



**FUNDING OPPORTUNITY by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: RECREATIONAL FISHING  
EDUCATION, OUTREACH, CONSERVATION  
in Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary**

**March 23, 2018**

**Project Description**

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation in cooperation with Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (sanctuary) is soliciting proposals for education, outreach, and conservation projects that forward the mission of the sanctuary, engage the recreational fishing community, and promote sustainable recreational fishing targeting species found in the sanctuary. Total funding available is \$3,000. The average award is estimated to be \$500-\$1,000 but will be determined based on proposals received.

**Organizational Background**

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is a private, non-profit organization that protects America's ocean and Great Lakes. They are dedicated to strengthening and promoting our country's national marine sanctuaries and marine national monuments protected by the National Marine Sanctuary System. <https://www.marinesanctuary.org/>

The National Marine Sanctuary System is a network of 13 national marine sanctuaries and two marine national monuments, encompassing more than 600,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters, managed on behalf of the American people by the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS)**. ONMS seeks to protect the extraordinary scenic beauty, biodiversity, historical connections and economic productivity of these areas so they may continue to serve as the basis for thriving recreation, tourism and commercial activities that drive coastal economies. As stewards of these places, through domestic and international partnerships, ONMS helps ensure a healthier ocean, now and for future generations. <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>

Gerry E. Studds Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (sanctuary, SBNMS) is one of these treasured places. Designated by Congress in 1992, the sanctuary stretches between Cape Ann and Cape Cod at the mouth of Massachusetts Bay in the southwestern corner of the Gulf of Maine. Nearly the size of Rhode Island and located wholly within U.S. waters, sanctuary boundaries include the submerged lands of Stellwagen Bank and Basin, all of Tillies Bank and Basin, and the southern portion of Jeffreys Ledge.

The national marine sanctuary protects 842 square miles of open ocean, overlaying a diverse seafloor topography and array of benthic and pelagic habitats that support



biological communities broadly representative of the Gulf of Maine. These areas are biologically rich feeding, spawning, and nursery grounds for a wide variety of invertebrates, fish, birds and whales. As such, the sanctuary is very important to the regional economy for fishing, as well as wildlife watching and other recreation and tourism activities. In addition, as a result of hundreds, and perhaps thousands of years of human use, the sanctuary contains a broad cross-section of this nation's maritime heritage.

The national marine sanctuary's mission is to conserve, protect and enhance the biological diversity, ecological integrity and cultural legacy of the sanctuary while facilitating compatible use. <https://stellwagen.noaa.gov/>

### **Project Background**

Sustainable recreational fishing is welcome in the sanctuary and is a popular activity, with individuals visiting Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary via private vessels and charter/party boats. More information about recreational fishing in the sanctuary: <https://stellwagen.noaa.gov/visit/fishingrec/fishingrec.html>

The recreational fishing community is diverse and widespread with a deep knowledge of local waters, including the sanctuary, and a great appreciation for our shared resources. Recreational fishermen, sanctuary managers, and the Foundation all have the common goal of keeping the sanctuary special and productive. We can achieve this goal better by keeping lines of communication open and working cooperatively. We hope this funding opportunity helps generate creative projects that can achieve our shared goals and create or strengthen partnerships with individuals and organizations, both for- and non-profit.

This is a pilot program conducted cooperatively by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. If this pilot program is successful we hope to continue it but only if additional funding can be obtained.

### **Project Themes**

Successful projects will support the conservation mission of the sanctuary and advance collaboration between the recreational fishing community and the sanctuary.

- Conservation: projects will address issues such as bycatch, barotrauma, interactions with whales, e.g.
- Outreach: projects will promote sustainable recreational fishing in the sanctuary.
- Education: projects will improve awareness and education of fishermen about the sanctuary and its rich diversity of marine life.



## **Request For Proposals: Requirements**

### **Who can apply?**

Any individual aged 15 or older, or any organization, may apply. Partnerships between individuals and organizations are encouraged and given higher priority.

- Those under 18 years of age must submit a brief support letter from an adult, aged 21 or older, who will act as project mentor.

### **How do I apply?**

- Use the proposal template on the next pages. Type proposal using Times New Roman or similar font, at least 12 point in size.
- Proposal should be no more than 3 pages total.
- Send proposal no later than 11:59 pm on Friday, 05/04/18 to [grants@marinesanctuary.org](mailto:grants@marinesanctuary.org)
- Use the subject line “Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Recreational Fishing Project Proposal” in the email.

### **Timeline**

**05/04/18:** Proposals due

**05/11/18:** Announce awards

**05/30/18:** All funds distributed

**11/30/18:** Mid project check in

**05/30/19:** All projects completed and final reports submitted

**Questions?** Contact Anne-Marie Runfola, Acting Deputy Superintendent and Recreational Fishing Liaison: [anne-marie.runfola@noaa.gov](mailto:anne-marie.runfola@noaa.gov), 781-546-6023

**PROPOSAL TEMPLATE ON NEXT PAGES**



## Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Recreational Fishing Proposal

### A. Project Summary

**Name of Individual or Organization proposing the project:**

**Name of Partners:**

**Main contact for proposal:**

- **Name**
- **Address**
- **Email**
- **Phone**

**Title of Proposed Project**

**Brief Summary of Proposed Project:** What is your activity and what will it contribute/achieve? (no more than five sentences)

**Theme:** Type an “X” next to all themes that apply

- Education
- Outreach
- Conservation

### **B. Full Description of Project:**

- 1) **Topic:** Describe your project. Project should focus on education, outreach and/or conservation that forwards the mission of the sanctuary, engages the recreational fishing community, and promotes sustainable recreational fishing targeting species found in the sanctuary.
- 2) **Timeline:** Include a brief timeline of activities to achieve project goal(s), with estimated dates of completion for each major milestone.
- 3) **Project Evaluation:** The last activity in your timeline should be to evaluate the success of your project. How will you know if you’ve succeeded? Include any measurable data you will use to evaluate the project.



4) **Budget:**

- **Amount of funds requested:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Average award will be \$500-\$1,000, but request what is needed to complete the proposed project. Award decisions will be based on the proposals we receive.
- **Brief description of how funds will be spent:**  
what equipment, supplies, personnel, e.g.?

**Support Letter:**

Those under 18 years of age, include a brief support letter from an adult, aged 21 or older, who will act as project mentor. The mentor letter should include mentor contact information, relationship to the proposer, and type of support that will be provided by mentor.