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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
LANSING



DANIEL EICHINGER
ACTING DIRECTOR

VIA EMAIL

TO: Members of the Michigan Legislature
FROM: Daniel Eichinger, Acting Director 
DATE: January 30, 2023
SUBJECT: Report on Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund for Calendar Year 2022

In accordance with Section 324.32910(1) of Part 329, Great Lakes Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA), attached is the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) report on the Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund (MGLPF) for calendar year 2022. The MGLPF is a designated source of funding to support projects that meet EGLE's strategic goals and that are consistent with Part 331, Regional Great Lakes Protection Fund, of the NREPA.

If you need further information, please contact Emily Finnell, Great Lakes Senior Advisor and Strategist, Office of the Great Lakes, at 517-599-1330; or you may contact me at 517-512-5992.

Attachment

cc/att: Kathryn Summers, Director, Senate Fiscal Agency
Mary Ann Cleary, Director, House Fiscal Agency
Christopher M. Harkins, Director, State Budget Office
Curtis Hertel Jr., Director of Legislative Affairs, Governor's Office
Marc Rehmann, Policy Director, Governor's Office
Chris Semrinec, Senate Fiscal Agency
Austin Scott, House Fiscal Agency
Jacques McNeely, State Budget Office
Zach Hendrix, State Budget Office
Aaron B. Keatley, Chief Deputy Director, EGLE
James Clift, Deputy Director, EGLE
Travis Boeskool, Legislative Liaison, EGLE
Emily Finnell, Great Lakes Senior Advisor and Strategist, EGLE
Paul McDonald, EGLE
Dale Shaw, EGLE
Lisa Root, EGLE



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

Legislative Report

MICHIGAN GREAT LAKES PROTECTION FUND REPORT

Report Period:
Calendar Year 2022

Authority:
Section 324.32910(1) of Part 329, Great Lakes Protection,
of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act,
1994 PA 451, as Amended

The mission of the Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund (MGLPF) is to provide funding for innovative research and demonstration projects that advance knowledge about Great Lakes ecosystems and their interactions with Michigan communities. Funded projects support and inform work to ensure a healthy environment, strong economy, and high quality of life for the people of Michigan. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) manages the MGLPF.

In calendar year 2022 the OGL awarded two new grants under the MGLPF for a total of \$150,000.

1. The OGL awarded a \$100,000 grant to The Regents of the University of Michigan (U of M) to support the U of M Water Center in the development of the "Tribal-State Collaborative Stewardship Plan for Manoomin (Wild Rice) in Michigan." The project proposal was collaboratively developed at the request of the Michigan Wild Rice Initiative Team (MWRIT). The MWRIT's mission is to protect, preserve, and restore wild rice (known as manoomin or mnomen in tribal languages) and wild rice culture in Michigan through collaboration, education, research, policy, and stewardship to enhance ecosystem health and benefit present and future generations. The MWRIT members include specialists and managers from all 12 federally recognized tribes, multiple state departments and federal agencies, and other interested partners to share information, coordinate approaches, and elevate the awareness about wild rice conservation and restoration. The grant provides capacity (time and resources) to the MWRIT to lead the facilitation and development of a shared stewardship plan. The development of the stewardship plan has been identified as a top priority of the MWRIT effort to advance stewardship and conservation of wild rice.
2. The OGL awarded a \$50,000 grant to The Regents of the U of M to support Michigan Sea Grant as part of their application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fiscal Year 2022 Sea Grant Coastal Adaptation and Resilience funding opportunity. The MGLPF grant serves as the mandatory non-federal match for Michigan Sea Grant's application to NOAA. The project's title is "Tools and Tactics for Sustainable Small Harbors – Phase II." Michigan Sea Grant received \$125,000 from NOAA for this project.

The project team led by Michigan Sea Grant will expand and further disseminate the Sustainable Small Harbors Tools and Tactics Guidebook (Guidebook), originally funded by the OGL, to provide a toolkit of best practices, resources, and funding opportunities to support small harbor planning. The Guidebook will be updated to include updated information and resources to support decision-making by small harbor communities, including strategies related to fluctuating water levels, decarbonization, changing economic activity, and state and federal funding and programs. The Guidebook also will be updated to consider how issues related to environmental justice may affect policy implementation and how to address them. The team will update the Guidebook and disseminate the report

through a strategy of electronic and in-person communications in key regional list-serves, publications, conferences, and events.

#	Grantee	Title	County	Grant \$
1	The Regents of the University of Michigan (U of M Water Center)	Tribal-State Collaborative Stewardship Plan for Manoomin (Wild Rice) in Michigan	Washtenaw	\$100,000
2	The Regents of the University of Michigan (Michigan Sea Grant)	Tools and Tactics for Sustainable Small Harbors – Phase II	Washtenaw	\$50,000

In addition to the new grants awarded in calendar year 2022, the OGL actively participated in the projects funded by the four existing, multi-year grants awarded in 2021 for \$724,682.