

Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network



In 2023, WIN made a grant to Huron Pines for the design and permitting phase to fully remove Sanback Dam, which is located on Beach Creek in Rose City, MI (Ogemaw County; Rifle River Watershed). The existing structure is a high hazard dam in severely deteriorating condition that presents immediate safety hazards to individuals walking on or near the structure (e.g., risks of falls, cuts, or potentially even drowning) as it is located on City property. If the dam were to fail, it could endanger people downstream, would likely damage property and transportation infrastructure downstream, and would severely degrade important coldwater stream habitat downstream—large amounts of fine sediment from the impoundment would wash downstream and inundate important gravel habitat crucial for fish reproduction and aquatic invertebrate habitat, and the high turbidity could cause direct mortality to trout and other aquatic species in Houghton Creek. Subsequent to the WIN grant, Huron Pines was awarded \$300,000 from the Dam Risk Reduction Grant Program that was authorized by the Michigan Legislature. This funding will assist in concluding the engineering and design. In May 2024, the project was awarded an additional \$1.7 million from the Department of the Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) for the first phase of demolition. Additional fundraising continues for the estimated \$4 million project.

June 14, 2023
Marriott Courtyard, Bay City
2 East Main Street





GRANT APPLICATION FORM
 Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network
 P.O. Box 734
 Bay City, MI 48707

Office Use:	
Application # _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ag/P2	<input type="checkbox"/> Water
<input type="checkbox"/> Communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use	
Other _____	

Please answer the following questions in the space provided. You may include a one-page attachment. When completed, your application packet should not exceed four pages. Send your completed form electronically to info@saginawbaywin.org and mail a signed, hard copy to Saginaw Bay WIN, P.O. Box 734, Bay City, MI 48707. **Proposals may be submitted at any time.** If you have questions, please call (989) 892-9171.

SECTION 1 - GENERAL			
Project Name Shiawassee River Dam Removal			
Sponsoring Organization / Local Champion Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition		Is the sponsor a 501(c)(3) organization? x <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Name & Position of Contact Person Dave Lossin, Chair -Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition, a (501)(c)3 organization			
Address 211 Hickory Street			
City Linden	State MI	Zip 48451	Phone 810-869-9438
Fax	Email dalossin@gmail.com		Amount Requested \$30,000
Project Start Date July 1, 2024	Project End Date December 31, 2025		Geographic Area Served: Shiawassee River and its 83 mile National Water Trail

SECTION 2 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<p>Please describe the project. How is it innovative? What need(s) does it address? Is there a relationship between this project and other programs/projects occurring in the watershed?</p> <p>This classifies as a “Water Resource” project and clears the Shiawassee River of a disruptive structure that adversely affects fisheries, macroinvertebrates, navigation, upstream and downstream access utility, safety, a critical gas pipeline, and the tourist economy. Together with the reversal of the aforementioned impacts, the process of removal will have minimum impact on the immediate riverbed and any downstream siltation detriments. Both a civil engineer and a heavy equipment contractor explain that the character of the dam as a causeway permits all equipment work on top of the causeway without any in-river disturbance from equipment.</p> <p>The key relationship of the removal is that it is next in line after two prior and recent dam removals at downstream Corunna and upstream Shiatown. The connectivity of unfettered aquatic ecology dynamics and ease/safety of navigation is assured for the 84 mile river section without obstructions for both fish passage and paddlers. The Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition oversees that Shiawassee River that the U.S. Department of Interior declared a National Water Trail in 2016, a system guided by a Water Trail Plan that includes many conservation themes with obstructions ear-marked for removal.</p> <p>Partnerships are fostered from the perspective of that Coalition, the Friends of the Shiawassee River (scientific program emphasis on healthy macroinvertebrate populations), Caledonia Township’s recognition of a recreational outlet in their jurisdiction, the County Parks and Recreation Commission with its stifled upstream access point with nowhere to go downstream, the City of Corunna with a barrier free downstream landing with no possibility of paddler arrivals and Meridian Brick’s critical single source of natural gas supply threatened by the downstream souring effects of the buried 4” pipeline. .</p>

SECTION 3 – COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

What other organizations are participating in this project and what are their roles? A project committee is guiding the project. The committee consists of representatives from all of the partnerships listed in the above narrative. The roles vary with contributions to engineering work, program activity and public policy upgrades that foster river-based recreation and oversight of public safety gains. The Friends of the River will conduct the mussel survey for the EGLE permit. Caledonia Township will control the site.

SECTION 4 – SUSTAINABILITY LINKAGES AND GOALS

Describe the project's goals and how you will measure whether it has achieved those goals.

Economic goals: Expand the use of the river for local quality of life gains and confident marketing of the river to more tourists that wish to experience a National Water Trail. The expanded use is intended to benefit the City of Corunna with increased visitor rates to their community and its business services. Measurement tools are the periodic surveys of parking lot occupancy at the access points immediately upstream and downstream from the project site.

Community or social goals: The recreational pursuits add to local healthy lifestyle advocates for outdoor recreation activity. With Shiawassee County's unfortunate status as the area with the least surface water in Michigan, one more close-to-home surface water resource is opened to use to serve the rapidly expanding paddler population and the consistent fishery advocates who are aware of this River's status as a top location for small mouth bass fishing. The Covid experience revealed the importance of a safe outdoor activity outlet during an otherwise an imposed isolation time. Pursuit of a local quality of life is fulfilled in part here in a County with no State, National or Regional Parks of reservations. All of the local parks and recreation plans with the river passing through their coverage areas reference high priority attention to the leisure time services the river provides.

Environmental goals: The dam removal already has administrative staff support from State and Federal agencies overseeing Michigan's environmental gains. The MDNR Fisheries Division, the US Fish and Wildlife Service Fish Passage Program, and the EGLE Dam Risk Reduction Grant Program have all invited the submission of grant requests for financial and technical assistance for the project. Fish passage is number one with local macroinvertebrate colony establishment being another objective. The target fish population adversely affected by dams includes the small mouth bass, the Silver Redhorse Sucker, the White Sucker, walleye, and the Silver Lamprey (not the Sea Lamprey). Sturgeon await some downstream improvements with gradual passage upgrades and ongoing fingerling stocking programs. The dam removal offers stable riverbed settings for stoneflies (the most important indicator of stream health) and mussels for their turbidity filtering benefit. Another benefit—the entire demolition rubble will be recycled into useful crushed concrete product.

SECTION 5 – RELATIONSHIP TO WIN OBJECTIVES

Describe how the project fits with WIN's Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles.

The dam removal falls in the Water Resource project category of WIN support. The project meets WIN's expectation that it balances long term focus with short term results—both the immediate recreational benefit and the longer term aquatic ecology benefit apply. With respect to the WIN vision statement a very close fit is the enhanced Quality of Life gains that are explained in the above section. From the Mission statement the highly qualified project asset is that it “connects regional networks” both environmentally and recreationally. The dam removal closely meets at least three of the principles: 1) *Offer a pleasant and healthy environment*—the dam is a blight on the river setting—old, dilapidated and disruptive; 2) *Conserve natural resources and historic settings*—Dam removal restores natural forces for every aspect of running water environments and the historic setting returns the river to its native American and early Euro-American migration past as a blue water highway—a quality to be marketed at interpretive signs at access points; 3) *Integrate economic prosperity, ecology & infrastructure*—the removal fosters safe tourism in a more natural environment with infrastructure access points to be made whole.

SECTION 6 – RESULTS

What tangible results do you expect from the project and how will you measure them?

The tangible result is by its nature observable, profound change in the river environment. Immediate riverside restoration enhancements will extend the river's open space qualities observable elsewhere along its course. The Friends of the Shiawassee River macroinvertebrate sampling upstream and downstream to be conducted about the immediate dam site before and after removal offers an evaluation tool for the benefits of dam removal. Parking lots dedicated exclusively to access points at Corunna and the County's Lytle Road Park offer measurable occupancy rates to park administrators.

SECTION 7 – COMMUNICATION

How do you plan to communicate your project to the public and/or your intended audience?

Social media for the Friends Facebook site are a first effort to broadcast the activity before, during and after removal. Public meetings at the County Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Corunna City Council will offer media covered presentations. Press releases will announce a project dedication ceremony with an invitation to a celebration paddle from and to the two “liberated” access sites. Water Trail maps will be updated to show an opened water trail segment.

SECTION 8 – BUDGET		
	Total Budget	WIN Funds
Personnel Expenses (briefly describe) 1) Oversight of Engineering--\$1,400; 2) Complete Grant Application to Fisheries--\$1,500; 3) Grant Administration--\$9,600	\$12,500	\$1,000
Material and Supply Expenses (briefly describe) Updated Water Trail Map and Printing	\$500	0
Equipment Expenses (briefly describe) Contractor Dam Removal (includes labor) and Site Restoration	\$120,000	\$15,000
Communication/Marketing Expenses (briefly describe) Public Communication Presentations; Facebook and Website Upgrades; Public Relations Event Organization;	\$1,500	0
Other Expenses (briefly describe) Project Engineering Contract; Competitive Bidding; Baseline Environmental Assessment; and Land Ownership Transfer Costs	\$32,000	\$14,000
Total Project Cost	\$166,500	
Funds Requested from WIN		\$30,000

What funds have already been obtained for this project? (describe sources)
Engineering--\$6,000 from project committee member contributions; \$600 for foundation exploration work

How do you plan to finance the portion not funded by WIN?
Balance of Engineering—FOSR; Demolition and Restoration—MDNR Fisheries Grant, plus FOSR & Foundation Contribution; other project expenses that include grant administration, contractor oversight, and environmental conditions in the EGLE permit to be donated from already committed professional service providers.

Have you contacted the community foundation in the area most directly benefited by your project? If yes, with what result?
Yes—Cook Family Foundation Funding through the Friends of the Shiawassee River and Project Guidance

Is this an on-going project? If yes, how will funding be continued?
Measureable Benefit Efforts—1) FOSR volunteer macroinvertebrate sampling up to three years after removal; 2) Increased river recreational activity as indicated from surveys of upstream and downstream access points' dedicated parking lot usage' usage, 3) Corunna and County Parks and Recreation Commissioners donated time for the parking lot surveys, and 4) expanded marketing of the soon to be unencumbered water trail through the Water Trail website and the Coalition's published new water trail surveys.

SECTION 9 – CERTIFICATION
Our governing board approves the submission of this grant request. I certify that the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Authorized Signature
Philip B. Hathaway, Vice-President—Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition
Print Name and Title

May 2, 2024
Date





GRANT APPLICATION FORM
 Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network
 P.O. Box 734
 Bay City, MI 48707

Office Use:	
Application # _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ag/P2	<input type="checkbox"/> Water
<input type="checkbox"/> Communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use	
Other _____ See attached engineer's cost opinion	

Please answer the following questions in the space provided. You may include a one-page attachment. When completed, your application packet should not exceed four pages. Send your completed form electronically to info@saginawbaywin.org and mail a signed, hard copy to Saginaw Bay WIN, P.O. Box 734, Bay City, MI 48707. **Proposals may be submitted at any time.** If you have questions, please call (989) 892-9171.

SECTION 1 - GENERAL			
Project Name Hogan Road Launch, Shiawassee River, Linden MI			
Sponsoring Organization / Local Champion Keepers of the Shiawassee Inc.		Is the sponsor a 501(c)(3) organization? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Name & Position of Contact Person Don Walsh, Chair Keeper of the Shiawassee Inc.			
Address P.O. Box 22			
City Linden	State MI	Zip 48451-002	Phone 248-231-6124
Fax None	Email chair@keepersoftheshiawassee.org		Amount Requested \$12,000
Project Start Date Summer 2024	Project End Date November 2024	Geographic Area Served Southern Genesee County between Holly and Byron	

SECTION 2 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<p>Please describe the project. How is it innovative? What need(s) does it address? Is there a relationship between this project and other programs/projects occurring in the watershed?</p> <p>Paddlers have been launching their boats into the Shiawassee River by the Hogan Road Bridge under rudimentary conditions for decades. Parking has always been on a busy road alongside a ditch. Paddlers must carry their boat and equipment over a berm and across County land downhill, and then drop it several feet over a muddy eroded bank to access the water. The exit from the river is challenging as well, requiring paddlers to climb up and out on slippery mud while unavoidably causing damage to the bank. Our permanent launch project will provide multiple improvements and attributes for the recreational enthusiast including off road parking with drive through access, improved walking surface down a gently sloped gravel ramp from the parking area to the waters edge for an easy launching and a enjoyable experience.</p> <p>When completed, the launch will provide river access for paddlers, fishermen and outdoor enthusiasts from all around our area. The launch provides access to the river where it gets wider as it continues to flow north. Argentine Township installed a launch at McCaslin Lake Rd downstream of Hogan Road several years ago. Hogan Road to McCaslin is about a 2.5 hour paddle through wooded areas where wildlife abounds. Paddlers may see eagles high in the trees, herons and kingfishers, turtles and deer.</p> <p>The Hogan Road Launch continues a vision of area non-profits and municipalities to promote and protect the Shiawassee River. That vision began with the creation of the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition (the 'Coalition'), a belief that the river ties communities together, promoting public access while preserving the river for future generations. The groups making up the Coalition, including the Keepers of the Shiawassee, along with the support of WIN, achieved State and National designation of the Shiawassee as a Water Trail. This project will be a community building activity as well, bringing together non-profits, municipalities, businesses, and individual volunteers to make the launch a reality. Once built, we anticipate that our launch will become an important part of our community – bringing paddlers of all ages to the river and serving as a important aspect of fundraising events such as the Pedal and Paddle and Paddle for Paws. Our hope is to see a triathlon that includes biking, kayaking and running in the near future.</p>

SECTION 3 – COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

What other organizations are participating in this project and what are their roles?

Keepers has been engaging important partners for this project including: The Genesee County Road Commission, The Genesee County Drain Commissions, Consumers Energy, Fenton Township, Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation (SLPR), and the Shiawassee River Watershed Coalition. Significant steps have been taken with these partners to ensure that the launch project is ready for construction. These actions include:

SECTION 4 – SUSTAINABILITY LINKAGES AND GOALS

Describe the project's goals and how you will measure whether it has achieved those goals.

Economic goals:

Economically, the launch brings with it an increase in the potential for users to spend their money in the communities around the launch area.

Community or social goals:

Our project to install a canoe/kayak launch at Hogan Road will have a lasting impact on the families who wish to paddle, fish, hunt, and visit the communities along the Shiawassee River

Environmental goals:

Environmentally, it helps keep what is now an undeveloped river access site from further erosion of the riverbank. It also provides an excellent classroom, onsite, to demonstrate firsthand how careful management of our riverbanks helps to project the river ecosystem.

SECTION 5 – RELATIONSHIP TO WIN OBJECTIVES

Describe how the project fits with WIN's Vision, Mission and Guiding Principals.

As showcased in your 2020 Annual Report, WIN has been along standing supporter of the Shiawassee River National Water Trail. The Hogan Road kayak launch is a continuation of vision of various river organizations to promote and protect the Shiawassee River, tying communities together around river stewardship, recreation, and education.

SECTION 6 – RESULTS

What tangible results do you expect from the project and how will you measure them?

Use of the river and access site will significantly increase as people feel much more comfortable with portage and parking in a safe environment. Events involving the river are also much easier to stage with safe access. Economically speaking, all this brings with it an increase in the potential for users to spend their money in and around the access site.

The success of the project will be immediately evidenced by the creation of a safer situation for parking as the public uses the launch area and no longer must park on Hogan Road. Next, the Keepers will both informally and formally monitoring activity at the launch to verify increased river traffic. One of our Keeper's members lives just north of the launch site and will observe and report on activities as they travel past the launch site. If we receive sufficient funding, our intent is to install a Vosker V300 mobile security camera with cellular connectivity. This camera can be used develop monthly use counts. Additionally, the landowner, Genesee County, has a security camera which may provide further information. Additionally, Keepers has its own Facebook page as well as a website where we receive comments from people using the river and expect to hear from paddlers about the launch. Lastly, Keepers will conduct a survey at the end of the season to gauge the success of the project.

SECTION 7 – COMMUNICATION

How do you plan to communicate your project to the public and/or your intended audience?

The public in and around the Fenton, Linden, and Byron area are already aware of the proposed launch and our efforts towards its construction. The Keepers of the Shiawassee has been communicating the need for and generating interest in this project through our community outreach efforts. Most notably, for 9 years, the Keepers brought the "Shiawassee River Fest" to the Linden/Fenton community. The eight hour fundraising event held on the banks of the Shiawassee included live band music, river related activities for adults and children, kayak demos, rubber duck race, educational events, food trucks, large collection of interesting craft vendors, etc. These events raised awareness of the need for the Hogan Road launch and raised the \$12,800 that Keepers has allocated to engineering and permitting of the launch. Also, as previously mentioned, Keepers worked with Fenton Township to include the launch in their 5-year Plan. This April we will have a "Shiawassee River Bowl" fundraiser where we will be "Rolling for the River". Additionally, our monthly kayak paddling event give us the opportunity to highlight the need for the launch and our progress towards its construction. We routinely provide updates to our members and interested community through a text messaging application, an email list, our Facebook page (Keepers of the Shiawassee River, Michigan) and website (<https://keepersoftheshiawassee.org/>).

SECTION 8 – BUDGET

	Total Budget	WIN Funds
Personnel Expenses (briefly describe) A Hogan Road Launch construction cost opinion was prepared		
Material and Supply Expenses (briefly describe) See attached engineer's cost opinion		
Equipment Expenses (briefly describe) See attached engineer's cost opinion		
Communication/Marketing Expenses (briefly describe) Keepers and the other organizations participating in this projec		
Other Expenses (briefly describe) See attached engineer's cost opinion		
Total Project Cost	\$67,800	
Funds Requested from WIN		\$12,000

What funds have already been obtained for this project? (describe sources)

The Keepers of the Shiawassee have committed \$12,800 for the engineering and permitting (Phase 0 - Pre-Construction Design and Permitting). The Genesee County Road Commission is currently evaluating its ability to pay the \$8,300 for the driveways and culverts that were installed during the Hogan Road bridge reconstruction in 2024 (i.e., Phase 1 - Site Preparation by Bridge Contractor).

How do you plan to finance the portion not funded by WIN?

The focus now is funding for the construction of this project through grants, contributions from municipalities, donations, and fund raising events. We are hoping to leverage a WIN grant award to other potential funding sources to create greater confidence this project is a benefit to the community. In particular, we will be presenting to the City of Fenton, Fenton Township, the City of Linden, and Argentine Township. Those municipalities will be more willing to allocate funds knowing that entities like WIN are contributing.

Have you contacted the community foundation in the area most directly benefited by your project? If yes, with what result?

Yes, we have been in contact with Stephanie Whitlege, Grant Administrator, for the Community Foundation of Greater Flint (CFGF) and have submitted a grant application to the Neighborhoods Small Grants Program (NSGP) Fenton Community Fund. CFGF seemed supportive and is currently reviewing our grant application.

Is this an on-going project? If yes, how will funding be continued?

The intent is for Genesee County to sign a long-term lease agreement with Fenton Township. Keepers is working with the County and Township to develop a Launch Maintenance Plan. Our intent is for those municipal entities to share in the cost of routine maintenance (e.g., trash removal, lawn care, etc.). If our funding is goal is exceeded, we intent to establish an escrow account for repair of the launch, such repairs be required longer-term.

SECTION 9 – CERTIFICATION

Our governing board approves the submission of this grant request. I certify that the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Walsh, Donald

Authorized Signature

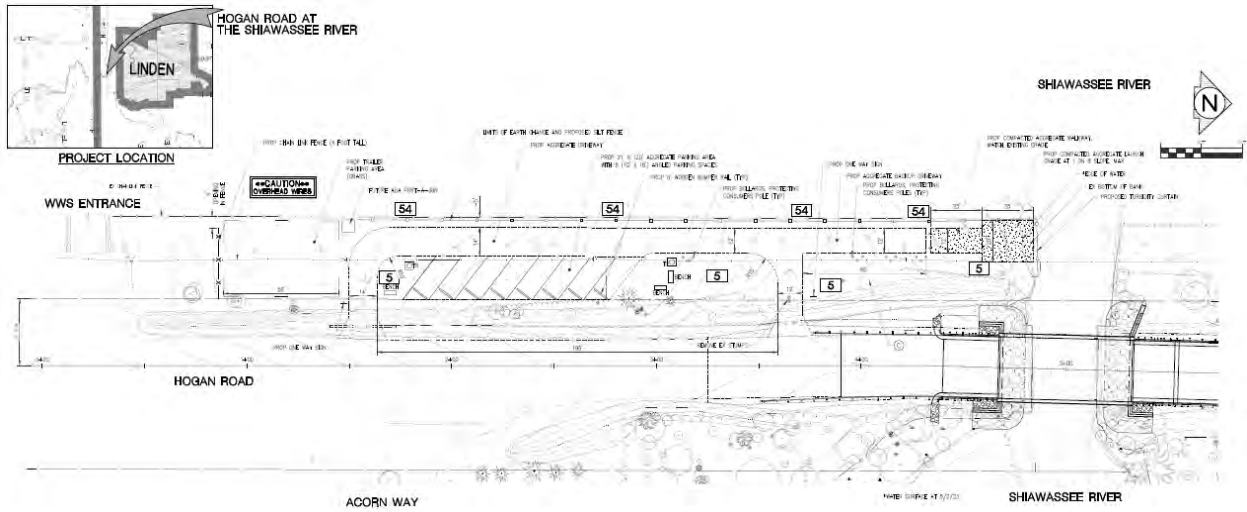
Digitally signed by Walsh, Donald
Date: 2024.03.24 11:16:37 -04'00'

03/25/2024

Date

Donald Walsh, Chair Keepers of the Shiawassee River

Print Name and Title





Monday, June 3, 2024

Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network

Grant Application Form

What is WIN?

The Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) is a collaborative, community-driven quality of life initiative created by a variety of environmental, business and community interests in 1996. WIN was formed to create a more sustainable future for all who live, work and play within the Saginaw Bay watershed. One of the ways in which WIN accomplishes this objective is by providing financial support to projects that link the economic, environmental and social needs of the region.

Our Vision

As stewards of the Saginaw Bay Watershed, we value our shared, unique resources, and together we will balance economic, environmental, and social priorities to enhance the quality of life for this and future generations

Our Mission

We will cooperatively develop a shared identity for the Saginaw Bay watershed as a sustainable community. We will create opportunities to enhance understanding of sustainability, connecting people, resources, organizations and programs through regional networks of local projects.

Guiding Principles

- Provide a pleasant and healthy environment
- Conserve historic, cultural and natural resources
- Integrate economic prosperity, ecology and aesthetics
- Use land and infrastructure effectively
- Continually evaluate and refine shared vision and goals

Program Overview

WIN welcomes proposals that advance the search for sustainable solutions to current watershed and community challenges. WIN is responsive to new ideas, new research and new approaches, recognizing that such innovation is necessary to move the concept of sustainability forward in the Saginaw Bay watershed. The sustainability approach integrates economic goals with environmental and social goals and is based on the premise that meeting human needs for all people today should not impair the ability of future generations to meet their needs. A strong local economy is at the core of a sustainable community because development and the jobs it creates are the vehicles for meeting human needs.

WIN accepts proposals for projects that advance its work within five focus areas:

- Agriculture and Pollution Prevention
- Communication / Regional Marketing
- Land Use
- Water Resources
- Wildlife Stewardship

In addition to sustainability linkages, WIN evaluates projects by asking whether projects:

- Promote and encourage partnerships by leveraging resources
- Balance long-term focus with short-term results
- Promote excellence by fostering a sense of identification and pride in the watershed
- Serve as pilot or demonstration projects with broad application (can be replicated)
- Fit with WIN's vision, mission, and guiding principles

Agriculture and Pollution Prevention Objectives:

- Marketing region's agricultural products and agri-tourism
- Water quality improvement and pollution prevention including soil erosion issues
- Production of value-added, diversified agricultural products
- Preserving farming as a viable industry for the next generation of farmers
- Protection and preservation of agricultural lands
- Bridging gap between urban and rural community interests
- Promotion of alternative and improved energy sources

Communications and Regional Marketing Objectives:

- Promoting the Saginaw Bay watershed as a tourist destination and recreation area
- Education about concept of sustainability

Land Use Objectives:

- Promotion of "green" / conservation-based development
- Encouraging regional cooperation on land use issues
- Education about land use issues
- Open space protection (because of limited funds, WIN does not support land acquisition costs)

Water Resources Objectives:

- Pollution prevention (nonpoint source & point source)
- Wetland restoration
- Fisheries (improve access to, health, promotion, Fisheries Scoping Study implementation)
- Access to water resources
- Improvement of water quality leading to the de-listing of the Saginaw Bay ecosystem as an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Area of Concern

Wildlife Stewardship Objectives:

- Habitat restoration lakeward/riverward of the 585 foot contour
- Promotion of habitat-related events
- Providing access to significant habitat and wildlife areas
- Protection of significant habitats
- Educational projects (habitat & wildlife related)

Funding Availability and Eligibility

Please contact Saginaw Bay WIN prior to submitting an application to discuss the project and its eligibility. WIN can be reached by email at info@saginawbaywin.org or by telephone at 989-892-9171.

Grant proposals are reviewed on a continual basis with financial awards made twice a year. They are no grant deadlines.

Projects are evaluated by a unique network of task groups that are central to WIN's community-based evaluation process. Through the work of the task groups, proposals are reviewed and refined in cooperation with the applicant. The task groups are formed around WIN's five focus areas.

If a project receives a favorable nod from a task group, it will be forwarded to WIN's Resource Group for further consideration. Those projects that are approved by the Resource Group are presented to WIN's Funders Network for final consideration.

Eligible organizations include nonprofit 501c(3) groups, local governments, subdivisions of local governments and educational institutions.P

Projects must take place within the Saginaw Bay Watershed

Organization Name Six Rivers Land Conservancy

Are you a registered Charity / 501c(3) ?

If Yes to above , please provide Your Charitable Number 38-3189562

Do you have a Web Page ?

Yes

If yes, please submit website address: www.sixriversrlc.org

Contact E-mail cbunch@sixriversrlc.org

Contact Phone number (248) 762-6231

Contact Address 4480 Orion Road, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 80902
Rochester, MI, 48306
United States

Organization Executive Officer Amy O'Leary

Project Contact Name Chris Bunch

Please state the mission/goals of your organization

Our mission is to conserve, sustain, and connect natural areas, lands, and waters that make the places we live special. We work to keep the "Nature Near You" in the northern part of the metro Detroit, Michigan region, an area we call the Emerald Crown, in the watersheds of the Clinton, Flint, Huron, Rouge, Shiawassee, and Belle Rivers in Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Genesee, and St. Clair Counties.

Grant Application

Project Details

Name of the Project: Parcel Level land prioritization for water quality in the Shiawassee River Watershed

Is this a New or Existing Project?

New

Project Start Date Sunday, September 1, 2024

Project End Date Sunday, August 31, 2025

Total Funds required to complete project. 51,190

Amount Requested from Saginaw Bay WIN. 30000

Please describe the project. How is it innovative? What need(s) does it address? Is there a relationship between this project and other programs/projects occurring in the watershed?

Six Rivers Land Conservancy will lead a project to complete a parcel level GIS "desktop analysis" of land in the Shiawassee River watershed to identify those lands most important to protect to preserve water quality in the river and ultimately in Saginaw Bay. This project will include seeking input from local conservation leaders in the watershed, and completing a "windshield" analysis of identified priorities through recruiting and a training a core of volunteers to complete the assessments. Data analysis for the land prioritization model will be performed by Hubbell, Roth, & Clark (HRC), an engineering consulting firm who has been engaged by Six Rivers for similar prioritization work in the past. They will run parcels in the selected region through a model that will create a ranked list of prioritized parcels for protection based on water quality effects, stormwater management capabilities, and economic factors. Factors and weighting within the model can be adjusted based on the priorities of Six Rivers and additional partners. The 20-30 parcels that score the highest will then be run through a Water Quality Tool previously developed by Six Rivers and HRC, which allows us to view water quality outputs with 12

different land use scenarios, ranging from undeveloped to urban use. Volunteers will conduct windshield surveys of selected high-priority parcels in order to ground-truth the data. This project fills a niche that is not currently addressed in the Shiawassee River watershed. Currently, land conservation efforts in the Shiawassee River watershed are limited to voluntary, incidental action by landowners, and there is no land conservancy providing focused attention to land conservation across the watershed. Identifying lands important to protect to sustain and improve water quality is a they key first step in launching efforts to proactively preserve land that will protect water quality in the Shiawassee River and in the Saginaw Bay. Data resulting from this project will be used to drive future conservation projects in the watershed. Additionally, we will have a core of trained and engaged windshield survey volunteers in the region with an interest in seeing these lands protected.

WIN's key focus area is sustainability - that relationship between the economy, the environment and our communities. Please discuss the sustainability linkages in the project.

The Shiawassee River is a substantial contributor to the water in Saginaw Bay. Landscape level conservation is a key method to sustaining and improving water quality in the recipient waters receiving water from a watershed. This prioritization project will allow future conservation to be directed towards areas that will provide the highest level of water quality benefits. The economic impacts will be substantial, particularly in regards to preventing flooding and the input of harmful contaminants into both the Shiawassee River and the Saginaw Bay. It also benefits communities, as the continued presence of natural lands provides mental health benefits and a greater sense of place within a region.

Describe how the project fits with WIN's Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles.

The project supports and communicates WIN's Vision by communicating the value of natural resources that sustain and enhance the quality of life within the watershed. The project will promote a shared identity for those who live, work, and visit the watershed by promoting the importance of shared natural resources, and it will connect people to the organizations that are working to permanently protect lands that contribute to overall sustainability within the watershed as outlined in WIN's mission. The project also supports WIN's objectives for protection and preservation of agricultural lands; open space protection; pollution prevention (nonpoint source and point source); and protection of significant habitats.

What tangible results do you expect from the project and how will you measure them?

At the end of this project, we will have a ranked list of priority parcels for conservation within the Shiawassee River watershed, maps of selected parcels, and a spreadsheet summarizing the overall findings. We will also have significant water quality data about the top 20-30 parcels, including annual runoff of four major contaminants (dissolved oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment) under 12 different land use scenarios. The water quality tool can also provide stormwater values and point to best management practices for reduction of pollutant loads.

The results of the project will be compiled into a report detailing the approach and results that will be presented to Saginaw Bay WIN, and can be given to interested leaders and landowners in the watershed. Once completed, the results of this effort can serve as the foundation of efforts to engage landowners in permanent conservation of their properties. The resulting data can also be used to create a compelling narrative for future grant applications to acquire funding for conservation of high-priority parcels.

How do you plan to communicate the project with the public or your intended audience?

The project will be communicated to our intended audience through various means, including social media and e-mail newsletter outreach, with the intent to recruit and train volunteers to conduct the windshield analysis. We will reach out to Friends of the Shiawassee River and the soil and conservation district to also recruit volunteers to be trained in the windshield analysis.

Do you intend to cooperate with other agencies or non-profit organizations on this specific project? If not, why not?

Six Rivers Land Conservancy is the primary organization driving this project. We will be working with Hubbell, Roth & Clark engineering on this project. They will develop & run the GIS model to identify land preservation priorities, and provide a report on conclusions and a user manual. If the opportunity to cooperate and work with other agencies or non-profit organizations presents itself, we would consider doing so.

What specific items would be covered by a grant from the Saginaw Bay WIN program?

A grant from the Saginaw Bay WIN program will fund a portion of Six Rivers' staff time and contractor expenses to complete the project. Six Rivers' direct staff time is budgeted for \$9,000 and our contractor, HRC, has given us a bid of \$37,440 for their services.

How do you propose to recognize a grant from the Saginaw Bay WIN program?

We will recognize a grant from the Saginaw Bay WIN program by publicizing their support on all of our communication materials and social media channels. In addition, if the program has additional requirements for recognition, we would be excited for the opportunity to comply.

Project Success. What does success look like for your project? How will you determine whether the project has been successful?

The project will be successful if we are able to create a ranked list of priority parcels for conservation within the Shiawassee River watershed, maps of selected parcels, and a spreadsheet summarizing the overall findings. We will also have significant water quality data about the top 20-30 parcels, including annual runoff of four major contaminants (dissolved oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment) under 12 different land use scenarios.

Saginaw Bay WIN Grant Project Budget

Feel free to upload a comprehensive budget under the attachment tab in the next section

Personnel Expenses 9000

Please Describe Personnel Expenses

180 hours at \$50 per hour = \$9,000

This includes project management, engaging stakeholders, coordinating assessments, recruiting and training volunteers, creating training materials, compiling and summarizing survey results, provide report, and deliver presentation to communities.

Materials / Supplies Expenses 1000

Please Describe Materials / Supplies Expenses

Mileage, printing, training materials & reports

Equipment Expenses 0

Please Describe Equipment Expenses

n/a

Communication / Marketing Expenses 0

Please Describe Communication / Marketing Expenses

n/a

Other Expenses 41190

Please Describe Other Expenses

HRC Engineering contract: \$37,440
Six Rivers Indirect Costs: \$3,750

Total Project Expenditures (including proposed WIN grant) 51190

Please Describe Amounts Already Raised for the Project and Sources

We have not secured additional funding for the project, but will be requesting funds from the Cook Family Foundation and the Bay Area Community Foundation.




What is your time frame to obtain the total funding required if you do not have it already? 3 months

Grant Application Submit

Submit my Application

The information provided by applicants in this form shall not be shared outside of the applicant's organization and contacts and directors, committee members and other participants in the Saginaw Bay WIN program. Public information will only be released if the grant application has been accepted and approved by the Saginaw Bay WIN program.

Attachments. Please upload any materials that help describe your organization or project (ex. annual report, marketing materials, project budget etc)

-  2023 Six Rivers Annual Repor....pdf
-  HRC_Shiawassee Prioritizati... .pdf
-  Shiawassee prioritization bud... .pdf

Name Chris Bunch

Email cbunch@sixriversrlc.org

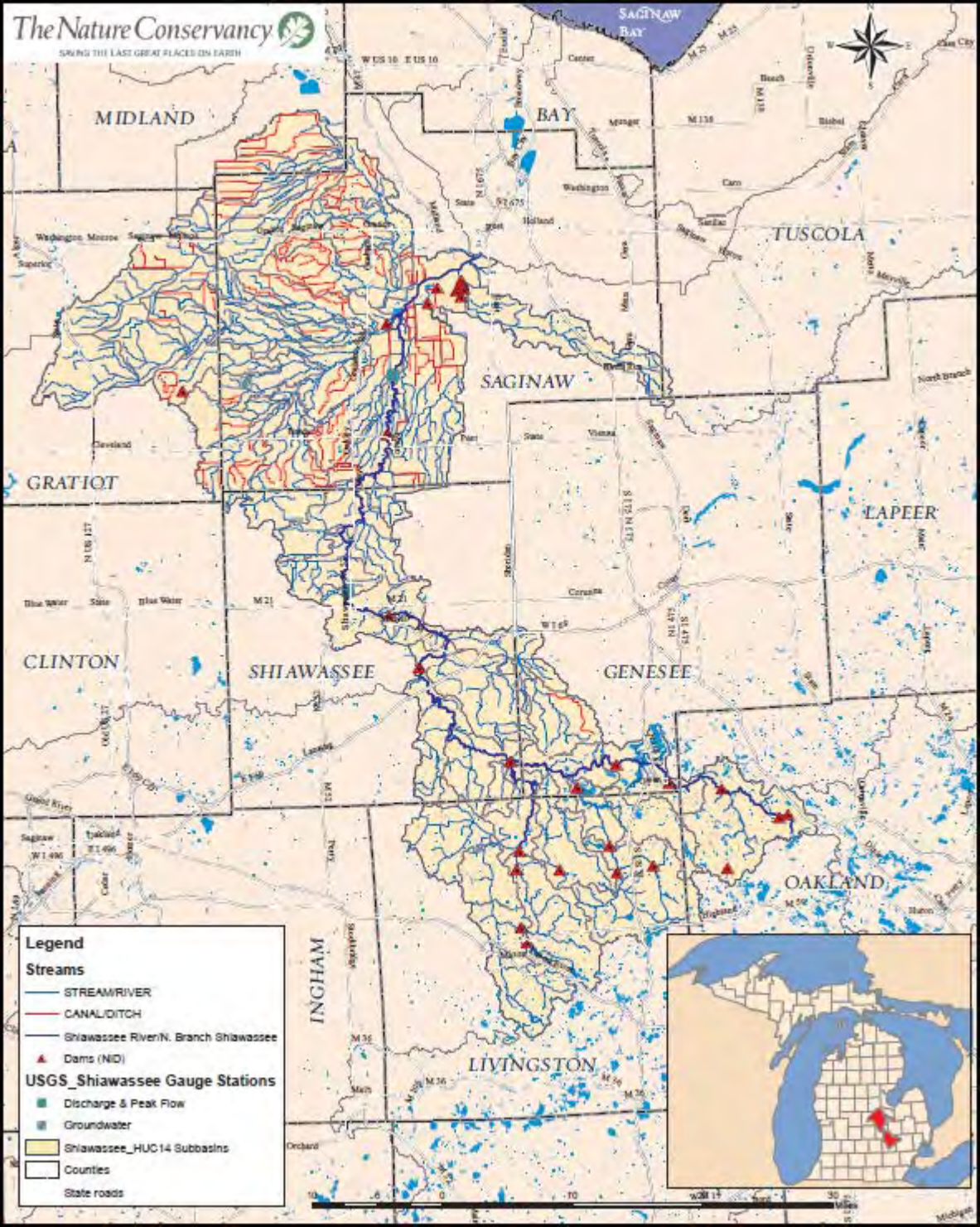
Address 4480 Orion Road, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 80902
Rochester, MI, 48306

I agree that the information herein are true and correct Yes

Date & Time of application. Monday, June 3, 2024 10:20

**Shiawassee Watershed Land Protection Prioritization-Water Quality Budget
Six Rivers Land Conservancy**

Item			Purpose		Amount
Contractor-HRC Engineering		See attached	Develop & run GIS model to ID land preservation priorities, provide report on conclusions and user manual		\$ 37,440.00
Six Rivers--staff time		80 hrs @ \$50/hr	Project management, engage stakeholders, coordinate assessment		\$ 4,000.00
Six Rivers Indirect					\$ 3,000.00
				Total	\$ 44,440.00
Phase II			Recruit & train volunteers to complete watershed surveys of ID'd priorities		
Six Rivers Staff time		20 hrs @ \$50/hr	Modify survey form & training materials for local application		\$ 1,000.00
Six Rivers Staff time		50 hrs @ \$50/hr	Recruit, train, oversee volunteers		\$ 2,500.00
Six Rivers Staff time		30 hrs @ \$50/hr	Compile, summarize survey results, provide report, deliver presentation to community as guided by funder		\$ 1,500.00
Six Rivers			Mileage, printing, materials		\$ 1,000.00
Six Rivers Indirect					\$ 750.00
				Total	\$ 6,750.00
Total Phase 1 & 2		\$ 51,190.00			



Legend

Streams

- STREAM/RIVER
- CANAL/DITCH
- Shiawassee River/N. Branch Shiawassee
- ▲ Dams (ND)

USGS_Shiawassee Gauge Stations

- Discharge & Peak Flow
- Groundwater

USGS_Shiawassee_HUC14 Subbasins

- Subbasins
- Counties
- State roads

