

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FWS - Fisheries

<https://www.fws.gov/service/great-lakes-fish-and-wildlife-restoration-act-grant-program>

Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act FY 2023

Fiscal Year: 2023

F23AS00063

Due Date for Applications: **01/05/2023**

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A. Program Description

Authority:

Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. §941 et seq.)

Assistance Listing Number:

15.608,15.662

Background, Purpose and Program Requirements:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) requests interested entities to submit research, restoration, and Regional Project proposals for the restoration of the Great Lakes Basin fish and wildlife resources, as authorized under the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 941c). The purpose of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (GLFWRA) is to provide assistance to States, Indian Tribes, and other interested entities to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration, research, and management of the fish and wildlife resources and their habitats in the Great Lakes Basin. All proposals should focus on the restoration and or research of fish and/or wildlife resources in the Great Lakes Basin and should be consistent with the [goals of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 2016](#) and the recommendations of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration's "[Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes.](#)" When appropriate, all proposals should be consistent with:

- a. The [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan III](#);
- b. The goals of the [Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement](#);
- c. The [Non-indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act](#) as reauthorized by the National Invasive Species Act;
- d. The [fish community objectives](#) identified by the [lake committees](#) and the Council of Lake Committees;
- e. The [Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries](#);
- f. The [Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries](#);
- g. The [North American Waterfowl Management Plan](#);
- h. Addresses [research and/or monitoring priorities](#) of the [Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture 2007 Implementation Plan](#); and
- i. [Applicable State Wildlife Action Plans](#); and
- x. Additional step down plans that further specify the implementation of the goals and objectives of the above plans at the state, tribal, watershed or local level.

Proposals submitted are reviewed and recommended for funding to the Service by the GLFWRA Proposal Review Committee (PRC). Since 1998, the Act has provided \$35.7 million dollars in federal funding to 211 research, restoration, and Regional Project proposals. More than 135 organizations have contributed nearly \$16.6 million in matching non-federal partner support. GLFWA funding combined with required matching funds equates to \$52 million worth of benefits to Great Lakes Basin fish, and wildlife resources.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding

\$2,890,000

B2. Expected Award Amount

Maximum Award

\$960,000

Minimum Award

\$2,000

B3. Expected Award Funding and Anticipated Dates

Expected Award Funding

\$136,444

Expected Award Date

September 15, 2023

Supported in part by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, we expect approximately \$2.89 million to support proposals this fiscal year. Available funding and proposal awards are subject to final Congressional appropriations for Fiscal Year 2023. Up to 33 and one-third percent of the total Congressional appropriation to the GLFWRA is eligible to fund Regional Project proposals. Expected award funding for Regional Project proposals is between \$180,000 to \$960,000. Successful restoration and research proposals have ranged from \$2,300 to \$2,000,000 with the average proposal at \$136,444. Expected award funding for restoration and research proposals is between \$20,000 and \$350,000.

Selected restoration and research proposals and Regional Project proposals will be awarded funding for the duration of the proposal via a grant or cooperative agreement between the recipient and the Service. Funding will be made available once the official award letter has been received and the performance period has started. Continuation of proposals funded in previous fiscal years are eligible but will be considered and reviewed as a new proposal.

B4. Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards

12

Number of grants or cooperative agreements awarded this fiscal year is expected to range between 8 and 12 awards. Proposal start dates are flexible, with suggested start dates occurring between October 1, 2023, and March 1, 2024. The length of proposal period typically ranges from 1 to 4 years. The expected award date is between mid to late August and mid-September 2023.

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

G - Grant

CA - Cooperative Agreement

Restoration and research proposals will be awarded a **grant agreement** and Regional Project proposals will be awarded a **cooperative agreement** under this announcement. For cooperative agreements, the Service anticipates to be substantially involved by performing one or more of the following activities:

- Participating and working closely with the recipient in carrying out the scope of work, including training recipient personnel or detailing Federal personnel to work on the proposal effort.
- Reviewing and approving one stage of work before the next stage can begin.
- Prior to award, reviewing and approving proposed modifications or sub-awards.
- Helping select proposal staff or trainees.
- Directing or redirecting the work because of interrelationships with other proposals.
- Reserving the right to immediately halt an activity if detailed performance specifications are not met.
- Limiting recipient discretion with respect to scope of work, organizational structure, staffing, mode of operations and other management processes, coupled with close monitoring or operational involvement during performance under the award.
- Regional Project proposals selected for funding, will be issued a cooperative agreement as the funding instrument. Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network partners that submit Regional Project proposals that qualify as CESU proposals will be subject to the CESU indirect cost rate cap.

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

00 – State governments

01 – County governments

02 – City or township governments

04 – Special district governments

05 – Independent school districts

06 – Public and State controlled institutions of higher education

07 – Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

11 – Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)

12 – Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

13 – Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

20 – Private institutions of higher education

21 – Individuals

22 – For profit organization other than small businesses

23 – Small businesses

25 – Others (see text field entitled “Additional Information on Eligibility” for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility

The proposal activities (e.g., habitat restoration and barrier removal) must be within the Great Lakes Basin or impact a fish or wildlife species (e.g., research) present in the Great Lakes Basin to be eligible for funding.

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Yes

Percentage of Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

25

Restoration and Research Proposals: All proposals **require a 25% non-federal match**. Not less than 25% of the **total cost** of implementing a proposal shall be paid in cash or in-kind contributions by non-Federal sources. Applicants may attribute some or all of their allowable unrecovered indirect costs as cost-share/match, however recipients may only charge to the Federal award the indirect costs calculated against the allowable direct costs charged to the Federal award. Recipients may not charge to the Federal award indirect costs calculated against: 1) any portion of the recipient’s direct costs; or 2) any portion of the direct costs charged to any other Federal or non-Federal partner.

The required match is **25% of the total proposal costs** (funding request + non-federal match). For example, if the request for federal funding is \$75,000, the minimum required non-federal match is \$25,000, and the total proposal costs would be \$100,000.
($\$75,000 / 0.75 = \$100,000 - \$75,000.00 = \$25,000$).

Restoration and research pre-proposals **without a 25% non-federal match will not be considered**.

Non-Federal Match Changes: The 2016 Reauthorization of the GLFWRA made some significant additions to allowable non-federal match as it relates to time period, and land and conservation easements. The changes are summarized below.

Time Period for Providing Non-Federal Match: The non-federal share of the cost of implementing a proposal may be provided at any time during the 2 year period preceding January 1 of the year in which the Service receives the restoration and/or research pre-proposal or Regional Project proposal.

Sources of Non-Federal Match: To be accepted as match it must be in compliance with §200.306 Cost sharing or matching.

- The appraised value of land or a conservation easement connected with the proposal.
- The costs associated with securing a conservation easement; and restoration or enhancement of the conservation easement.

- Appraisal of conservation easement. The value of a conservation easement may be used to meet the non-federal share of the cost of implementing a proposal, as long as it meets the following:
 1. Within the 2 year time period for allowable match;
 2. Is acquired before the end of the proposal grant period;
 3. Is held in perpetuity for conservation purposes of Service programs, related to the Great Lakes Basin, and a) by an accredited land trust or conservancy or a Federal, State, or tribal agency; b) is connected either physically or through a conservation planning process to the proposal; and c) the appraisal valuation date shall not be later than 1 year after the price of the conservation easement was set under a contract.
 4. The appraisal shall conform to the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) and completed by a Federal or State certified appraiser.
 5. All costs associated with securing a conservation easement and restoration or enhancement of that conservation easement may be used to meet the non-federal match of implementing a proposal. The costs may include cash, in-kind contributions, and indirect costs. The costs may not be associated with mitigation or litigation (other than costs associated with the Natural Resource Damage Assessment program).

Regional Projects: Regional Project proposals selected for funding shall be exempt from cost sharing or partner match if the Service's Midwest Region Director determines the authorization for the proposal does not require a non-federal cost-share.

C3. Other

Sponsorship: During the development of the restoration or research pre-proposal make sure you discuss your proposal with the natural resource agency (e.g., local staff) in the Great Lakes Basin that has management authority (State and/or Tribal natural resource agencies) where your proposal will take place on the ground or will potentially benefit. This is the first step in obtaining sponsorship for your proposal. Proof of sponsorship is not required at the pre-proposal stage. If you get invited to submit a restoration and research full proposal, the GLFWRA Coordinator will provide you with contact information for a PRC member so you can discuss your proposal, and obtain required sponsorship to be eligible to receive funding.

Regional Projects: Regional Project proposals must be submitted by a State Director and/or Tribal Chair (or a joint submission from the supervisors of the agency's fish and wildlife programs on behalf of the Director or Tribal Chair). Regional Project proposals should impact multiple Great Lakes, States and/or Tribes and consequently must include the signature or other written documentation of all State Directors and Tribal Chairs who support the proposal (or joint signatures or letter of support from the supervisors of the agency's fish and wildlife programs on behalf of the State Director or Tribal Chair).

U.S. non-profit, non-governmental organizations must provide a copy of their Section 501(c)(3) or (4) status determination letter received from the Internal Revenue Service.

There is no limit on the number of restoration or research pre-proposals or Regional Project proposals an applicant may submit.

Foreign Entities or Projects:

State Sponsors of Terrorism: This program will not fund projects in [countries determined by the U.S. Department of State to have repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism](#) and therefore are subject to sanctions restricting receipt of U.S. foreign assistance and other financial transactions.

Office of Foreign Assets Control Sanctions: This program will not fund projects in countries subject to [comprehensive sanction programs administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury, Office of Foreign Asset Control](#) without proper licenses.

In-Country Licenses, Permits, or Approvals: Entities conducting activities outside the U.S. are responsible for coordinating with appropriate U.S. and foreign government authorities as necessary to obtain all required licenses, permits, or approvals before undertaking project activities. The Service does not assume responsibility for recipient compliance with the laws, regulations, policies, or procedures of the foreign country in which they are conducting work.

Excluded Parties:

The DOI conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award. The DOI cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

D. Application and Submission Information**D1. Address to Request Application Package**

The request for **restoration and research pre-proposal**, and **Regional Project proposal application templates can be downloaded** at [GrantSolutions](#) or from [Grants.gov](#) under this opportunity. If you require assistance obtaining the application templates and other documents contact Rick Westerhof at 231-282-2736 or rick_westerhof@fws.gov.

Restoration and Research Pre-proposals: Restoration and research pre-proposals are limited to two pages and must include the following information: management implication or application, proposal title; proposal applicant(s); GPS coordinates, costs; proposal dates; rationale; relevancy, objectives; methods; deliverables/products and a one page only curriculum vitae or resume for each person involved in the proposal.

Restoration and Research Full Proposals: Those applicants invited to submit full proposals (notified in February 2023) will be required to submit the same information as included in the pre-proposals, but with more detail that may include providing a response to comments/suggestions from the PRC that will be sent via email. The following information must be included in detail: proposal title; proposal applicants; management implication or application, rationale; GPS coordinates; objectives; methods; deliverables; schedule for completion; past and current funding support; references; information on how each of the nine review criteria are addressed; one page resume or curriculum vitae for each person involved in the proposal; source of the non-federal match and budget sheet(s); and funding requested budget sheet(s) including

direct and indirect costs. Letters of support are encouraged.

If your restoration and research pre-proposal is selected for full proposal submission, your full proposal must be submitted in GrantSolutions (<https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/>) by **Thursday, March 23, 2023 before 5:00 PM EST.**

For **restoration and research and Regional Project proposals** approved for funding, applicants will be required to provide further information as required by the Service to achieve compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321-4347), Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544), or other requirements as referenced in sections below.

Regional Projects: Final Service work plans for Regional Project proposals recommended for funding by the PRC will be developed among the applicants submitting the proposal and the identified Service project manager.

Program Website Link

<https://www.fws.gov/service/great-lakes-fish-and-wildlife-restoration-act-grant-program>

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

All applicants must submit the Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. This form is available with the announcement on Grants.gov and in GrantSolutions. The form must be complete and signed by an Authorized Representative. For all applicants except individuals and commercial entities, the Authorized Representative's signature on a standard application form submitted to the Service represents their certification that the entity's financial management system meets [2 CFR §200.302](#) financial management requirements. The non-Federal entity's financial management system must be sufficient to:

1. Permit the preparation of required reports;
2. Trace funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that the entity has used such funds per Federal statutes, regulations, and terms and conditions of the Federal award;
3. Provide for the requirements in [2 CFR §200.302](#)(b); and
4. Comply with [§200.334](#) Retention requirements for records, [§200.335](#) Requests for transfer of records, [§200.336](#) Methods for collection, transmission, and storage of information, and [§200.337](#) Access to records.

If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative's signature on or submission of the SF-424 form in GrantSolutions also represents their certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying.

When completing the SF-424 Application form, enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in Box 18a, Estimated Federal Funding. Include any other Federal sources of funding in Box 18e. Estimated Other Funding and identify any such sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below). For individuals applying as a private citizen (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own or operate in your name), do NOT include your Social Security Number on this or any other document to be submitted with your application! When completing the SF-424 Application form, individuals must enter in Box

8b. Employee/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN) the substitute number “444-44-4444.” Individuals may register in SAM.gov but are not required to have a SAM.gov registration. For individuals without a SAM.gov registration enter in Box 8c. the substitute Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) “KA5HQCLKUVW1”.

NOTE: The following information starting with the SF424 Application for Federal Assistance Form” through “Application Checklist” is required if you are submitting a Regional Project proposal. If you are submitting a restoration or research Pre-Proposal this information is not required at this time but will be required if you get invited in February 2023 to submit a full proposal.

Note: All documents not filled out online in GrantSolutions that require a signature must be hand signed, digitally, or electronically signed. Typing your name in is not acceptable.

Regional Project Proposal Application

In Word or pdf format submit the Regional Project proposal. Submit [budget sheetshttps://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/](https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/)separately in Excel or pdf format.

Project Abstract Summary (OMB Number 4040-0019)

Applicants must complete and submit the Project Abstract Summary form. The Project Abstract Summary form must provide a brief award description. The description must be in plain language that the public can understand without viewing the full application proposal. It should include a brief, simple description of the project purpose, activities to be performed, deliverables and expected outcomes, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipient activities, if known at the time of submission.

Do not include personally identifiable, sensitive, or proprietary information in the award description as this is available to the public. Use only English characters, numbers, punctuation, and standard symbols. Use of non-English, non-standard characters (also referred to as special or extended ASCII characters) will result in the award description failing to be reported correctly to USASpending.gov. Award descriptions are limited to 4,000 characters or less. Applicants should check the length of the award description and proofread for proper grammar and spelling.

For applicants applying through Grants.gov: Applicants must download and complete the Grants.gov “Project Abstract Summary” form from the full text announcement. To submit the Grants.gov “Project Abstract Summary” form with the application, applicants must add the form as an attachment to the Grants.gov “Attachments” form that is included in the application package.

For applicants applying through GrantSolutions-Grants Management Module (GS-GMM): Applicants must enter the information in the Project Abstract Summary screen. Do not upload a document in place of entering the information directly into GS-GMM Project Abstract Screen.

Project Narrative

Proposal Narrative for Restoration and Research Pre-Proposal and Full Proposal Application

- Title;
- Proposal Applicant(s);

- Brief Proposal Description;
- Management Implication or Application;
- Total Proposal Cost;
- GLFWRA Funds Requested;
- Non-Federal Partner Match;
- Proposal Dates;
- GPS Coordinates;
- Rationale and Objectives;
- Methods;
- Deliverables/Products;
- Relevance;
- Resume/Curriculum Vitae;
- Funding Requested Budget Sheet **for Full Proposal only**;
- Non-Federal Match Budget Sheet **for Full Proposal only**; and
- See application template for more details and instructions.

Proposal Narrative for Regional Project Proposal Application

- Title;
- Proposal Applicant(s) and USFWS Project Manager(s);
- GLFWRA Funds Requested;
- Non-Federal Partner Match;
- Total Proposal Cost;
- Proposal Dates;
- Management Implication or Application;
- GPS Coordinates;
- Rationale and Objectives;
- Methods;
- Deliverables/Products;
- Relevance;
- Schedule for Completion;
- Budget Justification;
- Optional Non-Federal Match;
- Past GLFWRA Funded Proposals;
- Identify Other Funding Sources;
- References;
- Proposal Dates;
- Resume/Curriculum Vitae;
- Funding Requested Budget Sheet;
- Non-Federal Match Budget Sheet; and
- See application template for more details and instructions

SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs

Applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A Budget Information form for Non-Construction Programs or Projects. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov or in GrantSolutions. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 200. Applicants must show funds requested from this Federal program separately from any other Federal sources of funding. In “Section A – Budget Summary” on the SF-424A form enter the funding requested from this Federal program in the first row. Identify any other Federal funding sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below). In the SF-424A “Contractual” category total, do not combine estimated subawards and contractual costs. Use the “Contractual” category to reflect estimated contractual costs only. Enter estimated subaward costs in the SF-424A “Other” category. Provide a separate description and total estimated costs for both contractual and subaward costs in the required Budget Narrative (see below).

SF-424C, Budget Information for Construction Program

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424C Budget Information form for Construction Programs or Projects. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov and in GrantSolutions. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200. Applicants must show funds requested from this Federal program separately from any other Federal sources of funding. Identify any other Federal funding sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below).

SF-429 Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish Real Property

Applicants seeking approval to acquire real property under an award must complete and submit the SF-429, “Real Property Status Report (Cover Page)” and the SF-429-B, “Real Property Status Report Attachment B (Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish)”. These forms are required if the real property is acquired with Federal funds, with recipient cost share or matching funds, or as an in-kind contribution under the award. The SF-429 forms are not available with this announcement on Grants.gov; they are available on the [Grants.gov Post-Award Reporting Forms page](#). Please submit these completed forms as attachments to your application.

Budget Narrative

Applicants must include a budget narrative that describes and justifies requested budget items and costs. In your budget narrative, describe how the SF-424 Budget Information, “Object Class Category” totals were determined. For personnel salary costs, generally describe how estimates were determined by identifying what type of staff will support the project and how much time they will contribute to the project (in hours or workdays). Describe any proposed [items of cost that require prior approval](#) under the [Federal award cost principles](#), including any anticipated subawarding, transferring, or contracting out of any work under the award. Provide a separate description and total estimated costs for both contractual and subaward costs. If equipment previously purchased with Federal funds is available for the project, provide a list of that equipment and identify the Federal funding source. Identify any third-party cash or in-kind contributions that a partner or other entity will contribute to the project and describe how the contributions directly and substantively benefit completion of the project. For in-kind contributions, identify the source, the amount, and the valuation methodology used to determine the total value. See [2 CFR §200.306](#) for more information. Please note the prohibitions on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment in [2 CFR 200.216](#). The

Department of the Interior's [Unmanned Aircraft web page](#) provides a list of approved unmanned aircraft and related equipment and software.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.112](#), applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

- a. *Applicability.*
 1. This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.
 2. In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub recipients, the conflict of interest provisions in [2 CFR §200.318](#) apply.
- b. *Notification.*
 1. Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with [2 CFR §200.112](#).
 2. Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub recipients.
- c. *Restrictions on lobbying.* Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to [43 CFR §18](#) and [31 USC §1352](#).
- d. *Review procedures.* The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.

Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in [2 CFR §200.339](#), Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also [2 CFR §180](#)).

Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System](#), in accordance with 2 CFR 200 subpart F. U.S. state, local government, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently

closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) website.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in [43CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying](#). If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in [43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A](#).

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants and recipients must not use any federally appropriated funds (annually appropriated or continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a Federal award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any U.S. agency, a Member of the U.S. Congress, an officer or employee of the U.S. Congress, or an employee of a Member of the U.S. Congress connection with the award. Applicants and recipients must complete and submit the [SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities"](#) form if the Federal share of the proposal or award is more than \$100,000 and the applicant or recipient has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the application or award. The SF-LLL form is available with this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

Applicants must provide a statement indicating if there is any overlap between this Federal application and any other Federal application, or funded project, in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, "There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects, including in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel". If any such overlap exists, provide a complete description of overlaps or duplications between this proposal and any other federally funded project or application in regard to activities, costs, and time commitment of key personnel, as applicable. Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that proposal was submitted, to whom (entity name and program), and when you anticipate being notified of their funding decision. When overlap exists, your statement must end with "We understand that if at any time we receive funding from another source that is duplicative of the funding we are requesting from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in this application, we will immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service point of contact identified in this Funding Opportunity in writing."

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration:

This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau

or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register as a financial assistance recipient in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#). A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s). Entities already registered in SAM.gov should review their registration to confirm that they are registered as a financial assistance recipient, which requires completion of the SAM.gov “Financial Assistance General Certifications and Representations”. See the “Submission Requirements” section of this document below for more information on SAM.gov registration.

Applicants can register on the [SAM.gov](#) website. The “Help” tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov “[Register with SAM](#)” page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity’s IRS information. If applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications

01/05/2023

Application Due Date Explanation

Restoration and research pre-proposals and Regional Project proposals in Word or pdf format must be submitted in GrantSolutions (<https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/>) by **Thursday, January 5, 2023 before 5:00 PM EST**. Proposals received after this deadline will not be considered.

If your restoration and research pre-proposal is selected for full proposal submission, your full proposal must be submitted in GrantSolutions (<https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/>) by **Thursday, March 23, 2023 before 5:00 PM EST**. Full proposals received after this deadline will not be considered.

D5. Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required for applications submissions from a U.S. state or local government prior to submission. Applicants must contact their State’s Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state’s process under [Executive Order 12372](#). The State Single Point of Contact list is available on the [OMB Office of Federal Financial Management website](#).

D6. Funding Restrictions

Indirect Costs: Individuals

Individuals applying for and receiving funds separate from a business or non-profit organization they may operate are not eligible to charge indirect costs to their award. If you are an individual applying for funding, you must not include any indirect costs in your proposed budget.

Indirect Costs: Organizations

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior (DOI) is your organization's cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center (IBC) will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the IBC by phone 916-930-3803 or using the [IBC Email Submission Form](#). See the [IBC Website](#) for more information.

Organizations must have an active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award. Recipients may not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted by Organization:

U.S. state or local government entities receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding must include the following statement in their application and attach a copy of their most recently negotiated rate agreement:

- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. Our current indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. Attached is a copy of our most recently negotiated rate agreement/certification.

U.S. state or local government entities receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding must include the applicable statement from this list:

- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding. We prepare and retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and documentation per 2 CFR 200, Appendix VII. Our current indirect cost rate is [insert rate], which is charged against [insert a complete description of the direct cost base used to distribute indirect costs to the award].
- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding. We have not prepared an indirect cost rate proposal and documentation per 2 CFR §200, Appendix VII and elect to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. We understand we must use this methodology consistently for all Federal awards until we choose to establish a rate per 2 CFR §200. We understand we must notify the Service in writing if we establish a rate that changes the methodology used to charge indirect costs during the award period. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected

increase in indirect costs during the project period and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.

All other organizations must include the applicable statement from this list and any related documentation in their application. Please note, an organization with a current negotiated (including provisional) rate may not elect to charge the 10% de minimis rate of Modified Total Direct Costs during the period covered by their current negotiated rate.

- We are an organization with a current negotiated indirect cost rate. In the event we receive an award, we will charge indirect costs per our current negotiated rate agreement. Attached is a copy of our current rate agreement.
- We are an organization with a negotiated indirect cost rate that has expired. Attached is copy of our most recently negotiated rate agreement. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date. We understand we must provide the Service a copy of our approved rate agreement before charging indirect costs to the Federal award.
- We are an organization that has never negotiated an indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate], which is charged against [insert a complete description of the direct cost base used to distribute indirect costs to the award]. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date. We understand we must provide the Service a copy of our approved rate agreement before charging indirect costs to the Federal award.
- We are an organization that does not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate. In the event an award is made, we elect to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. We understand we must use this methodology consistently for all Federal awards until such time as we negotiate a different rate with our cognizant agency. We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if during the award period we establish a rate that changes the methodology used to charge indirect costs to the award. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.
- We are an organization submitting a [insert either “Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Program” or “Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network”] project proposal, which has an indirect cost rate cap of [insert rate; CRU is currently 15%; CESU is currently 17.5%]. In the event we receive an award, we understand that if we have a current negotiated (including provisional) indirect cost rate agreement we must charge the capped indirect cost rate to the same base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement. We understand we must request prior approval from the awarding program to use the [2 CFR 200.1 Modified Total Direct Costs](#) (MTDC) base instead of our approved base and that we must submit such requests with our application, including a calculation showing how use of the MTDC base results in an overall reduction in the total indirect costs recovered. If we do not have current negotiated (including provisional) rate, we understand we must charge the capped indirect cost rate against Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. If we have never negotiated a rate, we understand we must use the de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC.
- We are an organization that will charge all costs directly.

The Proposal Review Committee has established the following guidelines and restrictions for funding provided through the Act.

- Not less than 25% of the total cost of implementing a proposal shall be paid in cash or in-kind contributions by non-Federal sources.
- Construction and engineering costs are allowed for restoration proposals that directly benefit fish and wildlife resources in the Great Lakes Basin.
- Equipment purchases are allowable for those items necessary to meet the stated proposal objectives and shall follow the requirements within 2 CFR 200, including but not limited to 2 CFR 200.12, 2 CFR 200.313, and 200.407.
- Indirect Cost – You will need to do the one of the following related to indirect costs. Either Provide: 1). A copy of your current Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), and 2). A written statement signed by the official having the authority to negotiate indirect cost rates for the recipient organization notifying us that they will assess a reduced indirect cost rate. This statement must also specify to which proposal(s) the reduced rate will apply, or 3). A statement in the Budget Narrative indicating recipient organization does not have a NICRA.
- Regional Project proposals selected for funding, will be issued a cooperative agreement as the funding instrument. Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network partners that submit Regional Project proposals that qualify as CESU proposals will be subject to the CESU indirect cost rate cap (currently 17.5%).
- Funding is not available for salaries of permanent or tenured staff; however, tenured staff on less than 12 month appointments are eligible for funding (e.g., 9 month tenured staff would be eligible for up to 3 months funding). Staff on soft money or with annual contracts are eligible for funding.
- The development of management plans is not eligible for funding; however, gathering important information for the development of management plans and implementing actions listed in management plans are eligible for funding.
- Travel funds to attend and present results at conferences is limited to \$1,000 per person, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per award.
- All funded proposals are required to document compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Pursuant to this, successful applicants must complete a series of environmental checks and/or documents to ensure compliance. Depending on the scope and scale of the proposal this may be as simple as a NEPA checklist or as complex as the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Service funds cannot be used to complete on the groundwork until NEPA compliance has been documented.
- **Grant funds may be used for proposal activities after July 1, 2023 however, costs must be authorized and approved by the Service per 2 CFR 200 and costs will NOT be reimbursed if the proposal is not approved for funding.** Activities before July 1, 2023 are ineligible as a grant activity and will not be reimbursed with grant funds.
- If your proposal is selected for funding, pre-federal award costs will be allowed, if deemed necessary by the GLFWRA Coordinator.

D7. Other Submission Requirements

The Service uses the GrantSolutions system to manage financial assistance applications and awards. Applicants must register in and conduct any subsequent award business with the Service in GrantSolutions. To apply, your organization and organization officials must be established in GrantSolutions. To register your organization in GrantSolutions, send an email to help@grantsolutions.gov with the following information:

Subject: New Organization Request

- Organization/Individual Name
- Point of Contact first and last name, email, and phone number
- Organization Type
- SAM.gov Unique Entity Identifier (not required for individuals or Service-waived entities)
- Organization Employer Identification Number (Applicants that are INDIVIDUALS DO NOT include your social security number)
- Address

Organizational details should match those in the organization's SAM.gov registration. To establish organization official accounts and user role(s), complete a Recipient User Account Request Form for each official and email it to help@grantsolutions.gov. The GrantSolutions entity user roles are: Authorizing Official (ADO); Principal Investigator/Program Director (PI/PD); Support Specialist (GSS); Financial Officer (FO); and Financial Support Staff (FSS). All roles can do the following: enter applications, amendments, and reports, view awards, and view and create notes. The ADO and the PI/PD roles can also submit applications, amendments, and reports. The FO role can also submit reports. At a minimum, registered organizations must assign someone to the ADO and PI/PD roles. For more information, see the GrantSolutions Recipient Training and FAQs web page. For GrantSolutions registration, submission, and other assistance contact their Customer Support by telephone at 1-866-577-0771 or by email at help@grantsolutions.gov.

Restoration and research pre-proposals and Regional Project proposals in Word or pdf format must be submitted in GrantSolutions (<https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/>) by **Thursday, January 5, 2023 before 5:00 PM EST**. Restoration and research Pre-proposals and Regional Project proposals received after this deadline will not be considered.

If your restoration and research pre-proposal is selected for full proposal submission, your restoration and research full proposal must be submitted in GrantSolutions (<https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/>) by **Thursday, March 23, 2023 before 5:00 PM EST**. Full proposals received after this deadline will not be considered.

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

Please see Table 1 GLFWRA Proposal Review Criteria at the end of this document for more details. **Maximum Points: 92**

Criteria: Restoration and research pre-proposals, full proposals and Regional Project proposals will be reviewed and evaluated based on the following nine criteria as described in **Table 1** (see last page of this document):

Management Significance and Relevancy to the Act:

Importance of Problem or Opportunity

Management Implications

Proposal Impact and Scale

Target Species/Habitats

Impacts both Fish and Wildlife

Proposal Characteristics:

Objective and Methods

Cost or Value

Likelihood of Success

Potential for Negative Impacts

All proposals should focus on the restoration and or research of fish and/or wildlife resources in the Great Lakes Basin and should be consistent with the [goals of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 2016](#)

and the recommendations of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration's ["Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes."](#) When appropriate, all proposals should be consistent with:

- a. The [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan III](#);
- b. The goals of the [Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement](#);
- c. The [Non-indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act](#) as reauthorized by the National Invasive Species Act;
- d. The [fish community objectives](#) identified by the [lake committees](#) and the Council of Lake Committees;
- e. The [Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries](#);
- f. The [Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries](#);
- g. The [North American Waterfowl Management Plan](#);
- h. Addresses [research and/or monitoring priorities](#) of the [Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture 2007 Implementation Plan](#);
- i. [Applicable State Wildlife Action Plans](#); and
- j. Additional step down plans that further specify the implementation of the goals and objectives of the above plans at the state, tribal, watershed or local level.

E2. Review and Selection Process

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the FWS may choose not to fund the selected project.

Prior to award, the program will conduct and document a review of the proposed budget to ensure figures are calculated correctly, proposed costs are clearly linked to the project narrative and seem necessary and reasonable, no obviously unallowable costs are included, costs requiring prior approval are identified and described, indirect cost are applied correctly, and any program match or cost share requirements are addressed.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in [2 CFR §200.206](#). Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the Bureau is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The Bureau will consider this information when completing the risk review. The Bureau uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in [2 CFR §200.208](#) should be applied to the award.

Proposal Review Committee: The Proposal Review Committee (PRC) is comprised of two representatives of each of the State Directors (New York, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Pennsylvania) and Indian Tribes (Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Seneca Nation, Oneida Nation, and Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa) in the Great Lakes Basin. The two representatives (one fishery expert and one wildlife expert) are appointed by the State Director or Indian Tribe to serve on the PRC. The PRC is responsible for review of research, restoration, and Regional Project proposals and provides recommendations to the Region 3 Regional Director on which proposals should be funded and implemented. The PRC operates under the guidance of the Service.

Pre-Proposals and Full Proposals Restoration and Research: Restoration and research pre-proposals are reviewed, scored, and ranked by the PRC using the criteria in Table 1 (see attachment). Successful applicants are invited to submit full proposals based on the merit of the pre-proposal. Full proposals have a minimum of two peer reviewers and each peer reviewer completes an evaluation form and signs a conflict of interest form. Peer reviewers are selected by the GLFWRA Coordinator based on their technical expertise. Applicants are not required to provide a list of peer reviewers for their proposal. The PRC receives a peer reviewer summary for each proposal for use during their scoring and ranking process. The PRC recommends full proposals to be funded to the Region 3 Regional Director.

Regional Projects: The PRC reviews the Regional Project proposals using the criteria in Table 1 (see last page of this document). Each proposal is scored and ranked by the PRC. In February 2023, applicants are invited to give a presentation on their proposal to the PRC. The PRC makes recommendations to the Region 3 Regional Director on how much of the annual appropriations

should be allocated to Regional Project proposals and which proposals should be developed into final Service work plans for funding.

All Proposals: Prior to participating in any review or evaluation process, all staff and peer reviewers, evaluators, panel members, and advisors must sign and return to the program office point of contact the “Department of the Interior Conflict of Interest Certification” form. For a copy of this form, contact the Service point of contact identified in the Agency Contacts section below.

The PRC may negotiate selected proposals scopes of work and budgets prior to making a recommendation for funding to the Region 3 Regional Director for approval. Applicants may indicate a range for funding requested from the Act (e.g. \$100,000 to \$250,000) for restoration and research pre-proposals and full proposals, and Regional Project proposals, which will indicate to the PRC that the proposals scope of work and budget is negotiable or scalable.

E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

See the [Service’s General Award Terms and Conditions](#) for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards. The Service will communicate any other program- or project-specific special terms and conditions to recipients in their notices of award.

E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

Depending on approval by the Region 3 Regional Director and available funding, successful restoration and research full proposal, and Regional Project proposal applicants can anticipate receiving an official grant or cooperative agreement by mid to late August or mid-September 2023.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

The tentative Fiscal Year 2023 GLFWRA schedule showing important dates is presented below:

Restoration and Research Pre-Proposals and Regional Project Proposals Due	Jan 5, 2023
Restoration and Research Pre-Proposals Selected for Full Proposal Development	Feb 16, 2023
Applicants Notified to Submit Restoration and Research Full Proposals	Feb 17-22, 2023

Applicants Regional Project Proposal Presentation to the PRC	Mar 15-30, 2023
Restoration and Research Full Proposals Due	Mar 23, 2023
Restoration and Research Full Proposals sent to Peer Reviewers and PRC	Mar 30, 2023
Restoration and Research Full Proposal Peer Reviewer Evaluation Due	Apr 27, 2023
Peer Reviewer Evaluation Summary to PRC	May 4, 2023
Restoration and Research Full Proposals Selected for Funding by the PRC	May 22-26, 2023
Service Approves Funds for Regional Project Proposals and Restoration and Research Full Proposals	Jun 9, 2023
Successful and Unsuccessful Restoration and Research Full Proposal and Regional Project Proposal Applicants Notified via Email	Jun 17-30, 2023
Successful Restoration and Research Full Proposal and Regional Project Proposal Applicants Receive Financial Agreement Award Letter	Aug/Sept 2023

Depending on approval by the Region 3 Regional Director and available funding, successful restoration and research and Regional Project proposal applicants can anticipate receiving an official grant or cooperative agreement by mid to late August or mid-September 2023. The agreement serves as the official notice of award to the applicant and provides important information on the details of the agreement and expectations of both the Service and recipient for the life of the agreement.

Successful applicants will receive an email between mid-August and mid-September 2023 from GrantSolutions notifying them the award letter or financial agreement (grant or cooperative) has been approved.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive an email around mid to late June 2023 notifying them their restoration and research full proposal was not selected for funding. The email will include PRC comments and Peer Reviewer evaluations and comments.

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the [DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](#) for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

See the [Service's General Award Terms and Conditions](#) for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards.

Buy America Provision for Infrastructure: Required Use of American Iron, Steel, Manufactured Products, and Construction Materials.

As required by Section 70914 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58), on or after May 14, 2022, none of the funds under a federal award that are part of a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States, unless subject to an approved waiver. Recipients conducting infrastructure projects under the award must include related requirements all subawards, including all contracts and purchase orders for infrastructure work or products under this program. For the full text term applicable to infrastructure and related waiver request standards and procedures, see the Service's General Award Terms and Conditions.

F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the [SF-425, Federal Financial Report](#) form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a **final** financial report. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. The only exception to the interim financial reporting requirement is if the recipient is required to use the SF 270/271 to request payment and requests payment at least once annually through the entire award period of performance. We will describe all financial reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Non-Construction Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals was not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. **Final** reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim performance** reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

The GLFWRA Coordinator will email performance reporting templates to successful applicants.

Construction Performance Reports

For construction awards, onsite technical inspections and certified percentage of completion data may be relied on to monitor progress for construction. Additional performance reports for construction activities may be required only when considered necessary. However, awards that include both construction and non-construction activities require performance reporting for the non-construction activities. See [2 CFR§200.329](#) for more information. The USFWS will describe all performance reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

The GLFWRA Coordinator will email performance reporting templates to successful applicants.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Bureau in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions

that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify the Service in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and subrecipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest. The required frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the Federal interest period. The Bureau will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required standard form or data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Per 2 CFR §1402.112, non-Federal entities and their employees must take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements. In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the provisions in [2 CFR §200.318](#) apply. Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with [2 CFR §200.112](#). Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Service Project Officer identified in their notice of award in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that reported by subrecipients. The Service will examine each disclosure to determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, work with the applicant or recipient to develop an appropriate resolution. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies for noncompliance described in 2 CFR §200.339, including suspension or debarment.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the [System for Award Management](#) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the [Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System](#)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with [Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200](#).

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:

Rick Westerhof

Telephone:

231-282-2736

Email:

rick_westerhof@fws.gov

G2. Program Administration

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:

Rick Westerhof

Telephone:

231-282-2736

Email:

rick_westerhof@fws.gov

G3. Application System Technical Support

For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages, contact:

Grants.gov Customer Support

Numeric Input Field: 1-800-518-4726

Support@grants.gov

For GrantSolutions technical registration, submission, and other assistance contact:

GrantSolutions Customer Support

1-866-577-0771

Help@grantsolutions.gov

H. Other Information

Payments

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by the Service program. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer

(EFT). The Bureau will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:

OMB Control Number: 1018-0100

Per the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA; 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) collects information in accordance with program authorizing legislation to conduct a review and select projects for funding and, if awarded, to evaluate performance. Your response is required to obtain or retain a benefit. We may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Privacy Act Statement: This information collection is authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5701 et seq. The information provided will be used to administer all Service financial assistance programs and activities including to: (1) determine eligibility under the authorizing legislation and applicable program regulations; (2) determine allowability of major cost items under the Cost Principles at 2 CFR 200; (3) select those projects that will provide the highest return on the Federal investment; and (4) assist in compliance with laws, as applicable, such as the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970. This information may be shared in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the routine uses listed in INTERIOR/DOI-89, Grants and Cooperative Agreements: FBMS - 73 FR 43775 (July 28, 2008). Furnishing this information is voluntary; however, failure to provide all requested information may prevent the Service from awarding funds.

Estimated Burden Statement: We estimate that it will take you on average about 40 hours to complete an initial application, about 3 hours to revise the terms of an award, and about 8 hours per report to prepare and submit financial and performance reports, including time to maintain records and gather information. Actual times for these activities will vary depending on program-specific requirements. Direct comments regarding the burden estimates or any other aspect of the specific forms to the Service Information Clearance Officer, USFWS, U.S. Department of the Interior, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or by email to Info_Coll@fws.gov.

Table 1. Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Review Criteria

Management Significance and Relevancy to the Act				
Importance of Problem or Opportunity	Management Implications	Project Impact and Scale	Target Species/Habitats	Affects both Fish and Wildlife
10-12 pts. Proposal directly addresses a specific management objective or task identified in a State, Tribal, or Federal management plan OR addresses a critically important emerging need as recognized by State, Tribal, or Federal Agencies.	10-12 pts. Proposal has very high probability of positively influencing species population trends (habitat proposals) or of providing actionable management applications that will directly benefit the resource (research proposals).	10-12 pts. Proposal will result in large ecological benefits with broad regional/multistate or basin-wide implications.	10-12 pts. Proposal focuses on a Federal or State threatened or endangered species OR proposal focuses on rare occurring habitat or habitat critical to the life cycle/function of a species.	4 pts. Proposal provides clear benefits to both fish AND wildlife communities.
7-9 pts. Proposal addresses a goal or general action(s) (i.e. a stated goal is to implement a type of action, without specific plans for specific proposals) identified in a State, Tribal, or Federal management plan.	7-9 pts. Proposal has moderately high probability of positively influencing species population trends (habitat proposals) or of providing actionable management applications that will directly benefit the resource (research proposals).	7-9 pts. Proposal will result in large ecological benefits with local (not larger than a single lake or state) scale implications only.	7-9 pts. Proposal focuses on a native species targeted for rehabilitation or a species of economic importance OR proposal focuses on habitat supporting the life cycle/function of a species.	3 pts. Proposal provides clear benefits to either fish OR wildlife communities.
4-6 pts. Proposal addresses the vision or a broad, far reaching action(s) (i.e. a stated goal is to restore a species or to restore watershed health) identified in a State, Tribal, or Federal management plan.	4-6 pts. Proposal has moderate probability of positively influencing species population trends (habitat proposals) or of providing actionable management applications that will directly benefit the resource (research proposals).	4-6 pts. Proposal will result in small-medium ecological benefits with broad regional/multistate or basin-wide implications.	4-6 pts. Proposal focuses on a native species not targeted by a specific rehabilitation plan or of economic importance OR proposal focuses on important (but not critical) habitat.	2 pts. Proposal provides clear benefits to specific fish AND wildlife populations
1-3 pts. Proposal does not address an action(s) identified in a State, Tribal, or Federal management plan but has some value to resource managers.	1-3 pts. Proposal is unlikely to produce meaningful benefits for species population trends (habitat proposals) or is unlikely to provide actionable management applications that will directly benefit the resource (research proposals).	1-3 pts. Proposal will result in small-medium ecological benefits with local (not larger than a single lake or state) scale implications only.	1-3 pts. Proposal focuses on a non-native species or of economic importance OR proposal focuses on abundant, less important habitat.	1 pt. Proposal provides clear benefits to specific fish OR wildlife populations
0 pts. Proposal does not link to management plans or to any needs of resource managers.	0 pts. Proposal is very unlikely to produce meaningful benefits for species population trends (habitat proposals) or is very unlikely to provide actionable management applications that will directly benefit the resource (research proposals).	0 pts. Proposal will result in minimal ecological benefits at any spatial level.	0 pts. Proposal has no linkages to particular species or habitats of importance to resource managers.	0 pts. Proposal has dubious value to any fish or wildlife species.

Project Characteristics			
Objectives and Methods	Cost/Value*	Likelihood of Success	Potential for Negative Impacts
10-12 pts. Proposed objectives are appropriate to address the problem; methods are unique, innovative, and advance the state of knowledge in this area.	10-12 pts. Proposal costs provide exceptional value for proposed work. (For habitat proposals, unit costs are below target level.)	10-12 pts. Proposed timeline is easily attainable and appropriate, applicants are very well qualified for proposed proposal and there are no anticipated impediments (e.g. permits, etc.) to implementation.	4 pts. Proposal has no foreseeable negative impacts (e.g. invasive species issues, disease, contaminants, etc.).
7-9 pts. Proposed objectives are appropriate to address the problem; methods are consistent with known standards and techniques.	7-9 pts. Proposal costs provide very good value for proposed work. (For habitat proposals, unit costs are below target level.)	7-9 pts. Proposed timeline is acceptable, applicants are qualified for proposed proposal, and there are no apparent impediments (e.g. permits, etc.) to implementation.	3 pts. Proposal clearly and adequately addresses all potential negative impacts (e.g. invasive species issues, contaminants, disease, etc.).
4-6 pts. Proposed objectives are appropriate to address the problem; however, the methods need minor improvement to be consistent with known standards and techniques.	4-6 pts. Proposal costs provide appropriate value for proposed work. (For habitat proposals, unit costs are at target level.)	4-6 pts. Proposed timeline is reasonable, but there is a serious impediment (e.g. qualification of applicants, permits, etc.) to implementation.	2 pts. Proposal vaguely or not adequately addresses potential negative impacts (e.g. invasive species issues, contaminants, disease, etc.).
1-3 pts. Proposed objectives are appropriate to address the problem; however, the methods are inconsistent with known standards and techniques.	1-3 pts. Proposal costs are more costly than average for proposed work. (For habitat proposals, unit costs are above target level.)	1-3 pts. There are at least two barriers (e.g., time, qualification of applicants, permits, etc.) to implementation.	1 pt. Proposal does not address potential negative impacts (e.g. invasive species issues, contaminants, disease, etc.).
0 pts. Proposed objectives and methods are inappropriate to address the problem and are inconsistent with known standards and techniques.	0 pts. Proposal costs are excessive and not appropriate for proposed work. (For habitat proposals, unit costs are well above target level.)	0 pts. Proposed timeline is not reasonable and there are one or more probable barriers (e.g. qualification of applicants, permits, etc.) to implementation.	0 pts. Potential negative impacts (e.g. invasive species issues, contaminants, disease, etc.) clearly outweigh any positive benefits from this proposal.