

AGENDA
Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority
Board of Commission Meeting
January 9, 2014 – 10:30 a.m.
Administrative Office

1. Chairman's Statement
2. Public Participation
3. Minutes – Dec. 12, 2013 Regular Meeting and Closed Session
4. Approval – Jan. 9, 2014 Agenda

Consent Agenda

5. **Approval – Jan. 9, 2014 Consent Agenda**
 - a. Donations (pg. 1)

Regular Agenda

6. Closed Session – To consult with attorneys regarding pending litigation
Section 8(e) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. M.C.L 15.268 (e).

***Required Action:** Moved by Commissioner _____, supported by Commissioner _____ that the Board of Commissioners proceed into closed session to consult with attorneys regarding pending litigation (requires roll call vote).*
7. Legislative Report (pg. 3)
8. Update – Park Superintendents
9. **Reports**
 - A. *Wolcott Mill Metropark*
 1. Potential Park Name Change (pg. 5)
 2. Right-of-Way Request, Wolcott Road Bridge Replacement (pg. 7)
 - B. *Administrative Office*
 1. Resolution – Coastal Zone Management Program (pg. 9)
 2. Proposed Revisions for Board Approved Land Policies (pg. 53)
10. Director's Report
11. Other Business
12. Commissioners' Comments
13. Motion to Adjourn

<p>The next regular Board of Commissioners meeting will be held <u>Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014</u> at <u>10:30 a.m.</u> at the Administrative Office.</p>
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HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

5 - a
Meeting of January 9, 2014

To: Board of Commissioners
From: John P. McCulloch, Director
Subject: Donations
Date: January 2, 2014

Action Requested: Motion to Approve

That the Board of Commissioners approve the donations and a letter of appreciation be sent to the donors as recommended by Director McCulloch and staff.

The Metroparks received the following donations through Dec. 31, 2013:

1. The Thomas Welsh Foundation made a \$3462.44 cash donation to clean the ceiling at the Thomas Welsh Activity Center at Lake St. Clair Metropark.
2. Doug Braidwood donated three-manufactured snow making guns for snow making efforts for cross country ski efforts at Huron Meadows Metropark; itemizing a value of \$3,600.
3. Karen Gyde donated bird and wildlife paintings for programs and display to be used at the Nature Center at Oakwoods Metropark; itemizing a value of \$500.
4. Brian Pushman donated a deer mount and turkey fan for programs and display to be used at the Nature Center at Oakwoods Metropark; itemizing a value of \$400.
5. Denise Semion donated an antique ceramic jug and milk can, antique broom and antique cultivator for programs and display to be used at the Nature Center at Kensington Metropark; itemizing a value of \$250.



HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

7
Meeting of January 9, 2014

To: Board of Commissioners
From: John P. McCulloch, Director
Subject: Legislative Report
Date: January 2, 2014

Legislative Consultant George Carr will give Commissioners a verbal report update at the January 9 meeting.



HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

9 - A - 1

Meeting of January 9, 2014

To: Board of Commissioners
From: John P. McCulloch, Director
Subject: Potential Park Name Change
Location: Wolcott Mill Metropark
Date: January 2, 2014

Action Requested: Motion to Approve

That the Board of Commissioners consider renaming Wolcott Mill Metropark to Wolcott Metropark, or as otherwise directed; and if the name change is approved an appropriation of funds up to \$20,000 be made from the Reserve for Future Contingencies Account to change and install new signage as recommended by Director John McCulloch and staff.

Background: Efforts to begin land acquisition for a new Metropark serving central Macomb County began in the early 1970s. The Authority had identified property in Ray Township along the North Branch of Clinton River to be suitable for park development. While the Authority promoted the park concept to the local community, it was referred to as North Branch Metropolitan Park. However, with the purchase of the Wolcott Grist Mill in 1979, and to recognize the predominate feature of the park, it was renamed Wolcott Mill Metropark prior to the official park opening in 1989.

Since the Authority acquired the park, it has grown in size and is now more than 2,800 acres consisting of the Historic Mill, the Farm Learning Center, Camp Rotary and a golf course.

Due to the word "Mill" in the park name, many patrons become confused with aspects of the park they wish to visit and end up going to the historic center when they intended to visit the farm center and vice versa. By removing the "Mill" from the park name and simply calling it Wolcott Metropark, signage can be changed to refer to the Farm Center at Wolcott Metropark or the Historic Center at Wolcott Metropark.

Fiscal Impact: Renaming the park would have additional costs not budgeted for in 2014. Installation of new in-park and pathfinder signs would be \$15,000 - \$20,000. At this time, production of park maps, brochures and new pathfinder signs have been postponed pending a decision on the name change.



HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

To: Board of Commissioners
 From: Michael Brahm-Henkel, Manager of Assets and Development
 Project Title: Right-of-Way Request, Wolcott Road Bridge Replacement
 Location: Wolcott Mill Metropark, Macomb County
 Date: January 2, 2014

Action Requested: Motion to Approve Right-of-Way Agreement

That the Board of Commissioners approve the Right-of-Way Agreement with the Macomb County Department of Roads, subject to legal technical review by Corporate Counsel Joseph Colaianne, as recommended by Manager of Assets and Development Mike Brahm-Henkel and staff.

Background: The Macomb County Department of Roads (MCDR) is planning to replace the Wolcott Road Bridge over the West Branch Clinton River in 2014. Construction is scheduled to begin in June 2014. This bridge has been on MCDR's list of deficient bridges for a number of years, and they were recently authorized to receive state/federal funding for its replacement through the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Local Agency Program.

Engineering and Planning staff has coordinated with the MCDR for several years in the development of this project. Specifically, staff requested that as a part of the project, a bridge span be included to accommodate the future construction of a non-motorized trail underpass by the Metroparks. This future trail would connect the Camp Rotary area with the Historic Mill site; Wolcott Road currently separates these areas from each other. Accordingly, MCDR has included in their design a 35-foot span, in addition to the main 65-foot span over the river, to accommodate this future trail, at no cost to the Metroparks.

Reconstruction of the bridge will require additional road right-of-way in the immediate area of the bridge to accommodate the reconstruction project and utility relocation. The existing road right-of-way is 66-feet wide; MCDR proposes to add 17-feet of permanent right-of-way to each side of the existing right-of-way, to create a 100-foot right-of-way, for a distance of 350 feet along the road.

In order to meet the MDOT Local Agency Program's schedule for an April bid letting, MCDR must complete all right-of-way acquisition by the end of January 2014. MCDR's standard form of right-of-way agreement is forthcoming for approval. Normally Staff prefers to provide complete and final easement/right-of-way documents to the Board of Commissioners for action, but in the light of MCDR's compressed timetable and the straightforward nature of this right-of-way request, staff believes that the right-of-way agreement is acceptable, subject to technical review by Corporate Counsel Joseph Colaianne.



HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

9 - B - 1
Meeting of January 9, 2014

To: Board of Commissioners
From: Paul Muelle, Natural Resources and Environmental Compliance Manager
Subject: Resolution – Coastal Zone Management Grant
Date: January 2, 2014

Action Recommended: Motion to Approve Resolution

That the Board of Commissioners approve the Resolution – Michigan Coastal Zone Management Grant as recommended by Natural Resources and Environmental Compliance Manager Muelle and staff.

Background: The Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM) administered by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Great Lakes (OGL), enables coastal states to develop a coastal management program to improve protection of sensitive shoreline resources, to identify coastal areas appropriate for development, to designate areas hazardous to development and to improve public access to the coastline. The program includes local pass through grants and administration of coastal related sections of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451.

The Metroparks along with project partners is looking to submit an application to the Coastal Zone Management Program for funding assistance to study the abundance and distribution of amphibian and reptile populations along the Huron to Erie Corridor. The focus of this project will include the identification of herpetofauna and the assessment of known and potential habitat. In addition, the assessments will evaluate the efficacy and functionality of recent restoration efforts along the corridor for amphibians and reptiles and provide recommendations for habitat improvements. These actions will ultimately help protect critical coastal ecosystems, help justify land acquisition for habitat protection and facilitate identification of restoration areas which collectively help to conserve and support more resilient coastal communities.

Through educational workshops, coastal community members and stakeholders will also be engaged in local stewardship and training in collection of data for the Michigan Herp Atlas. This participation will increase public awareness regarding the importance of coastal habitats and the species using them while providing the opportunity to enjoy the diversity of wildlife along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor.

In total more than 20 organizations and divisions within agencies have offered support and assistance in this project. Partners and support come from Friends of the Detroit River, Community Foundation of St. Clair, United States Geological Survey, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division, Michigan Sea Grant, Michigan Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Preservation, Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division, The USFWS Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, Michigan State University, DTE Energy, St. Clair River Public Advisory Council, Detroit River Public Advisory Council, River Raisin Public Advisory Council, Clinton River Watershed Council, Stewardship Network, The Nature Conservancy, Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy, and Belle Isle Aquarium.

Resolution – Coastal Zone Management Grant

Page Two

The total CZM grant request for this project is \$66,900 which represents 50 percent of the total program cost of \$133,800. The project match of \$66,900 will be provided through in-kind services from the project partners.

With Board approval, the Metroparks will submit an application for a Coastal Zone Management Program grant for the Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor.

The grant application must be accompanied by a Resolution from the Board of Commissioners stating that the project will be undertaken if a Grant is awarded.

Attachment: Coastal Zone Management Grant Application
Resolution – Michigan Coastal Zone Management Grant



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Quality of the State of Michigan is accepting applications for Coastal Zone Management Program grants, and one of the requirements of the application is to furnish a resolution from the governing body applying that the project applied for will be undertaken if a grant is awarded; and

WHEREAS, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority desires to apply to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for a Coastal Zone Management Program grant to assist in an inventory and assessment of amphibians and reptiles along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor; and

WHEREAS, funding is available from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Office of the Great Lakes for a Coastal Zone Management Program; and

WHEREAS, the total project cost is estimated at \$133,800, 50% of which would be funded through the Coastal Program and 50% would be funded through local match; and

WHEREAS, the local match will be provided by the Project Partners as described in the grant application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY:

That an application be made to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for a Coastal Zone Management Program grant, authorized by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, for a grant for an Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, on Thursday, January 9, 2014.

George Phifer, Deputy Director



December 30, 2013

Rhonda Wuycheck
Michigan Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 30473
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Re: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) is pleased to submit this application for the funding assistance to study the abundance and distribution of amphibian and reptile populations along the Huron to Erie Corridor (HEC). The health of this region is of great importance to our park system. To best manage these coastal resources for wildlife in an efficient and cost effective manner, a thorough inventory of herpetofauna within this region is needed.

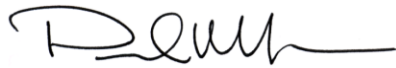
HCMA and our project partners take pride in managing the natural features in a sound and responsible manner. The proposed grant would significantly aid in our understanding of the richness and overall health of amphibians and reptiles within the study area allowing for greater protection of our collective coastal resources. The development of a pilot Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Area (PARCA) is an innovative and valuable tool for improved protection and resource planning.

Additionally, this project will benefit the public by sharing information regarding this important work through numerous educational programs providing communities and regional stakeholders with a greater awareness of the role and importance of herpetofauna within the HEC.

Please note that the HCMA is preauthorized by the governing board to enter into grant agreements and a resolution of support is not required. However, a resolution of support can be provided to upon request

Thank you for the consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact me via telephone at (810) 494-6052 or email at paul.muelle@metroparks.com

Sincerely,
Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority



Paul Muelle
Natural Resources & Environmental Compliance Manager

IV. Application

Project Type: (check <u>only</u> one) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Hazards <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Water Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Community Development Does this project involve construction activities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Project Title: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor Project location: (city, township, village) shown on-site vicinity map: Please see attached map of study area County: St. Clair, Macomb, Wayne, Monroe Great Lake or Connecting Waterway: Lake Huron, St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair , Detroit River, Clinton River, River Raisin, and Lake Erie	
Applicant: Paul Muelle, HCMA Congressional District # MI-8 State Senate District # 22 State House District # 42	
Amount of Grant Requested: \$66,900.00 Amount of Match: \$66,900.00 Total Project Cost: \$133,800.00	
Applicant Organization: Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Federal ID # 38-600-5602 Street Address: 13000 HIGH RIDGE DRIVE DUNS # 074233917 City: Brighton State: MI Zip Code: 48114 Telephone # (810) 227-2757 Ext. E-mail Address: paul.muelle@metroparks.com Fax # (810) 227-8610	
Project/Application Contact: Paul J. Muelle Title: Natural Resources Manager Address: 13000 HIGH RIDGE DRIVE, Brighton, MI	Telephone # (810) 494-6052 Ext. E-mail Address: Paul.Muelle@metroparks.com

I certify that all statements in this application are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Authorized Representative Name (printed): Paul J. Muelle	
Title: Natural Resources and Environmental Compliance Manager	Address: 13000 High Ridge Dr. Brighton, MI
E-Mail Address: paul.muelle@metroparks.com	Telephone # (810)494-6052 Ext.

MICHIGAN COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
SOUTH TOWER 6TH FLOOR
525 WEST ALLEGAN STREET
LANSING MICHIGAN 48933

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF THE GREAT LAKES
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

B. Proposed Project Summary: (200 word maximum)

a. Describe the coastal significance of the project.

Amphibians and reptiles (herpetofauna) are recognized as bioindicators due to their high sensitivity to habitat disturbance and water quality. In recent years, herpetofauna have declined in Michigan primarily from habitat loss and degradation. There are significant gaps in data for amphibian and reptile species along the Huron to Erie Corridor (HEC). Assessment of herpetofauna communities can reveal much about the ecosystems condition and quality. Significant restoration efforts have been conducted over the past 10 years along this corridor, most of which have had little or no monitoring performed to assess their functionality for wildlife. Conducting herpetofaunal surveys is a cost effective means of evaluating the integrity of coastal landscapes. This project will help assess the health of the natural areas within the (HEC) using herpetofauna as indicators and document invasive species. Inventorying herpetofauna provides valuable information about the condition of restoration sites and locations that have potential for future restoration. A pilot coastal Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Area (PARCA) model will be developed based on rare and sensitive herpetofauna, climate vulnerability, and habitat availability along HEC. Additionally, training workshops will be held to engage and educate participants about the role and importance of herpetofauna and ways to protect them.

C. Detailed Proposed Project Description: (a. through m.)

a. Describe the project scope, why it is needed, and how the public will benefit from the project. Construction projects must include project timing, footprint, types of construction materials, and construction/operation practices.

Currently, over 60% of Michigan's herpetofauna are designated as Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Wildlife Action Plan. Of these approximately half of the 42 species of amphibians and reptiles that historically or potentially occur within the study area are SGCN. The alteration of landscapes surrounding many of Michigan's coastal communities has contributed to the decline of these and other wildlife species. Amphibians and reptiles rely on high water quality and contiguous habitat to complete their life cycles. Due to these needs, the species richness, density, age class presence, and spatial distribution of herpetofauna can be used as an important conservation and management tool to assess the health of coastal habitat and associated water quality. Data on these species are consistently underrepresented and little work has been conducted to assess the status, current richness, and distribution of herpetofauna in Michigan. To date, no comprehensive survey has been conducted on amphibians and reptiles in this region and most of the work that has occurred has been conducted by the project partner Herpetological Resource and Management (HRM). Understanding current and potential species presence and habitat conditions is a key component to developing robust management plans to minimize habitat loss in critical areas through identifying priority conservation areas. In addition, inventories of herpetofauna can be used to identify potential dispersal patterns and significant corridors, assess habitat suitability and presence and degree of invasive species, refine species vulnerability models, and proactively consider and mitigate impacts from future climate scenarios. These measures will provide for greater ecosystem resiliency and overall functionality.

The proposed project is located within the area extending from the mouth of Lake Huron as it outlets to the St. Clair River south to the Ohio boarder along Lake Erie. The project area is commonly referred to as the Huron to Erie Corridor or HEC. This project will focus on assessing amphibian and reptile populations and their aquatic and terrestrial habitats within coastal areas along the HEC. The primary goal is to inventory the richness and spatial distribution and associated habitat within the HEC study area of these target indicator taxa. Data will be collected on all herpetofauna with emphasis on rare and sensitive species such as the Eastern Fox Snake, Queen Snake, Black Rat Snake, Butler's Garter Snake, Blanding's Turtle, Spotted Turtle, Eastern Box Turtle, Northern

Leopard Frog, Small-mouth Salamander, and Mudpuppy (obligate host to the State Endangered and Federal Species of Concern Mussel). The data collected during this project will contribute to the understanding of environmental impacts within the HEC and aid in identifying areas that should be protected or restored. Through this work, a pilot PARCA model will be developed along the HEC to help identify critical amphibian and reptile habitat and assist in management and planning for this region. Data will be compiled for sites within the study area and habitats will be ranked based on multiple tools including, the "Model criteria and implementation guidance for a priority amphibian and reptile conservation area (PARCA) system in the U.S.A.", "Changing climate, changing wildlife, a vulnerability assessment of 400 species of greatest conservation need and game species in Michigan", coastal wetland data, Michigan Herpetological Atlas data, and evaluation by experts on amphibians and reptiles in Michigan.

To aid in data collection and foster a better understanding of the importance of herpetofauna within coastal habitats and throughout Michigan, training workshops will be held to engage community members about the types of species present, their role and importance in ecosystem health and function, and ways for people to get involved in protecting these species and contributing data to the Michigan Herp Atlas online database. This online database framework was funded in part through a Coastal Management Program grant to conduct amphibians and reptile assessments along the Saginaw Bay coastal habitats.

The scope of this project will include:

- 1) Identify potential amphibian and reptile habitat along the HEC using current and historic data and GIS analysis.
- 2) Conduct amphibian and reptile surveys in critical habitat including sites where restoration efforts have occurred over the last 10 to 15 years.
- 3) Conduct habitat assessments and document invasive species present.
- 4) Engage the public through educational workshops.
- 5) Conduct pilot Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Areas within study area.
- 6) Summarize study findings and methodology and develop management strategies and recommendations to conserve coastal herpetofauna and their associated habitat within HEC.
- 7) Submit amphibian and reptile locality data to Michigan Herp Atlas and Michigan Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage database.
- 8) Submit invasive species data to Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN).

HEC consists of multiple waterways that are linked and create a significant connection between Great Lakes habitats. This corridor is critical for wildlife movement and vital for population health and connectivity. The assessment boundaries which span over portions of 500 mi² blocks encompass multiple Areas Of Concern (AOC) including, Detroit River, St. Clair River, Clinton River, and River Raisin. The Detroit River and St. Clair River AOCs are binational and recognized by both the United States and Canada as important biological regions. The landscapes surrounding all four of these AOCs have undergone dramatic changes due to development, contamination, channel modification, hardening of shorelines, and establishment of invasive species. The status of herpetofauna in many parts of the HEC is currently unknown and little work has been done to historically assess these species in Michigan. Data collected during this project will contribute toward removal of BUIs in AOCs including degradation of fish and wildlife populations and loss of fish and wildlife habitat. Due to their sensitivity, surveys of amphibian and reptile population density and distribution can help describe the overall quality of a landscape and be used to rank systems for prioritization of restoration or acquisition. Through documentation of species presence and health as well as identifying priority habitat to protect and potentially restore those factors that contribute to BUIs can be addressed. Herpetofauna are also important in helping manage known aquatic invasive species and a number of species have been documented consuming species such as Round Goby and Rusty Crayfish. By promoting the conservation of amphibians and reptiles, problematic invasives can be better managed.

In addition to helping identify and protect critical herpetofauna habitat along the HEC, the data will provide much needed locality information to the Michigan Herpetological Atlas for this portion of the State. This project has been collecting data for several years and has resulted in a significant increase in the understanding of the spatial

distribution of herpetofauna over time. The development of the online data submittal system which was partially funded through the CZM grant program along with the new phone application developed by HRM have engaged new audiences that have not historically submitted data. Previous work conducted by HRM in the Saginaw Bay through funding by CZM has also demonstrated the need for thorough assessments of current herpetofauna populations in Michigan's coastal regions. Building on this previous significant coastal work, within the HEC, areas will be identified and assessed to determine ranking as PARCAs. Regions designated as PARCAs are known to support a rich assemblage of herpetofauna and/or host a significant population of one or more rare species. This designation can help AOCs better address BUI removal, local and regional conservation groups to prioritize land for acquisition, agencies to provide greater protection and improved management in designated areas, and better understanding of the quality of these coastal resources.

This work will benefit the public by providing resources to better protect coastal esthetics, opportunities to enjoy wildlife, and provide biological metrics for assessing ecosystem health and water quality. This project also will build on previous effort to encourage the contribution of data and improve public participation. Through workshops geared to coastal communities along the HEC, we will educate coastal residents, natural area patrons, and regional stakeholders about the importance of amphibians and reptiles in this region as indicators and their role in ecosystem function along the HEC. Attendees will also be engaged in ways to protect herpetofauna, restore and improve habitat, and trained on how to collect and contribute data to the Michigan Herp Atlas.

b. Describe how the proposed project meets CZM Program objective(s) and the applicable focus area preferred element(s).

The primary focus of this project will include the identification of herpetofauna and the assessment of known and potential habitat. In addition to the location of habitat, surveys will include documentation of invasive species including *Phragmites australis*. In addition, through our assessments we will evaluate the efficacy and functionality of recent restoration efforts along the corridor for amphibians and reptiles and provide recommendations for habitat improvements. These actions will ultimately help protect critical coastal ecosystems, including beaches, wetlands, streams, and other nearshore habitat. This study will provide results that can be utilized to address additional CZM targets including preservation of healthy water quality and improvement of recreational opportunities along the Huron and Erie coastal zones. CZM will also benefit from the identification of PARCAs within the study area and documentation of critical land segments that herpetofauna and other wildlife species use as corridors between habitats. This information can be used to help justify land acquisition for protection and identification of restoration areas which collectively help to conserve and support more resilient coastal communities. In addition, the designation of PARCAs can be used in helping make regulatory decisions relating to wetland protection where rare species are present. Understanding the location and condition of priority habitat will also provide valuable information to coastal communities for the development of vulnerability assessments relating to potential impacts due to climate change.

Through educational workshops, coastal community members and stakeholders will be engaged in local stewardship and training in collection of data for the Michigan Herp Atlas. This participation will increase public awareness regarding the importance of coastal habitats and the species using them while providing the opportunity to enjoy the diversity of wildlife along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor. The results of this novel and timely work will benefit project partners and regional stakeholders including the MDEQ Coastal Management Program to better manage and protect sensitive and priority coastal ecosystems and their associated wildlife.

Finally, this project can contribute to regional activities by building upon an already impressive collaborative community and bringing together new partners with similar long term goals. This combined effort between the HCMA and HRM and other project partners will help the local community in the protection of the local ecosystem, resulting in benefits for the HEC and its residents.

c. Explain how the proposed project is consistent with applicable local or regional land use planning such as community master plans, development plans, recreation plans, and zoning.

This project will benefit the MDEQ coastal management program by providing the opportunity to improve protection of sensitive shoreline resources. Work resulting from this project will address issues detailed in the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) including habitat degradation, aquatic invasive species, and the effects of climate change. This work will result in data on current biological communities, which is an important component of the objectives specified in the *Michigan Great Lakes Plan* developed by the MDEQ office of Great Lakes. This plan provides direction to address specific needs within the Great Lakes including, restoration of Michigan's AOCs, and the protection and restoration of critical fish and wildlife habitat. Recently the Office of the Great Lakes released the *Michigan State of the Great Lakes 2013* which describes key issues facing the Great Lakes and actions that are currently being performed and those needed to continue to address these issues. This project will build upon on the goals listed in this document including a focus on managing and preventing aquatic invasive species. Results from this project will also contribute to goals identified in the Great Lakes Biodiversity Conservation Strategies developed by The Nature Conservancy. Common goals that have been identified for both Lake Huron and Lake Erie include the assembly of biodiversity information within these ecosystems and the development of strategies for protecting important areas and avoiding threats. Measureable outcomes from this project that will address these needs include the inventory of herpetofauna and identification of PARCAs within the HEC.

Work conducted through this proposal will meet objectives given under Sec. 324.36503 of Michigan's *Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA)*, Act 451 of 1994 PART 364. By producing a comprehensive inventory of amphibians and reptiles within the HEC, this project will fulfill the objective to conduct investigations on fish and wildlife to determine management measures to ensure their continued survival.

The MDNR Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) lists several targets that have been created to work toward the conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitats across the State. High priority threats to Michigan's wildlife identified in this document include, habitat conversion and fragmentation, aquatic invasive species, and lack of scientific knowledge. By assessing habitat conditions in this study, coastal ecosystems that are impaired due to degradation or loss and presence of invasive species can be identified for future restoration. Specific needs declared in the Plan to address a lack of information will be met in this project by conducting thorough assessments on "taxonomic groups that are poorly understood or undocumented".

Goals identified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers *St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair Comprehensive Management Plan* include to locate, inventory, and map imperiled species and to develop a public outreach program to increase interest in, and awareness of, habitat restoration and conservation. This project will address these goals through assessment of coastal amphibian and reptile abundance, development of a map containing PARCAs and by conducting educational workshops in coastal communities. As part of this project, recently restored sites will be surveyed to monitor progress made toward removing select BUIs. Some of these restoration projects may include those listed in *Delisting targets for fish/wildlife habitat and population beneficial use impairments for the Detroit river area of concern* and *Delisting targets for loss of fish/wildlife habitat beneficial use impairment of the St. Clair River area of concern*. The U.S. EPA has recently published updates on the Remedial Action Plans (RAP) of the four AOCs contained in the assessment area. Currently, all beneficial uses identified among the rivers remain impaired and this project will aid in putting those related to fish and wildlife closer to reaching criteria required before BUIs can be removed. The restoration criteria needed to address loss of fish and wildlife habitat and degradation of fish and wildlife populations include, a description of the impairment(s) and location for each aquatic habitat or population site(s) to address all habitat or population issues identified in the RAP documents, and a locally derived restoration target for each impacted habitat or population site. Additionally, work conducted through this project will follow guidelines outlined in the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Establishment Act including "to protect the remaining high quality fish and wildlife habitats of the Detroit River before they are lost to further development and to restore and enhance degraded wildlife

habitats associated with the Detroit River” and “To assist in international efforts to conserve, enhance, and restore the native aquatic and terrestrial community characteristics of the Detroit River (including associated fish and wildlife, and plant species) both in the United States and Canada”.

Regional and state stakeholders will benefit from the potential development of PARCAs. The data gathered from this project can be incorporated into restoration plans, ecosystem management plans, and other plans aimed at coastal conservation, management, and protection. This study will be an important tool for applicants wishing to seek land conservation grants within the HEC. This pilot will serve as a model for application of this criteria in other parts of the state.

d. Describe local support for the proposed project, including partnerships. Letters of Commitments are strongly encouraged if project involves collaboration among educational institutions, consultants, community groups, corporations, and/or service providers for financial and/or technical assistance.

The primary support for this work comes from our project partner HRM who has considerable experience conducting amphibian and reptile assessments and is a nationally recognized authority on Michigan herpetofauna and the species along the HEC. Their passion and interest in this region has been a major catalyst for the development of the considerable number of project partnerships developed and support obtained. The project has received outstanding support and encouragement from local, regional, and statewide partners. In total over 20 organizations and divisions within agencies have offered support and assistance in making this project possible.

Partners and support come from Friends of the Detroit River, Community Foundation of St. Clair, United States Geological Survey, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division, Michigan Sea Grant, Michigan Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Preservation, Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division, The USFWS Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, Michigan State University, DTE Energy, St. Clair River Public Advisory Council, Detroit River Public Advisory Council, River Raisin Public Advisory Council, Clinton River Watershed Council, Stewardship Network, The Nature Conservancy, Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy, and Belle Isle Aquarium. Please see appendix A for current letters of support and partnership.

Other project partners approached include US Steel and BASF who will discuss their potential roles after the new year. Due to timing of the application deadline, it is anticipated that additional letters of support will be received after December 31, 2013.

e. Construction Projects only: Provide a brief description of the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impact from the construction or operation of the project, and the magnitude of those impacts. Include impacts from any increased public access the project will have on coastal resources, coastal uses, federally listed threatened or endangered species, historical properties, or essential fish habitat.

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

f. Describe the proposed project outcomes (observable and measurable results expected from the project), deliverables including tangible products (comprehensive plan, GIS map document with data layers), and documents (photographs of installed project, list of workshop participants).

The project will result in a comprehensive assessment of amphibian and reptile spatial distribution and relative abundance within the HEC. An inventory of coastal communities will detail the condition of recently restored sites and other available herpetofauna habitat. The presence of established and emerging areas of invasive species will also be documented. Information gathered will be used to identify PARCAs within the HEC and

develop a map of these critical herpetofauna areas. A final report detailing methodology, work performed, data collected, detailed maps with data at a square mile block spatial accuracy, and recommendations for future protection of coastal communities will be provided. Data collected on amphibians and reptiles present in the HEC will be submitted to the Michigan Herp Atlas and State of Michigan Natural Heritage databases. Data on invasive species will be contributed to MISIN. Four training workshops will be provided targeting coastal communities, government agencies, NGOs and other interested stakeholders. Participant will pre-register and be asked to sign in. Both a sign in sheet and list of groups attending events will be provided for each event.

g. Describe how the public will be involved in the proposed project, e.g. public meetings, education/training events, dedication ceremonies, interpretive signs.

The public will have the opportunity to attend a series of educational workshops that will inform them about amphibians and reptiles found in coastal regions and the important roles they serve in those ecosystems. Community members will be trained in species identification and techniques to protect habitat within their own properties. Attendees will also be taught how to submit observations using the on-line and phone app Michigan Herp Atlas. As a component of the training workshops a field session will be included to highlight restoration sites and sampling techniques. These workshops can create life-long stewardships of coastal communities and the important resources they provide.

As part of the PARCA development input will be sought by the public regarding important areas for amphibians and reptiles. Through the training workshops and focused meetings with regional authorities and amphibian and reptile experts for Michigan important habitats for herpetofauna will be identified and reviewed.

In addition, the final report will include recommendations for future restoration projects and ways to promote education and public awareness including the placement of important interpretive signage.

h. Describe the source of secured match funding for the proposed project.

Match for this project will be provided though both direct dollar match and in-kind services and use of spatial data. The HCMA will donate grant administration and technical expertise valued at \$3,000. The Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy has pledged \$1,000 to this project. HRM has committed to providing reduced rates for professional services, donated staff time, and reduced waver of equipment and software fees to also help further address match requirements valued at \$22,750. The MDNR Fisheries Division has donated a portion of their staff time to documenting herpetofauna within the assessment areas valued at \$9,600. MDNR Wildlife division will also work with the project team and provide data associated with the MDNR Frog and Toad Survey as well as other data available for this region as well as help promote the project and assist as State liaison for the MI Herp Atlas. Michigan State University's Jim Harding, A well-known and nationally recognized and respected herpetologist will also donate service and provide technical expertise to the project valued at \$3,800. The Belle Isle Aquarium and their curator Richard Kik IV have provided a grant in-kind match of \$3,250. The DTE Energy Company has offered assistance with boat transportation and help from their field biologists. These resources are valued at a minimum of \$5,500. Friends of the Detroit River has donated an in-kind match for boat transportation of \$2,500. The Michigan Sea Grant, HCMA, Stewardship Network, and Community Foundation of St. Clair County have all pledge donated time, facilities, distribution lists and resources to conduct the training workshops valued at a minimum of \$9,500. Other match will include donated regional spatial data including high resolution aerial photography and other for cost data with a total minimum value of \$6,000. Other federal non-match services will also be provided to help facilitate this project.

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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k. List and describe key project tasks for which you are requesting funds. These tasks will be used as milestones to monitor project progress.

1. Identify potential amphibian and reptile habitat along the HEC using current and historic GIS data including aerial photos, as well as current and historic species observations. This information will then be used to prioritize and rank critical sampling areas.

2. Conduct amphibian and reptile surveys in critical habitat along the HEC including sites that have recently undergone restoration efforts.

3. Conduct training workshops on amphibians and reptiles in coastal communities and tutorial on contributing data to the Michigan Herp Atlas.

4. Contribute amphibian and reptile observations to the Michigan Herp Atlas project and MDNR Natural Heritage database.

5. Document invasive species and contribute key data to the MISIN system

6. Generate maps detailing spatial distribution and relative abundance of herpetofauna within the assessment area.

7. Utilize methodology to develop priority areas containing critical herpetofauna habitat using PARC guidelines.

8. Provide comprehensive report including a summary of the findings and recommendations for future restoration and management.

9.

10.

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

I. Schedule for Completion.						
Tasks	Oct-Dec 2014	Jan-Mar 2015	Apr-Jun 2015	Jul-Sept 2015	Oct-Dec 2015	Outcome and Deliverables
1. Compile historic and current amphibian and reptile observations from museum vouchers, databases, published observations and other resources.	X					List of species, including source of historic and current sightings.
2. Conduct review of historic and current landscape conditions suitable for herpetofauna using aerial photography, GIS data, and correspondence with partners.	X					Map of target sample sites.
3. Develop methodology and obtain permits for surveys.		X				Sample design and scientific collector, T&E, and other appropriate permits.
4. Conduct 4 training workshops for private citizens, government, and non-profits within the region			X	X		List of participants and photos from events.
5. Conduct surveys of amphibian and reptile species within the HEC			X	X		List of observed species including spatial location to TRS on maps.
6. Assess amphibian and reptile habitat suitability in recently restored areas.			X	X		Summary of restoration value for herpetofauna and recommendations for enhancement
7. Analyze data collected during surveys and habitat assessments including maps detailing spatial distribution and relative abundance.					X	Information to be included in final report.
8. Develop sites to be identified as PARCAs using information collected from assessments.					X	Maps will be generated and included in final report.
9. Develop a report detailing work conducted and recommendations for future management of sites assessed					X	Final report that will be made available to MDEQ.
10. Submit amphibians and reptile observations to MI Herp Atlas and invasive species to MISIN					X	Increase data and understanding of spatial distribution of in study area.

Organizational Capability

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority is proud to serve as stewards of its natural resources throughout Southeast Michigan. Paul J. Muelle has served as the Natural Resources Manager for the HCMA for the past 28 years. With this role, Muelle is responsible for over 25,000 acres of natural resources within Metropark properties and is well qualified in addressing the abundant needs of these properties throughout the proposed study area. Past experience within the Metroparks has included, protection and management of water resources, wildlife and habitat improvement, and restoration of important natural communities, and the coordination and management of several environmental grants and volunteer programs. His knowledge of the natural communities within the Huron to Erie Corridor and expertise in managing natural resources will be extremely beneficial to this project.

Herpetological Resource and Management, LLC and its owner, David Mifsud are very well qualified to assist as a primary partner in this project. With over 20 years of experience in wildlife biology, HRM offers valuable opportunities to improve ecosystem condition through assessment of herpetofaunal diversity and overall community health. This company has participated in numerous projects for a variety of partners and strives to engage the public in work focused on the inventory, monitoring, and conservation of amphibians and reptiles in the Great Lakes region. HRM recently conducted novel work throughout the Saginaw Bay, which has revealed much about the status of amphibians and reptiles in this area and the overall health of the region. Their unique expertise and knowledge of Great Lakes herpetofauna will play a vital role in identifying important areas for protection and restoration in the HEC.

Paul J. Muelle

Natural Resources & Environmental Compliance Manager
Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority
13000 High Ridge Drive
Brighton, MI 48114

Phone: 810-494-6052

Fax: 810-227-8610

E-mail: paul.muelle@metroparks.com

Professional Certification:

Registered Landscape Architect – Michigan #981

Education:

BLA – Landscape Architecture, (1981), Michigan State University
Field of Study: Biology – (1974 -77) Northern Michigan University
Associate in Science – Lansing Community College

Areas of Expertise:

Natural Resources Manager, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (2000 – Present)
Park Planner, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (1986-2000)
Landscape Architect, Paul Nakolan & Design Associates, Inc. (1984-1986)
Landscape Architect, James C Scott & Associates, Inc. (1981-1984)

Paul Muelle has served as both a Landscape Architect and as Natural Resources Manager for the Huron - Clinton Metropolitan Authority, for the past 28 years. Responsibilities have included the design, contract administration and field supervision and development of a variety of Metropark facilities. As the Metroparks Natural Resources Manager, Muelle is responsible for all aspects of natural resource management of over 25,000 acres of Metropark property including; water resources protection, and management of the parks lakes, rivers and streams; wildlife management and habitat improvement; the management and restoration of high quality natural communities within the park system, forest management and coordination and management of natural areas grant and volunteer programs, as well as all environmental compliance, reporting and environmental emergency response procedures.

Professional Affiliations

The Stewardship Network, Board of Directors
SEMCOG, Southeast Michigan Green Infrastructure Vision Tasks Force
Detroit River and Western Lake Erie CWMA, Steering Committee
Clinton River Remedial Action Plan Member
Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Alliance

Grant Received / Management

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Great Lake Marsh Restoration: Controlling the Spread of Phragmites Within the Lake St. Clair Watershed - Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, the Charter Township of Harrison and the Michigan Chapter of Ducks Unlimited - 2008

Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI), Water Quality Stewardship - 2009

U.S. EPA, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Lake St. Clair Coastal Marshland Restoration, - Macomb County, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Clinton River Watershed Council, Wayne State University, Oakland University – 2010

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Land Owner Incentive Program, Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Habitat Improvement – 2010

Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI), Volunteer Services at the Metroparks - 2010

U.S. EPA, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Detroit River-Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area Phragmites Control -The Nature Conservancy (Michigan), Huron- Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Michigan DNR, Ducks Unlimited, Eastern Michigan University and Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. - 2011

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Oak Openings Priority Lands Restoration Collaborative - The Nature Conservancy (Ohio), The Stewardship Network, Toledo Metroparks, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and Oak Openings Region Conservancy - 2011

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Land Owner Incentive Program, Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Habitat Improvement - 2011

U.S. EPA, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Reducing the Impact of Stormwater at Metropolitan Beach Metropark – Phase I - Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Wayne State University - 2011

Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI), Support of Stewardship, Education, Volunteer Services and Natural Resource Efforts at the Metroparks – 2011

U.S. EPA, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Reducing the Impact of Stormwater at Metropolitan Beach Metropark – Phase II - Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Wayne State University – 2012

NOAA, Great Lakes Area of Concern Land Acquisition, Clinton River AOC – Lake St Clair Coastal Wetland Property Acquisition; Black Creek Marsh, Lake St. Clair Metropark, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority – 2012

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Clinton River AOC – Lake St Clair Coastal Wetland Property Acquisition; Black Creek Marsh, Lake St. Clair Metropark, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority – 2013

3M Corporation - Eco Grant, Technology Enhanced Nature Study Program - Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority - 2013

David A. Mifsud
Herpetologist /Wildlife Ecologist
Herpetological Resource & Management, LLC
HRM, P.O. Box 110, Chelsea MI, 48118, (313)268-6189, DMifsud@HerpRMan.com

Background and Expertise

David A. Mifsud, is a Certified Wildlife Biologist through The Wildlife Society, Certified Professional Wetland Scientist through the Society of Wetland Scientists and a Certified Professional Ecologist through the Ecological Society of America. He is the owner and founder of Herpetological Resource and Management (HRM). He has been working for close to 20 years in wildlife biology, wetland ecology, and habitat conservation and management. Mifsud has developed Michigan's first salamander monitoring program and has coordinated Frog and Toad surveys for over a decade.

Mifsud is very active within the herpetological community and is the Michigan Herpetological Atlas Administrator as well as the Co-Chair of the State of Michigan Amphibian and Reptile Technical Advisory Board, Chair of Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) Michigan Chapter, and Board member of the Midwest Chapter of PARC. He is an ad hoc reviewer for multiple journals and serves as an expert on Great Lakes Turtles and Africa Tortoises for the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group. David has overseen and designed numerous projects for a variety of partners including non-profit, private, and governmental agencies, focused on the inventory, monitoring, and conservation of amphibians and reptiles in the Great Lakes Region.

He is a regional expert on herpetofauna and has focused much of his work in impacted landscapes by assessing herpetofaunal diversity and overall population health. He is also developing a Best Management Practices Manual for the State of Michigan focused on protection and preservation of amphibians and reptiles in Michigan. David also has more than 25 years keeping and breeding various turtles and tortoises including many rare and sensitive species.

Education

- **M.S.** Environmental Science, 2004, University of Michigan, Michigan
- **B.S.** Biology, Geography, and Environmental Studies, 1999, Aquinas College Grand Rapids, Michigan

Professional Certification

- Certified Wildlife Biologist, The Wildlife Society
- Certified Professional Wetland Scientist #1510, Society of Wetland Scientists
- Certified Ecologist, The Ecological Society of America
- U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Wetland Delineation & Management Training Program
- Prescribed Burn Training, City of Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation
- MDNR Research Scientific Collectors Threatened and Endangered Species Permit

Professional Affiliations

- State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment Amphibian and Reptile Technical Advisory Committee – *Co-Chair*
- Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Michigan Chapter – *Co-Founder and Chair*
- Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Midwest Chapter – *Advisory Board Member*
- Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles – *Ad Hoc Reviewer*
- Society of Wetland Scientists - *North Central Chapter Board Member and Associate Reviewer*
- Michigan Wetland Association - *Board Member and Science and Research Committee Co-Chair*
- Michigan Vernal Pools Working Group – *Board Member and Amphibian and Reptile Expert*
- Chelonian Research Foundation – *Member*
- IUCN Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group – *Member*
- Society of Wetland Scientists – *Former North Central Chapter Board Member*
- Michigan Wetland Association – *Board Member and Science and Research Committee Chair*



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF THE GREAT LAKES
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The State is authorized to provide grant assistance pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, P.L. 109-58 (16 U.S.C. 1451-1465 "Federal Act")

E. DETAILED PROPOSED BUDGET

Applicant/Entity Name:						
Project Title:						
				Grant Amount	Match Amount	Total
PERSONNEL (List by Name)	Position Title	# of Hours	Rate	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Paul Muelle	Natural Resources Manager	64	46.81		\$3,000.00	
FRINGE - If rate exceeds 35%, provide a breakdown of the fringe elements in box below.				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
INDIRECT RATE - (not to exceed 20% Personnel & Fringe)				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TRAVEL - Per trip, list in box below, the # of travelers, Start/End pt., estimated # of miles, mileage rate, lodging expenses and any other misc. traveling expenses. If more than one trip, also include total cost per trip in box below.				\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
FODR donated boat service@ \$250/day total ten trips						
EQUIPMENT - In box below, list any tangible, nonexpendable item having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS - In box below, list any tangible item less than \$5,000 and cost per item (e.g. office supplies, construction materials).				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CONTRACTUAL - In box below, list services to be obtained by a contractor (refer to project tasks from application).				\$66,900.00	\$22,750.00	\$89,650.00
Conduct historic data search for amphibian and reptile records, develop project methods and secure necessary permits, conduct herpetological sureys along HEC and data analysys, develop pilot PARCA for HEC coastal region, report sumamrizing results and recommendations, conduct 4 training sessions along HEC						
OTHER - In box below, list any item/service that doesn't qualify under the above listed categories and cost per item/service (e.g. volunteer match, donations, postage, printing costs).				\$0.00	\$38,650.00	\$38,650.00
Jim Harding MSU herptology expert donated professional Services 3,800, Richard Kik Belle Isle Aquarium (3250) DTE Donated professional Services (5,500), MDNR Fisheries Div donated services (\$9,600) ARC (1,000) to development of PARCA, donated facilites , distribution lists, and registation for workshops (9,500). GIS data including historic and recent high res						
TOTAL				\$66,900.00	\$66,900.00	\$133,800.00



NOAA DATA SHARING PLAN

This information is required pursuant to the implementation of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, P.L. 109-58 (16 U.S.C. 1451-1465, "Federal Act").

Note: This form must be completed by all entities planning to use NOAA funds received through the Michigan Coastal Zone Management Program to create new geospatial datasets. A separate form should be completed for each dataset when multiple datasets are created under a single project. Submission of this form authorizes the Coastal Zone Management Program to post the information provided in the form of a metadata record to the National States Geographic Information Council's Ramona GIS Inventory (<http://gisinventory.net>) and to the geospatial one-stop (<http://geo.data.gov>).

Source Information: Print or type the following for the organization creating the geospatial dataset.

Name of Contact Person for Dataset Paul Muelle		Organization Name Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA)	
E-mail paul.muelle@metroparks.com		Telephone Area Code and Number (810) 227-2757	
Mailing Address 13000 HIGH RIDGE DRIVE	City Brighton	State MI	ZIP Code 48114
Project Title Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor			

Data Layer Information:

1. Dataset Name: HEC Amphibian and Reptile Data 2015		
2. Provide a concise description of the dataset (225 character limit including spaces): The project will consist of potentially two data sets. The first a distribution of amphibians and reptiles by TRS blocks. The second a layer depicting polygons of priority amphibian and reptile conservation areas.		
3. Describe the geographic extent of the dataset(s) (e.g., county wide, municipality, or by providing bounding coordinates): The geographic extent will be coastal areas within the MDEW CMZ boundary from the mouth of Lake Huron as it outlets to the St. Clair River south to the Ohio boarder along Lake Erie.		
4. Dataset progress (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planned		
5. Data source (check one):	<input type="checkbox"/> Bathymetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field Survey/GPS	<input type="checkbox"/> Hardcopy Maps
	<input type="checkbox"/> LiDAR	<input type="checkbox"/> Orthoimagery
	<input type="checkbox"/> Published Reports/Deeds	<input type="checkbox"/> RADAR
	<input type="checkbox"/> Road Centerline Files	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncorrected Imagery
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain
6. Enter the date by which data will be shared: The final product will be submitted December 2015		
7. Will the dataset be made available to the public? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please check the distribution method: <input type="checkbox"/> Through a Web Map Service or Web Feature Service - provide URL: <input type="checkbox"/> Post the dataset for download on a publicly accessible web page or FTP site - provide URL: <input type="checkbox"/> Other - please describe:		
8. Will the dataset's metadata comply with the Federal Geographic Data Committee's (FGDC) Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
9. Are there any security issues or other concerns that would prevent the distribution of the dataset? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain: This study will be conducting the spatial distribution of rare and protected amphibians and reptiles within the HEC. Many of these species are prized in the illegal pet trade and worth significant amounts of money. Disclosing locality puts these species at risk of collection and their habitat in harm from over use and disturbance. This data will be used for planning and conservation purposes.		
10. Do you plan to archive this dataset for long-term preservation? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

11. Describe how your organization will provide stewardship and preservation for this dataset. Include information on how long the dataset will be posted for public consumption, details for access, and plans for long-term data archival. Data will be provided to the secure MI Herp Atlas database. All information will be maintained by the project partner HRM and hard copy maps will be provided for conservation and planning purposes.

12. Please select the approximate scale that is the closest to the source material used for your data layer.

- ☐ Not Applicable.
- ☐ 1:600 (1in = 50ft) The horizontal accuracy of maps at this scale is +/-1.7 feet. It may be used for areas such as small to medium sized cities and towns. This very large scale mapping is generally feasible only in limited areas due to its cost.
- ☐ 1:1,200 (1in = 100ft).
- ☐ 1:2,400 (1in = 200ft) The horizontal accuracy of maps at this scale is +/-3.33 feet. This scale mapping meets the requirements of many city and county-wide mapping projects.
- ☐ 1:4,800 (1in = 400ft) The horizontal accuracy of maps at this scale is +/-3.33 feet. This scale mapping meets the requirements of many city and county-wide mapping projects.
- ☐ 1:7,200 (1in = 600ft).
- ☐ 1:9,600 (1in = 800ft).
- ☐ 1:12,000 (1in = 1,000ft) The horizontal accuracy of maps at this scale is +/-33 feet (if they conform to the National Map Accuracy Standard). This scale mapping may be common for large areas of medium detail or accuracy.
- ☐ 1:24,000 (1in = 2,000ft) The horizontal accuracy of maps at this scale is +/-40 feet. This scale mapping is commonly used for 7-1/2 minute quadrangle maps.
- ☒ 1:63,360 (1in = 1mile).
- ☐ 1:100,000 (1in = 8,333ft) The horizontal accuracy of maps at this scale is +/-167 feet. This scale mapping is commonly used for large regional analyses and USGS quadrangle maps.
- ☐ Smaller than 1:100,000.

13. How often will the dataset be updated?
(check one):

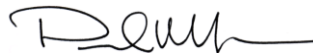
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continually | <input type="checkbox"/> Every two years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily | <input type="checkbox"/> Every three years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly | <input type="checkbox"/> Every four years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly | <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually | <input type="checkbox"/> None planned |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annually | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not know |

Name/Title of the Responsible Official for the Coastal Zone Management Grant Project:
Paul Muelle/ Natural Resources & Environmental Compliance Manager

A Responsible Official can be:

- The individual acting as the authorized signatory within the submitted Coastal Zone Management Grant Application.
- The individual listed as the project contact in the submitted Coastal Zone Management Grant Application.

I certify the information contained in this form to be complete, accurate, and true to the best of my knowledge.



12-23-2013

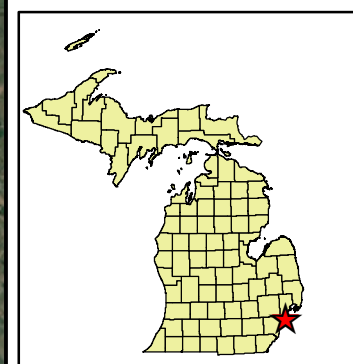
Signature of Responsible Official: _____ Date

Submit completed copies of this form to:

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF THE GREAT LAKES
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
PO BOX 30473
LANSING MICHIGAN 48909-7973**





HEC Potential Herpetofauna Assessment Area

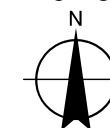


Proposed Project Area

Legend

-  CZM Boundary
-  TRS within HEC

Proposed amphibian and reptile
assessment area along the Lake
Huron to Lake Erie Corridor with
potential sampling areas.



0 3.75 7.5 15 Miles

Note: This information is illustrated
for general reference purposes only.
Boundaries are not official.

Data Source:
MDEQ GIS Data Library
HRM GIS Data Library



1101 S. MAIN STREET
SUITE #110
CHELSEA, MI 48118
(517) 522-3524 OFFICE
(313) 268-6189 MOBILE
WWW.HERPRMAN.COM

December 30, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Department of Environmental Quality
Office of the Great Lakes
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Subject: Letter of Commitment for CZM Grant Project Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck,

It is with great pleasure I submit this letter of commitment as a partner with the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) in conducting amphibian and reptile assessments along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor. Our firm, Herpetological Resource and Management (HRM) will be a key partner on this project, due to our considerable expertise in conducting herpetofauna sampling in Michigan. Our firm assisted in the development of the Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Areas methodology and is administrator for the Michigan Herp Atlas.

In support of this project, HRM will provide reduced rates for services and provide support throughout the duration of the project. We support the HCMA in their efforts to secure funding for this proposal to conduct amphibian and reptile assessments in this part of Michigan where nongame surveys for herpetofauna are underrepresented. We have established a solid working relationship with the HCMA and have worked on numerous projects together over the last decade and look forward to applying our expertise on this much needed project. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

David A. Mifsud, PWS, CPE, CWB
Herpetologist/Wetland Ecologist
Herpetological Resource and Management



18 December 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

I am writing in support of the application to the Coastal Management Grant Program to conduct a natural features inventory from the outlet of Lake Huron south through Lake Erie. This project will provide critical data on local populations of amphibians and reptiles and help assess the condition of restoration areas, as well as providing recommendations on improving area wetland management.

Amphibians and reptiles are recognized as key bioindicators and rely on high water quality and contiguous habitat to maintain viable populations. Habitat loss and degradation is a major threat in this region and conservation and restoration efforts are essential in maintaining resilient ecosystems. Many herpetofaunal communities rely on the habitat within urban waterways, and these waters also provide a place where people living in urban areas can come into contact with nature and learn conservation stewardship.

I am pleased to submit this letter of support as a partner with Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and project partner Herpetological Resource and Management (HRM) for this work. I have worked on other projects with HRM and have confidence that they will do an exceptional job assessing the herpetofauna of this region. In support, I will provide technical advice and assist with surveys, with a project commitment of in-kind match in the amount of \$3,800 for this important coastal work.

I encourage funding for this proposal and the value it will provide in supporting conservation of amphibians and reptiles in our State. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James H. Harding". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" being the most prominent.

James H. Harding

Instructor, Department of Zoology
Michigan State University
205A Museum
East Lansing, MI 48824
(517) 353-7978
<hardingj@msu.edu>



December 23, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

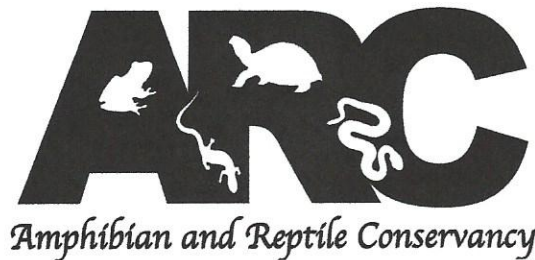
On behalf of the Belle Isle Aquarium, we are pleased to submit this letter of support as a partner with Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and Herpetological Resource and Management for the proposal to conduct amphibians and reptiles inventory along the Huron to Erie Corridor. This project will help identify locations of these indicator species as well as assess conditions of restoration areas and provide recommendations on ways to improve along the corridor.

DTE we will provide the use of our distribution list for Belle Isle Conservancy to communicate about upcoming events (valued at \$500), technical support relating to the corridor, and assistance with conducting surveys. We commit an in-kind match of \$3,250.00 for this project. We will also work with the applicants to submit a request for funding through the DTE Foundations to provide additional financial support of the much needed work.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to the implementation of results and recommendations into conservation and management along this corridor. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Richard Kik IV
Aquarium Operations Support
Belle Isle Conservancy / Belle Isle Aquarium



OFFICE OF THE TREASURER
210 DAISY DRIVE
MECHANICSBURG, PA 17050-3723
EANDCCHRISTOFFERS@HOTMAIL.COM
717-790-9192

December 21, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Department of Environmental Quality

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

On behalf of the Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy (ARC) we are pleased to submit this letter of support to the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and Herpetological Resource and Management for the proposal to conduct amphibians and reptiles inventory along the Huron to Erie Corridor and development of a pilot Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Area (PARCA) along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor (HEC). This project will help identify locations of these important indicator species as well as assess conditions of restoration areas and provide recommendations on ways to improve along the corridor. It will also result in multiple training workshops for the public educating them about the role amphibians and reptiles play in ecosystems and ways to get more involved in their conservation.

ARC is particularly interested in this work as it helps promote products developed through Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) such as the PARCA. We believe this will be an effective tool in helping protect and conserve critical coastal habitat areas while also identifying opportunities to restore high quality ecosystems addressing amphibian and reptile needs.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to the implementation of results and recommendations into conservation and management along this corridor. ARC will provide direct financial support in the amount \$1,000.00 to help in development of a pilot PARCA for the HEC.

Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Edward W. Christoffers', is written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Edward W Christoffers
Treasurer, ARC

MICHIGAN SEA GRANT

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN + MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Michigan Sea Grant
University of Michigan
520 East Liberty
Suite 310
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

(734) 763-1437
criseng@umich.edu

www.miseagrant.umich.edu

December 20, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

I am writing to express Michigan Sea Grant's support for the application to the Coastal Management Grant Program to conduct a natural features inventory from the outlet of Lake Huron south through Lake Erie. This project will provide critical data on amphibian and reptile populations and habitat, help assess conditions of restoration areas, and provide recommendations on ways to improve management of these important natural resources.

Habitat loss and degradation is a major threat in this region and conservation and restoration efforts are essential in maintaining resilient ecosystems. Many herpetofauna communities still rely on the habitat contributions of urban waterways. These urban waters also provide a place where people living in urban areas can come into contact with nature and learn conservation stewardship.

I am pleased to submit this letter of support as a partner with Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and project partner Herpetological Resource and Management (HRM) for this work. Michigan Sea Grant will support this effort by providing the use of our online registration system (up to four events @\$400/event), help promote events through our distribution list (up to four events valued @\$300/event), and provide technical support and facilitation relating to coastal resources with a valued at (\$750). In total, we commit to providing an in-kind match of up to \$3,550 for this much needed coastal work. Dr. Riseng will assist the project by acting as a technical advisor for the GIS portions of the project. Dr. Riseng leads a large, collaborative aquatic habitat spatial database and framework for the Great Lakes basin and can assist with geospatial data and placing the data into a regional perspective.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to the implementation of results and recommendations into conservation and management along this corridor. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Catherine Riseng
Research Program Manager



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

December 20, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles along the Lake Huron
to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

The MNDR Fisheries Division is committed to amphibian and reptile conservation. Our Division actively collects data on these taxa as part of our ongoing fisheries assessments. We support the proposal titled "Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor" by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) and their project partner Herpetological Resource and Management, LLC (HRM).

The research proposed by HCMA and HRM is necessary to determine population status, distribution, and habitat use of amphibians and reptiles and is invaluable to the continued successful monitoring and restoration of coastal ecosystem. Fisheries Division is pleased to offer our collaboration and assistance for the proposed herpetological studies along the Huron-Erie Corridor. We will specifically aid the project by providing data collection through our current surveys. Our staff will also aid in providing technical expertise to the project team relating to the Lake Erie basin as needed. These services will involve three people for a combined total of two months over the calendar year.

Sincerely,

Liz Hay-Chmielewski
Fisheries Supervisor, Lake Erie Unit
Department of Natural Resources
7806 Gale Road
Waterford, Michigan
48327



December 30, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

On behalf of DTE Energy, we are pleased to submit this letter of support as a partner with Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and project their partner Herpetological Resource and Management for the proposal to conduct amphibians and reptiles inventory along the Huron to Erie Corridor. This project will help identify locations of these indicator species as well as assess conditions of restoration areas and provide recommendations on ways to improve along the corridor.

DTE we will provide the use of our distribution list for communicating about upcoming events (valued at \$500), technical support relating to the DTE service area along the corridor, and transportation to Islands and assistance with conducting survey (valued at \$5,000) . We commit an in-kind match of \$5,500 for this project. We will also work with the applicants to submit a request for funding through the DTE Foundations to provide additional financial support of the much needed work.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to the implementation of results and recommendations into conservation and management along this corridor. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Matthew Shackelford
Ecological Field Services
DTE Energy Corporate Services



December 19, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ronda:

On behalf of The Stewardship Network, I am writing to express support for the application by Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) and Herpetological Resource and Management (HRM) to conduct reptile and amphibian inventories along the Huron to Erie corridor and conduct training workshops.

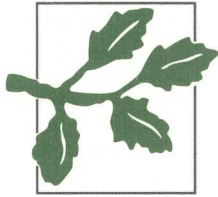
Our coastal cities and urban centers are not a thing apart from nature, but are a part of nature. The natural systems that evolved before we laid our infrastructure and built our buildings continue around us and are affected by our actions. Herpetofauna are important indicator species in detecting changes to our environment that may become dangerous for humans over time, making them an interesting focus for introducing people to land and water stewardship. They are also a charismatic megafauna that will have significant upfront appeal for drawing in large audiences of not-yet environmentally minded people. Getting community members "through the door" is a critical first step in opening their eyes and minds to environmental needs.

It's critically important that we work towards at least a basic, universal understanding of the workings of our natural systems. At The Stewardship Network, our mission is to connect, equip and mobilize people to care for lands and waters. We believe that the solutions to the issues plaguing our natural resources will come from motivated communities working together on issues that are ecologically, culturally, and locally significant. Every individual can act to make a positive difference for our natural lands and waters. This project proposes to help people learn about the natural world close to participants' hearts and homes; to conduct initial education and foster appreciation for natural systems; and to create a foundation between community members on which to build ongoing relationships and deepen understanding of environmental issues. This is what The Stewardship Network works for every day, and we are happy to support and work with HCMA and HRM in this project. The Stewardship Network will provide use of our distribution list to promote the training workshops and engage our local Stewardship Clusters to get involved. Our in-kind contribution is valued at \$1,500.

Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Lisa Brush, Executive Director



community foundation
of St. Clair County

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Michael P. McCartan, Vice Chair
Phyllis H. Ledyard, Secretary
Michael J. Cansfield, Treasurer
Don C. Fletcher, Past Chair
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Randy D. Maiers, President/CEO

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William G. Oldford, Jr.
Dr. Sushma Reddy
Devin Tomlinson
Hale H. Walker
Charles T. Wanninger
Martin E. Weiss
Catherine R. Wilkinson

December 18, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

**Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles
Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor**

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

On behalf of the Community Foundation of St. Clair County, I am writing to express support for the application by Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and project partner Herpetological Resource and Management to conduct reptile and amphibian inventories from the outlet of Lake Huron south through Lake Erie.

This project will provide critical data on these indicator species and help assess conditions of restoration areas and provide recommendations on ways to improve our coastal communities.

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for this work. To help with this project, we will provide the use of our distribution list (valued at \$800) for helping promote training events, providing local venue for training workshop (\$600), and serve as technical experts relating to St. Clair River valued at (\$400). We commit an in-kind match of \$1,800 for this much needed costal work.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to continued conservation along this corridor. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Randy Maiers

December 19, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck,

On behalf of the Friends of the Detroit River, we are writing to express support for the application to the Coastal Management Grant Program to conduct a natural features inventory focused on amphibians and reptiles along the Huron to Erie Corridor. This project will provide critical data on amphibians and reptiles and help assess conditions of restoration areas and provide recommendations on ways to improve habitat along the Detroit River. Multiple projects have been funded recently to restore habitat along the River. This project will help assess the effectiveness of these restoration efforts while concurrently documenting data on underrepresented wildlife along this corridor.

We are pleased to submit this letter of support for the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and their project partner Herpetological Resource and Management for this work. In support, we will provide technical assistance and transportation to the Detroit River's lower islands for access to do survey inventories. We will provide our services with a value of up to \$3500 and will commit to an in-kind match of up to \$2500 toward this project.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to the implementation of results and recommendations into conservation and management along this corridor. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



David Howell, Chairman

December 20, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Department of Environmental Quality

RE:
: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck,

I am writing to express support for the application to the Coastal Zone Management Program to conduct natural Herpetofauna surveys along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor. This region historically supported one of the highest assemblages of amphibians and reptiles and little is known about the current state of these species. This project will provide critical data on amphibians and reptiles in coastal and urban areas. It will be a valuable tool in helping assess status of species in this area and evaluating efficacy of restoration efforts. Data collected will also be an important contribution to the Michigan Herp Atlas project and to best manage and protect our State resources.

On behalf of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division, I look forward to this collaboration and to having this data and information available to the citizens of Michigan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lori A. Sargent".

Lori Sargent
Wildlife Division
SargentL@michigan.gov
517-284-6216



December 20, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

On behalf of Michigan Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (MIPARC) committee, we would to express support for the application to the Coastal Management Grant Program to conduct natural features inventory from the outlet of Lake Huron south through Lake Erie. Amphibians and reptiles are recognized as key bioindicators and rely on high water quality and contiguous habitat to complete their life cycles. Habitat loss and degradation is a major threat in this region and conservation and restoration efforts are essential in maintaining resilient ecosystems. This project will provide critical data on amphibians and reptiles and help assess conditions of restoration areas and provide recommendations on ways to improve.

Sincerely,

MIPARC Advsor Board



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Great Lakes Science Center
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105
PH: (734) 994-3331 FAX:(734) 994-8780

December 16, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

The United States Geological Survey - Great Lakes Science Center (USGS-GLSC) exists to meet the Nation's need for scientific information for restoring, enhancing, managing, and protecting living resources and their habitats in the Great Lakes basin ecosystem. The USGS-GLSC is headquartered in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and has biological stations and research vessels located throughout the Great Lakes basin. As part of this mission, USGS-GLSC provides a leadership research role in efforts to create relevant new science that will assist resource managers in making decisions concerning restoration of native aquatic species and their habitats throughout the Great Lakes basin. Our recently-renamed Coastal Ecosystems Branch seeks to extend our research beyond the Great Lakes themselves to include the surrounding terrestrial landscapes and the waterway and wetland corridors that connect them to the lakes and that are, indeed, an integral part of the Great Lakes ecosystem. Engaging researchers across disciplines is a core principle of this refocused research branch. Thus, the USGS-GLSC offers its support and assistance for the proposal titled "Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor" by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) and their project partner David Mifsud of Herpetological Resource and Management, LLC (HRM).

USGS GLSC researchers are pleased to offer our collaboration and assistance to Mr. David Mifsud for the proposed herpetological studies in the Huron-Erie Corridor. The GLSC will specifically aid the project by providing research vessel time and assist in data collection. The research proposed by HCMA and HRM adds a new and valuable level to current aquatic habitat work in the Corridor by providing insight to the unique herpetofauna. Information on the population status, distribution, and habitat use of the amphibians are invaluable to the continued successful monitoring and restoration of the ecosystem and we are pleased to be able to offer our support for this program.

Sincerely,

Dr. Edward F. Roseman
Research Fishery Biologist and Project Leader
USGS Great Lakes Science Center



Detroit River Public Advisory Council
PO Box 725
Trenton, MI 48183
734.675.0141

December 27, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms Wuycheck:

On behalf of the Detroit River Public Advisory Council (PAC), I am writing to express support for the application by Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and Herpetological Resource and Management to conduct reptile and amphibian inventories along the Huron to Erie corridor. The Detroit River Area of Concern is located within the MDEQ Coastal Management Boundaries and this project will provide data on these indicator species and help assess conditions within this area and provide recommendations on ways to improve our coastal communities.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to continued conservation along this corridor.

Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mary Bohling
Chair, Detroit River PAC
313-410-9431
bohling@anr.msu.edu





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge
9311 Groh Road
Grosse Ile, Michigan 48138-1636
Telephone (734) 692-7611 Fax (734) 692-7603



December 20, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

The USFWS Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge (DRIWR) support the proposal by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) and their project partner Herpetological Resource and Management, LLC (HRM) titled "Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor" to the MDEQ Coastal Management Program. The DRIWR is committed to assisting through collection of amphibian and reptile observations, use of facilities, access to gated refuge property, and serve as a technical advisor relating to DRIWR properties and partnerships.

The research proposed by HCMA and HRM adds valuable much needed data which will help address conservation and management needs for the refuge. Information on the population status, distribution, and habitat use of the amphibians are invaluable to the continued success of ecosystem management and will aid in identifying land for acquisition. The MI Herp Atlas online data entry and associated app will also be a useful resource we will encourage refuge patrons to use to help contribute data.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Norwood
Wildlife Biologist



December 23, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake
Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

On behalf of the St. Clair River Binational Public Advisory Council, we are writing to express support for the application by Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and Herpetological Resource and Management to conduct reptile and amphibian inventories along the Huron to Erie corridor. A portion of the St. Clair River Area of Concern is located within the MDEQ Coastal Management Boundaries and this project will provide critical data on these indicator species and help assess conditions within this area and provide recommendations on ways to improve our coastal communities.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to continued conservation along this corridor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patty Troy".

Patty Troy
US Co-chair
St. Clair River Binational Public Advisory Council

December 19, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Office of the Great Lakes
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

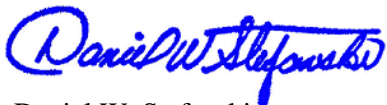
Dear Ronda:

On behalf of the River Raisin Public Advisory Council (PAC) operating under the City of Monroe's Commission on the Environment (COTE), I am writing to express support for the application by Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and Herpetological Resource and Management to conduct reptile and amphibian inventories along the Huron to Erie corridor. A portion of the River Raisin Area of Concern is located within the MDEQ Coastal Management Boundaries and this project will provide data on these indicator species and help assess conditions within this area and provide recommendations on ways to improve our coastal communities.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to continued conservation along this corridor.

Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Daniel W. Stefanski
Chairman, River Raisin Public Advisory Council

December 18, 2013

Ronda Wuycheck, Chief
Coastal Management Program
Environmental Science and Services Division
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 30457
Lansing, MI 48909-7957

Letter of Support: Inventory and Assessment of Amphibians and Reptiles Along the Lake Huron to Lake Erie Corridor

Dear Ms. Wuycheck:

On behalf of the Clinton River Watershed Council, I am writing to express support for the application by Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and project partner Herpetological Resource and Management to conduct reptile and amphibian inventories along the Huron to Erie corridor. This project will provide critical data on these indicator species and help assess conditions of restoration areas and provide recommendations on ways to improve our coastal communities.

We support funding for this proposal and look forward to continued conservation along this corridor. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Anne M. Vaara
Executive Director



9 - B - 2
Meeting of January 9, 2014

HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

To: Board of Commissioners
From: John P. McCulloch, Director
Subject: Proposed Revisions for Board Approved Policies
Date: January 2, 2014

Action Requested: Motion to Approve

That the Board of Commissioners adopt the policy changes as recommended by Director McCulloch and staff.

Background: In an effort to complete updates of HCMA Board approves policies, staff is bringing the Land Acquisition Policy and the Property Divestiture Policy and Procedure back to the Board for review and approval.

Changes with obsolete language are ~~crossed out~~, new language is highlighted in **red**, and original policy language is highlighted in **blue**.

**Attachments: Land Acquisition Policy
Property Divestiture Policy and Procedure**



REVISED HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSION POLICY	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/9/2014	BC L 1
	SUPERCEDES POLICY DATED: 10/6/2004, 7/13/67	
LAND ACQUISITION	PREPARED BY: George Phifer, Deputy Director	

LANGUAGE UPDATED

This Authority should acquire land ~~and water~~ for future recreational development in accordance with a well planned and approved program and ~~such lands should~~ be held inviolate to the demands for other uses.

Often in the implementation of its land acquisition program the Authority, for its best interest, buys land in excess of its planned intent. Careful consideration should be given before disposing of such excess lands to assure the best interests of the Authority and comply with Board Policy BC P2, "Property Divestiture Policy and Procedure".

Offers of donation of land, of any size, should be very carefully considered before recommendations are made for acceptance or rejection. **Removal of highly developed and high value properties from the local community tax rolls should be given careful consideration.**

~~In planning of parks and recreational areas very careful consideration should be given before recommending removal of highly developed and high value" properties from the tax rolls.~~

As a matter of course, the Authority shall obtain appraisals prior to the purchase of real property. ~~The Authority may forego appraisal, however, if business need so requires.~~


In matters of land, a team consisting of the HCMA Director, Deputy Director, Executive Secretary, Chief Planner, Chief of Natural Resources, a commissioner from the county where the parcel of land is under consideration for purchase and any gubernatorial appointee shall meet and review facts and weigh advisability to proceed.

When considering land for purchase or acceptance, in the case of donations, the following criteria should be used for evaluation and shall comply with Policy BC C2 "Contaminated Land Policy."

1. **Natural Resource** – Inventory existing natural resources of a property. Determine the value of the land, water, or other natural resource(s) and its potential for:
 - Natural resource protection – Determine the value of a natural feature/resource.
 - Open space, natural resource or cultural preservation - Identify high quality natural areas where the preservation of land, water resources, and cultural heritage will benefit the region.
 - Wildlife corridors – Consider land for connectivity for people and contiguous corridors for wildlife.
 - Scenic/aesthetic value – Quantify the scenic value of a parcel that may enhance recreation or natural resources.
2. **Suitability for Recreation Activities** – Determine if a property can provide space and resources for specific recreation opportunities; and if a purchase will meet present and future recreation needs.
3. **Environmental Improvement** – Identify lands which if purchased and managed will improve the environmental health of the region.

4. Regional Green Infrastructure and Open Space Plans – Identify large tracts of land which are contiguous to existing Metroparks or would contribute to the regions master green infrastructure plan.
5. Contiguous/Adjacent Properties – Evaluate potential properties which may enhance existing parks by improving entrances or function as additional buffer from residential, commercial, and industrial development.
6. Conservation – Determine if the purchase of property will prevent potentially detrimental development and promote biodiversity.
7. Economic Impact – Evaluate potential positive and /or negative economic benefits of a potential land purchase.
8. Natural Resource and Mitigation Ecosystem Restoration – Identify properties which if purchased could become a restoration or mitigation site to improve the watershed, forested lands, grasslands and wetlands of a region.

Adopted by Board of Commissioners on: _____

	REVISED HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER POLICY	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/9/2014	BC P2
	PROPERTY DIVESTITURE POLICY and PROCEDURE	SUPERCEDES 04/08/2010 POLICY DATED: 07/11/2002 Proceeds from Land Divestiture 07/18/2004 Property Divestiture Procedure	
		PREPARED BY: George Phifer, Deputy Director	

LANGUAGE UPDATED

1. PURPOSE

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (Authority) is owner of substantial real property which is used for the development of public parks for recreation as well as the protection of valuable natural resources. As public service needs change, certain parcels may be deemed in excess of the Authority's current and future needs.

The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Provide direction for the divestiture of real estate including, requests for proposals (RFP), negotiated sale or exchange of property, and
2. Establish conditions under which the Authority owned real estate property may be leased.

2. POLICY

It is the Authority's policy to manage real estate assets so that park and recreational services are properly implemented and managed. It is not the Authority's intention to speculate in real estate.

Real property, which was purchased with HCMA General Fund monies, shall not be divested except in accordance with this policy.

When evaluating properties for divestiture, the Authority shall review and take into consideration how properties were purchased and any restrictions on those properties. This includes but is not limited to property that was donated, willed or deeded to the Authority; property that was purchased with grants or loans with accompanying restrictions; and property that otherwise has conditions.

If a property is not needed for park and recreational use within the foreseeable future and is not environmentally or culturally significant it may be made available for sale or long-term lease.

If a property is not currently needed but will be needed for park and recreational use at a future time and is not environmentally or culturally significant it may be leased in the interim.

The Authority shall optimize the sale price of excess lands that have "development potential." However, additional consideration shall be given to those proposals conforming with or beneficial to the Authority's mission to provide for public recreation and natural resource protection. The Authority will cooperate with local municipalities and neighbors in determining acceptable land uses and maintaining influence over developments adjacent to Authority lands.

Discounts shall not be negotiated for parcels with "development potential" unless an extraordinary need is recognized by the HCMA Board of Commissioners.

Property sold or leased to governmental agencies for public services conforming with or beneficial to the Authority's mission to provide for public recreation and natural resource protection may be discounted up to 50 percent of appraised value. Sales shall include deed restrictions on use and reversion rights to repurchase the property.

The principal and interest received from the sale of land by HCMA shall be appropriated for the future land acquisition needs of the Authority.

3. PROCEDURE

When considering the sale of properties, the Authority shall contact the residing local unit of government to ascertain interest in purchasing the property, their concern regarding its sale and the potential zoning of the property.

Notice of properties proposed for sale by the Authority shall be provided to property owners within 500 feet of the property.

The Authority has the following divestiture options: requests for proposals, negotiated sale, and leasing.

A. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Request for Proposals (RFP) procedure applies to divestiture of “high development potential” properties, with the following protocols:

1. The HCMA staff shall initiate identification of an “excess parcel(s)” for Board consideration.
2. An appraisal (MAI) shall be obtained considering the designated future land use as the criteria for valuation.
3. A team consisting of HCMA Director, **Deputy Director**, Executive Secretary, Chief Planner, Chief of Natural Resources, and the HCMA Commissioner from the county where the “excess parcel(s)” is located, ~~and Qualified Real Estate Consultant (Licensed Real Estate Broker in the state of Michigan)~~, shall meet and review facts and weigh advisability to proceed. **The Team shall assign either a staff person or Qualified Real Estate Consultant (Licensed Real Estate Broker in the state of Michigan) to act as the Authority’s Representative in matters of land purchases or sales.**
4. Prepare a RFP for the sale of the property. The RFP will be posted in the classified section of the local newspaper and other appropriate ~~publications~~ **media**. ~~The Real Estate Consultant~~ **The Authority’s Representative** will forward the RFP to parties interested in purchasing the property.
5. ~~The Real Estate Consultant~~ **The Authority’s Representative** will interview all interested buyers who have replied to the RFP and will identify and interview additional potential interested parties.
6. ~~The Real Estate Consultant~~ **The Authority’s Representative** will produce preliminary presentation reports for review by the Team, including the qualifications, experience and examples of similar developments as well as the details of the proposals from the interested buyers.
7. ~~The Real Estate Consultant~~ **The Authority’s Representative** shall schedule presentation meetings between the Team and the selected potential purchasers, and municipalities if necessary. The presentation should include a minimum of two or more buyers and uses from which the Team can select.
8. The team shall prepare a presentation to the HCMA Board of Commissioners and request their approval to proceed to develop a sales contract with the selected purchaser.
9. Following Board approval of the sales contract, the closing of the sale will be scheduled and the team shall participate, if necessary, to complete any issues that remain after the Board’s direction to sell.

GENERAL ISSUES

~~The Real Estate Consultant~~ **The Authority’s Representative** shall be supervised by the HCMA Director and HCMA Executive Secretary, and shall be responsible for assembling reports, scheduling meetings and reporting progress in a timely manner.

~~The Real Estate Consultant~~ **The Authority's Representative** shall act as the "Selling Real Estate Broker" of record when required.

~~The Real Estate Consultant~~ **The Authority's Representative** shall be compensated as follows: ~~3~~ **three** percent (3%) of the transaction value due and payable upon closing. **This compensation will not be paid if the Authority's Representative is an Authority staff person.**

In the case that the Authority withdraws from ~~executed signed agreements, a transaction, the Real Estate Consultant~~ **the Authority's Representative** shall be paid ~~two tenths of one percent (0.2%)~~ **0.2 percent (2 tenths of one percent)** of the appraised value of the parcel. The minimum fee of ~~the Real Estate Consultant~~ **the Authority's Representative** shall be \$5,000. **This compensation will not be paid if the Authority's Representative is an Authority staff person.**

B. NEGOTIATED SALE

Negotiated transactions may be approved under the following conditions:

1. When a sale to a contiguous owner would correct a site deficiency.
2. When another governmental, public or quasi public agency submits an acquisition proposal which benefits the Authority or its patrons. Such agencies shall include, but not limited to, federal, state, county, local agencies, school districts, special districts and regulated utility companies.
3. When qualified non-profit institutional organizations offer to purchase Authority owned land at fair-market value and the proposed development would conform with or be beneficial to the Authority mission. Such agencies shall include, but not limited to, community service organizations. Such sales shall include deed restrictions on use and reversion rights to repurchase the property.
4. When a property has been offered by RFP and no acceptable offer was received.
5. Real property exchange may be negotiated when such exchange is to the benefit of the Authority.

C. LEASING

As determined by staff and approved by the Board land can be leased under the following conditions:

1. Short-term leases may be negotiated for properties not currently needed but will or may be needed in the future. Short-term leases include, but are not limited to, farm leases or lease back arrangements with sellers of real property to the Authority. In such cases, rent shall cover, at a minimum, all taxes, fees and administrative costs.
2. Long-term leases may be negotiated for properties in areas of uncertain future development or for properties where the Authority desires to retain control over development and use of the property.
3. Long-term leases may be also negotiated for utilities beneficial to park users or the community. These may include, but are not limited to cell tower, and gas and oil companies. In such cases, rent shall be based on a fair rate of return commensurate with the designated parcel use.

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Meeting of January 9, 2014

HURON-CLINTON METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

To: Board of Commissioners
From: John P. McCulloch, Director
Subject: Monthly Park Statistics
Date: January 2, 2014

Due to the timing of the New Year holiday, parks statistics are not available for distribution with the January Board packet. Park statistics will be distributed at the Jan. 9 meeting.