

New York Field Office

Fish Enhancement, Mitigation, and Research Fund

USFWS



St Lawrence wetlands

Establishment of the FEMRF

The 24 million dollar Fish Enhancement, Mitigation, and Research Fund (FEMRF) was established as part of the Settlement Agreement reached in the licensing of the St. Lawrence-Franklin D. Roosevelt Power Project (Project), operated by the New York Power Authority, near Massena, NY. The FEMRF is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) serving as the Trustee for the fund. The purpose of the FEMRF is to benefit fisheries resources in the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River Basin and to continue research on the American eel and other species that may be affected by the Project.

Fisheries Advisory Committee

The FEMRF Agreement also established a Fisheries Advisory Committee (FAC). The Service will consult with members of the FAC prior to authorizing any proposals to be funded. Members of the FAC may also serve as a conduit for proposals to the Service. Members of the FAC are:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
- U.S. Geological Survey
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- New York Power Authority
- St. Regis Mohawk Tribe



Osprey

USFWS

- St. Lawrence Discovery Center
- St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council
- New York Rivers United

Proposals for funding

In pursuit of the purpose of the FEMRF, the Service is seeking proposals that address five criteria:

1. Projects in the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River Basin with benefits to multiple species;
2. Projects in the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River Basin to benefit declining species, species of special concern, species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), or candidate species for listing under the ESA;
3. Research determined by the Service to be necessary to support upstream or downstream passage of fish at the (New York Power Authority's) Project;
4. Projects in Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River Basin waters to benefit species of ecological or economic importance;
5. Projects in Canadian waters with benefits to species of international importance or concern.

Enhancement, restoration, or preservation proposals should incorporate benefits to aquatic habitats and/or wetlands such as restoration of buffers to lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands and enhancement of spawning, nursery, and migratory habitats to benefit fisheries resources.

Research proposals should support upstream or downstream passage of fish at the New York Power Authority's Project.

Proposals that may be solicited for target areas of interest will be announced on the New York Field Office website at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo>.

Restoration ecologists, conservation organizations, researchers, and academic institutions in the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River Basin and members of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe are especially encouraged to apply.

Submission of Proposals

Go to <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/fwc/femrf.htm> to access an electronic form for submitting proposals with instructions on using it and for news about proposals that have been funded. We have also developed a formal Request for Proposals in cooperation with NFWF's small grants website for the Great Lakes Watershed Restoration Program, at <http://www.nfwf.org/programs/greatlakes/index.cfm>.

For more information contact

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