**F. Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**

**Dr. Emily Onello** is a full-time faculty member at the University of Minnesota Medical School Duluth campus and is a board-certified family physician. She has experience in managing research and educational grants during her past seven years at the medical school. She has worked on grants from a range of funding sources including the federal government, the University of Minnesota as well as private foundations. She is currently a Co-principal Investigator on a research grant for 2019 to look at the capacity of wild rice to protect against colon cancer in an animal model. (Her collaborator on that project is Dan Gallaher PhD who is also a co-investigator on this proposal).

She has a strong interest in wild rice as an indigenous plant with significant value to the people of Minnesota. She is familiar with many of the geographic, ecological and legislative/regulatory aspects of wild rice growth. Over the past five years, Dr. Onello has been involved in regional discussions of how alterations of natural resources may impact human health. As a result of her work, she recognizes the urgent need for continued scientific study of Minnesota’s natural resources in order to support informed decisions about resource preservation and management.

An unanticipated benefit of her advocacy work is that she is part of a professional network of scientific researchers who are expert in their respective fields. Her skills include successful cooperation with scientists and researchers across different disciplines and colleges and campuses of the University of Minnesota. Her well-established working relationships with her co-investigators, as well as her experience in grants management and reporting, will allow her to successfully oversee the project and ensure that each project activity is completed as planned and that the findings will be reported for public use and benefit.

**University of Minnesota**

The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities is the state’s land-grant university and one of the most prestigious public research universities in the nation. The University of Minnesota Duluth is a highly-ranked regional research and liberal arts university with a global reputation for freshwater research. All campuses of the University of Minnesota operate with the accreditation of the Higher Learning Commission. The Twin Cities campus has been accredited continuously since 1913. The Duluth campus has been accredited since 1968. Collectively, the University of Minnesota’s research programs have had a significant impact on our state’s economic strength. The University of Minnesota ranks eighth among U.S. public universities in research spending, and generates an estimated $8.6 billion annual economic impact for the state of Minnesota.