

Project Description and Reference List
Due: Friday, September 17th (email by midnight)

This document should consist of three main sections:

- 1) **Background & Conceptual Framework** – This section should give the reader the relevant theoretical or historical background to understand your project. What important ecological, physiological, or environmental gaps in knowledge exist that your project could begin to fill? In other words, tell us why what you are doing is important and interesting. Explain how your work will fit into and expand upon our current understanding. Please include appropriate in text citations.
- 2) **Research Questions, Objectives, and Predictions** – This section should narrow down from your general framework and explain specific research questions, objectives for answering those questions, and predictions/hypotheses for those questions. Decide on 1–3 research questions, and then briefly explain how you aim to answer those questions by explicitly stating your objectives. What kinds of samples will you be collecting? How will you collect and analyze those samples? Next, provide succinct predictions for your questions. What isotopic patterns would you predict to see under certain scenarios?
- 3) **References List** (not included in 2-page limit)

The document should be single-spaced in Arial 10-point font. The first two sections should be ~2 pages, and the References List another ~0.5 to 1.0 pages. We don't care what citation style you use for the references, but please make sure it is consistent throughout the document.