

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FWS - Refuges

<https://lakesuperiorcollaborative.org/headwaters-to-coast-initiative/>

F24AS00365 Wisconsin Headwaters to Coast Initiative

Fiscal Year: 2024

F24AS00365

Due Date for Applications: 09/30/2024

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A. Program Description

A1. Authority

Fish and Wildlife Act Community partnership enhancement [16 U.S.C. §742f\(d\)](#)

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act—Cooperation of agencies [16 U.S.C. §661](#)

Fish and Wildlife Act — Refuge education program enhancement [16 U.S.C. §742f\(e\)](#)

National Wildlife Refuge System Admin Act—Administration [16 U.S.C. §668dd\(b\)\(4\)](#)

Inflation Reduction Act—Weather Events [Pub. L. 117-169 \[H.R. 5376\], § 60302, 136 Stat. 2079](#)

A2. Assistance Listing Number

Assistance Listing Number

15.654

A3. Background, Purpose and Program Requirements

The Headwaters to Coast Initiative (H₂C) is a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funded project to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), initiated in 2022 to develop a partner-driven, watershed-wide conservation blueprint for the Lake Superior basin of Wisconsin that covers the four counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas and Iron in northern Wisconsin. H₂C is a community-based program that provides technical and financial assistance primarily through cooperative agreements to conservation partners and stakeholders. The mission of the H₂C is to bring people together to prioritize and coordinate conservation projects that meet the ecological, social, and cultural needs of current and future generations in Wisconsin's Lake Superior Basin. The H₂C Initiative was designed to address barriers to collaboration across agencies, organizations, and projects to more strategically address the ongoing challenges posed by climate change, habitat fragmentation, and biodiversity loss. H₂C provides a framework for collaboration that places conservation challenges, opportunities, and individual projects into a broader conservation context, may provide technical support to small agencies, and enable a partnership to take on larger projects and issues that may be too challenging for one agency working alone. Funding for projects will be considered that are developed or endorsed by multi-partner, collaborative teams which may include the Lake Superior Collaborative. Projects should address one or more of the following six conservation and social priorities identified by partners and fall within the Wisconsin, Lake Superior basin geography; 1) Habitat Connectivity and

Functionality, 2) Healthy Habitats and Biodiversity, 3) Water Quality and Hydrologic Integrity, 4) Climate Resiliency, 5) Inclusive Community Engagement and 6) Prepare for and Address Current and emerging Threats or other GLRI priorities identified in the most recent GLRI Action Plan. The number of acres restored and/or the miles of stream restored will be used as the measures of success and must be reported.

Applicants seeking technical or financial assistance from the H2C Initiative are requested to consult with a local USFWS biologist BEFORE developing or submitting an application (see Agency Contacts at the end of this announcement)

A4. Funding Opportunity Goals

- The headwaters to coast promotes locally led conservation through partnerships in the Wisconsin Lake Superior basin. The funding opportunity aims to deliver financial assistance in coordination with Federal, Tribal, State, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners. This work can be completed on public or private lands, working lands, Tribal land, urban areas, and underserved communities to achieve the following goals.

Habitat connectivity and functionality. Integrate projects at a landscape level to improve connectivity and functionality. This priority recognizes that interconnected habitats and migration corridors are vital to fish and wildlife conservation. The work of this initiative can leverage other partnering agency program efforts to preserve function in high-quality habitats and strategically restore highly impacted areas.

Healthy habitats and biodiversity. Promote and maintain diverse and self sustaining native plant and animal populations through protection of existing high quality habitats and, or restoration. Implement habitat projects within priority areas that prevent decline or support recovery of species of greatest conservation concern, including Federal listed species, birds of conservation concern, pollinators, interjurisdictional fish, and Great Lakes restoration initiative priority habitats or species and groups. This priority supports the Service's conservation mission and our role as stewards of Federal trust species with intent to make improvement in select species status.

Water quality and hydrologic integrity. Rehabilitate and maintain a diverse, healthy, and self regulating fish and aquatic community, dominated by indigenous species and supporting sustainable fisheries. This priority recognizes that water quality is important to people, plants, and animals. Projects will need to be resilient to hydrologic extremes, high precipitation events, droughts, and temperature increases.

Climate resiliency. Implement conservation projects that address threats associated with climate change and maximize climate resilience through resistance, adaptation, or redirection under the RAD framework to advance ecosystem health and benefit communities of fish, wildlife, plants, and people. This priority recognizes that we need to prepare for, recover from, or adapt to the impacts of climate change and prevent those impacts from growing worse.

Inclusive community engagement. Engagement in conservation related work is inclusive of input from local communities, underserved and indigenous populations, which depend

on the land and waters for livelihood, recreation, and social and cultural value that influence the overall well being of human lives.

Current and emerging threats. Prepare for and address current and emerging threats or other Great Lakes Restoration Initiative priorities identified in the most recent GLRI action plan. This priority recognizes the need to minimize current and emerging environmental threats through strategic conservation such as controlling invasive species, early detection, rapid response, and minimizing the risk of plant and animal diseases.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding

\$2,500,000

Total amount of financial assistance per annum is subject to availability of funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

B2. Expected Award Amount

Maximum Award

\$500,000

Minimum Award

\$1

B3. Expected Award Funding and Anticipated Dates

Expected Award Funding

\$400,000

Expected Award Date

October 15, 2024

To be considered for FY 2024 funding applications needs to be received by July 1, 2024. All applications received after will be awarded after the start of the new fiscal year on October 1, 2024.

B4. Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards

10

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

G - Grant

CA - Cooperative Agreement

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) will be substantially involved in projects under this funding opportunity. In particular, the Service will be responsible for the following: 1) Vetting potential projects with partners, 2) conducting site or field visits to potential project areas, 3) coordinating proposed project/s ideas with other partners and, 4) providing technical assistance to partners throughout the project implementation phase.

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)
- 08 – Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- 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)
- 99 – Unrestricted (i.e. open to any type of entity above), subject to any clarification in the text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility"

Additional Information on Eligibility

The Headwaters to Coast Initiative staff reserves the right to reject projects that do not align with the H₂C conservation blueprint, regional strategic plans, or Great Lakes Restoration Initiative priorities. Applications must be submitted through Grant Solutions at:

<https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/>. Applications submitted through Grants.gov will not be evaluated. 501(c)(3) applicants should be prepared to prove status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service and tribal applicants may be required to provide an authorizing tribal resolution.

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

No

Percentage of Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Cost sharing is not required, although it is highly encouraged. Cost share may be monetary or in-kind contributions and will vary from project to project.

C3. Other

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

Applicants seeking technical or financial assistance from the H₂C Initiative are requested to consult with a local USFWS biologist BEFORE developing or submitting an application (see Agency Contacts at the end of this announcement).

Program Website Link

<https://lakesuperiorcollaborative.org/headwaters-to-coast-initiative/>

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". For instructions on completing the SF-424, please reference the [Instructional Video: Completing the SF424](#).

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

Project Narrative

Briefly summarize the project. Include the title of the project, geographic location, and a brief overview of the need for the project, goal(s), objectives, specific project activities, beneficiaries, and expected outcomes consistent with this funding opportunity.

In no more than five (5) pages of text plus attachments, please provide the following information:

- Project title. Provide a descriptive project title in fifteen (15) words or less.
- Project personnel. Provide a brief description of the applicant organization and all participating entities and/or individuals, including details on their expertise, skill, or significance to the project. Provide complete contact information for the individual within the organization that will oversee/manage the project activities on a day-to-day basis.
- Statement of need. Identify the specific concern, problem, or issue to be addressed or opportunity to be leveraged; the consequences of not addressing the need; and how the proposed project aligns with the Headwaters to Coast Initiative’s objectives. Describe the project’s relevance to previous or on-going work, if applicable.
- Project objectives. State the objectives (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound) of the project and how they relate to Headwaters to Coast Initiative objectives. List the milestones that must be reached to achieve the objectives.
- Relevance to other conservation plans. Describe how the project will support or complement existing conservation plans. Identify only the most relevant plan(s) and quote the language from the plan that the project addresses. Examples include the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, Lake Superior 2020 -2024 Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Lake Superior Action Plan (2022), Lake Superior Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, and many other local, state, regional, or Tribal conservation plans.
- Species and habitats. List the primary species and habitats expected to benefit from the project and describe how they will benefit.

- Funding requested. State the total amount of funding requested from the Headwaters to Coast Initiative in this proposal.
- Activities. Activities are the specific actions to be taken to fulfill the project objectives. Describe who is carrying out the activity, what is involved, how it will be carried out (method), and when the activity will be carried out. Methods should be accepted “best management practices”, based on sound science, and be cost-efficient. The proposed project activities should be commensurate with the funding requested.
- Timeline. Provide a timeline of when significant project events or milestones are anticipated, including engineering and design completion, construction start, monitoring, estimated completion dates of each proposed activity, and anticipated project end date. Indicate % probability of completion (to the nearest 10%) within one (1) year of receiving funding and within two (2) years of receiving funding, being as accurate as possible. Only projects proposed to be completed within two (2) years of receipt of funding will be considered.
- Project location. Indicate where the project will take place in Wisconsin: County, Congressional District, road crossing, roadway name, stream name, and watershed name (if applicable), 8-digit HUC #, TRS information, and GPS Coordinates (Precise GPS coordinates-decimal degree format). Maps and other materials are included as attachments.
- Environmental compliance. Provide sufficient information to support environmental compliance review requirements. Are there any federally listed species that occur in the project area? Is there a dam or other structure listed as a historic site within the project area? All federally funded projects that disturb ground must request State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) review and clearance before proceeding. Is the project site on Tribal Lands or does the project site potentially have religious and cultural significance to Tribal partners?
- Expected project results. Describe the anticipated project outcomes and major deliverables. Include any of the following measures relevant to the project: anticipated number of acres of wetlands restored, enhanced, or protected, number of acres of uplands restored, enhanced, or protected, number of miles of stream/shorelines restored, enhanced, or protected, number of miles of streams opened to aquatic organism passage, number of fish passage barriers removed, number of outreach/education activities, number of habitat assessments or other activities.
- Project evaluation. Describe the post-project monitoring and evaluation plan for the project, including who is responsible for implementing it and what metrics will determine success, based on the project objectives. Describe how the project will be maintained in the future.
- Climate resilience. Describe how the project addresses climate resilience, including how it helps to prepare for, recover from, or adapt to the impacts of climate change or prevent those impacts from growing worse.
- Inclusive community engagement. Describe how the project addresses inclusive community engagement, stakeholder input, and/or impacts to under-represented or under-supported communities.

- Other benefits. If there are other benefits not addressed above, please describe them here (e.g., public safety or other social benefits like land access, recreation, infrastructure improvement, educational or economic opportunities, etc.).
- Risks or possible negative effects. Describe any potential risks or negative effects or outcomes.
- Anticipated future funding needs. If the project has multiple phases, indicate how the proposed activities support the overall project plan and what the anticipated final cost of the entire project will be.

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 “Section B – Budget Categories” on the SF-424A form enter the funding requested for each Object Class Category. For the SF-424A “Contractual” category enter estimated contractual costs only. Do not include subaward costs in the “Contractual” category. 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). For more information about subrecipient and contractor determinations, see [2 CFR §200.331](#). For instructions on completing the SF-424A, please reference: [Instructional Video: Completing the SF424](#).

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)” for each parcel of real property to be acquired, improved or furnished. 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. Include a complete description of each cost category. 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 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. If known at the time of application, include an estimated number of subawards and the dollar amount anticipated for each subaward. 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](#). Recipients may not earn, make, or keep any profit resulting from any financial assistance awards. These costs are not allowable and should not be included in any proposed costs.

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. 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

09/30/2024

Application Due Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM., ET, on the listed application due date.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. In order for applications to be considered for funding in FY 24, they must be submitted by July 1, 2024. Applications received after July 1, 2024 may not be awarded until the following fiscal year.

To the extent possible, awardees must commence work within 60 days of the effective date of an award and be completed within two years.

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.

D7. Other Submission Requirements

GrantSolutions Application Procedures

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. The following information must be included in your email and must match your organization’s SAM.gov entity record:

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

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 GrantSolutions registration, submission, and other assistance contact their Customer Support by telephone at 1-866-577-0771 or by email at help@grantsolutions.gov. To access GrantSolutions, users must establish a Login.gov account at <https://login.gov/>. For assistance, contact their customer support by telephone at (844) 875-6446 or submit a request for assistance online at <https://login.gov/contact/>.

To apply through GrantSolutions, log in to GrantSolutions. If this is your first application submission, click on the "Begin an application" link that appears on screen. If you have previously applied, click on the "Funding Opportunity" link in the blue header bar at the top of the screen. Either action should take you to the "Competing Announcements-Application Kits" list screen. To find this Funding Opportunity, search the list for the Funding Opportunity Number and Title provided on the first page of this document (also provided on the corresponding Grants.gov Grant Opportunity Synopsis screen). To start an application, click on the "Apply" link associated with the correct Funding Opportunity on the list. For more information on how to complete and submit an application, see the [GrantSolutions Training Resources web page](#).

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

The minimum programmatic requirements for this funding opportunity are: (1) the proposal follows basic proposal content and formatting requirements as described in **D2. Content and Form of Application Submission**, and (2) the proposal addresses the program's funding priorities, as described in **A. Program Description**. Proposed project goals should specify clearly in the body of the proposal which desired outcome(s) will be achieved by the project. Proposals that do not address the desired outcomes described above will not move forward in the review process.

Proposals that meet minimum programmatic requirements will be evaluated based on the criteria below. Each criterion will be scored on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest score and 1 being the lowest score; the weights vary among the criteria, as indicated. The sum of the weighted scores across the ten criteria will be used to rank the proposals.

1. **Benefits wild rice, pollinators, brook trout, wetland dependent migratory birds, or other high priority species, habitats, or ecosystems**, including the degree to which the proposed project has a clear relevance to high priority species or their habitats, as defined by the Headwaters to Coast working groups (teams) and/or relevant local and regional plans, and there is a high likelihood (> 90%) that native species diversity or plant and animal populations will benefit (population stabilization or increases). Weight = 20%.
2. **Compelling project design**, including the degree to which the proposed project is well justified, has clear benefits; the goals are well-defined and relevant to the project's Statement of Need; the objectives, methods, and activities are well-defined, measurable, statistically valid, realistic, and apply the best scientific and technical information available; the budget line items are appropriate, allowable and reasonable; the monitoring and evaluation plans are well described, appropriate and adequate; the expected products/

outputs/ outcomes are identified and enumerated; and their impact is apparent. Weight = 20%.

3. **Capacity / past performance**, including the degree to which the applicant has successfully completed similar projects in the past five years; and the applicant has a positive record of accomplishment with the Service based on previous grant support, if applicable, including timely submission of financial and performance reports. Weight = 10%.
4. **Promotes water quality or hydrologic integrity**, including the degree to which the project has a high likelihood (> 90%) of improving water quality or rehabilitating or maintaining a diverse, healthy, and self-regulating fish and aquatic community, dominated by indigenous species and supporting sustainable fisheries. Weight = 10%.
5. **Proximity to other priority projects**, including geographic proximity to other, related ecosystem restoration projects, and accomplishes complementary objectives. Weight = 10%.
6. **Team involvement / Interagency collaboration**, including the degree to which the proposal adequately details coordination of project activities with similar, ongoing, or planned activities of other stakeholders; the proposal promotes networking, partnerships and/or coalitions; and the proposal suggests activities that are non-duplicative of other ongoing activities. Weight = 10%.
7. **Climate resilience**, including the degree to which the proposal has a high likelihood (> 90%) of helping to prepare for, recover from, or adapt to the impacts of climate change or prevent those impacts from growing worse. Weight = 5%.
8. **Environmental justice and inclusive community engagement**, including the degree to which the proposal shows a strong commitment to engaging local communities, including underserved and Indigenous populations, in planning, implementing, or sustaining positive outcomes. Weight = 5%.
9. **Threat reduction**, including the degree to which the proposal has a strong focus on minimizing current and emerging environmental threats through strategic conservation such as controlling known non-local beings (invasive species), early-detection, rapid-response, and minimizing the risk of plant and animal diseases. Weight = 5%.
10. **Scale of impact**, including the degree to which the proposal's scale of impact (e.g., improvements to species, habitats, water quality, etc.) is estimated to be broad (> 5 km radius or river miles). Weight = 5%.

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.

At least two reviewers selected by the Federal Awarding Team will read the proposals and independently assign a score using the ranking criteria. The scores are scaled, based on comparison with other proposed projects. Projects selected for funding will be based in part on the scores, as well as input from an external panel, the Lake Superior Collaborative Steering Team, comprised of conservation partners who work within the Wisconsin, Lake Superior basin (peers of the Awarding Team). Final selection will be made by the Federal Awarding Team. The following considerations may be used to break ties and further distinguish between applications with equivalent scores: financial need; geographical and project diversity in the Service portfolio; the amount of cost-share, and the proportion of proposal budget dedicated to administration, salaries, and travel. The total grant allocations will be limited to the amount of funding available in a given fiscal year.

- Cost sharing is encouraged but not required. Cost sharing leverages other resources to multiply the conservation impact of H₂C funds.
- If other considerations are equal, priority for funding will be given to projects that have a greater longevity, involve higher partnership support and cost sharing, and have the highest level of cost-effectiveness.

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

Awards are announced on a rolling basis up to September 30, 2024. Applications received after July 1, 2024, may not be awarded until the following fiscal year.

Applicants seeking technical or financial assistance from the H₂C Initiative are requested to consult with a local USFWS biologist BEFORE developing or submitting an application (see Agency Contacts at the end of this announcement).

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

Following review, applicants may be requested to revise the project scope and/or budget before an award is made. Successful applicants will receive written notice in the form of a Notice of Award. Notices of Award are typically sent to recipients by email. If email notification is unsuccessful, the Notice of Award will be sent by courier mail (e.g., U.S. Postal Service or a commercial courier). Award recipients are not required to sign/return the Notice of Award. Acceptance of an award is defined as starting work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to, and approved by, the Service. The Notice of Award document will include instructions specific to each recipient on how to request payment. If applicable, the instructions will detail any additional information/forms required and where to submit payment requests. Applicants whose projects are not selected for funding will receive written notice, most often by e-mail, within 60 days of the final review decision.

Awards are based on the application submitted to and approved by the Service and are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated into the Notice of Award either by direct citation or by reference to the following: Federal regulations; program legislation or regulation; and special award terms and conditions. Recipient acceptance of a Federal award from the Service carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with all terms and conditions applicable to the award. Recipients indicate their acceptance of the Federal award by starting work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means.

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. Per 2 CFR 184, none of the funds provided under a Federal award may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

1. All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States. This means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States,
2. All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States. This means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States, and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation, and
3. All construction materials are manufactured in the United States. This means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. For construction material standards see 2 CFR §184.6.

The Buy America preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

Department of the Interior General Applicability Waivers:

There may be instances where a project qualifies, in whole or in part, for an existing Department of the Interior (Department) general applicability waiver. If a project is selected for funding, recipients are responsible for determining if an approved waiver applies to their project. A list of active waivers is available on the [Department's General Applicability Waivers web page](#). For more information on the waiver process and how to request a waiver, 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. For instructions on completing the SF-425, please reference: [Instructional Video: Completing the Federal Financial Report](#).

This agreement is part of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).

- “EAGL” reporting is required no more than semi-annually, generally at the end of April and October, upon 30 days written notice. This is a brief reporting of accomplishments toward the most recent GLRI Performance Measures. Measures reporting must follow the detailed reporting guidance contained in the “Measures Reporting Plan” under the GLRI Guidance and Implementation section at <https://www.glri.us/documents>.
- Where signage is appropriate such as a boat wash station: A visible project identification sign may be erected as appropriate at each on-the-ground protection or restoration project. Each sign must give project information and credit the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and appropriate federal agencies for funding.

Financial and Performance Reports:

Please note that all financial and performance reports must be set to semi-annual reporting in the Notice of Award (NOA) terms and conditions.

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 number of acres restored and/or the miles of stream restored will be used as the measures of success and must reported.

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 number of acres restored and/or the miles of stream restored will be used as the measures of success and must reported.

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 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:

Mitchell Baalman

Telephone:

715-413-2281

Email:

Mitchell_Baalman@fws.gov

G2. Program Administration

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:

Mitchell Baalman

Telephone:

715-413-2281

Email:

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.