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Office of Habitat Conservation Competitive Funding Opportunities

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law & Inflation Reduction Act

November 2023

Funding and Technical Assistance - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

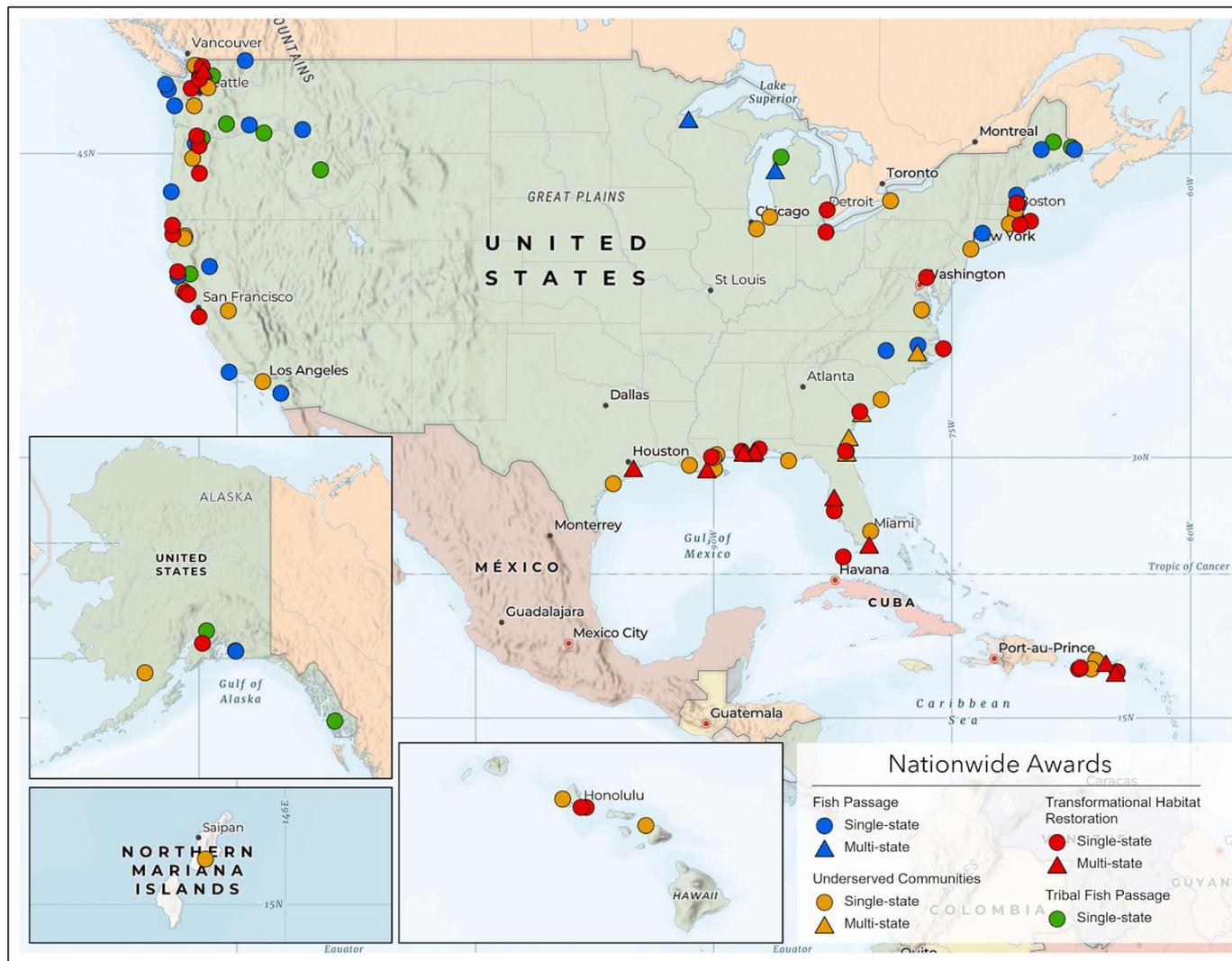
- Approximately **\$891 million** over 5 years of BIL funding:
 - **\$491 million** for habitat restoration
 - **\$400 million** for fish passage, with up to 15 percent reserved for tribes
- Additional **\$484M** of IRA funding
- At least 3 rounds of funding competitions - Fish Passage; Tribal Fish Passage; Transformational Habitat Restoration; Tribes & Underserved Communities
- No non-federal match requirement, but match is helpful for scoring (e.g. maximum of 4 points in fish passage projects).



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Projects in Round 1

- 109 Awards
- \$480M
- See project list on our website: fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat-BIL-IRA



Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

- Four Competitions:
 - National Fish Passage
 - Tribal Fish Passage
 - Transformational Habitat Restoration
 - Habitat Restoration for Tribes and Underserved Communities
- Each incorporates feedback from Round 1 including larger caps on projects and greater tribal emphasis
- Learn more:
fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat-BIL-IRA



Funding Opportunity: National Fish Passage

- Up to **\$175M** available to support a broad range of fish passage projects in coastal ecosystems, including the Great Lakes
- Award range: \$1M - \$20M
- Application deadline: October 16, 2023
- 90 proposals requesting \$688 million
~4 times amount of available funding



Credit: Chesapeake Bay Program

Funding Opportunity: National Fish Passage

Funding will be used for **fish passage** that rebuilds productive and sustainable fisheries, contributes to the recovery and conservation of **threatened and endangered species**, enhances **watershed health**, promotes **resilient ecosystems and communities**, especially in **underserved communities**, and improves **economic vitality**, including **local employment**.



Credit: Chesapeake Bay Program

Funding Opportunity: National Fish Passage

Support hydroelectric license surrender to remove dams that are no longer economically viable or provide significant public benefits yet remain in service or are abandoned due to cost and uncertainties regarding their decommissioning and removal.

Protection from flooding and extreme weather events, reduced erosion, and **creation of public spaces**.

Proposals that focus on removal of barriers will receive higher priority (e.g., **dam removals will receive higher priority than installation of structures that require operations and maintenance, such as fish ladders**).



Credit: Chesapeake Bay Program

Funding Opportunity: Tribal Fish Passage

- Up to **\$85M** available to support tribal fish passage work and building tribal organizational capacity
- Award range: \$300K - \$12M
- Application deadline: November 8, 2023
- Limited eligibility for federally recognized tribes, tribal organizations, and Alaska Native Corporations
- Contact:
Infrastructure.Tribal@noaa.gov



Credit: Penobscot River Restoration Trust

Funding Opportunity: Transformational Habitat Restoration

- Up to **\$240M** available for transformational habitat restoration and coastal resilience projects across the country that span a **broad range of habitats and restoration techniques**
- Award range: \$1M - \$25M
- Application deadline: November 17, 2023
- Broad eligibility
- Contact: Resilience.Grants@noaa.gov



Credit: San Mateo Resource Conservation District

Funding Opportunity: Transformational Habitat Restoration

The principal objective of this solicitation is to support transformational habitat restoration projects that restore marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystems, using approaches that **enhance community and ecosystem resilience to climate hazards**.

Funding will prioritize **habitat restoration** actions that: **demonstrate significant impacts**; rebuild productive and sustainable **fisheries**; contribute to the recovery and conservation of **threatened and endangered species**; promote **climate-resilient ecosystems**, especially in tribal, indigenous, and/or underserved communities; and improve **economic vitality**, including **local employment**.



Credit: San Mateo Resource Conservation District

Funding Opportunity: Habitat Restoration for Tribes and Underserved Communities

- Up to **\$45M** available for projects that advance the habitat restoration and climate resilience priorities of tribes and underserved communities
 - **\$20M** for federally recognized tribes, through direct awards or subawards
 - **\$25M** broad eligibility; tribes and underserved communities, or entities that partner with tribes or underserved communities
- Award range: \$75K - \$3M
- Application deadline: December 19, 2023



Meaningful Engagement

- In addition to directly funding tribes and underserved communities, project proposals should include meaningful engagement with these communities
- To provide more information to applicants, we have defined the term and compiled an initial list of the types of activities that applicants could include in their proposal.
 - **Definition:** “Communities having an opportunity to be an integral part of the visioning, decision-making, or leadership for activities that may affect their environment and/or health and wellbeing...”
 - Activities may include things such as community engagement in project vision and decision making; compensating tribal or underserved community members for their role in designing and implementing a project; and many more.
- To learn more, please see our website: fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat-BIL-IRA

Funding for Public Space and Access

- Sites restored for safe public access and public use.

