

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program

Request for Research Preproposals (FY2010–FY2011)

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute issues this joint call for proposals to address two of the most pressing data gaps for modeling the effect of invasive species on Lake Michigan food webs. This RFP is an outcome of the Lake Michigan Food Web Workshop conducted this summer where several important factors were identified as independent variables that drive Lake Michigan food webs (i.e., nutrient cycling, event responses, light gradient effects, temperature, circulation patterns, etc.). The workshop was organized by the Great Lakes Regional Research Information Network (GLRRIN)*, a collaboration of USEPA, NOAA, GLERL, and the Sea Grant programs.

Collaborative proposals with or between Wisconsin and Illinois or Indiana-based researchers are encouraged. Principal Investigators based in Illinois or Indiana should submit preproposals to Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant. Research is to be conducted in the 2010–2011 biennium. Up to \$100,000 per year for two years will be available for funding research projects. The funds requested must be matched by at least one nonfederal dollar for every two federal dollars awarded.

Priority Areas

These grants are intended to respond to the most pressing data gaps for modeling the relationships of Lake Michigan food webs. Proposals are sought in the following areas:

- Bioenergetics, trophic status, and food web relationships of non-commercial and non-recreational fish species
- Current status and trends of nutrient inputs to Lake Michigan with an emphasis on large rain events and processes at the land-water interface

The federal partners (USEPA, NOAA, GLERL, and state partners) may provide additional support including ship time or field laboratory support as appropriate. Requests for Lake Michigan ship time should be submitted on a separate page outlining specific needs. For more information, please contact Lisa Merrifield at 217-333-0045 or lmorrisn@illinois.edu.

Guidelines for Preproposals

The preproposals for this award should contain the following information in *2 single-spaced pages or less using 11-point font or greater (plus one additional page for ship time requests if needed)*:

Title

Investigators and their affiliations

Duration (1 Feb 2010–31 Jan 2012)

Description of the problem addressed, methods, and objectives.

Description of method/process used to ensure research results will be applied to address problem.

Expected results, impacts, or outcomes.

Preliminary budget

Provide a brief breakdown of costs, especially support for any graduate students. (Preproposals do not need to include a fully executed budget. The request for funds must include overhead as required by the institution.)

All requests for ship time should be explained on an additional separate page.

Preproposal Evaluation Criteria

Preproposals will be screened for the following:

- Does the work fit within the scope of the priority areas?
- Is the work scientifically significant?
- Will the anticipated results provide positive impacts and fill gaps in the needed data?

Proposal Timeline

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| • January 5, 2009 | Preproposals due in program office (with preliminary budgets) |
| • Late January, 2009 | Invitations to submit full proposals |
| • April 20, 2009 | Full proposals due in program office |
| • August 7, 2009 | Notification of funding, accompanied by panel and peer reviews |
| • August 31, 2009 | Final adjusted proposals due in program office |
| • February 1, 2010 | Project initiation (subject to the availability of funds) |

An external panel will review the preproposals to determine how well the proposed project addresses the topic areas. Investigators with projects that receive high rankings will be encouraged to submit full proposals. Detailed guidelines for submission of full proposals will be provided at that time and will also be available on the IISG web site. Full proposals will undergo detailed technical reviews by peer professionals.

Preproposal Submission

Email an attached electronic copy of the preproposal to Lisa Merrifield at lmorrisn@illinois.edu. Please include the PI's last name in the name of the attached file.

Preproposals must be received by January 5, 2009.

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program (IISG), a cooperative enterprise of the University of Illinois and Purdue University, supports research, technology transfer, and outreach and education activities for issues of importance to the southern Lake Michigan region in the two states. IISG is part of the National Sea Grant College Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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* for more details on Lake Michigan GLRRIN go to <http://www.gllrrin.info/lakemichigan/>