

**Great Lakes Fish Monitoring and Surveillance Program 2020 RFA  
Questions and Answers – updated Sept. 3, 2020**

Date	Question	Answer
9/3/2020	<p>What is the current instrumentation used for PCDD/Fs analysis?</p> <p>What is the current extraction technique used for both, non-polar and polar fraction extraction?</p> <p>The total 30 page limit on the proposal now includes all Q/QC and method information, correct?</p>	<p>Historically, methods for dioxins and furans analyses have followed EPA Method 1613 (<a href="https://well-labs.com/docs/epa_method_1613b_1994.pdf">https://well-labs.com/docs/epa_method_1613b_1994.pdf</a>). EPA does not mandate specific instrumentation or extraction techniques as part of this RFA. However, Section V of the RFA stipulates that applicants are expected to demonstrate how they will retain comparability and continuity with historic GLFMSP data sets. Applicants are also expected to detail the analytical methodology they will employ to measure priority toxic chemicals in tissue samples, and how these methods are comparable to (or an improvement to) current GLFMSP procedures.</p> <p>The proposal must not exceed 30 pages. All QA/QC and method information must fit within the 30 page limit.</p>
8/20/2020	<p>Does the frozen fish archive have a catalog of sample identification versus bottle ID? What does the archive contain in terms of years, lakes and fish?</p>	<p>Upon request, we can provide a spreadsheet of the inventory of what the archive contains, including sample ID, year, lakes, species, number of jars, amount of tissue, box number, and location within the freezers.</p>
8/5/2020	<p>Is the following proposal suitable for the fish RFA? <i>“Investigating the impact of climate change/variability of the habitat of fish and species near Marina/Lake Erie using hydrodynamic modeling?”</i></p>	<p>No, this would not be suitable. The RFA is for the chemical analysis of Great Lakes fish samples. Page 7 of the RFA discusses details of the Base Monitoring Program which includes a set of required analytes to be measured in fish samples. Projects that do not incorporate required activities will not be considered for award.</p>
8/5/2020	<p>Is there a webinar planned regarding the RFA? I see that the RFA states that one cooperative agreement will be awarded. Does this mean that the awarded project must include all the previously sampled sites in all the Great Lakes? Similarly, is the awarded project required to fulfill both the base monitoring program and special/CSMI project requirements?</p>	<p>There is no webinar planned for this RFA. One cooperative agreement will be awarded for total funding of the project. The prospective awardee must conduct sample analysis for all collected samples in the program. The fish collection sites are fixed long-term sampling locations of which there are two for each lake and alternate on an even/odd year basis. The awardee is not responsible for collecting fish at these sites. Required activities are listed on page 7 of the RFA. The awardee would be required to fulfill both the Base Monitoring Program and Special Studies/CSMI activities.</p>

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7/28/2020	Is this RFA for lab processing of contaminant samples, and not for field fish collection?	The RFA is for the analysis of the fish samples. It is not for field fish collections.
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