

Finding Financial Support After Your MiCorps Grant Ends: Friends of the Rouge Case Study

November 9, 2017

Sally Petrella, Volunteer Monitoring Program Manager

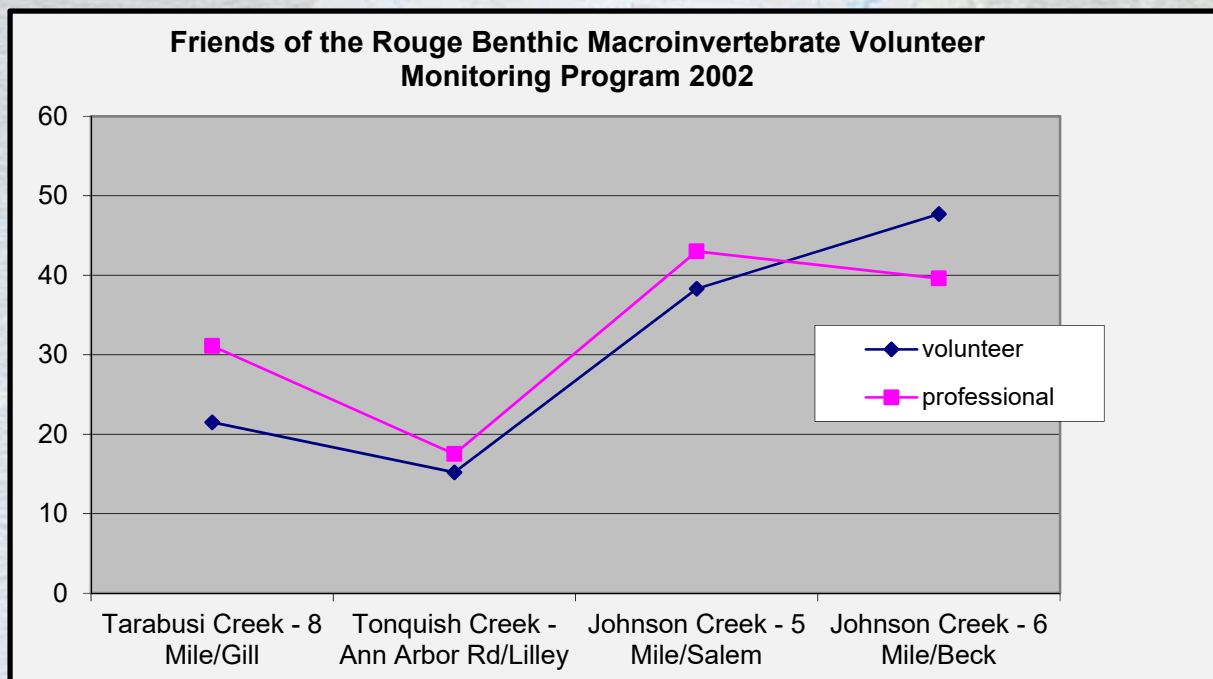


Friends of the Rouge Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Program



➤ **1998-2001 - MDEQ
Volunteer Monitoring
Program Grant**

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State Grants



- 2001-2002 - CMI MDEQ Grant
- 2008 - MiCorps

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Federal Grants



- **2003-2013 - Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant (E.P.A.)**
- **2011-12 - Erb Family Foundation (as match for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant)**

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Corporate/Private Sponsorships



- **2011-12 - Erb Family Foundation as match for GLRI Match)**
- **2013 - \$10,000 donation to support the program from a volunteer**

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Research Grants

MONITORING FISH COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO RESTORATION ACTIVITIES IN THE ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED

The U-M Water Center engages researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and non-profit groups with the goal of supporting, integrating, and improving current and future restoration and protection efforts.

The grants program is an important part of the Water Center's efforts to enhance restoration and protection activities by engaging exceptional multi-sector teams in advancing evaluation and assessment of restoration projects.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Adrienne Marino
Restoration Specialist,
U-M Water Center
Phone: 734.763.0662
Email: almarino@umich.edu
graham.umich.edu/water

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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Connect, engage,
revitalize...**PURE BLUE**

Investigators

Emily Saarinen, University of Michigan-Dearborn, esaarin@umich.edu
Jacob Napieralski, University of Michigan-Dearborn
Sally Petrella, Friends of the Rouge

Project Summary

The Rouge River is situated in a highly urbanized watershed in southeast Michigan. It serves as the catchment area for three counties and 1.35 million people, and is a major tributary to the Detroit River. Despite persistent water quality issues in the Rouge River, it appears to support a unique fish community. The river has undergone restoration efforts aimed at improving water quality and enhancing biotic communities that include adding combined sewer overflow retention treatment basins throughout the watershed and removing a migration barrier in the lower reaches to improve habitat connectivity within the watershed. Preliminary work in 2012 suggests that fish biodiversity has increased in the last 20 years and that there are substantial native fish populations inhabiting the river.

This project will characterize the fish community in the watershed, focusing on the Lower Rouge, to understand the ways in which watershed-level restoration efforts impact community composition. A key focus will be on monitoring changes associated with potential upstream migration of the nonindigenous round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*) due to the removal of a dam at Wayne Road. Data will be integrated into a GIS database to evaluate both large-scale and local processes that may impact fish habitat quality, by combining local stream reach data with catchment-level assessment related to streamflow and habitat connectivity. These data will be useful for both monitoring changes in the river based on restoration efforts as well as assisting management efforts aimed at removing beneficial use impairments that have resulted in the Rouge's designation as an Area of Concern.



Photo courtesy of Friends of the Rouge

- **2013-2015 - University of Michigan Water Center**
- **2016 - UM-D Master's Student research (equipment)**
- **2017 - Wayne State University Healthy Urban Waters**

The Water Center is part of the University of Michigan's Graham Sustainability Institute.
It is supported by funds from the Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation and the University of Michigan.

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Watershed Councils/Communities



Municipal Stormwater permits required by the Clean Water Act: Communities of 100,000 people must obtain a permit. Permit requires communities to develop a public education plan.

- **2013-2017 - Alliance of Rouge Communities**
- **2015-17 - Provided match for SAW Grant**

Funding Lessons Learned

- Establish your program using high data quality standards from the start



A1. Title and Approval Sheet

Quality Assurance Project Plan for
Rouge River Watershed Volunteer Benthic Macroinvertebrate
Monitoring Program

Date: Dec. 12, 2006

Version # 1

Organization: Friends of the Rouge

QAPP Prepared for MiCorps by: Sally Petrella

Title: Public Involvement Coordinator

Signature: Sally Petrella date: 9-5-07

Other responsible individuals:

Elizabeth Nightingale Title: Environmental Quality Analyst

Signature: Elizabeth Nightingale date: 9/7/07

Bruce McCulloch Title: Biologist

Signature: Bruce McCulloch date: 10/18/07

Kevin Goodwin Title: Biologist

Signature: _____ date: _____

MiCorps Staff Use

Tracking Number: _____

MiCorps Reviewer: Jo A. Latmore

☒ Approved

☐ Returned for modifications

Signature of reviewer: Jo A. Latmore Date: 9-5-07

Funding Lessons Learned

➤ Cultivate Advisors

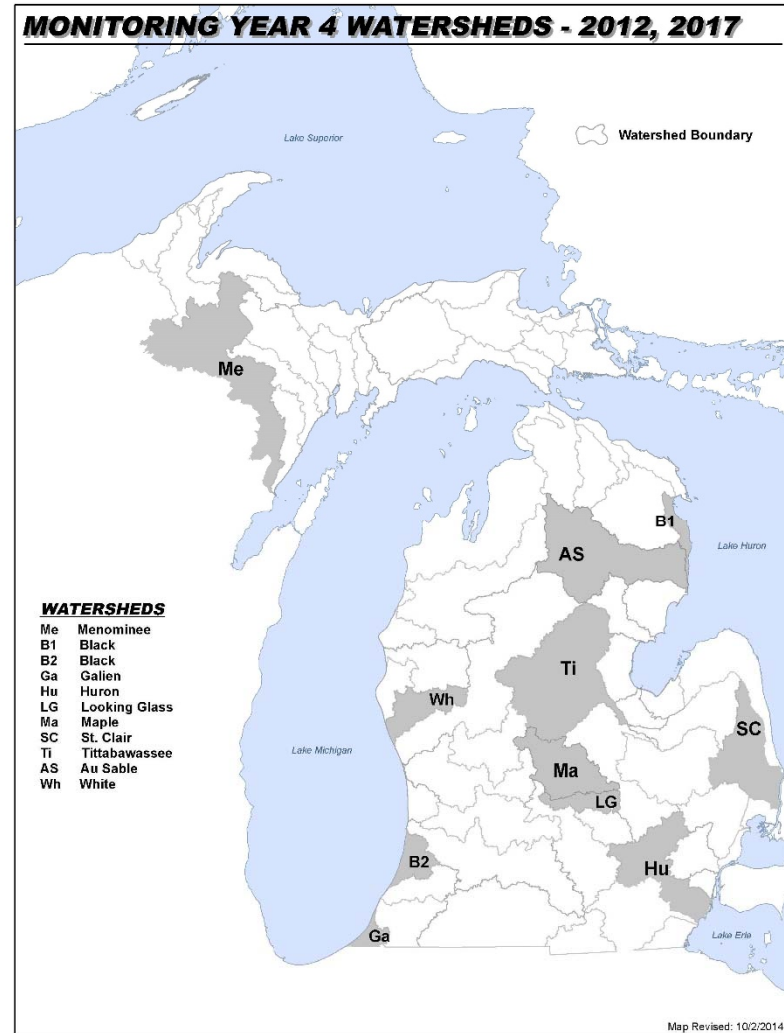
Friends of the Rouge Advisors

- Joe Rathbun, MDEQ
- Susan Thompson, Wayne County Watershed Management Division
- Bruce McCulloch, fish biologist
- Kevin Goodwin, MDEQ Aquatic biologist
- Jeffrey Braunscheidel, MDNR Fisheries Management Biologist



Funding Lessons Learned

- Find uses for your Monitoring Data
 - Choose sites based on past data, problem areas, restoration projects



Funding Lessons Learned

➤ Map and report on your findings and share them

Submitted to:
Proceedings of the XV International Symposium on Trichoptera
31 December 2015

Discovery, dispersal, and genetic diversity of *Rhyacophila lobifera* Betten
(Trichoptera: Rhyacophilidae) in southeast Michigan, USA

ABIGAIL J. FUSARO¹*, BRUCE McCULLOCH², SALLY PETRELLA³ & VELON WILLIS¹

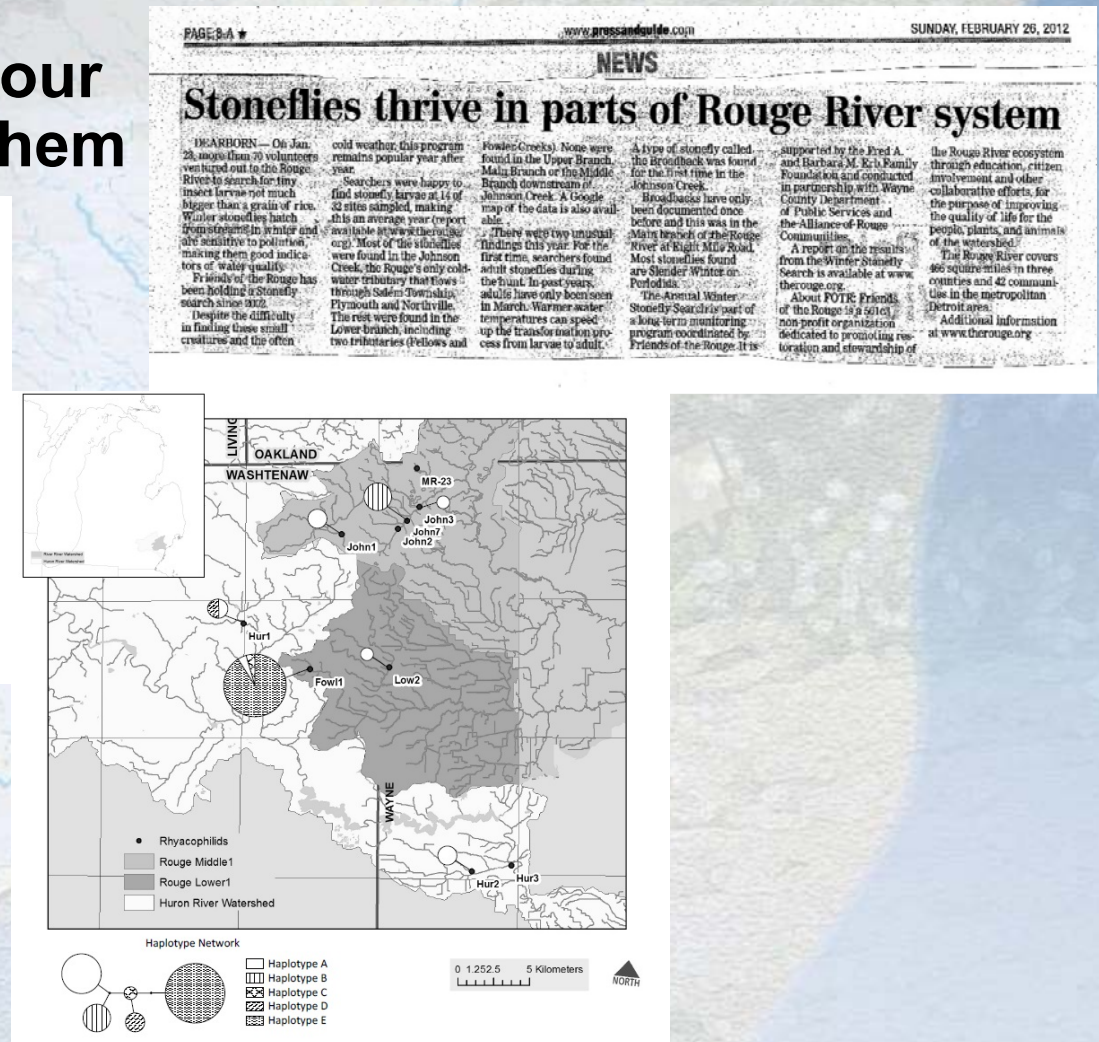
¹Department of Natural Sciences, Marygrove College, 8425 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, MI 48221 USA, E-mail:

afusaro@marygrove.edu

²Kelly Services, 1790 Bldg, Midland, MI 48674 USA, E-mail: flavus94@yahoo.com

³Friends of the Rouge, 4901 Evergreen Road, KM Bldg, Dearborn, MI 48128 USA, E-mail: spetrella@therouge.org

(*) Corresponding author



Funding Lessons Learned

- **Your biggest and most important expense is staff**
 - **Interns are a great resource for additional tasks**



Funding Lessons Learned

- **Find inkind donation sources and track them**
 - **Volunteers - \$8-\$22/hour**
 - **Facilities - \$50/hour**
 - **Refreshment donations**



Funding Lessons Learned

Develop partnerships with anyone you can

- **Watershed groups**
- **MDEQ & MDNR biologists**
- **Colleges and universities**
- **Local government**
- **Consulting firms**
- **Fishing groups**
- **Nature centers**
- **Conservation groups**
- **Corporate Partners**



Questions?

