OZAUKEE COUNTY PLANNING AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Feasibility Analysis for Design and Engineering Services for Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Habitat Enhancements on the Little Menomonee River Corridor

ISSUED September 20, 2022

Response Due Date: 5:00pm on Monday, October 24, 2022

## INFORMATION SUMMARY SHEET

| | |
|---|---|
| Request For Proposals Title: | Feasibility Analysis for Design and Engineering Services for Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Habitat Enhancements on the Little Menomonee River Corridor |
| RFP Issuing Office: | Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department |
| RFP Issue Date: | September 20, 2022 |
| Pre-Proposal Meeting: | 9:30 am on Thursday, October 6, 2022 |
| Pre-Proposal Meeting Location: | https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89610589637?pwd=OXJQNXdPNjNjQ3JNQWw5aVpTMHFxUT09 |
| Deadline for Receipt of Questions: | 5:00pm on Wednesday, October 19, 2022 |
| RFP Proposal Receipt Deadline: | 5:00pm on Monday, October 24, 2022 |
| RFP Upload Submission Location: | maho@co.ozaukee.wi.us |
| RFP Administrator: | Matt Aho<br>Program Manager<br>Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department<br>121 W Main Street<br>Port Washington, WI 53074<br><br>Phone: (262) 623-2103<br>Email: maho@co.ozaukee.wi.us |

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**Request for Proposals – Design and Engineering Services for Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Habitat Enhancements on the Little Menomonee River Corridor**
**September 2022**

You are invited to provide design and engineering services for the Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department (Department). Please view the below Request for Proposal (RFP) for a fish and wildlife aquatic habitat enhancement project within the Little Menomonee River corridor in Milwaukee County. We appreciate the time and effort that goes into creating a proposal submittal and the process in deciding if a firm should submit a proposal. Therefore, we understand if your firm decides that submitting a proposal on our project wouldn't be in the best interest of your firm at this time for any reason. However, we would appreciate notification if you have reached that decision as soon as possible, so we can be best prepared for our review process.

## Project Background

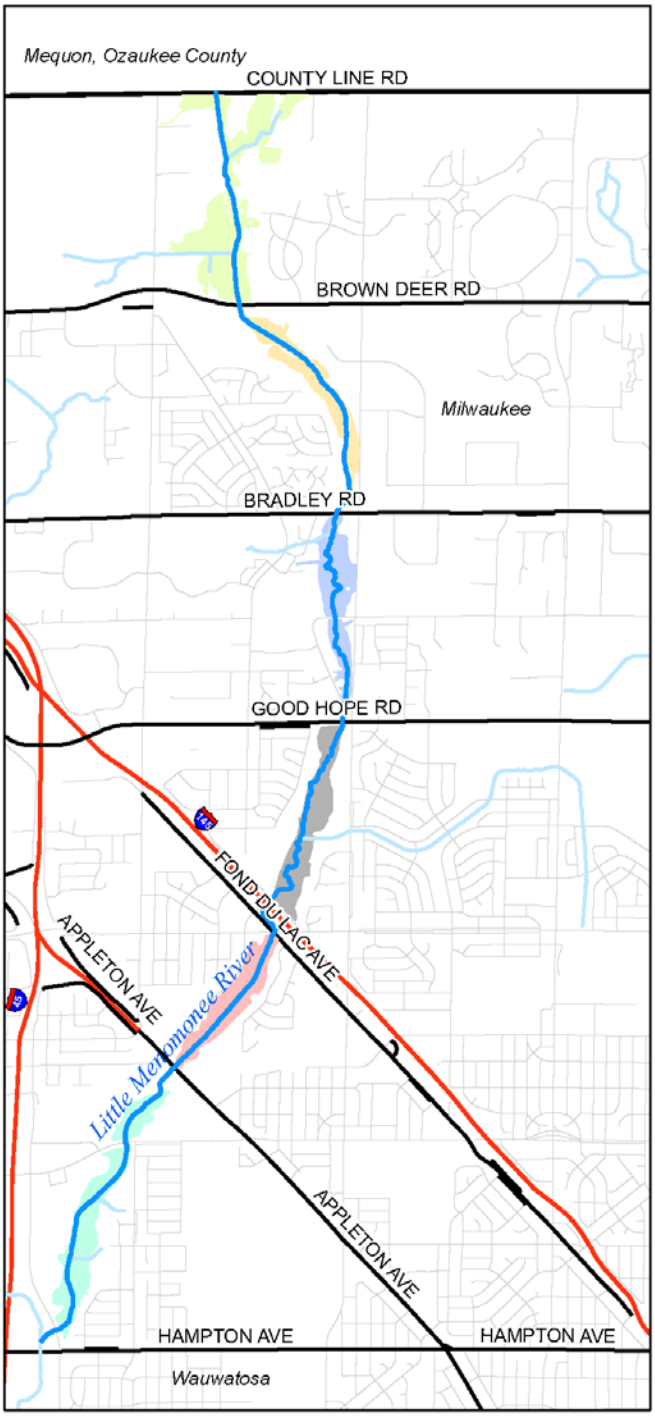
The Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department (Department) is requesting proposals for professional consulting services to complete a feasibility analysis to provide location recommendations to enhance and expand aquatic and semi-aquatic habitat within the Little Menomonee River Corridor (LMRC). The Department has partnered with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and Milwaukee County Parks (MCP) on a holistic ecological restoration project on multiple reaches of the LMRC in Milwaukee County. LMRC is part of a "primary environmental corridor," defined by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) as "elongated areas in the landscape which contain concentrations of the best remaining elements of the natural resource base, including wetlands, woodlands, surface-water areas and associated undeveloped shorelands and floodplains, and wildlife habitat areas." The unique assemblage of woodlands, wetland and grassland within the project area led to its identification as a necessary fish and wildlife habitat restoration project within the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern (AOC) Remedial Action Plan (RAP) 2015 Update. The Milwaukee Estuary AOC is one of 43 sites around the Great Lakes designated for priority restoration under the 1987 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. These areas have experienced significant environmental degradation - to the point where people and wildlife are unable to fully use the resource in a safe or beneficial way. These reaches have been prioritized for restoration by the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern (AOC) Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to address the "loss of fish and wildlife habitat" and "loss of fish and wildlife populations" Beneficial Use Impairments (BUI's). Habitat restoration will help with the removal of identified impairments and help lead to the delisting of the site as an AOC. For more information on the Milwaukee Estuary AOC and associated habitat restoration projects: Waterway Restoration Partnership, Department and WI DNR Milwaukee Estuary AOC websites.

## Project Area

The LMRC in Milwaukee County is located along the Little Menomonee River from County Line Road to the confluence with the Menomonee River. The LMRC is located within the Little Menomonee River Parkway, which is owned and managed by MCP. The Project Area is separated into 6 sections (Table 1, Figure 1). Section 1 is approximately 215.7 acres, located between the County Line and Brown Deer Road, and Sections 2-6 comprise an 870.8-acre, 6-mile corridor stretching from Brown Deer Road to the Little Menomonee River's confluence with the Menomonee River. Combined, these sections are the focus area of this RFP.

Table 1, Figure 1. LMRC project area locations in Milwaukee County.

## Little Menomonee River Area of Concern (AOC) Project Sections*




| Section # | Acres | Location |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 215.7 | Ozaukee/Milwaukee County Line to Brown Deer Road |
| 2 | 83.8 | Brown Deer Road to Bradley Road |
| 3 | 108.5 | Bradley Road to Good Hope Road |
| 4 | 127.3 | Good Hope Road to Fond du Lac Avenue |
| 5 | 176 | Fond du Lac Avenue to Appleton Avenue |
| 6 | 159.5 | Appleton Avenue to Hampton Avenue |

N

**Legend**

- Little Menomonee River
- Section 1: 5,500 ft
- Section 2: 4,603 ft
- Section 3: 5,578 ft
- Section 4: 6,6185 ft
- Section 5: 4,743 ft
- Section 6: 7,001 ft
- Project Section Cross Street
- Stream Hydroline
- Street Centerlines
- Freeway

**Project Section boundary approximations are based on SEWRPC's 2010 Hydrography data layer containing source data from the wetland inventory, land use inventory, orthophotos, and County Topographic data, and follow the WDNR's scope of work along the Little Menomonee River Corridor*

Map Produced By:
Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department
July, 2020

Section 1 (owned and managed by MCP) is one of the largest (215.7 acres) and most important habitats in the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern (AOC), and it supports a diversity of fish and wildlife. This area on the LMR provides important riparian forest, shrubland, grassland, and wetland habitat for many focal species and SLCI in the Milwaukee Estuary AOC and as a result, addresses many Degradation of F&W Populations BUI metrics for multiple habitat types. It also provides important migratory stopover habitat for waterfowl (Documented: 18 species of ducks, 2 species of geese, 5 species of cranes/herons/egrets, 5 species of grebes/rails, 4 species of gulls/terns, and 9 species of shorebirds) and spawning habitat for Northern Pike. The site also contains 97 species of flora and fauna that the MCP lists as priority conservation species within Milwaukee County. This diversity is currently being threatened by a large presence of invasive species. A portion of the site is an old quarry that flooded and reverted to a variety of shallow water wetlands/emergent marshland. Former excavated gravel piles in the wetlands offer one of the only areas within the AOC where turtles can potentially nest safely. These piles are predominantly surrounded by water, which deter access for nest predators such as raccoons and skunks.

Through recent efforts to determine management actions for the Degradation of F&W Populations BUI, the Milwaukee Estuary AOC F&W Technical Advisory Committee (Tech Team) determined that this site is a key location in the Milwaukee Estuary AOC. It was determined to be important for semi-aquatic habitat associated species. The large size of this project site provides important habitat for riparian forest as well as wetland breeding birds, odonates, and mammals. It is well connected to the LMRC and is a crucial project to meet wildlife and fish metrics for BUI removal. Given this site's diverse wetland habitats, it drives the biological diversity of the entire LMRC to the south (LMRC Sections 2-6), where habitat restoration projects are currently underway. Therefore, it is important that this site receives much-needed enhancements to support impaired reproducing wildlife populations within the Milwaukee Estuary AOC. This site is also directly adjacent to the Milwaukee Estuary AOC boundary on the LMRC and provides the opportunity for earthwork habitat enhancements — which are limited in other areas of the LMRC due to location of the former Moss-American Superfund site directly to the south. This site provides the capability of implementing enhancements (e.g. soil disturbing activities) that are not feasible in downstream LMRC Sections 2-6.

In general, LMRC Sections 2-6 largely consist of channelized river with disturbed/degraded habitat with a dominance of invasive species.

- Section 2: This is the upper most section of the LMRC within the AOC. The 1937 aerial images show a ditched river channel and agricultural production directly adjacent to the river banks. This section of the parkway has minimal aquatic habitat and cover for fish and other aquatic species. This section also contains the "Source Area" for the Moss American Superfund location.
- Section 3: The 1937 aerial images show a ditched river channel and agricultural production directly adjacent to the river banks. This section shows slightly more habitat diversity with small pocket wetlands (< 1 acre) and limited areas of lowland and upland shrubs. Small areas of prairie from the Moss American remediation plantings persist, but these areas are gradually being overtaken by reed canary, buckthorn, and common reed.
- Section 4: The 1937 aerial images show a ditched river channel and agricultural production directly adjacent to the river banks, however the small Beech/Maple woodland also appears within the historic photos. This is the only upland woods of any quality remaining within the LMRC. Small areas of prairie from the Moss American remediation plantings persist, but these areas are gradually being overtaken by reed canary, buckthorn, and common reed. The large floodplain forest formerly had a heavy green ash component that has experienced significant mortality due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).
- Sections 5 and 6: The 1937 aerial images show a ditched river channel and agricultural production directly adjacent to the river banks; however, a portion of the agricultural land was pasture and not row crops, which has likely allowed a small area of sedge meadow and emergent aquatic plants to persist. An anomaly is a small mesic prairie, which, given the species composition, appears to have

been planted, but MCP has no record of the planting and it is too far south to be a Moss American remediation planting. Other small grasslands directly south of this prairie persist, but they are being overtaken by woody encroachment. The large floodplain forest formerly had a heavy green ash component which has experienced significant mortality due to EAB. For this reason, this section has a large woody debris component with regards to cover for fish and other aquatic species compared to other sections of the LMRC. However, at times the size and location of this debris can cause fish passage impediment issues during low flow conditions. Pockets of more diverse floodplain canopy persist, but they are limited in size and distribution.

**General Project Description**

This project is part of the first phase of the Little Menomonee River Parkway Ecological Restoration and Management Plan (LMRP ERMP) developed by MCP in coordination with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the AOC Fish & Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee (Tech Team). The development of a habitat restoration plan (HRP) for Sections 2, 3, and 6 are specific objective defined in the ERMP and Scope of Work (SOW) for LMRP Habitat restoration.

The Department's role is to focus on improving aquatic and semi-aquatic habitat (adjacent riparian zones, wetlands, floodplains) within the study area for species of local conservation interest (SLCIs) and focal fish species, with an overarching goal to address the fish and wildlife BUIs in the Milwaukee Estuary AOC by developing restoration recommendations that build upon previous fish enhancement recommendations and goals in the LMRC ERMP. Overall activities under this project include:

1. Review of Historic and Existing Data (Department)
2. Conduct Field Reconnaissance and Bathymetry Surveys (Department)
3. Water Quality Monitoring (Department)
4. Fisheries Monitoring (Department)
5. Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (Department)
6. Conduct and Analyze Stream Habitat Assessments (Department and Consultant)
7. Analyze Hydraulics, Basis of Design Report, Preliminary and Final Design (Department and Consultant)

The primary goal for this phase is to complete a feasibility analysis to provide location recommendations to enhance and expand aquatic and semi-aquatic habitat for focal and SLCI species including northern pike and other phytophilic spawners, considering the updated hydrologic and hydraulic review and analysis and limiting factors as described above and as identified through further habitat assessments. Additional AOC related fish and wildlife population metrics and goals document are attached to this RFP for reference.

As noted above, the Department is conducting several activities to directly inform design and engineering for habitat improvement projects, and this information (as available) along with the QAPP and prior habitat assessment work and fisheries monitoring data will be shared with the selected consultant. This information includes, but is not limited to, water quality sampling locations and data, fish sampling locations and data, qualitative habitat assessments, other miscellaneous biological data, bathymetry data, side scan data, and substrate and cover data. Following this site assessment and analysis process, project partners and the consultant will use the data gathered to identify limiting factors throughout the project areas and complete a feasibility analysis determine appropriate locations for construction of aquatic habitat improvements throughout the study area.

**Prior Studies**

A fisheries and aquatic habitat study in wadeable reaches of 17 streams within the AOC was performed by the Department from 2017-2018 (Struck et al. 2018) under USEPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant (https://www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/2622/Qualitative-Fish-Habitat-Rating-Assessme). This study encompassed 35 sampling stations in Ozaukee and Milwaukee County – which represented 23.3 and 38.6 stream miles,

respectively. The LMRC in the AOC was sampled at three reaches within sections 3 (LMR3), 4 (LMR4), and 6 (LMR6); LMR3 was accessed north of Calumet Road and south of Bradley Road, LMR4 was accessed south of Good Hope Road and east of North Park Manor Drive, and LMR6 was accessed east of State Highway 100 and south of Silver Spring Drive. Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI), habitat assessments (using two ratings: Simonson et al. 1993 and Wang et al. 1998), water quality data, and fish data were collected and analyzed for each station and averaged for each stream reach. All of the associated data was compiled and entered into a matrix table to determine the suitability of habitat for each focal fish species and corresponding potential for species occurrence. This habitat suitability index (HSI) analysis for each species (representing a suite of species with similar requirements) at each sampling station allowed for the determination of limiting factors (if present). Each of the focal fish species final scores were determined by a different set of equations based on habitat preferences. Limiting factors for northern pike, specifically, included: LMR3 (% pools); LMR4 (submerged vegetation); LMR6 (spawning habitat).

**Quality Assurance Project Plan**

The Department is finalizing a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) with the WDNR to formalize data collection policies and procedures for the tasks listed above. This QAPP will be provided to the selected consultant, and data collected by Department staff for activities 1-6 as listed above will directly inform activity 7, of which a feasibility analysis will be completed by the selected consultant as an initial phase under activity 7. The consultant will be required to review and follow applicable engineering and design related portions of the QAPP.

**Project Guidance**

A consultant will be hired initially to complete Phase 1 only (e.g., feasibility analysis). The County may, but will not be obligated to, extend the consultant agreement to include Phase 2. The County reserves the right to pursue the process of hiring a different consultant for Phase 2 at its discretion. The scopes and fees will be reviewed and renegotiated, if necessary, at the time consideration is given to adding the next phases of work to the consultants contract. Preliminary and final modeling, design and engineering will be completed under a subsequent phase/contract and this information will be ultimately incorporated as a supplementary document to the ERMP for the LMRC.

The consultant will need to review stream flows, stream cross-sections and roughness and update an existing computational hydraulic model (HEC-RAS) with new survey data for each project reach to assess hydrologic and hydraulic conditions within the site and hydrologic and hydraulic conditions that may be achievable through modifications of the site. Specifically, given that the stream is currently recovering from historical in-stream mining through deposition and re-creation of floodplain and streambanks, sediment transport through the project area is very limited, which may pose a challenge for maintaining pool depth. Analysis of opportunities to create scour or pools through various proposed restoration features should be completed using hydrologic and hydraulic computational modeling. To the degree practical, the preferred design should not impact local, mapped floodplain elevations. Consultant is responsible for coordination with the local floodplain authority and WDNR floodplain engineer (including all pre-modeling coordination) and for all hydraulic and hydrologic analyses required to show either no change or a decrease to the flood elevation.

Design and engineering plans for Section 1 habitat restoration and improvements (under a subsequent phase) may include ground disturbing activities, thus, additional effort is expected for this section. In LMRC Sections 2-6, activities cannot include any significant soil disturbance that would expose potentially contaminated sediments as these reaches are within the former Moss-American/Kerr-McGee Superfund site, which has been capped/remediated and has deed restrictions. Thus, habitat improvements in LMRC Sections 2-6 are expected to focus more on invasive vegetation controls, native vegetation plantings, incorporation of woody debris in the stream, non-intensive in-stream structures to modify flow patterns, etc. There is no specific target goal for the number of habitat enhancements for each project reach as this will largely be determined through completion of the habitat assessments, feasibility analysis, and ongoing

consultation with project partners under this Phase I effort. However, it is anticipated that each project reach will include habitat enhancement work.

In general, in-stream and aquatic riparian enhancements may include, but are not limited to:

- Stream realignment / remeandering and floodplain connection. Reconstruction or modification of stream channel (Section 1 only).
- Floodplain reconnection through reduction in bank elevations or channel creation.
- Wetland creation through shallow scrapes and the installation of water control structures (Section 1 only).
- Placement of in-stream low impact features (i.e. varying sizes of substrate – sand, gravel, cobble, and boulders) in multiple locations that provide for fish enhancements. These features should be placed at transitional periods in the river, such as changes in river morphology (i.e. outside bends of the river, before and after a pool, at the beginning or end of a stream run etc.). These placements should be set with specific slopes and elevations to keep flow in the river channel hydrologically connected even during low water levels.
- Additional cover along the shoreline should be implemented upstream/downstream of rock placements, if feasible, to provide more connectivity and habitat types throughout the LMRC (50-75 ft. each).
- Anchored, coarse wooden structures to provide higher quality fish habitat, and in-bank habitat features, such as tree root-wads.
- Better managing existing in-stream material.
- Establishing areas of rooted aquatic plants.
- Maintenance of aquatic buffer zones and planting of native vegetation.
- Shoreline enhancements such as woody vegetation removal on turtle nesting islands and potentially the installation of solar powered electric fencing to deter nest predators.
- Nest box installation to expand existing breeding populations of waterfowl and aerial insectivores.
- Semi-aquatic improvements through the installation of native plants for a variety of herptiles and other wildlife.
- Other suggested improvements as long as they align with deed restrictions, site conditions, and overall project goals.

**Requested Services - Feasibility Analysis Requirements and Deliverables**

In summary, the primary project outcome for Phase I is a feasibility analysis that includes hydrologic and hydraulic analysis and modeling to identify and prioritize sites for further engineering and design that could best accommodate projects to improve habitat for focal species and SLCI's. Project deliverables include:

1. Six meetings (3 for LMRC Section 1 and 3 for LMRC Sections 2-6) with Department staff to analyze and review project scope, including a Program overview, discussion of existing data, and a site visit. Deliverables include meeting minutes.

2. As required, completion of topographic and bathymetric survey required for hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, flows and feasibility of instream work. The survey could include (as determined for feasibility): data required for fish passage analysis on suspected impediments to fish passage, channel tops, toes, and thalweg elevations, hydrologic and hydraulic cross-sections to encompass downstream boundary condition, hydrologic and hydraulic cross sections at changes in flow patterns, culvert invert elevations, culvert shapes and sizes, topographic data around road crossings that is necessary for hydraulic analysis, hydrologic reconnection, evidence of historic channel location and locations of trees to be saved as identified by project partners. Deliverables include survey point files, pdf output maps, and CAD files.

3. As necessary, complete geotechnical investigations. Deliverables include technical memo of geotechnical findings.

4. At a minimum, hydrology analysis will include flow estimates to generate baseflow calculations as well as the 2, 10, 25, 40, and 100 year recurrence interval events. Hydrology estimates will be determined regional regression equations, gage transfer, watershed runoff calculations, and comparison to other studies (e.g., analysis of reference reaches). Hydraulic analysis and models will be calculated using HEC-RAS, surveyed topography, field notes from the qualitative habitat assessments, and the results from the hydrologic analysis. Deliverables include a technical report with the modeling files included.

5. Prepare feasibility analysis that includes recommended sites for enhancement and cost estimates for achieving proposed enhancements. Document feasibility analysis via a base study report summarizing hydrologic and hydraulic conditions at each project reach and selected/recommended sites, possible enhancements and strategies at selected/recommended sites to achieve improvements for focal and SLCI (aquatic and semi-aquatic) based on limiting factor analysis (in conjunction with the Department), H&H and other available habitat and water quality inventory data. Review draft and final feasibility base study report with Department, WDNR, and MCP staff as well as the AOC Tech Team (TAC). Deliverables include a base study report that includes any edits from partner reviews.

6. Quarterly progress summaries with invoices.

**Partner Coordination & Related Work by Others**

MCP is the owner of the land within the LMRC. The consultant will need to coordinate with MCP and any of their consultants/contractors who are conducting ongoing work within the LMRC. MCP is currently working on terrestrial habitat improvements within the study area that include management of select invasive species populations that could degrade the ecological functions of existing wetlands, grassland/savanna enhancements through the removal of woody vegetation, upland and lowland forest stand improvements such as reforestation and select forest thinning to improve canopy diversity, and installation of habitat structures for birds and wildlife. Ex. Little Menomonee River Parkway Sections 4 & 5 Habitat Restoration: Under a separate contract, habitat restoration work is currently being implemented in LMRP Sections 4 and 5, implemented by contractor Eco-Resource Consulting and overseen by HRP design consultant, Cardno.

Public Parkland: Little Menomonee River Parkway is located on public land. The parkway may be occupied by the public and MCP employees during the project. The consultant shall take precautions to prevent any impacts to the public related to the habitat restoration work. Coordinate any potentially disruptive activities with MCP.

**Project Schedule (Tentative)**

All services must conform to the schedule below unless authorized by the Department.

| | |
|---|---|
| RFP questions due | 10/19/2022 |
| Proposals due | 10/24/2022 |
| Ozaukee County Natural Resources Committee – Award Contract | 11/3/2022 |
| Submit draft feasibility analysis and base study report for review | 4/15/2023 |
| Review with Planning and Parks Department, WDNR and MCP | 5/15/2023 |
| Present to AOC TAC | 6/15/2023 |
| Submit final feasibility analysis and base study report | 6/30/2023 |

**Proposal Submittal Information**

Proposals will be reviewed based upon the information provided, and should, at a minimum, include the following information, in the order as listed below:

**1) Completeness of Proposal**

a) Firm's name, address, telephone, and primary contact person.
b) Firm's commitment to provide the appropriate personnel, equipment and facilities to perform the scope of services as defined in the RFP.

**2) Project Understanding/Approach**

a) Brief project understanding.
b) Firm's project approach, highlighting any key observations, specific details, potential cost savings, and/or key points in the design.
e) Concerns involving schedule, site, etc.
f) Proposed staffing levels and activities, including spreadsheet showing estimated hours per task, broken down by staff.

**3) Firm Background/Personnel Experience**

a) Brief history of firm.
b) Firm's specific abilities and expertise to provide the required professional services and qualifications related to project requirements.
c) Office location proposed to handle this project.
d) Key personnel proposed for the project, their project role, and their office location, if different from the office handling the project.
e) Resumes (limit two pages) for key personnel, including their area of expertise, certifications and licenses.
f) Examples of specific knowledge, expertise and project management experience related to this type of project, and giving the design and/or construction years for those projects.
g) Identify any proposed sub-consultants with similar information, including their respective project roles and office location.

**4) Reliability of Firm**

a) Description of a minimum of three recent, similar projects completed by the firm.
b) Identify how each project is similar to this project.
c) Identify project related information, including, but not limited to:

i. Name of Project
ii. Name of Owner (Municipality/Client)
iii. Name of Owner's Primary Representative
iv. Brief description of firm's involvement
v. Listing of Firm's key personnel assigned to the project
vi. Design Year(s)
vii. Construction Year(s) and total cost

**5) Cost**

a) Base Services: Firm's estimated hours, rates, and total not-to-exceed cost to provide, at a minimum, the following professional services for LMRC Section 1 and LMRC Sections 2-6.

- Project meetings, site visits with partners
- Site surveys
- Hydrologic and hydraulic modeling and analysis

- Plan review meetings
- Draft feasibility analysis and base study report
- Final feasibility analysis and base study report including hydrologic and hydraulic conditions at each reach and details for selected/recommended locations for full modeling, design and engineering for habitat enhancements.

LMRC Section 1: $_____

LMRC Sections 2-6: $_____

There will be no reimbursement for travel time, meals, mileage, or other expenses. All incidental costs should be included in the Hourly Rates.

**Firms submitting Proposals are being made aware of and/or agree to the following:**

1. Ozaukee County is a tax-exempt municipality under WI Stats 77.54(9a)(b).
2. No reimbursement will be made for any cost incurred in preparing responses to this solicitation, or preparing or presenting an interview, if selected.
3. Firms may withdraw their proposals at any time before the due date and time by written request for withdrawal to the Buyer and by presenting proper identification upon request. **Faxed Proposals will be rejected. Late Proposals will not be accepted and will remain unopened and returned to sender.**
4. Questions and Addenda: All comments or questions resulting in further clarification or modification to this RFP document will be handled by written addenda. Questions shall be directed to Matt Aho, maho@co.ozaukee.wi.us by October 19, 2022. Questions received after this time may not be answered.
5. If a firm receives a request packet from any source or entity other than the Department, the firm is responsible for calling the Department to request the firm's name be put on the list for this request. Failure to do so in no way obligates the Department to send out addendum or other information concerning this request to the firm.
6. Payment for services will be paid to the Firm contingent upon owners' acceptance and approval of all work done or services provided. Acceptance as herein means acceptance by Ozaukee County of all work performed, after the Departments' authorized agent has found it to be in compliance with the requirements.
7. Any response submitted in conjunction with this request will become a public record, subject to public inspection.
8. All proposals become the property of Ozaukee County. As such, they are subject to the Freedom of Information and Open Records laws of the State of Wisconsin.
9. Ozaukee County and the selected consulting firm will enter into a Lump Sum fee agreement for design services.

**Proposal Deliverables and Submittal Email**

Provide proposals in **digital PDF format** to Matt Aho, Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department Program Manager, at maho@co.ozaukee.wi.us by 5pm on Monday, October 24, 2022. The Proposal PDF should not be larger than 15 megabytes in size. File sizes larger than this will be rejected and not delivered by the Department's email system. The firm's name and a distinct reference to the proposal title "Feasibility Analysis for Design and Engineering Services for Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Habitat Enhancements on the Little Menomonee River Corridor", must be clearly noted in the subject line of the email. The body of the email should clearly state the name of the firm submitting the Proposal. Proposal PDF files will be unopened and unread until after the closing date. The Department, or any official or employee thereof, will not be responsible for the pre-opening of, post- opening of, or the failure to open a proposal not properly formatted

and identified. Emails with attached Proposals received after 5:00 PM October 24, 2022 will not be considered. To ensure email delivery it is recommended that a delivery and read receipt be requested when sending the email.

## Proposal Evaluation

The proposals will be reviewed to determine if mandatory submission requirements are met. Failure to meet mandatory submission requirements may result in rejection of the proposal. Proposals that do not comply with submittal instructions established in this document and/or that do not include the required information may be rejected as non-responsive. The Proposer assumes responsibility for meeting submission requirements and addressing all necessary technical and operational issues to meet the objectives of the RFP. The review team will use the following criteria to evaluate each RFP response. The weights specify the percentage value for each criterion.

| RFP EVALUATION CRITERIA | |
|---|---|
| Cost Proposal Response | 25% |
| Technical Proposal Response | |
| Qualifications of Contractor and Project Team | 25% |
| Level of Previous Experience | 25% |
| Approach to the Services | 25% |

## Contract Award

Ozaukee County may request Best and Final Offers from any or all respondents. Best and Final Offers are a supplement to the original offer. Ozaukee County reserves the right to make an offer based on the original submitted proposal. The award of the contract, if made, shall be with an organization whose proposal provides the best value to Ozaukee County. The Department reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received if it deems appropriate and may modify, cancel or re-publish the RFP at any time prior to a contract being awarded up to and through final action of the Department. The Department anticipates reviewing all submittals in order to obtain approval of a recommended consultant from the Ozaukee County Natural Resources Committee on November 3, 2022.

## Questions

For more information or if you have any questions, contact:

Matt Aho
Program Manager
Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department
262-623-2103
maho@co.ozaukee.wi.us

# Wildlife Metrics Milwaukee Estuary AOC

**Breeding Birds**

The breeding bird metrics are divided into five different habitat types as follows (Forest, Wetland, Shrubland, Grassland, and Airspace/Urban):

> Forest and Wetland: At least 9 sites in the AOC support at least 2 breeding bird focal species for each habitat type.
>
> Shrubland/edge and Grassland: At least 6 sites in the AOC support at least 2 breeding bird focal species.
>
> Airspace/Urban Habitat: At least 9 sites support at least 1 breeding bird focal species.

After completing the management actions, a three-year post-implementation monitoring assessment will be used to determine if the metrics are being met. The post-implementation assessment will monitor sites for potentially breeding focal species during that species known breeding window via stationary point counts or acoustic surveys, which can include visual or auditory detection of a species. Point counts should be conducted following the protocols outlined in the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II Handbook, including the use of breeding codes. The breeding window for different species in Wisconsin is documented on the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II Breeding Guideline Bar Chart. A site will be considered supporting the focal species if the species, at a minimum, exhibits probable breeding behaviors based the Breeding Bird Atlas II Handbook for two of the three years monitored. Persistence at a site may also be used as evidence of probable breeding as documented by duration present during the breeding season using audio recorders. In the case of the * species, confirmed breeding behaviors, as described in the Wisconsin breeding Bird Atlas II Handbook, are required to consider the site to be supporting that species. Data collected from eBird during this period may also be used to supplement monitoring efforts.

**Breeding Bird Focal Species:**

> ***Forest Habitat Species***- *American Woodcock, Veery, American Redstart*, Bald Eagle*, Red-shouldered Hawk*, Black-billed Cuckoo, Carolina Wren, Hooded Warbler*, Yellow-breasted Chat*, Long-eared Owl*, Acadian Flycatcher*, Least Flycatcher, Merlin*, Nashville Warbler*, Ovenbird, Red Crossbill*, Red-headed Woodpecker, Wood Thrush*, Yellow-billed Cuckoo*, Black-and-white Warbler*
>
> ***Wetland Habitat Species***- *American Woodcock, Veery, American Redstart*, Bald Eagle*, Red-shouldered Hawk*, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Blue-winged Teal, Sedge Wren, American Bittern, American Black Duck, Bank Swallow, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Common Gallinule*, Great Blue Heron*, Great Egret*, Least Bittern*, Marsh Wren, Osprey*, Pied-billed Grebe, Purple Martin, Sora, Virginia Rail, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron*, Hooded Merganser, Green Heron, Wilson Snipe**

***Shrubland/edge Habitat Species-*** *American Woodcock, Veery, Black-billed Cuckoo, Carolina Wren, Hooded Warbler*, Yellow-breasted Chat*, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike*, Vesper Sparrow*, Blue-winged Warbler, Brown Thrasher, White-eyed Vireo*, Clay-colored Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, Field Sparrow*

***Grassland Habitat Species-*** *Long-eared Owl*, Blue-winged Teal, Sedge Wren, Loggerhead Shrike*, Vesper Sparrow*, American Kestrel, Bobolink, Dickcissel, Eastern Meadowlark, Field Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow*, Henslow's Sparrow*, Western Meadowlark*, Clay-colored Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, Savanna Sparrow*

***Airspace/Urban Habitat-*** *Purple Martin, Chimney Swift, Common Nighthawk**

**Herptiles/Crayfish**

The herptiles/crayfish metrics are divided into two different habitat types as follows (Semi-aquatic Habitat, Upland/Grassland Habitat):

Semi-aquatic

- At least 10 sites support at least one crayfish focal species.
  - At least one site needs to be supporting the *Devil Crayfish*
  - At least one site needs to be supporting the *Digger Crayfish*
  - At least one site needs to be supporting the *Prairie Crayfish*
- At least 15 sites support at least one frog focal species.
  - At least 6 of the focal species must be supported within the AOC to ensure that the AOC is supporting a variety of focal species.
- At least 8 sites support focal salamanders.
- At least 6 sites support at least one turtle focal species.
  - At least 3 of the focal species must be supported within the AOC to ensure that the AOC is supporting a variety of focal species.

Upland/Grassland Habitat: At least 15 sites in the AOC support at least 2 different focal species of snakes.

After completing the management actions, a three-year post-implementation monitoring assessment will be used to determine if the metrics are being met. The presence of focal species on each site will be confirmed through proper survey methods, which may include visual encounter surveys, acoustic surveys (frog only), turtle basking, trapping, and nesting surveys, aquatic funnel traps, and snake cover board surveys. This post-implementation assessment will also assess each site for evidence of reproduction such as egg masses or juvenile age classes present.

Support Criteria:

*Crayfish:* A site will be considered supporting crayfish if both sexes and multiple ages classes are present or evidence of reproduction, such as females carrying eggs or

persistence at the site during the breeding season, is present during two of the three years monitored.

*Frogs:* A site is considered supporting focal frog species if calling males during their breeding season are confirmed for at least two of the three years monitored, or tadpoles or eggs are confirmed for at least two of the three years monitored.

*Salamanders:* A site is considered supporting a focal salamander species if egg mass or trapping surveys confirm the presence of eggs, adults are present at a breeding pond, or the species is persistent during the breeding season for at least two of the three years monitored.

*Turtles:* A site is considered supporting focal turtle species if the species is present for at least two of the three years monitored and evidence of breeding is obtained for one of the years present, such as nesting observed, adult females carrying eggs (as evidenced by palpation or radiography), or presence of juvenile age classes.

*Snakes:* A site is considered supporting focal snake species if the species is present for at least two of the three years monitored, and gravid females or juvenile age classes are documented for one of the years present at the site.

**Herptiles/Crayfish Focal Species:**

***Crayfish Species-*** *Devil Crayfish, Digger Crayfish, Prairie Crayfish*

***Frog Species-*** *Cope's Gray Treefrog, Gray Treefrog, Wood Frog, Spring Peeper, Boreal Chorus Frog, Northern Leopard Frog, Green Frog, Blanchard's Cricket Frog*

***Salamanders-*** *Blue spotted salamander, Spotted Salamander, Eastern Tiger Salamander, Common Mudpuppy, Central Newt*

***Turtle Species-*** *Eastern Spiny Softshell, Northern Map Turtle, Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Musk Turtle*

***Snake Species-*** *Butler's Gartersnake, Common Gartersnake, Eastern Milksnake, Dekay's Brownsnake, Northern Red-bellied Snake, Common Watersnake, Eastern Foxsnake, Queensnake*

**Mammals**

The AOC will target five focal species.

The metric will be considered met if at least 5 sites in the AOC support at least 2 mammal focal species, and each focal species occupy at least one site within the AOC.

After completing the management actions, a three-year post-implementation monitoring assessment will be used to determine if the metrics are being met. The post-implementation assessment will monitor sites for the presence of mammals using standard survey techniques that

may include trail cameras, winter track surveys, and/or visual encounter surveys. Third party records may also be utilized if available, such as Zooniverse reports with photo documentation that can be verified. In this assessment, a site will be considered supporting a focal species if the mammal is documented on the site on multiple occasions within a year or evidence of reproduction is obtained (e.g., nesting or pups present) for at least two of the three years of monitoring.

> ***Mammal Focal Species-*** *American Beaver, American Mink, North American River Otter, Common Muskrat, Star-nosed Mole*

# Fish Metrics Milwaukee Estuary AOC

## Lower Milwaukee Estuary AOC

(Downstream of the former North Avenue Dam on the Milwaukee River; Downstream of the N 25th Street on the Menomonee River; Downstream of W Becher Street on the Kinnickinnic River)

A stated criterion of BUI removal for native fishes within the Lower Milwaukee Estuary AOC is an increase of any magnitude in population abundance* in three focal species (lake sturgeon, northern pike, and greater redhorse) AND an increase of any magnitude in 80% of native focal families (suckers, minnows, and shiners, bullheads and catfishes, sunfishes, and perches) to be considered AND an overall mean value from all large river IBI sampling efforts of "Fair" or better (i.e. 41-60).

**Relative to the 2014-2016 USGS Study.*

Note: Species and families below only apply to the Lower Estuary AOC population abundance metrics as large river IBI scores encompass all species that are captured during sampling.

**Focal Species**

*Sturgeons – lake sturgeon**
*Pikes – northern pike*
*Suckers – greater redhorse*

**Lake sturgeon are actively being stocked in the Lower Milwaukee Estuary AOC.*

**Focal Families**

*Suckers – golden redhorse, shorthead redhorse, silver redhorse, longnose sucker*
*Minnows and Shiners – emerald shiner, mimic shiner, rosyface shiner, sand shiner, spottail shiner, spotfin shiner, redfin shiner, blackstripe topminnow*, banded killifish**
*Bullheads and Catfishes – yellow bullhead, flathead catfish, channel catfish*
*Sunfishes – bluegill, pumpkinseed, longear sunfish, black crappie, white crappie, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, rock bass*
*Perches – walleye, yellow perch*

**Blackstripe topminnow and banded killifish are in the family Fundulidae (topminnows) but are lumped with minnows and shiners for the purposes of this metric.*

*Notes: Very tolerant species (i.e. white sucker, golden shiner, black bullhead, green sunfish) are not included on this list for the potential to skew focal family population abundance. Documenting new species (excluding invasive and very tolerant species) that have not been previously found in the lower estuary should be considered for this metric. New appearances are likely due to improving habitat availability for a larger diversity of species through restoration activities.*

## Upper Milwaukee Estuary AOC

(Upstream of Humboldt Avenue on the Milwaukee River to Bridge Road on Cedar Creek; Upstream of N 25th Street on the Menomonee River to Brown Deer Road on the Little Menomonee River; No upper reach for the Kinnickinnic River)

A stated criterion of BUI removal for native fishes within the Upper Milwaukee Estuary AOC is the presence of the focal species, lake sturgeon, utilizing spawning habitat in the upper reaches of the Milwaukee River, AND the presence of the focal species, northern pike, utilizing spawning habitat in the upper reaches of the Menomonee River AND an overall mean value of all warmwater IBI sampling efforts of "Good" or better (i.e. 51-65) in the upper reaches of the Milwaukee River AND an overall mean value from all warmwater IBI sampling efforts of "Fair" or better (i.e. 31-50) in the upper reaches of the Menomonee River.

After completing the management actions, a three-year post-implementation monitoring assessment will be used to determine if the metrics are being met. The post-implementation assessment for the lower estuary will mimic methodology and work completed by the 2014-2016 USGS Study. More frequent sampling is also recommended to capture variability from season-to-season and year-to-year. Additional sampling methodology should be considered for collecting a more wholistic snapshot of focal fish population abundances. The post-implementation assessment for the upper estuary will follow warmwater IBI sampling protocols and generate an overall mean value of all warmwater IBI sampling efforts conducted over a three-year period in each of the upper portions of the Milwaukee and Menomonee Rivers. If complications or issues are encountered for sampling during the three-year post-implementation monitoring assessments (i.e. weather impacts, limited data collection, poor representative sample events), additional year(s) should be considered to build case for BUI removal.