

Call for Project Proposals
Lower Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office
Fish Passage and Aquatic Habitat Restoration Request for Funding
FY2017

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Lower Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (LGLFWCO) has received FY2017 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding to support Aquatic Habitat Restoration for on-the-ground fish passage, and fish habitat restoration and enhancement projects.

A “project” is defined as an action that will protect, restore or enhance fish passage and or fish habitat in New York and Pennsylvania Great Lakes watershed. Project proposals will be reviewed and ranked by staff at the LGLFWCO.

Please use the following guidelines in this RFP to submit your proposal by **October 13, 2017**. For questions, please email or call Betsy Trometer, betsy_trometer@fws.gov, 585-948-7041.

Focus Areas:

Fish habitat protection and restoration, specific to one or more of the following:

- Removing/bypassing dams and replacing/retrofitting culverts to allow fish passage
- Restoring riparian and in-stream habitat to prevent erosion and to create sufficient habitat for aquatic species
- Protecting and restoring coastal wetlands habitat to benefit aquatic species
- Restoring aquatic habitat necessary to sustain populations of migratory native species
- Implementing offshore reef rehabilitation projects to promote natural fish spawning
- Protecting, restoring, and managing existing wetlands and high-quality upland areas to sustain diverse, complex, and interconnected habitats for species reproduction, growth, and seasonal refuge
- Road-stream crossing assessments and prioritization of barrier removal projects

Focus Species: Will project benefit: brook trout, lake sturgeon, lake trout, American eel, native mussels, or other migratory native species?

Eligibility:

- Funding requests should range between \$10,000 and \$100,000.
- Projects must be within the Lower Great Lakes watershed.
- States, tribes, tribal authorities, local governments and non-profits can apply. Federal agencies can also apply, but might not be eligible for all funding sources.
- Match and partner contributions are encouraged. In-kind and federal match is allowed.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

- Applications submitted after the deadline of midnight, October 13, 2017 will not be accepted.

Fund Request Restrictions: Funding cannot be used for:

- Realty costs (e.g., lease or purchase interests in real property or to make rental or other land use incentive payments to landowners)
- Operation and maintenance of facilities or structures
- Actions required by existing regulatory programs, except that funds may support activities under voluntary agreements that exceed regulatory requirements for conserving habitats (e.g., hydropower licensing in which the licensee enters into a voluntary agreement to restore habitat that exceeds regulatory requirements)
- Projects that are primarily research studies. See the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act RPF for possible research grants available:
<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/fisheries/glfwra-grants.html>

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Are directly related to the focus areas and focus species
- Consider watershed-scale ecological and hydrological processes that affect fish habitat and fish populations.
- Are part of a watershed restoration effort that works to provide permanent solutions to the root cause of habitat decline
- Are integrated and aligned with other conservation plans (e.g. State Wildlife Plans, Watershed Management Plans, etc.)
- Evaluate their actions on target habitats, ecosystem processes and fish populations over time through monitoring
- Leverage resources from partners
- Provide benefits to broad spatial scope of aquatic resources, beyond the immediate project site (e.g. reconnects multiple miles of river)
- Identify measures of success and performance targets that are observable and amenable to pre- and post- project monitoring
- Include an outreach/education component in the local community
- Where applicable, incorporate best management practices that:
 - Ensure they will not spread invasive species
 - Use the most current science and technology for project design.
 - Demonstrate resilience to weather extremes.
- Can be completed within 2 years of receipt of the funds.

Other Considerations:

- If you have multiple projects that are different project types, please submit separate proposals for each project type. For example, a project that will restore fish passage in one stream or watershed in three different locations is considered one project, but a project that removes a fish passage barrier and restores a coastal wetland downstream of the barrier is considered two projects.
- Fund recipients must follow federal requirements for accounting, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and other applicable laws.

- Please note that additional information describing predicted and/or final resource outcomes for projects selected for funding through this call for proposals may be required at a later date (due to funding requirements of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative).

Additional Information about the Application Process

The application package should contain the following items:

- (1) Completed Project Application
- (2) Include Detailed Project Budget – Detailed information on the project budget must be included.
- (3) Attachments – A letter of support from the State Fish and Wildlife Agency is strongly recommended. Other letters of support, designs, planning documents, permits, articles, scientific studies, etc. are optional but encouraged.

Project Application Instructions

Submission Instructions

- Please combine all documents and attachments into a single pdf file. Number each page.
- File names should include the submission date followed by the project name (Example “071512 Prairie Stream Project”)
- Submit electronically as an email attachment to **betsy_trometer@fws.gov**
- Please note proposals should not exceed 10 pages, including attachments such as photos, maps, letters of support, etc.

Please note, the LGLFWCO will not consider:

1. Late requests.
2. Requests for projects or programs already completed.
3. Refunding projects, programs or items purchased before the project is approved or awarded.
4. Participating in or funding of any political campaign on behalf of any issues, organizations or candidates.

Deadline:

Applications are due by **October 13, 2017**

Applications must be received by 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time.

The LGLFWCO Subcommittee will review and rank projects and selected applicants will be notified of their selection by **November 17, 2017**.

**Lower Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office
Habitat Restoration/Fish Passage Request for Funding Application
FY2017**

Date:

Title:

Project Officer Name:
Project Officer Affiliation:
Project Officer Address:
Project Officer Phone:
Project Officer Email:

Co-officer Name:
Co-officer Affiliation:
Co-officer Address:
Co-Officer Phone:
Co-Officer Email:

Location:

State:
County:
Township:

Latitude: Longitude:

Specific Lake Affected:
Specific Rivers/Streams Affected:
Species Benefited (list all species benefited to include brook trout, lake sturgeon, lake trout, American eel, native mussels, or other migratory native species):

State/Tribal/Federal Agency responsible for Fish Management:
Contact information for lead biologist:

Land ownership at project location:

Project Description (Describe problem, the specific cause and how project will address problem):

List the specific objectives:

What method(s) will you use to accomplish each objective?:

Will public fishing access be available?:

Total number of fish passage barriers removed or bypassed:

Amount and Type of Habitat Affected: (may have multiple types)

Riverine in miles	Lake in acres	Wetland in acres	Riparian in miles	Riparian in acres	Upland in acres

Is the project part of a watershed scale effort? Is it identified in a watershed plan?:

Describe all existing and planned habitat and ecological monitoring:

What is your approximate start date for this project?:

Project Completion (months):

Map of Project Area:

Photographs of Project Area:

Budget:

Administrative and legal expenses	
Design/engineering fees	
Other fees	
Construction	
Materials	
Equipment	
Other:	
Project Total	

Funding Request:

USFWS Funding Request	
Total Partner Match: In-kind Funding	
Project Total (including match)	

Contributing Partners: Please list partner names and their proposed contributions of cash and/or in-kind service cash value (*example: 100 volunteer hours, In-kind value of \$2100*).

Partner	Cash	In-kind	Total
Total			