REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FISHERIES DIVISION

(http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10364_52259_10951---,00.html)

Fiscal year 2014
Application Deadline: April 9, 2014 5:00 PM EST

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Fisheries Division formally issues this Request for Proposals (RFP) for fiscal year 2014. The purpose of this notice is to solicit proposals from partner agencies and universities that address the specific project below.

Fisheries Division formulates and undertakes a research program to provide a scientific basis for Division strategic programs, to address questions posed by fisheries managers, to develop new technology and management tools, and to conduct complex assessments.

This specific request for proposals will be disseminated to interested parties, agencies, and universities via both email and posting on the Research Section's web site http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10364_10951---,00.html.

SPECIFIC REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Topic Area: Distribution, natural reproductive capacity, and natal origin of grass carp in western Lake Erie and connecting tributaries.

Award amount: Up to $100,000 for a two-year project will be awarded. **Start Date**: May 1, 2014

The State has an interest in early detection surveillance and monitoring of grass carp in western Lake Erie and connecting tributaries. In particular, the goal of the project is to gain an understanding of the distribution, reproductive capacity, and natal origin of grass carp in that region.

Specific objectives to be addressed include:

- Utilize early detection techniques (i.e. environmental DNA) to determine the distribution of grass carp within western Lake Erie and connecting tributaries
- Determine the natural reproductive capacity of grass carp populations in western Lake Erie and connecting tributaries using genetic analyses.
- Quantification of otolith elemental signatures and ambient water chemistry within western Lake Erie and connecting tributaries to determine natal origin of grass carp.

The expected results from this project are to better support early detection and control efforts of grass carp in western Lake Erie by gaining an understanding of the distribution and natal origin of this emerging invasive species.

We are seeking proposals to join the Division in developing an advanced collaborative research team to address the research goals and objectives stated above for this project. Ideal proposals will include the capacity to collect and analyze samples (eDNA, ploidy, and microchemistry) while adhering to strict quality control protocols, ability to collaborate with current researchers in western Lake Erie, and work closely with Fisheries Division research and field personnel.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS, SCHEDULE, AND RANKING CRITERIA

Proposal Submission Process

Study proposals must be submitted using the Fisheries Division template (http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Proposal_template_New2014_external_451679_7.doc). A completed budget sheet for each year of the study (http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/External_Proposal-Budget-Template-2014_451680_7.xls) is also required upon proposal submission.

Deadline for Proposal Submission

Research Study Proposals must be submitted via email using the Division template to: Herbsts1@michigan.gov **by April 9, 2014 5:00 PM EST.**

The Fisheries Division Proposal Review Team will review all research study proposals by Date to make a selection. Proposals will be evaluated and ranked according to 1) appropriateness of proposal in addressing a high priority information needs as outlined (50%); 2) additional value-added study elements (25%), and 3) cost-benefit and partner cost-sharing, although no match is required. If match is declared, please state the source of the match (25%). No more than 5% of total project costs can be charged to indirect or overhead.

For questions regarding the proposal request and submission process, please contact Seth Herbst, AIS Coordinator – Fisheries Division, (517) 284-5841 or at Herbsts1@michigan.gov. Questions will be accepted until April 7, 2014 5:00 PM EST.

To request addition to the distribution list for MDNR Fisheries Division RFP notices, please send an email of request to: Newcombt@michigan.gov.