



CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION GENOMICS PROJECT

Dear CCGP Investigators,

We hope this message finds you healthy and looking toward life regaining some sense of normalcy. We certainly are here at UCLA.

We also hope that you're making good progress on your CCGP projects — field work, assembling resequencing samples, and getting the last of the reference genome materials together. Our first monthly CCGP newsletter will arrive in your inboxes very soon, keeping everyone informed of progress as we continue to ramp up the data collection phase of the project. You can also track our overall progress at the updated CCGP website (<https://www.ccgproject.org>). We have 80/130 species for reference genomes now in hand, and with the help of a new PacBio sequencer at UC Davis dedicated to CCGP genomes, we're moving into high gear on the reference genome generation.

CCGP species represent a wide range of California's diversity (223 total species from 66 orders in 8 phyla, <https://www.ccgproject.org/species>) but we feel that there are also a few species/general groups that are missing and would be welcome additions to the CCGP. These are groups that, in addition to being underrepresented in our current taxonomic set, have endangered taxa that are restricted to California, or are otherwise of great interest, and would benefit from concerted conservation genomics work.

We're reaching out directly to you, our funded PIs and labs, to see if you know of individuals or labs that would be interested in any of these groups. Current CCGP investigators are also welcome to participate.

Species/group wish list:

- **Butterflies:** interesting candidates could include *Euphydryas editha*, *Speyeria zerene*, *Papilio zelicaon*, *Apodemia mormo*
- **Beetles:** *Cincindela* tiger beetles, in particular
- **Succulents/cacti:** *Dudleya* and *Opuntia* (prickly pear cacti) both have interesting candidates
- **Freshwater fishes:** both California roach and hitch (*Lavinia symmetricus*, *L. exilicauda*) seem interesting with listed subspecies
- **Freshwater insects:** we have one (a damselfly); bellostomatid water bugs are interesting candidates
- **Black widow spider:** iconic, wide ranging, and severely declining in some areas as invasive widows apparently displace them
- **Scorpions:** especially the very wide-ranging taxa

General project parameters (please see the [original call for proposals](#) for specific project guidelines)

- The primary PI must be at a UC campus

- Projects should generally focus on species widely distributed in California
- Projects should aim for ~150 samples and the sampling scheme should aim to maximize geographic scope rather than population samples
- Genome size should be less than 5Gb

Because we are midway through our funding period, we are fast-tracking this call.

If individuals are interested in pursuing any of these taxa, or have related groups that they would like to promote for CCGP, please reach out to Erin Toffelmier (etoff@ucla.edu) and Brad Shaffer (brad.shaffer@ucla.edu) via email with the subject line "CCGP supplemental species" by **02 April 2021**.

At this stage, no formal proposal is necessary. We will first discuss these potential projects with PIs directly, then formulate a proposal plan.

We look forward to hearing back from folks, and possibly adding a few more projects to the CCGP. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, just get in touch.

Take care, and be safe,

Brad, Erin, and the CCGP team

California Conservation Genomics Project

www.ccgproject.org

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