



Policy on Dissemination of Final Project Reports

One goal of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT) is to fund research that has direct implications for Great Lakes fishery management. The GLFT requires reporting of its grants not just for monitoring purposes, but so information developed throughout a project's lifetime can be shared quickly. The GLFT also requires a final report on all activities of the GLFT-funded project. All progress reports, including the final report, are made available to its Scientific Advisory Team (SAT) and/or Board of Trustees members. In order to facilitate knowledge sharing the GLFT is continually examining ways to get information into the hands of managers and other researchers to help achieve common management goals for the Great Lakes fishery.

The GLFT also recognizes the importance of publishing peer-reviewed articles based on research conducted with its grant dollars in part to validate the work and share information to a broad research audience. The GLFT is establishing this policy in an effort to recognize both the importance of publishing in journals and sharing important information in a timely fashion.

All final reports of GLFT-related projects will now be displayed on a project website hosted by the GLFT. There are two exceptions where GLFT website publishing may not be appropriate: patent work or government policy-setting documents, and peer reviewed journals. The following policy only applies to articles submitted for publication in peer reviewed journals. Other exceptions will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

1. If the principle investigator (PI) intends to publish a paper in a peer-reviewed journal based on information gathered during a GLFT-funded project, the PI must write or e-mail the GLFT to request that the final report **not** be posted on the Web.
2. The GLFT will delay posting the final report on its website for six months. At the end of six months, the PI must provide evidence that the article has been submitted and accepted for review by a peer-reviewed journal.
3. If the article is still in review 12 months past the final report deadline, the PI must provide the GLFT with a written explanation of where the article is in the review process to be granted an additional six-month delay in posting on the GLFT website.
4. If at the end of 18 months the article has not been published, the GLFT will post the final report on its website.

The GLFT will post a project's final report on the project website in addition to links to non-peer-reviewed journal articles supported by the GLFT-sponsored research. In the event that a peer-reviewed article is published as a result of the GLFT-sponsored project, the GLFT will post a link with the journal reference and article, if possible, in addition to

posting the final report on the project website once the article is published in the peer-reviewed journal. The PI is responsible for notifying the GLFT of related articles that can be posted.

Standard Final Report Format

1. Principle investigator
2. PI contact info
3. Collaborators
4. Title
5. Duration of project
6. Amount of project
7. Abstract
8. One-page executive summary
9. The rest of the format may follow the style of a journal

Approved by the GLFT Board of Trustees on November 3, 2003