



2019 Michigan Drummer Fund RFP

The Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society is welcoming proposals for projects related to ruffed grouse and American woodcock habitat restoration, management and scientific research throughout Michigan. Funding for these projects is provided by the Michigan Drummer Fund, a fund established through the proceeds raised by local chapters at annual fundraising banquets, as well as individual contributions. Since its inception in 2009, the MI Drummer Fund has provided \$307,969 of funding for 83 projects which have enhanced or created prime ruffed grouse and American woodcock habitat.

Attached is a Michigan Drummer Fund application form to be submitted with a detailed project narrative, budget form, project timeline, map of the project area and any RGS chapter letters of support. The due date for project proposals will be **January 28, 2019** with notification of selected projects to occur by the beginning of March 2019.

Project priorities include those which benefit Healthy Forests, Abundant Wildlife, and Sporting Traditions.

The following list is provided *as an example* for potential projects:

1. Non-commercial aspen or alder harvest
2. Planting of native trees and shrubs that will provide food and/or cover to young forest species adjacent to recent timber harvest/openings/hunter walking trails.
3. Research involving ruffed grouse or American woodcock ecology and management.
4. Educational/interpretation activities as part of a larger habitat project.
5. Opening maintenance or creation:
 - a. If the site is to be planted, seed mixes should focus on clover and forb species.
 - b. Large openings will only be considered in areas with a demonstrated lack of woodcock roosting fields and/or singing ground locations AND where a large portion of the adjacent habitat is thick, dense cover.
 - c. Projects that create temporary openings that will not be tilled and maintained but are intended to create age class/structural diversity.

Match requirement: Projects without non RGS/AWS funding will not be considered. Match can include but is not limited to staff time, additional grant funds, general budget funds, materials or staff volunteer time.