



A Fish Habitat Partnership



Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Seeks Project Proposals for 2014

Deadline: September 1st, 2013

The Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP), a fish habitat partnership, is seeking project proposals to benefit fish habitat in Midwestern lakes. Federal funding may be available under the National Fish Habitat Partnership through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to fund the top ranked proposals. Funds can only be used for on-the-ground habitat conservation and improvement projects and related design and monitoring activities.

Previously successful projects include:

- Lakeshed delineations
- Large woody habitat installations
- Shoreland restoration demonstration projects
- Protection of sensitive fish habitats
- Fish Passage Projects
- Greenbelt, shoreland restoration workshops
- Riparian zone restorations

WHO CAN APPLY?

Any group that has the ability to plan, implement and evaluate a habitat project that benefits a lake(s).

TIMELINE:

July 1- September: Discuss and develop project proposals for National Fish Habitat Partnership funding consideration. An Interim Application form is available from Coordinator Katie Haws
Questions should be directed to Coordinator Katie Haws at 218-833-8618

Sept. 1st: Project Proposals will be required to be submitted on an electronic form which will be available on the website www.MidwestFishHabitats.org

Mid September: Projects will be evaluated by a Project Review Team

Late September: Final project selection will be done by the MGLP Steering Committee.

By October 9th: MGLP will provide a priority list of projects to the USFWS. Funding for projects will be available after the U.S. Congress approves the FY 2014 budget, likely in late winter/early spring 2014

Project Duration: Work is to be completed within 18-24 months

WHAT IS NEEDED?

Project proposals, ideally in interim priority watersheds, that address the goals and objectives of the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership. While all project dollar amounts will be considered, projects in the range of \$10,000-\$25,000 will be most attractive to fund given the likely amount of funding available.

**This year's project proposals are required to be submitted electronically, through www.MidwestFishHabitats.org. If you cannot access the application electronically, a non-online version is available for planning purposes. However, the applicant will be required to transfer the necessary information to the online application when that does become available (expected July 1, 2013)

Completed applications are due on September 1st, 2013.

Objectives and Success Measures from the MGLP Strategic Plan, 2009.

Objective 1 – Identify and protect 10,000 acres of intact and healthy lake habitats and 40,000 acres of intact watersheds by 2012.

Success measures

- Completion of lakes assessment.
- Acreage of intact lake habitat protected.
- Acreage of intact lakesheds protected.

Objective 2- Restore natural variability in 1,000^a acres of lakes surface elevations in by 2015*

Success measures

- Acreage of lakes with water levels rehabilitated to within 10% of the natural pattern.
- Optional measure - For the above measure, document whether key target fish populations remained constant or increased in distribution or relative abundance.

Objective 3 – Reconnect 10,000 acres of fragmented lake habitats to allow access to historic spawning, nursery and rearing grounds by 2015

Success measures

- Acreage of lake habitat with restored full fish movement.
- Optional measure - For the above measure, document whether the key target fish or invertebrate population increased in distribution or relative abundance.

Objective 4 – Reduce and maintain sedimentation, phosphorus and nitrogen runoff to lake habitats to a level within 25 percent of the expected natural variance in these factors or above numeric State Water Quality Criteria in 1,000 acres of affected lakes by 2020.

Success measures

- Identify key degraded systems whose sediment, phosphorus or nitrogen inputs have been modified by more than 25 percent above numeric State Water Quality criteria or from the natural and expected inputs.
- Acreage of lakes with sediment, phosphorus or nitrogen inputs rehabilitated to within 25 percent of the natural or other desired levels such as numeric State Water Quality criteria.
- Optional measure - For the above measure, document whether the key target fish or invertebrate population remained constant or increased in distribution or relative abundance.

Objective 5 – Implement a Communications Strategy that effectively uses Outreach and Education

Outreach and Education targets

- Identify key audiences in MGLP area
- Develop communication tools, such as presentations, pamphlets and news releases to reach key audiences.
- Increase public awareness of natural and altered systems through outreach efforts

Success measures

- Number of individuals contacted and/or presentations given
- Optional measure – Change in behaviors and beliefs about fish habitat conservation in glacial lakes.

Objective 6– Increase fish habitat in priority lakes where it is lacking.

Fish Habitat targets

- Identify lakes lacking a key fish habitat component(s)
- Number of habitat projects

Success measures

- Percent increase of habitat
- Optional measure – increase in fish population

Objective 7 (from NFHP guidance) Address habitat conservation goals through planning.

Address conservation goals through planning

-List habitat conservation goals, objectives or actions identified in resource or habitat management plan(s) (such as listed species recovery plans, fishery management plans, state, federal, regional or watershed-level habitat or resource conservation plans) that will be addressed, and identify the specific plans as well.

**Please address questions to: Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Coordinator
Katie Haws
Email: katie.haws@state.mn.us
Phone: 218-833-8618**

Thank You!