



NOAA
FISHERIES

Update on Office of Habitat Competitive Funding Opportunities

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

June 2023

30+ Years of Partnering on Habitat Conservation

- NOAA has a long history supporting our partners' habitat conservation efforts through funding opportunities and expert technical assistance
- New and unprecedented opportunities to bring that expertise to transformational projects that make an impact for coastal communities and ecosystems



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage

- Approximately **\$891 million** over 5 years for habitat restoration:
 - **\$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
- Opportunity to make a difference for fisheries, endangered species, and coastal ecosystems



Competitive Funding Opportunities

- Four Competitions:
 - Fish Passage
 - Tribal Fish Passage
 - Transformational Habitat Restoration
 - Habitat Restoration for Underserved Communities
- Demand for first year competitions was very high, \$1.7B

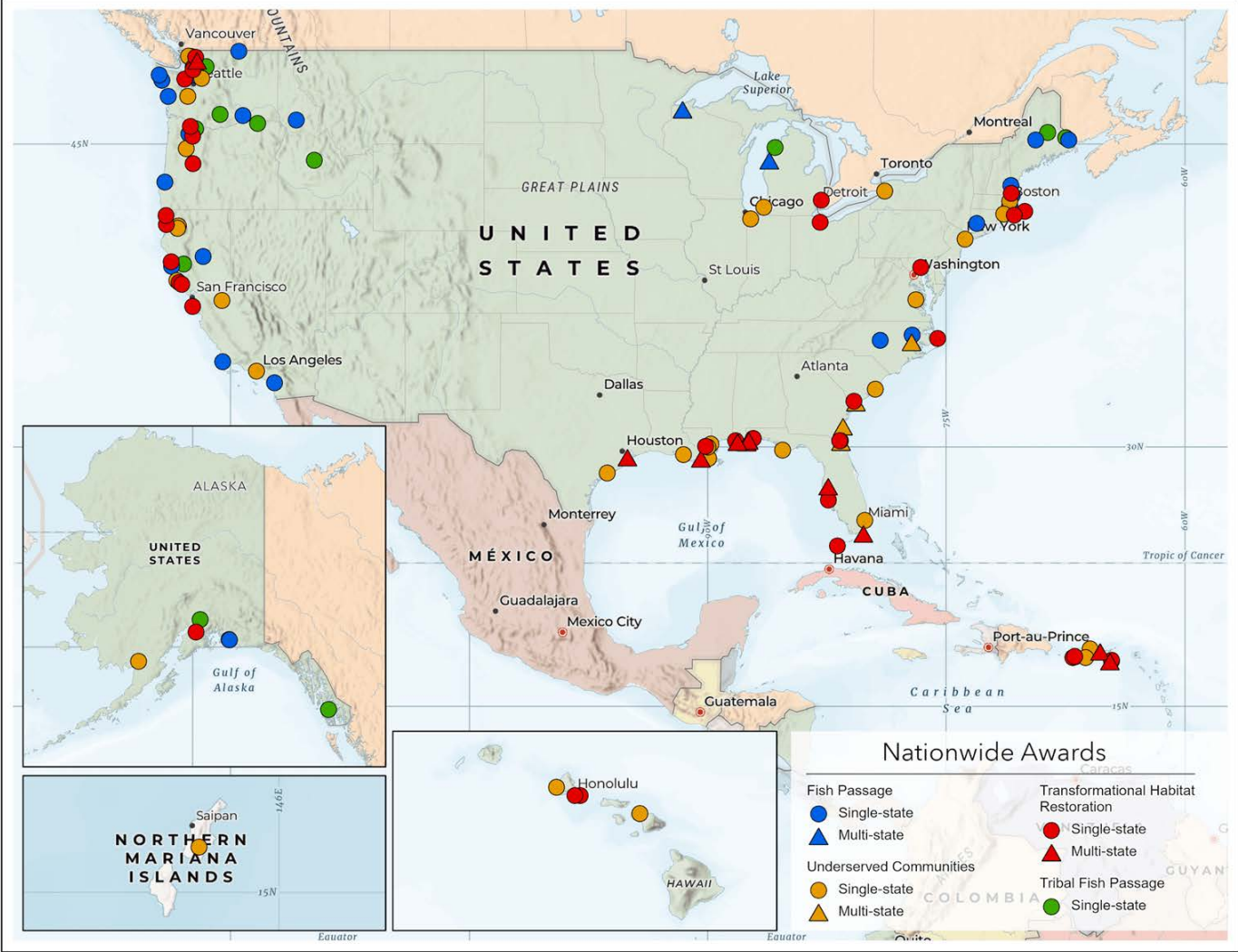


Credit: Erika Nortemann



Our Projects!

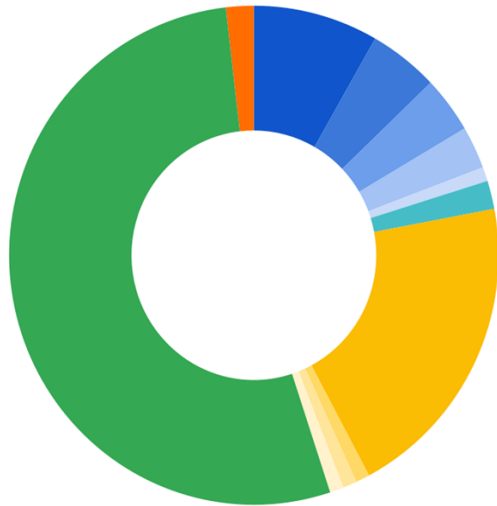
- 109 Awards
- \$480M



Expanding Partnerships

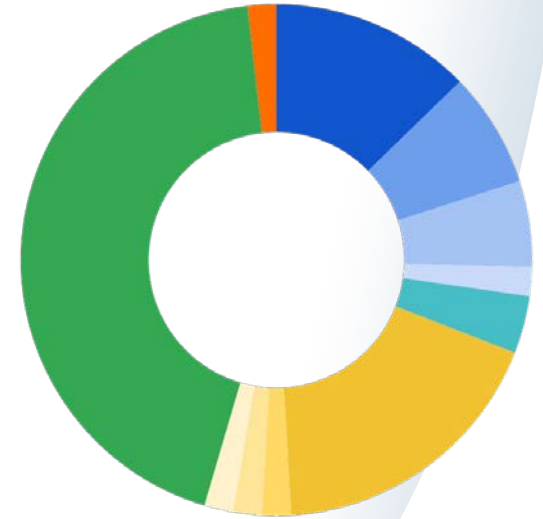
- 88 Awardees across diverse sectors
-

Percent of Awards by Applicant Type

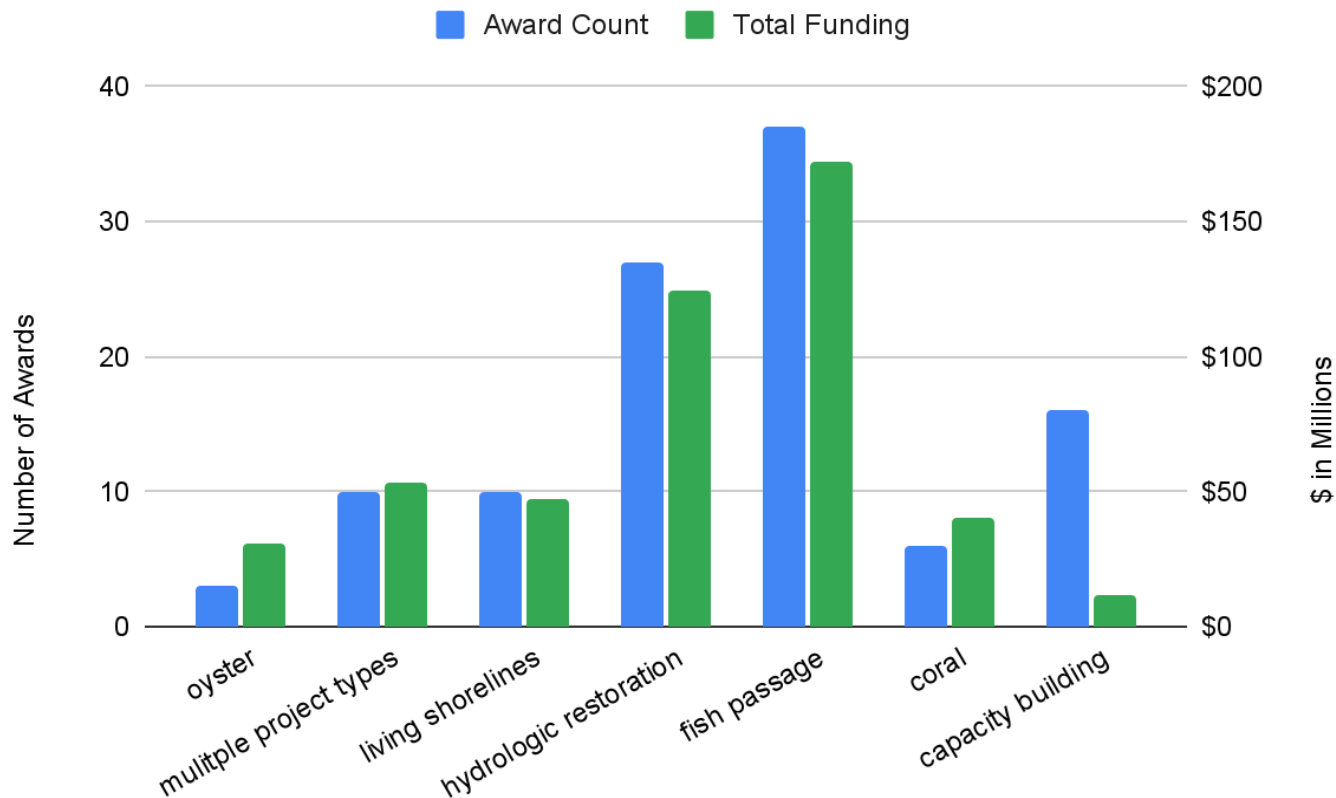


- City or Township Government
- State Government
- County Government
- Special District Government
- U.S. Territory
- Regional Organization
- Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized)
- Indian/Native Tribal Government
- Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization
- Alaska Native and Native Hawain Serving Institutions
- Nonprofit
- Institution of Higher Education

Number of New Grantees by Applicant Type

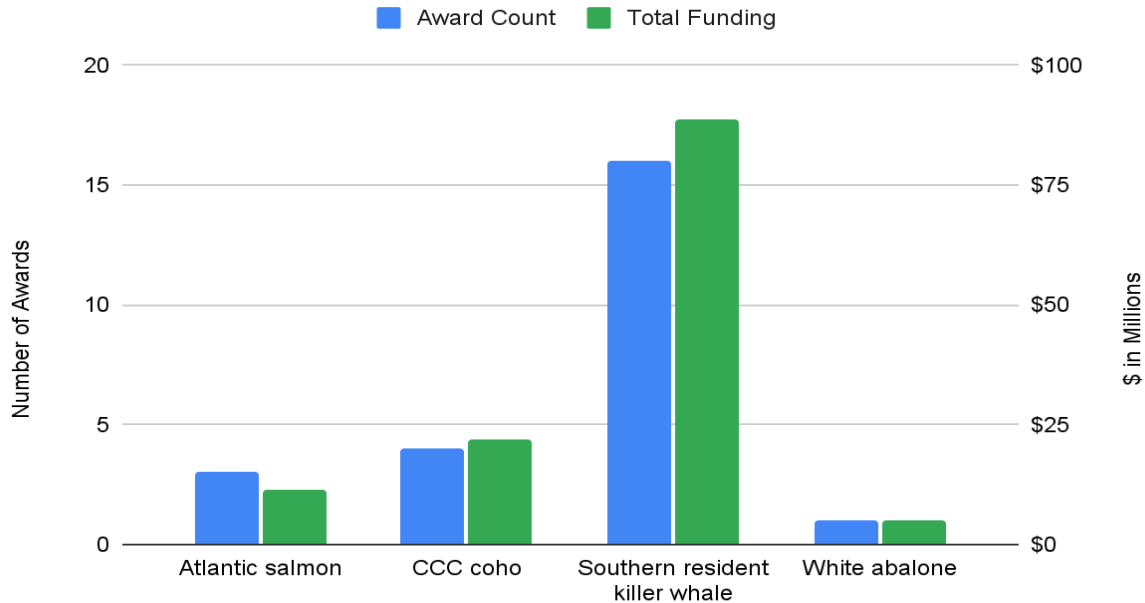


Types of Habitat Restoration Projects Funded



Listed Species & Species in Spotlight

- 55% of awards benefit listed species, nearly \$300M in funding
- 24 awards, ~\$126M provide benefits to 4 species in the spotlight



Underserved Communities Projects

- Ensure underserved communities are integral to projects that affect them and provide capacity to more fully participate in habitat restoration
- Nearly 90% of the partners new to NOAA Fisheries
- Applicants were asked to self identify
- Project categories --
 - On the ground restoration
 - Training programs to break down barriers for careers in restoration
 - Facilitating community participation in visioning efforts
 - Creating plans for future large scale habitat restoration



What's Next?

- Continued Technical Assistance for our partners
- Gathering lessons learned as we embark on the next round
- Round 2 of our funding opportunities:
 - Longer application periods with staggered release
 - Minor changes to selection criteria weighting for better balance
 - Defining meaningful engagement more clearly
 - Increased consistency across funding opportunities



Questions/Discussion

- Any questions for us about the process we use to execute these funds that would help prepare for Round 2?
- As you reflect upon results of round 1, are there things that stood out to you as particularly positive that we can build upon?
- Are there priorities related to habitat restoration or fish passage that you do not see reflected in round 1 results that you are hoping to see in round 2?
- How can we work together to seize this opportunity to make progress in habitat restoration and fish passage round 2?



Credit: Hawk Visuals

Thank You!

