



1. Funding Opportunity Number, Focus Area, and Program

Funding Opportunity Number: EPAR5-GL2010-1

Focus Area: I.D. - Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration

Program Activity: 2. Habitat Restoration in Great Lakes Areas of Concern

2. Name of Proposal

Detroit River AOC Habitat Restoration Project – U S Steel Site

3. Points of Contact

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4. Type of Organization: The Friends of the Detroit River is a non-profit private organization that serves as the coordinating entity for the Detroit River AOC Remedial Action Plan activities.

5. Proposed Funding Request: \$ 1,200,000.00

6. Brief Project Description.

The project -- *which was specifically listed as a target in the Detroit River AOC BUI delisting criteria* -- will transform a significantly degraded industrial riverfront site into viable shoreline habitat for fish, amphibians and waterfowl. It will restore 1,100 feet of shoreline, 1.7 acres of emergent wetlands, 750 feet of rock shoal, and create an acre of fish spawning area in the Detroit River. Additionally, approximately 4.6 acres of upland habitat will be restored adjacent to the shoreline.

7. Project Location.

Detroit River HUC: 04090004

Latitude 42.263055 Longitude: -83.11583

City, County, State, Zip: City of River Rouge, Wayne County, Michigan 48218

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will restore habitats in the Detroit River AOC and lead to the delisting of the Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat related BUI. It is specifically identified as “Restoration Project 12 – US Steel Shoreline Restoration and Shoal Reconstruction” in *Delisting Targets for Fish / Wildlife Habitat / Population Beneficial Use Impairments in the Detroit River AOC* which can be found on the Friends of Detroit River web site (www.detroitriver.org/GLRI).

This project directly relates to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Focus Area 4: Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration. Specifically to Goal 1 since it is restoring both aquatic and terrestrial habitats to improve the conditions of native fish and wildlife. And to Goal 5 since it will convert degraded industrial shoreline into a vegetative shoreline and a protected embayment sensitive to environmental considerations and compatible with fish and wildlife and their habitats.

The Friends of the Detroit River (FDR) proposes to lead an interdisciplinary team to implement a key element in the habitat restoration plan for the Detroit River Great Lakes Areas of Concern located in southeast Michigan. The project will transform a significantly degraded industrial riverfront site into viable shoreline habitat for fish, amphibians and waterfowl as well as upland habitat for reptiles, birds and mammals. The project will restore 1,100 feet of shoreline, 1.7 acres of emergent wetlands, 750 feet of rock shoal (barrier island), and create over an acre of fish spawning area in the Detroit River and an embayment for turtle and fish habitat. Additionally, approximately 4.6 acres of upland habitat will be restored adjacent to the shoreline through removal of invasive species and replanting with native trees, shrubs, and other types of native vegetation.

The proposed project was identified as a key restoration priority for advancing restoration and delisting of the Detroit River AOC. Specifically, the recently completed *Delisting Targets for the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) for Detroit River Area of Concern* identified specific sites with potential to restore high-value habitat in the AOC and incorporated them into the strategy for removing (or “delisting”) of the loss of fish and wildlife habitat/populations, and degradation of benthos BUIs. The US Steel site is among the identified sites; thus, its restoration will advance progress toward removing these BUIs for the AOC.

In addition to the direct environmental benefits the project will benefit a struggling local economy. The proposed restoration project will create sorely-needed jobs and strengthen a key element of the recreational economy along the Detroit River. Support businesses for fishing, hunting, boating, and wildlife watching are an important source of jobs and revenue in the lower Detroit River area. The proposed project will enhance economic benefits from the river and build on substantial, related investments made in recent years. Among others, these include the restoration and redevelopment of the “Black Lagoon” contaminated sediment site located south of the US Steel site; and the establishment and expansion of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge.

Recognizing the importance shovel-ready projects, Friends of the Detroit River has structured the effort to include shoreline and upland redevelopment work for which substantial planning and design has been completed with the reconstruction of a severely deteriorated shoal which will be designed and built as part of this project. In addition, local implementation partnerships, led by FDR, will include a team of

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stakeholders that includes the US Steel Corporation, Wayne County, the Detroit Riverkeeper, the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge and others.

The project was selected as high-priority, initial restoration site for the following reasons:

- **Broad Ecological Impact** – The project will address the following ecological needs in the Detroit River:
 - Improve coastal habitat to respond to climate change and changing water levels in the Great Lakes; and
 - Advance restoration and “delisting” of the Detroit River AOC by implementing a high priority project needed to remove the loss of fish and wildlife habitat and degradation of benthos BUIs.
- **Project Deadlines/Readiness:**
 - The project already has detailed habitat restoration design and thus meets the “shovel-ready” criteria;
 - Strong partnerships and stakeholder forums exists in the AOC to support, guide and maintain the habitat restoration project, including technical assistance for monitoring; and
 - The project enjoys strong support from federal, state and local agencies, which will help secure technical support and compliance with applicable permits.



In brief, this site is uniquely suited for a large-scale habitat restoration effort; will contribute substantially to the restoration and “delisting” of fish and wildlife impairments in the AOC; and has the ability to meet established goals and achieve progress during the project period.

STRATEGIC APPROACH

The Detroit River is a 32-mile international connecting channel linking Lake St. Clair and the upper Great Lakes to Lake Erie. The Detroit River Area of Concern (AOC) is a bi-national AOC that directly drains approximately 700 square miles of land in Michigan and Ontario, as well as the 107 square mile City of Detroit “sewershed.” Most critically, the Detroit River carries flow from the entire watersheds of lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron and Lake St. Clair. The flow within the Detroit River averages about 180,000 cubic feet per second.

Eleven BUIs have been identified in the Detroit River. Notable among these are loss of fish and wildlife habitat, degradation of fish and wildlife populations and degradation of benthos.

To address the BUIs affecting the Detroit River AOC, a delisting plan has been developed that includes a list of projects recommend as part of the criteria for delisting. This project was originally proposed under a study prepared in 2002 by the USGS titled: *Habitat Protection and Remediation – Detroit River*. In that

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study the site was called: SITE 38 - US Steel 80" MILL SETTLING POND AND SHORELINE SHOAL. (See www.detroitriver.org/GLRI.htm)

The site is located in the City of River Rouge and is owned by the US Steel Corporation (US Steel). The site encompasses approximately 1,500 feet of frontage along the Detroit River, including approximately 4.6 acres of upland area behind the shoreline site. It is located along the Detroit River about 0.6 miles downstream of the mouth of the Rouge River

The geographical features of this site make it a prime candidate for a combined upland, shoreline and aquatic shoal reconstruction project. With its naturally in-cut bay shoreline and preexisting shoal area, **the site has the potential to create the largest aquatic and emergent habitat site in this section of the river.**

The International Wildlife Refuge has been able to preserve and restore 5,100 acres of habitat, complete 26 shoreline restorations, and leverage over \$13 million in conservation projects over six years. Some of these have been within the Detroit River AOC. This project will build on these efforts and improve the quality and quantity of fish and wildlife habitats and significantly impact the size and sustainability of fish stock and wildlife populations.

Fishing is a key economic activity for the region. The primary impact of the proposed site restoration to fishing activities occurs downriver from the U.S. Steel site. Over 800,000 pleasure boats are registered in Michigan and about half of those are used on the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair, in part to fish for the estimated 10 million walleye that ascend the Detroit River each spring from Lake Erie to spawn. These walleye have helped create an internationally renowned sport fishery. It is estimated that walleye fishing alone brings in \$1 million to the economy of communities along the lower Detroit River each spring. The photo above shows the kind of sport fishing activity that takes place along the Detroit River where favorable habitat exists.



The diversity of biota and habitats in the lower Detroit River provides numerous benefits to the more than five million people who live near it. The lower Detroit River has an international reputation for duck hunting. Retail sales related to waterfowl hunting in Michigan were recently estimated at \$20.1 million. Similarly, bird watching, photography, and other nonconsumptive uses of waterfowl contributed an additional \$192.8 million to Michigan's economy.

Benefits to Coastal and Aquatic Habitat

The purpose of this project is to restore native wetland vegetation and natural wetland function to benefit fish and wildlife and delist this designated site. Healthy functioning habitat is most important for endangered and threatened species in this highly degraded area of the Detroit River. The following information was gathered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Feature Inventory.

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Twenty-five species of fish, reptiles/amphibians and birds have been recorded in the Detroit River watershed that are protected under the Endangered Species Act of the State of Michigan (Part 365 of PA 451 of 1994, the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act). Also, one federally listed and on candidate species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act occurs in the area.

Fish - 117 species of fish are found in or migrate through the Detroit River, with 48 species dependent on or known to use marshes and shallow areas of the river. These include the endangered, threatened or special concern species in Table 1 in the Attachments (www.detroitriver.org/glri.htm). Several fish species, including walleye and lake sturgeon, migrate through the river. In the case of lake sturgeon, a species of special concern to the US FWS, spawning activity does occur in the river off Zug Island just north of the project site.

Reptiles/Amphibians - About 38 species are identified in the in the Detroit River watershed. The Massasauga Rattle Snake is known to use marshes and the associated uplands. The spotted turtle was recorded in the Michigan Natural Features Inventory in 1997. These include the endangered, threatened or special concern species in Table 1 in the Attachments (www.detroitriver.org/glri.htm) .

Birds - More than 300 species of migratory birds have been documented, with 29 species of waterfowl using the Detroit River watershed. Many of these species are dependent on or known to use marshes and shallow water areas of the river. These include the endangered, threatened or special concern species in Table 1 in the Attachments (www.detroitriver.org/GLRI.htm)

The entire length of the Detroit River is an important travel corridor for migratory birds as it lies in the convergence of two flyways. Bald Eagles, a Federally-listed threatened species, are often spotted in flight over the river. However, nesting activity has not been documented in the area and only occurs on the lower river shoreline and islands. The Common Tern was recorded in 1977.

Other Notable Species - The Northern riffleshell, a federally-listed endangered mussel, has not been documented in the Detroit River but may occur on island shoals. Two state-listed threatened species have been associated with lower Detroit River islands.

Benefits to fish - The Detroit River Remedial Action Plan (RAP) notes that over 95% of the historical coastal wetlands along the river have been lost to development. As a result, the RAP identified “loss of fish and wildlife habitat” as one of eleven impaired beneficial uses. Therefore, it is urgent to protect the remaining coastal wetlands and other ecological features before they are lost to further development, and to rehabilitate degraded ones.

The Detroit River is an important natural resource, contributing significant economic benefits to the region. The Detroit River fishery is world class, contributing \$30 million annually to the local economy. The proposed project will restore important fish habitat (spawning, nursery, juvenile or foraging) associated with the Great Lakes Erie and St. Clair.

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The U.S. FWS Region 3 identified in their *Fish and Wildlife Resource Conservation Priorities*, 18 priority species or special concern fish in the Great Lakes. Table 2 in the Attachments identifies the priority species from that document found in the Detroit River and the habitat benefit they receive from the coastal marsh and emergent wetlands. The future benefit derived from this project is intended to be restored coastal marsh and wetlands for improved habitat and healthier and diverse fisheries resource.

Benefits to coastal-dependent or migratory birds - Detroit River wetlands provides habitat for a wide diversity of bird species. Waterfowl species observed in the Detroit River wetland areas include: 2 species of swan, 3 species of geese and 21 species of ducks. Other species of birds found in these systems include: 2 species of grebes, 5 species of rails, 7 species of herons, 3 species of plovers, 12 species of sandpipers, 7 species of gulls, 4 species of terns, 8 species of hawks, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, American Kestrel, Short-eared Owl, Belted King Fisher, and an extended list of perching bird species.

Other migratory waterfowl that use the area include: Canvasback, Scaup, Redheads, Green-winged teal, Pintail and Bufflehead. The marshes of the Detroit River have historically been and currently are important spring, fall and winter staging, feeding and resting areas for waterfowl, especially for Canvasback, Scaup and Redheads. The shallow water and submergent vegetation will provide an important food source for both diving and puddle ducks.

Nesting habitat for Common terns will be established on part of the shoal, creating a barrier island protected from land based predators. Roosting, nesting and feeding habitat will also be created in the uplands, on the shoreline and on the shoal (barrier island) that Bald Eagles, Peregrine Falcons, Herons, many passerine species and even more migratory bird species will benefit from. The purpose of this project will be to restore native plant species and natural functions of a riparian shoreline, coastal marsh, submergent wetland and barrier island on the Detroit River where currently none exist.

USFWS Region 3 *Fish and Wildlife Resource Conservation Priorities* identifies 69 priority species or special concern bird species that are found in the Detroit River watershed and the benefits that they receive from the coastal marsh and emergent wetlands. See Table 3 in the Attachments (www.detroitriver.org/GLRI.htm) for the identified priority species from Region 3's priorities document that are found in the Detroit River and the habitat benefits they receive from coastal marsh and emergent wetlands.

TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC MERIT

US Steel Ecological Commitment

As part of its commitment to maintaining workplaces that are ecologically friendly, US Steel has prepared an ***Ecological Restoration Master Plan*** for the entire site. A map of the overall facility showing areas included in the ecological restoration is shown to the right. Full scale maps and representative detail drawings are provided as



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an attachment to this proposal. (www.detroitriver.org/glri.htm)

In developing this long-term plan for the property, US Steel stated the following objective:

The objective of this plan is to create multifunctional landscapes that will accomplish a number of



ecological goals within each management unit. The following list are ecological goals that US Steel could use: stormwater management, fugitive dust reduction, reduced maintenance, screening, cooling the environment, improving water quality, carbon sequestering, creating and improving quality wildlife

habitat, and enhance and preserve the existing natural features.

US Steel is serious about implementing the plan. Portions of this plan have been implemented by US Steel at their own cost. These include adding 0.2 miles of pervious pavement for improved stormwater management, restoring 1,100 feet of hard shore to a natural vegetative state, and restoring 13 acres of upland riparian habitat.

Biological and Engineering Feasibility

Of specific interest to the AOC is a portion of the project associated with the rehabilitation of upland, shoreline and riverine habitat along 1,100 feet of Detroit River shoreline shown in the picture above. The area currently consists of highly eroded shoreline and upland with barren soil and various types of non-native vegetation. Shoreline erosion is exaggerated due to heavy boat traffic along this section of the Detroit River. Both large freighters and numerous privately owned powerboats produce water level fluctuations and up to four foot wakes that pound the shoreline with significant force. This wave action and its impact on shoreline restoration have hindered actions to properly restore and develop shoreline habitat, although these activities are included within the *Ecological Restoration Master Plan*. The plan includes specific recommendations for shoreline and upland work adjacent to the US Steel mill and settling ponds.

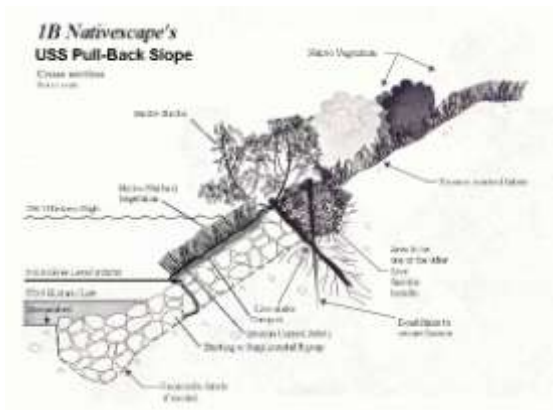
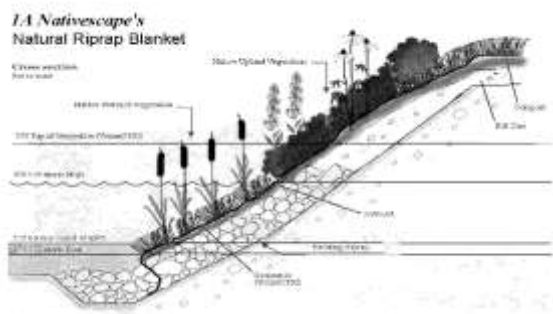
The proposed project would mitigate the unrelenting wave action along 1,100 feet of shoreline through the rehabilitation of an existing shoal that parallels the river shore. The shoal is submerged over much of its length and in its current condition offers little shoreline protection and presents a navigation hazard for boats traveling close to shore.

The proposed project will rehabilitate the shoal to create a partially protected embayment in front of the rehabilitated shoreline which would allow for shoreline habitat to be protected and provide for improved marine habitat – including restoring Great Lakes marsh and enhanced fish spawning areas. Upland habitat improvements are also included within the proposed project.

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The following methods will be used to stabilize the shoreline so naturalization can take place.

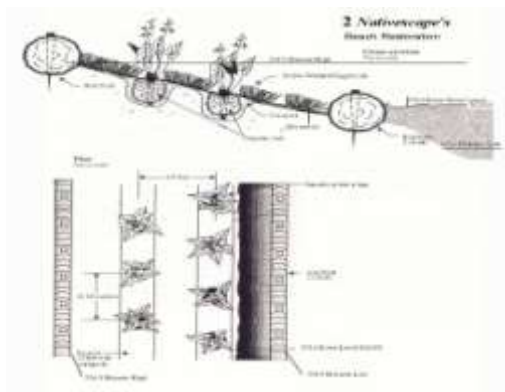
- a) Stone Riprap with Riprap Blanketing – will be used where shoreline banks are steep and undercut and where pulling back the bank is not feasible (i.e. around water outfalls). The existing concrete riprap will be reinforced with smaller stone and covered with a compost blanket and geotextile to allow re-vegetation.



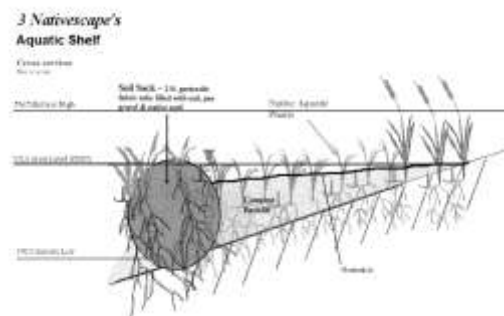
- b) Pull Back Slope – will be used where shoreline banks are steep and undercut. The slope will be pulled back and re-contoured with a stone riprap added at the water line. A shrub fascine will be installed and the slope planted and covered with a geotextile to allow re-vegetation.

- c) Beach Restoration – will be used where the shoreline forms a beach-like environment. Where the slopes are not steep the shoreline will be planted with

Michigan native vegetation. Shallow trenches will be excavated parallel to the water's edge and filled with organic soil, covered with a geotextile and then planted with wetland edge native plants.



- d) Wetland Restoration – will be used where the shoreline forms a bay area. Where the slopes are not steep the shoreline will be planted with Michigan native vegetation. The Aquatic Shelf will be used in this area. The soil sock will be staked down and back filled with compost then



covered with a geotextile then planted with wetland native plants.

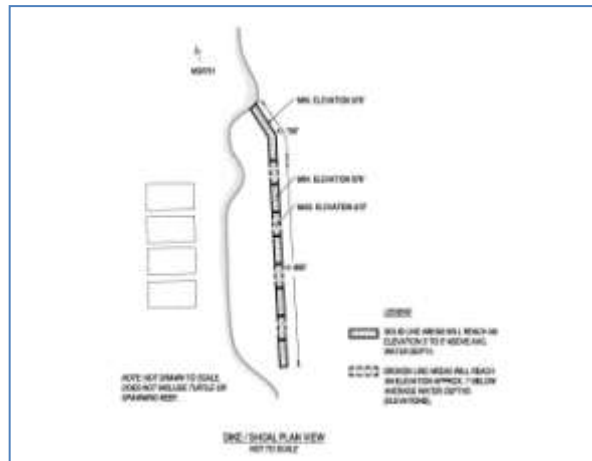
- e) Upland Native Vegetation – will be used in adjacent uplands to create a buffer and will be planted with Michigan native vegetation. The upland interface will involve planting progressively dryer plants from the water's edge to the upland. This will complete the wetland - upland interface with a natural progression of plant species. The species composition will be based on the presettlement vegetation found in the Detroit River ecoregion and what critical ecosystems need preservation in the area.

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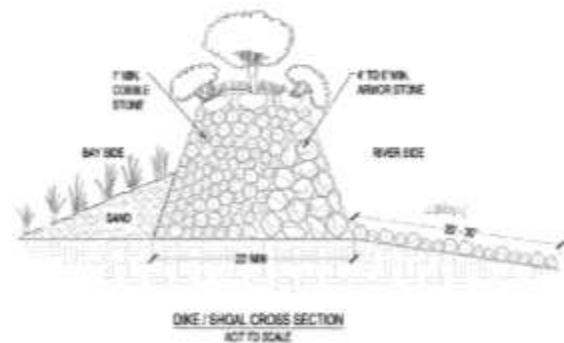
The photos below – from another restored shoreline area along the Detroit River just north of the US Steel site – show river bank conditions before and after restoration.



The shoal reconstruction will be 750 feet in length. It will toe in to the shore at the north end of the project and run parallel to the shore about 50 to 80 feet into the river, based on the location of the existing, deteriorated, shoal. The proposed location is shown on the photo and drawing below.



Due to channelization in the Detroit River, much of the uneven rocky bottom that once existed has been lost. This substrate provided spawning sites for walleye, sturgeon and whitefish. As part of the shoal reconstruction, it is proposed to extend the riverside toe 20 to 30 feet with a nominal thickness of about one foot. This will create man-made beds along the outside of the dike/shoal configuration. The proposed beds will be 20 to 30 feet wide and 750 feet in length. Three beds are proposed. The proposed conceptual cross section is shown to the left.



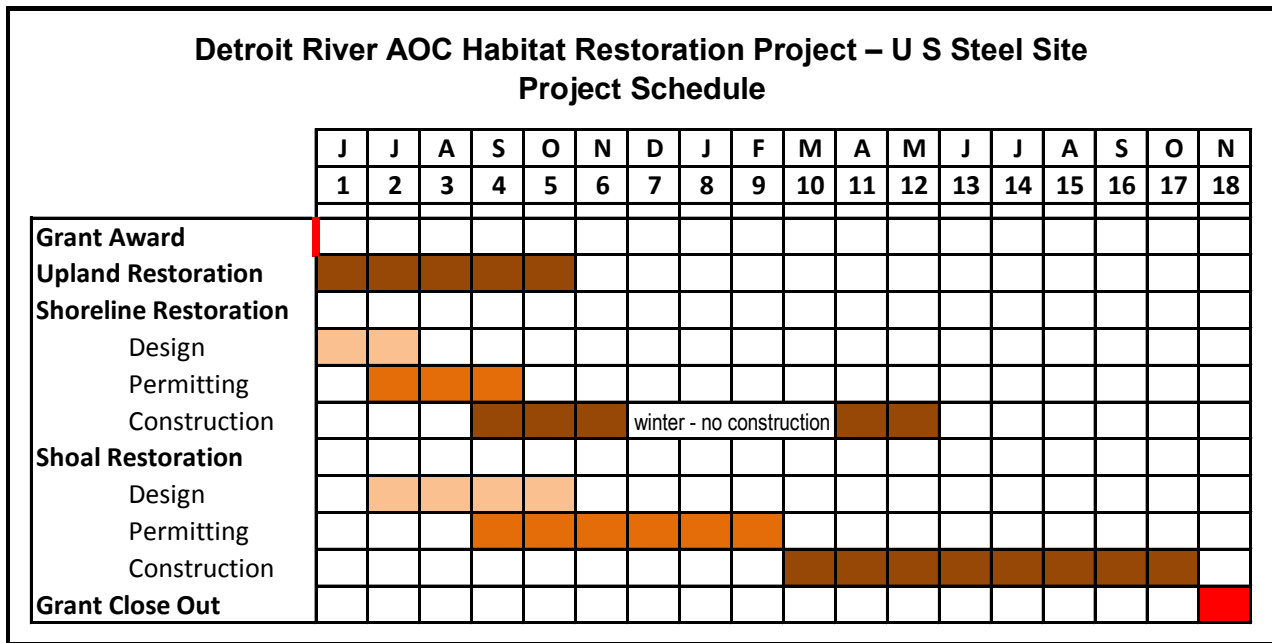
These different habitats will be vegetated with Michigan native species following the Michigan Natural Community Types determined by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory as much as possible. The species found in these habitats will be used when restoring the vegetation in the four hydrologic zones created in this project.

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1. Upland Riparian Oak/Hickory Forest species will be planted in the upland area to restore habitat for riparian species and migratory birds.
2. Great Lakes Marsh species will be used on the shoreline and into the embayment to provide shallow water habitat.
3. Emergent Marsh species will be used in the embayment to recreate the needed water habitat on the landward side of the shoal.
4. Riparian Beech/Maple species will be used to vegetate on top of the shoal (barrier island) to create nesting and roosting habitat.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The project schedule is shown below.



Significant environmental restoration has already taken place on adjacent portions of the US Steel property. *Plans and necessary approvals are in place that will allow the upland restoration effort to begin immediately following the grant award.* Substantial completion of the upland restoration can be expected by October 2010. Significant conceptual design is complete for the shoreline restoration and final engineering design and preparation of plans and specifications for this work component can be completed within 60 to 90 days of grant award. Final permitting, contractor selection and construction will be completed within nine months of award. However, assuming a June award date, planting would have to be delayed until spring 2011. Finally, the design, permitting and construction of the shoal rehabilitation, emergent marsh and fish spawning beds can be completed in an estimated 18 month time period.

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PERMITS AND APPROVALS

No regulatory permits are required for the upland restoration. This work can proceed to construction immediately. Michigan DEQ permits are required for shoreline construction. These permits have been obtained for the shoreline portion of the project as shown on the attached representative design drawings. Design modifications will require a pro forma modification to these permits. Shoal rehabilitation will require permits from MDEQ and the Corps of Engineers. Discussions with these agencies have begun and routine application approval is anticipated.

OVERALL QUALIFICATIONS AND PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

Friends of the Detroit River and US Steel are committed to the successful implementation of this project. They have both worked with highly qualified local consultants and contractors with a successful record of fully implementing ecological restoration projects.

Project Sustainability

US Steel Corporation has committed to maintaining an ecologically friendly facility. To date, the corporation has provided more than \$600,000 toward the implementation of the Ecological Restoration Master Plan *at this site*. This US Steel facility has received *Wildlife at Work* certification from the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC). This certification provides third-party credibility and public recognition for programs that actively manage wildlife habitat. WHC Certification has maintained credibility since its inception in 1990 due to their adherence to a policy and criteria that only recognizes credible, committed habitat enhancement programs.



The proposed improvements will remain on property under US Steel control and will be maintained by company personnel charged with maintaining the highest environmental standards. US Steel's letter of commitment is included in the **Attachments** (www.detroitriver.org/glri.htm) US Steel staff and Friends of the Detroit River will monitor the offshore improvements and assure that deterioration of aquatic habitat restoration does not take place.

US Steel staff will closely monitor the restored shoreline and upland areas to ensure that native plantings grow to maturity and that exotic or invasive species do not reappear. **US Steel's wildlife team is already actively managing 26 acres of lakeplain prairie, 2 acres of woodland, 1 acre of grassland and over 1,000 feet of Great Lake shoreline habitat.** These habitat projects are voluntary and were started as a way to show that industry and environment can coexist. Projects at the US Steel Great Lakes Works have helped reduce their carbon footprint, provided needed habitat for local and federally listed species like the Eastern Fox Snake, as well as provided essential stopover sites for migratory birds.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

The Friends of Detroit River along with other educational team members will utilize the restored shoreline and shoal as classrooms for local community schools and the local Stream Teams found in many of the downriver area. These community outreach efforts aim at educating the public about the value of healthy ecosystems – including fish and wildlife habitat – in the urban area.

The Friends will actively promote the expansion of the habitat area to neighboring property owners and to other communities in the downriver area. Lessons learned from this effort will be made available to other

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entities wanting to restore industrial shorelines. Educational materials will feature the completed project in its periodicals and distribute the success story.

FDR and other team members will develop technical papers and presentations detailing the specific approaches taken to transform an underused industrial shoreline to productive habitat. These will be presented to both environmental interest groups and industry forums to promote habitat development in ways compatible with production activities.

OUTCOMES, OUTPUTS, AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Project Metrics

The following habitat restorations will be made as part of this project.

River Shoreline Restoration	1,100 linear feet
Wetlands Habitat / Nursery	1.7 acres
Shoal Restoration (Barrier Island)	750 linear feet
Aquatic Habitat / Spawning Restoration	1.0 Acres
Upland Restoration with Native Tall Grass	4.6 Acres

Increased abundance of target species	A species inventory will be taken prior to start of work. Following construction inventories will be taken at annual intervals for up to 5 years.
Impact on listed species	Observations of the two endangered species will be recorded and included in annual inventory reporting.
Changes in recreational angling use	Offshore use by fisherman along the project shoreline has been negligible compared to downstream areas with abundant habitat. Following construction fishing activity offshore of the US Steel facility will be documented.
Estimated number of volunteers	Friends of the Detroit River and US Steel volunteer staff totaling up to 20 individuals will take part in inventory and use documentation activities.
Estimated number of volunteer hours	It can be expected that over 1000 volunteer hours per year will be provided for habitat upkeep and species identification.

COLLABORATION, PARTNERSHIPS, AND OVERARCHING PLANS

The Friends of Detroit has been working with local businesses, communities, regional, state and federal organizations along the Detroit River for over 20 years. The FDR was asked by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to facilitate the Detroit River Area of Concern program after many years of neglect. The FDR has worked diligently to bring the various stakeholders to many forums addressing the habitat restoration of many Detroit River locations.

The technical partnerships for this project will establish a technical review group that will consist of members from the following groups, Resumes are provided as attachments to this proposal.

- US Steel (Pat McCullough)
- Michigan Sea Grant (Mary Bohling)

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- Wayne County Division of the Environment (Dean Tuomari)
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment
- Friends of Detroit River Education Committee (John Covert)
- Detroit Riverkeeper (Robert Burns)

Resumes for the technical representatives are attached to this proposal. Other technical review members will be selected as components of the project s are undertaken.

Many of the overarching plans for the Detroit River are available on the Friends of Detroit River web site www.detroitriver.org/GLRI . The primary plans addressing the habitat restoration along the Detroit River include the *Delisting Targets for the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) for Detroit River Area of Concern* and the plan developed by the USGS *Physical and Biological Characteristics of and Changes in the St. Clair – Detroit River Waterway- Past and Present*. These plans have been the guidance documents for establishing the priorities to be undertaken for habitat restoration along the Detroit River.

PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE:

The Friends of the Detroit River has been in existence for almost 20 years and has received and completed numerous grants from the federal and state government. In addition, grants have been awarded to the FDR by several non-profit organizations.

The FDR has access to a variety of environmental consultants and contractors to assist the FDR in executing all types of environmental projects. In addition, the FDR has several Board Members who have many years of experience in environmental project and project management. These Board Members provide guidance to each of the grant projects and will also sit on project Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) that are established for each project undertaken by the FDR. The TAC is also where other technically oriented members of the FDR are included. For example, the FDR has, as members, professional biologists, engineers, scientists, teachers, hazardous waste specialists; etc. These technical FDR members are asked to assist in the TAC assigned to each grant project, where applicable.

In the last three years, the FDR has received and completed the following grants related to environmental projects:

1. **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)** (Grant #2007-0085-015) that addressed the shoreline and habitat restoration of the Frank & Poet Creek in Trenton, MI. The Frank & Poet Creek is a tributary to the Detroit River. The grant was for \$40,000 with a match of \$40,000.
2. **Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)** (Grant #480371-07) that addressed the Detroit River monitoring and Observation program conducted by the Detroit Riverkeeper. The grant was for \$46,632 with no match required.
3. **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** – Grant #GL975443-01-0) that addressed sediment removal technology at a site along the Detroit River. This grant closed due to the fact that suitable sites (without contaminated sediments) were not found that contained the volumes of sediment required to test the removal technology. The grant was for \$88,650.

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Other smaller grants have been received from the MDEQ, the Great Lakes Commission, the Erb Family Foundation, and the GLAHNF.

Successfully Complete and Manage

The grants awarded to the FDR have been successfully managed and completed due to a variety of factors. These factors include:

- An experienced project manager (Mr. Charles Bristol, P.E.) who is on the board of the FDR and is the FDR Treasurer. He has over 30 years of environmental project management experience.
- Technical review committees that are established for each project and include representatives from stakeholders – private and public.
- Excellent technical contractors who were hired to complete aspects of each grant. These technical experts were used to complete the grant work and were selected through a variety of competitive procedures.
- All the grant projects were completed under budget. Some required extensions to complete the required work, primarily to environmental adverse conditions delaying the project progress. The NFWF grant project was completed at about 80% of project budget.

Meeting Reporting Requirements

The FDR met all the reporting requirements for each of the grants mentioned above. Each granting agency (EPA, MDEQ and MFWF) had different reporting requirements in both content and frequency. The final reports submitted for each grant were accepted.

Report on Making Progress

During the grant project execution, there are times when circumstances beyond the control of the FDR affect the schedule and work scope of the project. All potential problems – technical, budgetary and schedule – were identified as early as possible in the periodic reports. When required, special face to face meetings were held to discuss project status and to develop solutions to any problems that may have arose.

BUDGET

The total estimated cost of the project as envisioned is **\$ 1,415,000**. This includes both grant funding and local match – which will be provided by in-kind services of US Steel employees and volunteer efforts for monitoring and education. The table shows both requested grant funds *and matching funds*. The organizations listed are Friends of the Detroit River, FDR and US Steel, USS. Additionally contractual consultant and construction services are shown. The table summarizes the costs associated with the project. Contractors working on site will be competitively selected by the Friends of Detroit River and approved by US Steel the property owner.

Detroit River AOC Habitat Restoration Project – U S Steel Site

Detail Costs Breakdown

	Grant Request	Local Match	Total Cost
Personnel/Salaries	\$ 45,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 170,000
Fringe Benefits	\$ 14,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 84,000
Travel.	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Equipment.	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Supplies.	\$ 1,000	\$ 0	\$ 1,000
Contract costs.	\$1,140,000	\$ 0	\$1,140,000
Other Costs.	\$ 0	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Total Direct Charges.	\$1,200,000	\$ 215,000	\$1,415,000
Indirect Charges.	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Cost.	\$1,200,000	\$ 215,000	\$1,415,000

ACORN STATEMENT.

The Friends of the Detroit River is aware that Congress has prohibited the use of federal funds to award grants to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) or any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, or allied organizations. The Friends of the Detroit River affirms that they are no way affiliated with ACORN and thus are not subject to this prohibition. In addition, the Friends of the Detroit River will pass this funding prohibition on to any and all sub-awardees, sub-grantees and/or contractors that may partner in this effort.

ATTACHMENTS – Can be found on the FDR web site www.detroitriver.org/GLRI

- **overarching plan,**
- **resumes / curriculum vitae,**
- **letters of support,**
- **scientific peer review,**
- **maps and/or charts**