

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Announces Notice of Funding Opportunity for
FY 2016 Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is accepting project proposals to protect, restore and enhance Great Lakes fish and wildlife habitat under the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act. The Service requests interested entities to submit restoration, research and Regional project proposals for the restoration of Great Lakes fish and wildlife resources, as authorized under the Act (16 USC 941c). The purpose of the Act is to provide assistance to states, tribes and other interested entities to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats in the Great Lakes Basin. The deadline for proposal submission is Monday, December 14, 2015 by 7:00 p.m. EST.

Supported in part by President Obama's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a total of approximately \$1.7 million is projected to support projects this fiscal year. Available funding and project awards are subject to final Congressional appropriations for fiscal year 2016. Project funding is available to support Great Lakes Basin restoration, research and regional projects. Local watershed associations, municipalities, tribes, states and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to apply.

All project proposals will be compiled, reviewed and ranked by the Proposal Review Committee, and final funding decisions will be made by the Service in early to late summer of 2016.

The announcement and application guidelines can be found at:
<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/fisheries/glfwra-grants.html>

For more information on the Service's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative projects, please visit <http://www.fws.gov/GLRI/>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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