U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FWS - Fisheries

https://www.fws.gov/service/fisheries-restoration-and-irrigation-mitigation-act-frima

F24AS00414 Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act Fiscal Year 2024
Fiscal Year: 2024
F24AS00414

Due Date for Applications: 04/30/2025

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A. Program Description

A1. Authority

Authority: Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act—Cooperation of agencies (16 U.S.C. §661).

The Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act (FRIMA) (Public Law 106-502) of 2000 was established with the goals of decreasing fish mortality associated with the withdrawal of water for irrigation and other purposes without impairing the continued withdrawal of water for those purposes; and to decrease the incidence of juvenile and adult fish entering water supply systems. FRIMA is a voluntary fish screening and passage program targeted to Pacific Ocean drainage areas of Idaho, western Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Eligible projects include fish screens, fish passage devices, and related inventories by the States.

FRIMA was reauthorized in FY2009. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 provided \$5 million to the National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) for the implementation of FRIMA and added the Pacific Ocean drainage areas of California as eligible for FRIMA funds.

A2. Assistance Listing Number

Assistance Listing Number 15.685

A3. Background, Purpose and Program Requirements

The National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) is a voluntary program that provides direct technical and financial assistance to partners to remove instream barriers and restore aquatic organism passage and aquatic connectivity for the benefit of Federal trust resources. In doing so, NFPP aims to maintain or increase fish populations to improve ecosystem resiliency and provide quality fishing experiences for the American people. Funds provided to NFPP for the implementation of FRIMA will support the development, improvement, or installation of fish screens, fish passage devices and related features to mitigate impacts on fisheries associated with irrigation water system diversions in Pacific Ocean drainages in Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho, and California. Applicants seeking funding under this program should contact the regional NFPP Coordinator that corresponds to the location of the project for additional information on regional priorities and coordination with FAC staff prior to applying for funding. Contacts are listed at: https://www.fws.gov/program/national-fish-passage/contact-us.

The NFPP is delivered through the Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program (FAC). We use our staff and cooperative partnerships to provide: (1) information on habitat needs of fish and other aquatic species; (2) methods for fish to bypass barriers; (3) technical support to review project designs and recommend the most cost-effective techniques; (4) assistance to partners in planning and prioritizing fish passage projects; and (5) assistance in fulfilling environmental compliance requirements.

Activities proposed under this award for FRIMA:

- (1) must be located in the Pacific Ocean drainages of the States of California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, or Montana;
- (2) participation must be voluntary;
- (3) must have 35% Non-Federal cost share per Public Law 106-502. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funding can be applied to the non-Federal cost share;
- (4) project type must be voluntary irrigation diversion passage, screening, barrier inventories, and 'related features';
- (5) project components that receive funding under this Act shall be ineligible to receive federal funds from any other source (with the exception of BPA funds) for the same purpose;
- (6) the project will be agreeable to Federal and non-Federal entities with authority and responsibility for the project;
- (7) award minimum will be \$100,000; award maximum will be \$1,000,000, and;
- (8) non-Federal participants in any project carried out under the Program on land or at a facility that is not owned by the United States shall be responsible for all costs associated with operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, and replacing the project.

A4. Funding Opportunity Goals

 The FY24 Fisheries Restoration and Irrigation Mitigation Act works to voluntarily reconnect habitats fragmented by irrigation related barriers in the Pacific Ocean drainage areas of California, Idaho, western Montana, Oregon, and Washington by providing fish screening and passage to help restore native fish and other aquatic species to selfsustaining levels.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding

\$5,000,000

The estimated funding is from annual appropriations for implementation of FRIMA and does not represent funds provided under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act or base National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) funds separate from FRIMA. A separate announcement was issued for NFPP projects under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, under Funding Opportunity Number F24AS00062. A separate announcement was issued for NFPP base funds not specific to FRIMA under Funding Opportunity Number F24AS00300

B2. Expected Award Amount

Maximum Award \$1,000,000 Minimum Award \$100,000

B3. Expected Award Funding and Anticipated Dates

Expected Award Funding \$400,000 Expected Award Date May 30, 2025

B4. Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards 10

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

G - Grant

CA - Cooperative Agreement

This program uses cooperative agreements or grants as the primary assistance instrument, but staff may also use procurement instruments, or Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units in accordance with Federal regulations. Procurement agreements could include use of the Multiple-Award Task Order Contracts (MATOC) for Indefinite-Delivery, Indefinite-Quantity (IDIQ) contracts if the project meets the needs of FRIMA and falls under the parameters of the current MATOCs available. Projects are developed strategically, in coordination with partners, and with substantial involvement of FAC staff.

Substantial involvement my include the follow actions:

- Joint collaboration or participation between the awarding agency and recipient partner, volunteer, scientist, technician, or other personnel, in carrying out the scope of work
- Review and approval by awarding agency of modifications or subawards, prior to the award
- Directing or redirecting of work by awarding agency because of interrelationships with other projects
- Ability of awarding agency to immediately halt work because of failure to meet performance specifications
- Close monitoring or operational involvement by awarding agency

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

99 – Unrestricted (i.e. open to any type of entity above), subject to any clarification in the text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility"

Additional Information on Eligibility

Eligible entities may include, but are not limited to those listed above.

Activities proposed under this award:

- (1) must be located in Pacific Ocean drainages of the States of California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, or Montana;
- (2) participation must be voluntary;
- (3) must have 35% Non-Federal cost share. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funding can be applied to the Non-Federal cost share;
- (4) project type must be voluntary irrigation diversion passage, screening, barrier inventories, and 'related features':
- (5) project components that receive funding under this Act shall be ineligible to receive federal funds from any other source (with the exception of BPA funds) for the same purpose;
- (6) the project will be agreeable to Federal and non-Federal entities with authority and responsibility for the project:
- (7) award minimum will be \$100,000; award maximum will be \$1,000,000, and;
- (8) non-Federal participants in any project carried out under the Program on land or at a facility that is not owned by the United States shall be responsible for all costs associated with operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, and replacing the project.

Applicants must ensure that activities occurring outside the United States, or its territories are coordinated as necessary with appropriate U.S. and foreign government authorities, and that any necessary licenses, permits, or approvals are obtained prior to undertaking proposed activities.

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Yes

Percentage of Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

35

C3. Other

Fish passage projects are not eligible for NFPP funding if they are used for any Federal or State compensatory mitigation. Fish passage projects are not eligible for funding if fish passage is a condition provided by existing Federal or State regulatory programs. Projects funded under NFPP are voluntary. Projects funded by FRIMA funds must be used to improve fish screens and

fish passage at irrigation sites in the Pacific Ocean drainage areas of California, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and Washington.

Foreign Entities or Projects:

State Sponsors of Terrorism: This program will not fund projects in <u>countries determined by</u> the U.S. Department of State to have repeatedly provided support for acts of international <u>terrorism</u> and therefore are subject to sanctions restricting receipt of U.S. foreign assistance and other financial transactions.

Office of Foreign Assets Control Sanctions: This program will not fund projects in countries subject to <u>comprehensive sanction programs administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury, Office of Foreign Asset Control</u> without proper licenses.

In-Country Licenses, Permits, or Approvals: Entities conducting activities outside the U.S. are responsible for coordinating with appropriate U.S. and foreign government authorities as necessary to obtain all required licenses, permits, or approvals before undertaking project activities. The Service does not assume responsibility for recipient compliance with the laws, regulations, policies, or procedures of the foreign country in which they are conducting work.

Excluded Parties:

The DOI conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award. The DOI cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

D. Application and Submission Information D1. Address to Request Application Package

Projects must be located in the Pacific Ocean drainage areas of California, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, or Washington.

Contact local FAC field Program or Service Regional staff (USFWS Region 1, 6, or 8 contacts) prior to submitting a Proposal. If you have a proposed project that meets the program eligibility (Section C) and the Application Review Information criteria (Section E), please contact your regional and local FAC office before submitting a Proposal. Please refer to section G for list of regional contacts. To be considered for funding under this funding opportunity, a Proposal must be submitted to the Service region where the project is located.

Applications in GrantSolutions will be done by invitation only after Regional FAC staff determine eligibility (Section C) and review responses to selection criteria (Section E).

Program Website Link

https://www.fws.gov/service/fisheries-restoration-and-irrigation-mitigation-act-frima

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

All applicants must submit the Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. This form is available with the announcement on Grants.gov and in GrantSolutions. The form must be complete and signed by an Authorized Representative. For all applicants except individuals and commercial entities, the Authorized Representative's signature on a standard application form submitted to the Service represents their certification that the entity's financial management system meets 2 CFR §200.302 financial management requirements. The non-Federal entity's financial management system must be sufficient to:

- 1. Permit the preparation of required reports;
- 2. Trace funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that the entity has used such funds per Federal statutes, regulations, and terms and conditions of the Federal award;
- 3. Provide for the requirements in 2 CFR §200.302(b); and
- 4. Comply with §200.334 Retention requirements for records, §200.335 Requests for transfer of records, §200.336 Methods for collection, transmission, and storage of information, and §200.337 Access to records.

If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative's signature on or submission of the SF-424 form in GrantSolutions also represents their certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying.

When completing the SF-424 Application form, enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in Box 18a, Estimated Federal Funding. Include any other Federal sources of funding in Box 18e. Estimated Other Funding and identify any such sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below). For individuals applying as a private citizen (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own or operate in your name), do NOT include your Social Security Number on this or any other document to be submitted with your application! When completing the SF-424 Application form, individuals must enter in Box 8b. Employee/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN) the substitute number "444-44-4444." Individuals may register in SAM.gov but are not required to have a SAM.gov registration. For individuals without a SAM.gov registration enter in Box 8c. the substitute Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) "KA5HQCLKUVW1". For instructions on completing the SF-424, please reference the Instructional Video: Completing the SF424.

Interested applicants must contact the respective NFPP Regional Coordinator to determine if their project is eligible (see Section G1 for NFPP Regional Coordinator contact information). To be considered for NFPP FRIMA FY2024 funding, interested applicants from the eligible geographic area who meet the criteria in Section C of this NOFO must submit a Proposal by email to their respective NFPP Regional Coordinator by **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on September 30, 2024.** Proposals will identify the project location, project eligibility information, and respond to the identified Evaluation Criteria and proposal contents provided in Section E of this NOFO. Proposal packages will be a *maximum* of 6 single-sided pages, 12-point font. Proposals received after **September 30,** 2024, will be considered only upon funds availability.

Project Abstract Summary (OMB Number 4040-0019)

Applicants must complete and submit the Project Abstract Summary form. The Project Abstract Summary form must provide a brief award description. The description must be in plain language that the public can understand without viewing the full application proposal. It should include a brief, simple description of the project purpose, activities to be performed, deliverables and expected outcomes, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipient activities, if known at the time of submission.

Do not include personally identifiable, sensitive, or proprietary information in the award description as this is available to the public. Use only English characters, numbers, punctuation, and standard symbols. Use of non-English, non-standard characters (also referred to as special or extended ASCII characters) will result in the award description failing to be reported correctly to USASpending.gov. Award descriptions are limited to 4,000 characters or less. Applicants should check the length of the award description and proofread for proper grammar and spelling.

For applicants applying through Grants.gov: Applicants must download and complete the Grants.gov "Project Abstract Summary" form from the full text announcement. To submit the Grants.gov "Project Abstract Summary" form with the application, applicants must add the form as an attachment to the Grants.gov "Attachments" form that is included in the application package.

For applicants applying through GrantSolutions-Grants Management Module (GS-GMM): Applicants must enter the information in the Project Abstract Summary screen. Do not upload a document in place of entering the information directly into GS-GMM Project Abstract Screen.

Project Narrative

Note: DO NOT UPLOAD PROPOSALS IN GRANTS.GOV.

Prior to submitting a Financial Assistance Application in Grant Solutions, applicants will submit a proposal to the appropriate Regional Coordinator according to the instructions in Section E. **Required Submittal:** Proposal shall include: the project name and location (latitude, longitude, HUC 6 and State) of the project, a brief (1-2 sentence) project description, requested funding amount, amount of Non-Federal match (must be a minimum of 35%), expected partners, and name and contact information of the interested applicant. Proposal shall also include responses to the 9 identified evaluation criteria in Section E of this NOFO. Proposals may not exceed a *maximum* of 6 single-sided pages, 12-point font.

Pre-Coordination: Prior to submitting a Proposal, eligible applicants should contact their respective NFPP Regional Coordinator or FAC program field staff to determine if their project meets NFPP FRIMA eligibility criteria. If applicants are already developing NFPP FRIMA projects in coordination with other FAC Program staff, applicants may continue to do so without coordinating directly with their NFPP Regional Coordinator. All applicants are required to submit a Proposal to NFPP Regional Coordinator by **September 30, 2024** to be considered for funding. Proposals submitted after September 30, 2024 will be considered if funds are available.

Selected Applicant Process: Applicants that have been selected for funding according to *Section E2 Review and Selection Process* will be notified within 60 days of the Proposal deadline. Only those applicants will be invited to submit full applications in GrantSolutions, due no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 30, 2025. Full applications must include the required standard forms, information, documentation, and statements, as described below. The Service will provide

all required forms in the GrantSolutions announcement application kit, unless otherwise described below. Submission in GrantSolutions of forms requiring signature is the equivalent of a wet or digital signature.

Full Project Narrative must address the following items:

- Project title
- Description of entity(ies) undertaking the project
- Statement of need that addresses: the specific concern, problem, or issue to be addressed or opportunity to be leveraged; the consequences of not addressing the need; and how the proposed project aligns with the Service program's goals
- Project objectives that are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound, and any milestones that must be reached to achieve objectives
- Activities, including detailing for each who is carrying out the activity, what is involved, how will it be carried out (method), and when and where the activity will be carried out
- Timeline of when significant project events or milestones are anticipated
- Sufficient information to support environmental compliance review requirements. Note: while the environmental compliance laws are primarily applicable to projects carried out in the U.S., projects carried out on the high seas are subject to compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and projects outside the U.S. on any property on the UNESCO World Heritage List or the in-country equivalent of the U.S. National Register of Historic Places are subject to compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
- Information on key project personnel, including details on their expertise, skill, or significance to the project
- Project location details and supporting documentation such as maps, GIS data, or geopolitical data, as applicable.

SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs

Applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A Budget Information form for Non-Construction Programs or Projects. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov or in GrantSolutions. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 200. Applicants must show funds requested from this Federal program separately from any other Federal sources of funding. In "Section A – Budget Summary" on the SF-424A form enter the funding requested from this Federal program in the first row. Identify any other Federal funding sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below). In "Section B – Budget Categories" on the SF-424A form enter the funding requested for each Object Class Category. For the SF-424A "Contractual" category enter estimated contractual costs only. Do not include subaward costs in the "Contractual" category. Enter estimated subaward costs in the SF-424A "Other" category. Provide a separate description and total estimated costs for both contractual and subaward costs in the required Budget Narrative (see below). For more information about subrecipient and contractor determinations, see <a href="https://example.com/linearing

instructions on completing the SF-424A, please reference: <u>Instructional Video: Completing the SF424</u>.

SF-424C, Budget Information for Construction Program

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424C Budget Information form for Construction Programs or Projects. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov and in GrantSolutions. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200. Applicants must show funds requested from this Federal program separately from any other Federal sources of funding. Identify any other Federal funding sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below).

Budget Narrative

Applicants must include a budget narrative that describes and justifies requested budget items and costs. In your budget narrative, describe how the SF-424 Budget Information, "Object Class Category" totals were determined. Include a complete description of each cost category. For personnel salary costs, generally describe how estimates were determined by identifying what type of staff will support the project and how much time they will contribute to the project (in hours or workdays). Describe proposed items of cost that require prior approval under the Federal award cost principles, including any anticipated subawarding, transferring, or contracting out of any work under the award. If known at the time of application, include an estimated number of subawards and the dollar amount anticipated for each subaward. If equipment previously purchased with Federal funds is available for the project, provide a list of that equipment and identify the Federal funding source. Identify any third-party cash or in-kind contributions that a partner or other entity will contribute to the project and describe how the contributions directly and substantively benefit completion of the project. For in-kind contributions, identify the source, the amount, and the valuation methodology used to determine the total value. See 2 CFR §200.306 for more information. Please note the prohibitions on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment in <u>2 CFR 200.216</u>. Recipients may not earn, make, or keep any profit resulting from any financial assistance awards. These costs are not allowable and should not be included in any proposed costs.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), <u>2 CFR</u> §1402.112, applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

- a. Applicability.
 - This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.
 - 2. In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub recipients, the conflict of interest provisions in <u>2</u> <u>CFR§200.318</u> apply.
- b. Notification.
 - 1. Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass- through entity in accordance with 2 CFR §200.112.

- 2. Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub recipients.
- c. *Restrictions on lobbying*. Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to <u>43 CFR §18</u> and <u>31 USC §1352</u>.
- d. *Review procedures*. The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.

Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in <u>2 CFR §200.339</u>, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also <u>2 CFR §180</u>).

Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System, in accordance with 2 CFR 200 subpart F. U.S. state, local government, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse website.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in 43CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying. If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants and recipients must not use any federally appropriated funds (annually appropriated or continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a Federal award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any U.S. agency, a Member of the U.S. Congress, an officer or employee of the U.S. Congress, or an employee of a Member of the U.S. Congress connection with the award. Applicants and recipients must complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" form if the Federal share of the proposal or award is more than \$100,000 and the applicant or recipient has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-

appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the application or award. The SF-LLL form is available with this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

Applicants must provide a statement indicating if there is any overlap between this Federal application and any other Federal application, or funded project, in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, "There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects, including in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel". If any such overlap exists, provide a complete description of overlaps or duplications between this proposal and any other federally funded project or application in regard to activities, costs, and time commitment of key personnel, as applicable. Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that proposal was submitted, to whom (entity name and program), and when you anticipate being notified of their funding decision. When overlap exists, your statement must end with "We understand that if at any time we receive funding from another source that is duplicative of the funding we are requesting from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in this application, we will immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service point of contact identified in this Funding Opportunity in writing."

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration:

This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register as a financial assistance recipient in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s). Entities already registered in SAM.gov should review their registration to confirm that they are registered as a financial assistance recipient, which requires completion of the SAM.gov "Financial Assistance General Certifications and Representations". See the "Submission Requirements" section of this document below for more information on SAM.gov registration.

Applicants can register on the <u>SAM.gov</u> website. The "Help" tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as

needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity's IRS information. If applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications

04/30/2025

Application Due Date Explanation

Initial proposals should be developed and submitted in coordination with FWS Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program field and regional staff following regional processes responding to criteria in Section E. **Proposals received after September 30, 2024 will only be considered if funds are remaining.**

Full Financial Assistance Applications are due in GrantSolutions by **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 30, 2025.** See *Section D2 Content and Form of Application Submission* for more information.

D5. Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required for applications submissions from a U.S. state or local government prior to submission. Applicants must contact their State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state's process under Executive Order 12372. The State Single Point of Contact list is available on the OMB Office of Federal Financial Management website.

D6. Funding Restrictions

Indirect Costs: Individuals

Individuals applying for and receiving funds separate from a business or non-profit organization they may operate are not eligible to charge indirect costs to their award. If you are an individual applying for funding, you must not include any indirect costs in your proposed budget.

Indirect Costs: Organizations

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior (DOI) is your organization's cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center (IBC) will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the IBC by phone 916-930-3803 or using the IBC Email Submission Form. See the IBC Website for more information.

Organizations must have an active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award. Recipients

may not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted by Organization:

U.S. state or local government entities receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding must include the following statement in their application and attach a copy of their most recently negotiated rate agreement:

• We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. Our current indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. Attached is a copy of our most recently negotiated rate agreement/certification.

U.S. state or local government entities receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding must include the applicable statement from this list:

- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding. We prepare and retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and documentation per 2 CFR 200, Appendix VII. Our current indirect cost rate is [insert rate], which is charged against [insert a complete description of the direct cost base used to distribute indirect costs to the award].
- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding. We have not prepared an indirect cost rate proposal and documentation per 2 CFR §200, Appendix VII and elect to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. We understand we must use this methodology consistently for all Federal awards until we choose to establish a rate per 2 CFR §200. We understand we must notify the Service in writing if we establish a rate that changes the methodology used to charge indirect costs during the award period. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs during the project period and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.

All other organizations must include the applicable statement from this list and any related documentation in their application. Please note, an organization with a current negotiated (including provisional) rate may not elect to charge the 10% de minimis rate of Modified Total Direct Costs during the period covered by their current negotiated rate.

- We are an organization with a current negotiated indirect cost rate. In the event we receive an award, we will charge indirect costs per our current negotiated rate agreement. Attached is a copy of our current rate agreement.
- We are an organization with a negotiated indirect cost rate that has expired. Attached is copy of our most recently negotiated rate agreement. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date. We understand we must provide the Service a copy of our approved rate agreement before charging indirect costs to the Federal award.
- We are an organization that has never negotiated an indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate], which is charged against [insert a complete description of the direct cost base used to distribute indirect costs to the award]. If we

receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date. We understand we must provide the Service a copy of our approved rate agreement before charging indirect costs to the Federal award.

- We are an organization that does not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate. In the event an award is made, we elect to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. We understand we must use this methodology consistently for all Federal awards until such time as we negotiate a different rate with our cognizant agency. We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if during the award period we establish a rate that changes the methodology used to charge indirect costs to the award. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.
- We are an organization submitting a [insert either "Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Program" or "Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network"] project proposal, which has an indirect cost rate cap of [insert rate; CRU is currently 15%; CESU is currently 17.5%]. In the event we receive an award, we understand that if we have a current negotiated (including provisional) indirect cost rate agreement we must charge the capped indirect cost rate to the same base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement. We understand we must request prior approval from the awarding program to use the 2 CFR 200.1 Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) base instead of our approved base and that we must submit such requests with our application, including a calculation showing how use of the MTDC base results in an overall reduction in the total indirect costs recovered. If we do not have current negotiated (including provisional) rate, we understand we must charge the capped indirect cost rate against Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. If we have never negotiated a rate, we understand we must use the de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC.
- We are an organization that will charge all costs directly.

Both Federal and leveraged pre-award costs incurred up to 90 days prior to the award start date may be requested and will be considered during pre-award negotiations between the applicant and the Service. Incurring pre-award costs before the Service provides a Notice of Award is at the applicant's own risk, and must not include any potentially impactful work that would fall under environmental compliance reviews for this application.

D7. Other Submission Requirements

GrantSolutions Application Procedures

The Service uses the GrantSolutions system to manage financial assistance applications and awards. Applicants must register in and conduct any subsequent award business with the Service in GrantSolutions. To apply, your organization and organization officials must be established in GrantSolutions. To register your organization in GrantSolutions, send an email to help@grantsolutions.gov. The following information must be included in your email and must match your organization's SAM.gov entity record:

Subject: New Organization Request

- Organization/Individual Name
- Point of Contact first and last name, email, and phone number
- Organization Type
- SAM.gov Unique Entity Identifier (not required for individuals or Service-waived entities)
- Organization Employer Identification Number (Applicants that are INDIVIDUALS DO NOT include your social security number)
- Address

To establish organization official accounts and user role(s), complete a Recipient User Account Request Form for each official and email it to help@grantsolutions.gov. The GrantSolutions entity user roles are: Authorizing Official (ADO); Principal Investigator/Program Director (PI/PD); Support Specialist (GSS); Financial Officer (FO); and Financial Support Staff (FSS). All roles can do the following: enter applications, amendments, and reports, view awards, and view and create notes. The ADO and the PI/PD roles can also submit applications, amendments, and reports. The FO role can also submit reports. At a minimum, registered organizations must assign someone to the ADO and PI/PD roles. For GrantSolutions registration, submission, and other assistance contact their Customer Support by telephone at 1-866-577-0771 or by email at help@grantsolutions.gov. To access GrantSolutions, users must establish a Login.gov account at https://login.gov/. For assistance, contact their customer support by telephone at (844) 875-6446 or submit a request for assistance online at https://login.gov/contact/.

To apply through GrantSolutions, log in to GrantSolutions. If this is your first application submission, click on the "Begin an application" link that appears on screen. If you have previously applied, click on the "Funding Opportunity" link in the blue header bar at the top of the screen. Either action should take you to the "Competing Announcements-Application Kits" list screen. To find this Funding Opportunity, search the list for the Funding Opportunity Number and Title provided on the first page of this document (also provided on the corresponding Grants.gov Grant Opportunity Synopsis screen). To start an application, click on the "Apply" link associated with the correct Funding Opportunity on the list. For more information on how to complete and submit an application, see the GrantSolutions Training Resources web page.

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

Projects funded under NFPP FRIMA must meet eligibility criteria, cost-sharing requirements, project selection criteria, and undergo a merit review and selection process.

Applications should only be submitted in GrantSolutions following invitation by appropriate Regional staff. Interested parties should contact their appropriate NFPP Regional Coordinator to determine if their project is eligible for NFPP FRIMA. Proposals for eligible projects are due by **September 6, 2024**.

Project and Applicant Eligibility:

1. Project must be located in the Pacific Ocean drainages of the States California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, or Montana.

- 2. Participation will be voluntary.
- 3. Project must have 35% Non-Federal cost share. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funding can be applied to the Non-Federal cost share.
- 4. Project type must be Voluntary Irrigation Diversion passage, screening, barrier inventories, and 'related features.'
- 5. Project components that receive funding under this Act shall be ineligible to receive federal funds from any other source (with the exception of BPA funds) for the same purpose.
- 6. The project is agreed to by all Federal and non-Federal entities with authority and responsibility for the project.
- 7. Award request must be between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000.
 - 8. The non-Federal participants in any project carried out under the NFPP FRIMA Program on land or at a facility that is not owned by the United States shall be responsible for all costs associated with operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, and replacing the project.

Projects for mitigation purposes.

Projects are not eligible for NFPP FRIMA funding if they are for any Federal or State compensatory mitigation. Fish passage projects are not eligible for funding if fish passage is a condition provided by existing Federal or State regulatory programs. Projects funded under FRIMA are voluntary.

Projects which meet eligibility and cost-sharing requirements will be ranked based on Proposal submittals ranging from 0 to 100 points based on the following criteria and respective weights specified below. Proposals that that best address these criteria will be most competitive. Proposals may not be longer than 6 single-sided pages in 12-point font.

Proposal:

Interested parties shall submit a project proposal including the following General Information and Response to Selection Criteria to the appropriate NFPP Regional Coordinator.

General Information:

- 1. Project name:
- 2. Location (decimal latitude /longitude format):
- 3. Watershed (HUC 6):
- 4. State:
- 5. Species Benefitted:
- 6. Brief Project Description (1-2 sentences):
- 7. Requested Funding Amount (minimum \$100,000, maximum \$1,000,000):
- 8. Non-Federal Match Amount (minimum of 35%) and Source:
- 9. Applicant Name:
- 10. Applicant Email:
- 11. Applicant Organization Name:
- 12. Applicant Address:
- 13. Applicant Phone Number:
- 14. Budget Table similar to the one below:

Example Budget Table

Project	FRIMA	Non-	Source of	Secured	Other	Source of	Secured	Total
Component	Funding	Federal	Non-Federal	or	Leverage	Other	or	
	Request	Match	Match	Pending	Funding	Leverage	Pending	
	_	(must be	(BPA funds		Amount	Funding		
		35%)	qualify)			Amount		
Total								

Response to Selection Criteria:

Benefits to Priority Species and Habitats (20 points): this criterion assesses the expected benefits of the project for priority species and habitats, including how the project will enhance climate change resilience for species and habitat. To what extent is the project expected to address, mitigate, or resolve limiting factors or otherwise contribute to the recovery or sustainability of native priority species and their habitats? How significant is the expected impact of the project on the affected species and habitats? Clearly indicate if the project addresses components of established recovery, management, or state wildlife action plans, if applicable, for the species benefited.

- For the purposes of this NOFO, native priority species include Federal trust species, Service regional priority species, as well as species that may be considered Tribal trust resources (as defined in <u>510 FW 1 The Service's Native American Policy</u>) and Species of Greatest Conservation Need as defined in <u>State Wildlife Action Plans</u>. Indicate species listing status under ESA if it applies to any species benefitted.
- This may include the number of stream miles reopened or acres of wetland or floodplain habitat restored or reconnected. If including stream miles reopened or aquatic habitat connected, please include an explanation of the geographic context, expected species use or benefits, and/or quality of the habitat to be reopened.
- Indicate if the project is expected to benefit several priority species and a variety of life stages including passage to/ restoration of spawning, rearing, and/or foraging habitats or habitats of special significance to the species life history. Projects that will benefit more than one priority species, a variety of life stages, or identified important habitat will score higher on this criterion.
- To what extent is the project expected to enhance natural system ecological resilience (the capacity to recover from or persist through disturbances or changes) for species and habitats vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather events?

Permanence of Fish Passage Benefits (15 points): This criterion focuses on the sustainability of the project benefits. Projects that focus on the removal of barriers and natural channel or floodplain restoration will score higher than projects that focus on establishing passage around a barrier using methods reliant on artificial passage structures such as fishways or fish ladders. Natural channel design and floodplain connection projects that restore full fluvial or ecosystem function are expected to have a higher likelihood of long-term success than projects that rely on fishways or other structures that require operations and maintenance or that may need to be modified to continue to provide passage with changing conditions. This criterion also assesses whether there are plans for monitoring the near-term implementation success to ensure the project was built as designed and on an appropriate trajectory for providing sustainable fish passage benefits.

- Describe the fish passage/restoration approach and techniques planned and discuss how the benefits provided by the project are expected to be sustainable into the future considering site and watershed characteristics and possible changing conditions.
- Describe if/how the project aims to restore full fluvial function by adhering to climaterobust design standards that maximize restoration of fluvial, floodplain, or tidal ecosystem processes or by proposing full barrier removal:
 - Design guidance examples: <u>USFWS Culvert Design Guidelines for Ecological</u> <u>Function</u>, <u>NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region Anadromous Salmonid Passage</u> <u>Design Manual 2022</u>
- Does the project propose the removal of an instream barrier rather than the installation of a structure that may require regular operations and maintenance in the future (e.g., fishway)? If a structural solution such as a fishway or fish screen(s) is proposed, the proposal must include a plan to provide the needed short and long-term operations and maintenance capacity and costs. Does the plan adequately address potential adaptive management and maintenance? Does the plan demonstrate appropriate funding and staffing capacity to implement it long-term?
- Does the project include a plan for near-term implementation monitoring to ensure site/structures were constructed according to approved designs and on an appropriate trajectory to ensure permanence of fish passage benefits?

Regional and Watershed Context (15 points): this criterion assesses the project's importance in the watershed or other geographic context and whether it leverages other investments in ecological restoration in the watershed. Projects that leverage other Federal investments in ecological restoration in the watershed and that are significant in their geographic context will score higher on this criterion.

- How is the project important relative to a watershed, landscape, or other geographic context? How does the project implement restoration priorities or compliment ongoing activities in a larger geographic context?
- Is the project expected to leverage or significantly contribute to regional or watershed restoration efforts including those outlined in a regional or watershed plan or other prioritization established by a Federal, State, local or Tribal fish and wildlife agency?
 - Examples of regional or watershed initiatives could include DOI's Keystone Initiatives, regionally identified priority watersheds, NOAA's Habitat Blueprint,

Bureau of Land Management's Restoration Landscapes, or Environmental Protection Agency's Geographic Programs or others.

- In addition to the project's specific watershed context, how does it leverage other investments in the watershed from BIL, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful Initiative, and other Federally funded programs as appropriate?
 - Examples of non-NFPP funding may include the National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program (Federal Highway Administration); Restoring Tribal Priority Fish Passage through Barrier Removal under the IIJA (NOAA Fisheries); Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam Grant Program (FEMA); and Legacy Roads and Trails Program (USFS).

Additional opportunities for biological or water delivery system benefits (10 Points): Describe if/how the project benefits to increasing instream flow? Does the project increase irrigation efficiency to reduce needed use via piping, sprinklers or other methods? Does the project replace failing or leaking systems to improve irrigation security? Describe if/how the project provides water quality benefits (due to reduced solar radiation of ditch or pond feature or other mechanisms).

Benefits for human community resilience to climate change impacts and other co-benefits (15 points): this criterion assesses how the project will improve resiliency to the impacts of climate change and provide other social/ economic benefits for human communities.

- To what extent will the project improve resilience (the capacity to recover from or persist through disturbances or changes) to the impacts of climate change for the surrounding human community? How will the project actions reduce vulnerability to the specific climate change impacts or hazards that are most threatening to the local community?
- To what extent will the project provide other co-benefits for the community such as improved public safety, benefits to public transportation systems, reduced flood risk, increased recreational opportunities, or long-term job creation?
 - Is the project located within and/or will the project benefit extend into a community identified as "disadvantaged" on the <u>CEQ Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)</u>?
 https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5 If so, proposals should list the community tract number(s) identified as disadvantaged in the CEJST that will benefit.

Achieves Environmental Justice Goals of Investing in Communities (10 points): this criterion assesses whether the project will provide meaningful and measurable benefits to Tribal community or to an identified Disadvantaged community.

- The CEJST is the primary tool that should be used in identifying disadvantaged communities, though the following tools provide additional sources of information related to specific factors that impact disadvantaged communities and may be referenced to support narrative responses.
- Communities identified as disadvantaged through tools other than CEJST can receive partial points in this category. See reference variables listed in OMB Memo M-21-28

(Interim Definition of Disadvantaged Communities, p. 2) and supporting data from geospatial tools below for other factors that contribute to disadvantaged communities:

- <u>EPA EJ Screen</u>: https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen, to use EJ Screen factors in identifying a community as disadvantaged, list the national percentile of 50th or above for indices relevant to variables listed in OMB memo.
- CDC Social Vulnerability Index: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html, to use CDC SVI factors in identifying a community as disadvantaged, list a 2018 Overall SVI Score of 0.5 or above, or 0.5 or above for individual themes relevant to variables listed in OMB memo.
- If the project will benefit a community identified as disadvantaged, describe the specific, realistic, and meaningful project benefits to the community that will result from the project. Some examples of factors that may provide benefits could include transportation safety or security improvements achieved by addressing failing infrastructure (culverts or dams); removal of legacy structures that have negative impacts to public safety or water quality, reduction of flood or fire potential, improvements to greenspaces that can provide access for recreation or reduce urban heat island impacts, etc.
- Will a Tribal or Indigenous community benefit from the project? Describe clearly the specific, meaningful project benefits to the indigenous community. In addition to the factors described above, when describing benefits to indigenous communities, consider the restoration of tribal treaty rights and resources, activities on tribal lands or throughout traditional use areas, subsistence resources, as well as fish populations that are essential to indigenous culture.
 - Indigenous communities may refer to Indian Tribes (as defined in <u>25</u> <u>U.S.C. 5304(e)</u>), Native Hawaiian Communities, tribal commissions, tribal consortia, and other tribal organizations.

Is this a Tribal Project? (5 points):

• Is an Indian Tribe (as defined in 25 U.S.C. 5304(e)) intended to be the prime recipient of the funding, a substantially involved partner on the project, or the primary beneficiary of project benefits? Substantially involved partner is defined as a Tribe being a project signatory or contributing funding, in-kind match, or material resources to the project. Specific information related to verifying Tribal substantial involvement should be provided or will be requested during the project review and ranking phase.

<u>Community Support (5 points)</u>: this criterion assesses whether there is broad stakeholder and community support for the project, demonstrated through contributions of financial and technical resources, prioritization of the project in management plans or other planning efforts, or other commitments to the project's success.

• To what extent is the project supported by partners and the local community? Include key affected stakeholders, such as state agencies managing affected species/resources and tribes with affected tribal resources.

<u>Estimated Project Duration and Timeline of Project Milestones (5 points)</u>: this criterion assesses whether there is a clear and reasonable timeline for project completion. Projects that demonstrate that they can proceed to construction and provide fish passage benefits within 1-4 years will score higher on this criterion.

- Clearly describe what stage/s of the project and key components are being considered for funding.
- If the proposal primarily includes feasibility and planning activities, does the proposal include an explanation of known or expected technical approaches and key steps and timelines for full implementation of the project? Does proposal demonstrate that the project could proceed to construction in a timely manner (ideally construction complete within 1-4 years, even if outside this funding request / award)?
- For construction projects, does the timeline for key milestones such as the status of relevant permitting and environmental compliance indicate that the project can realistically proceed to construction and provide fish passage benefits in a timely manner (ideally construction complete within 1-4 years)?

All potential applicants should contact the Regional FAC Program staff to determine eligibility (Section C) prior to developing a Proposal. Proposals should include responses to the General Information, the budget table, and all of the Selection Criteria in Section E1.

The NFPP highly encourages conservation partners to coordinate with FAC program staff during project development and implementation. FAC Program staff can provide technical information and are knowledgeable about state-of-the-art techniques to restore, enhance, and protect fish and wildlife habitats for the benefit of Federal trust species. If an applicant chooses to prepare an application independently, the application will be reviewed by Regional FAC Program staff to determine if the potential project is consistent with the FRIMA eligibility and selection criteria. Applications in GrantSolutions will be done by **invitation** only after Regional FAC staff determine eligibility (Section C) and review responses to selection criteria (Section E). Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the FWS may choose not to fund the selected project.

E2. Review and Selection Process

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the FWS may choose not to fund the selected project.

Prior to award, the program will conduct and document a review of the proposed budget to ensure figures are calculated correctly, proposed costs are clearly linked to the project narrative and seem necessary and reasonable, no obviously unallowable costs are included, costs requiring prior approval are identified and described, indirect cost are applied correctly, and any program match or cost share requirements are addressed.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov

registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR §200.206. Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the Bureau is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The Bureau will consider this information when completing the risk review. The Bureau uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR §200.208 should be applied to the award.

Projects proposals received will undergo a review and selection process based on how well they meet the program priorities outlined in Section A and the evaluation criteria included in Section E1 of this funding opportunity announcement. Proposed projects will be evaluated and ranked by a subject-matter expert review panel (Panel) consisting of Service employees and other subject-matter experts. Panelists will independently review the information for each of the projects proposed and score each project according to the project evaluation criteria (see Section E1. Criteria). The Panel will make recommendations regarding which proposals best meet the program objectives and criteria (Sections A and E1, respectively). The Panel may convene in person or by teleconference, video conference, or other electronic means to discuss applications.

Once projects are selected and applicants have been notified that their project has been selected for funding, applicants must submit a formal application in GrantSolutions according to Section D2 Content and Form of Application Submission.

Applicants should not submit applications to GrantSolutions until the Project Evaluation and Selection process described above is complete, and they have been notified that their project is selected.

E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

See the <u>Service's General Award Terms and Conditions</u> for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards. The Service will communicate any other program- or project-specific special terms and conditions to recipients in their notices of award.

E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the <u>DOI Standard Terms and Conditions</u> for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

See the <u>Service's General Award Terms and Conditions</u> for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards.

Buy America Provision for Infrastructure: Required Use of American Iron, Steel, Manufactured Products, and Construction Materials. Per 2 CFR 184, none of the funds provided under a Federal award may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

- 1. All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States. This means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States,
- 2. All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States. This means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States, and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation, and
- 3. All construction materials are manufactured in the United States. This means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. For construction material standards see 2 CFR §184.6.

The Buy America preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

Department of the Interior General Applicability Waivers:

There may be instances where a project qualifies, in whole or in part, for an existing Department of the Interior (Department) general applicability waiver. If a project is selected for funding, recipients are responsible for determining if an approved waiver applies to their project. A list of active waivers is available on the <u>Department's General Applicability Waivers web page</u>. For more information on the waiver process and how to request a waiver, see the <u>Service's General Award Terms and Conditions</u>.

F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the SF-425, Federal Financial Report form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a **final** financial report. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. The only exception to the interim financial reporting requirement is if the recipient is required to use the SF 270/271 to request payment and requests payment at least once annually through the entire award period of performance. We will describe all financial reporting requirements in the Notice of Award. For instructions on completing the SF-425, please reference: <u>Instructional Video</u>: <u>Completing the Federal Financial Report</u>.

Non-Construction Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals was not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. **Final** reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim performance** reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Construction Performance Reports

For construction awards, onsite technical inspections and certified percentage of completion data may be relied on to monitor progress for construction. Additional performance reports for construction activities may be required only when considered necessary. However, awards that include both construction and non-construction activities require performance reporting for the non-construction activities. See 2 CFR\\$200.329 for more information. The USFWS will describe all performance reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Bureau in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify the Service in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and subrecipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest. The required frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the Federal interest period. The Bureau will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required standard form or data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Per 2 CFR §1402.112, non-Federal entities and their employees must take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements. In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the provisions in 2 CFR §200.318 apply. Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR §200.112. Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Service Project Officer identified in their notice of award in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that reported by subrecipients. The Service will examine each disclosure to determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, work with the applicant or recipient to develop an appropriate resolution. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies for noncompliance described in 2 CFR §200.339, including suspension or debarment.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:

John Netto

Telephone:

503-724-8366

Email:

G2. Program Administration

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name: Monica Randolph

Telephone:

816-377-1341

Email:

monica_randolph@fws.gov

G3. Application System Technical Support

For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages, contact:

Grants.gov Customer Support

Numeric Input Field: 1-800-518-4726

Support@grants.gov

For GrantSolutions technical registration, submission, and other assistance contact:

GrantSolutions Customer Support

1-866-577-0771

Help@grantsolutions.gov

H. Other Information

Payments

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by the Service program. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT). The Bureau will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:

OMB Control Number: 1018-0100

Per the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA; 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) collects information in accordance with program authorizing legislation to conduct a review and select projects for funding and, if awarded, to evaluate

performance. Your response is required to obtain or retain a benefit. We may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Privacy Act Statement: This information collection is authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5701 et seq. The information provided will be used to administer all Service financial assistance programs and activities including to: (1) determine eligibility under the authorizing legislation and applicable program regulations; (2) determine allowability of major cost items under the Cost Principles at 2 CFR 200; (3) select those projects that will provide the highest return on the Federal investment; and (4) assist in compliance with laws, as applicable, such as the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970. This information may be shared in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the routine uses listed in INTERIOR/DOI-89, Grants and Cooperative Agreements: FBMS - 73 FR 43775 (July 28, 2008). Furnishing this information is voluntary; however, failure to provide all requested information may prevent the Service from awarding funds.

Estimated Burden Statement: We estimate that it will take you on average about 40 hours to complete an initial application, about 3 hours to revise the terms of an award, and about 8 hours per report to prepare and submit financial and performance reports, including time to maintain records and gather information. Actual times for these activities will vary depending on program-specific requirements. Direct comments regarding the burden estimates or any other aspect of the specific forms to the Service Information Clearance Officer, USFWS, U.S. Department of the Interior, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or by email to Info_Coll@fws.gov.