

**GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION**  
**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR FISHERY RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

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## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR FISHERY RESEARCH PROJECTS – PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCEDURES**

### **DEFINITION OF A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR FISHERY RESEARCH PROJECT:**

Technical Assistance for Fishery Research (TAFR) projects are designed to allow the generation of new technical knowledge critical to address an immediate science or fishery management need or the transfer of applied technical knowledge among scientists, research partners, or management agencies via coordination activities such as workshops, skills training, instruction, and working knowledge discussions to benefit efforts informing the conservation and rehabilitation of healthy Great Lakes ecosystems that sustain fisheries. TAFR projects are typically one year in duration and less than \$20,000.

TAFR projects seek to meet information needs to improve implementation of fishery research projects, to coordinate or standardize research activities, to provide specific information required by government regulation, or to meet information needs of emerging fisheries management issues. Projects are generally discrete and are completed within a specified time frame; however, projects can be regular and recurring. Examples of TAFR projects include:

- Dissemination and training workshops
- Symposia
- Management objective setting
- Database development and maintenance
- Scientific review papers
- Publication projects
- Resource maintenance

Any investigator requesting technical assistance for fishery research is required to submit a proposal to the Commission's Science Director.

**PROPOSAL FORMAT:** The proposal format for TAFR projects can be downloaded from the GLFC webpage at <http://www.glfc.org/forms-and-templates.php>. An electronic copy of the proposal should be forwarded via email to [research@glfc.org](mailto:research@glfc.org) and a hard copy sent to the Science Director (2200 Commonwealth Blvd., Suite 100, Ann Arbor, MI 48105). Questions regarding proposal submission should be directed to the Fishery Research Program Associate and are encouraged prior to proposal submission. Additional contact information can be found at <http://www.glfc.org/staff-directory.php>

The deadline for TAFR project proposal submission occurs twice each year on January 15 and August 15.

**PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL AND REVIEW PROCESS:** TAFR project proposal ideas are generated by informal interactions among scientists, research partners, or management agencies, and Secretariat staff. Discrete projects must be described in a proposal with a clear set of objectives, methods, and a specific set of products that will be used for communicating results with appropriate audiences. Project proposals are reviewed by the Fishery Research Program Associate, Science Director, and Science Program Manager (i.e., the Science Program).

The peer review process may be invoked for project proposals at any point within the approval process. For example, project investigators may request at the outset that the Science Program should perform a peer review of the project to ensure appropriate study design, data collection, and analyses. Review and input from the Board of Technical Experts (BOTE) may be solicited at the Winter or Fall research board meetings. Secretariat staff may also request a review of the proposal.