

	U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Grant Agreement	GRANT NUMBER (FAIN): 00E07023 MODIFICATION NUMBER: 0 PROGRAM CODE: GL	DATE OF AWARD 07/13/2026
		TYPE OF ACTION: New	MAILING DATE 07/16/2026
		PAYMENT METHOD: ASAP	ACH# 50053
		RECIPIENT TYPE: Municipal	
RECIPIENT: CITY OF DULUTH 120 CITY HALL 411 W 1ST ST DULUTH, MN 55802-1105 EIN: 41-6005105		Send Payment Request to: Contact EPA RTPFD at: rtpfc-grants@epa.gov	
PROJECT MANAGER Allison Brooks 411 West 1st Street Duluth, MN 55802-1105 Email: abrooks@duluthmn.gov Phone: 218-730-4304		EPA PROJECT OFFICER Sakura Evans 77 W. Jackson Boulevard, G-9J Chicago, IL 60604 Email: Evans.Sakura@epa.gov Phone: 312-353-4323	EPA GRANT SPECIALIST Alicia Sanders Assistance Section, MA-10J 77 W. Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604 Email: sanders.alicia@epa.gov Phone: 312-886-1972
PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION Watershed Connections: Place-Based Experiential Environmental Education for Youth The City of Duluth, with partners, will support implementation of Watershed Connections, an initiative to engage Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12) youth in experiential environmental education focused on the Tischer Creek watershed—a cold-water tributary to Lake Superior and the St. Louis River Area of Concern. The activities include the engagement of approximately 2,913 K–12 youth through a coordinated set of experiential environmental education programs centered on the Tischer Creek watershed. These programs include school field trips to the Hartley Nature Center, youth engagement programs, and brook trout fishing experiences. The anticipated deliverables include an executed subrecipient contract, new curriculum tailored to restoration work on Tischer Creek, and semi-annual and final reporting. The expected outcomes include approximately 2,913 youth engaged, and local educators trained in the new curriculum. The intended beneficiaries include youth and educators from northeastern Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin. The subawardee is responsible for the implementation of experiential environmental education programming for K-12 youth, including hosting student field trips to the Hartley Nature Center, providing engagement programs with youth-serving agencies, and brook trout fishing experiences for middle and high school students.			
BUDGET PERIOD 06/01/2026 - 12/31/2028	PROJECT PERIOD 06/01/2026 - 12/31/2028	TOTAL BUDGET PERIOD COST \$ 105,000.00	TOTAL PROJECT PERIOD COST \$ 105,000.00
NOTICE OF AWARD Based on your Application dated 05/05/2026 including all modifications and amendments, the United States acting by and through the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby awards \$ 105,000.00. EPA agrees to cost-share 100.00% of all approved budget period costs incurred, up to and not exceeding total federal funding of \$ 105,000.00. Recipient's signature is not required on this agreement. The recipient demonstrates its commitment to carry out this award by either: 1) drawing down funds within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date; or 2) not filing a notice of disagreement with the award terms and conditions within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. If the recipient disagrees with the terms and conditions specified in this award, the authorized representative of the recipient must furnish a notice of disagreement to the EPA Award Official within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. In case of disagreement, and until the disagreement is resolved, the recipient should not draw down on the funds provided by this award/amendment, and any costs incurred by the recipient are at its own risk. This agreement is subject to applicable EPA regulatory and statutory provisions, all terms and conditions of this agreement and any attachments.			
ISSUING OFFICE (GRANTS MANAGEMENT OFFICE)		AWARD APPROVAL OFFICE	
ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS U.S. EPA, Region 5, U.S. EPA Region 5 Mail Code MCG10J 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604-3507		ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS U.S. EPA, Region 5, Great Lakes National Program Office R5 - Region 5 77 W. Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604	
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY			
Digital signature applied by EPA Award Official for Robert Fields - Section Supervisor, Grants Management Officer by Robert Fields - Award Official Delegate			DATE 07/13/2026

Budget Summary Page

Table A - Object Class Category (Non-Construction)	Total Approved Allowable Budget Period Cost
1. Personnel	\$ 0
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 0
3. Travel	\$ 0
4. Equipment	\$ 0
5. Supplies	\$ 0
6. Contractual	\$ 0
7. Construction	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 105,000
9. Total Direct Charges	\$ 105,000
10. Indirect Costs: 0.00 % Base N/A	\$ 0
11. Total (Share: Recipient <u>0.00</u> % Federal <u>100.00</u> %)	\$ 105,000
12. Total Approved Assistance Amount	\$ 105,000
13. Program Income	\$ 0
14. Total EPA Amount Awarded This Action	\$ 105,000
15. Total EPA Amount Awarded To Date	\$ 105,000

Administrative Conditions

General Terms and Conditions

The recipient agrees to comply with the current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) general terms and conditions available at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-general-terms-and-conditions-effective-october-1-2025-or-later>

These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as a part of the award and the terms, conditions, or restrictions cited throughout the award.

The EPA repository for the general terms and conditions by year can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grant-terms-and-conditions#general>.

A. Correspondence Condition

The terms and conditions of this agreement require the submittal of reports, specific requests for approval, or notifications to EPA. Unless otherwise noted, all such correspondence should be sent to the following email addresses:

Federal Financial Reports (SF-425): rtpfc-grants@epa.gov and Alicia Sanders, sanders.alicia@epa.gov

All other forms/certifications/assurances, Indirect Cost Rate Agreements, Requests for Extensions of the Budget and Project Period, Amendment Requests, Requests for other Prior Approvals, updates to recipient information (including email addresses, changes in contact information or changes in authorized representatives) and other notifications: Sakura Evans, evans.sakura@epa.gov, and Alicia Sanders, sanders.alicia@epa.gov

Payment requests (if applicable): *N/A*

Quality Assurance documents, workplan revisions, equipment lists, programmatic reports and deliverables: Sakura Evans, evans.sakura@epa.gov

B. Pre-Award Costs

In accordance with 2 CFR 1500.9, the recipient may charge otherwise allowable pre-award costs (both Federal and non-Federal cost sharing) incurred from **June 1, 2026** to the actual award date provided that such costs were contained in the approved application and all costs are incurred within the approved budget period.

Programmatic Conditions

2026 GLRI Programmatic Terms and Conditions

A. Performance Reporting and Final Performance Report

In accordance with [2 CFR 200.329](#), the recipient must relate financial data and project or program accomplishments to the performance goals and objectives of the EPA award and must provide cost information to demonstrate cost-effective practices (for example, through unit cost data) when reporting program performance. The recipient agrees to submit performance reports that include information on each of the following areas: 1) A comparison of accomplishments to the outputs/outcomes established in the assistance agreement work plan for the reporting period (for example, comparing costs to units of accomplishment); 2) explanations on why established outputs/outcomes were not met; and 3) Additional information, analysis, and explanation of cost overruns or higher-than-expected-unit costs.

Additionally, the recipient agrees to notify the EPA when a significant development occurs that could impact the award. Significant developments include events that enable meeting milestones and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or that produce different beneficial results than originally planned. Significant developments also include problems, delays, or adverse conditions which will impact the ability to meet the milestones or objectives of the award, including outputs/outcomes specified in the assistance agreement work plan. If the significant developments negatively impact the award, the recipient must include information on their plan for corrective action and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

1. Semi-annual progress reports: Starting with the first full reporting period after the issuance of the award, the recipient shall submit semi-annual progress reports (electronically) to the EPA Project Officer by **April 30** and **October 31** of each year, through the life of the assistance agreement. Reporting periods shall be the 6-month periods from October 1 to March 31 and April 1 to September 30. Progress reports shall document progress in writing and in pictures, for the project during the immediately preceding reporting period and must contain sufficient information in order to ascertain that the workplan is being carried out as specified in the assistance agreement. Progress reports shall describe all of the following that apply:

(a) Work accomplished for the period, quantifying results achieved. Specify any incremental and cumulative (results achieved during the reporting period for all applicable [GLRI Action Plan IV](#) measures identified on pages 10-15 of the [GLRI Action Plan IV](#), in accordance with any direction provided by your EPA Project Officer and the GLRI Action Plan IV Measures Reporting Plan at [GLRI Action Plan](#), particularly: **5.1.1**

(b) **National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)** Section 106 status;

(c) Quality Assurance;

(d) Object Class Category changes;

(e) Corrective actions;

(f) Projected new work;

- (g) Percent completion of scheduled work;
- (h) Percent of budgeted amounts spent;
- (i) Any change in principal investigator;
- (j) Any change needed in project period,
- (k) Date and amount of latest drawdown request along with expenditures for the reporting period; and
- (l) Delays or adverse conditions which materially impair the ability to meet the outputs/outcomes specified in the assistance agreement workplan.

Grant progress reports must accurately reflect recipient's progress towards outputs and outcomes and all activities outlined in the approved work plan are being completed as agreed, and that the recipient is meeting the terms and conditions of the grant.

2. Final Report: The final Report shall incorporate all proposed project outputs and outcomes and summarize the nature and extent of the project, methodologies employed, significant events and experiences, a compilation of the data collected, and results achieved. Significant developments include events that enable meeting milestones and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or that produce different beneficial results than originally planned.

Results shall include the cumulative results achieved during the project period for all proposed outputs and outcomes, including but not limited to all applicable [GLRI Action Plan IV](#) measures described in element 1 of the Semi-annual Progress Report condition above, all outputs and outcomes. The final report shall also include analysis of the data, conclusions, and recommendations. The final report shall incorporate documentation of the project and environmental progress under the project at appropriate phases, including photos, illustrations, diagrams, charts, graphs, and maps as appropriate to support the project results and measures reported. In order for the report writing costs to be eligible under the award, the draft final report must be submitted to the PO prior to the grant expiration date. Electronic versions of the **Final Report shall be submitted no later than 120 days after the end of the project period.** All work products shall indicate attribution to the U.S. EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for funding assistance and should also acknowledge significant contributions by others. If applicable, the Final Report shall include:

- A dataset (Excel or similar format) of field and laboratory data including but not limited to project latitude and longitude, date, time, field observations, parameter data, laboratory analysis, quality assurance data
- Model files including input-output data, model code, model output, and peripheral and post-processing utilities.

3. Subaward Performance Reporting:

The recipient must report on its subaward monitoring activities under [2 CFR 200.332\(d\)](#). Examples of items that must be reported if the pass-through entity has the information available are:

- I. Summaries of results of reviews of financial and programmatic reports.

II. Summaries of findings from site visits and/or desk reviews to ensure effective subrecipient performance.

III. Environmental results the subrecipient achieved.

IV. Summaries of audit findings and related pass-through entity management decisions.

V. Actions the pass-through entity has taken to correct deficiencies such as those specified at [2 CFR 200.332\(e\)](#) *Requirements for pass-through entities*, [2 CFR 200.208](#) *Specific Conditions* and the [2 CFR 200.339](#) *Remedies for Noncompliance*.

Subaward Programmatic Monitoring for Grants in Support of Areas of Concern or Lakewide Action and Management Plans

In addition to subaward monitoring and reporting requirements described in the **Performance Reporting and Final Performance Report** condition of this agreement, assistance agreement recipients who are issued non-competitive grants in support of Areas of Concern (AOC) or Lakewide Action and Management Plans (LAMPs), and who include subawards in their budget, must monitor and report on subrecipient work to ensure that it meets the objectives of the AOC or LAMP.

B. Cybersecurity Condition | Cybersecurity Grant Condition for Other Recipients, Including Intertribal Consortia

(a) The recipient agrees that when collecting and managing environmental data under this assistance agreement, it will protect the data by following all applicable State or Tribal law cybersecurity requirements.

(b) (1) EPA must ensure that any connections between the recipient's network or information system and EPA networks used by the recipient to transfer data under this agreement, are secure. For purposes of this Section, a connection is defined as a dedicated persistent interface between an Agency IT system and an external IT system for the purpose of transferring information. Transitory, user-controlled connections such as website browsing are excluded from this definition.

If the recipient's connections as defined above do not go through the Environmental Information Exchange Network or EPA's Central Data Exchange, the recipient agrees to contact the EPA Project Officer (PO) no later than 90 days after the date of this award and work with the designated Regional/Headquarters Information Security Officer to ensure that the connections meet EPA security requirements, including entering into Interconnection Service Agreements as appropriate. This condition does not apply to manual entry of data by the recipient into systems operated and used by EPA's regulatory programs for the submission of reporting and/or compliance data.

(2) The recipient agrees that any subawards it makes under this agreement will require the subrecipient to comply with the requirements in (b)(1) if the subrecipient's network or information system is connected to EPA networks to transfer data to the Agency using systems other than the Environmental Information Exchange Network or EPA's Central Data Exchange. The recipient will be in compliance with this condition: by including this requirement in subaward agreements; and during subrecipient monitoring deemed necessary by the recipient or subrecipient under 2 CFR 200.332(e), by inquiring whether the

subrecipient has contacted the EPA Project Officer. Nothing in this condition requires the recipient to contact the EPA Project Officer on behalf of a subrecipient or to be involved in the negotiation of an Interconnection Service Agreement between the subrecipient and EPA.

C. Requesting Travel Approval under the Existing Agreement

Time and travel costs along with participation in professional meetings funded under this agreement shall be reviewed by the EPA Project Officer in advance. Although EPA may have approved this type of activity as a component of the workplan, the recipient (or its representative) and subrecipients seeking to attend professional meetings not covered/approved in the original scope of work, must notify the EPA Project Officer identified on the first page of this agreement.

1. Travel Narrative

Specifically, **at least 30 days** in advance, the recipient shall notify the EPA Project Officer of any travel plans not previously detailed in the approved workplan by providing the Project Officer with a description of the event, the location of the event, the event sponsor, travel dates, the recipient's role in the event, the number of travelers and an itemized travel breakdown of costs (per diem, mileage, lodging, parking/tolls, airfare, etc.). The request should also include a justification describing why this travel is a necessary part of this assistance agreement. The recipient understands that any travel revisions contributing to a rebudgeting of funds from other cost categories exceeding 10% of the total budget, or an increase in grant funds requires a formal amendment to this agreement.

2. International Travel (see also EPA General Term and Condition titled "Foreign Travel")

The recipient must request approval for international travel not approved in the workplan by submitting a request to the Project Officer **at least 30 days** in advance of incurring international travel costs. This request must include an explanation on why this travel is necessary to effectively carry out the approved project(s), an itemized budget (per diem, mileage, lodging, parking/tolls, airfare), number of trips, number of travelers, the country where international travel will occur, and the dates of travel if known. (The recipient understands that if it incurs international travel costs of any kind without EPA's prior approval, it does so at its own risk).

D. Use of Logos

If the **GLRI logos** are used on websites, engagement materials, reports or publications along with logos from other participating entities, the GLRI logo must **not** be prominently displayed to imply that any of the recipient's or subrecipient's activities are being conducted by the EPA. Instead, the GLRI logo should be accompanied with a statement indicating that the City of Duluth / Hartley Nature Center received financial support from the EPA under an Assistance Agreement.

E. Public or Media Events

The Recipient agrees to notify the EPA Project Officer listed in this award document of public or media

events (such as groundbreaking events, ribbon cutting events, etc.) publicizing the accomplishment of significant events related to construction projects as a result of this agreement and provide the opportunity for attendance and participation by federal representatives with at least ten (10) working days' notice.

F. Signage

The recipient shall ensure that a visible project identification sign (with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative logo provided by the EPA Project Officer) is erected as appropriate at each on-the-ground protection or restoration project. Each sign must give project information and credit the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and appropriate federal agencies for funding. The recipient will determine the design, placement, and materials for each sign. The GLRI logo should be accompanied with the statement indicating that the City of Duluth / Hartley Nature Center received financial support in the amount of \$105,000 from the EPA.

G. Health, Safety, and Environmental Compliance

All laboratory and field activities conducted for this project must be in accordance and compliance with all applicable health, safety and environmental laws, regulations and guidelines.

H. Management Practice

The recipient agrees to properly operate and maintain any best management practices implemented through this award in accordance with design standards and specifications.

I. Disposition of Wastes

The recipient agrees to dispose of all wastes in accordance with State and Federal regulation.

J. Timely Fiscal Expenditures

The recipient must ensure funds are expended in a timely manner commensurate with the progression of project activities. To ensure compliance with unliquidated obligations (ULO) policies, the recipient must **notify the EPA Project Officer** of potential drawdown delays that exceed 180 days.

K. National Historic Preservation Act

Pursuant to [36 CFR 800.2\(c\)\(4\)](#), EPA has authorized all assistance agreement recipients and applicants to initiate consultation under National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106, [54 U.S.C. 306108](#) on behalf of EPA, for all grants, cooperative agreements, interagency agreements, and other projects under GLNPO's purview, including but not limited to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), [33 U.](#)

[S.C. 1268](#), and applicable appropriations acts and/or implementing regulations. EPA does not delegate its Tribal consultation responsibilities and will work with the recipient to carry out the appropriate actions.

While all assistance agreement recipients and applicants are authorized to initiate Section 106 consultation on behalf of EPA, EPA retains legal responsibility for findings and determinations required under the Section 106 process. In addition, when applicable, EPA will consult directly under Section 106 with Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, pursuant to [36 CFR 800.2\(c\)\(2\(ii\)\)](#).

Prior to conducting or engaging in any on-site activity, the grantee shall consult with an EPA Project Officer regarding the National Historic Preservation Act and, if applicable, shall assist EPA in complying with any requirements of the Act and implementing regulations. All Section 106 deliverables identified in the workplan must be submitted to the EPA Project Officer.

If unanticipated archaeological or human remains are discovered during earth-disturbing activities, stop work immediately and contact the EPA Project Officer. Do not engage in any earth-disturbing activities until an EPA official states work can resume.

L. Participant Support Costs

[2 CFR 200.1](#), define Participant Support Costs as: direct costs for items such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances, and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with meetings or training projects. EPA regulations at 2 CFR 1500.1 expand the definition of Participant Support Costs to include subsidies, rebates and other payments to program beneficiaries to encourage participation in statutorily authorized environmental stewardship programs. Additionally, the Uniform Grant Guidance at 2 CFR 200.456 requires participant support costs to be documented in a financial assistance recipient's or subrecipient's policies, and to be treated consistently across grants. EPA requires participant support cost types to be allocated to the "Other" budget category.

Per the above agreement, recipients are not required to sign this award. Acceptance of the award is defined as the start of work, drawing down funds, and/or not declining the award via written notice.

To enter this agreement and follow standard practice for agreements, the City of Duluth will obtain signatures of the proper City officials:

CITY OF DULUTH MINNESOTA

By: _____
City Administrator, Karla Culhane, per delegated authority

Date

Attest:

By: _____
Alyssa Denham, City Clerk

Date

Countersigned:

Josh Bailey, City Auditor

Approved as to form:

Terri Lehr, City Attorney