**PROGRESS REPORT**

**USEPA-Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Projects**

Grant: GL-00E00876-0

Project Title: Sheboygan River Area of Concern: Pathway to Delisting Beneficial Use Impairments

Reporting Period Covered: 7/1/2013 to 12/31/2013

Principal Investigator: Steve Galarneau

1. ***What work was accomplished for this reporting period? Report should quantify results as measurable products, i.e. numbers, acres, contacts, improvements in water quality, habitat, etc.***

Following is a list of work accomplished organized by sub-project:

* **Kiwanis Park Shoreline Restoration**, **Taylor Dr. and Indiana Ave. Riparian Area and Wetland Restoration, Wildwood Island Area Restoration,** **Shoreline Stabilization in Problem Areas:**  Monitoring of native vegetation was conducted. Despite some unusual winter flooding, native vegetation and live stakes responded well. Invasive species management by contractors continued at project sites. The USGS continued analysis and reporting for the hydrologic assessment.
* **In-Stream Habitat Improvements:**  Site work is complete, but site checks were completed to assess any maintenance issues. No maintenance issues were found and no additional work is anticipated at this time.
* **Targeted Invasive Species Control:** The contractor performed Japanese Knotweed, Phragmites, and Buckthorn treatments in the summer and early fall. Several monitoring visits were conducted by the contractor and WDNR staff.
* **Evaluation of Waterfowl Consumption Advisories within the AOC:**  A summary report of preliminary data produced in March of 2013 indicated high levels of contaminants in waterfowl collected. Supplementary samples collected in 2012 were submitted for analysis in the spring of 2013. It was determined that additional sampling was unnecessary at this time as the consumption advisory would not be removed due to high contaminant concentrations.
* **Evaluation of Fish Tumors and Other Deformities:** A final report (White Sucker BUI Assessment) for the Sheboygan River was completed by UW-Madison in February of 2013. A draft report (White Sucker Tumor BUI Assessment) for the Kewaunee River (reference river) and Milwaukee AOC was produced by UW-Madison in December of 2013. Tumor rates for the Kewaunee River and Milwaukee AOC are not yet available, but 2012 results for the Sheboygan River indicated that white suckers did not meet the BUI threshold of < 5% tumor incidence. Isotope analysis in both reports indicated that white suckers primarily reside in the lake itself near tributary mouths, except during spawning migrations.
* **Benthos and Plankton BUIs Evaluation in WI’s Lake Michigan AOCs:** USGS continued analysis and reporting.
* **UW-Extension Education and Outreach:** The first three months of the reporting period were spent delivering citizen science programs, developing outdoor river exhibits, and developing the next issue of the newsletter. Fourteen citizen science programs were offered on bat surveys, native plants, invasive plant control, birding, and mussels. Planning and design was completed for five permanent outdoor exhibit panels to be installed along the Sheboygan River in ten locations. The summer issue of the Sheboygan River Explorer newsletter was developed, printed and distributed via US mail, email and the website. It was also delivered locally to 43 public locations in quantity. Website updates were made, work continued on the photo library and additional photos were taken. A Wisconsin Master Naturalist volunteer was mentored to lead the Sheboygan River AOC bluebird nest box monitoring program. As of September 30th the scope of work funded by this grant for education and outreach by UWEX project was complete.

1. ***What, if any, changes were made from the Object Class Categories listed in Sec. B of the SF 424A or Box 29 of the IA, as applicable?***

No changes have been made.

1. ***If a problem was encountered, what action was taken to correct it?***

No issues arose during the reporting period.

1. ***What work is projected for the new reporting period activity?***

The following activities are projected for the next reporting period (1/01/2014 to 06/30/2014):

* **Kiwanis Park Shoreline Restoration**, **Taylor Dr. and Indiana Ave. Riparian Area and Wetland Restoration, Wildwood Island Area Restoration,** **Shoreline Stabilization in Problem Areas:** The contractor will continue to monitor the landscape plantings and invasive species removal along with perform follow up maintenance and treatments. USGS reporting will continue during this period.
* **In-Stream Habitat Improvements:** No additional work is anticipated at these sites. Landscape plantings will be monitored for establishment.
* **Targeted Invasive Species Control:** The contractor will continue invasive plant treatment and site monitoring.
* **Evaluation of Waterfowl Consumption Advisories within the AOC:** DNR will continue with data analysis and reporting.
* **Evaluation of Fish Tumors and Other Deformities:** University of West Virginia/USGS and UW-Madison will continue analysis and reporting for the reference river.
* **Evaluation of Benthos and Plankton BUIs in WI’s Lake Michigan AOCs:** Reporting will be completed.
* **UW-Extension Education and Outreach:** Work Complete.

1. ***Is the project work on schedule? List activities from the Work Plan, and any required Quality System Documentation, and report as percent completed. (a) This reporting period (b) For the project.***

Work is on schedule for this reporting period and for the project.

* **Kiwanis Park Shoreline Restoration:** 
  + Approx. 85% complete
  + Design QAPP: Approved
  + Construction QAPP: Approved
  + Still remaining: Maintain and monitor project sites through 2015.
* **Taylor Dr. and Indiana Ave. Riparian Area and Wetland Restoration:**
* Approx. 85% complete
* Design QAPP: Approved
* Construction QAPP: Approved
* Still remaining: Maintain and monitor project sites through 2015.
* **Wildwood Island Area Restoration:**
* Approx. 85% complete
* Design QAPP: Approved
* Construction QAPP: Approved
* Still remaining: Maintain and monitor project sites through 2015.
* **Shoreline Stabilization in Problem Areas**:
* Approx. 85% complete
* Design QAPP: Approved
* Construction QAPP: Approved
* Still remaining: Maintain and monitor project sites through 2015.
* **In-Stream Habitat Improvements**:
  + Approx. 100% complete
  + UWGB QAPP: Approved
  + Design/Construction QAPP: Approved
  + Still remaining: No additional work is anticipated.
* **Targeted Invasive Species Control:**
  + Approx. 40% complete.
  + QAPP: Approved
  + Still remaining: Implement invasive species treatment and monitoring through 2015.
* **Evaluation of Waterfowl Consumption Advisories within the AOC:**
  + Approx. 80% complete.
  + QAPP: Partially Approved
  + Still remaining: Complete sample analysis and reporting.
* **Evaluation of Fish Tumors and Other Deformities:**
  + Approx. 90% complete
  + QAPP: Partially Approved
  + Still remaining: Complete sample analysis and reporting.
* **Benthos and Plankton BUIs Evaluation in WI’s Lake Michigan AOCs:**
  + Approx. 90% complete.
  + QAPP: Approved
  + Still remaining: Complete data analysis and reporting.
* **UW-Extension Education and Outreach:**
  + Approx. 100% Complete
  + No QA documentation necessary
  + Still remaining: No additional work is anticipated.

1. ***Does the project funding rate support the work progress? Report as percent spent of budgeted amounts for Federal and non-Federal.***

Yes, approximately 87% of the total federal funding for this project ($6,408,712) has been drawn for project work.

1. ***Is there a change in principal investigator?***

No.

1. ***Will the project take longer than the approved project period? If so, have you formally requested an amendment in writing?***

No.

1. ***What is the date and amount of your latest drawdown request? If no request has been submitted, please explain.***

The last draw for this grant was done on 09/30/13 for $143,776. Total drawn to date is $5,605,657.

1. ***What is the date of your latest entry into the Great Lakes Accountability System? If no recent entry has been submitted, please explain.***

Entries were made into GLAS on 1-6-2014.