

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

10/30/2009

The Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) is soliciting pre-proposals for the GLRI to identify projects to be submitted for implementation in 2010 and the following four years. By now many projects should be well into development stage in preparation for the USEPA's GLRI Request for Proposal (RFP) and subsequent federal agency RFPs. OGL will use these pre-proposals to identify projects that the State of Wisconsin supports for GLRI funding.

The House-Senate Conference Committee in Congress just approved full funding for the GLRI at \$475 million. Half of this amount will be disbursed through EPA and GLNPO. Much of that money will be allocated through this RFP process. It is expected to have NO match, which is both wonderful but also will result in a large number of submittals to GLNPO. We want to send a list of action-oriented projects that represents the critical projects we've all been planning and working on for years. Speaking with a unified voice will send a strong message.

Pre-proposals should be submitted to the Office of the Great Lakes, attention Steve Galarneau (stephen.galarneau@wisconsin.gov) by close of business November 25, 2009. Support for project pre-proposals received after the 25th may be considered as well, but the focus will be to work on developing projects received by the 25th.

Focus Areas: Projects must address one or more of the five focus areas identified in the Initiative.

- Toxic Substances and Areas of Concern
- Invasive Species
- Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution
- Habitat and Wildlife Restoration and Protection
- Accountability, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication and Partnerships

Priority will be given to:

- Projects that can demonstrate measurable outcomes that address Recommended Actions in the Wisconsin Great Lakes Strategy or Interim Milestones in the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration.
- Projects that will directly impact the quality of Lake Superior or Lake Michigan. Projects must be able to demonstrate a measurable impact on the Great Lakes to be considered. Great Lakes nearshore projects or tributaries to the Great Lakes are encouraged.
- Projects that build on partnerships and previous collaboration.
- Projects that are located on any of the priority geographic areas identified in the Wisconsin Great Lakes Strategy (State's Great Lakes Beaches impaired beaches list, priority tributaries or wetlands, etc)
- Projects in these three geographic focus areas *.
 - Milwaukee River Basin
 - Fox River and Green Bay
 - Chequamegon Bay and Bad River
- Projects with a watershed approach
- Projects in or related to AOCs that work towards delisting targets
- Projects with a match and/or in-kind services
- Projects that are ready to be implemented

*NOTE: The geographic focus areas are recognition that these areas already have a large number of projects planned encompassing all of the topic areas. All projects that are within the Great Lakes Basin that will have a direct and clear benefit to the Great Lakes are welcome and should be submitted.

Links: Office of the Great Lakes/GLRI Information: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/glri> (Note: this page will continue to be updated as new information is obtained so please check back frequently)

U.S. EPA/GLNPO: Great Lakes Restoration Initiative: <http://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/glri/>

Next Steps: The process for disbursement of the GLRI funds is an ongoing evolving process. We regularly receive new and changing information from EPA on the implementation of GLRI. This pre-proposal process is one being used by other states and we have identified it as a mechanism to improve our ability to coordinate and prioritize projects for Wisconsin’s submittal. OGL requests ALL Wisconsin entities interested in applying for GLRI funds to submit project pre-proposals. This includes state agencies, local governments, non-governmental organizations, tribes, universities and others.

If you have questions please contact Steve Galarneau at 608-266-1956 or at stephen.galarneau@wisconsin.gov.

**Wisconsin Pre-proposal Template for
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Projects**

10/30/09

Limit the pre-proposal to two pages.

Project Title:

Project Applicant:

Include name of agency, group or organization that is applying for the grant.

Contact Person:

Include name, address, phone, fax and email.

Project Location (please be as specific as possible):

Lake Superior Basin

Lake Michigan Basin

Both

Watershed/sub watershed/HUC, _____

Tributary? Other?

Include map/figures as appropriate.

Problem Statement:

What problem or issue is this proposal addressing? Describe how this project addresses Wisconsin’s Great Lakes priorities as outlined in the *Wisconsin Great Lakes Strategy: Restoring and Protecting our Great Lakes* (<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/greatlakes/wistrategy>).

Describe how this project will address one or more of the Focus areas identified in the GLRI Action plan (<http://epa.gov/greatlakes/index.html>)

Proposed Work:

- Provide a brief description of the project.
- Describe outcomes and deliverables resulting from this project and how that will address one or more of the Focus areas. (see the GLRI Action plan (<http://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/glri/>) for targeted outcomes/progress toward goals, objectives and restoration priorities)
- Identify any transferable knowledge or process outcomes to other State, local governments, or other entities as a result of this project.
- List any permits or approvals that are needed as part of this project.

Collaboration with others:

Describe how you will partner with other agencies/organizations to meet project goals. If there is a need for any intergovernmental agreements or Memorandum of Agreement (M.O.A.) with your partners, please indicate if these have been finalized or your plans and timeline for finalizing.

Describe what existing plan(s) this work will forward the goals of:

For example Remedial Action Plan for an Area of Concern, Lakewide Management Plan, Wisconsin's Great Lakes Strategy, or other relevant national, regional, or State coordinated strategic planning efforts.

Project Cost: Provide an estimate of the project cost and identify any match funds that may be provided.

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***Project Selection Criteria as outlined in the EPA GLRI Action Plan***

The following criteria and principles will guide selection of programs and projects pursuant to this Action Plan. Please keep these criteria in mind as you draft your pre-proposal.

- Ability to strategically achieve measurable environmental outcomes;
- Ability to advance applicable ecological priorities of Lakewide Management Plans, Remedial Action Plans for Areas of Concern, as well as other relevant national and regional coordinated strategic planning efforts;
- Feasibility of prompt implementation, including a bias for projects that are both ready-to go and will have results soon (however, some funding will be used for planning and design to ensure cost effective implementation and for monitoring, particularly where it is needed to establish baseline conditions and/or to better understand environmental problems to inform implementation actions);
- Observable local impacts, especially for projects at the field level;
- Strong bias for inter-agency/inter-organizational coordination and collaboration;
- Support new work, or enhance (but do not replace) existing Great Lakes base activities;
- Public support;
- Ability to leverage non-Federal resources;
- Promotion of long-term societal, economic, and environmental sustainability; and
- Minimization of transaction costs.