

Urban Waters Federal Partnership Meeting
March 15, 2013
10:00AM-12:30PM Central
Optional Field Trip Following

Douglas Center
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
100 N Lake Street
Gary, IN 46403

Introductions (5 min)

Updates from the 13 Federal Urban Waters Executive Workgroup (5 min)

- Support for the Urban Waters Initiative is still very strong & will continue through sequestration
- Possibly funding sources may quickly appear in August; will be important to have potential project ideas and partners identified should this opportunity arise

Grand Calumet Outreach & Education Strategy (15 min)

- Caitie McCoy (IL-IN Sea Grant/GLNPO Liason) presented on past dredging in the Grand Calumet AOC and future dredging proposed as well as outreach projects that align with this work (some based on Alliance for the Great Lake's curriculum)
- She is currently developing an outreach plan to coincide with the next of the dredging about to occur. If you are interested in participating in the development of this outreach, please contact Caitie at cmccoy2@illinois.edu.
- The attached presentation can be found with this email
- NPS reminded that the Douglas Center has educational travel trunks and other resources that may be checked out and utilized for outreach/education activities

USGS Mapping Project (10 min)

- Natalie presented on a mapping tool being developed by USGS that is specific to Northwest Indiana. The base map can currently be viewed at <http://lcat.usgs.gov/nwindiana/>.
- The goal of this tool is to address specific mapping needs of projects occurring in the Northwest Indiana Urban Waters region. Attached is a survey asking what stakeholders

would like to see on an easily accessible map that would benefit their work. All are encouraged to send their feedback to Natalie so that she may share with the working group. Those working on the project include: Paul Buszka (USGS), Dave Strong (USGS), Nathan Pavlovic (Save the Dunes), Sarah Geinosky (NIRPC).

- The mapping project will also take into account mapping layers that need updating to be more accurate
- The group decided the mapping layers will be applied on an entire regional scale rather than at a watershed scale

Urban Tree Canopy Project (10 min)

- Lynne Westphal (US Forest Service) presented on 2 different mapping aids: the Urban Tree Canopy Project & the Stew-Map
- Stew-Map aims to track civic stewardship occurring in the Calumet region. All are encouraged to visit <http://stewmap.cnt.org/> and put in stewardship information that you are currently working on.
- Urban Tree Canopy- This plots existing tree canopy with potential canopy. The attached presentation can be found with this email.

Brainstorm: What Projects Make Strong Proposals (25 min)

- Mythbusters
- Strong Proposal Elements
- Ducks in a Row: Preparing for Upcoming Funding Opportunities
 - Project summaries (use template)
- The presentation is included with this email. You are encouraged to look at the tips listed under the mythbusters and strong proposal elements.
- Gina shared that NWIPA has made grant templates in order to track upcoming grants. These 1 page sheets condense grant information that may be more difficult to locate in lengthy RFP.
- Idea: In order to prepare for possible last minute funding opportunities, would it be helpful to create a template listing the WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, and HOW MUCH to accomplish a project? Group agreed yes. Natalie will follow-up with different watersheds over what projects of interest groups may want to capture.
- Tip: Federal partners are able to review these above templates. When it comes to submitting the actual grant, EPA cannot review proposals going to their own agency, but

Forest Service can. In almost any case, there is a federal partner willing and able to review your application.

- Example proposals for GLRI can be located if there is interest in seeing a sample application. Contact Natalie for more information.
- If you do not get funded for a project, ask for a detailed reason of why.

Updates & Idea Sharing (~15 min each)

- Trail Creek
 - First ADA boat launch will likely be going in at Hansen Park. Will have final notification in July.
 - NWIPA holding a work day to clear log jams near Peanut Bridge to keep water open for Fun Float Event.
 - Watershed group has been sent violation letter regarding Karwick Nature Park. Michigan City will be addressing this violation. Suggestions were made on how funding may be able to help.
 - Wilderness Inquiry grant has been awarded and this event will take place end of Sept/beginning of Oct, aimed at getting 1000 kids on the water.
- East Branch of the Little Calumet/Salt Creek
 - Next meeting for EBLC will be held on Wednesday March 20th.
 - Will be developing an indicator survey; Lynne has offered her assistance.
 - Closed out grant for Salt Creek WMP.
 - 43 acres in USACE is undergoing habitat restoration.
- Deep River
 - Momentum surrounding Lake George and Deep River for paddling
 - There is federal interest in modifying the dam near Lake Station; report is moving forward
 - USACE is working to acquire more property in this area, Little Calumet Prairie, Ivanhoe
- Grand Calumet
 - Meeting held with federal partners to discuss Jeorse Park Beach
 - Need for some follow-up items to be taken care of to ensure this project moves forward
 - The first step is to acquire a grant to do modeling on what the best solution for the beach is
 - USACE cannot work with contaminated sediment

~~Federal Partner Updates (~15 min)~~