spaces.	Colorado State University, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Biology/ Miguel Jimenez	\$ 2,000	
	Total 2018 Funding			\$ 8,474	\$ 89,487
2017	Conserving Northern Leopard Frogs on Colorado's Front Range	Determined presence/absence of Northern Leopard Frogs and other herptiles at ponds on Boulder City properties; recommended management actions to improve habitat.	Boulder Parks & Recreation/ Joy Masters	\$ 3,000	
	Grassland Bird and Mammal Response to Bison Reintroduction in Northern Colorado	Determined effect of bison reintroduction on vegetation, bird and mammal use of habitat; also, compared bison-grazed, cattle-grazed, and reference sites.	Colorado State University/ Kate Wilkins	\$ 1,308	
	Native Fish Care and Appreciation in the Elementary Classroom	Provided an aquarium to enable 4 th graders to learn about native fish, their habitats & threats from non-native species and climate change.	Weld RE-9 School District, Highland Elementary, Pierce, CO/ Mark Kucza	\$ 1,302	
	Total 2017 Funding			\$ 5,610	\$ 81,013
2016	Backyard Bee Watchers Citizen Science Launch	To protect native bee biodiversity and promote research a new upper Gunnison Valley citizen science project will increase the number of native bee nest boxes while educating the public to reduce the number of non-native bee hives.	Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory/Dr. Amy Eilwein	\$ 1,375	
	Brown's Canyon National Monument Bioblitz	A Bioblitz and subsequent raptor nest surveys in the new Brown's Canyon National Monument to gather information for managers to use in planning recreational uses.	US Forest Service/Stephanie Shively	\$ 1,500	
	Importance of Habitat Heterogeneity to Distribution and Breeding Success in Shortgrass Steppe Birds	Within a habitat island of remaining shortgrass prairie, discovering how birds respond to shifting vegetative cover caused by different grazing regimes with a focus on the McCown's longspur nest survival, distribution and migration patterns.	University of Colorado (Denver)/ Amber Carver	\$ 2,840	
	Total 2016 Funding			\$ 5,715	\$ 75,403
2015	Colorado Butterfly Monitoring Network	Funding will help expand monitoring of populations of Colorado butterflies with the addition of a full-time intern as well as additional research supplies.	The Butterfly Pavilion/Sara Garret	\$ 2,800	
	Mountain Plover Habitat Use During Nest Incubation	Funding supports researchers studying movement of adult plovers during nest incubation using GPS tags to track the birds' travels.	University of Colorado (Denver)/ Colin Woolley	\$ 2,062	
	The Bees' Needs: Increasing the Impact of Citizen Science	A redesign of web and database design services that aim to improve public understanding of native bee ecology and facilitate volunteers in documenting the diversity and abundance of solitary wood-nesting bees.	University of Colorado (Boulder)/ Alexandra Rose	\$ 1,600	
	Total 2015 Funding			\$ 6,462	\$ 69,688
2014	Avian Response to Habitat Manipulation and Fire in NW Colorado Oil and Gas Fields	Examines the responses of bird populations to habitat disturbance by fire and by mechanical manipulation to mitigate impacts of oil and gas development through bird and vegetation surveys on both types of sites.	Colorado State University/ Travis Gallo	\$ 750	
	Effect of Heavy Metal Stream Contamination on Bats in the Eastern Rockies	Assessing the impact on bats of heavy metal contaminants in streams through examination of the quantity and quality of prey and water quality, at high, mid and low elevations along the Front Range.	University of Northern Colorado/ Laura Heiker	\$ 4,100	
	Habitat Use by Mountain Plover During Nest Incubation	Studies the foraging movements of adult mountain plovers during the period when they are incubating eggs in the nest by equipping the birds with GPS tags, recovering the tags after hatching, and final analysis of the locational data from the tags.	University of Colorado (Denver)/ Colin Woolley	\$ 1,395	
	Total 2014 Funding			\$ 6,245	\$ 63,226
2013	Black Swift Diet in Colorado	Compilation of data on the type, size and numbers of prey items taken by Black Swifts (cypseloides niger borealis) in Colorado, thereby identifying habitats important for foraging and potential habitat threats.	US Forest Service, White River National Forest/Kim Potter	\$ 1,500	
	Habitat Manipulation Effects on Songbird and Small Mammal Communities	Determines impacts of various habitat manipulation strategies on populations and behaviors of songbird and small mammal communities in a landscape dominated by energy development.	Colorado State University/ Sarah Bombaci	\$ 1,200	
	Grassland Bird Conservation and Habitat Use in Northeastern Colorado	Measure response to changes in habitat management for Mountain Plover, McCown's Longspur and Burrowing Owl on agricultural lands to identify techniques that will improve breeding conditions in developing Best Management Practices for landowners and managers.	Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory/ Angela Dwyer	Spotting scopes donation	
	Front Range Pika Project	Recruit and train volunteers to collect data that will determine whether Pika distribution is declining and evaluate factors that may drive changes in Pika distribution throughout the Rocky Mountains' Front Range.	Denver Zoo/Amy Masching	\$ 3,000	
	Rock Wren Nesting Behaviors	Seeks better understanding of Rock Wren (a species in decline) nesting behaviors in Northern Colorado foothills to discern specific threats whether from human disturbances or predators.	University of Northern Colorado/ Nat Waring	\$ 570	
	Total 2013 Funding			\$ 6,270	\$ 56,981
2012	Bedrock Bioblitz	A multi-disciplined documentation of the composition of a riparian habitat before and after a restoration project on the Dolores River, Colorado.	Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory/Martin Moses	\$ 1,500	
	Life Stage Male Bias Arising in Mountain Plover	Determining whether a male-biased sex ratio arises at the egg or chick stage of development in Mountain Plover.	University of Montana/ Maggie Riordan	\$ 2,000	
	Mammalian Habitat Use Along a Development Gradient in Northern Colorado	Examines how exurban development density influences mammalian species' habitat use and documents the threshold density at which mammals reduce their use of the habitat.	Colorado State University/ Erica H. Goad	\$ 1,500	
	Total 2012 Funding			\$ 5,000	\$ 50,711

2011	Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas II	Fieldwork surveying, in priority blocks, for the second edition of Colorado Bird Breeding Atlas and which will also allow a comparison of current and historic data.	Fort Lewis College/ Lynn Wickersham	\$ 1,400	\$ 5,800	\$ 45,711
	Comparison of Abundant and Declining Bumble Bee Species	Using molecular genetics techniques for investigation into the conservation status of an entire guild of bumblebees to compare declining species with stable species, and to compare fragmented versus continuous distributions as well as narrow versus broad elevational ranges.	University of Colorado, Boulder/ Carol Ann Kearns	\$ 1,500		
	Responses of Burrowing Owls to Black-tailed Prairie Dog Alarm Calls	Studying the way in which Burrowing Owls react to alarm calls by the prairie dogs in whose colony the birds live.	University of Colorado, Denver/ Rebecca Bryan	\$ 1,400		
	Urban Students and Urban Snake	Using radio telemetry to study the ecology and population genetics of two species of sympatric garter snakes in Colorado at Lowry Wetlands in Denver.	Metropolitan State College of Denver and Public School 1/Eric Gangloff	\$ 1,500		
Total 2011 Funding				\$ 5,800		
2010	Avian Communities' Changes in a Riparian Habitat	Transcription and analysis of 50 plus years of bird banding data to determine how avian community composition has changed in a protected riparian area since cattle were excluded.	University of Colorado/Mysti Martin	\$ 1,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 39,911
	Ecological Role of Free-ranging Domestic Cats	Merging of biological and social science data to better understand the ecological role and actual risk to wildlife caused by free-ranging domestic cats in Colorado.	Colorado State University/Ashley Gramza	\$ 2,500		
	Hybridization Threats on Two Colorado Native Catostomids	Genetic analysis of the extent of hybridization among two native and one non-native species of suckers in western Colorado for purposes of management and conservation of the native species.	University of Colorado/Se Jin Song	\$ 1,000		
Total 2010 Funding				\$ 5,000		
2009	Pawnee Montane Skipper Project	Seeks to measure the distribution and abundance of immature stages (eggs, pupae, larvae) of the Pawnee Montane Skipper, a federally Threatened species, in blue grama grass, in areas affected by both wildfire and prescribed forest thinning adjacent to the South Platte River.	Colorado College/ Dr. Boyce Drummond	\$ 500	\$ 2,300	\$ 34,911
	Townsend's Big-eared Bat	Use of radio telemeters for a study of roost sites and habitat associations of Townsend's Big-eared bats in southeastern Colorado.	Colorado State University/ Robert Schorr	\$ 1,800		
Total 2009 Funding				\$ 2,300		
2008	Bats of Mesa Verde	Support for interns to identify insect prey samples from bat species using burned and unburned areas of Mesa Verde National Park.	Colorado State University/E. Apple Snider	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,200	\$ 32,611
	Mountain Plover Data from the Pawnee National Grassland	The compilation and summary of data on Mountain plover populations collected from 1986 to 2007 on the Pawnee National Grasslands by Dr. Fritz Knopf.	US Forest Service/Elizabeth Humphreys	\$ 2,200		
	Pika and Climate Change	A resurvey of historically documented pika populations in the Southern Rockies, to test hypotheses addressing the causes of extirpations and distribution shifts in this critical pika stronghold.	University of Colorado/ Liest Peterson	\$ 1,000		
Total 2008 Funding				\$ 4,200		
2007	Burrowing Owl	The population dynamics of burrowing owls on the Pawnee spotting National Grassland with special Reference to plague and recreational shooting. \$2000 for Field Technician/\$897 for spotting scope.	Colorado State University/ Dr. Mike Antolin	\$ 2,897	\$ 5,397	\$ 28,411
	Wildlife Bridge Feasibility	Use of multiple sampling techniques to test roadway permeability and to monitor wildlife presence at Shrine Pass Road off Interstate 70 on Vail Pass.	Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project/Paige Bonaker	\$ 2,500		
Total 2007 Funding				\$ 5,397		
2006	Aurora's Big Year	Create a bird list for City of Aurora and increase awareness and appreciate of birds	City of Aurora, Parks and Open Space Dept./Mary Ann Bonnell	\$ 500	\$ 3,600	\$ 23,014
	Bats of Mesa Verde	Support for interns to identify insect prey samples from bat species using burned and unburned areas of Mesa Verde National Park.	Colorado State University/ E. Apple Snider	\$ 1,000		
	Bats Population and Species Diversity	Monitor bat populations at water holes in Boulder to determine populations and drinking	University of Colorado (Boulder)/ Rick Adams	\$ 1,100		
	Possible Decline of Pika Populations	A resurvey of historically documented pika populations in the Southern Rockies, to test hypotheses addressing the causes of extirpations and distribution shifts in this critical pika stronghold.	University of Northern Colorado/ Dianna DiPolito	\$ 1,000		
Total 2006 Funding				\$ 3,600		
2005	Mountain Plover Surveys in the San Luis Valley	Mountain plover numbers and distribution in the San Luis Valley, in Conejos, Costilla, Rio Grande and Saguache Counties, based on previously reported sightings and suitable habitat locations.	Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory/ Terri Hicks-Anderson	\$ 4,700	\$ 19,414	
2004	Conservation of Colorado's Bats	Trapping of live bats safely as part of a thorough survey of bat species in upper-montane, mixed conifer forests in the Pikes Peak Region.	Catamount Institute/Janet Tyburec, Peter Marchand, Brian Miller, Samantha Carpenter, Joseph Merritt	\$ 400	\$ 4,400	\$ 14,714
	Grasslands Bioblitz	A biodiversity snapshot of a 6,000 acre block of public lands in Jefferson and Boulder counties which raised public awareness of the biological communities on the site.	Colorado Native Plant Society/ Karen Holweg, Mark Richert	\$ 2,200		
	Impacts of Habitat Fragmentation on the Breeding Ecology of the Flamulated Owl	Provided a Cavity Peeper for observing development of young owls in nest cavities; part of a study of the impacts of major fires on owl demographics.	Colorado College, Biology Dept./ Brian Linkhart	\$ 1,800		
Total 2004 Funding				\$ 4,400		
2003	Mountain Plover/Agricultural Lands in Eastern Colorado	Tracking of nesting Mt. Plovers and monitoring survival of chicks on agricultural lands.	Colorado Division of Wildlife/ Vicky Dreitz	\$ 3,814	\$ 10,314	
2002	Mountain Plover/Agricultural Lands in Eastern Colorado	Tracking of nesting Mt. Plovers and monitoring survival of chicks on agricultural lands.	Colorado Division of Wildlife/ Vicky Dreitz	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,500	
1998	Compilation of Breeding Data on Mountain Plover 1990-1997	Tony Reynolds compiled data and published report 9/30/98.	Polly Reetz, Janet Decker/Tony Reynolds	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	