Grays Harbor County
MARINE
Resource Committee

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

2014-2015 Funding Round

For Projects Beginning After July 1, 2014 and Completed By June 30, 2015

The GHC MRC promotes community involvement in coastal issues in Grays Harbor County. MRC members and participants learn about resource conditions and coastal community needs, participate in local and regional projects, and sponsor activities and studies having to do with the unique management issues of Washington's outer coast. More information:
https://ghmrc.org http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/volunteer/mrc

I. Funding Opportunity

The Grays Harbor County Marine Resource Committee (GHC MRC) invites project proposals designed to promote local, marine stewardship and restoration. **Applications are reviewed on an on-going basis, see Part IV.**

For further information contact GHC MRC Coordinator, Garrett Dalan gdalan@co.grays-harbor.wa.us 360-249-4222

The GHC MRC strongly encourages proposals from new and first-time grant applicants.

II. Project Types

Projects must:
Fall within at least one of six broad categories as defined by the Coastal MRC Program Work Group:

Marine Habitats
Marine Life
Marine and Fresh Water Quality
Sound Science
Education and Outreach, or
Coastal Communities

Address at least one of the GHC MRC Benchmarks for Success**:

Fish and Wildlife Species
Estuarine and Nearshore Habitats
Water Quality
Recreation and Tourism

Viable and Resilient Coastal Communities

Incorporate at least one of the GHC MRC Strategies for Action**:

Education
Public Investment/Outreach
Research and Monitoring
Stewardship and Restoration

Projects should have a focus on the marine areas of Grays Harbor County and may involve collaboration(s) with one or more of the other coastal MRCs for North Pacific Coast, Pacific and/or Wahkiakum Counties.

****For further information on benchmarks, "MRC Strategies for Action" or project types contact GHC MRC Coordinator, Garrett Dalan gdalan@co.grays-harbor.wa.us 360-249-4413**

III. Award Information

Under this announcement $16,000 may be available to be awarded (an additional $2000 will be available for students-to-beach field trips, separate to this RFP). This can be for one project or distributed to several projects, and can serve as matching funds for a project primarily funded from another source. The GHC MRC reserves the right to offer partial funding for discrete activities, portions, or phases of the proposed project. GHC MRC may also be able to secure, support or partner in other sources of funding.

IV. Due Dates

Complete and return the application as soon as possible. First review will be June 17, 2014. Review and award of funds will be on-going as funds are available. The GHC MRC may prioritize and expedite the award of funding as it deems to best benefit the local marine resources. Projects must be completed and a project summary report submitted by **June 19, 2015**.

V. Eligibility and matching

Federal, state, tribal, and other public or non-profit private agencies, institutions, and organizations are eligible for funding. Private individuals or for-profit organizations may partner with an eligible applicant or provide matching funds or in-kind contributions. There is no matching requirement.

VI. Application Requirements

1) Complete your application using the template (Section VII) by copying the headings into a word processing program. (Print the template and complete on paper if an electronic version is not an option).
2) List the addressed Coastal MRC categories, GHC MRC Benchmarks for Success and GHC MRC Strategies for Action.
3) Carefully consider the Review Criteria in Appendix A when completing the project template.
4) Applications should be no longer than 3 pages excluding attachments (budget, resumes, maps or illustrations, support letters, etc.)
5) Minimum font size 11. Use standard margins.
6) Complete all 9 portions of Section VII.
7) Submit your application on paper or email an electronic copy (preferred).

Submission: Electronic submissions are preferred. Please email proposals to gdalan@co.grays-harbor.wa.us or by mail to:

GHC MRC
c/o Garrett Dalan
100 W. Broadway, Suite 31
Montesano, WA 98563

VII. Project Template

1. **Name of the project**:

2. **Lead organization and Contact** (Name, email, phone, address):

3. **Starting and ending dates for your project:**

4. **Deliverables** (List of report and/or products and identify their final date of submission):

5. **Project staff** (List and describe their expertise for their role in the project).

6. **Partners** (List and describe partners, matching contribution(s) of cash, in-kind materials, supplies, equipment, labor, etc. Support letters may be attached).

7. **List any associated permits and their status** (Examples: JARPA, HPA, CLEAR, SEPA review).

8. **Project Narrative** (this may be concise and in bullet format{ except the abstract}):
   a) **Abstract** (Provide a 1-2 paragraph project summary in the form of a short description that highlights the narrative that follows).
   b) Describe the background and context (project area, situation to be addressed, past work relevant to the project).
   c) Explain why the project is appropriate for MRC funding.
   d) List and describe the project objective(s).
   e) Provide a timeline for your project activities and the deliverables.
   f) Describe the methods, procedures and equipment to be used, if any.
   g) Describe the extent or impact of the project (e.g., acres, miles, number of citizens).
   h) Indicate if there are plans to continue the project into the future.

9. **Provide a Project Budget** (Include, if applicable, matches from other funding sources, both cash and in-kind, in the following categories. Clearly state the funding amount being requested from the GHC MRC):
   a) Personnel salaries and benefits (or hourly wages).
   b) Supplies.
   c) Equipment
   d) Travel
   e) Contracted services
   f) Indirect expenses cannot be paid for with this funding source. All costs should be itemized.

APPENDIX A

Application Review Criteria

Projects will be evaluated based upon the criteria specified below as they apply to themes incorporated into the project. These criteria will be used by the reviewers to screen all projects in order to ensure that they reflect the minimum standards required by the GHC MRC:

A. Rationale/Relevance for Action: What is the potential for the project to result in stewardship and restoration efforts/outcomes within the GHC MRC area? Does the project address Coastal MRC categories, GHC MRC Benchmarks for Success and GHC MRC Strategies for Action?
B. Scientific/Professional Merit: Are the project's design, objectives and technical approach sound?
C. Value Added: Does the project build upon prior efforts and add value to those efforts? If the project is duplicating past efforts, why is that duplication necessary and important?
D. Applicant Capacity: What is the likelihood of the applicant successfully completing the proposed project and achieving their stated goals based upon:
    1) Their past performance?
    2) Their organizational experience?
    3) Their knowledge, resources, and available skill sets?
E. Partnerships: Has the applicant indicated that there are partners that would participate in the project? If so, what expertise, in-kind, and/or material resources are the identified partners providing? Also, how is that partnership being demonstrated in the application (e.g., letters of support, letters of commitment, etc.)?
F. Geographic Scope: Is the project located within Grays Harbor County? Does the project include collaboration with other MRCs, if so, how and with whom?
G. Deliverables: Does the proposal explain how the results of the project will be recorded and distributed? What is the form of the deliverables (e.g., reports, newsletters, etc.)?
H. Measuring Progress: Is the timeline for completing the project reasonable and appropriate? Did the proposal include milestones and associated deliverables?
I. Appropriate Budget: How reasonable is the budget in light of the proposal and the expected benefits from the project? How were costs determined?
J. Consultation and Community Support: Have the project proponents consulted the affected governments (Federal, State, tribal, local) or private land owners associated with their proposal? Is there support or opposition from any potentially affected community members? Please contact the MRC coordinator if you are uncertain as to who should be consulted prior to project submission.

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