



Housatonic River Natural Resource Restoration Massachusetts SubCouncil – *Application Process*



Applicant Conference
February 7, 2006
Berkshire Community College
Pittsfield, Massachusetts





Introduction

Round 1 Funding Solicitation – Request for Response (RFR)
and Request for Ideas (RFI)

- Solicitation released December 21, 2005
- Materials available from Commonwealth's Procurement Access & Solicitation System (Comm-PASS)



Locating Documents

1. Comm-PASS website: **www.comm-pass.com**
2. Search for solicitation:
 - “RFR ENV 06 NRD 02”
 - “RFI ENV 06 NRD 01”
3. Select RFR or RFI from search result and select RFR or RFI solicitation and click “View”,
4. Select “Specifications” tab and select documents for viewing or download. For example:
 - “ENV 06 NRD 02 Instructions”
 - “RFR ENV 06 NRD 02”



Restoration Priority Categories

Restoration projects must address at least one of the following categories:

- **Aquatic Biological Resources and Habitat**
- **Wildlife Resources and Habitat**
- **Recreational Uses**
- **Environmental Education and Outreach**

Applicants will identify the Predominant Restoration Priority Category as well as any Secondary Restoration Priority Categories.

MA SubCouncil Goal: To implement at least one project per category in each funding round.



Evaluation Criteria

| Category | # of criteria | Max. points |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Relevance and Applicability | 7 | 85 |
| Technical Merit | 6 | 65 |
| Project Budget | 6 | 60 |
| Socioeconomic Merit | 7 | 75 |
| TOTAL | 26 | 285 |

NOTE: Scoring for each criterion is a scale of High, Medium, or Low.
Scores for criteria are weighted (i.e., some criteria have more points than others).



Eligibility: Who, What, Where?

Eligible applicants:

All private entities; local, state, federal and tribal governments; academic institutions; non-profit and commercial organizations.

Eligible projects:

Any project that would directly benefit injured natural resources and/or services in the Housatonic River watershed in Massachusetts.

Eligible project locations:

Projects may be conducted at any location, but they must directly benefit the injured natural resources and/or services in the Massachusetts portion of the Housatonic River watershed.



Important Points

- All materials submitted in response to the solicitation will be available for public review.
- All questions and comments must be received by February 13, 2006.

Questions: Housatonic River RFR

c/o Woodlot Alternatives, Inc.

30 Park Drive

Topsham, ME 04086-1737

comments@ma-housatonicrestoration.org

(Subject line: “QUESTIONS: Housatonic River RFR”)



Important Points (continued)

- Questions and answers will be posted on the Comm-PASS website on February 24, 2006.



Suggested References

- Restoration Planning Strategy (RPS)
- Restoration Project Selection Procedure (RPSP)
 - Evaluation of proposed projects
 - Project selection procedure
- Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA)
 - Conceptual restoration activities
- References can be downloaded at:

www.ma-housatonicrestoration.org



Project Schedule – subject to change

2005

Dec 21: Posting of Round 1 Solicitation

2006

Feb 7: Public Meeting for Round 1 Solicitation

Feb 13: All Questions on RFR/RFI Due

Feb 24: Posting of all questions and responses on Comm-PASS website

Mar 21: Deadline for Receipt of Proposals and Ideas

Following March 21:

All Proposals and Ideas Provided for Public Review

MA SubCouncil Applies Threshold Criteria

Release of FINAL PEA

Apr: Review Team Begins Evaluation of Applications



Project Schedule – subject to change

2006 (continued)

- June: Review Team Concludes Evaluation of Applications
- July: Public Meeting – Results of Evaluation
Public Comments Due on Applications
- Aug: MA SubCouncil Determines Preferred Alternatives
- Oct: Release of DRAFT Restoration Plan (30-day review period)
- Nov: Public Meeting – DRAFT Restoration Plan
- Dec: Release of FINAL Restoration Plan
- Dec: Beginning of Funding Disbursement for Restoration Projects