

Instructions for Completing the CT Wetland In Lieu Fee Grant Program

Letter of Intent Summary Form

1. Project Title: Create a name for the proposed project (What aquatic resource is the project related to?)

2. Project Sponsor: List the individual coordinating the project, the sponsoring organization responsible for completing the proposed project, and all relevant contact information.

3. Project Location: Provide the town, county and street address, latitude and longitude of the property. If Map and Lot number are also available, please provide. Note that a map of the proposed site is required. Please submit a USGS Topographic Map, or equivalent, showing entire boundary of proposed project, legal access, and adjacency of other public and private conservation lands or provide coordinates.

4. Project Description: Please provide a brief (400 words or less) description of the proposed project. Describe the current condition of the proposed project site (e.g., degradation on site, adjacent land uses, etc.) and the changes that will result from proposed conservation activities. Give careful consideration to the Audubon CT ILF project selection/ranking criteria to ensure the project is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Audubon CT ILF program. Also include a brief description of the project readiness (e.g., how soon can it begin, how long will it take to complete, etc.) and list any other active project partners (particularly if another entity will assume long-term management responsibility for the property).

5. Preliminary Estimated Project Cost:

a. Total Project Cost: Should include all projected costs for land acquisition, project design, construction, management, short-term monitoring and long-term stewardship.

b. Fund Request: Specify the amount of funding requested from the Audubon CT ILF program.

c. Other Funding Sources: List amounts and sources for any other known or likely funds that will be used to complete the project. While matching funds are not required, project cost effectiveness will be evaluated during full proposal review.

6. Priority of Project Site:

Within or adjacent to an Audubon Priority Focus Area: see www.ct.audubon.org/ILF for locations): Provide Focus area name and pertinent synopsis of the focal area.

Within or adjacent to existing public or private conservation lands: Identify any areas such as a state forest, park, or natural area that may be adjacent to or ecologically connected to the site. Include a brief description of these areas (acres, ecosystems, and known wetland systems or rare species occurrences).

Within or adjacent to other natural resource priority areas (e.g., identified in regional or municipal plan, land trust strategic plan, etc.): Describe any priority areas that may be identified

in regional or municipal plans, land trust strategic plans, etc. that are known or suspected of being important to biodiversity. Provide the name and a brief description of their value.

Contains natural resources of significant value and/or rarity: Note other Significant wildlife habitat, such as vernal pools, vernal pool critical terrestrial habitat, Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat, Tidal Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat, Shorebird Feeding & Staging Areas, Trout Management Areas, unique wetland types, etc.

7. Type of Compensatory Mitigation, Acreage and Resource Type:

Project acres: Indicate the percentage of project acres contributing to each compensatory mitigation type. Types of Compensatory Mitigation are as follows:

- Preservation: removal of a threat to, or prevention of the decline of a resource through appropriate legal and physical mechanisms such as land purchase or conservation easement.
- Restoration: return a former aquatic resource to a formerly existing functionality.
- Enhancement: manipulation of an existing aquatic resource to heighten or improve degraded or lost functions.
- Upland buffer: any non-wetland habitats that protect, buffer, or support identified resource functions and ecological connectivity on the property.
- Creation: the establishment of an aquatic resource where it had not existed previously (this is generally the least desirable form of compensatory mitigation).

Resource Types: Identify which of the following Resources Types apply to the proposed project (“NWI” refers to the National Inventory of Wetlands, which can be accessed here: [Wetlands Mapper \(fws.gov\)](http://Wetlands Mapper (fws.gov)))

Freshwater Wetland, Palustrine forested (NWI code: PFO) – inland wooded or forested swamp

Freshwater wetland, Palustrine scrub-shrub (NWI code: PSS) – inland woody shrub swamp

Freshwater wetland, Palustrine emergent (NWI code: PEM) – inland wet meadow, marsh

Coastal wetland, Marine subtidal (NWI code: M1)

Coastal wetland, Marine intertidal (NWI code: M2)

Coastal wetland, Estuarine subtidal (NWI code: E1)

Coastal wetland, Estuarine intertidal (NWI code: E2)

Riverine Resource (NWI Code: R) - River, stream or brook

Lacustrine (NWI Code: L) – Lakes

Other:

Sources of additional information to assist preparation of LOI See www.ct.audubon.org/ILF

For additional information to assist completion of a Letter of Intent, including the CT ILF Aquatic Resource Goals and Objectives, Compensatory Mitigation Objectives by service area, and other relevant instructions and information. For more information about wildlife and habitat management, contact

Connecticut Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) or go to:

http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2723&q=325728&depNav_GID=1655&dep

For more information about Landowners Incentive Program (LIP): Helping Private Landowners Protect Rare Animals, Plants, and Plant Communities, contact LIP or go to:

http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2723&q=325734&depNav_GID=1655

For more information about Open Space, contact Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) or go to:

http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2706&q=323838&depNav_GID=1641&dep

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) has GIS online maps of Natural Diversity Database (NDDB):

http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2702&q=323464&depNav_GID=1628

Information about Endangered or Threatened Species can be found at:

http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2702&q=323486&depNav_GID=1628&dep

A Fact sheet about Endangered Species in Connecticut can be found:

http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2702&q=323468&depNav_GID=1628&dep

National Inventory of Wetlands (NWI) website provides locations of some federally mapped wetlands:

<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>

Connecticut DEEP has GIS online maps of wetland data:

<http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2698&q=322898>