
PROJECT APPLICATION
Dickinson County Water Quality Commission
Cover Sheet

1. Applicant Organization **Okoboji Protective Association**
Street address _____ **PO Box 242** _____
City _____ **Okoboji** _____
State _____ **Iowa** _____
Zip _____ **51355** _____
Email _____ **philpetersen@mchsi.com** _____
Phone _____ **712/ 332-2028** _____
Organization contact **Phil Petersen**

2. Project title: **Fighting Aquatic Invasive Species**
Location **Iowa Great Lakes** _____

3. Project Director (if different than organization contact)

4. Application submission date: **September 30, 2016**

5. Brief description (75 words or less) of project, including expected results:

The Iowa Great Lakes is threatened by Aquatic Invasive Species (primarily Eurasian watermilfoil and zebra mussels). Our plan for this grant funding is for Iowa Lakeside Laboratory to provide environmental science college students to educate boaters at boat ramps to be sure their boats have been drained and cleaned before being launched. This Lakeside Lab program is part of an "Earn and Learn" program offered by Iowa's Regents Universities. By being proactive in protecting our lakes, we expect to delay and/or minimize the impact AIS will have to our lakes.

6. Amount requested through this grant application * : **\$ 20,000**

7. Matching funds:

Hard match **\$ 79,150** (Anything paid for with real money)

Source(s) **DNR Fisheries Bureau + Okoboji Protective Association**

Soft match _____ (Anything not paid with real money but has a value)

Source(s) _____

Other support _____

a. **Amount of Federal, State or other public cash match money already acquired or in process:**

\$ 64,150

b. Amount of private cash match funds: \$ 15,000

c. Source of public and/or private cash match (list all):

DNR Fisheries Bureau + Okoboji Protective Association

Is the project a portion of a larger, overall project to be implemented over a multi-year period?
_____ **No** _____ If yes, describe in project narrative and include in budget form as instructed.

**** The Water Quality Commission will only obligate funds for current fiscal year.
Any multi-year projects will be allowed to re-apply in subsequent years***

Type of project (select all that apply):

_____ Public education, public awareness and information dissemination

_____ Creation or maintenance of Best Management Practices

_____ Erection and maintenance of storm water run off facilities

_____ Bank stabilization Water treatment

_____ Water monitoring

_____ Watershed protection

X Activities to abate and remove invasive species

_____ Any other activity which will improve, protect or enhance the quality of water in
the lakes in Dickinson County

Estimated project dates:

a. Start **January 2017**

b. Completion **December 2017**

Applicant's signature. Upon signing in the space provided below, the applicant agrees to conform with the requirements pertaining to:

- **Civil Rights Assurance of Compliance:** The applicant hereby agrees that it will comply with Title VI of the Rights Act of 1964, 1873 and the age Discrimination Act of 1975 to the end that no person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant-Recipient receives grant funds and hereby gives assurance that it will immediately take any measures to effectuate this agreement.

This assurance is binding on the Applicant-Recipient, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or person whose signature appears below are authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Applicant-Recipient.

Phil Petersen

September 30, 2016

Applicant's name and title

Date

Approved by OPA Board of Directors on September 24, 2016

Phil Petersen

Chairman of the Communications Committee

Okoboji Protective Association

REQUIRED BUDGET FORM

Proposed Budget for Current Grant Request Year

Proposed Budget for Current Year

	<u>Commission</u>	Hard Match*	Soft Match**	<u>Total</u>
1. Temporary Staff				
Seasonal staff (Hourly rate)	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,000	\$ _____	\$ 45,000
Hourly staff (Hourly rate)	\$ _____	\$ 12,000	\$ _____	\$ 12,000
2. Supplies and Services	\$ _____	\$ 42,150	\$ _____	\$ 42,150
3. Equipment (List all equipment over \$1,000)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
4. Travel	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5. Water Monitoring	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5. Land Acquisition	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
6. Land Development	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
7. Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ 20,000	\$ 79,150	\$ _____	\$ 99,150

* Hard Match is “real money spent” toward project goal.

** Soft Match is money indirectly spent toward project goal. (This is important but not included in the dollar amount for points).

BUDGET NARRATIVE: Attach a Budget Narrative. Follow directions in Application Guidelines.

The Okoboji Protective Association has committed to spend \$15,000 for the summer of 2017 for an Aquatic Invasive Species program - the same amount - that has been spent for AIS every year since 2010.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Fisheries Bureau has committed for the 2017 summer to dedicate \$ 52,200 to fight Aquatic Invasive Species in the Iowa Great Lakes area. This funding includes four DNR seasonal summer employees to educate boaters on the boat ramps. Also included in the DNR expenditure is the prorated is one year around billboard, three billboards for the summer months, boat trailer validation

stickers, boater's maps, magazine ads, and a portion of the time of the following DNR full time employees: Mike Hawkins, Kim Bogenschutz, and Jason Euchner.

Iowa Lakeside Laboratory will contribute \$11,950 towards the room and board of the students offering their services in this Earn and learn program.

TASKS AND DELIVERABLES: Attach a list of Tasks and Deliverables following the Application Guidelines included in this packet.

The Okoboji Protective Association using the WQC grant funds and working through the DNR and Iowa Lakeside Laboratory (ILL) will recruit, interview, select, hire, train, and supervise five to six college students knowledgeable in environmental science to be boat ramp educators during the summer. Iowa Lakeside Laboratory will provide their housing.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will provide an additional three seasonal summer employees as part of the Boat Ramp educator program.

In addition, the DNR will train the students on Aquatic Invasive Species and supervise their boat ramp duties. These summer students will be educating boaters and inspecting boats during the summer on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays - the busiest days on the boat ramps. On week days - to fill out a forty-hour work week - they will work with DNR and ILL personnel to assist with additional natural resource projects.

You must attach a letter of support for each contributor of Hard Match dollars and soft match dollars that specifies the amount of money or service being provided.

A Letter of Support dated September 26, 2016 from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is attached.

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Four lake protective associations, the Iowa Great Lakes Water Safety Council, Iowa Lakeside Laboratory (ILL), and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will collaborate to educate the public on how to protect the Iowa Great Lakes from Aquatic Invasive Species.

In the last ten years we have made extensive use of many communications tools to educate the boating public: highway billboards, cable television, newspaper articles, local radio stations, boat ramp kiosks, boater's maps, DNR Water Patrol Officers, DNR Fisheries Bureau summer employees, boat ramp community volunteers, paid college students, and a broadcast Information Radio System. Our plan is to continue these efforts during the 2017 boating season.

Ten years ago the Iowa Great Lakes area began using volunteers to educate boaters on

the boat ramps. We had the most volunteers in the first year (2008) just after zebra mussels were discovered in Clear Lake. Enthusiasm - after the first year - declined every year with the number of volunteers also declining.

Although some of the Iowa Great Lakes have zebra mussels and curlyleaf pondweed we do want to block the introduction of these aquatic pests to any more locations in our chain of lakes than are already present. We also want to block the introduction of Eurasian watermilfoil and other aquatic invaders from gaining a foothold in the Iowa Great Lakes.

Our Aquatic Invasive Species experience has taught us the most effective way to communicate the AIS message is by direct face-to-face public contact on the boat ramp. With twelve major boat ramps in Dickinson County we need DNR Fisheries Bureau summer employees and paid college student interns (provided by this grant) to provide sufficient coverage during heavy boat ramp usage that occurs on summer weekends.

Based on eight years of volunteer AIS experience the lake protective associations believe that we must pay people to provide the AIS boater education on the boat ramps. This past summer the OPA and the Iowa Great Lakes Association had to use their own limited funds to replace the \$20,000 WQC grant to hire college students based at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory.

If WQC funds are provided for this project our plan is to work with the DNR and Iowa Lakeside Laboratory to hire, train, and manage a paid boat ramp summer educator program using the room and board provided by Iowa Lakeside Laboratory for the summer students to supplement the DNR summer personal. This would be part of an Earn and Learn program that supports the studies of environmental students and also provides a work source for the boat ramps and other environmental projects.

The economic loss to the Iowa Great Lakes - if they would become infested with Eurasian watermilfoil or zebra mussels - is tremendous. Dickinson County has more than two billion dollars of shoreline residential property generating taxes to support our lake s community. There is also the negative impact to employment at resorts, marinas, restaurants, amusement park, etc. that would be substantial. The economic impact would be measured in the tens of millions of dollars - maybe \$100 million.

On September 18 – 19, 2014 Dr. Dan P Molloy – an expert of zebra mussels – visited the Iowa Great Lakes, made two underwater inspections, and conducted extensive AIS discussions with the DNR and local protective associations. His recommendation was that we continue our Aquatic Invasive Species defensive program, because, 1) the longer we can delay zebra mussels from infesting our lakes the better and 2) we are still free of other invasive species – most notably Eurasian watermilfoil.

Proactive boater education is key!

To probe further: More detailed information on the threat of Aquatic Invasive Species to the Iowa Great Lakes can be found at website www.watersafetycouncil.org click on

Aquatic Invasive Species.

STATEMENT OF PROJECT NEED:

The Iowa Great Lakes need to be protected from Aquatic Invasive Species to protect our quality of life and the economic vitality of the lakes area. The serious nature of Aquatic Invasive Species to the Iowa Great Lakes is well documented in the Iowa Great Lakes Management Plan issued September 17, 2013 on pages 223 - 231 of that plan.

STATEMENT OF PROJECT BENEFITS TO WATER QUALITY

The reason people come to the Iowa Great Lakes is our many lakes and their recreational opportunities. Although not everyone uses the water directly by boating, fishing, swimming, sailing, etc. they are drawn to the lakes area features such as trails, art center, Summer Theater, amusement park, golf courses, etc. because of the lakes and their natural beauty. Clean water is vital to the public's enjoyment of natural resources and their reason for coming to our lakes for vacations and as a place to work or retire.

PUBLIC AWARENESS PLAN

The Okoboji Protective Association, Iowa Great Lakes Water Safety Council, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will make extensive use of cable television, local newspapers, and commercial radio to educate the public about this Water Quality Commission grant and the threat of Aquatic Invasive Species. We would also communicate how the public can help prevent an infestation in the Iowa Great Lakes.

LAND ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT:

No Land Acquisition or Development Needed



STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CHUCK GIPP, DIRECTOR

September 26, 2016

Phil Peterson
Okoboji Protective Association
PO Box 242
Okoboji, Iowa 51355

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has worked cooperatively with the Okoboji Protective Association (OPA) for many years in fighting the spread of aquatic invasive species in the Iowa Great Lakes (IGL). As part of that effort, summer interns have been hired as boat ramp inspectors to educate boaters and assist with inspection prior to launching boats and following removal from public boat ramps. This has been an effective program and one that should continue.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources supports the Okoboji Protective Association's current application to the Dickinson County Water Quality Commission for a \$20,000 grant to fund environmental science students to educate boaters in the Iowa Great Lakes for the 2017 open water boating season.

We appreciate the OPA's support in the past and continued future support of educating boaters in the IGL's about aquatic invasive species.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Wahl".

James R. Wahl
NW Regional Fisheries Supervisor
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Spirit Lake Fish Hatchery
122 252nd Ave
Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360