**Section 1523.70 Ecosystem** **Project Grants**

Ecosystem Project Grants are competitively selected grants to conduct projects in Ecosystem Partnership Areas. Matching dollars are not required, although the rate of match will be considered as a competitive criterion. However, an approved grant that has a match commitment shall be required to document that match. Ecosystem Projects are awarded in 6 categories: Habitat, Research, Outreach/Education, Resource Economics, Planning, and Land Acquisition/Easement. In Habitat or Land Acquisition/Easement projects, if funding is sought for habitat enhancement practices, the grantee must comply with Section 1523.160. If it is more expeditious to fund an Ecosystem Project with another municipal, State, or federal agency through an intergovernmental agreement, rather than a grant agreement, this mechanism may be utilized as an alternative. All other conditions for a grant agreement expressed in this Section must be incorporated as conditions of the intergovernmental agreement.

(Source: Amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 1144, effective January 9, 2003)