



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Community-based Restoration Program Coastal and Marine Habitat Restoration Grants

Fiscal Year 2020

Presenters:

Natalie McLenaghan

Melanie Gange

Polly Hicks



December 5th, 2019



NOAA
FISHERIES

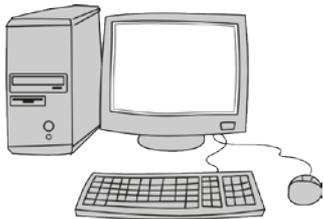


Table of Contents

- I. Funding Opportunity Description
- II. Award Information
- III. Eligibility Information
- IV. Application and Submission Information
- V. Application Review Information
- VI. Award Administration Information
- VII. Agency Contacts
- VIII. Other Information

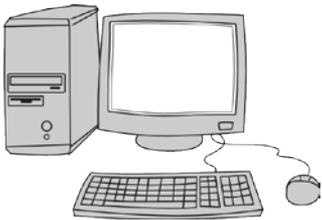


NOAA
FISHERIES

Funding Opportunity

FFO Executive Summary

- In the first year, approximately **\$4M may be available**. NOAA anticipates that **up to \$8M in additional funds** may be available for habitat restoration in FY21 – FY22 (total \$12M).
- **Mandatory pre-proposals** must be received by www.Grants.gov, postmarked, or provided to a delivery service by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on **January 8th, 2020**. Full applications will be due *no earlier than April 9th, 2020*.





NOAA
FISHERIES

Program Objective

Section I.A.

Objective: support habitat restoration projects that use an ecosystem-based approach to foster **species recovery and increase populations under NOAA's jurisdiction.**

- Help recover threatened and endangered species listed under the Endangered Species Act (**Listed Species**), including Species in the Spotlight,
- Sustain or help rebuild fish stocks managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (**Managed Species**), or
- Contribute to sustainability of **saltwater recreational fisheries** through habitat restoration



NOAA
FISHERIES

Program Priority 1:

Section I.B.

Contribute to the recovery of **Listed Species** under NOAA jurisdiction, including those designated by NOAA as “Species in the Spotlight,” *where habitat availability and quality is limiting the recovery of the species.*





**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Program Priority 2: *Section I.B.*



Sustain or help rebuild populations of **Managed Species** or their prey, specifically through projects that restore or enhance Essential Fish Habitat or address actions supported by Fishery Management Plans.



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Program Priority 3:

Section I.B.



Contribute to the sustainability of **saltwater recreational fisheries** by the restoration of habitat that supports the National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy and Implementation Plans.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Program Priority 4: *Section I.B.*

Provide **sustainable and lasting ecological benefits of regional or national significance** for the species targeted by the project and its habitat. Projects that restore natural ecosystem function and processes will receive higher priority than projects that install structures that require maintenance.





NOAA
FISHERIES

Program Priority 5:

Section I.B.



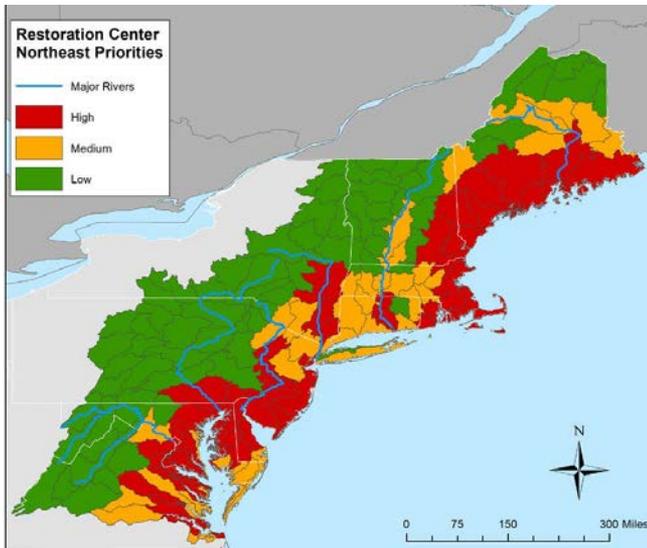
Demonstrate importance within the watershed or other geographic boundary through an **inclusive planning process** that determines the project's relative importance and context within the landscape.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Program Priority 5, cont.:

Section I.B.



Northeast region, only. Importance of **fish passage projects between Virginia and Maine**: see website for locations of high-priority watersheds.



NOAA
FISHERIES



Funding Availability

Section II

- NOAA will consider **one-year awards** (FY20) or **multi-year awards** for up to three funding years (FY20 – FY22) under this announcement.
- NOAA anticipates **up to \$4M available in FY20**, with an additional \$8M over FY21 – FY22 to support selected awards (\$12M total).
- NOAA will not accept proposals with a federal funding request of **less than \$75K or more than \$3M** over a three-year period.



NOAA
FISHERIES



Eligibility

Section III

- Eligible: institutions of higher education; non-profit and for-profit organizations; U.S. territories; and state, local, and Native American tribal governments.
- Applicants must propose work in geographic areas that **benefit species with a nexus to NOAA management.**
- Matching funds: *no statutory requirement*, but note that cost-sharing is an element of “Project Costs” in the evaluation criteria.



NOAA
FISHERIES



(In)Eligibility

Section III

Examples of ineligible projects:

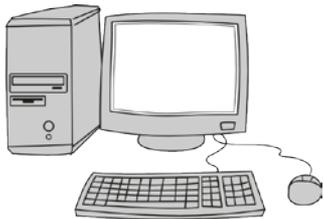
- Solely benefit species under USFWS jurisdiction, unless jointly managed by NOAA
- Marine debris prevention/removal
- Acquisition of real property
- Beach renourishment for recreation
- Updates to hard infrastructure solely for water quality improvement
- Legally required mitigation; compensatory restoration; consent decree; court orders, etc.

Submission Information

Section IV



NOAA
FISHERIES



- Application packages, federal forms, and instructions on www.Grants.gov.
- **Mandatory pre-proposal**: five-page narrative (including map) and Standard Form (SF)-424. Follow guidance for “Project Summary” (p. 11). Applicants **must be invited to submit a full application**.
- Applicants should be registered in SAM, provide a DUNS number, and maintain active registration.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Application Review

Section V

Pre-proposal Evaluation Criteria (p. 21)

1. Benefits to Fisheries Species (30 %)
2. Regional Priority (25 %)
3. Realistic Timeline (15 %)
4. Project Assessment (15 %)
5. Sustainability (15 %)





NOAA
FISHERIES

Application Review

Section V

Full Application Evaluation Criteria (p. 23)

1. Importance and Applicability (30 pts.)
2. Technical/Scientific Merit (28 pts.)
3. Applicant Qualifications (10 pts.)
4. Project Costs (20 pts.)
5. Outreach and Education (12 pts.)





NOAA
FISHERIES

Application Review

Section V

Pre-proposal review and selection:

- NOAA will notify all applicants via email (restoration.grants@noaa.gov) regarding eligibility to submit full proposals, ~ 30 – 40 days after pre-proposal deadline.
- Eligible applicants will receive notice of full application deadline.





NOAA
FISHERIES

Application Review

Section V

Full application review and selection:

- Eligible submissions will undergo technical review, ranking, and selection based on program priorities and evaluation criteria.
- Applicants will receive notification regarding funding by **June 30th, 2020**. The earliest anticipated start date for awards will be **October 1st, 2020**.





NOAA
FISHERIES



Reminders and Tips

- Start registration now, if you are not yet registered/active! (SAM, DUNS, Grants.gov)
- Don't wait until the last minute to submit - Grants.gov can take up to two business days to validate or reject applications.
- If submitting a paper application, be sure to sign forms in ink!
- Read the entire announcement and verify all requirements are complete.
- Refer to websites listed in the announcement for more info.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What types of projects will be supported by this funding?

A: Restoration includes activities that return degraded or altered marine, estuarine, coastal, and freshwater, migratory fish habitats to functioning conditions, and techniques that return NOAA trust species to their historic habitats.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will proposals that seek to restore habitat important to species such as forage fish be considered?

A: Yes, all projects that propose to restore coastal habitat for estuarine and marine species, including forage fish or prey of species managed under MSA or listed under ESA, are eligible for funding and will be considered through the evaluation criteria.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is this competition strictly for “shovel-ready” projects, or do you consider proposals for planning and design?

A: We will consider proposals across a range of project phases, including planning, design, implementation, or a combination thereof. The evaluation criteria have been structured to incorporate different project stages.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can projects in the Great Lakes be funded?

A: No. The NOAA Restoration Center will continue to support current Great Lakes partnerships with funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What funding sources and activities count as non-federal match?

A: Match to NOAA funds can come from a variety of public and private sources, and can include third-party in-kind goods and services, and volunteer labor. Federal sources cannot be considered for matching funds, but can be described in the budget narrative to demonstrate additional leverage and collaboration. Refer to 2 CFR 200.306 for details.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is there a limit on the number of proposals from any one applicant, geographic area, or region?

A: No. There is no limit on the number of proposals from any one applicant, geographic area, or region.



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will NOAA ensure geographic distribution of selected awards?

A: The NOAA Selecting Official will select proposals in rank order unless a proposal is justified to be selected out of rank order based upon standard selection factors outlined in the funding opportunity, including the availability of funding and balanced distribution of funds according to geography, type of partners, focus areas, and project types.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How can I verify the contents of my submitted package?

A: *From Grants.gov:* After submitting the application package through Workspace, applicants should download a copy of the submitted application for offline record-keeping and to verify the contents of the submission zip file.



NOAA
FISHERIES

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will there be another funding opportunity like this one issued next year?

A: No, we do not anticipate issuing the next funding opportunity until FY22. In FY21, funding will be used to complete the multi-year projects awarded in FY19 and to support projects awarded under this FY20 competition.



**NOAA
FISHERIES**



Questions?

Contacts:

Natalie McLenaghan

Natalie.McLenaghan@noaa.gov

301-427-8687

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