



Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration (GLFER)

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Issue: The restoration of fish and wildlife habitat, removal of dams and other barriers to fishery migration, and the prevention and control of invasive species like the sea lamprey are among the top priorities of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).

Authority: Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration, or GLFER, is a program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for implementing projects that accomplish all of the above priority actions. GLFER is also helping states and local communities eliminate beneficial use impairments in order to delist Areas of Concern (AOCs). Authorized under Section 506 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, as amended, GLFER is a full-service program to plan, design, and construct projects that restore ecosystems across the large landscape of the Great Lakes watershed. The GLFER program is implemented in partnership with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, who coordinates the review of project proposals by representatives from state, tribal, and federal agencies. Individual projects require a non-Federal partner(s) to provide 35% of project costs (including all lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations) and to operate and maintain the completed projects. State, tribal, and local agencies, as well as non-profit and private interests are eligible to sponsor GLFER projects.

A wide range of projects are being built under this program, including restoration of wetlands and aquatic habitat on public lands, parks, and preserves, dam removals to re-establish free flowing rivers, fish passages over existing structures, restoration of coastal habitat along the Great Lakes shorelines, and structures to control the invasive sea lamprey. A partial listing of active GLFER projects is provided on the attached table.

Funding: The USACE' base funding for GLFER is through the annual Energy & Water Appropriations. Funding from this source includes \$2 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 and \$5 million in FY 2013. Over \$44 million of funding has been provided for GLFER projects through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). Optimal funding for GLFER projects would be \$15 million in FY 2015 and \$25 million in FY 2016.

Status: Eleven GLFER restoration projects are completed or under construction, and another three projects scheduled to start construction in FY 2015. As many as sixteen GLFER projects may be ready to start construction in FY 2016.

Points of Contact: Contact the following USACE POCs for GLFER projects in these states:

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For more information:

www.glfc.int/glfer/about.htm

Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration (GLFER)
Selected¹ Restoration Projects Under Planning, Design and Construction

Project Location	State	Construction Status	Project Benefits
63 rd Street Dune and Beach, Chicago	IL	Completed	Restored 21 acres of coastal, dune, beach, and fish habitat in urban park along Lake Michigan shoreline
Red Mill Pond, LaPorte County	IN	Completed	Protected and restored 160 acres of wetlands and stream habitat in association with dam removal
Chautauqua Creek, Chautauqua County	NY	Completed	Removed two dams to restore fishery passage on Lake Erie tributary
Burnham Prairie, Burnham	IL	Completed	Restoring 93 acres of marsh, sedge meadow, savanna, and wet prairie habitat in an urban area
Orland Perimeter, Cook County	IL	Under construction	Restoring 275 acres of aquatic habitat and oak savannah habitat in urban forest preserve
Calumet/Ivanhoe, Lake County	IN	Under construction	Restoring over 194 acres of rare wet sand prairie savanna and wetlands in an Area of Concern
Little Calumet Riparian, Porter County	IN	Under construction	Restoring 43 acres of floodplain forest in an urban corridor in northwest Indiana
Northerly Island, Chicago	IL	Under construction	Restoring 40 acres of savanna, wet prairie, marsh and lake habitat along the Lake Michigan shoreline
Rosewood Park, Highland Park	IL	Under construction	Restore beach, dune, and ravine habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline
Frankenmuth Dam, Cass River	MI	Under construction	Restore fishery access to 1,765 miles of river and spawning habitat in Saginaw Bay tributary
Jackson Park, Chicago	IL	Under construction	Restore 155 acres of marsh, pond, sedge meadow, and savannah habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline
Lake County Ravine 8, Lake County	IL	Start in 2015	Restore and protect rare ravine and near-shore habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline
Ft. Sheridan Coastal, Lake County	IL	Start in 2015	Restore 100 acres of coastal, beach and bluff habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline
Hegewisch Marsh, Chicago	IL	Start in 2015	Restore 126 acres of coastal wetland and savannah habitat along the Calumet River
Lye Creek, Hancock County	OH	Ready in 2016	Restore natural stream function and habitat and reduce loadings of nutrients and sediments to Maumee River
Underwood Creek, Milwaukee	WI	Ready in 2016	Restore river habitat and function in one mile of concrete-lined channel adjacent to Area of Concern
Boardman River Dams, Traverse City	MI	Ready in 2016	Restore fishery access to 160 miles of Boardman River habitat through removal/modification of 3 dams
Harpersfield Sea Lamprey Barrier	NY	Ready in 2016	Construct barrier to control sea lamprey populations on 153 miles of Grand River
Springville Dam, Springville	NY	Ready in 2016	Restore fishery passage to over 600 miles in Cattaraugus Creek, a tributary to Lake Erie
Port Clinton Coastal, Port Clinton	OH	Ready in 2016	Restore 20 acres of coastal wetland habitat along Lake Erie shoreline

¹ Thirty-three additional GLFER restoration projects (not listed) are currently in planning.