

Lake George Watershed Coalition

Project Proposal Submission (Completion) Instructions

Applications for review by the committee should contain the following information:

- **Project / Initiative Title**

State of Lake George: Results from 30 Years of Water Quality Monitoring, 1980-2009

- **Submitting Organization and Contact(s)**

FUND for Lake George, Peter Bauer, Executive Director, 518.668.9700 x304,
pbauer@fundforlakegeorge.org
Chuck Boylen, Co-Director, RPI Darrin Fresh Water Institute, 518.644.3541, boylec@rpi.edu

- **Lake George Watershed Conference priority**

Clarify the project's alignment with the *LGWC – Future Priorities* document; reference the priority advanced by the project.

Objective 5: Public Education

- **Project Summary (Benefits) Statement**

Include project concept, goals, objectives, deliverables, as well as expected outcomes; identify any critical environmental issues addressed.

Identify the project's environmental benefits as well as its educational and research benefits; include its impact to the watershed. Denote whether the project uses innovative technologies, if it can serve as a model for other projects and/or whether the project uses proven technologies and resources with previously demonstrated success in past practices.

Project Concept: Public understanding about the current environmental health of Lake George is not sufficient. The goal of this project is to prepare a comprehensive report on the ecological status of Lake George that will be readily available, widely distributed to public officials and the general public, and easily understood.

Objectives: This project seeks to complete a rigorous analysis of 30 years of data collection as part of the Fund for Lake George and RPI Darrin Fresh Water Institute's ongoing water quality monitoring program. This report will look at the years 1980-2009.

Deliverables: This project will produce a formal report in the middle of 2011 (3,000 copies) HTML version, with a mass-audience newspaper tabloid version (mailed throughout watershed).

Project Outcome: Increased public understanding of the environmental health of Lake George, which will provide local governments, public officials, and state agencies with information they need to improve management of the lake.

This effort will also include an extensive public outreach effort with numerous public presentations throughout 2011, but support for this work is not part of this proposal.

- **Project Description**

Describe the project, including deliverables, key resources (labor and non-labor), time line and evaluation measures (success criteria); demonstrate project readiness in terms of staff, resources, project schedule, permits and other funding.

Project: There has not been a comprehensive report on the water quality of Lake George. This project would fulfill the need for sound information on the current state of the lake; based on 30 years of data collection provided by the FUND for Lake George and RPI Darrin Fresh Water Institute.

Project Deliverables: Analysis of the data, including verification and validation of the data set (30 years of monthly samples for 30 analytes at 6-12 locations), statistical review through regression and linear analysis by location and by analyte, modeling of water quality 30 years into the future based on past trends, and an updated evaluation of hypoxic areal/intensity study (1990, 2010) is in progress.

Key Resources: The report relies upon the professional staff at DFWI as well as contracted professional help from PhDs for statistical analysis and modeling. A peer review committee will examine the analysis and findings. The FUND's Lake Science Committee is organizing this project.

Project Schedule: The plan is that statistical analysis and modeling will be completed in 2010 along with preparation of the public education section on the limnology of Lake George. The report will be split in two parts, the first explaining basic and important concepts about the ecology and limnology of Lake George to help the reader better understand the report's findings; the second will focus on the key findings from the past 30 years and model trends for the next 30 years.

Readiness: Work has already begun.

- **Project Budget**

Provide the project budget information, including major costs (labor and non-labor); identify multi-year funding requirements (e.g. long term O & M) and the potential for phased implementation. Include the % of total budget requested from LGWC and how the local match will be provided.

Request: \$100,000

This has cost the FUND over \$1.5 million with DFWI providing a similar level of support through its endowment. This is a major undertaking for DFWI and the FUND that has involved numerous hours of staff and volunteer time to date, only a small part of which is included in this proposal. The FUND and DFWI seek \$100,000 in support for this project. This includes:

1. Statistical Analysis and Modeling	\$55,000
2. Updated Hypoxic Areal Analysis	\$12,500
3. Illustrations for Report	\$25,000
4. Peer Review Committee Expenses	\$15,000
5. Report Design	\$11,500
6. Printing Hardcover Report (3,000)	\$25,000
7. HTML Version of Report	\$5,000
8. Distribution	\$3,000
9. Mass Mailing Report throughout Lake George Watershed (tabloid of report, 14,000)	<u>\$22,000</u>
	Total \$174,000

Additional funding is being sought from other foundations. Note that this is a 1-time award. We will not seek additional support in subsequent years for this project. The FUND will provide additional financial support and cost sharing. This is a 1-time request.