

Lake George Watershed Coalition

Project Proposal Submission (Completion) Instructions

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

- **Project / Initiative Title**

Eurasian Watermilfoil Control on Lake George

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

FUND for Lake George, Peter Bauer, Executive Director, 518.668.9700 x304,
pbauer@fundforlakegeorge.org

- **Lake George Watershed Conference priority**

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

Objective 6: Intervention & Control of the Introduction of Nuisance Species in the Waters of Lake George

- **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: Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) control efforts have been managed by the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) and FUND for Lake George (FUND) over the past ten years. The LGPC is currently managing 179 known EWM sites, of which over 160 were clear at the end of 2009. Last year, the FUND used LGWC funds as a demonstration project to assess the viability of large crews using hand harvesting to clear intractable dense beds that were deemed beyond the means of treatment by the LGPC. This effort to manage dense sites was very successful in 2009 as over 250,000 plants were removed (est.).

Project Goals: There are four: 1) funds will be used for management of the remaining 10 dense beds in Lake George and treatment of EWM in Huddle and Dunhams Bay wetlands; 2) in coordination with the LGPC, seven sites with moderate beds will be managed; 3) funds will also support treatment of areas with benthic barrier and removal of benthic barrier; 4) surveys of large areas of the lake's littoral zone will be made to remove EWM and other invasive plants, such as Curlyleaf Pond weed, among others.

Project Deliverables: Assist LGPC overall effort and clear 10 dense/wetland sites, 7 moderate sites, assess viability of surveys of lake's littoral zone for other aquatic invasive species as new demonstration project, and assist LGPC in removing benthic barrier.

Expected Outcomes: Based on success in 2009, we anticipate clearing remaining dense and moderate beds, removing benthic barrier in many places on the lake bottom where it has been in place for several years or more, and assessing the viability of diver teams surveying large areas to remove all invasives.

Readiness: Project can move ahead upon authorization of LGWC support.

- **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: To control EWM in Lake George by augmenting the program of the LGPC with assistance to manage dense EWM beds, travel across wide geographic areas of the lake's littoral zone to remove EWM and other invasive species found, and remove benthic barrier from the lake bottom so that native species can recolonize.

Permits: Adirondack Park Agency will renew APA Permit awarded in 2009 for 2010. LGPC supports project as we coordinate with its management program. This is a general permit and we anticipate no issues whatsoever in its renewal.

Schedule: The EWM harvest season extends from May – October. Work in Lake George on dense sites (Harris Bay, LG Village Bay) will be scheduled for June or September low boat traffic times.

Staff Resources: Staff time is provided at no cost to this project from the staff of the FUND and Lake George Waterkeeper. This project is managed by FUND Executive Director Peter Bauer.

Other Funding: The FUND continues to seek support at the state and federal levels as well as from private sources around Lake George. This is a major challenge. The FUND will support this program and provide the local match. We also receive inkind help from the Towns of Lake George and Bolton, who help to transport harvested EWM to safe areas where it is composted.

- **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: The FUND requests \$100,000 for EWM control for the summer 2010.

Aquatic Invasives Management Team for Dense Beds	\$100,000
Aquatic Invasives Management Teams for Surveys	\$24,000
Benthic Barrier Removal	\$24,000
Gas	<u>\$2,000</u>
Total	\$150,000

The FUND is working to secure private funding for the other \$50,000 and is confident that these funds will be raised this summer.

We expect that this is the last time we will seek LGWC support for this work.