



ENVIRONMENTAL  
CHANGE Initiative

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## **Small Grants for Graduate Student/PostDoc Research Funding: 2021 ND-LEEF Request for Proposals**

The Notre Dame Environmental Change Initiative's (ND-ECI) Linked Experimental Ecosystem Facility (ND-LEEF) is accepting proposals for new research at ND-LEEF for the 2021 field season. We welcome proposals for both aquatic and terrestrial research from graduate students and postdocs that effectively and creatively use the facilities at ND-LEEF. A list and description of the research facilities at ND-LEEF can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/satfzaw>.

**Effective spring 2021: There are now four watersheds available for research.** We encourage all new research that expands the use of ND-LEEF, but please note that as part of our cooperative agreement with St. Joseph County Parks (SJCP), invasive species cannot be introduced to ND-LEEF, and experiments must not result in the discharge of any harmful pollutants from the ND-LEEF site.

As part of ECI and ND-LEEF's commitment to outreach, each grant recipient must create a short video interpreting their research for a lay audience. Videos will be displayed on the new touch-screen display at the ND-LEEF Education and Outreach Pavilion. Examples can be seen at: <https://tinyurl.com/y9v3q6zz>

**Duration of projects:** Projects should start in spring 2021 and no later than September 1, 2021. We will prioritize strong proposals that show potential to deliver high impact results within the one year funding period. Funding duration is one year.

**Awards:** Waived Waived User Fees (up to \$7k value depending on facilities used) and up to \$500 for supplies. External users may use funds for travel and lodging.

**Due Date for Proposals:** 5:00 PM on March 5th, 2021. Submit proposals to Brett Peters at [bpeters2@nd.edu](mailto:bpeters2@nd.edu)

**Proposal Evaluation and Timeline:** Proposals will be reviewed by an *ad hoc* committee of ND-ECI Affiliated faculty with final decisions made by the ND-LEEF Assistant Director and the ND-ECI Director.

**Proposal Required Elements:** Please describe your proposed research in <3 pages, including a short budget, using the headings and order below.

1. Title, lead investigator and other investigators (all with departmental affiliation in parentheses)
2. Goal and/or questions to be addressed
3. Importance of topic
4. Approach and methods
5. A timeline of activities and deliverables
6. Budget and other resources needed in each category: Supplies/Equipment, Travel