



Access to the Great Lakes Fishery *2013 Application*



Proposal ID	2013.1374
Project Title	Traverse City Pier
Organization	Alliance for Economic Success
Contact Name	Tim Ervin
Previous Applicant	No
Previous Grantee	No
Previous Application	No
Amount Requested	\$250,000.00
Match Provided	\$.00
Start Date	1/1/2014
End Date	6/1/2015
Project Area	Northwest Michigan
Eligible Organization	Yes

Project Narrative

- 1) Project Goal.** *Explain the specific goal of the project and how it relates to the overall goal of the Access to the Great Lakes Fishery grant category. If funded, this description will be used by the GLFT on our website. (Limit your brief explanation to 500 characters, which is about 75 words.)*

To complete the design, preliminary engineering, studies and construction drawings and details to build an approx. 550 foot, universally accessible fishing pier at the mouth of the Boardman River on Grand Traverse Bay. The pier will provide unique, outstanding access for people of all ages, needs and abilities to fish for migratory and other species, and to learn about the Great Lakes, the importance of stewardship and the value, challenges and opportunities involving the fishery.

- 2) **Geographic Location.** Describe the geographic location of the project that is being proposed. Recreational fishing access projects must be located on the Great Lakes or lower portions of major tributaries. Projects located on Lake Michigan or lower portions of major tributaries from New Buffalo to Mackinaw City will receive highest funding priority. Tribal fishing access projects must be located on northern Lake Michigan and northern Lake Huron, consistent with the provisions of the 2000 consent decree. (Limit your response to 1000 characters, which is about 125 words)

The geographic location is Grand Traverse County, City of Traverse City at the mouth of the Boardman River on West Grand Traverse Bay, along US 31, one of the most visible, heavily traveled stretches of State trunkline in Northern Michigan. The pier will extend into the Bay on the west side of the River mouth, replacing and going lakeward of the present steel pile wall. It will be readily accessed by residents and visitors, including the hundreds of thousands who visit the Traverse area during the spring through fall period. It is part of a \$26 million Bay Front Plan that will feature universal access to a variety of recreational experiences all centered on the water resources of the West Arm of Grand Traverse Bay. The pier has been identified as a high priority through two public planning processes involving hundreds of people. It is located within northern Michigan's largest urban region with the highest level of tourism.

- 3) **Project Need.** Describe the need for and significance of the project, noting the nearest Great Lakes access opportunity and whether the site will fill an unmet need for access in the area. Projects located in areas where there is an unmet need for fishing access (i.e., there is no viable access alternative nearby) will be given higher priority when making funding decisions. (Limit your response to 2000 characters, which is about 250 words)

We know of no other comparable pier that will provide similarly rich and diverse universally accessible angling opportunities and environmental education in a relatively sheltered Bay environment on a river mouth that attracts a wealth of fishing opportunities year-round. Although Grand Traverse Bay and northern Michigan in general have great fishing opportunities in coastal waters, there is no infrastructure like this that will provide outstanding opportunities 12 months of the year, except during ice-cover conditions which have become rather rare. Angling in Northern Michigan is an important part of the lifestyle and culture and is a significant economic catalyst. The Pier will provide an outstanding platform for experienced and novice anglers alike, with species ranging from a 30 pound king salmon to an eight inch perch. The Pier will also provide access to a fishery that is often available only to those with large boats or resources for charter fishing. It will also educate thousands of Pier visitors about the value and importance of the fishery. It will draw people from downtown Traverse City to explore and learn about the land/water interface. The pier will provide an outstanding location for the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative's Traverse City hub where teachers will use the pier as a platform for students to learn about the Fishery Trust, the fishery, invasive species, water stewardship and management of competing water uses. Pier structures exist along Lake Michigan that are federally controlled and managed for commercial and recreational navigation but none of these facilities have amenities or features that intentionally support universal access to angling in a sheltered environment that is also a vibrant urban center.

- 4) **Fishing-Related Amenities.** Describe the fishing-related amenities to be provided in conjunction with the project. The GLFT only funds specific, angling-related amenities associated with shore-based fishing access projects. For more information regarding the type of fishing access amenities eligible for funding, refer to the Policy on Tribal and Recreational Fishing Access Amenities, which can be found on the GLFT website at www.glft.org on the

Grant Related Policies page under the Resources tab. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

Fishing related amenities would include: signage about fish species available, seasonality of the fishery and successful fishing techniques; lighting; parking; expansion of the walkway under the US 31 bridge to provide additional fishing opportunities; restrooms in close proximity to the pier; a planned fish cleaning facility; railings with openings for inserting nets to land species; integrated fishing rod holders; and durable benches for anglers. As part of the work proposed under the application, we will seek the ideas and opinions of diverse audiences to determine all of the amenities that might be included as part of this project to provide a truly world class angling experience.

- 5) **Population.** Describe the population in the project area. Funding priority will be given to sites where the potential for use is high, as in urban locations or recreational destinations offering multiple forms of water-related recreation. How many anglers do you anticipate using the site annually? Approximately what percentage of all facility users will be anglers? (If facilities are to be shared with other expected users of the site, the GLFT will consider funding a share of the project costs based on estimated use by anglers versus non-anglers.) (200 words)

The population of Traverse City is 14,674 and 143,372 in the micropolitan area. It is the primary urban center of Northern Michigan. The population is much larger during the summer months, and it is estimated that up to 500,000 visitors enjoy the City during the popular Cherry Festival. Traverse City and water are synonymous. The water resources of the area are intensively used for stream fishing, boating, kayaking, canoeing, Lake Michigan fishing, swimming and pleasure cruises by motor and sail boats. We conservatively estimate that 3,000 to 4,000 anglers will use this facility but that estimate is likely to be far less than actual since the pier will offer an angling experience unlike any other on Lake Michigan. Because the Pier will be a signature of the \$26 million Bay Front Plan, it is likely that tens of thousands will visit and use the pier annually, with everyone benefiting from the interpretive and educational emphasis about the Great Lakes fishery.

- 6) **Physical Characteristics.** Describe the physical characteristics of the site that make it suitable for fishing access. The proposed site must have the physical characteristics necessary for access site construction. Priority will be given to projects proposed on sites where property is already in public ownership and land acquisition is not required. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

The site is at the mouth of the Boardman River, the largest tributary feeding Grand Traverse Bay that supplies 30% of the water supply for the Bay. The Boardman is a leading Michigan tributary for angling for Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Steelhead Trout, Brown Trout, Lake Trout, Walleye, Smallmouth Bass and other fish species. The project is part of a City-owned waterfront redevelopment plan and is connected to the Traverse City-owned Bay Front to the west and to the Northwestern Michigan College Great Lakes Campus to the east. The site will be universally accessible from the west, south and east and will be plainly visible and accessible to the hundreds of thousands of people who travel US 31 through Traverse City. There is no comparable site on Grand Traverse Bay that will provide access to an abundant and diverse fishery. No acquisition will be needed.

- 7) **Habitat Improvement.** Describe the incidence of habitat destruction that will be prevented/lessened because of proposed access improvements, if any. Projects that will prevent or lessen the incidence of habitat destruction associated with shore-based fishing in a previously unimproved location will be given higher funding priority. If the proposed project

will have no effect on habitat, please indicate as such. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

The studies that will be conducted as part of this project will identify potential negative impacts and options for mitigating or eliminating impacts, including sand deposition. The hard surface universally accessible pathway connecting the Pier with Clinch Park will be designed and built to minimize deleterious impacts at the land-water interface. The potential for habitat destruction is minimal since the location of the project is on the bottomlands of Grand Traverse Bay that consists of sand with an existing sheet pile wall that extends 250 feet into the bay.

- 8) Maintenance and Safety Measures.** Describe how the site will be maintained and the safety of visitors ensured after it is constructed. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to maintain the access site, ensure the safety of its users, and enforce user regulations. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

The site will be regularly patrolled by the Traverse City police and Grand Traverse County Sheriff to ensure that it is being properly and safely used. City staff will inspect and maintain the site daily to ensure it is free of trash and hazards and to ensure that all elements of the facility are in good working order. The City will post uses of the pier that may not be permissible and that the restrictions will be enforced. Examples may include use of bicycles and skateboards on the pier and open alcoholic beverages. There will also be signage that warns people about swimming hazards from the pier, including rip currents and other hazards, including use of the pier during cold weather months where ice and waves may pose hazards. There will be life rings stationed on the pier. The City will enlist the assistance professionals including our insurance carriers to identify and mitigate risks as part of the work that would be done under this grant request.

- 9) Tribal Commercial Fishing and Public Usage.** If tribal access will be provided, please describe the arrangements that have been made with respect to other tribes and the public using the site. If no special provisions for tribal access would be provided, indicate as such. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

No special provisions for Tribal access are provided.

- 10) User Fees to Access the Facility.** State whether users of this facility will be required to pay a fee to access the facility and describe any fees that will be required to access the site. (Limit your response to 1000 characters, which is about 100 words)

There will be no user fees to access, use and enjoy the pier.

- 11) Accessibility.** Describe how the proposed access site would accommodate people of various needs and abilities. Proposed access sites must meet legal accessibility standards for persons with disabilities. Priority will be given to projects that support the principles of universal design. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

Universal design will be an emphasis of the design of the Pier that will feature universal access to the maximum extent possible, supported by the technical assistance and guidance of the Northern Michigan Disabilities Network. The approach for designing and constructing the Pier will be similar to that used for the Explore the Shores program that designs sites to provide exceptional access for people of all ages, needs and abilities. The commitment to universal design and access at this site will be the theme along the entire Traverse City Bay Front development. The project will meet or exceed accessibility standards for persons with disabilities.

12) Authorizations, Permits or Approvals. Describe any authorizations, permits, or approvals required to undertake the project. Include information regarding status of permits, etc., as of the grant application date. If tribal fishing access is to be provided, explain how this project will comply with the 1836 tribal fishing rights consent decree, including a statement indicating that the grant funds requested will not replace other sources of funding provided by the consent decree. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

The scope of work will include defining and applying for all permits required. A joint Corps of Engineers/Mich. Dept of Environmental Quality permit will be required.

13) Communications. Describe your plans for making the public and other appropriate forums or groups aware of results. Projects should have a broad range of support from organizations and/or agencies interested in Great Lakes fisheries, the general public, and/or the scientific community. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

The Traverse City Pier has been consistently identified as a high priority through two significant public engagement processes to determine the future use of the City's Bay Front. Both processes involved hundreds of people, including one through the Michigan State University Small Town Design Initiative and one that was led by the City to develop its Bay Front Plan. This project will include a public component where all interests will be invited to have input to respond to all elements of the design of the Pier. We will publicize the design and construction process and have both ground-breaking and ribbon cutting events involving the Fishery Trust. The Pier will be publicized through the City's Convention and Visitor's Bureau, through the City's web site and through Pure Michigan. We will welcome and promote use of the pier by all interests for angling and for learning about the Great Lakes and the Great Lakes Fishery Trust. We will integrate use of the Pier into the popular Traverse City/NMC kid's fishing day. This will be among the most visible projects ever undertaken in this community and we will support and invite public input and understanding.

14) Educational Opportunities. Describe the Great Lakes fisheries-oriented educational opportunities that will be included on the site (e.g., interpretative signage, events), if any. Funding priority will be given to proposals that include angler education opportunities (e.g., signage at access site that identifies potential catch, fishing seasons, and other information relevant to anglers and aligned with the GLFT mission and goals) and projects with educational or stewardship-oriented programming aligned with the GLFT's mission. If no educational opportunities would be included, please indicate as such. (Limit your response to 1500 characters, which is about 200 words)

The site will include interpretive/educational signage about:

- the Great Lakes Fishery Trust
- the history of the site including Native American use at the river mouth
- the Great Lakes fishery and fish species available depending upon seasonality'
- successful angling methods
- Great Lakes threats, including invasive species
- the importance of Great Lakes stewardship
- Unique learning opportunities at and around the Pier
- User safety and Pier rules

We will convene an ad-hoc group consisting of the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative staff, the Disabilities Network, environmental education and science teachers, students, Great Lakes specialists, DNR Fisheries Division interpretive staff and others in developing the content of signage as well as methods, with a goal of educating all Pier users, including those with disabilities. The Pier presents outstanding opportunities for K-12 education, for the GLFT's Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative and for general education of all Pier users.

15) Applicant Capacity. Describe the applicant's capacity to administer and complete the proposed project, including demonstrated experience in successfully managing grants and executing projects of a scope and depth comparable to those of the proposed project. Priority will be given to applicants with experience, expertise, and exceptional past project implementation performance. (Limit your response to 2000 characters, which is about 250 words)

Traverse City's government is led by a City Manager selected by the City Council who oversees several departments including planning, engineering and financial staff. The City's FY 2013 is \$14 million. The City also has a Downtown Development Authority that has managed large scale development projects. The City's government has a long history of managing large-scale, complex projects that encompass City infrastructure as well as recreation developments. Successful City-managed projects include: the City's Municipal Marina, implementation of Corridor Plans; Park Revitalization Projects; Public-Private partnerships for redevelopment projects; municipal parking decks.

Land Acquisition

This section is required only if your proposal includes a request from the GLFT to support the acquisition of real property through fee simple or lesser interest in a property. **If your proposal does not include land acquisition, you may SKIP TO THE PROJECT ATTACHMENTS SECTION.**

The GLFT has determined that its primary mission is NOT to acquire property except in limited circumstances where the acquisition of fee simple or lesser interest in property is an essential element in accomplishing its primary mission. In general, the GLFT relies upon federal, state, and local agencies; private land conservancies; and private foundations that routinely acquire interest in lands to protect, enhance, and preserve natural resource or access of value to the public.

16) Acquisition Need. In order to be considered for funding fee simple acquisitions, easements, or similar land control costs, projects shall demonstrate, at a minimum, that the proposed land control cost is an essential component in providing recreational or tribal access to the Great Lakes fisheries. Describe how the proposed land acquisition supplies a necessary component in support of providing access to the Great Lakes fisheries. (Limit your response to 2000 characters, which is about 250 words)

Validate this need by supplying a letter, if available, from the local Department of Natural Resources district office, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, or local land conservancy. Please upload your letter(s) in the online application. If you have multiple letters, please merge them to create only one PDF file before uploading.

This is not an acquisition project.

17) Property History. Provide a brief history of the property and its purchase status. Also explain the current purchase status, that is, the applicant's current stage in the purchase process. (Limit your response to 3000 characters, which is about 300 words)

NA

18) Development Pressure. Describe the rate at which land costs in the proposed area and/or growth and development pressures are increasing. (Limit your response to 1000 characters, which is about 125 words)

NA

19) Long-term Maintenance. Explain how the applicant will ensure that the property interests will remain available for project purposes, in control of the applicant, and be maintained by a public agency or private nonprofit entity. (Limit your response to 2000 characters, which is about 250 words)

NA

Project Attachments

Design Drawings. Upload design drawings for your proposal, if available, in the online application. Only PDF files will be accepted. If you have multiple drawings, please merge them to create a single PDF file before uploading.

Letter(s) from Fishery Managers. In the online application, upload a letter(s) from the local Department of Natural Resources district office and/or the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority validating that the project provides access to a viable sport and/or tribal fishery. Only these projects will be considered for GLFT funding. Upload the letter(s) in a PDF file. If you have multiple letters, please merge them to create a single PDF file before attaching.

Attached

Project Budget

Budget Narrative. Briefly explain how the figures in each budget category on the detailed project budget were estimated and justify the need for the costs. 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. If matching funds or in-kind contributions are involved, please:

- Identify the sources and amounts and explain for each whether these have been pledged, requested, or secured.
- Explain whether the GLFT funds are to be used as a match requirement, and, if so, what percentage of GLFT funds would be used to complete specific items (e.g., 30 percent of needed funds for a task would be from the GLFT, 70 percent from other sources).
- Address contingency plans if pending funding is not realized.
(Limit your response to 2500 characters, which is about 300 words.)

Funding will be dedicated to:

- Completing on-site, environmental, historic, marine and other investigations and studies that are required and prudent to develop the appropriate design

- Design and implementation of a process to fully engage stakeholders and the general public to enable understanding of the need, options, process, design considerations and final design and construction process.
- Completing the design of the pier, considering best practice options, including the pier at Oscoda that has, on a preliminary basis, impressed staff involved with this grant application.
- Defining permit requirements and seeking and securing all required permits needed to construct the pier.
- The completion of all construction documents needed to bid the construction project.

Concurrent with this initiative, Rotary Charities of Traverse City has made a planning grant for this project to the City of Traverse City. The City has engaged a consultant to assist in identifying all potential sources of funding for constructing the pier, public and private, so that the Pier and associated amenities can be developed as soon as possible following this phase of the project. Examples of traditional and non-traditional potential funding sources include: Michigan Land Trust Fund; Community Development Block Grants; funding through the Federal Economic Development Administration; Great Lakes Fishery Trust Access Funds; funding from Rotary Charities of Traverse City, Oleson Foundation, Frey Foundation and through field of interest funds at the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation and others, including some that may be pursued in partnership with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa Indians.

It should also be noted that the City of Traverse City has secured and developed funding for complimentary initiatives, including the development of an improved boat launch facility in close proximity to the Pier. To sustain appropriate focus on the pier, we chose to not reflect in this grant application the boat launch facility and the associated funds that could have been considered matching funds.



Project title: Traverse City Pier
 Project manager: Russ Soyring
 Budget name: Traverse City Pier budget

Year 2013 of 1.5 total years

I	II	III	IV	V
EXPENSE CATEGORY	GLFT Funds	Matching Funds	Source of Match	Total Project Cost
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Benefits	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Supplies & Materials	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Other Direct Expenses	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Contract Services	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Indirect Costs (Administrative/Overhead)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Engineering/Design Costs (Access only)	\$ 249,100.00	\$ -		\$ 249,100.00
Field Investigations	\$ 40,000.00			
Shoreline Studies	\$ 30,000.00			
Public Outreach	\$ 6,000.00			
Design Development	\$ 82,600.00			
Permitting	\$ 18,000.00			
Construction Documents	\$ 72,500.00			
Facility Construction Costs (Access only)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Land Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Totals	\$ 249,100.00	\$ -		\$ 249,100.00

\$ 249,100.00

Total GLFT Grant Request	\$ 249,100.00
Total Matching Funds	\$ -
Total Project Cost	\$ 249,100.00

Chart of Work

Major outcomes and associated activities	Month																								Requested GLFT funds	Total cost
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
Outcome 1: Field Investigations																									\$40,000.00	\$0.00
Activity 1: Shoreline Survey																										
Activity 2: Bathymetric Survey																										
Activity 3: Lake Bottom Geotechnical Investigation																										
Activity 4: Shoreline Geotechnical Investigation																										
Deliverables: Surveys and Geotechnical Reports																										
Outcome 2: Shoreline Studies																									\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Activity 1: Sediment Transport Analysis																										
Activity 2: Wave Study																										
Deliverables: Study Reports																										
Outcome 3: Public Outreach																									\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Activity 1: Presentation Materials																										
Activity 2: Public Presentations																										
Activity 3: Presentations to Key Stakeholders																										
Deliverables: Meetings, Facilitation, Power-point presentations, and Color Renderings																										
Outcome 4: Design Development																									\$82,600.00	\$0.00
Activity 1: On-shore infrastructure																										
Activity 2: Pier Infrastructure																										
Deliverables: Design Plans and Supporting Documents																										
TOTAL (this page)																								\$158,600.00	\$0.00	

Chart of Work

Major outcomes and associated activities	Month																								Requested GLFT funds	Total cost
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
Outcome 5: Permitting																									\$18,000.00	\$0.00
Activity 1: Wetland and Water Body Survey & Report																										
Activity 2: Cultural and Resource Survey & Report																										
Activity 3: Special Status Species Survey																										
Activity 4: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) Permit, Section 10 – Rivers and Harbors Act																										
Activity 5: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Section 7, Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald & Golden Eagle Act																										
Activity 6: MDEQ - Act 451, Part 301/303 Permitting																										
Activity 7: MDEQ - Act 451, Part 31 – Storm Water Management Plan Qualifies for Permit-by-Rule																										
Activity 8: MDEQ - Act 451, Part 31 Water Resources Protection; Floodplains and Floodways																										
Activity 9: MDEQ - Act 451, Part 91 Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control																										
Activity 10: Michigan Department of State- Bureau of History, State Historic Preservation Office/ Michigan Tribal Council/Michigan Office of State Archaeologist Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act																										
Activity 11: MDNR Act 451, Part 365; Endangered Species Review (Natural Heritage List)																										
Deliverables: Permit Applications and Supporting Documents																										
Outcome 6: Construction Documents																									\$72,500.00	\$0.00
Activity 1: On-shore infrastructure																										
Activity 2: Pier Infrastructure																										
Activity 3: Bottom Lands Transfer																										
Deliverables: Plans and Specifications for Construction																										
TOTAL (this page)																								\$90,500.00	\$0.00	



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

August 8, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to encourage your support for the construction of a public fishing pier on West Grand Traverse Bay. Currently, access for shorebound anglers, particularly those with disabilities, is severely lacking in the Traverse City area, and is nonexistent on the Grand Traverse Bays. The proposed fishing pier at the mouth of the Boardman River would create incredible Great Lakes fishing opportunities for the public. I believe the proposed location to be the best possible location for a fishing pier on West Bay.

My Department annually stocks large numbers of steelhead, coho salmon, and Chinook salmon in the Boardman River, in addition to large numbers of brown trout into West Grand Traverse Bay. Because migratory salmon and steelhead stage near the mouth prior to running the river, the proposed location is optimum for creating fisheries for those species. In addition, anglers will be able to catch many other species from the proposed pier, including lake trout, brown trout, yellow perch, walleye, lake whitefish, menominee whitefish, and smallmouth bass.

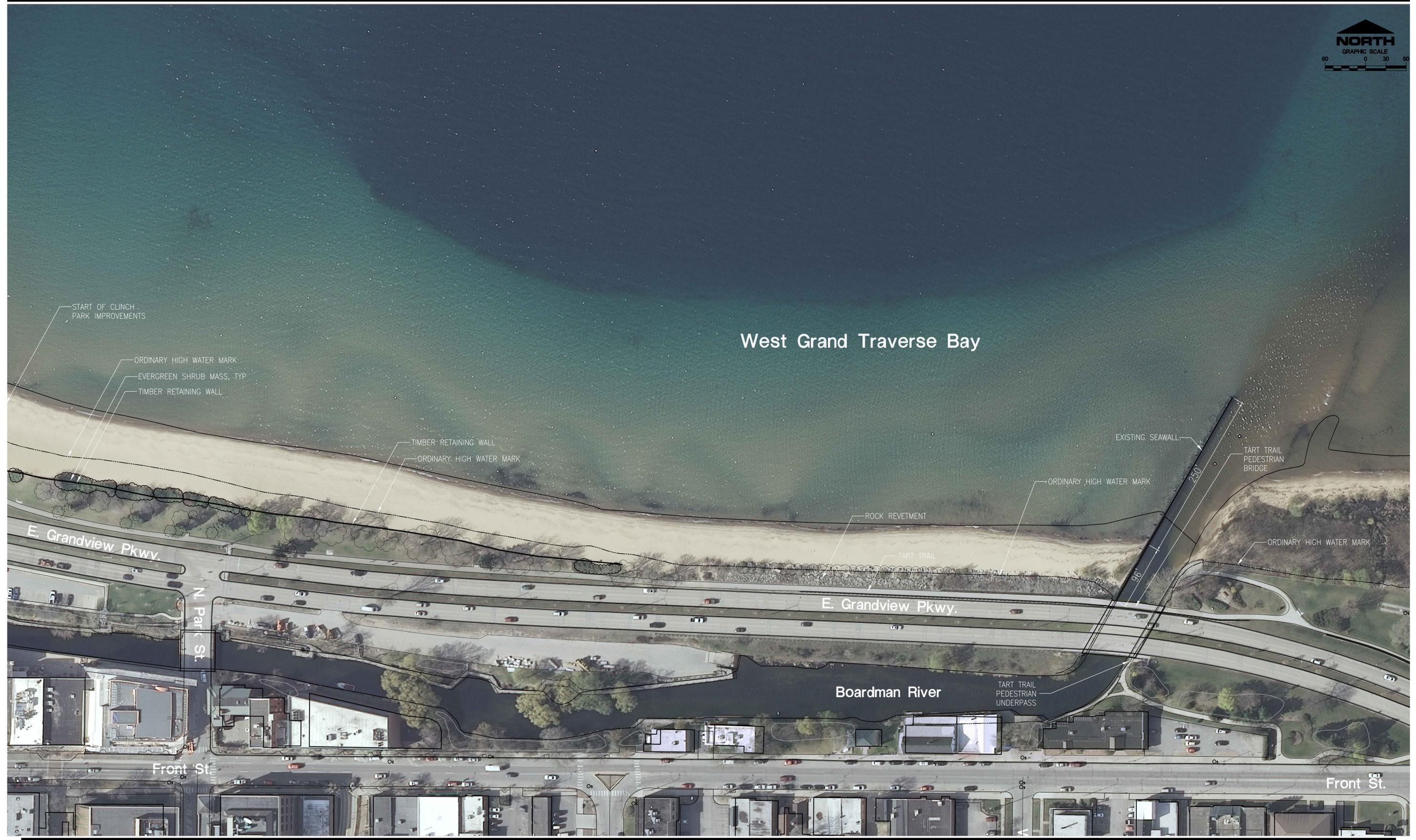
The construction of the proposed pier would create unprecedented fishing opportunities for the Traverse City area, and we expect that this pier would be very heavily utilized by the public in nearly all months of the year. Therefore, we hope you are able to support this worthwhile project.

Please contact me at tonellom@michigan.gov or by telephone at (231)775-9727, ext. 6071 if you need further information in support of this grant application.

Sincerely,

Mark Tonello, Acting Unit Manager
Central Lake Michigan Management Unit
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Cc: Todd Kalish, Lake Michigan Basin Coordinator, Traverse City
Heather Hettinger, Fisheries Management Biologist, Traverse City



West Grand Traverse Bay

Boardman River

EXISTING CONDITIONS



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



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DIRECTOR

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The construction of the proposed pier would create unprecedented fishing opportunities for the Traverse City area, and we expect that this pier would be very heavily utilized by the public in nearly all months of the year. Therefore, we hope you are able to support this worthwhile project.

Please contact me at tonellom@michigan.gov or by telephone at (231)775-9727, ext. 6071 if you need further information in support of this grant application.

Sincerely,

Mark Tonello, Acting Unit Manager
Central Lake Michigan Management Unit
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Cc: Todd Kalish, Lake Michigan Basin Coordinator, Traverse City
Heather Hettinger, Fisheries Management Biologist, Traverse City

August 11, 2013

Ms. Julie Bennett
Manager
Great Lakes Fishery Trust
600 West St. Joseph
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Ms. Bennett:

The purpose of this letter is to encourage the support of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust Board for the studies, design, preliminary engineering for a Traverse City pier at the mouth of the Boardman River. This project has been a focus of community input for several years, including the most recent Bay Front plan that is of immense importance to our City, region and State.

The Pier will become a destination for the hundreds of thousands of people who visit Traverse City each year, connecting them with our waterfront and helping them learn about the robust fishery in and around the Boardman River. The Pier will be an important catalyst for the implementation of the \$23 million Bay Front plan that will make our waterfront a best practice for the rest of the world, including an emphasis upon universal design.

We greatly appreciate the support of the Fishery Trust in our region, including the Boardman River restoration project, and hope that support will be sustained through approval of this grant application.

Sincerely,



Rob Bacigalupi

Acting Executive Director

**Downtown
Development
Authority**

**Downtown
Traverse City
Association**

P.O. Box 42
Traverse City, Michigan
49685-0042

231.922.2050
231.922.4863 fax
info@downtowntc.com
www.downtowntc.com

Oleson Foundation

P. O. Box 904
Traverse City, MI 49685-0904

August 1, 2013

Ms. Julie Bennett
Manager
Great Lakes Fishery Trust
600 West St. Joseph
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Ms. Bennett:

The Oleson Foundation encourages approval by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust for the grant application from the City of Traverse City involving the design, engineering and environmental studies to construct a new pier at the mouth of the Boardman River.

The pier will be a catalyst for the City's \$23 million plan to turn its waterfront into a world-class destination unlike any other in the world. The pier will provide an opportunity for people of all ages, needs and abilities to fish for migratory and other fish species unlike any other on Grand Traverse Bay or Lake Michigan. The pier will become a magnet for the Traverse City waterfront. It will be instrumental in teaching our kids about the wonderful pastime of fishing and the importance of stewardship. It will help all pier visitors understand the importance of the Great Lakes Fishery and Fishery Trust and the fragility of the Great Lakes environment.

The support from the Fisheries Trust for our region has been greatly appreciated and, as with this project, had immense impact upon the quality of life and economic well-being. We encourage that your legacy of support be continued by approving this request to develop outstanding, one-of-a-kind access to the robust fishery of West Grand Traverse Bay.

Sincerely,



Kathy Huschke
Executive Director

Phone: 231-929-2605
Email: kathy@olesonfoundation.org



August 1, 2013

Ms. Julie Bennett
Manager
Great Lakes Fishery Trust
600 West St. Joseph
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Ms. Bennett:

I want to encourage support for the grant application from the City of Traverse City involving the design, engineering and related studies to develop a new pier at the mouth of the Boardman River. Rotary Charities continues to be a supporter of the Bayfront Plan and the work to revitalize the Boardman River. The pier will be a catalyst to support the development, access and use of our waterfront by people of all ages, needs and abilities.

Our colleagues with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources report that this is the most ideal location on Grand Traverse Bay for recreational anglers to pursue a variety of fish species, including migratory species like Pacific Salmon, Steelhead Trout and others.

This important study will be the next step in bringing the vision created by citizens during the "Your Bay, Your Say" public input process into reality. Economic development, access to recreation and fostering stewardship of the Great Lakes are common goals that we share with the Fisheries Trust, all of which are realized with this project. We encourage you to join us in the continuing development of the Grand Traverse Bay waterfront by supporting this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marsha Smith".

Marsha Smith
Executive Director



Where a donor's wish lives... Forever

August 12, 2013

Ms. Julie Bennett
Manager
Great Lakes Fishery Trust
600 West St. Joseph
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Ms. Bennett:

I am writing to encourage the support of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust Board for the environmental studies, design, preliminary engineering and community input process for a Traverse City pier at the mouth of the Boardman River. This project has been a focus of community interest for several years, including the most recent Bay Front plan that is of immense importance to our community. The Community Foundation has been a donor to this plan for more than one project and anticipate this to be one of the very important efforts of this area.

The pier, and the process used to develop it, can become a benchmark for the entire Bay Front plan, including an emphasis upon universal design so that people of all ages, needs and abilities can access our Bay in ways not possible before. I am aware that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division has noted in a separate letter to you the rich and diverse recreational fishery that would be accessible by everyone from the pier – a wonderful asset for our community, region and State.

We are pleased to have this opportunity to express our support for this important grant application.

Philip L. Ellis, Ph.D.
Executive Director

address: 250 E. Front Street, Ste. 310 Traverse City, MI 49684

phone: 231.935.4066 fax: 231.941.0021 web: www.4good4ever.org email: info@gtcfc.org

CARL LEVIN
MICHIGAN

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COMMITTEES:
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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2202

August 6, 2013

Mr. Keith Creagh, Director
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Creagh:

I am writing to express my support for the application for funding from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust submitted by the City of Traverse City.

This funding will support the design, engineering and studies required for a universally accessible fishing and multi-use pier at the mouth of the Boardman River. This project is a capstone of the Boardman River restoration, which is a catalyst for the City's \$23 million initiative to make the Traverse City bayfront second to none in the world. Further, the pier will provide outstanding recreational angling opportunities for people of all ages, needs and abilities, leveraging the substantial public funds invested in that recreational fishery.

I trust you will give this application every consideration for funding. I would like to be informed as to the timetable for processing these applications and of the disposition of this application in particular. Please address your response to my Traverse City office at the address and telephone number shown below.

Sincerely,


Carl Levin

CL/dd

STATE OFFICES

DETROIT
477 MICHIGAN AVENUE
SUITE 1860
DETROIT, MI 48226
(313) 226-6020

ESCANABA
524 LUDINGTON STREET
SUITE LL-103
ESCANABA, MI 49829
(906) 786-0052

GRAND RAPIDS
FEDERAL BUILDING
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110 MICHIGAN STREET, N.W.
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503
(616) 456-2531

LANSING
124 WEST ALLEGAN STREET
SUITE 1810
LANSING, MI 48933
(517) 377-1508

SAGINAW
ROOM 402
615 NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE
SAGINAW, MI 48607
(989) 754-2494

TRAVERSE CITY
107 CASH STREET
SUITE E
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49984
(231) 947-9569

WARREN
30500 VAN DYKE AVENUE
SUITE 208
WARREN, MI 48093
(586) 573-9145



Building Communities that *Work!*

August 15, 2013

Ms. Julie Bennett
Manager
Great Lakes Fishery Trust
600 West St. Joseph
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Ms. Bennett

This letter is to express enthusiastic support from Disability Network Northern Michigan for the grant application from the City of Traverse City to develop a new universal design fishing and viewing pier at the mouth of the Boardman River.

The pier will tie in with the already accessible features at the newly re-designed Clinch Park and the accessible beach matting that Disability Network raised funds to install. Even though we are surrounded by natural beauty in the Grand Traverse Bay region, there are very few places where people with mobility disabilities can experience catching a Great Lakes salmon.

People with disabilities are not the only ones who benefit from accessible design. Any change that provides easy access and improves safety and convenience is good for people of all abilities, from parents with strollers, to aging adults, to people using wheelchairs. Please count on us for continued support in the effort to develop a unique recreational space that *everyone* can enjoy. We thank you and the Fisheries Trust board for your leadership in accessible recreation, giving everyone in our community a chance to participate, contribute, and belong.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" and last name "Moore" clearly distinguishable.

Jim Moore
Executive Director

Paul LaPorte

August 12, 2013

Ms. Julie Bennett
Manager
Great Lakes Fishery Trust
600 West St. Joseph
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Ms. Bennett:

I am delighted to support the grant application to the Great Lakes Fishery Trust from Traverse City for the studies, design, preliminary engineering needed to build a Traverse City pier at the mouth of the Boardman River. Several years ago, I was pleased to be part of a process through the Rotary Club of Traverse City to focus on the development of our Bay Front. Since that time, this project has been a focus of community input and support, including the new \$23 million Bay Front Plan that is of immense importance to our region and State.

The Pier will be a destination for the hundreds of thousands of people who visit Traverse City each year, connecting them with our waterfront and helping them learn about the robust fishery in and around the Boardman River and the many contributions in the region supported by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust. I am hard pressed to imagine how the Fishery Trust could support an access project with greater opportunities for angling that this pier at the mouth of the iconic Boardman River.

We greatly appreciate the support of the Fishery Trust in our region and hope that support will be sustained through approval of this grant application.

Sincerely,



Paul LaPorte