**Project Support**

**for RAS & CES in 2022**

Project support is now an integral part of the RAS and CES programme. It provides additional support for the ringing that contributes most to the Demographic Targeting Strategy, recognising the contribution that you make. Each year around 45 new and existing projects receive up to £100 of support. Unfortunately, funds are limited so not every project will qualify every year and the support may not cover 100% of costs. Preference will be given to projects that have not received additional support recently, those that have the highest ring (including colour ring) costs and the ones which are contributing the most to the Demographic Targeting Strategy (see *Ringing News*, winter 2011, pp 3–4.).

For 2022, project support applications must be received by **31 January 2023**. Those projects awarded additional support will **receive payment or equipment in spring 2023** with any refund they are due. Where equipment is not being provided directly, we need a receipt or other proof of purchase (an order confirmation is not sufficient). We have to limit payments to those projects where RAS or CES data for 2022 are submitted by **28 February 2023**.

Examples of eligible items include:

* Trapping materials including nets, poles, traps or trap making materials.
* Other ringing equipment.
* Rings (both metal and colour rings) (for RAS only as CES rings get a refund separately and only where annual costs are in excess of £25).
* Special Methods equipment (e.g. PIT Tags & readers) – only available when you demonstrate the project can best be run using Special Methods. Note that extra permission is required to use all Special Methods.

To apply, please fill in the Project Support Application form at the end of this document and email it to either ras@bto.org or ces@bto.org (as appropriate).

For the 2022 season priority will be given to:

* RAS projects involving one of the RAS Target Species:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Barn Owl | Kestrel  | Sand Martin | Tawny Owl  |
| Common Sandpiper | Little Owl | Sparrowhawk  | Tree Sparrow |
| Dipper | Marsh Tit | Starling | Wheatear |
| House Martin | Pied Flycatcher | Stonechat | Willow Tit |
| House Sparrow | Redstart | Swallow | Wood Warbler |
| Jackdaw | Ringed Plover | Swift |  |

* RAS projects with ring costs (including colour-rings) greater than £25.
* CES sites in poorly covered areas.
* Projects that did not get support last year.

We aim to help as many of you as possible but, if applications exceed the total available, we will have to give preference to projects/sites which meet the most criteria. We look forward to receiving your application.

**Project Support Application**

**RAS number: ………………… RAS Species**

**OR OR**

**CES Number: ………………… CES Site Name:**

**Ringer/Group Name: …………………………………………….….. Permit Number/Group Number: ……………….**

**Please indicate what type of support you are applying for by indicating the value below:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Value |
| In-kind support (where we supply you with the equipment or rings). The item you request must be available through the BTO ringing shop, this can include currently “out of stock” items. These will be sent as soon as they are available. The value is the BTO ringers’ price from the BTO Online Shop.  | £ |
| Financial support towards equipment or rings. This is where you have already purchased (or will shortly be purchasing) an item from any source. A receipt (or similar) dated prior to 31 March 2023 must be supplied before payment. | £ |
| Other support. This can be anything else which is not included above. It does not include normal travel but could include special transport costs e.g. to specially hire a boat for an island-based RAS where there is not a normal boat service. A receipt (or similar) dated prior to 31 March 2023 must be supplied before payment. | £ |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please describe what you are applying for. If this is a replacement for existing equipment please describe what it is replacing – this is particularly important for replacement nets. If you are requesting rings, please confirm the permit number that the rings should be issued to (if you are a C-permit holder, your trainer will need to authorise the ring issue if your request is successful):** |
| **How will this help support your CES or RAS?** |
| **For in-kind support who should the equipment be sent to (name and address)?** |

**To be signed by the Contact Ringer**

I would like to apply for the above support for my project. I currently intend to continue to operate it in 2023 and beyond.

Signed: Date:

Contact Ringer Name: Permit Number: