



Funding Criteria

At a minimum, project applicants and/or proposals must meet the following criteria:

- **Projects must have measurable outcomes.**
Project proposals must contain measurable outcomes and processes for measuring success.
- **Projects must have benefits primarily directed to the Great Lakes.**
Projects must provide Great Lakes fishery mitigation benefits.
- **Project applicants must be a public entity, nonprofit organization, or private educational institution.**
Nonprofit organizations receiving funds and managing a project must demonstrate evidence of current 501(c)(3) tax status with the IRS.
- **Projects must not duplicate ongoing activities in the region or activities funded by alternative sources.**
Projects must represent new efforts not currently under way in the Great Lakes region. This criterion does not apply to site-specific benefits such as access.
- **Project applicants must have demonstrated an ability to undertake such projects.**
Project applicants must be able to demonstrate experience in successfully managing similar grants or projects.

In addition, projects should demonstrate all or most of the following:

- **Highly visible results**
Plans for making the public and other appropriate forums or groups aware of results should be incorporated into the project proposal.
- **Broad support**
Projects should have a broad range of support from organizations interested in Great Lakes fisheries, the general public, and/or the scientific community.
- **Facilitation of future uses of Great Lakes Fishery Trust funds**
Projects should provide information or results that will help guide future grant activities of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust.