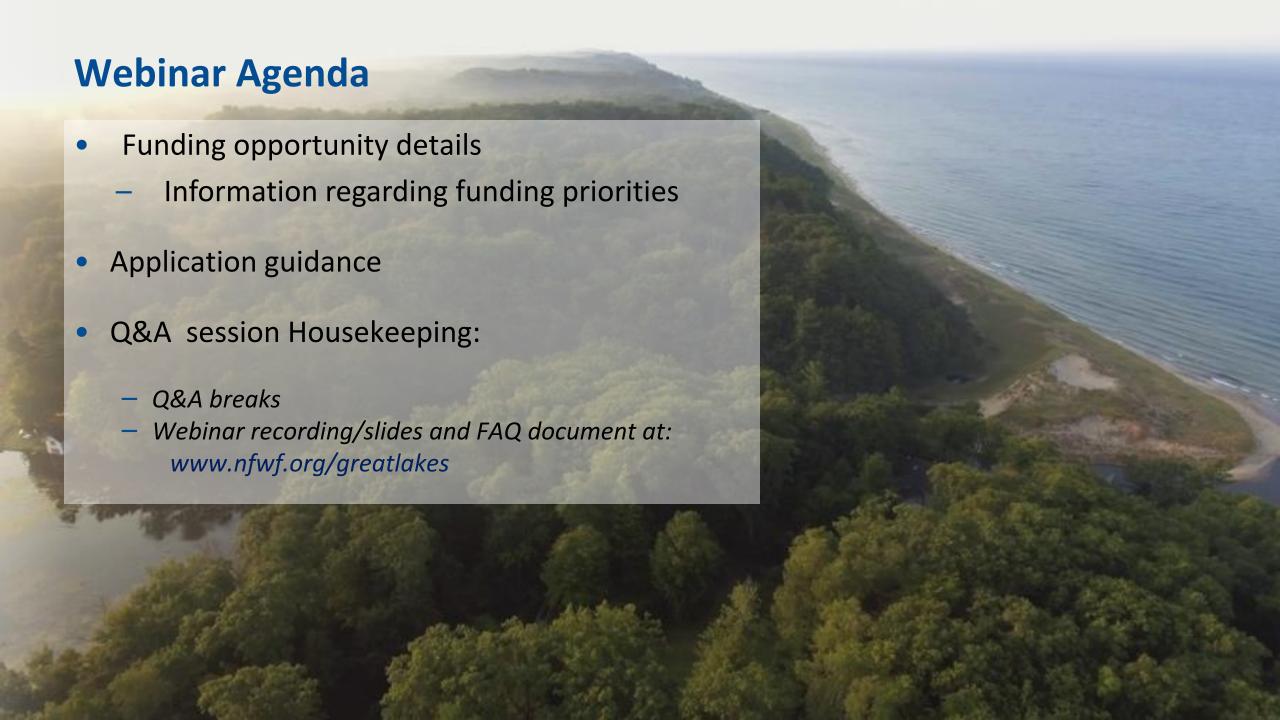


# Lower Great Lakes Forestry Technical Assistance Special Initiative Guidance for Applicants

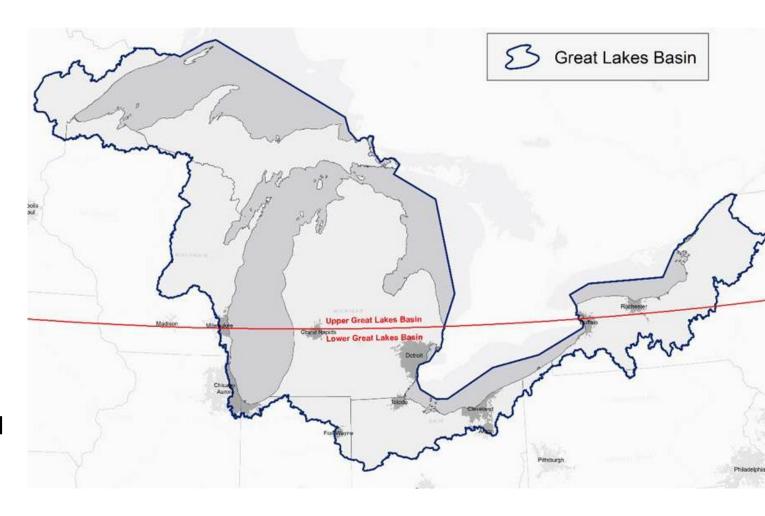






## **2022 Special Initiative Funding Opportunity Overview**

- Full proposal due date: May 5
- Eligible applicants
  - ✓ Non-profit organizations
  - ✓ State, tribal & local governments
  - ✓ Educational institutions
- Anticipated funding: approx. \$600k
- Eligible geography: lower Great Lakes basin only within IN, MI, OH and NY
- Grant size: \$150,000 \$350,000
- Match requirement: 1 to 1 non-federal
- Grant duration: 2-3 years
- Project start date: after September 1, 2022



## **Program Priorities**

The Lower Great Lakes Forestry Technical Assistance Special Initiative will fund projects that provide landowners with technical assistance for improving forest management, adopting multi-resource management plans, and implementing conservation practices on their forests to improve wildlife habitat and enhance water quality.

- Competitive projects will:
  - ✓ Hire or otherwise support forestry professionals who will help landowners develop and implement economically sound approaches that achieve positive environmental outcomes
  - ✓ Focus on woodlands of 10 acres or more.
  - Propose a project scope of at least a single or multistate scope
  - ✓ Consider TA to promote practices and management that generate multiple benefits, including improving wildlife habitat and water quality
  - Engage historically underserved landowners



## **Primary Strategies for Projects**

- Increase forestry technical assistance capacity in the lower Great Lakes region
- Work with landowners to develop and implement forest management plans, multi-resource management plans and assist with implementation of forest restoration and management
- Provide technical, planning and implementation assistance for forest landowners to protect, maintain, enhance, and preserve habitat for wildlife and fish species, and enhance water quality
- Enhance strategic outreach to increase the number of private landowners engaged
- Implement innovative methods to engage private landowners, expand on-the-ground stewardship and understand landowner barriers to sustainable woodland management
- Feature demonstration areas that advance on-the-ground outcomes and provide sites for conservation education
- Support the development and implementation of agroforestry practices such as alley cropping, shelterbelts, riparian forest buffers, and windbreaks

## **Metrics and Monitoring**

- Applicants may use grant funding to support tracking metrics, reporting and monitoring of project outcomes
- All proposals must:
  - estimate the number of acres to be restored, enhanced, or maintained as a result of proposed outreach and technical assistance activities
  - ✓ estimate improvements in water quality (e.g. lbs. sediment or nutrients eliminated from entering waterways).

tr		nutrient or sediment loads	management activities that are intended to improve water quality. Please describe the nutrient management practices in the NOTES section.
	Habitat	Lbs. of phosphorus prevented from entering system annually	Enter the amount of phosphorus prevented from entering system annually and indicate method of calculating reduction in NOTES section.
		Lbs. of sediment prevented from entering system annually	Enter the amount of sediment prevented from entering system annually and indicate method of calculating reduction in NOTES section.
Ca <sub>j</sub> Ou no	Management	Lbs. of nitrogen prevented from entering system annually	Enter the amount of nitrogen prevented from entering system annually and indicate method of calculating reduction in NOTES section.
		Acres burned	Enter the number of acres prescribed fire was applied. In the NOTES section, specify the average frequency (in years) at which prescribed burning is expected to occur in the future, the vegetation being burned and, if forest, whether trees have been planted in past 10 years (Yes, No).
_		# BMPs implemented	Enter the number of BMPs implemented. In the NOTES section, specify the percentage of BMPs implemented out of the total recommendations developed.
		# <u>conservation</u> plans developed	Enter the number of conservation plans developed. In the NOTES section, specify the number of plans that were implemented out of the total number developed.
_		# <u>management</u> plans with BMPs	Enter the number of forest management plans developed. In the NOTES section, specify the number of plans that were implemented out of the total number developed.
		Acres under improved management	Enter the number of acres that are being managed by or apply to forest management and/or conservation plans developed during this project. Only count an acre once, even if multiple plans exist or if implementation activities or treatments will occur on that acre during the project.

## Additional Reporting Requirements – Modeling and Monitoring



- As part of the application process, applicants will be required to submit additional county-level data on expected project activities (practice/acre).
  - ➤ Grant recipients will be required to submit additional field-level data in interim and final project reports, such as management practice/acre.
- NFWF may use this information to estimate and track anticipated and actual project outcomes in terms of greenhouse gases, carbon and water benefits and species response to conservation actions.

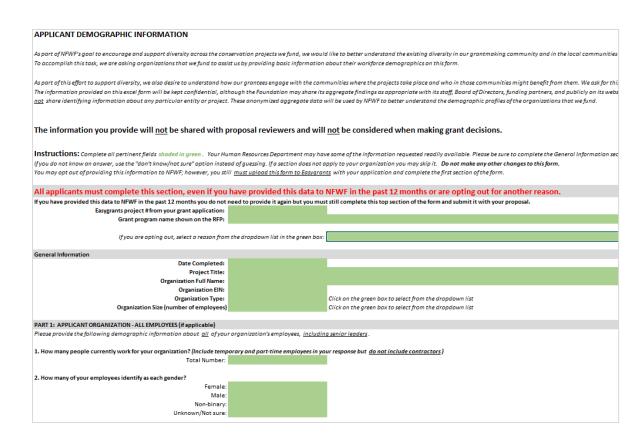
## **Matching Contributions**

- Projects with minimum 1:1 non-federal match ratio required
- 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 must be spent between project start and end dates
- Backdating not an option

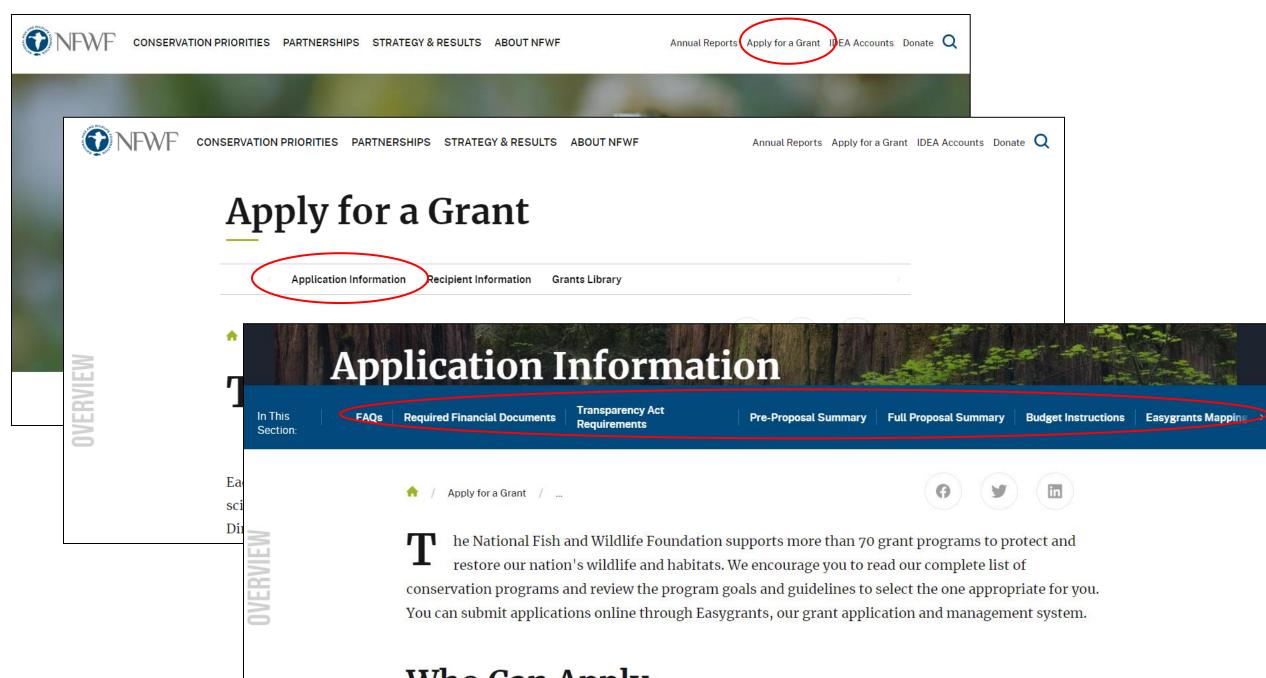


## **Uploads - Applicant Demographic Information Form**

- The information you provide will <u>not</u> be shared with proposal reviewers and will <u>not</u> be considered when making grant decisions.
- The Foundation will <u>not</u> share identifying information about any particular entity or project.
- While the form is a required upload, applicants can opt out of providing the information within the form itself
  - If your organization does not collect this information or if you have provided NFWF with this information in the last 12 months, you can opt out.
- The information provided on this excel form will be kept confidential, the Foundation may share its anonymized aggregate findings as appropriate with its staff, Board of Directors, funding partners, and publicly on its website or through other media.



#### https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant



## **Application Assistance – Reference Sheet**

#### **Supporting Documents:**

- 1. Lower Great Lakes TA SOGL 2022 Special Initiative RFP Webpage
  - a. <u>Tip Sheet</u>
    - Step-by-step pre- to full proposal guidance
  - b. SOGL Metrics Guidance
    - Guidance for metrics reporting and monitoring
  - c. <u>Easygrants Applicant Tutorial</u>
    - Step-by-step video tutorial for how to start and complete a proposal in <a href="Easygrants"><u>Easygrants</u></a> (<a href="https://easygrants.nfwf.org/">https://easygrants.nfwf.org/</a>)
- 2. NFWF Application Information
  - a. <u>Budget instructions</u>
    - For Full Proposals, download the <u>Detailed Budget and Narrative Guide</u>.
    - \*For the Full Proposal Budget section, please provide a respective budget narrative describing the purpose of each line item towards the project.
  - b. Required financial documents
    - Financial documents must be for the same fiscal year and <u>no more than 2 years old</u>
  - c. <u>Indirect Cost Policy</u>



### **Contacts**

#### **Programmatic Questions**

#### **Aislinn Gauchay**

**Program Director** 

**Great Lakes** 

Phone: 612-564-7284

Email: Aislinn.Gauchay@nfwf.org

#### **Traci Giefer**

Senior Program Manager

**Great Lakes** 

Phone: 612-564-7296

Email: Traci.Giefer@nfwf.org

#### **Application/Easygrants Questions**

#### **Minna Wong**

Regional Coordinator

Phone: 202-595-2657

Email: Minna.Wong@nfwf.org

#### **Technical Assistance / Easygrants Helpdesk:**

• <u>Email:</u> <u>Easygrants@nfwf.org</u>

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.