



Housatonic River
Natural Resource Restoration
Massachusetts SubCouncil –
Round 2 Application Process
(Habitat Restoration)



February 25, 2009
Lenox Town Hall
Lenox, Massachusetts



Massachusetts SubCouncil, Housatonic River Natural Resource Trustees
100 Cambridge, 9th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02114



Background - Restoration Funding

- MA SubCouncil is responsible for disbursing funds from Massachusetts portion of the Housatonic River Natural Resource Damages (NRD) recovery.
- Funds used for compensatory restoration projects that will restore, rehabilitate, replace, or acquire the equivalent of natural resources and/or their services that were injured or lost as a result of the release of hazardous materials, including PCBs, into the Massachusetts portion of the Housatonic River watershed.



Review of Round 1 Highlights

- 12/21/05 – Round 1 Request for Responses (RFR)
- 02/07/06 – Applicant Conference
- 03/21/06 – Response Deadline
- 04/27/06 – Threshold Criteria Results
- 09/21/06 – Evaluations of Project Proposals
- 04/13/07 – Announcement of Trustee Preferred Alternatives
- 06/22/07 – Draft RP/SEA Released
- 07/09/07 – Presentation of Draft Round 1 RP/SEA
- 10/12/07 – Final Round 1 RP/SEA
- 12/27/07 – Begin Awarding Project Contracts



Round 1 Update

- Milestones Achieved
 - 10 Projects Selected for funding: \$4Million
- Funding Disbursed
 - \$1,121,000 paid to date



Round 2 Highlights

- \$3 million targeted disbursement
- 2 RFRs
 - Emphasis on:
 - “Land Acquisition/Protection”: \$2M
 - “Habitat Restoration”: \$1M



Round 2 Habitat Restoration Overview

Focus on Aquatic & Terrestrial Habitat Restoration

- Issue RFR
- Review and Evaluate Proposals
- Issue Draft RP/SEA
 - Hold Public Meeting
 - Receive Public Comment on Draft RP/SEA
- Issue Final RP/SEA

Targeted Disbursement = \$1 million





Round 2 Habitat Funding Solicitation

Request for Response (RFR) Solicitation released
January 23, 2009

- Materials available from Commonwealth's Procurement Access & Solicitation System (Comm-PASS)



Locating RFR

1. Comm-PASS website: www.comm-pass.com
2. Search for solicitation:
 - “EEA 09 NRD 02”
3. Select “Solicitation” from search result and click “”
4. Select “Specifications” tab and click “” next to document titled “NRD Housatonic River RFR: Round 2”



Habitat Restoration Priority Categories

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

- *Aquatic Biological Resources and Habitat*
- *Wildlife Resources and Habitat*

Restoration projects can additionally address the following secondary restoration categories:

- *Recreational Uses*
- *Environmental Education and Outreach*



Evaluation Criteria

<i>Category</i>	<i># of criteria</i>	<i>Max. points</i>
Relevance and Applicability	7	85
Technical Merit	6	65
Project Budget	6	60
Socioeconomic Merit	7	35
TOTAL	26	245

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

Eligible applicants:

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



Eligibility: What

Eligible projects:

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



Eligibility: Where

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 March 11, 2009.

Questions: Housatonic River RFR

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(Subject line: "QUESTIONS: Housatonic River RFR")



Important Points (continued)

- Questions and answers will be posted on the Comm-PASS website on March 25, 2009.



Suggested References

- Restoration Planning Strategy (RPS)
- Restoration Project Selection Procedure (RPSP)
 - Evaluation of proposed projects
 - Project selection procedure
- Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA)
 - Conceptual restoration activities
- References can be downloaded at www.ma-housatonicrestoration.org



Proposed Round 2 - "Habitat Restoration"

Timeline (subject to change)

2009

- 01/23/09 – Release RFR
- 02/25/09 – Applicant Conference
- 03/11/09 – Deadline for Submittal of Questions
- 04/23/09 – Deadline for Submittal of Proposals
- 05/09 – Threshold Criteria Review
- 06/09 – Review Team Evaluation
- 10/09 – Draft RP/SEA & Public Meeting & Comment

2010

- 01/10 – Final RP/SEA
- 02/10 – Contracting to Begin
- 03/10 – Begin to Release Round 2 Funds



Proposed Round 2 - “Land Protection” Timeline (subject to change)

2009

- 04/17/09 – Draft RP/SEA, Public Meeting, & Comment
- 05/17/09 – Public Comment Closes
- 06/09 – Final RP/SEA Released & Issue RFR

2010

- 01/10 – Deadline for Submittal of Proposals
- 02/10 – Proposal Phase I Evaluation
- 08/10 – Phase II (Due Diligence) Deadline
- 09/10 – Commence Awarding Contracts

End