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# Community-based Restoration Program Coastal and Marine Habitat Restoration Grants

*Fiscal Year 2019*

Presenters:

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**Rina Studds**

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**\* Call-in: 888-469-1551 \***

**Code: 3782393**

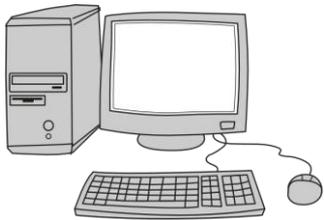
**\* New phone number! \***



December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018



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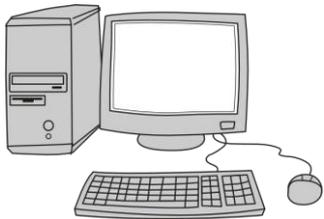


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# Funding Opportunity

## *FFO Executive Summary*

- In the first year, approximately **\$6M may be available**. NOAA anticipates that **up to \$6M in additional funds** may be available for habitat restoration in FY20 – FY21 (total \$12M).
- **Mandatory pre-proposals** must be received by [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov), postmarked, or provided to a delivery service by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on **January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. Full proposals will be due *no earlier than April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019*.





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# Program Objective

*FFO Section I.A.*

**Objective:** provide federal financial and technical assistance to 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 restore saltwater recreational fisheries habitat



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# Program Priority 1:

*FFO 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.*





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## Program Priority 2: *FFO Section I.B.*

Enhance or sustain populations of commercial or recreational **Managed Species** or their prey, specifically through projects that restore or enhance Essential Fish Habitat or address actions supported by Fishery Management Plans, or the National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy and Implementation Plans.





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## Program Priority 3: *FFO 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.





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## Program Priority 4:

*FFO 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.

- collaborative processes, coordinated investment strategies, engagement with diverse communities

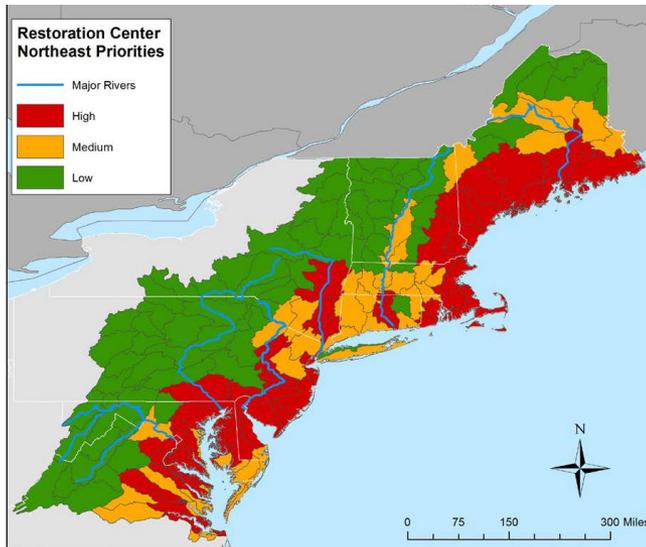


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# Program Priority 4, cont.:

*FFO Section I.B.*

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





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# Funding Availability

## *FFO Section II*

- NOAA will consider **one-year awards** (FY19) or **multi-year awards** for up to three funding years (FY19 – FY21) under this FFO.
- NOAA anticipates **up to \$6M available in FY19**, with an additional \$6M over FY20 – FY21 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.



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# Eligibility

## *FFO 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.



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# (In)Eligibility

*FFO 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.

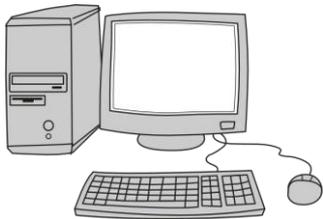
# Submission Information

## *FFO Section IV*



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- Application packages, federal forms, and instructions on [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov).
- **Mandatory pre-proposal**: four-page narrative and Standard Form (SF)-424. Follow guidance for “Project Summary” (p. 12). Applicants must be **invited to submit a full proposal**.
- Applicants should be registered in SAM, provide a DUNS number, and maintain active registration.





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# Application Review

*FFO Section V*

## **Pre-proposal** Evaluation Criteria (p. 21)

1. Program Objectives and Priorities? (3 pts.)
2. Multi-stakeholder, comprehensive planning efforts? (3 pts.)
3. Sustainability under changing conditions? (3 pts.)
4. Achievability under given timeline? (3 pts.)





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# Application Review

*FFO Section V*

## **Full proposal** Evaluation Criteria (p. 21)

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.)





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# Application Review

*FFO Section V*

## Pre-proposal review and selection:

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





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# Application Review

*FFO Section V*

## Full proposal review and selection:

- Eligible applications will undergo technical review, ranking, and selection based on program priorities and evaluation criteria.
- Applicants will receive notification regarding funding by **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. The earliest anticipated start date for awards will be **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**.





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# 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 FFO and verify all requirements are complete.
- Refer to websites listed in the FFO for more info.



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# 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.



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# 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.



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# 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, implementation, or a combination thereof. The evaluation criteria have been structured to incorporate different project stages. See the FFO for more detail.



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# Frequently Asked Questions

*Q: Can projects in the Great Lakes be funded?*

**A:** No. There are other funding opportunities available to fund restoration in the Great Lakes region (see Section III.C of the FFO). The FY19 Great Lakes FFO should be available soon.



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# 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.

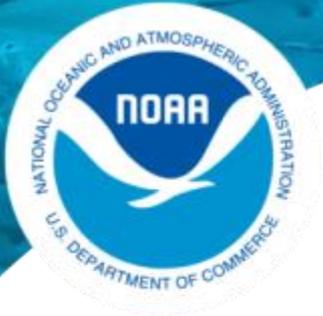


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# Frequently Asked Questions

*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.



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# 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 FFO, including the availability of funding and balanced distribution of funds according to geography, type of partners, focus areas, and project types.



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# Frequently Asked Questions

*Q: Will there be another FFO like this one issued next year?*

**A:** We plan to issue another FFO, depending on funding appropriated by Congress for the program. In 2020, funding appropriated to the Community-based Restoration Program will be used to both run another competition, and to support the progress of projects awarded under this FY19 competition.



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# Questions?

## **Contacts:**

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