2020 Funding Opportunity
Guidance for Applicants
Webinar Agenda

- Sustain Our Great Lakes overview
- Funding opportunity details
  - New Wisconsin's Lake Michigan initiative
- Application guidance
- Q&A session

Housekeeping:
- Q&A breaks
- Webinar recording/slides and FAQ document at: www.nfwf.org/greatlakes
Public–Private Partnership

- ArcelorMittal
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Caerus Foundation
- Crown Family Philanthropies
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
- Walder Foundation
Program Achievements: 2006–2019

$174.5 million

dedicated by SOGL and grantee organizations toward ecological restoration

$81 million
awarded in grants by SOGL since 2006

$93.5 million
committed by grantees as match since 2006

Outcomes

2,145
Miles of fish passage restoration

42,878
Acres of wetland restoration

281
Miles of stream and riparian habitat restoration

228M
Gallons of stormwater storage capacity added
2020 Funding Opportunity

- Request For Proposals at: www.nfwf.org/greatlakes
- Pre-proposal due date: February 11
- Full proposal due date: April 16
- Eligible applicants
  - Non-profit organizations
  - State, tribal & local governments
  - Educational institutions
- Anticipated funding: up to $6.9M
  - Additional $1.36M to projects in WI Lake Michigan watershed
- Grant size:
  - $100,000–$1M (categories 1–4)
  - $50,000–$300,000 (category 5)
Program Priorities

- 1: Restore and Enhance Stream and Riparian Habitat
- 2: Restore and Enhance Coastal Wetland Habitat
- 3: Expand Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Great Lakes Communities
- 4: Maintain and Enhance Benefits of Habitat Restoration through Invasive Species Control
- 5: Restore and Preserve Natural Areas and biodiversity in Wisconsin’s Lake Michigan Watershed
Funding Availability by Geographic

- $6.9 million available for projects that occur within Great Lakes basin (current or historic)
- $100–200K may be directed to projects in Canada
  - Western Lake Ontario, near Hamilton
- Additional $1.36 million will be available for projects in Wisconsin’s Lake Michigan Watershed
  - Geographically eligible projects not funded through categories 1-4 will automatically be considered under category 5
Funding Category 1: Restore and Enhance Stream & Riparian Habitat

• Improve the quality and connectivity of stream and riparian habitat

• Priority to projects that:
  ✓ Benefit species of conservation concern, brook trout and lake sturgeon
  ✓ Reduce sediment and nutrient loading to streams and other waters

• **Fishwerks** tool – webinar **recording** on website (see RFP for adtl info)

• Sea Lamprey Control Program consultation ([kevin_mann@fws.gov](mailto:kevin_mann@fws.gov))
  – Additional guidance available at [www.nfwf.org/greatlakes](http://www.nfwf.org/greatlakes)
Stream & Riparian Habitat
Primary Strategies

• Restore aquatic connectivity
  ✓ Barrier removal
  ✓ Bridge and culvert replacement
  ✓ Passage structures

• Naturalize stream channels
  ✓ Channel realignment
  ✓ Excavation

• Improve in-stream habitat
  ✓ Installation of instream structures
  ✓ Sediment management

• Improve riparian habitat
  ✓ Bank stabilization
  ✓ **Invasive species control**
  ✓ Native plant restoration
Funding Category 2: Restore and Enhance Coastal Wetland Habitat

- Improve the quality and connectivity of wetlands where water levels are influenced by the Great Lakes and adjacent riparian and upland habitat

- Priority to projects:
  - On non-federal lands that restore wetlands monitored by the Great Lakes Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program
  - That benefit populations of shorebirds, breeding marsh birds, waterfowl, marsh-spawning fish such as northern pike

- Priority wetland map: [www.greatlakeswetlands.org/map](http://www.greatlakeswetlands.org/map)
Coastal Wetland Habitat
Primary Strategies

- Restore aquatic connectivity
  - Passage structures
  - Removal of hard structures
  - Sediment removal

- Improve hydrology
  - Water control techniques
  - Sediment management

- Improve habitat structure
  - Invasive species control
  - Native plant restoration
Funding Category 3: Expand Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Great Lakes Communities

• Improve green stormwater infrastructure in Great Lakes shoreline cities to increase stormwater storage and capture

• Priority to projects:
  ✓ Add more than 100,000 gallons of stormwater storage capacity (include calculation for volume of runoff captured and infiltrated annually)
  ✓ Demonstrate water quality benefits to the Great Lakes or connecting channels
  ✓ Utilizing native plant and tree species that improve pollinator habitat and urban canopy

• Calculate gallons of stormwater storage added:

  EPA Stormwater Calculator  i-Tree
Green Stormwater Infrastructure
Primary Strategies

- Install green infrastructure
  - Rain gardens
  - Bioswales
  - Green roofs
  - Pervious surfaces

- Create and enhance urban wetlands
  - Construct/improve wetlands
  - Improve wetland habitat

- Restore urban forests
  - Strategic native tree installation
Maintain and Enhance Benefits of Habitat Restoration through Invasive Species Control

- Support invasive species control efforts needed to sustain or enhance the benefits of previous habitat restorations

- Priority to projects:
  - ✓ Directly protects, reinforces, or enhances value of restoration projects previously funded by GLRI or SOGL
  - ✓ Of sufficient size, scope, or unique ecological value

- Non-competitive projects:
  - ✓ New or untested technologies
  - ✓ Exclusive focus on early detection and rapid response (EDRR)
  - ✓ Control invasive fish or other animals
  - ✓ On-off efforts to treat new acres, not connected to previously funded restoration
Controlling Invasive Species

Primary Strategies

• Re-Treat or Manage Acres to Control Invasive Species
  ✓ Acres that have received initial treatment to further control primary invasive species target(s) and management of secondary invasives appearing post-initial treatment

• Expand Existing Invasive Control Efforts
  ✓ Treat or manage invasive species on new/previously untreated acres adjacent or strategically connected to existing control efforts
New Funding Category 5: Restore and Preserve Natural Areas and Biodiversity in Wisconsin’s Lake Michigan Watershed

- Additional $1.36 million will be available for projects proposed in Wisconsin’s Lake Michigan watershed
- Grant size: $50-300k
- Grant duration: 2 to 4 years if project includes significant pre and post implementation activities
- Match not required
- Fund for Lake Michigan provide up to $400k in matching funds
- Projects must include on-the-ground implementation – 50% of budget
- Additional eligible activities:
  - Enhancing public greenspace
  - Improving public access to natural areas
  - Project design and engineering
  - Pre and post implementation monitoring
  - Applied research
  - Maintenance and vegetation establishment
  - Education and Outreach
Wisconsin’s Lake Michigan Watershed
Primary Strategies

- Restore and preserve of a wide variety of habitats and natural landscapes
  - prairies
  - grasslands
  - oak savannas
  - upland and lowland forests
  - wetlands and ephemeral ponds
  - beaches and dune systems
  - nearshore and shoreline

- Improve range of ecological benefits
  - Increase complexity, connectivity and quality of habitat of natural areas
  - Improve habitat and community resilience
  - Enhance biodiversity and project habitat critical for species
Metrics and Monitoring

- Applicants may use grant funding to support monitoring

- Monitoring plan
  - Metrics
  - Baseline and post-implementation
  - Resources

- Metrics to track progress toward project completion
  - Miles/acs restored
  - Passage barriers rectified
  - Lbs P reduced annually

- Monitoring biological outcomes
  - Improvements to priority fish, breeding marsh birds, shorebirds and waterfowl, pollinators etc.
  - Contact NFWF for guidance
Guidance for Metrics Reporting and Monitoring

- Additional instructions for metrics and monitoring
- Fish passage improvements
- Stream/channel restoration
- Riparian restoration
- Brook trout habitat improvements
- Wetland reconnection
- Wetland hydrology improvements
- Wetland habitat improvements
- Green stormwater infrastructure
- Invasive species control
- Resources and tools
Eligible Grant Expenses: Categories 1 - 4

- ≥70% of each grant to go toward on-the-ground habitat work
- Option to use remaining funds (≤30%) for
  - Planning
  - Permitting
  - Final design
  - Engineering
  - Monitoring
  - Outreach/Education
Matching Contributions: Categories 1 - 4

- Projects with minimum 1:1 non-federal match ratio most competitive
  - Indicate federal match to demonstrate partner investment in project

- Match sources
  - Cash
  - In-kind contributions of staff
  - Materials and services donated
  - Volunteer time
  - Cost of land acquisition/easement
  - Allowable indirect costs not covered by grant funding
  - Other tangible contributions to project goals
Match and Period of Performance

- Match must be spent between project start and end dates
- Backdating not an option
Period of Performance

• Start date should be no earlier than August 17, 2020

• Duration typically 2 years (or two full field seasons)
  • Category 5: up to 4 years

• May include a third year as needed to complete:
  ✓ Planning
  ✓ Permitting
  ✓ Final design
  ✓ Engineering
  ✓ Implementation
  ✓ Baseline Monitoring
  ✓ Post-Restoration Monitoring

Photo: Alice Brandon
Questions?
Easygrants easygrants.nfwf.org – Registering

- **New user?** Click on “Register Here.”
- **Lost your password?** Click on “forgot your password” - An email with password is sent from easygrants@nfwf.org.
- **Locked out?** Contact helpdesk at easygrants@nfwf.org or 202-595-2497.
Easygrants – Creating Username or Organization

- Do not create duplicate accounts.

- Use your professional email address and full legal organization name.

- Unsure if you already have a user account or if organization is registered in Easygrants? Contact helpdesk at easygrants@nfwf.org or 202-595-2497.
Please visit review your contact details and make sure that you provide a phone number
## Pre-Proposal VS Full Proposal Requirements

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<th>Pre-Proposal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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Full Proposal Task in Easygrants

Used for navigating through your application in EasyGrants.
Project Information

• **Title:** (~100 characters)
  - short, descriptive name indicating project purpose

• **Description:** (~500 characters)
  - Main activities and methods
  - Specific habitat, location or species benefitted

• **Abstract:** (~1,500 characters)
  - Location, activities, outcome/metrics, and partners
  - Context and background information
  - Explain how outcomes will address a conservation issue
Budget

• Only the grant amount requested from NFWF

• Itemize all costs in appropriate budget categories.

• No lumping costs i.e., ‘All Salaries: $10,000’

• ‘Total Amount Requested’ in Project Information section must equal the ‘Budget Grand Total’ in Budget section

https://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/budget-instructions.aspx
How-to input additional information in your Budget

- Travel
  - Domestic Airfare - Per Flight
    - To Seattle from Boston Round Trip
    - To Anchorage from St. Petersburg Round Trip

Notes:

- Domestic Airfare - Per Flight
  - Travel for one biotech and one volunteer to Seattle from Boston for Killer Whale Conference.
  - Travel for principal investigator to Anchorage from St. Petersburg for site visits.
Review ‘Upload Checklist’ and upload relevant files into Easygrants.

**Required:**
- IRS-990
- A-133 Audit
- GAAP Audit
- Board of Trustees, Directors or Equivalent
- GAAP audited financial statements

**Strongly encouraged:**
Project Map

*If you don’t have a required document, just upload an explanation on your company letterhead in place of the required document.*
All financial documentation must:

- Represent the same fiscal year period
- Must be the most recent financial information available
- Must be less than two years old

For details on what documents you need to submit and for FAQs regarding financial documents, go here: [www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/required-financial-docs.aspx](http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/required-financial-docs.aspx)
Application Assistance

Program Page
https://www.nfwf.org/greatlakes/Pages/home.aspx

RFP:
https://www.nfwf.org/greatlakes/Pages/2020rfp.aspx

TipSheet:

Technical Assistance / Easygrants Helpdesk:
  Email: Easygrants@nfwf.org
  Voicemail: 202-595-2497
  Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ET, Monday-Friday.
  Include: your name, proposal ID #, e-mail address, phone number, program you are applying to, and a description of the issue.
New Required Upload – Full Proposal

- Outcome and Metric Tracking document
  - Full proposal upload requirement – download template from Easygrants
  - Objective: provide additional data/details for metrics and outcomes to enhance full proposal narrative
  - Fill out sections corresponding to funding category
    - Streams
    - Wetlands
    - GSI
    - Invasive Species
  - Provide additional priority species data, approaches to calculating metrics/outcomes, and other relevant info
Additional Application Requirements

- Applicants proposing removal or modification of fish passage barriers
  - Consultation with Sea Lamprey Control Program (Program)
  - Pre-Proposal: Initiate consultation with Program
  - Full-Proposal: Provide evidence that barriers have been approved/reviewed by program

- Applicants proposing phragmites control
  - Demonstrate consideration of Phragmites Adaptive Management Framework (PAMF) to inform control practices and long term maintenance
    - To learn more, visit: http://www.greatlakesphragmites.net/pamf/
    - To connect with PAMF/ask questions, email: pamf@glc.org
Regulatory Compliance

- National Environmental Policy Act
- Endangered Species Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Data Quality Assurance
- Other applicable regulations
Timeline

In Person Workshop: Friday January 31, 2020 (REGISTER BY Jan. 28th!)
Pre-Proposal Due Date: Tuesday February 11th, 11:59 PM ET
Invites to Full Proposal: Mid-March 2020
Full Proposal Due Date: Thursday, April 16th, 11:59pm ET
Awards Announced: August 2020
Questions?
Contacts

Programmatic Questions

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Application/Easygrants Questions

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