



Driftless Area Restoration Effort Project Proposal



Deadline: February 2, 2024

Contact Information:

Project Officer:

Name _____
Affiliation _____
Mailing address _____
email address _____
phone number _____

Project Co-Officer

Name _____
Affiliation _____
Mailing address _____
email address _____
phone number _____

Title of the project: (max chars: 100)

Location:

Watershed or subwatershed name:

Name of stream/river, County, State:

Township, Section and Range:

GPS coordinates (upper end of project area):

Lat: _____ Long: _____ decimal degrees (NAD-1983)

Record Congressional District(s):

(eg. WI-3, IL-2)

What type of action would you like considered (Place "X" for the one that applies)

- 1. Habitat enhancement or restoration _____ *(I.e. Riparian, wetland, instream, barrier removal)*
- 2. Scientific Assessments _____ *(i.e. population, habitat, barrier assessments)*
- 3. Outreach/Education _____ *(i.e. landowner engagement, outreach materials)*
- 4. Partnership support project _____

FWS NFHP Funding Request: _____ **(\$15,000 - \$75,000)**

Non federal Match (1:1 inclusive of both types): In-Kind _____ **Match: Cash** _____

Project Total: _____ *(include match, other federal contributions, request amount=project total)*

Section 1.

PROJECT ABSTRACT/Short Description

The project description should be in plain language such that reviewers and public can understand without viewing the full project proposal. Abstract should include a succinct description of the project purpose or need, objectives, major activities to be performed, deliverables, and expected outcomes. Abstract will be used in program databases and placed on USASpending.gov for public use if project is awarded. (Please do not include personally identifiable, sensitive, or proprietary information in the Project Abstract Summary. (Project Abstract is limited to 4,000 characters or less.)

PROJECT INFORMATION

1. **Statement of Need:** *Explain the importance (need) of the proposed project. Identify the conservation issue, problem, or opportunity to be addressed. Identify the negative result of taking no action. (Provide evidence such as results from surveys, research or other data to demonstrate that the need is real and not perceived.)*

2. **Project Goals and Objectives:** *State the goal(s) of the project, the specific and measurable objectives, and how they will address the fhp’s priorities. DARE Priorities are: Improve riparian and instream habitat on cold, cool and warmwater streams in the Driftless Area in support of native species; Monitor and evaluate conservation actions; Increase quantity and quality of angling and recreation opportunities; Increase awareness of Driftless Area resources and the importance of aquatic conservation and restoration through outreach and education. Objectives are the specific actions to be taken to reach the stated objectives(s). (Objectives should be written in an active tense and using action verbs such as construct, survey, train, research, establish, repair, conduct, provide, acquire.)*

3. **Project Activities, Methods, and Timeline:**
Describe or list proposed project activities:

Describe the approach or methods and explain how it relates to the stated objectives. Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each major activity.

Provide a timeline indicating roughly when activities or project milestones are to be accomplished. Timeline can be in table form or bulleted format. (The timeline should not propose specific dates but instead group activities by month for each month over the entire proposed project period.)

4. **Description of Entity Undertaking the Project:** *Provide a brief description of the applicant/entity, experience, and capability to successfully carry out proposed project. Describe other participating entities and/or individuals and identify the proposed activities each entity is responsible for managing.*

5. **Description of Monitoring Plan.** *Based on the objectives for your construction or non construction project, describe your monitoring/evaluation plan. Identify what you will measure (i.e. quantitative/quantifiable indicators) and how (i.e., methods, sample size, survey tools). If project is funded, a written summary of your accomplishments or results and conclusions (assessments) will be required at the completion of your project.*

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Amount and type of habitat affected (Fill in boxes)

In-stream miles restored/enhanced	
Riparian miles restored/enhanced	
Riparian acres restored/enhanced (length of stream x width of area)	
Number of instream structures placed	

Wetland acres restored/enhanced	
Upland acres restored/enhanced	
Other habitat type restored/enhanced (specify)	
Number of management populations assessed	
Total number of miles in-stream/shoreline habitat assessed	
Number of acres of upland habitat assessed	
Number of acres of wetland habitat assessed	
Total number of fish passage barriers removed or bypassed	
Number of miles re-opened to fish passage	
Number of acres re-opened to fish passage	
Recreational fishing enhancements (number of features)	
Length of new public fishing access	

Conservation Actions Taken *(Check all that apply)*

Install upland Best Management Practices	
Stream protection/ Protect healthy habitat	
Native prairie/Grassland restoration	
Riparian corridor protection	
Streambank stabilization	
Restore native riparian vegetation	
Reduce nutrient loading	
Reduce sediment loading	
Restore riparian habitat/Buffers	
Improve physical fish habitat (woody habitat, rock weirs, veins, woody debris, etc.)	
Restore natural stream channel form	
Reconnect aquatic habitat	
Control/eradicate invasive species	
Restore natural stream flow/Hydrological processes	
Remove fish barrier	
Improve natural variability in river and stream flows	
Improve floodplain habitat	
Restore water temperatures	
Improve sediment transport	
Restore wetlands	

Support National Fish Habitat Partnership's Goals

(Check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect & maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prevent further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reverse declines in the quality & quantity of aquatic habitats to improve the overall health of fish & other aquatic organisms	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase the quality & quantity of fish habitat that support a broad natural diversity of fish/aquatic species.	

PRIMARY NATIVE SPECIES:

SECONDARY NATIVE SPECIES:

OTHER SPECIES/COMMUNITIES:

BUDGET:

For projects that are predominantly construction costs, utilize the 1A budget template. Permitting related costs may be included in this template. For projects that are predominantly non-construction (planning, outreach, assessment,), utilize the 1B budget template.

See Attachment 1A- Budget Construction

See Attachment 1B- Non Construction

PROPOSED OUTREACH

1. Describe any planned outreach or educational component(s) and partners(s) involved.
(max chars: 500) If project is funded, a written summary of your outreach/educational activities will be required at the completion of your project.
2. What methods will you use to promote the project if it is funded? *(max chars: 500)*
3. Are there any unique aspects about the project? *(max chars: 500)*

PUBLIC INTEREST

- 1) Describe the public interest in this resource. Why is this a good place to invest conservation dollars?
(max chars: 500)
- 2) Will this project enhance recreational fishing? Yes No N/A *(Place "X")*
- 3) Will public fishing access be available? Yes No N/A *(Place "X")*
- 4) Is the project in an area of special conservation designation? *(Place "X" for those that apply)*
 - State Conservation Opportunity Area
 - Ten Waters to Watch
 - Ramsar (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance)
 - Joint Venture Focal Area
 - National Blueway
 - Brook Trout Reserve or state fisheries priority
 - Class I Trout Stream
 - Class II Trout Stream
 - Class III Trout Stream
 - Protected stream/segment
 - 303d listed/9KE & Watershed plan (WI & IL)/1W1P (MN)/WMP (IA)
 - Biologically significant
 - Designated threatened and endangered critical habitat (federal and state)
 - Other

5) Land ownership at project location (check all that apply for project area – Note: more attention will be given to privately owned – farmed land)

Federal _____ State _____ County _____ City _____ Private _____
Non-governmental Organization _____ Other _____

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

The value of new conservation easements may be utilized as non-federal match.

Is a conservation easement in place or in the process of purchase? Yes _____ NO _____ (Place "X")

If you answered yes above, is it a new or existing easement? New _____ (Place "X")

Is the easement perpetual? Yes _____ No _____ (Place "X")

If no, what is the length of easement _____ (years)

FEDERAL FUNDING

(If awarded funding, you will be required to complete SAM.gov registration and registration within the Federal ASAP payment system. It is strongly recommended that you complete your SAM.gov registration prior to submitting your application or within 60 days of submitting your application for funding in order to avoid delays in receiving your award.)

- | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-------------|
| 1. Have you received Federal funding in the last 5 years? | Yes | No | (Place "X") |
| 2. Do you have a current SAMS registration? | Yes | No | (Place "X") |
| 3. Do you have an active federal ASAP ID that to receive funds? | Yes | No | (Place "X") |

If submitted proposal is a construction project, please complete questions 4--8.

4. Have you completed at least 30% construction plans for the project? If yes, please provide draft designs with your submission. If no, please describe your design completion process to ensure that your timeline will align with the intended funding cycle. (Reminder that funding sought in this proposal is anticipated to be available in July 2025).

5. Has National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) been completed on this project prior to making a funding request?

Yes No (Place "X") (Please attach any NEPA Documentation)

6. Has the (Endangered/Threatened Species Review) with State Natural Resource Agency been completed?

Yes No (Place "X") (Please attach documentation)

7. Has the historic/cultural review been completed?

Yes No (Place "X") (Please attach documentation).

If no was selected, when is review expected to be completed and who is conducting that work?

Applicant is responsible for having the necessary archaeological surveys completed and providing copies of the report to USFWS in order for the agency to complete its compliance responsibilities.

8. What are the necessary permits needed to initiate construction?

- Have permit applications been submitted?
- Have permits been received?

PROJECT COMPLETION

What is your approximate start/end date for this project _____/_____ *(indicate month/year)*
(Projects must be completed in 2 years)

Section 2.

WATERSHED LEVEL PLANNING

Please provide any background information necessary to adequately address the below questions.

Enter N/A if question is non-applicable

1. **Is the proposed project part of a larger restoration effort on the stream or in the watershed? If so, what are the general stream or watershed goals or please provide the citation and/or web link to the stream or watershed strategic or management plan(s).**

2. **Are there any existing or proposed protection/restoration efforts (riparian, upland, mgt areas, other) in and adjacent to the project area that will help ensure long term benefits?**

3. **How does the project address climate change adaptation?**

4. **What is the current land use at the project site? (Please choose from the following):**
 - Cropland in current production**
 - Fallow land, former cropland**
 - Grazed/pasture**
 - Orchard, grove, vineyard**
 - Other Ag land**
 - Grassland/Prairie**
 - Wetland**
 - Riparian corridor (>65' wide)**
 - Forest**
 - Park/Public Lands – State, County**
 - Urban**
 - Resort/Tourism**

5. **What is the current land use in the watershed? (Please utilize the following tools to estimate land use in your watershed:)**

6. **What are the current/future plans for upland conservation/Best Management Practices in the watershed where the proposed restoration/enhancement project occurs?**

Section 3.

MAP OF PROJECT AREA

Please provide a map of the proposed project area showing the scope and location of project.

- *Recommended mapping sites: Surface Water Data Viewer (Wisconsin), Watershed Health Assessment Framework (Minnesota), Illinois EPA 2020/2022 Integrated Report Web App, BioNet (Iowa)*

PHOTOGRAPH(S) OF PROJECT AREA *(Required)*

Please include up to two photographs of proposed project area. Each photo should be in JPG, TIFF, GIF, WMF or bitmap format and accompanied by:

- *A short, descriptive caption*
- *Credit: Photographer's name/organization*

DOCUMENTS *Please attach appropriate planning documents, work plans, construction designs, maps etc. in PDF format. Notice –final construction designs must be turned prior to project start, if this is a construction/ground-disturbance project.*