NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC | LINDBLAD EXPEDITIONS

Proposal Submission Form for the Visiting Scientist Program

After thorough review of the accompanying RFP, please return this completed form and curriculum vitae (CVs) for all proposed onboard team members named below to science@expeditions.com. Proposals from scientists who are already designated as National Geographic Explorers by virtue of receiving grant funding from the National Geographic Society must submit additional materials, as outlined in Section 8 below. Applicants who are not NG Explorers may disregard Section 8.

Section 1: Team Members

1. Name, affiliation, and email address of the proposed project's Principal Investigator.

2. Name, affiliation, and email address of lead Visiting Scientist (this person will be leading the proposed project onboard the ship).

3. Names, affiliations, and email addresses of additional research team members (if applicable) and their relationship to the lead Visiting Scientist (e.g. student, colleague, advisor). Note which additional team member, if any, is proposed to join aboard the ship.

4. Briefly describe the role and skills for each team member conducting this project aboard the ship and why they are necessary for the success of the proposed project. What experience do the team members have with regards to the research approach described below?

5. How did you hear about this opportunity?

Section 2: Research Project Background

6. Brief title for proposed onboard research project.

7. Project history, background, and objectives. If the project has additional components off-ship (i.e., not a part of the requested voyage), please briefly describe them here. (limit 300 words)

8. Scope of work to be achieved onboard. (limit 100 words)

9. What new knowledge will this research create, and how will this differ from or build on existing knowledge? List your specific questions and/or hypotheses and describe how the samples or data collected on the trip will be used to answer these questions. (limit 200 words)

10. Have the proposed methods been used in existing peer-reviewed scientific literature? If so, please cite. If not, what evidence exists that these methods will be successful in the locations and applications described in this proposal? (limit 200 words)

11. What is the intended application of the data collected on this trip? Will the data collected on this voyage support a larger project? If results will be published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal, please comment on: additional samples or data needed prior to publication, expected timeline for data analysis and publication, availability of data via open-access formats and repositories (e.g., Dryad, Figshare, Genbank, Isobank, etc). (limit 300 words)

12. If you have traveled on the NG-LEX fleet as part of the Visiting Scientist Program previously, describe the analyses and results completed so far with data/samples from previous voyages. Explain how additional data from this voyage will build on your existing results. (limit 200 words)

Section 3: Onboard Operations and Feasibility

This section helps with the evaluation of whether we can support your project/data collection activities feasibly: 1) within the onboard facilities provided for Visiting Scientists (which are limited, compared to a traditional research vessel) and, 2) within the priority of our operations, which are focused on bringing the guests an expedition experience.

13. Outline your data/sample **collection activities** during a single session so the review committee can picture what fieldwork will entail. Include activities off the ship (i.e., ashore or from a zodiac) and further processing once back aboard the ship. Please include the time (in hours or minutes) required for data/sample collection at each site, as well as processing back aboard, for each sampling session.

14. What **locations** do you require for data/sample collection? Provide latitude/longitude for ideal specific locations or describe the targeted type of environment if sampling is more geographically flexible (e.g., kelp forests, rocky intertidal at low tide, the edge of landfast sea ice, glaciers).

15. How many sampling sessions do you need to make a voyage worthwhile for data collection? What is the minimum number to generate meaningful results? What is the ideal number?

16. What physical **workspace(s)** do you need aboard the ship? Please keep in mind that NG-LEX vessels do not have science labs. Include any specific needs for size, location, supplies, equipment, storage areas, or features (e.g. power, water, bench space, wet/dry, etc.) you are expecting to be available.

17. Will any instruments/equipment need to be temporarily installed on the ship? If so, detail the item size, ideal location onboard, installation method, power needs, and required frequency of access during the voyage.

18. Which aspects of your sampling plan are flexible and/or amenable to modifications based on feasibility within voyage operations?

19. List each **type of data/sample** (i.e., biological specimens, photos, written observations, seawater/soil samples, etc.) that will be collected. For each type, list the maximum anticipated number that will be collected on the entire trip. For biological collections, provide the genus and species name(s) of target organisms or taxonomic groups of target biological communities. For any samples being brought aboard the ship, provide the **total storage space needed** for the cumulative quantity of samples in non-refrigerated, refrigerated, and frozen storage areas available to you (see RFP for the dimensions of available storage).

Section 4: Other Feasibility Considerations

20. Do you already have funding secured for the proposed research? If so, from what funding sources and covering which expenses? If not, how do you intend to fund your travel and research? **If you are a National Geographic Explorer and are applying to receive funding from the LEX-NG Fund, note this here.*

21. What permits will be required to complete the proposed work? You must check with each country and/or jurisdiction (e.g., National Parks, Protected Areas) visited on a voyage to determine if a research permit is needed, even if you are not collecting physical samples. Furthermore, do you need customs declarations for transporting your equipment or samples to/from the vessel?

22. Do you already have permits secured for your research? If not, what steps have you taken towards obtaining research permits? What is the approximate timeline for securing the necessary permits? (Note that US citizens conducting research in foreign waters must apply to the Dept of State *no less than 6 months prior to embarkation*. Similar timelines are required for citizens of other countries to conduct research in foreign waters.)

Section 5: Available Itineraries

23. Please list the itinerary codes (not dates) from the RFP that would be suitable for this project. If applicable, rank them in order of preference. If you are proposing to stay aboard for more than one consecutive trip, please explain that here.

24. If your research requires a specific itinerary, justify this need below.

25. For the itineraries you have requested, briefly list the location(s) or region(s) where you expect to access the physical locations and/or biological organisms necessary for your research.

26. What dates, if any, are you not available for travel on a voyage? (Please make note of the dates certain itineraries are being conducted and do not request voyages for which you are not available.)

Section 6: Outreach, Communication, and Dissemination

27. Sometimes guests (passengers) on the ships like to be involved, but this is not a requirement nor expectation of your research (nor should it be assumed that they will participate). Do you intend to involve the guests in data collection or processing, if there is interest? If so, briefly describe your ideas.

28. What presentations or topics (30 minutes) related to the work you are conducting onboard will you have available for the NG-LEX diverse public guest audience? Please keep in mind that there are several natural history guides on each voyage that give general wildlife and environmental sciences talks, so your presentation should focus on your specific research.

29. Do you maintain a web/social media presence for your research? If so, list websites and social media handles.

30. Do you have outreach plans for this project and voyage (i.e., pre-, during-, or post-voyage media interviews, blogs, social media posts, etc.)?

Section 7: Overall Objectives

31. Please describe how this Visiting Scientist opportunity contributes to your research and professional endeavors in ways that would be otherwise challenging or unattainable.

32. If awarded, how would you describe a successful voyage?

Section 8: National Geographic Explorers

This section is only intended for projects led by National Geographic Explorers. Additional submission instructions: When submitting your proposal to science@expeditions.com please CC NGS staff svenandes@ngs.org and kspado@ngs.org. You must additionally submit your project budget at this time, including appropriate descriptions of all budget items.

The focus of the questions above is primarily to understand the work proposed to take place during the requested voyage on the NG-LEX fleet. However, NG Explorers selected for this opportunity can also utilize their project budget to support additional work related to the project that will take place before or after the voyage. While not required for Visiting Scientist projects, NGS values projects that are rooted in strong relationships with local communities. Although interactions with local communities and engagement of local collaborators and partners is typically not possible during a voyage itself, your project budget may be used for this purpose before or after your voyage, as well as any other needs aligned with our budget guidelines.

33. If your project includes any components that will happen before or after your voyage, please describe here.

34. How will participating in this opportunity help advance your career?