



Ohio Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Proposal

RFP Number: #EPA-R5-GL2012-1
Focus Area: Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution
GLRI Program: Watershed Remediation (GLRI # I.C.2)

Project Title: **Powell Creek Nutrient Reduction Project**

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DUNS Number: 809172372
Type of Organization: State Agency

GLRI Federal Funding Requested: **\$527,192**
State Matching Funds: **\$ 73,000**
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS **\$600,192**

Project Duration Period: July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015

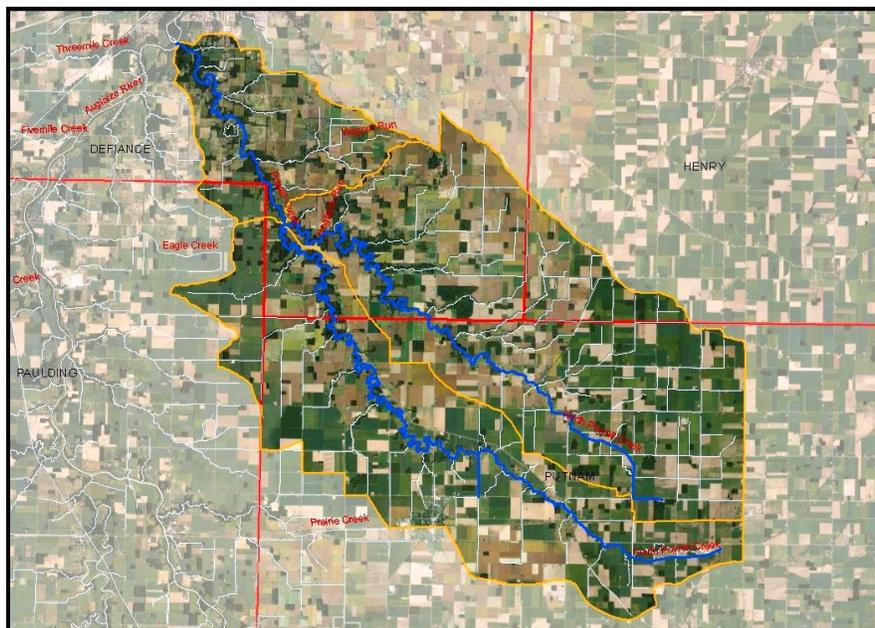
Project Description: This collaborative project with Ohio EPA, Ohio DNR, Defiance SWCD and the Defiance Health Department accelerates the implementation of the approved TMDL for Powell Creek within the Maumee River basin. We are requesting GLRI funding assistance to cost-share the installation of a number of different nutrient reduction practices that are recommended in the TMDL including agricultural BMPs and replacing failing HSTS systems. This project will demonstrate the benefits of targeting nutrient reduction actions in small geographical areas. Farmers and homeowners in the project area will have opportunities to install nutrient reduction practices essential for reducing nutrient loadings to Lake Erie.

Project Location(s): The Powell Creek Nutrient Reduction Project will be implemented in the Powell Creek watershed (HUC 04100004-11) which is comprised of three (3) HUC-12 sub-watersheds (North Powell Creek, Upper Powell Creek and Lower Powell Creek) and lies within the Auglaize River basin, a tributary of the Maumee River. The Powell Creek watershed is located in northwest Ohio, overlapping parts of Defiance, Putnam, Henry and Paulding Counties and is comprised of approximately 63,000 acres—of which about 84% is in agricultural production. The overwhelming majority of the watershed area is in Defiance and Putnam

counties, which is where activities under this project will be concentrated. Other land uses within the Powell Creek subwatershed are forested cover (8.4%) and developed land, most of which is open space (7.1%). (Source: National Land Data Set, 2006). Of the twelve sites that Ohio EPA sampled in the watershed in 2000, none met the minimum water quality goals and the stream is in non-attainment of its designated warmwater habitat aquatic life use. High magnitude causes of impairment are nutrients, sediment, organic substances and poor habitat quality. Primary sources identified within the TMDL are run-off from agricultural fields and operations, channel modification and failing home sewage treatment systems (HSTS).

Following is a map and overview of the proposed project area—3 HUC-12 units within the HUC-10 Powell Creek watershed HUC 04100004-11.

**Map 1-1
Powell Creek HUC-10 Watershed Map
Nutrient Reduction Project Area**



Timeline: Within 45 days of receiving notification from US EPA of successfully funding, sub grant agreements will be fully executed between Ohio EPA and the Defiance County SWCD. Implementation and successful completion of the project will commence on July 1, 2012 and conclude by September 30, 2014.

Problem Statement, Project Summary and Approach: Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus (DRP) loadings into western Lake Erie from the Maumee River watershed are at record levels despite more than a decade of conservation programming (such as the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) focused on Lake Erie. Nutrient enrichment has caused the return of blue-green algae blooms in Lake Erie at levels not previously observed since the 1960's. While the sources of phosphorus are numerous, the largest land use (89%) in the Powell Creek watershed is cultivated cropland. The Powell Creek Nutrient Reduction project is designed to

demonstrate the environmental benefits of targeting limited cost-share funding for agricultural nutrient reduction practices into small geographical land areas to produce measurable reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment loadings. Ohio EPA through the Division of Surface Water Nonpoint Source Program will partner with the Defiance County Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Defiance County Health Department and local NRCS personnel to insure that this project is successfully implemented within the HUC 10 Powell Creek sub-watershed. The bulk of requested funding will be sub-granted to the Defiance County SWCD to work directly with agricultural producers to accelerate improved nutrient management planning and facilitate implementation of recommended actions within the targeted project area.

Ohio EPA will partner with Defiance County SWCD by sub-granting funds to provide cost-share assistance to landowners and agricultural producers to complete nutrient management plans and to install nutrient reduction management practices as specifically identified in their NMP's as well as generally recommended in the Powell Creek TMDL. We are also particularly encouraged to see that more than 20 acres of wetlands will be restored under this project. Additionally, working in partnership with the Defiance County Health Department, 10 failing home sewage treatment systems within the project area will be identified and cost-share assistance offered to landowners to repair and/or replace the failing systems. Activities will be conducted on a smaller scale within the project area in Putnam County. All of these activities will be implemented in harmony with a controlled drainage cost-share project that is being implemented in surrounding counties which is funded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

A series of public meetings will be conducted following a period of personal contact with landowners in the watershed area. Defiance County SWCD will sign up landowners at these meetings to complete nutrient management plans and cost-share installation of BMPs identified in NMP's as needed to reduce nutrient and soil loss or to restore modified sections of Powell Creek on their farms. Nutrient reduction actions and best management practices will include:

- Filter Areas (designed per Ohio NRCS-FOTG 393) or filter recharge areas (As provided in Lake Erie CREP) , and/or wooded riparian buffers
- Wetland restoration
- Cover crops as part of a conservation crop rotation
- Whole Farm Conservation Plans
- Inventory and repair and/or replacement of failing HSTS systems.
- Installation of controlled drainage structures and practices

All eligible project practices must be included in Ohio's approved Nonpoint Source Management Plan and/or included in Ohio's nutrient reduction draft framework. Additionally, the Defiance County SWCD will conduct a variety of project specific education and outreach activities designed to enlist additional landowner participation and general public awareness of the project throughout the community.

In an effort to enhance administrative efficiencies, insure subgrant project effectiveness and to administer all grant funds in compliance with state and federal grant rules and guidelines, Ohio EPA will implement this project using its Nonpoint Source and Section 319 program staff.

Project effectiveness will be monitored using a variety of criteria. Water quality and environmental benefits will be monitored by Ohio EPA's northwest district office water quality

staff and members of our Ecological Assessment Unit at no cost to the grant. Ohio EPA uses an exclusive team of EAU staff to monitor all section 319(h) subgrant funded projects and will be able to add this project to their routine monitoring schedule. In addition to Ohio EPA standard fish, bugs and habitat monitoring of this project, district water staff will focus on measuring improvements in water chemistry with emphasis on sediment and nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus).

Project progress and general effectiveness will be monitored by Russ Gibson, Rick Wilson and Martha Spurbeck of Ohio EPA's nonpoint source program. Site visits with subgrantees will be conducted twice annually throughout the project implementation period and additionally as needed to insure that momentum and implementation is timely and effective.

Results—Outputs and Outcomes: Successful implementation of this project will result in the installation of nutrient reduction agricultural practices, replace failing home sewage treatment systems and measurably reduce nutrient, sediment and bacteria loads to the Powell Creek-Auglaize River and ultimately to the Maumee River. The project will also provide an important framework for more effectively implementing agricultural based nonpoint source activities throughout the western Lake Erie basin. The loading of nutrients that are attributable to agriculturally derived sources appear to be a significant contributor to harmful algal blooms and other impacts to Lake Erie.

Rather than implementing the NRCS cost-share model of spreading funding over large geographical areas (such as countywide) with little resulting improvements, this project will concentrate a relatively modest amount of funding in a targeted way to enhance benefits and demonstrate the value of "targeting" practices to identified problems. Outcomes resulting from this project will include:

- Measurable reductions in nutrient loadings to Powell Creek
- Measurable reductions in sediment loadings to Powell Creek
- NPS Pollutant Load Reductions to Powell Creek as modeled using STEPL
- Increased use of cover crops as part of a conservation crop rotation
- Practices designed to reduce rate and amount of water delivery from field to stream.
- Expanded awareness of the value of targeting by conservation professionals

These are ambitious outcomes and reflect Ohio's commitment to the concept of targeting nutrient reduction BMP implementation at a small HUC-10 scale. Ohio's draft statewide nutrient reduction strategy for nonpoint source management includes targeting as a critical component to statewide implementation of effective nutrient reduction actions. This project will provide an important foundation for building effective statewide nutrient reduction actions. Successful implementation of this project will directly result in the following outputs:

- 5 Whole farm conservation plans
- 1,200 acres of cover crops planted annually during the implementation period
- 20 acres of riparian wetlands restored and/or installed
- 5 Comprehensive nutrient management plans completed covering a total of 5,000 acres
- Controlled drainage practices addressing a minimum of 320 acres
- Various agricultural BMPs identified as needed in whole farm plans selected from the following NRCS Practices that are spelled out on pages 52, 53 and 59 in the Powell Creek TMDL:
 - Waste utilization (633)
 - Nutrient management (590)

- Conservation Cover (327)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Cover and green manure crop (340)
- Critical area planting (342)
- Grassed waterway (412)
- Pasture and hay land planting (512)
- Filter strip (393)
- Riparian forest buffer (391)
- Water and sediment control basin (638)
- Wetland restoration (657)
- Wetland creation (658)
- Identification and replacement of approximately 10 failing HSTS units

Deliverables: Ohio EPA uses a standardized “universe of deliverables” to ensure consistent project reporting, tracking and enhanced sub-grantee accountability. GLRI funding will not be used for research and/or general planning activities—the clear emphasis of this project is to implement “on-the-ground” measures to reduce nutrient loadings to Powell Creek and to improve methods for implementing agricultural based best management practices. Primary deliverables will include: development and implementation of whole farm conservation plans; installation of cover crops; implementation of comprehensive nutrient management plans; installation of livestock exclusion fencing; controlled drainage structures; repair and/or replacement of failing home sewage treatment systems; and other practices recommended in the Powell Creek TMDL and completed farm conservation plans for effective nutrient reduction.

Subgrants made under this project will be administered and executed using the procedures and processes that Ohio EPA employs to make subgrants under the section 319(h) program. We are also familiar with GLNPO requirements such as the GLAS system through our experience with the 2010 GLRI grant that we were fortunate to receive. All subgrants deliverables will be identified reported and tracked using the “standardized universe of deliverables” in use by Ohio EPA and previously reviewed and approved by US EPA. Any cost share funded best management practices will be included in Ohio’s approved Nonpoint Source Management Plan. Landowners receiving cost-share assistance to install BMPs will be required to sign an Operation and Maintenance Agreement insuring that installed practices will be operated and maintained for their expected useful life.

Ohio EPA estimates that as a result of implementing this project (and the above practices) the following nonpoint source pollutant load reductions will be realized:

Table 1.1 – Total Expected Load Reduction Estimates

Practices Implemented	Estimated Load Reductions		
	Nitrogen Pounds/Year	Phosphorus Pounds/Year	Sediment Tons/Year
3,600 acres of Cover Crops Planted	5,657	1252	259
20 acres of Wetlands Restored/Installed	524	116	24
Miscellaneous BMP's	2,058	1,032	587
320 Acres Controlled Drainage Demonstration	838	186	38
Total Project Load Reduction Estimate	9,077	2,586	908

Table 1.2 – Estimated Nutrient Reduction Cost Share Budget Needs

Cost Share Budget Estimates (90% Cost Share)	Federal	Landowner Contribution
5 Whole Farm Management Plans	\$18,000	\$2,000
3,600 Acres Cover Crops (1,200/year)	\$60,000	\$6,000
20 Acres of Wetlands Restored/Installed	\$120,000	\$12,000
5 Nutrient Management Plans	\$15,000	\$1,5000
320 Acres of Controlled Drainage Demonstration	\$50,000	\$5,000
Miscellaneous BMPs Based On Plan Findings	\$50,000	\$5,000
Replace 10 Home Sewage Treatment Units	\$80,000	\$8,000
TOTALS	\$393,000	\$53,000

All landowners receiving cost-share assistance for BMP's under this grant will be required to execute BMP Operation and Maintenance sheets requiring the practice to remain installed for the expected life span of the practice.

Ohio EPA will administer all subgrants made under this project consistent with terms and conditions of the GLRI grant agreement, all state and federal grant rules, guidelines, accounting and reporting requirements. All subgrant costs will be evaluated using federal grant guidelines requiring any cost to be reasonable, allowable and allocable. Federal cost-principles will govern all expenditures/reimbursements made under this grant.

Collaborations, Partnerships and Overarching Plans: This project is a fully collaborative effort between Ohio EPA, the Defiance and Putnam Soil and Water Conservation Districts, ODNr and other water partners throughout the Powell Creek watershed. All activities will be implemented in manners consistent with the general framework of the Western Lake Erie Basin Initiative being facilitated by the Dept. of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). We also will be implementing this project to complement the four-county controlled drainage initiative that is currently being planned by Ohio DNR.

The Powell Creek Nutrient Reduction Demonstration project will greatly accelerate implementation of recommendations within the Powell Creek TMDL and is consistent with recommendations within the state of Ohio's approved Nonpoint Source Management Plan (NPSMP), the conditionally approved Ohio Coastal Nonpoint Source Management Plan and general recommendations within the Lake Erie LAMP and the Lake Erie Restoration & Protection Plan. These respective documents may be found at the following web sites:

Lake Erie LAMP: <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/ohiolamp/index>

Ohio NPS Management Plan: <http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/nps/NPSMP/index.html>

Coastal NPS Plan: www.dnr.state.oh.us/Portals/12/programs/coastalnonpoint/cnpcp/finalcnpcp.pdf

Lake Erie Restoration Plan: <http://lakeerie.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Reports/2008LEPRplan.pdf>

Powell Creek TMDL: <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/tmdl/PowellCreekTMDL.aspx>

Within the approved Powell Creek Watershed TMDL report, specific reference (page 49, Table 6-1) is made to the role of land use and management practices on water quality concerns within the project areas. This list including: row crop production (tillage and fertilizer application), ditch maintenance, and sub-surface drainage is the foundation for the recommended nonpoint source management practices that will be installed and deployed in this project. Consistent with recommendations contained in the approved TMDL actions will be implemented that also deal

with non-agricultural sources of nonpoint source pollution (bacteria and nutrients) such as failing home sewage treatment systems.

The project is consistent with the criteria identified in the Nonpoint Source and Nearshore Health sections of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The project is also consistent with agricultural recommendations made in the Ohio Lake Erie Phosphorus Task Force Final Report

As a state agency member of the Ohio Lake Erie Commission, we are committed to assisting with the Lake Erie Synthesis & Coordination Team project submitted to the GLRI. We will participate in planning and reporting meetings as necessary, share our project results, and assist in reviewing outreach materials. We believe this coordination and synthesis effort will benefit our future work to better manage Lake Erie and its associated resources.

Activities and Timeline: Ohio EPA will prepare and execute subgrant agreements with project collaborators immediately upon notification of successful GLRI funding for this project by US EPA. Baseline monitoring activities will be completed by Ohio EPA NWDO staff within 30 days of notification of successful funding, weather permitting. Other implementation activities will occur in the general sequence listed below:

- Months 1 through 12 of the project:
 - Baseline water chemistry monitoring completed
 - Subgrant agreements prepared and executed
 - Public meeting conducted
 - Cost-share project outreach and awareness activities
 - Whole farm conservation plan landowners identified and contracted
 - Controlled drainage farm(s) identified and contracted
 - Cover crop component of project advertised and sign-ups completed
 - First semi-annual reports submitted and processed (Ohio EPA)
 - Failing home sewage treatment systems identified throughout watershed
 - 5 whole farm conservation plans complete and needed BMPs identified
 - First year of cover crops planted as part of a conservation rotation
 - 5 Controlled drainage structures contracted and/or installed
 - First project-specific annual report prepared and submitted (Ohio EPA)

- Months 12 through 30 of the project: BMP implementation and installation will be robust during this period during the project. Practices will be installed as identified in the whole farm conservation plans and as identified based on specific site-conditions. All BMPs will be installed according to NRCS standards and include only practices identified in Ohio's approved nonpoint source management plan. Other activities that will be completed during years 2 & 3 of this project include post-project water chemistry sampling and ecological assessment and extensive outreach including controlled drainage demonstration days, project fact-sheets, fliers and other activities.

Implementation of nutrient reduction BMPs in this project will be accelerated and highly targeted to known problems and based on site specific analysis conducted as part of the whole farm conservation planning and comprehensive nutrient management processes. The first year of the project has very specific and achievable goals for implementation, including the completion of whole farm conservation plans, nutrient management plans and considerable use of cover crops and livestock exclusion fencing. The second year of the project is designed to implement the specific practices recommended in whole farm plans and/or nutrient management plans. The final six months of the project will be a period of analysis, evaluation, follow-up survey work and reporting on results.

Project Effectiveness Monitoring and Federal Grants Compliance: Project effectiveness monitoring will be conducted through semi-annual project site visits and delivery of technical assistance (as needed) by members of Ohio EPA's Nonpoint Source Program and northwest district office staff. In addition, all sub-grantees are subject to financial and compliance audits. Ohio EPA contracts with ODNR's External Audit Section to perform ten subgrant audits per year. Project effectiveness and grants compliance/audit activities will be provided by Ohio EPA using existing staff and capabilities at no direct costs to this project.

All sub-grantees will be required by executed grant agreements to comply with all state and federal grant requirements. Non-compliance will result in refunding any inappropriately managed federal grant funds and/or termination of the subgrant agreement when necessary.

Environmental Monitoring: Ohio EPA will provide environmental monitoring of this project using both northwest district office (NWDO) water quality staff as well as the section 319 monitoring team from Ohio EPA's Ecological Assessment Unit. Baseline water chemistry monitoring will be completed by NWDO staff to complement the aquatic life use attainment assessments that were completed as part of the TMDL process. Follow up water chemistry monitoring and aquatic life use attainment assessment will be conducted in year 3 of this project following installation of all proposed BMPs. A final report detailing the results of this project will be prepared and submitted to US EPA. All monitoring will be completed consistent with Ohio EPA's approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) which will be submitted as required if this proposal is successful. **No GLRI funds will be used for environmental monitoring activities.**

Community-Based Focus and Environmental Justice: This project recognizes and improves adverse economic and environmental conditions within Defiance County, Ohio. Defiance County is largely an agricultural county in northwest Ohio with a population of 39,000. There are more than 15,000 households within the county's 1 city, 3 villages, and 12 townships. The racial makeup of the county is 92.5% Caucasian, 1.75% African-American, 7.23% Hispanic and less than 1% Asian and others. Only about 4.5% of the households in Defiance County are below the national poverty line.

This project will provide important financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers and landowners within the Powell Creek watershed and serve as a demonstration of how advancing the implementation of a TMDL can be economically as well as environmentally beneficial.

Programmatic Capability and Past Performance: Ohio EPA routinely receives four to eight federally funded assistance agreements each year from US EPA. These agreements help support Ohio's water pollution control, nonpoint source, and water quality monitoring and assessment programs. This proposal is similar in size and scope to several of the assistance grants that Ohio has administered recently. We have a history of successfully completing projects on time, on budget and meeting all reporting requirements. US EPA's annual evaluations of Ohio EPA's water programs are consistently very positive.

This particular project will be managed by Ohio EPA's Nonpoint Source Program and is administered by the Ohio EPA-Division of Surface Water. Since FFY2001, we have successfully administered sub grants for more than 145 locally implemented watershed projects totaling more than \$35 million in federal section 319 funding and \$3.5 million in state Surface Water Improvement funds. We maintain a vigorous subgrant oversight protocol resulting in an exceptional level of accountability, efficiency and accomplishment. Ohio EPA contracting methods were improved in 2005 with the development and implementation of a standardized

universe of “grant” deliverables. This system has resulted in much improved communication of expectations and greatly enhanced project reporting. This process is also the framework for the Surface Water Improvement Grants described in this proposal.

Ohio EPA’s Annual NPS Program Report (and other 319-required reports) has been submitted on-time every year since 2005 when the current program management team was put in place. Ohio’s annual program report is a very comprehensive compilation of extensive data and information designed to meet US EPA reporting requirements, but also to serve as an important management and evaluation tool for Ohio EPA’s program management team. The information contained in the report is also used extensively to update and enhance Ohio EPA’s NPS website, providing time-sensitive progress updates for all of our Section 319 funded subgrant projects. Ohio’s report is submitted in full color and includes an abundance of information such as load reductions by project as well as numerous project site photos illustrating before-and-after conditions. We will produce a special supplemental document each year for the Powell Creek GLRI project that is outlined in this proposal. (Please see the FY11 Cuyahoga County GLRI/SWIF Annual Report on Ohio EPA’s Division of Surface Water website for an example).

In FY10, Ohio EPA’s Nonpoint Source Program received a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant #GL-00E00395-0 to implement phase 1 of the Cuyahoga GLRI-SWIF Project. During FY11, we received grant number GL-00E00836-0 to implement the Lake Erie Nutrient Reduction Demonstration Project. Performance and progress on each of these grants has been very favorable. Additional US EPA grants administered by Ohio EPA’s Nonpoint Source Program staff include Section 319(h) grants including Grant #C997550009; #C997550010 and #C997550011. We consistently receive favorable assessments by US EPA of our management of Section 319(h) and other grants such as the FY10 and FY11 GLRI grants.

Due to the nature of these projects, the rate of expenditures has been somewhat variable. For example, a number of subgrant projects completed under #GL-00E00395 were funded in their entirety with state provided matching dollars. To date, expenditures on this grant exceed \$796,901.94 of the \$999,000 in federal funding provided. Nearly 80% of the federal funds have already been expended. State match has also been largely spent down by project managers.

Grant #GL-00E00836-0 (Lake Erie Nutrient Reduction Demonstration Project) has obligated \$438,904 under contract with three sub-grant recipients who are responsible for implementing the on-the-ground measures, social indicator survey and education & outreach support activities. This represents more than 80% of the federal funds awarded under this grant.

Principal Program Staff and Qualifications: Ohio EPA’s nonpoint source program staff will be managing the Lake Erie Nutrient Reduction Demonstration Project. Principal program personnel responsible for implementing this project include:

- **Russell Gibson, NPS Program Manager**—Mr. Gibson has managed Ohio EPA’s NPS and Section 319 Programs since 2005. Previously, he worked for more than 20 years with Ohio’s Department of Natural Resources in a variety of positions including manager of permitting, hydrology & bonding for Mineral resources; northwest Ohio scenic rivers coordinator; community grants administrator for the Division of Recycling and as a preserve manager and park ranger. Mr. Gibson has a bachelor’s degree in Natural Resources Management from Ohio State University as well as extensive graduate coursework in Public Administration. He has extensive experience in program development and evaluation, strategic planning and organizational design and has completed three federal grants training

courses offered by Management Concepts, Inc., including “Awarding & Monitoring Sub-awards under Federal Grants” and “Federal Cost Principles”.

- **Martha Spurbeck, Grants Administrator**—Ms. Spurbeck is the grants administrator for Ohio’s NPS and Section 319 programs since 2000 and will be the primary responsible party for administering SWIF/GLRI subgrants. She has a bachelor’s degree in Business Management from Ohio University and has completed three federal grants training courses offered through Management Concepts, including “Awarding & Monitoring Sub-awards under Federal Grants” and “Federal Cost Principles”.
- **Rick Wilson, Environmental Specialist**—Rick is technical lead and agricultural specialist working in Ohio EPA’s Nonpoint Source Program. Mr. Wilson has a civil engineering background and has been involved with agricultural pollution issues since 1999 when he became an inspector for Ohio EPA’s CAFO program. Rick will perform the role of technical liaison with local project implementers and Ohio EPA.
- **Jeff DeShon, Ecological Assessment Manager**—Mr. DeShon will supervise and organize the environmental assessment component of this project. Jeff is the manager of Ohio EPA’s Ecological Assessment Section and supervises the assessment and biological surveys conducted on all of Ohio’s surface waters. He has a Master’s degree in Biology and more than 30 years’ experience organizing, conducting and managing environmental assessments. He has been manager of the Ecological Assessment Section since 2000.
- **Dan Glomski, Environmental Supervisor, NWDO**—Mr. Glomski will supervise and organize the water quality monitoring component of this project. Dan is responsible for all water quality monitoring activities in the northwest region of Ohio.

Ohio EPA staff also routinely access engineers, technical NPS program specialists, storm water management specialists, permitting and regulatory personnel and agency fiscal and financial management staff. We also work closely with Ohio EPA personnel responsible for managing Ohio’s State Revolving Loan Fund and Water Resources Restoration Sponsorship Programs, each of which provides support for stream restoration and nonpoint source pollution management programs statewide.

In addition to the above personnel within Ohio EPA that will serve as principals on this project, it also anticipated that local personnel working within local County Soil & Water Conservation District office as well as the County Health Department will play key roles in the successful implementation of this project.

Job Creation: The Powell Creek Nutrient Reduction Project will sustain jobs within the Defiance County SWCD and Health Department as well as potentially enhancing and/or creating positions among contractors, excavation firms and others., In addition to providing contracting opportunities for the installation of BMP’s and home septic systems, this project will expand technical capacity and awareness of future activities via the process of inventorying failing home septic systems and needed agricultural BMPs into the future.

Funding and Project Budget: We anticipate supporting at least two subgrants with the federal funds that are requested. In-kind services from Ohio EPA will be provided to complete monitoring activities and to provide technical assistance associated with this project and will be provided as state match. Cost-share funds will be provided by local landowners choosing to participate in this project. All federal funding will be used only for costs that are allowable,

allocable and reasonable as defined in federal grant guidelines. More than 80% of the federal funds requested in this application will be used for the implementation **on-the-ground improvements and implementation**. Approval of this request will allow for enhanced nutrient reduction measures to be implemented in the concentrated area of the HUC-10 Powell Creek watershed within the Maumee River basin. Approval also will be instrumental in advancing the short and long-term implementation of the approved Powell Creek TMDL.

For additional budget detail, please see the project budget included below and materials such as Budget Object Class Categories descriptions that are included with our SF424 and the grant application package.

Table 1.3 – Estimated Project Budget

Object Class Categories	Federal	State and Local Match	Total
Personnel	\$51,675	\$0	\$51,675
Fringe Benefits	\$15,912	\$0	\$15,912
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contractual	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other –Subgrants	3,150	\$0	\$3,150
Defiance County SWCD	\$350,000	\$53,000	\$403,000
Defiance County Health Department	\$95,000	\$20,000	\$115,000
Cost Share	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Charges	\$11,415	\$0	\$11,415
TOTALS	\$527,192	\$73,000	\$600,152

Project Expenditures: Expenditures incurred under this grant will be reviewed by Ohio EPA fiscal and grant staff prior to being reimbursed to sub-grantees and/or Ohio EPA. Ohio EPA hopes to use this demonstration as a means of implementing more effective nutrient reduction activities throughout the state of Ohio, including the Lake Erie tributaries. Ohio EPA monitoring costs will be borne by the agency at no cost to the project. Subgrant costs have been scrutinized to minimize overhead and other administrative costs while still maintaining sufficient amounts to insure successful implementation.

For additional budget detail and information, please refer to the following tables as well as the attached 424A and Object Class Budget Detail.

DSW BUDGET

GLRI-12 Powell Creek Nutrient Reduction Project

DSW Total	
PERSONNEL	
SALARY	51,675
FRINGE	15,912
TOTAL PERSONNEL	67,588
TRAVEL	0
EQUIPMENT	0
SUPPLIES	0
CONTRACTUAL	0
OTHER	521,150
TOTAL DIRECT	588,737
INDIRECT	11,415
TOTAL GRANT	600,152
Federal	527,192
Match	73,000

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
FFY12 GLRI Powell Creek Nutrient Reduction
Object Class Budget Detail

Personnel/Fringe - \$67,587

Costs budgeted in this category are for approximately 0.7 work years over a 3-year period to meet the objectives of the grant workplan. This time will include 0.5 FTE for environmental specialists and 0.2 FTE for administration and subgrant oversight. Fringe is budgeted at approximately 32% of direct labor.

Travel - \$ 0

Equipment - \$ 0

Supplies - \$ 0

Contractual - \$ 0

Other - \$ 521,150

Of the costs budgeted in other, \$518,000 will be subgranted for implementation projects in Defiance County.

Draft subgrant workplans and budgets will be submitted to USEPA Region 5 for comments before being finalized.

The remaining \$3,150 is budgeted at approximately \$4,500/FTE and meets the requirement of OMB Circular No. A-87. Most purchases require approval or guidance from various internal offices before purchases are made. Purchase will include some, but not all, of the following as needed for grant purposes:

Motor Vehicles:

Most motor vehicle expenses are charges from the Ohio EPA's motor pool. Currently, the charges are based on actual mileage driven at \$.26 per mile, plus \$21.00 per day.

Communications and Shipping:

Costs involved in mailing, communication rentals, freight, shipping charges, post office box rental and moving expenses except for personal mileage.

Fuel & Utilities:

Payments for utility services excluding telephone and telegraph, it includes payments for fuel used to produce heat and light.

Maintenance & Repairs:

Payments for repairs or modifications (service and replacement parts) of equipment and other facilities, equipment maintenance contracts, pieces furnished as a part of the repair or service contract, and inspection fees. Payments for such services as hazardous waste disposal, refuse collection, and extermination (pest control) may be included here.

Rentals:

Payments for equipment, land, space, and buildings, such as electronic data processing machines, storage and related services, office rentals, office equipment and furniture.

Printing, Binding, Advertising:

Cost of printed forms prepared for the specific use of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, special binding, advertising including legal advertising, duplicating supplies and services.

General & Other Expenses:

Intrastate agency services, purchasing service maintenance, computer usage, computer services acquisition fees, Equal Opportunity Center service charges, collective bargaining (recovery costs), hosting meetings, membership dues, licenses, permits, titles, notary public certifications, petty cash replenishment (under \$25) and other general minor expenses.

Indirect - \$ 11,415

The final indirect cost rate for SFY13 is 16.89% for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

Public Outreach Activities: Activities completed under sub-grants awarded with this project are required to include a local project-specific and robust outreach component including activities such as news releases, media events, project signs, brochure and fact sheet development, articles within existing watershed publications and public involvement activities. Ohio EPA will also conduct extensive outreach for this project connecting it with the state's nutrient reduction strategy, Lake Erie management efforts and nonpoint source pollution management. We will work closely with our Public Involvement Center to prepare and release project specific news releases at key times throughout the project, including funding announcements, BMP cost-share availability, etc. We will also prepare and release all relevant program and grant management documents, guidelines, fact sheets and other informational materials developed as tool to insure public awareness of the project.