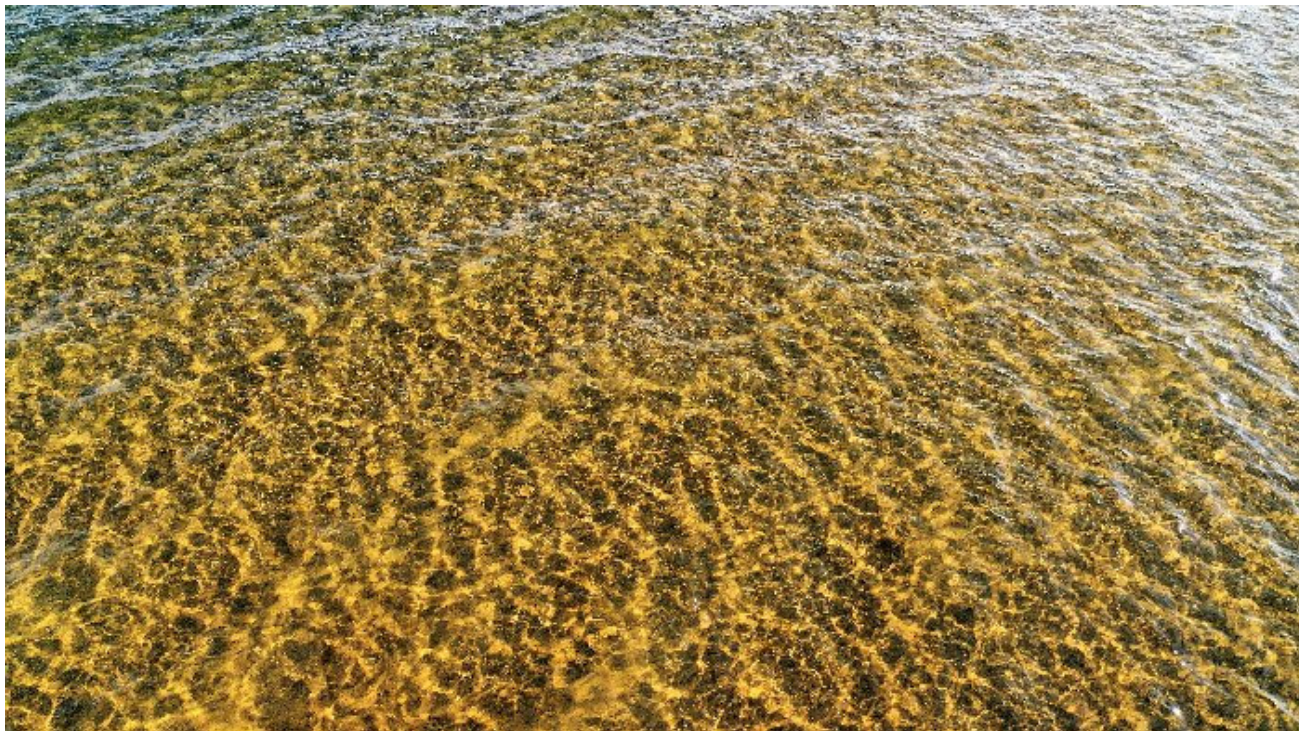




Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c) 4 non-profit corporation formed over twenty years ago in order to effectively advocate for the creation or preservation of state laws, and/or policies designed to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable and wise use of our state's immense treasure of high quality freshwater resources. Our primary mission will be accomplished by pro-active participation in Michigan's legislative process (lobbying), by participating in court cases whose outcomes may have significant statewide ramifications, and/or by direct involvement with natural resources management, or environment focused state agencies or departments.





October 12, 2021

Contact: Joe Nohner, 517-284-6236; or Chip Kosloski, 517-284-5965

Nearly \$1.6 million in grant funding available for fisheries habitat conservation, dam removal and more

Project pre-proposals are due by Friday, November 12, 2021

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is offering nearly \$1.6 million in funding for a variety of activities tied to improving state fisheries and aquatic resources, including fish habitat conservation, dam removal and repair, resource assessment studies and providing access to recreation.

Distributed through three themes – aquatic habitat conservation, dam management, and aquatic habitat and recreation in the Au Sable, Manistee and Muskegon river watersheds – Fisheries Habitat Grant funding is available through an open, competitive process to local, state, federal and tribal governments and nonprofit groups.

“Healthy waters benefit all of us. Whether it’s better fishing, more resilient ecosystems or improved human safety, these projects have positive effects across Michigan,” said Joe Nohner, a resource analyst with the DNR Fisheries Division. “These grants help our partners protect and rehabilitate fisheries and waters in a state that relies heavily on those resources as a foundation for tourism and quality of life.”

Examples of proposed projects addressing the causes of habitat decline include efforts to:

- **Improve the management of riparian land (land situated near or on the water).**
- **Restore natural lake levels.**
- **Improve or create passage for aquatic organisms by removing culverts, dams and other barriers.**
- **Improve water quality.**
- **Implement watershed-based approaches to improving both the quality and quantity of water.**
- **Develop projects that demonstrate habitat conservation.**
- **Restore stream function.**
- **Add structural habitats, like woody habitat or aquatic vegetation.**
- **Conduct assessments that will guide conservation projects.**
- **Complete other projects that meet program goals.**

Grant and application guidelines

Grant applicants may apply for and receive funding from all three themes with one application, if eligible for each. Expected funding is derived from three sources, which are:

- **About \$1,140,000 from the Game and Fish Protection Fund, supporting the aquatic habitat conservation theme.**
- **\$265,000 from the state's General Fund, supporting the dam management theme.**
- **\$185,288 from a hydropower license and settlement agreement between Consumers Energy and several entities including the DNR, supporting aquatic habitat and recreation in the Au Sable, Manistee and Muskegon river watersheds.**

Applicants have the option of requesting funding from the current funding cycle or a conditional commitment from a future year's funding. Conditional commitments to very competitive projects allow recipients to leverage DNR contributions toward applications for additional funding sources for larger projects or secure a funding commitment based on other conditions. The available funding advertised in this announcement does not include \$257,817 in existing conditional commitments the DNR has made to partners from this year's grant funding.

Grant amounts start at a minimum of \$25,000 and have the potential to be as large as the total amount of funding available in all theme areas for which a project is eligible.

If necessary, smaller projects within the same region addressing similar issues can be bundled into a single grant proposal package to reach the minimum grant amount.

The DNR identifies specific priority projects, through its [Fisheries Priority Habitat Conservation Projects list](#), that will receive preference during proposal review.

Applications for projects on this list still will need to be competitive in other aspects, such as cost, appropriate methods and design, and applicant expertise, so grant awards are not expected to exclusively fund projects on this list. In previous grant cycles, about 40% of all funded projects were Fisheries Priority Habitat Conservation Projects.

All applicants must first discuss their project with a fisheries biologist, then complete and submit a short preproposal for DNR review. Pre-proposals must be submitted by email to Chip Kosloski at KosloskiC3@Michigan.gov no later than Friday, November 12. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their pre-proposal by December 14 and, if selected, will be invited to submit a full application.

An invitation to submit a full application does not guarantee project funding. Final funding announcements are expected to be made by May 31, 2022. The detailed program handbook, including timeline, pre-proposal guidelines and forms are available at Michigan.gov/DNRGrants.



NALMS 2021 is Going Virtual: November 15-19, 2021

After careful consideration and in consultation with our partners and planning team, the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) and co-host Oklahoma Clean Lakes & Watersheds Association (OCLWA) have elected to go virtual for our 2021 annual symposium, in keeping with the best interest of the health and well-being of

our attendees, sponsors, exhibitors, and staff. We are dedicated to holding a high-quality conference online, and we're excited to still be able to offer a great program, opportunities for networking and interaction, and special virtual events throughout the week.

[Registration is open](#) and we're updating the website as we confirm details.



Highly Invasive Exotic New Zealand Mudsnails Spreading Throughout the Rivers, Streams, and Lakes of the Laurentian Great Lakes Region

Native to the freshwater lakes and streams of New Zealand, and its neighboring islands, New Zealand mudsnail (scientific name: *Potamopyrgus antipodarium*) were inadvertently introduced to the waters of United States over thirty years ago through the discharge of contaminated ship ballast water, the import of live fish, eggs, or ornamental plants, or on contaminated recreational fishing gear. Now established in Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, and Lake Michigan, New Zealand mudsnail were first observed in Idaho's Snake River in 1987, and have since spread to several western states, five of the Great Lakes states, and to several iconic Michigan rivers including the Au Sable, and the Pere Marquette.

Capable of surviving in a wide range of climates and aquatic conditions, northern temperate freshwater resource rich areas such as the lakes, rivers, and cold-water

streams inundated Laurentian Great Lakes region are particularly vulnerable to invasion due to the fact that the species prefers cold water habitats, and are a highly invasive, exponentially reproducing exotic snail that is capable of rapidly spreading from one water body to another on the fur or feathers of terrestrial wildlife, or within the excrement of fish.

Attaching themselves to a wide range of substrates including mud, rock, gravel, aquatic vegetation, or woody debris, New Zealand mudsnails possess tiny elongated shells that vary from gray and dark brown to light brown in color, are 4 to 6 millimeters (.16 inch to .24 inch) in size that are further defined by the telltale presence of five to eight equally sized deep groove whorls.

Comprised of an exotic invasive population consisting of all self-cloning females, rapidly reproducing New Zealand mudsnails are capable of achieving population densities of up to 750,000 per square meter. It is important to note that large scale infestations of exotic aquatic invasive New Zealand mudsnails are capable of causing substantial reductions in the diversity and abundance of important native fish species such as trout by outcompeting and ultimately displacing the array of native snails, mussels, and aquatic insects which most fish rely upon for food.



Request for proposals

In November, the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP) will announce its annual request for fish habitat conservation project proposals. The request for proposals will be distributed through the MGLP Newsletter; you can [sign up for the newsletter here](#) if you have not done so already. With the passage of the America's Conservation Act, which funds our Lake Conservation Grant through the National Fish Habitat Partnership, there are new timelines and slight modifications to our request for proposals.

We support conservation projects that work toward meeting the goals and objectives set forth in the MGLP Strategic Plan to benefit glacial lake fish habitats, which include addressing all aspects of the chemical, physical, and biological components of lakes and their watersheds. We direct funding toward a wide range of aquatic conservation projects that benefit habitat for a wide range of fish species in glacial lakes. We have typically funded 3-5 projects annually between \$10,000 and \$75,000, but larger projects will be considered for funding up to a maximum of the approximately \$360,000 expected for distribution. Past projects have been successfully implemented because the combined contributions and capabilities of many partners accomplished project goals that none of the partnering entities could accomplish on their own. If possible, projects should align with a lake management plan or the MGLP Conservation Guidelines for the lake. MGLP Conservation Guidelines for each lake can be found on the MGLP Conservation Planner.

Projects considered for funding must align with the goals and objectives of the MGLP and can range in scale from projects that affect one or more sites, lakes, or watersheds. Projects should address the processes that cause fish habitat impairments as opposed to managing or treating the symptoms of those causes. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- **projects that implement or demonstrate new approaches;**
- **watershed-level nutrient control projects;**
- **water quality and erosion control measures;**
- **native vegetation or wetland rehabilitation;**
- **natural riparian or in-lake habitat restoration and protection;**
- **barrier removal for improved native fish passage;**
- **fish population or watershed assessments needed for project evaluation;**
- **habitat assessment, prioritization and planning for future habitat projects;**
- **evaluating current and future habitat conditions;**
- **projects addressing climate change adaptation or mitigation through fish habitat;**
- **projects training biologists and managers on inland lake fish habitat management tools and approaches; and**
- **community outreach and education on the importance of and how to better conserve glacial lake fish habitat.**

Importantly, with the signing of the America's Conservation Enhancement Act in 2020, there are new requirements in the Lake Conservation Grant application. The major change to the grant is that while the partnership prefers to maximize match in general, grant funds must be matched with at least 1:1 with nonfederal funds. Nonfederal match can include cash and/or in-kind labor, materials, equipment if there

are no federal ties to those funds. State agency funds can be used for the nonfederal match if labor and/or materials are not being charged to another federal grant. State agency funds that are used to match other federal grants would not be eligible as match. Once the grant funds are matched with nonfederal funds/in-kind, an unlimited amount of federal contributions to the project are allowed. Additionally, all projects must include an outreach or education component that includes the local or regional community and projects that create or improve fishing access are desirable.

In addition to conducting independent outreach and/or education, successful applicants will be expected to work with the MGLP to coordinate media and public outreach to raise the profile of MGLP-funded projects.

Organizations eligible to apply include state and federal management agencies, non-governmental organizations, municipalities, universities, schools, private landowners, and local and tribal governments. A partial list of ineligible costs includes purchasing or leasing land, actions required by regulations, research studies (as opposed to habitat assessments), long term monitoring, and incentive payments. A full list of eligibility and requirements can be found on the request for proposals.

If you have a lake conservation project aligned with the goals and objectives of the MGLP and need financial assistance, we encourage you to submit a proposal for project funding after the request for proposals has been announced. If you have any questions, please contact Coordinator Joe Nohner at (517-284-6236 or nohnerj@michigan.gov) or Gary Whelan, MGLP Steering Committee Chair, at whelang@michigan.gov.



Contact: [Joanne Foreman](#), 517-284-5814

NotMISpecies webinars offer help for backyard invasive species problems and more

Register now for upcoming sessions

New sessions in the [NotMISpecies webinar series](#) will offer an abundance of information, resources and field experiences to help identify and manage invasive species in Michigan.

Supported by Michigan's Invasive Species Program, the regular, hourlong webinars are designed to keep participants informed of available programs, current research and emerging issues in the state and the Great Lakes region. Question and answer sessions and links to resources help attendees get the most out of each presentation.

To register for these upcoming events, click on the title of each session below to go to the registration page.

[“Just do it!”](#) (9:00 AM - Thursday, Oct. 21) offers an invitation to learn about invasive species management by volunteering for a state park stewardship workday. DNR natural resource stewards Kelsey Dillon and Emily Leslie will share information about the program and its focus on special habitat areas in need of protection. Learn how you can get involved in preserving your favorite places for future generations.

If you are new to the series, it's easy to catch up on topics including collaborative efforts in invasive carp management, early detection and response for aquatic invasive species, and the threat posed by spotted lanternfly. Recorded versions of all previous [NotMISpecies webinars](#) are available at Michigan.gov/EGLEEvents under “Featured Webinar Series.”

Michigan's Invasive Species Program, a collaborative effort of the departments of Natural Resources; Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; and Agriculture and Rural Development, coordinates and supports invasive species initiatives across the state and provides support through the [Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program](#).



ATTENTION READERS!!!

In order to add your friends, neighbors, and/or fellow lake or watershed conservation focused association member e-mails to our growing list of water resource conservation minded people who would like to receive this Michigan freshwater resources focused twice monthly newsletter, contact Editor Scott Brown at scottb1952@gmail.com



>> We Need Your Help!!! <<

Why You Should Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance?

Do you care for your lake, river, or stream? Do you care enough to contact your state senator or representative about issues that affect your waterbody? Do you keep track of the bills that are important to your lake, river, or stream? The good news is

that Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is doing this for you. MWA hires a lobbying firm to keep track of issues and bills which may affect Michigan's waterfronts, and remain in constant contact with senators and representatives. These lobbyists have relationships with those serving in our state legislature, willing to present bills that MWA would support to help protect Michigan's inland waterways, and help to defeat bills that may be detrimental to our waterways. There is an old saying that "you can't fight city hall." This may be true if you do not know how, but with the help of MWA's attorneys, MWA has the experts that know how to deal with legal issues. There have been laws interpreted incorrectly when it comes to our lakes, rivers, and streams. MWA, with its attorneys, has argued these cases when we believe the law has been misinterpreted.

While the MWA Board of Directors is made up of volunteers, it is expensive to hire lobbyists and attorneys. The Michigan Waterfront Alliance membership is made up of individuals, lake associations, and corporations who care about Michigan's lakes, rivers, and streams. Would you like to be more involved? You can by becoming a member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance and by becoming an active partner in MWA. Membership in MWA is inexpensive:

**We rely entirely on membership dues to fund
the operating costs of our organization...**

**TO BECOME A MEMBER OF
MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE VISIT OUR
>>>>> MEMBERSHIP PAGE <<<<<<**

Annual Dues are:

\$50 for an individual;

\$100 for a lake association; and

\$200 for a corporation

With support from individuals like you, lake associations, and corporations, we can continue to work together as a unified voice choosing to protect Michigan's water resources for future generations. Thank you for your consideration!!!



Michigan Waterfront Alliance is a proud member of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership

A Collaborative Partnership Dedicated to Protecting Michigan's Vast Heritage of High Quality Inland Lakes

The Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (MILP) is made up of a broad range of organizations and agencies that have a common interest - protecting inland lakes. Explore this site to learn more about Michigan's lakes, the organizations involved with the Partnership, and how you can be a part of the effort. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes. Most are high quality resources highly valued by society for recreation and as places to live. These cultural demands place significant stresses upon these ecosystems, often resulting in undesirable changes. How can these lakes be strategically managed to minimize undesirable changes and protect them for this and future generations?

The purpose of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (Partnership) is to engage state and local agencies, Native American Nations, outreach institutions (universities and other educational institutions), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), businesses, industries and citizens in a collaborative effort to ensure the quality, sustainability and ecological diversity of lakes, while considering society's needs. The Partnership will promote communication and cooperation between

partners, communities and citizens interested in the management of Michigan's inland lakes, educating leaders, and strengthening stewardship efforts.

The MILP Coordinating Council is the decision-making body of the Partnership. The Council sets the goals of the Partnership, and all Council Partners have a vote in the activities and policies of the Partnership. The Council currently meets four times per year. Coordinating Council member organizations are listed alphabetically below. Clicking on an organization name will take you to that organization's website.

To learn more about the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership, and its ensemble of inland lake protection focused collaborative organizations, [click here](#)



Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance!

- Are you tired of funding the management of aquatic invasive species on your lake that were introduced by recreational boaters using the local MI Department of Natural Resources public boating access site?
- Are you just a bit angry that recreational boaters using your lake are not being asked to contribute their fair share to combat the negative influences of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you worried about the fact that your lakefront residential property values are being negatively influenced by the steadily increasing presence of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you concerned about the fact that it is nearly impossible to find an inland lake in Michigan that does not currently host one or more potentially harmful aquatic invasive species?
- Are you aware of the fact that inland lakes are Michigan's most valuable natural resource, and that our state legislature has thus far appropriated almost nothing in the way of budget resources to help ensure they remain healthy and viable?

If your answer is yes to any of these important questions, please help ensure that your voice is heard in Lansing by joining Michigan Waterfront Alliance today.

[Click here to Join MWA](#)

Visit the Michigan Waterfront Alliance Web Site by Clicking
Here

[Unsubscribe](#)

This message was sent to roberttfrye@gmail.com from scottb1952@gmail.com

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