

**Subject:** [gbird] FW: AFRI New Program on Emerging Technologies

**From:** Royden Saah <royden.saah@islandconservation.org>

**Date:** 5/25/2017 3:24 PM

**To:** "gbird@lists.ncsu.edu" <gbird@lists.ncsu.edu>

**CC:** Emily Haber <emily.haber@islandconservation.org>, Edy MacDonald <emacdonald@doc.govt.nz>

Hi All,

This grant may not be totally aligned with GBIRD, but I wanted to bring it to the attention of the group for possible application. If there is a desire of inquiring about it, I have found USDA to be very approachable and responsive. These grants tend to have relatively high success rates! With GBIRD being ahead of any other vertebrate program, I think they may be interested. Tangentially, invasive rodents affect plant production on inhabited islands with agriculture :)

Cheers  
rs

#####

Social Implications of Emerging Technologies (<http://bit.ly/2qiWAIY>)

Program Area Priority Code - A1642

Budget - up to \$500,000 for 4 years

Letter of Intent Deadline - June 1, 2017 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Program Area Priority e-mail address for Submission of Letter of Intent-  
[ET-LOI@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:ET-LOI@nifa.usda.gov)

Application Deadline - August 17, 2017 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Program Area Priority Contact - Dr. Robbin Shoemaker (202) 720-5468 or  
[rshoemaker@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:rshoemaker@nifa.usda.gov), Dr. Wesley Dean (202) 689-4286 or  
[wesley.dean@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:wesley.dean@nifa.usda.gov), and Dr. Ed Kaleikau (202) 401-1931 or  
[ekaleikau@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:ekaleikau@nifa.usda.gov)

Program Area Priority - Advancements in gene drive research have tremendous potential for transforming agriculture and will likely continue to expand as genome editing tools, such as Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR) become more refined. In June of 2016, the National Academy of Science, Engineering, and Medicine recommended that more research is needed to understand the scientific, ethical, regulatory, and social consequences of developing and releasing gene-drive modified organisms. Specifically, it recommended that a collaborative, multidisciplinary, and cautionary approach is needed before gene drive technologies are released. The critical lesson learned from our experience with new genetic technologies is that public trust in science begins with and requires ongoing transparency and open deliberation of the implications of science for society.

Research Project applications must address the following:

- Assess the broad social, ethical, legal and other potential impacts that gene drive/genome editing technologies may pose for society, agricultural markets, consumer preferences, and other domains.
- Involve a range of disciplines including scientists, legal scholars, bioethicists, social scientists and researchers from the humanities, the general public, and other stakeholders to assess the technology's merits and risks and pursue an open and effective means to involve the public in deliberation over these issues.

Program Area Priority Additional Information

- Conference grant applications are encouraged under this program area priority.

#####

Please see the RFA (<http://bit.ly/2qiwAIY>) for additional details about the submission process and email/call the program area contacts for your questions/queries in relation to the program.

Please do not reply to this e-mail.

Kind Regards,  
Agnes Hong  
Plant Production Program Specialist  
[Agnes.hong@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:Agnes.hong@nifa.usda.gov)