



Policy on Tribal and Recreational Fishing Access Amenities

The Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT) disburses grants for projects that improve or create shore-based recreational and tribal fishing access to the Great Lakes fisheries. These projects must involve constructing or enhancing an actual point of fishing access, such as installing a fishing boardwalk or improving a pier. Projects may also incorporate a number of additional amenities. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to grant applicants on eligible and ineligible amenities beyond the construction or enhancement of a fishing access structure.

ELIGIBLE FISHING AMENITIES

For Facilities Primarily Used by Recreational and Tribal Anglers

For facilities that will be/are primarily used by recreational and tribal anglers, amenities that are directly related to fishing and the accommodation of recreational and tribal anglers are eligible for full funding.¹ These amenities must be located near the actual point of access that the applicant is applying to create or enhance and be determined necessary to utilize that point of access. Examples of this type of eligible amenity include:

- Bank stabilization material
- Benches
- Boat launch facilities to accommodate tribal fishing
- Constructed fish habitat
- Construction-related restorative landscaping
- Educational signage
- Lighting
- Parking areas necessary to access the structure(s)
- Railings
- Restrooms near the structure
- Shelters
- Walkways

For Facilities Jointly Used by Anglers and Non-Anglers

The GLFT recognizes that not all proposed facilities will be enjoyed solely by anglers. For facilities that will/may be enjoyed by other expected non-angling users, the GLFT will provide funds based on estimated use by anglers versus non-anglers. For example, if

¹ Projects with financial support from other sources are encouraged. Although matching funds are not required, proposals that include local funding and promote community participation in the use of fishery resources will be favored.

50 percent of a proposed facility's visitors are expected to be anglers, the GLFT may fund up to 50 percent of the project cost.

INELIGIBLE FISHING AMENITIES

Amenities that are not directly related to fishing and the accommodation of anglers are not eligible for funding. Examples include the following:

- Playground equipment
- Aesthetic landscape improvements
- Boat launches to accommodate recreational fishing²
- Amphitheaters

FISH CLEANING STATIONS

Because of the maintenance and nuisance issues associated with fish cleaning stations, the GLFT will only partially fund this amenity if the applicant can demonstrate

- a design for the fish cleaning station that is proven to effectively dispose of waste;
- proof via agreements with and/or letters from local health departments and/or waste management facilities that the waste will be disposed of in a statutorily compliant and satisfactory manner;
- a plan for continued maintenance of the facility, including the funding to support such maintenance;
- a plan for preventing potential nuisance issues (e.g., odor, sight, etc.); and
- financial support from the community (at least 50 percent of the project cost must be funded by other funding sources).

Approved by the GLFT Board of Trustees on May 1, 2007

² Improvements to accommodate small boat access at shore fishing sites may be eligible only if it can be demonstrated that other funding sources have been exhausted.