Atlantic Salmon Habitat Restoration Partnership Grants

Fiscal Year 2024

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Funding Opportunity

Executive Summary

- NOAA anticipates **$2.1M** in total funds to be available for the competition, with approx. **$700K** available each funding year.
- **Proposals** must be received by www.Grants.gov by 11:59 PM Eastern on **Monday, April 1st, 2024**.
  - This competition has 2 additional due dates in 2025 and 2026 and will remain open, contingent on availability of funds.
- **October 1st, 2024,** is the earliest potential start date for awards.

Program Objective

Section I.A.

Objective: support the recovery of the Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment of Atlantic salmon through multi-year partnerships.

Program Priority 1:

Section I.B.

1. Propose activities that are consistent with priority habitat restoration actions identified in the 2019 **Recovery Plan** and the Species in the Spotlight 5-year **Action Plan**.

Program Priority 2:

Section I.B.

2. Improve fish passage and connectivity between the Gulf of Maine and freshwater spawning and rearing habitats within designated **Critical Habita**t, in locations with **river-specific stocks** or **within a river that hosts a wild or naturally reared run** of Atlantic salmon

Legend

- Designated Critical Habitat
- River Specific Stock Present
- Range of Gulf of Maine DPS

https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/atlantic-salmon-habitat-restoration-partnership-grants

Program Priority 3:
Section I.B.

3. Incorporate **proven restoration techniques**, focusing on **removal of barriers as the highest priority**. Proposals may include the following types of activities: feasibility studies; planning and assessments directly linked to restoration implementation; engineering design and permitting; on-the-ground implementation; pre- and post-removal implementation monitoring; stakeholder engagement, or a combination thereof

Funding Availability

Section II

- NOAA may fund **multi-year awards** (FY24 – FY26) under this announcement.
- NOAA anticipates **up to $700K available in FY24**, with an additional $700K over FY25 – FY26 to support selected awards ($2.1M total).
- NOAA will <u>not</u> accept proposals with a federal funding request of **less than $100K or more than $1.5M** over a three-year period.

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 one or more SHRUs: 1) Merrymeeting Bay, 2) Penobscot Bay; 3) Downeast Coastal.

(In)Eligibility

Section III.C.

- Examples of **<u>ineligible projects</u>**:
  - Activities that are required by a separate local, state, or federal consent decree, court order, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) exemption or license condition
  - Effectiveness monitoring and research
- Eligibility vs. prioritization

Submission Information

Section IV

- Application packages, federal forms, and instructions on www.Grants.gov.
- Applicants should be registered in SAM.gov, provide a UEI/EIN number, and maintain active registration.
- Applicants must be registered in eRA Commons
- Content and format outlined in Section IV.B.
- Check requirements for monitoring, data management

Application Review

Section V

Evaluation Criteria (p. 12)

1. Importance and Applicability (40 pts.)
2. Technical/Scientific Merit (24 pts.)
3. Applicant Qualifications (10 pts.)
4. Project Costs (16 pts.)
5. Outreach and Education (10 pts.)

Application Review

Section V

1. Importance and Applicability
    - a) Consistency with Recovery Plan (20 pts.)
    - b) Location of Project Sites (10 pts.)
    - c) Sustainability of Restoration Approach (10 pts.)

Application Review

Section V

Review and selection:

- Eligible submissions will undergo technical review, ranking, and selection based on program priorities and evaluation criteria.
- Applicants should receive notification regarding funding by **June 30th, 2024**. The earliest anticipated start date for awards will be **October 1st, 2024.**

Reminders and Tips

- Start registration now, if you are not yet registered/active! (SAM.gov, UEI/EIN, Grants.gov, and eRA Commons)
- Don’t wait until the last minute to submit - Grants.gov can take up to two business days to validate or reject applications. Applications will be rejected if you are not registered in eRA Commons.*
- Read the entire announcement and verify all requirements are complete.
- Refer to websites listed in the announcement for more info.

Questions?

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