

**The Annual
Robert C. Ball and Betty A. Ball Fisheries and Wildlife Fellowship**

**Graduate Student Award
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
Michigan State University**

The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife is pleased to announce the competition for the annual award of the Robert C. Ball and Betty A. Ball Fisheries and Wildlife Fellowship. The purpose of this award is to recognize a student committed to the study of fisheries, limnology, or water quality. **Two awards** will be issued each year provided suitable applicants can be identified. Fellowships will be approximately **\$5,000**. **Funds for this award will be distributed at the beginning of the fall semester.** Fellowship recipients will be required to acknowledge award of their fellowship to the Ball family (with a copy to the Department) prior to release of fellowship money to the successful student. Recipients must acknowledge funding support through the Robert C. Ball and Betty A. Ball Fisheries and Wildlife Fellowship at Michigan State University when appropriate (e.g., research presentations, publications).

Criteria for the award are as follows:

- Student must be a graduate student in the department of Fisheries and Wildlife pursuing a Master's or Ph.D.
- Preference will be given to:
 - Students who will be matriculating to the department in the coming academic year,
 - Students pursuing advanced degrees in the areas of Fisheries, Limnology, or Water Quality,
 - Students who are U.S. Citizens, and
 - Students who demonstrate financial need
 - Evidence of progress toward, or potential to complete degree in a timely fashion
 - Evidence of likely professional success and excellence related to the purposes of the award, e.g., through research and outreach products (such as publications, presentations, programs, and workshops) and other professional activities, as well as

ABOUT Dr. Robert C. Ball – Dr. Robert C. Ball was one of the first members of the faculty in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University. He is a well-known and respected limnologist. During his tenure, the limnology program within the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife was highly regarded nationally and he served as the advisor for many graduate students who became well-known limnologists. In addition to his faculty role, Dr. Ball also served as the Director of the Institute for Water Research. Dr. Ball's graduate education would not have been possible without the aid of grants-in-aid, scholarships, and fellowship when he attended the Ohio State University and the University of Michigan. Dr. Ball and his wife, Mrs. Betty A. Ball, established this fellowship as a means of providing deserving graduate students with the same type of opportunity.

Application information and materials are included below.

For questions regarding this fellowship, contact:

Sharon Reasoner, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife

Phone: 517.353.0647, e-mail: reasoner@msu.edu

DEADLINE: January 27, 2021 (materials must be RECEIVED by this date to be eligible)

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE ROBERT C. BALL AND BETTY A. BALL FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE FELLOWSHIP

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 27, 2021 (all materials must be RECEIVED by this date)

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS PREFERRED!!!

***FAILURE TO SUBMIT ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION WILL
RESULT IN THE APPLICATION NOT BEING REVIEWED***

APPLICATION MATERIALS

- I. **Completed DATA FORM** (see next page)
- II. **Short (not to exceed one typed, single-spaced page) statement indicating the relationship of their graduate work to fisheries, limnology or water quality and financial need.** Students should provide a brief statement on how their graduate work is tied to fisheries, limnology and water quality and their expectations for how their research will advance the science. Student should indicate types of financial support previously received as a graduate student, current support, and expected support through the duration of their program. Students should also indicate how they would use the money from the fellowship if awarded.
- III. **Confidential Letter of Support from Major Advisor.** Student should request a letter from their intended or current major advisor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at MSU. This letter should include faculty assessment of student performance toward degree completion or potential to complete their degree in a timely manner, student's financial need, and student's interest in and commitment to fisheries, limnology or water quality related issues, as well as qualification in general, relative to the award criteria. Letter should be sent directly to Sharon Reasoner.
- IV. **Additional Confidential Reference Letter.** Students should request a letter of support from someone who is knowledgeable about the student's academic and / or professional goals. Reference should comment on student's potential for excellence in research area and future promise. Letter should be sent directly to Sharon Reasoner.
- V. **Current CV or Resume**
- VI. **Submit materials to:**

Sharon Reasoner
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
13 Natural Resources Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1222

reasoner@msu.edu
Fax: 517-432-3502

ROBERT C. BALL AND BETTY A. BALL FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE FELLOWSHIP

DATA FORM

(Please complete and include this DATA FORM as a cover sheet to each copy of applicant's nomination materials). Funds for this award will be distributed at the beginning of the fall semester.

APPLICANT:

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address (Office) _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

MS or PhD (circle one)

Thesis or Dissertation Title: _____

Thesis or Dissertation Advisor: _____

My thesis or dissertation focuses on (circle one): Fisheries Limnology Water Quality None Listed

I am a US Citizen (circle one): YES NO

Semester Accepted into the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife: _____

Anticipated Graduate Date: _____