



NOAA
FISHERIES

Habitat Restoration Funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Office of Habitat Conservation, NOAA Fisheries
July 2022



NOAA
FISHERIES

NC & SC

Howard.Schnabolk @noaa.gov

GA:

Lisa.Vandiver @noaa.gov

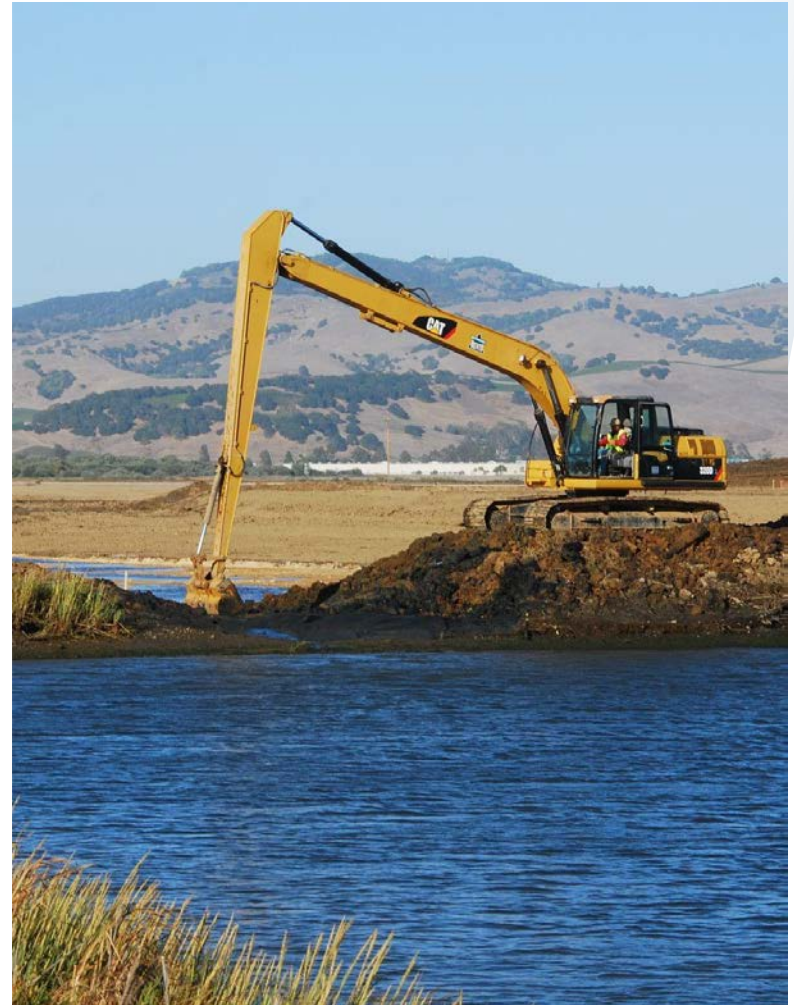
Ian.Rositter @noaa.gov

FL:

Kristen.Kaufman @noaa.gov

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- Signed into law on November 15, 2021
- Unprecedented opportunity to make a difference for fisheries, threatened and endangered species, and communities
- Roughly \$3 billion for NOAA over 5 years, with significant funding for habitat restoration, conservation, and resilience
 - Learn more at noaa.gov/infrastructure-law



NOAA
FISHERIES

Funding for Habitat Conservation

- Approximately **\$891 million** over 5 years for Office of Habitat Conservation programs:
 - **\$491 million** over 5 years for habitat restoration and resilience
 - **\$400 million** over 5 years for fish passage, with up to 15 percent reserved for Indian tribes



Credit: Erika Nortemann



NOAA
FISHERIES

Additional NOAA Funding for Habitat

- National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund Grant Program
 - **\$492 million** over 5 years
 - (“NCRF” -closed 4/21/22)
- Habitat Restoration - Coastal Zone Management Program
 - **\$207 million** over 5 years
 - Letters of intent due 7/29/22
- Habitat Restoration - National Estuarine Research Reserves
 - **\$77 million** over 5 years
 - Letters of intent due 7/29/22
- Learn more at noaa.gov/infrastructure-law

Credit: Alaska ShoreZone



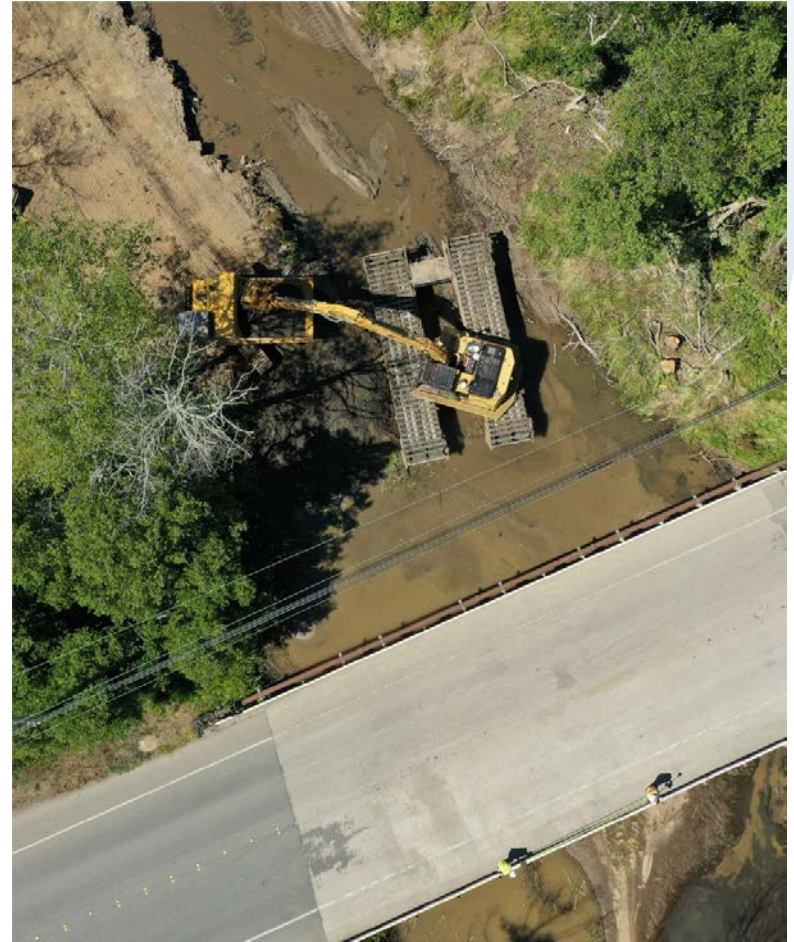
Habitat Restoration and Resilience Funding

- **\$491 million** over 5 years for restoring marine, estuarine, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems, and enhancing coastal community resilience
- Two funding opportunities in 2022:
 - Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants
 - Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities



Funding Opportunity: Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants

- Up to **\$85 million** available to restore habitat for fisheries and protected resources, while also strengthening the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems
- **Award range:** \$1 million to \$15 million
- **Opportunity number:** NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007195
- Closes **September 6**
- <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/transformational-habitat-restoration-and-coastal-resilience-grants>



Credit: San Mateo Resource Conservation District



“Restore habitat for fisheries and protected resources”

- Sustain or help rebuild NOAA-managed fish stocks , which includes benefits to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for recreationally and commercially important species and their prey
- Enhance the sustainability of saltwater recreational fisheries by the restoration of habitat that supports the National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy and Implementation Plans
- Contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)



NOAA
FISHERIES

“Strengthening the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems”

- Ecosystem resilience: capacity of ecosystems to recover from extreme weather events or climate hazards while retaining the ability to recover structure and function.
- Community resilience: capacity of human communities to recover from extreme weather events or climate hazards....Protect safety and well being of communities by buffering shorelines from erosion, restoring wetlands to reduce flooding, removing hazardous structures.

more guidance:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/transformational-habitat-restoration-and-coastal-resilience-grants>



Program Priorities:

- Sustaining productive fisheries and strengthening ecosystem resilience
- Fostering regionally important habitat restoration
- Enhancing community resilience to climate hazards and providing other co-benefits
- **Providing benefit to underserved communities, including through partnerships with tribes**
 - NOAA is committed to the goals of advancing equity and support for underserved communities. NOAA encourages applicants to include and demonstrate principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility through proactive, meaningful, and equitable community engagement in the identification, design, and/or implementation of proposed projects. NOAA also encourages applicants to propose projects with benefits to tribal or underserved communities. Applicants should identify if the project is located within tribal or underserved communities and/or whether a portion of the resilience benefits from the proposed work will flow to tribal or underserved communities



Key Aspects/Topics:

- “More Competitive Projects”:
 - “Transformational”= large, innovative, connect to other restoration or resilience work, provide significant benefit
- Proposals may include all project phases: planning and assessments; feasibility studies; engineering design and permitting; on-the-ground implementation; pre- and/or post-implementation monitoring
- Proposals may also include capacity-building and stakeholder engagement to support the proposed restoration.
- Priority to on-the-ground implementation.
- Project performance period encouraged to cover 3 years
- **Match not required**, but cost-sharing with partners is encouraged; match is considered within evaluation criteria
- Funding not for “effectiveness” (or long-term) monitoring or research-focus projects.



Funding Opportunity: Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities

- Up to **\$10 million** available to engage underserved communities in habitat restoration activities that promote resilient ecosystems and communities
- **Award range:** \$75,000 to \$1 million
- **Opportunity number:** NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007354
- ~~Closes **September 30**~~
- <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/coastal-habitat-restoration-and-resilience-grants-underserved-communities>



NOAA
FISHERIES

Funding Opportunity: Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities

Principal Objective:

- To support opportunities for underserved communities, tribes, and/or tribal entities to meaningfully engage in coastal habitat restoration activities.

Program Priorities:

- Enhancing habitat in support of ecosystem and community resilience
- **Increasing organizational and technical capacity of underserved communities, tribes, and/or tribal entities to lead and/or participate in habitat restoration activities.**



Funding Opportunity: Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities

Potential Activities:

- **Capacity building**, which may include participation in municipal or regional-scale resilience planning, project planning and feasibility studies, stakeholder engagement, proposal development for future funding, and outreach and education
- Restoration project activities, including for demonstration projects, which may include engineering and design, permitting, on-the-ground restoration, and pre- and post-project implementation monitoring. Applicants may apply for funding to support one or more of these activities.



Capacity Building (Cont.)

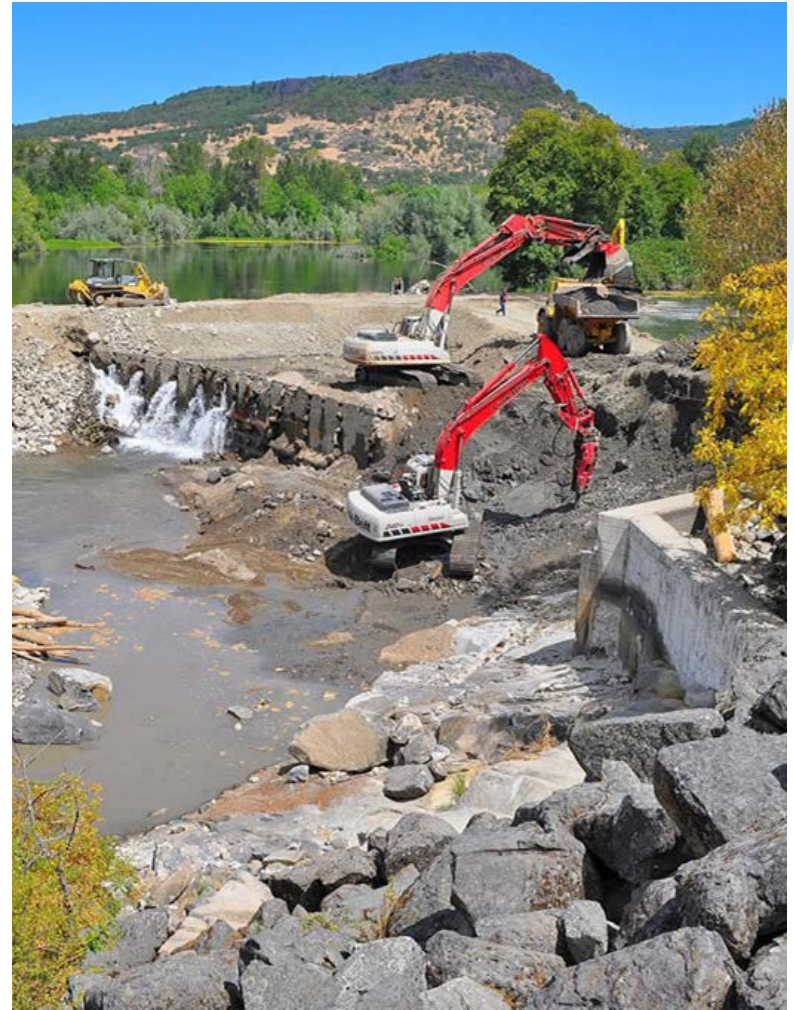
Options for increasing capacity may include, but are not limited to: funding paid positions (including contracts) to support the community's leadership or engagement in the project; contracting for technical expertise to advance the community's habitat restoration goals; funding paid internships, educational opportunities, or partnerships and mentoring to support the community's engagement in current and/or potential future projects; funding office or meeting space needed to engage the community; etc.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Fish Passage Funding

- **\$400 million** over 5 years for restoring fish passage by removing in-stream barriers
- Up to 15 percent reserved for Indian tribes
- Two funding opportunities in 2022:
 - Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal
 - Restoring **Tribal Priority** Fish Passage through Barrier Removal



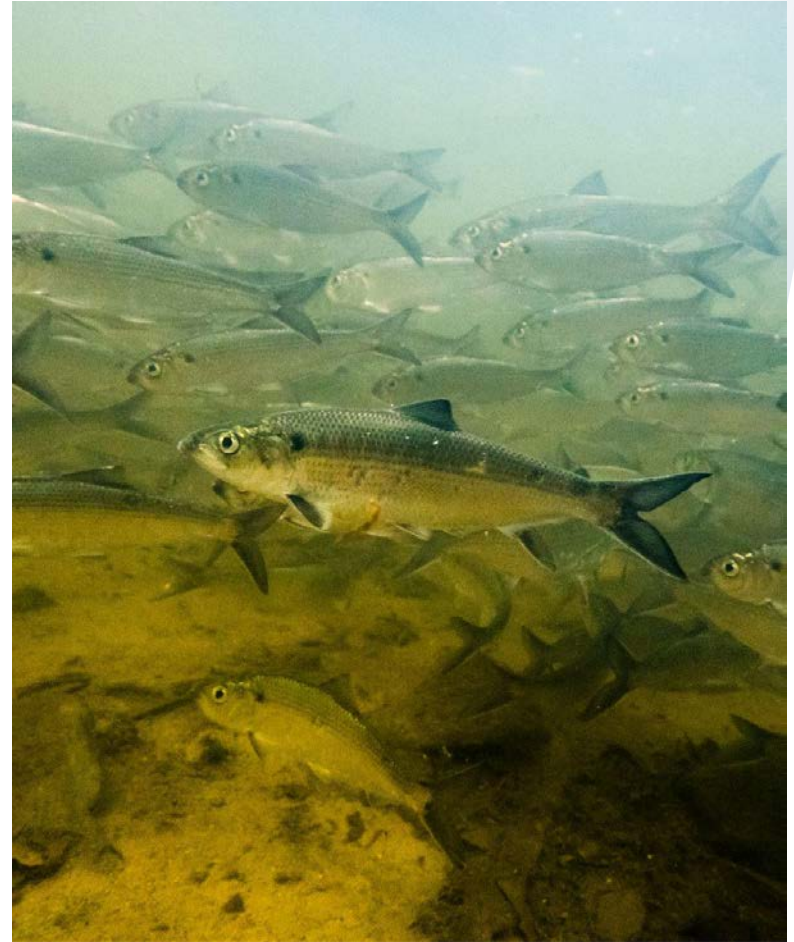
Credit: River Design Group



NOAA
FISHERIES

Funding Opportunity: Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal

- Up to **\$65 million** available to support fish passage for native migratory and sea-run fish in coastal ecosystems, including the Great Lakes.
- **Award range:** \$1 million to \$15 million
- **Opportunity number:** NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007209
- ~~Closes **August 15**~~
- **Contact:**
Fish.Passage.Grants@noaa.gov

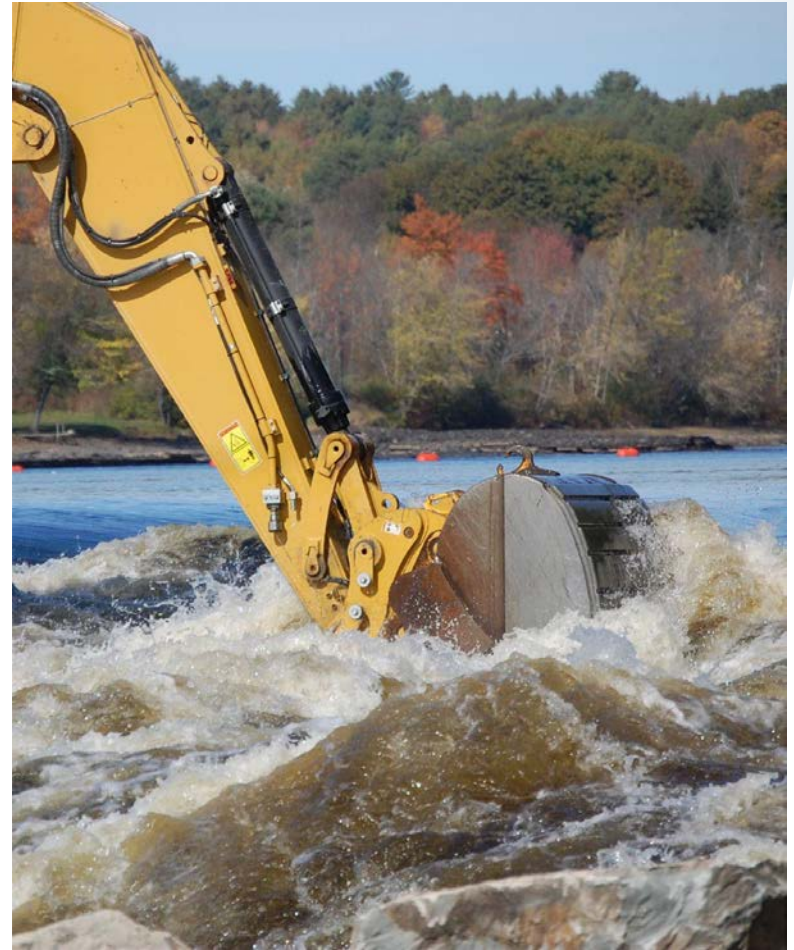


Credit: Chesapeake Bay Program



Funding Opportunity: Restoring Tribal Priority Fish Passage through Barrier Removal

- Up to **\$12 million** available to provide federal financial and technical assistance to Indian tribes and tribal commissions or consortia to remove barriers to fish passage.
- **Award range:** \$300,000 to \$5 million
- **Opportunity number:** NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007193
- ~~Closes August 29~~
- **Contact:**
Infrastructure.Tribal@noaa.gov



Credit: Penobscot River Restoration Trust



NOAA
FISHERIES



Thank you!

Credit: Hawk Visuals



NOAA
FISHERIES



NOAA
FISHERIES

NC & SC

Howard.Schnabolk @noaa.gov
732-859-8938

GA:

Lisa.Vandiver @noaa.gov

Ian.Rositter @noaa.gov

FL:

Kristen.Kaufman @noaa.gov