



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

LANSING



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

LIESL EICHLER CLARK  
DIRECTOR

VIA E-MAIL

TO: Senate Appropriations Committee Members  
Senate Environmental Quality Committee Members  
Senate Natural Resources Committee Members  
House Appropriations Committee Members  
House Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Committee Members

FROM: Liesl Eichler Clark, Director 

DATE: December 16, 2020

SUBJECT: Report on the Wetland Mitigation Bank Funding Program for Fiscal Year 2020

In accordance with Section 5204f of Part 52, Strategic Water Quality Initiatives, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, attached is the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) report on the Wetland Mitigation Bank Funding Program for fiscal year (FY) 2020. To date, 4 grants totaling \$426,172 have been awarded for 150 acres of wetland mitigation bank. These bank sites are being established at Department of Natural Resources state game areas in partnership with the Michigan Municipal Wetland Alliance. These bank sites will provide low-cost mitigation options for municipal projects. No new grants were awarded in FY 2020. In addition to these wetland banks, there has been a substantial increase in the private banking market in Michigan. There are currently 42 bank sites totaling over 2,000 acres of wetland.

If you need further information, please contact Anne Garwood, Supervisor, Wetlands, Lakes, and Streams Unit, Water Resources Division, at 517-388-4472; or you may contact me at 517-284-6708.

Attachment

cc/att: Chris Harkins, Director, Senate Fiscal Agency  
Mary Ann Cleary, Director, House Fiscal Agency  
Chris Kolb, Director, State Budget Office  
George W. Cook, III, Legislative Affairs Director, Governor's Office  
Emily Laidlaw, Policy Director, Governor's Office  
Josh Sefton, Senate Fiscal Agency  
Austin Scott, House Fiscal Agency  
Jacques McNeely, State Budget Office  
Carly Kirk, State Budget Office  
Aaron B. Keatley, Chief Deputy Director, EGLE  
Amy Epkey, Senior Deputy Director, EGLE  
Sarah M. Howes, Legislative Liaison, EGLE  
Paul McDonald, EGLE  
Dale Shaw, EGLE  
Teresa Seidel, EGLE  
Amy Lounds, EGLE  
Anne Garwood, EGLE  
Michael Pennington, EGLE



# Legislative Report

## WETLAND MITIGATION BANK FUNDING PROGRAM

Reporting Period: Fiscal Year 2020

Authority: MCL 324.5204f

In accordance with Section 5204f of Part 52, Strategic Water Quality Initiatives, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy established a Wetland Mitigation Bank Funding Program that provides grants and loans totaling not more than \$10,000,000 to eligible municipalities. Of this amount, up to \$500,000 may be used for grants. Municipalities are required by federal and state laws to mitigate for unavoidable losses to wetland resources. This innovative program provides municipalities with low-cost mitigation options by providing them funding to establish their own wetland bank sites as opposed to purchasing wetland bank credits on the private bank market. The estimated cost savings for municipalities establishing wetland banks under this program is \$70,000 per acre.

Grants	Acres	County	State Funding	Local Match	Total	Fiscal Year Award
1. Saginaw County Public Works Commissioner	60	Gratiot	\$98,529	\$10,948	\$109,477	2016
2. Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner	20	Ionia	\$93,483	\$10,387	\$103,870	2017
3. Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner	40	Allegan	\$95,607	\$10,623	\$106,230	2017
4. Monroe County Drain Commissioner	30	Monroe	\$95,935	\$10,660	\$106,595	2017
Total	150	-	\$383,554	\$42,618	\$426,172	-