



St. Lawrence River Research and Education Fund
Annual Report 2012

The St. Lawrence River Research and Education Fund (SLRREF) was established as part of the Comprehensive Relicensing Settlement Agreement (Agreement) which was reached during the licensing of the St. Lawrence-FDR Power Project operated by the New York Power Authority (NYPA) in Massena, New York. The purpose of this fund is to provide financial support for environmental research and environmental education projects relating to the ecology of the St. Lawrence River and its surrounding environs.

The fund is managed by a Board which consists of representatives from NYPA, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Save the River, the St. Lawrence-Lewis Board of Cooperative Educational Services, St. Lawrence County Planning Office; St. Lawrence Audubon, and a representative from a local municipality.

2012 Activities

The Board met on March 9, 2012 and reviewed five proposals; two proposals totaling \$23,762 were approved and four proposals were rejected. Total matching funds for the approved proposals were \$56,985.

The total SLRREF funding for the July 1 deadline was approximately \$36,212. Given the small amount of available funding the Board decided not to solicit proposals for the July 1, 2012 deadline. A press release was issued in June announcing the Board's decision and that the next deadline for submitting new applications would be January 1, 2013.

Projects approved in 2012

Clarkson University proposed to evaluate the biodiversity and water quality indicators of putative beneficial use impairments and ecosystem services in wetlands of the Massena area of concern. SLRREF contribution - \$19,162; matching funds - \$42,472.

Save the River proposed to expand the Riverkeeper Monitoring Program, a volunteer-based program, to the Canadian side of the St. Lawrence River. The Program was established in 2008, to collect data on the general health of the St. Lawrence River and increase community awareness of the River. SLRREF contribution - \$4,600; matching funds - \$14,513.

Financial Review

The SLRREF was established by providing the principal sum of \$1,008,000 into an account with Wachovia Bank in 2003 after a new license for the Project was

accepted. The income from this principal amount is to be used to fund the operation of the SLRREF including all expenses, grants and other disbursements.

2012 Expenditures

Approved Projects in 2012	\$23,762
Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012	\$1,094,897
Funds committed	\$19,800*
Uncommitted funds	\$1,075,097

* Reflects funds approved for 2011 and 2012 projects that have not yet been disbursed to the project applicant.

Planned 2013 Expenditures

By January 1, 2013, six proposals were received. The Board will evaluate these proposals and select the projects to be funded. Typically, the amount of funding for each project is between \$15,000 and \$20,000.