Fish Passage Projects Recommended for NOAA Funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: National Competition

Projects Selected through the Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Notice of Funding Opportunity

Alaska

Basin to Delta: Copper River Watershed Fish Passage Restoration
Recipient: Copper River Watershed Project
Recommended Federal Funding*: $1,410,000
Congressional District(s): AK-001
Summary: The Copper River Watershed Project will be awarded $1,410,000 to remove two culverts in the flood-prone Copper River delta and design seven additional culvert removals. In the last 20 years, this area has seen multiple 100-year flood events, which have caused significant road damage. Removing the culverts will reduce the likelihood of catastrophic structure failure and maintain access to emergency services and subsistence resources for tribal and rural communities. The Copper River watershed supports fisheries that are of profound importance to Alaska native and rural subsistence users, recreational anglers, and commercial fishermen. Annual commercial harvests of Copper River salmon generate an average of $20 million dollars to commercial fishermen, and an additional $20 million dollars to local economies.
Project Partners: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Eyak Corporation, Bureau of Land Management

California

Santa Margarita River Bridge Replacement and Fish Passage
Recipient: California Trout, Inc.
Recommended Federal Funding*: $3,257,851
Congressional District(s): CA-052
Summary: California Trout will be awarded $3,257,851 to remove a total barrier on the mainstem of the Santa Margarita River in Southern California and replace it with a 575-foot bridge. The new bridge will be sized for climate change, as it will accommodate a 500-year flood event. It will also allow endangered Southern California steelhead access to 12 miles of upstream habitat, decrease roadway flooding, and restore natural channel processes such as wood and gravel movement. In addition, the project will engage the public—including the Pechanga tribe and California-rated severely disadvantaged communities—in construction and educational aspects of the project. Additional education and job development efforts will be implemented, including natural resource-based workshops and trainings.
Project Partners: South Coast Steelhead Coalition, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, The Wildlife Conservation Board, California Natural Resources Agency, State Coastal Conservancy, Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, San Diego County Public Works, Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce, Fallbrook Trails Council, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Engaging Community and Reconnecting Anadromy in Ótakim Séwi (Big Chico Creek, Sacramento River Watershed)
Recipient: California Trout, Inc.
Recommended Federal Funding*: $1,414,823 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): CA-001
Summary: California Trout will be awarded up to $9,949,795 over three years for the design, permitting, planning, and removal of a rockfall barrier and obsolete fishway in Big Chico Creek, California. The rockfall blocks Central Valley Spring Run Chinook and Central Valley steelhead from more than 8 miles of high-quality upstream habitat. Reconnecting access to this critical habitat would provide holding, spawning, and rearing habitat and cold water refuge that improves climate resilience in the watershed and aligns with NOAA recovery plans for both species. Through all stages of the project, from planning to implementation, the Mechoopda Tribe and community members will be involved. The project also has a major focus on outreach to the community, with programs for youth and participation by Chico State University.
Project Partners: Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve, City of Chico, Mechoopda Tribe, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chico State Department of Natural Science, FishBio, Maxim Crane Works, Syblon Reid, Western Fishes, Mike Love and Associates, Gallaway Enterprises, NV5

Lower Jalama Creek Fish Passage Implementation Project
Recipient: The Nature Conservancy
Recommended Federal Funding*: $2,185,330
Congressional District(s): CA-024
Summary: The Nature Conservancy will be awarded $2,185,330 to address two barriers on Jalama Creek that are high priority for recovery of Southern California steelhead. One weir will be completely removed. A roughened channel will be built at a second site to address passage at Jalama Road bridge, the only public access to a county park for nearby communities. These projects will provide access to more than 12 miles of priority habitat that will serve as thermal refugia in a future climate. The California Conservation Corps will implement the weir removal and lead site revegetation. TNC is collaborating with the Santa Ynez Band of the Chumash Indians on educational materials development and construction monitoring. The project is adjacent to Lompoc, an economically disadvantaged community. An educational program will focus on the Lompoc School District.
Project Partners: California Conservation Corps, ICF, Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

High Priority Barrier Removal for California North Coast Salmon
Recipient: Trout Unlimited
Recommended Federal Funding*: $6,222,830
Congressional District(s): CA-002
Summary: Trout Unlimited will be awarded $6,222,830 to support removal of nine high priority barriers in the Eel, Noyo, Navarro, and Big Rivers of coastal northern California. Funding will support the design of two projects and construction of seven projects. The projects have been prioritized in multiple regional and recovery-based planning efforts, and are targeted to benefit endangered Central California Coast coho salmon (a NOAA Species in the Spotlight), and threatened Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho, California Coastal Chinook, and Northern California steelhead. The effort will foster a long-term dialogue with local tribal

governments, councils, and communities to learn about and incorporate their priorities into the current and future project work. The projects are located within California-rated disadvantaged and severely disadvantaged communities and will provide jobs and public outreach opportunities in those areas. Roadway flooding and potential for catastrophic failure of the barriers will be eliminated, resulting in maintenance cost savings and improvements in community safety.
Project Partners: Mendocino Redwood Company, Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Manchester-Point Arena Band of Pomo Indians, City of Willits, Mendocino Resource Conservation District, Wiyot Tribe, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Western Railroad/Mendocino Railway, California Conservation Corps, Humboldt Redwood Company, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board

Connecticut

It's about Dam Time: Removing Kinneytown Dam to Restore Fish Passage and Advance Environmental Justice
Recipient: Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Recommended Federal Funding*: $1,835,630 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): CT-003
Summary: The Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments will be awarded up to $15,000,000 over three years to remove the Kinneytown Dam Facility (Kinneytown Dam / Canal Reservoir Dam) on the mainstem of the Naugatuck River in Connecticut. The effort will open 29 mainstem miles for blueback herring, American shad, and alewife, and an additional 28 tributary miles for American eel. Both dams are located in underserved communities, and public river access points will be developed at both sites, improving opportunities for boating and river use. The dams are safety hazards due to potential for public injury and high risk of facility failure. Dam removal will reduce the flood risk to communities upstream and downstream of the project.
Project Partners: Save the Sound, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Connecticut Brownfield Land Bank

Idaho

Idaho Fish Passage
Recipient: Idaho Office of Species Conservation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $4,208,805
Congressional District(s): ID-001, ID-002
Summary: The Idaho Office of Species Conservation will be awarded $4,208,805 to improve fish passage in four drainages in the Upper Snake River by addressing two culverts at the mouth of two tributaries to the mainstem Salmon River (Poison Creek and Kinnikinic Creek) and two culverts in Clearwater Basin (George Creek and Big Cedar Creek). The four undersized and/or perched culverts will be replaced with bridges at two locations and appropriately-sized arch culverts at the other two locations. The tributaries that will be connected are all colder than the mainstem rivers and will provide cold water refugia for threatened and endangered species. This is a priority in the NOAA Recovery Plans for Chinook and steelhead in the Snake River Basin.

Project Partners: Idaho Fish and Game, Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District, Nez Perce County, Idaho Soil and Water Conservation District, Upper Salmon Basin Watershed Program, Idaho Transportation Department

Maine

Atlantic salmon and other diadromous fish recovery actions in the Piscataquis River and greater Penobscot River Watershed
Recipient: Atlantic Salmon Federation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $7,554,797
Congressional District(s): ME-002
Summary: The Atlantic Salmon Federation will be awarded $7,554,797 to address fish passage barriers in the Penobscot River watershed, particularly the Piscataquis basin, to support and improve the largest Atlantic salmon run in the United States. Removing two dams and installing fish ladders at two others will open sites that are currently complete barriers to fish passage. The projects are identified in, or consistent with, the Atlantic Salmon Recovery Plan and the Atlantic Salmon Species in the Spotlight 5-Year Action Plan. Removal of the Guilford Dam will reconnect more than 9,700 suitable habitat units towards the delisting criteria of 30,000 units for the Penobscot Basin Salmon Habitat Recovery Unit. The project will also support the Town of Dover-Foxcroft in conducting a feasibility study to examine options to provide fish passage at Moosehead Dam.
Project Partners: Penobscot Nation, The Nature Conservancy, Appalachian Mountain Club

Improving Fish passage at the Milltown and Woodland Dams on the International St. Croix River, Maine
Recipient: Maine Department of Marine Resources
Recommended Federal Funding*: $600,000 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): ME-002
Summary: The Maine Department of Marine Resources will be awarded up to $14,826,500 over three years to design and build a fish lift at Woodland Dam on the St. Croix River in Maine. The project will provide access to 600 miles for all migratory fish species and 60,000 acres of habitat for alewife. This is a top priority for the state of Maine, the Passamoquoddy people, and a large number of other stakeholders and agencies in the region due to its potential to significantly improve fish populations in the region. Project timing is aligned with the downstream Milltown Dam removal project to ensure immediate project benefits. The project will directly benefit alewife, American shad, American eel, blueback herring, and sea lamprey by providing spawning and rearing habitat. Fish population benefits expected from the project will also result in increased prey for whales, dolphins, groundfish, and saltwater sportfish.
Project Partners: New Brunswick Power, Woodland Pulp LLC, Passamaquoddy Tribe, Alden Labs, The Nature Conservancy, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. fish and Wildlife Service

Massachusetts

Addressing Priority Barriers in the Watersheds of the Great Marsh
Recipient: Ipswich River Watershed Association

Recommended Federal Funding*: $2,359,186
Congressional District(s): MA-006
Summary: The Ipswich River Watershed Association will be awarded $2,359,186 to restore passage to 238 miles of priority habitat in the Ipswich and Parker River watersheds, tributaries to the Great Marsh Area of Critical Environmental Concern in Massachusetts. The project will address five dams: Ipswich Mills, Larkin Mill, Willowdale, Howlett Brook, and South Middleton Dams. Passage will be restored at four dams, along with design and permitting for the removal of the lowest dam in the watershed. The projects will benefit river herring, American shad, and American eel. All of the dams have high climate related hazard levels due to community flooding and risk of failure, and have been prioritized in multiple regional climate and fisheries conservation plans. Several of the projects are located near underserved communities, and all project work includes outreach to and engagement with these communities. Recreational access through a popular canoeing area will also be restored, which will connect downtown Ipswich to the Great Marsh.
Project Partners: Town of Ipswich, Essex County Greenbelt Association, Foote Brothers, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration

Monatiquot River Restoration Implementation Project
Recipient: Town of Braintree
Recommended Federal Funding*: $2,000,000
Congressional District(s): MA-008
Summary: The Town of Braintree, Massachusetts, will be awarded $2,000,000 for two dam removals in the Monatiquot River watershed. The work would create immediate access for alewives and other diadromous species as well as increase the resilience of an underserved community. The projects will completely remove the dams and restore the river channel through the former impoundment. The removals parallel ongoing efforts to redevelop an adjacent degraded industrial site into waterfront access for the public. Dam removal will reduce the flood elevation by up to 9 feet, eliminate the threat dam failure poses to a commuter railroad and highway, and coincide with the removal of contaminated sediments in the river. Outreach is planned for the community and a publicly accessible trail will be created to provide access to the river.
Project Partners: Hollingsworth Pond LLC, Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, Fore River Watershed Association, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Michigan & Wisconsin

Reconnecting Stream Habitat in Shared Priority Waters in the Lake Michigan and Lake Superior Basins
Recipient: Trout Unlimited
Recommended Federal Funding*: $4,784,222
Congressional District(s): MI-001, MI-002; WI-007
Summary: Trout Unlimited will be awarded $4,784,222 to remove or replace eight fish passage barriers and open 55 miles of spawning, rearing, and refuge habitat on high-quality Great Lakes coldwater streams. These projects are expected to yield significant benefits for native migratory and non-migratory fish populations of the Great Lakes and their tributaries, including brook trout, sturgeon, and white suckers. The replacement of undersized culverts will not only provide

ecosystem benefits, but will also help tribal, rural, and underserved communities adapt to climate change by reducing flooding and improving threatened infrastructure. Trout Unlimited and partners will also inventory road-stream crossings to assess potential barriers and develop seven project designs for future projects.
Project Partners: U.S. Forest Service - Huron Manistee National Forest; Little River Band of Ottawa Indians; Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; U.S. Fish and wildlife Service, Town of Brule, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Superior Watershed Partnership, Partners for Watershed Restoration

New Hampshire

Restoration of the Oyster River Herring Run Through Removal of the Mill Pond Head-of-Tide Dam and Installation of Fish Passage on the Oyster Reservoir Dam
Recipient: Town of Durham, New Hampshire
Recommended Federal Funding*: $290,000 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): NH-001
Summary: The Town of Durham, New Hampshire, will be awarded up to $3,537,201 over three years to improve fish passage on the Oyster River, a tributary to the Great Bay estuary, by removing the Mill Pond Dam and installing a fish ladder on the Oyster Reservoir Dam. Removal of the Mill Pond Dam, the lowest on the river, will restore a free-flowing river and increase tidal influence, improving water quality and fish habitat upstream. Dam removal will also provide community benefits, as the dam does not currently meet regulations to safely withstand a 50-year storm event. The Oyster Reservoir Dam, the next barrier on the Oyster River system, is a water-supply impoundment. Currently, this dam has no upstream fish passage. Dam removal is not an option, as it serves as a water supply for the Town of Durham and the University of New Hampshire.
Project Partners: New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources

North Carolina

Watershed Restoration of the Upper Cape Fear and Lower Deep Rivers
Recipient: American Rivers, Inc.
Recommended Federal Funding*: $4,230,464 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): NC-009
Summary: American Rivers will be awarded up to $7,145,464 over three years to restore priority habitat in the Cape Fear watershed for several migratory fish species, including American shad, river herring, striped bass, Atlantic Sturgeon, and American eel. Through this project, three dams upstream of a series of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Locks and Dams will be removed, and pre-removal activities will be initiated for two additional dams. The removals will open nearly 100 miles of main stem river and 1,024 miles of perennial streams in the watershed. This effort will reduce flooding in surrounding flood-prone communities by restoring floodplains, and reducing flood elevation in the project areas behind the dams. The work is also anticipated to encourage new recreational and economic opportunities in the region.

Project Partners: Resource Environmental Solutions LLC, Stantec, Unique Places to Save, Kris Bass Engineering

Removing Barriers and Restoring Connectivity on the Roanoke River
Recipient: The Nature Conservancy
Recommended Federal Funding*: $3,267,129
Congressional District(s): NC-001
Summary: The Nature Conservancy will be awarded $3,267,129 for the design, permitting, and implementation of eight projects within the floodplain of the lower Roanoke River, collectively comprising 1,130 acres of floodplain habitat and more than 5 miles of reconnected river. The effort will replace six undersized culverts with bridges and remove two earthen barriers. Removal of these barriers complements NOAA's efforts with upstream projects to rehydrate the floodplain. Restoration will greatly benefit blueback herring and other alosines directly and Atlantic sturgeon indirectly. The projects will also provide climate and ecological resilience by reducing flooding and improving water quality in the watershed. The projects will occur within economically disadvantaged, rural areas.
Project Partners: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership, East Carolina University

Oregon

Kellogg Creek Restoration and Community Enhancement
Recipient: American Rivers
Recommended Federal Funding*: $7,513,180 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): OR-005
Summary: American Rivers will be awarded up to $15,000,000 over three years to design, permit, and begin pre-project construction activities to prepare for removal of Kellogg Creek Dam in Milwaukie, Oregon. The dam is located at the mouth of Kellogg Creek, a tributary to the Lower Willamette River, and blocks access to 15 miles of high quality upstream habitat. The dam also provides a foundation for the overhead Hwy 99E crossing, which will be replaced with a new bridge and pedestrian undercrossing as part of the construction phase. The dam currently blocks passage for threatened Lower Columbia River coho, Chinook, and steelhead. Its removal is a top priority for the City of Milwaukie, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, and numerous conservation organizations. Dam removal will reduce community flooding, improve safe connections between downtown Milwaukie and the riverfront, and increase opportunities for the local community to use natural areas.
Project Partners: Oregon Department of Transportation, North Clackamas Watersheds Council, City of Milwaukie, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation of Oregon, Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, Metro, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Division of State Lands, North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, Clackamas Water Environment Services, Native Fish Society

Reconnecting Fish Passage to Recover Coast Coho in Oregon
Recipient: Wild Salmon Center

Recommended Federal Funding*: $3,625,109
Congressional District(s): OR-004
Summary: Wild Salmon Center will be awarded $3,625,109 to support nine fish passage projects in four Oregon coastal watersheds. The effort will help recover two threatened species: Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho and Oregon Coast coho. Projects will remove and replace aging infrastructure—including old dams, culverts, and tide gates—to increase stream channel connectivity and create off-channel and cold water refugia, limiting factors in coho recovery. The projects were prioritized through an extensive, inclusive selection process guided by NOAA Fisheries recovery plans. Proposed techniques for restoring natural processes incorporate climate change considerations, and are anticipated to benefit listed species as well as surrounding rural and tribal communities.
Project Partners: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rogue River Watershed Council, Coos Watershed Association, Bureau of Land Management,

Washington

West Fork of the Hoquiam River Dam Removal and Groundwater Replacement Preliminary Design and Permitting
Recipient: City of Hoquiam
Recommended Federal Funding*: $1,231,350
Congressional District(s): WA-006
Summary: The City of Hoquiam will be awarded $1,231,350 to assess the feasibility of removing the West Fork of the Hoquiam River Dam in the Lower Chehalis watershed. The project will involve developing conceptual designs for dam removal and designing, permitting, and installing groundwater wells that will be tested to serve as an alternative water source for the City of Hoquiam. Removal of the dam would open 13 miles of habitat for coho salmon, steelhead, Chinook salmon and would improve instream flows in the watershed by eliminating a surface water diversion. If the wells can provide a reliable source of alternative water, and the dam removal is found to be feasible, residents of the City of Hoquiam will have a more reliable water supply, decreased likelihood of water supply contamination, reduced dam and fishway maintenance and repair costs, and updated infrastructure. The project has been prioritized by Chehalis basin restoration partners and tribes due to its potential to provide access to high quality habitat that will be thermal refuge in a future climate.
Project Partners: Chehalis Basin Partnership, Chehalis Basin Habitat Workgroup

Enloe Dam Removal Project Planning and Feasibility Assessment
Recipient: Trout Unlimited
Recommended Federal Funding*: $2,314,610
Congressional District(s): WA-004 **Summary:** Trout Unlimited will be awarded $2,314,610 for the planning and feasibility assessment for the removal of Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, a tributary to the Columbia River. The dam has blocked anadromous fish passage for 100 years and has not generated power for 64 years. If completed, removing the Enloe Dam would be the largest habitat restoration action in the Columbia River basin. The project focuses on completing planning and feasibility assessment for a full dam removal, which are critical steps in the path to gain support from the dam owner for removal. It includes coordination with and outreach to the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Similkameen Indian Band, and the Okanagan Nation Alliance. The effort will contribute to opening access to high elevation coldwater habitat for climate refugia,

improving tribal fishing opportunities, reducing the risk of catastrophic flooding to downstream communities, and alleviating the financial burden of the dam.
Project Partners: Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, American Rivers

Olympic Peninsula Coldwater Connection Campaign - Hoh Watershed
Recipient: Trout Unlimited
Recommended Federal Funding*: $7,071,627
Congressional District(s): WA-006
Summary: Trout Unlimited will be awarded $7,071,627 to replace eight fish passage barriers as part of the Coldwater Connection Campaign, a partnership between non-profits; state, federal and local agencies; and stakeholders to reconnect 125 miles of high quality salmon and steelhead streams in Washington's coastal areas. The five barriers were prioritized using a decision support tool that evaluated the potential ecological benefits of removing more than 500 anadromous barriers in the Olympic Peninsula. The culverts will be replaced with fish passable structures to improve both the resiliency of salmonid populations and transportation infrastructure. The effort will open more than 7 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for commercially and recreationally important salmon species. Funding will also support hiring staff and increasing Hoh tribal community capacity focused on salmon restoration.
Project Partners: Cold Water Connection Campaign members (Wild Salmon Center, Coast Salmon Partnership, Quileute Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Hoh Tribe, and others)

Snohomish Cooperative Salmon Barrier Removal Project
Recipient: Tulalip Tribes of Washington
Recommended Federal Funding*: $9,733,975
Congressional District(s): WA-002
Summary: The Tulalip Tribes will be awarded $9,733,975 to support planning and construction of 16 fish barrier removal projects in the Snohomish River basin, which drains to Puget Sound. These projects will remove or replace barrier culverts with fish passable structures designed to withstand climate change, restoring connectivity to more than 32 miles of upstream habitat in priority streams for the recovery of salmon. Barrier removal will benefit several listed and managed species, including threatened Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and other salmonid species (e.g., coho and chum). Tribal and rural communities are anticipated to benefit from reduced flood risk and safety hazards and increased recreational and economic opportunities.
Project Partners: Snohomish County, Snohomish Conservation District

Olympic Peninsula Cold Water Connection Campaign - Quillayute and Quinault
Recipient: Wild Salmon Center
Recommended Federal Funding*: $10,396,280
Congressional District(s): WA-006
Summary: Wild Salmon Center will be awarded $10,396,280 to design, permit, and remove nine culverts on county and tribal reserve roads as part of the Coldwater Connection Campaign, a partnership between non-profits; state, federal, and local agencies; and stakeholders to reconnect 125 miles of high quality salmon and steelhead streams in Washington's coastal areas. The project was developed with the Quileute and Quinault Tribes and will increase tribal capacity for fish passage restoration. Culvert replacements will be implemented in the Quillayute and Quinault watersheds. They will improve access for native migratory salmonids to their historic range while improving the durability of public infrastructure.

Project Partners: Cold Water Connection Campaign members (Coast Salmon Partnership, Trout Unlimited, Quileute Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Hoh Tribe, and others)

Lower Yakima River Fish Passage: Bateman Island Causeway Removal and Prosser Dam Passage Improvement
Recipient: Yakama Nation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $235,161 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): WA-004
Summary: The Yakama Nation will be awarded up to $3,626,635 to remove the Bateman Island Causeway and complete hydraulic modeling at the Prosser Dam. The Bateman Island Causeway is a partial barrier at the confluence of the Yakima and Columbia Rivers. It also creates a thermal barrier to fish passage during the summer, which reduces the migratory season. The Prosser Dam is a partial barrier on the Yakima River that reduces the passage and survival of smolt. The dam is also an irrigation water diversion that can divert up to 50 percent of the flow of the Yakima River, causing impacts to smolts. These projects are identified as the highest eligible priority in the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan and identified in NOAA recovery planning documents. They will improve spawning habitat for Chinook and steelhead in the mainstem river, and spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook, coho, and steelhead in the tributaries.
Project Partners: Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

***** *At this point in the selection process, the application approval and obligation of funds is not final. Applications are being "recommended" for funding. This is not an authorization to start the project and is not a guarantee of funding.*

Fish Passage Projects Recommended for NOAA Funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Tribal-Specific Competition

Projects Selected through the Restoring Tribal Priority Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Notice of Funding Opportunity

Alaska

Chickaloon Village Traditional Council Tribal Fish Passage Project
Recipient: Chickaloon Native Village
Recommended Federal Funding*: $1,558,006
Congressional District(s): AK-001
Summary: Chickaloon Native Village will be awarded $1,558,006 to implement fish barrier removal within the traditional ancestral lands of Chickaloon Native Village and develop a Fish Passage Working Group for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. They will also increase tribal staff member knowledge and capacity to oversee fish passage restoration planning, design, and implementation. The Chickaloon Tribe is an active member of the Mat-Su National Fish Habitat Partnership and anticipates using the Mat-Su NFHP strategic plan in their proposed work. The project includes a deliverable to facilitate a Mat-Su Fish Passage Working Group—a committee under the Mat-Su NFHP partnership—that will include multiple regional tribes; federal, state, and borough agencies; and other relevant participants. The Chickaloon Tribe will rely on NFHP partner capacity and local community and technical knowledge to prioritize fish passage projects that benefit traditional harvest by Chickaloon Tribe and neighboring tribes around Cook Inlet. Training under the proposal would be offered first to tribal staff members in Chickaloon, Eklutna, and other tribes in Cook Inlet.
Project Partners: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mat-Su National Fish Habitat Partnership

Assessment and Engineered Designs for Anadromous Fish Passage Infrastructure on Sealaska Lands
Recipient: Sealaska Corporation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $425,920
Congressional District(s): AK-001
Summary: Sealaska Corporation will be awarded $425,920 to support the assessment, feasibility, and prioritization of stream-crossing barriers on Prince of Wales Island, as well as designs for 10 individual barrier projects. Prince of Wales Island is one of the most productive areas for salmon in Southeast Alaska. The island supports coho, chum, pink, and sockeye salmon, Dolly Varden char, and coastal cutthroat trout, all of which have been important to the livelihood and culture of inhabitants for millennia. This project has the potential to reduce habitat fragmentation and increase species resilience to climate change, while also improving access to essential services for remote communities. Project partners will help build capacity for Sealaska employees to participate in all phases of the work. Sealaska is an active partner of the Southeast Alaska National Fish Habitat Partnership. Sealaska will identify projects important to their community from the NFHP partner prioritized fish passage projects and will work with NFHP capacity to execute the work.
Project Partners: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Klawock Indigenous Stewards Forest Partnership, Southeast Alaska National Fish Habitat Partnership

Eyak Corporation Fish Passage Restoration and Program Development on the Copper River Delta
Recipient: The Eyak Corporation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $309,088 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): AK-001
Summary: The Eyak Corporation will be awarded $2,872,614 to build capacity for planning and implementing fish passage and connection restoration projects in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Copper River Watershed Project. The Eyak Corporation is the largest private landowner on the Copper River Delta. The project will support five species of salmon of profound importance to native and rural subsistence users, recreational anglers, and commercial fishermen and will boost resilience from recent disaster declarations assessed at more than $34 million. Annual commercial harvest of Copper River salmon generates an average of $20 million commercially and $20 million to local economies annually, in addition to being a renowned recreational draw. Capacity building will support staff development on tribal land through professional development, hands-on project management, and equipment needs.
Project Partners: Copper River Watershed Project, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Chugach National Forest, Alaska Department of Fish & Game

California

Salmonid Passage Remediation and Tribal Capacity Building on the Eel River, California
Recipient: Round Valley Indian Tribes
Recommended Federal Funding*: $1,270,299
Congressional District(s): CA-002
Summary: The Round Valley Indian Tribes will be awarded $1,270,299 to support tribal capacity building for engagement in the decommissioning process and dam removal at the Potter Valley Project on the Eel River. The Eel River is the third largest watershed in California and is a historic tribal source of livelihood, sustenance, and connection to the landscape. The removal of the Scott Dam has the potential to support 26,000 steelhead and 10,000 fall-run Chinook annually. The project would build capacity for the Round Valley and Wiyot Tribes through the purchase of equipment and data collection on stream flow management. This will improve tribal participation in the decommissioning process and ensure outcomes are aligned with tribal objectives.
Project Partners: Wiyot Tribe, McBain Associates, Stillwater Sciences

Idaho

Yankee Fork Fish Passage Improvement - Project will Evaluate, Assess, and Restore Fish Passage and Connectivity for Native Resident and Three ESA-listed Anadromous & Migratory Fish Species
Recipient: Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho
Recommended Federal Funding*: $1,085,584
Congressional District(s): ID-002

Summary: The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho will be awarded $1,085,584 to evaluate, assess, and restore fish passage and connectivity for migratory fish in the Yankee Fork watershed, including three Endangered Species Act-listed species: Snake River spring/summer-run Chinook salmon, Snake River steelhead, and bull trout. The project goals include restoring fish passage and connectivity in Pond Series 4, and restoring fish passage and connectivity to two currently disconnected tributary subwatersheds: Jerry's Creek and Silver Creek. In combination, these projects will achieve measurable and lasting benefits for ESA-listed migratory fish species, support indigenous management of culturally and ecologically resilient fisheries, enhance watershed resilience to threats from climate hazards, and increase the capacity for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to effectively manage tribal trust resources for cultural, spiritual, and subsistence purposes.
Project Partners: Bonneville Power Administration, Custer Soil and Water Conservation District, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Office of Species Conservation, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, NOAA Fisheries, The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Trout Unlimited, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Maine

Restoring Tribal Priority Fish Passage in the Penobscot River Watershed and Building the Penobscot Nation's Resource Management, Stewardship, and Restoration Capacity
Recipient: Penobscot Indian Nation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $2,979,896
Congressional District(s): ME-002
Summary: The Penobscot Indian Nation will be awarded $2,979,896 to eliminate five culvert and dam barriers within the East Branch of the Penobscot River. This work will benefit passage of Endangered Species Act-listed Atlantic salmon and five other migratory fish species for a 150-mile river reach. A flow management plan for Matagamon Lake will also benefit downstream critical salmon habitat. The East Branch contains the highest amount of high-quality salmon habitat in the Penobscot River watershed. The Penobscot Indian Nation, working collaboratively with its partners, will increase capacity of the tribe by funding fishery biologist positions, and build capacity to manage and steward the migratory fish resources both on and off Tribal Trust Lands. The Penobscot Indian Nation will implement an outreach strategy to further engage with watershed stakeholders to expand on restoration opportunities.
Project Partners: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Matagamon Lake Association, USGS-University of Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Field Geology Services, University of Maine, Maine Sea Grant, Acadia Civil Works

Planning and Capacity to Restore Sea Run Fish Passage on the St. Croix River—From Still Waters to the Gulf of Maine
Recipient: Passamaquoddy Tribe (Pleasant Point Reservation)
Recommended Federal Funding*: $893,572 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): ME-002
Summary: The Passamaquoddy Tribe (Pleasant Point Reservation) will be awarded up to $2,006,693 over three years to complete assessments to identify preferred approaches to enhance both up and downstream passage across the Grand Falls and Woodland Dams. This project would help the tribe to interact with state and federal agencies as these groups sponsor and plan restoration actions at the site of an active paper mill, which is economically important to the

community. The project will strengthen tribal engagement in restoration decision-making and will allow the tribe to conduct important community education and outreach work which is critical to decisions in the watershed going forward. This project complements a project from the State of Maine that is focused on upstream fish passage planning at this site.
Project Partners: Maine Department of Marine Resources, Alden Research Laboratory, Inc., The Nature Conservancy, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Woodland Pulp

Michigan

Restoring Tribal Priority Fish Passage through Barrier Removal under the IIJA
Recipient: Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
Recommended Federal Funding*: $3,600,000
Congressional District(s): MI-001
Summary: The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians will be awarded $3,600,000 to replace 12 road-stream crossings with fish passage infrastructure across 6 counties and 9 rivers and creeks. The fish barriers are not on tribal land but are within ceded territories that have cultural value to the Grand Traverse Band as a traditional fishery of the Anishinaabek. The applicant will be investigating fish passage alternatives for two hydropower dams that are up for federal relicensing. Tower Dam and Kleber Dam block upstream passage of the Black Lake population of lake sturgeon, severely limiting tribal harvest of this culturally-important species. This project will restore and protect healthy fisheries that support sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism, while helping to maintain and enhance the region's status as a desirable place to live, work, and recreate. Funding will also support hiring of an additional position to help with conservation planning, implementation, and partner engagement.
Project Partners: Huron Pines, Conservation Resource Alliance

Oregon

Umatilla Tribe Ceded Area Juvenile and Adult Passage Improvement Project
Recipient: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $680,859 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): OR-002
Summary: The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will be awarded up to $3,304,858 over three years to remove or remediate physical barriers to migrating juvenile and adult salmonids and other native fish species in three sub-basins within the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation ceded territory. The three sub-basins include Umatilla, Walla Walla, and Grande Ronde. The projects within the Walla Walla and Umatilla sub-basins are classified as imminent threat or priority passage barriers. The projects within the Grande Ronde subbasin address barrier removal within critical spawning and rearing habitats. Collectively, the projects will improve or fully provide access to habitat for Endangered Species Act-listed steelhead, bull trout, and spring Chinook salmon.
Project Partners: Bonneville Power Administration, Bureau of Reclamation, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Columbia River Inter-tribal Fish Commission, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, State of Oregon, State of Washington

Washington

Implementation of the Fish Barrier Remediation Agreement between the Nooksack Tribe, Lummi Nation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the City of Bellingham
Recipient: Nooksack Indian Tribe
Recommended Federal Funding*: $456,206
Congressional District(s): WA-001
Summary: The Nooksack Tribe will be awarded $456,206 to work collaboratively with the Lummi Nation, the City of Bellingham, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a plan for city-owned fish passage barriers that addresses both city infrastructure needs and meets fisheries goals. Through an existing Memorandum of Agreement, project partners will update an inventory of barriers, develop a list of priority sites for corrective actions, assist with developing preliminary design plans, and provide support to fund high priority projects. This assessment will focus on barriers in estuarine areas of Bellingham, which are often the first barrier encountered by migratory fish in these systems. The tribe will also work with the project consultant to develop a communications plan to ensure local and tribal communities are informed and provide input to help guide the process. The project will support an increase in Endangered Species Act-listed, managed, and culturally-important salmon stocks, and more resilient infrastructure for local communities with increasing climate change challenges.
Project Partners: Lummi Nation, City of Bellingham, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Toppenish Creek Fish Passage Restoration and Lower Tributary Passage Assessment
Recipient: Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Recommended Federal Funding*: $250,972 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): WA-004
Summary: The Yakama Nation will be awarded up to $1,179,073 for barrier removal on the Snake Creek to address a 'mortality hotspot' for Endangered Species Act-listed steelhead in the Yakima River watershed. Two check dams will be removed, opening six miles of upstream habitat. Barrier removal will improve water flow, reduce stranding of smolts, and is predicted to increase steelhead survival by 10-20 percent. Funding will also be directed towards the development of an interactive tool and database for fish passage management on Yakama Nation territory. The database development will increase capacity for the entire Yakama Nation to establish sovereign management of their watershed and resources. The tool will enable the tribe to identify, plan, and execute fish passage improvements on an additional 310 miles and three tributaries, comprising 30-40 percent of the annual adult steelhead run. Currently, the tribe is voluntarily limiting their traditional fishing because of ESA listing. This project will be important for restoring culturally important fishing and a step towards delisting of Middle Columbia River steelhead.
Project Partners: Project developed in close coordination with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Kwoneesum Dam Removal - Restoring Tribal Priority Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Notice of Funding Opportunity under the IIJA
Recipient: Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Recommended Federal Funding*: $2,577,880
Congressional District(s): WA-003

Summary: The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will be awarded $2,577,880 to remove Kwoneesum Dam on Wildboy Creek, a tributary to the West Fork Washougal River in the Columbia River watershed in Washington State. Removal of the 55-foot tall, 425-foot long rock fill embankment dam will restore fish access to a minimum of 6.5 miles of highly productive habitat, benefitting native fish and other aquatic species. The tribe has finished the final design and secured permits for dam removal. They have also completed habitat restoration designs to place 1.2 miles of log structures in the stream to restore habitat complexity and capture sediment.
Project Partners: Columbia Land Trust, Parr Excellence

Skagit Basin Tribal Priority Barrier Correction Program
Recipient: Skagit River System Cooperative
Recommended Federal Funding*: $328,234 (Year 1)
Congressional District(s): WA-001 (project), WA-002 (applicant)
Summary: The Skagit River System Cooperative will be awarded up to $1,232,068 to re-establish access to fish habitat that has been blocked by undersized or improperly installed culverts. The project will focus on implementing improvements at three sites of interest to the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and Sauk-Suiattle Tribes: Martin Slough—a Skagit River side channel and tributary complex—and two tributaries to the Sauk River: Hatchery Creek and Everett Creek. In addition, the project will build capacity to continue and expand a collaborative process aimed at identifying and repairing barriers throughout the Skagit River watershed. Since 2014, Skagit River System Cooperative has partnered with Skagit County Public Works, the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe to identify barrier culverts, secure funding, and implement repairs. Collectively they have implemented 12 projects as a result of those efforts.
Project Partners: Skagit County Public Works, Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, Fisheries Engineers Inc.

***** *At this point in the selection process, the application approval and obligation of funds is not final. Applications are being "recommended" for funding. This is not an authorization to start the project and is not a guarantee of funding.*