

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and Wisconsin Sea Grant College Programs Joint Request for Research Proposals: Locally-Sourced Seafood

NOAA Fisheries estimates that U.S. per capita consumption of fish and shellfish is steadily increasing, reaching 15.5 pounds in 2015 (www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/commercial-fisheries/fus/fus15/). Over 74% of this consumed seafood was fresh or frozen, pointing to the opportunity for locally sourced products. At the same time, a growing movement in the Midwest seeks to connect food producers to local consumers (i.e., within 400 miles). These trends collectively create opportunities for locally-produced or -sourced fresh fish and seafood to be sustainably produced, marketed and sold in the Midwest.

The Illinois-Indiana and Wisconsin Sea Grant College Programs issue this joint call for proposals that examine trends in the supply, demand, and policy issues relevant to sourcing locally-produced fish and seafood by individual consumers, restaurants, institutions, and markets in the Midwest. This may include aquaculture or wild-caught fish and seafood.

Priority research areas include:

1. Assessment of local food systems and the feasibility of integrating locally-produced seafood, especially in urban centers (e.g., Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin, greater Chicago metropolitan area, Indianapolis, Indiana, and surrounding cities).
2. Analysis of social, economic and/or policy opportunities and challenges to the development of a locally sourced seafood market into local food systems.
3. Identification of policies or management actions needed to catalyze seafood market development into local food systems.
4. Identification and assessment of education, outreach, and/or social initiatives needed to encourage the demand for locally-produced seafood, primarily aimed at local consumers, targeting restaurants, institutions, and permanent and seasonal markets.

By working together, we can support larger-scale projects to tackle these challenges at a regional scale and aim to develop collaborations across state lines that can enrich the expertise of our within-state research teams. Preproposals must demonstrate plans for collaboration between at least one Illinois- or Indiana-based researcher and at least one Wisconsin-based researcher. Investigators should prepare one preproposal document to submit to both Sea Grant programs. Illinois and Indiana PIs should email an attached electronic copy of the preproposal to iisgres@purdue.edu. Please include the PI's last name in the title of the attached file and indicate "2018 IISG-WISG Preproposal" on the subject line. Wisconsin-based researchers should submit an identical preproposal to Wisconsin Sea Grant via the iPROPOSE system (guidelines at seagrant.wisc.edu/rfp).

Research is to be conducted in the 2018–20 biennium. Up to \$100,000 per year for two years will be available for funding each of the Illinois-Indiana and Wisconsin portions of research projects (i.e., up to \$200,000 per year total). The funds requested by Illinois and Indiana researchers must be matched by at least one non-federal dollar for every two federal dollars requested.

The deadline for preproposal submission to both programs is January 24, 4:00 pm EST (3:00 pm CST). Notification of preproposal status will be sent in early March, 2017.

Anyone who is considering submitting a preproposal is invited to attend an [informational webinar](#) on Dec. 9 at 10:30 am EST (9:30 am CST). A similar, Wisconsin-based webinar will be provided December 16, 2016, from 3:00-4:00 pm CST. Full proposals will be due April 28, 2017, by 4:00 pm EST (3:00 pm CST).

Preproposals should contain the following information:

- TITLE [Use uppercase only for the first word in the title or for proper nouns.]
- BEGIN DATE [Projects will normally begin on February 1, 2018 or 2019.]
- END DATE [Maximum project duration is two years.]
- CAMPUS [Where project will be administered. For submissions to IISG, list both the Wisconsin institution and the Illinois or Indiana institution.]
- PRINCIPAL AND ASSOCIATE INVESTIGATOR(S) [Role (Principal or Associate investigator), Effort, Name and Contact Information (address, phone and email address) for each investigator.]

[The following sections should not exceed 2 single-spaced pages using an 11-point type size Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. Sections denoted with * may be limited to 350 words in iPROPOSE, though there is some flexibility. Find a template at seagrant.wisc.edu/rfp, and work with Wisconsin partners before finalizing submissions.]

- STATEMENT OF PROBLEM OR OPPORTUNITY TO BE ADDRESSED*
- OVERALL PROJECT GOAL, OBJECTIVES, AND/OR HYPOTHESIS TO BE TESTED*
- FOCUS AREA [Applies to iPROPOSE only]
- SPECIFIC PROGRAM PRIORITY [Include the priority or priorities as listed above.]
- APPROACH*
- APPLICATIONS* [How will the proposed project address the problem/opportunity? Identify potential users of project results (e.g., specific businesses, industries, coastal communities, state and federal government agencies, etc.) and how they have been involved in defining the question and proposed approach.]
- APPROXIMATE ANNUAL BUDGETS [Projects will normally begin on February 1, 2018 or 2019. Though funding is on a year-by-year basis, project preproposals should be written to cover the entire period of time necessary to fulfill the proposed objectives. Projects may have durations of one year to a maximum of two years. Submitted budgets are to include lump sums as well as an estimated breakdown of costs across these categories: a) Salaries; b) Fringe benefits; c). Equipment; d) Supplies; e) Field travel; f) Publications; g) Other costs to include printing, mailing and workshops, contracts/subawards and shiptime; and h) Indirect costs. Please clearly indicate the portion of the budget associated with Illinois or Indiana investigators and the portion associated with Wisconsin investigators.]

For more information, contact:

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant: Carolyn Foley (cfoley@purdue.edu), (765) 494-3601)

Wisconsin Sea Grant: Jennifer Hauxwell (jennifer.hauxwell@aqua.wisc.edu), (608) 262-0905)

The 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.
