## Wetlands Governance: Federal and Regional Programs and Processes

VIMS Tidal Shoreline Workshop July 14, 2022

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## Programs and Processes

- Grant Programs
- Governance: Regional Partnership
- Decision Support
- Technology Transfer and Process Workshops

# Wetland and Coastal Habitats Creation & Restoration Grants: NOAA

#### Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants:

- Habitat restoration of marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystems
- To enhance the resilience of communities to climate hazards.
- Priorities
  - Fisheries
  - Threatened and endangered species,
  - Natural infrastructure to reduce damage from flooding and storms,
  - Socioeconomic benefits.
- No Match
- Activities
  - Planning and assessments;
  - Feasibility studies;
  - Engineering design and permitting;
  - On-the-ground implementation;
  - pre- and/or post-implementation monitoring; or any combination of phases.
- Up to \$85 million is available
- Federal funding requests: between \$1 million and \$15 million over the award period.
- Award periods up to 3 years (potential of up to 5 years if necessary)
- Application deadline: September 6, 2022.
- How to Apply: www.Grants.gov; Opportunity #: NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007195
- For more information click <u>here</u>.

# Wetland and Coastal Habitats Creation & Restoration Grants: NOAA con't.

## Notice of Funding Opportunity for underserved communities, tribes, and/or tribal entities

- Focused on building organizational capacity
- And/or supporting restoration activities
- Engaged Underserved communities
  - Visioning, decision-making, and leadership for coastal habitat restoration projects;
  - To ensure that the scope of such projects are inclusive of the priorities and needs of communities;
  - And/or to ensure that the benefits of such projects flow back to underserved communities.

#### Activities:

- 1) Capacity building, which may include participation in municipal or regional-scale resilience planning, project planning and feasibility studies, stakeholder engagement, proposal development for future funding, and outreach and education; and/or
- 2) Restoration project activities, including demonstration projects, which may include engineering and design, permitting, on-the-ground restoration, and pre- and post-project implementation monitoring.
- Up to \$10 million available
- Federal funding requests: between \$75,000 and \$1 million
- Award periods up to 3 years (potential of up to 5 years if necessary)
- Application Deadline: September 30, 2022
- How to Apply: www.Grants.gov; Opportunity #: NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007354
- For more information click <u>here</u>.

## Wetland Creation & Restoration Grants

Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI)

Department of Defense. 2019 added resilience to list of issues for facilities. Includes wetlands, living shorelines and riparian buffers.

## Wetland Creation & Restoration Grants

## Federal Emergency Management Agency Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities BRIC

Nature-based solutions weave natural features or processes into the built environment to promote adaptation and resilience.

- 1.Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) funds may be used for:
- Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) Activities
- Mitigation Projects
- Management Costs
- 2. State Allocations and Competitive Set Aside
- 3. Applicants State, Territories and Tribes

https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities

## Regional Partnerships for Marsh Planning and Projects

#### NOAA Habitat Focus Area: Middle Peninsula Virgina

- Framework to encourage greater NOAA and partner collaboration on habit restoration goals in the region
- Focus on: Oyster Reefs, Fish Habitat, Shorelines
- <a href="https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/virginias-middle-peninsula-newest-noaa-habitat-focus-area">https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/virginias-middle-peninsula-newest-noaa-habitat-focus-area</a>



## Regional Partnerships for Marsh Planning and Projects

- SASMI South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative
  - Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) Staff as Coordinator.
  - Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, US Army Corps, FWS, NOAA, USGS, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Gullah/ Geechee Nation, Environmental Defense Fund, The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, Sports and game fishing organizations, land trusts
- York River and Small Coastal Basins Roundtable
  - Habitat Restoration Subcommittee
  - In Development: Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Plan

## Regional Partnerships for Marsh Planning and Projects: Chesapeake Bay Program

Wetlands Restoration Goal:

85,000 acres

All jurisdictions

Nontidal and Tidal wetlands

- Accomplished so far ~ 12,000 acres
- Strategic Review System- Adaptive Management:
  - Monitor,
  - Assess actions toward Goals,
  - Modify management actions.

### Workshops

- Chesapeake Bay Program: Wetlands Outcome Attainability Workshop
- The major outcomes are:
- Understanding of the barriers that limit the rate of nontidal and tidal wetland restoration that is necessary to achieve the 2025 Wetlands Outcome.
- Identification of approaches, including changes to existing programs and proposing new programs, to increase the implementation of nontidal and tidal wetland restoration.
- **Develop an Action Plan**: partners and workshop participants outlines steps and a timeline for dedicating resources to implementing these approaches.

## Workshops con't.

#### Maryland Sea Grant/ CBP Sentinel Site

- Marsh Restoration Workshop
- Tentative Focus: Large and Systems Scale
- Tentative Time: October 2022

CBP Climate Resiliency Workgroup. Goal Implementation Team Funded: Partnership-Building and Identification of Collaborative Tidal Marsh Adaptation

- Tidal Marsh Climate Resiliency
- Tentative Time: Feb-April 2023

### Reports

- Interagency Coastal Wetlands Workgroup Recommendations for Reducing Wetland Loss in Coastal Watersheds of the United States. 2022
  - Collaboration of Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, US Corps of Engineers, US Geological Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Resource Conservation Service, Federal Highways and American Association of the Advancement of Science
  - Report Link
- Federal Emergency Management Administration. Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions. 2021.
  - Report Link
- International Guidelines on Natural and Nature-Based Features for Flood Risk Management. Vicksburg, MS: U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center. 2021
  - Report Link
- Nature-Based Solutions for Coastal Highway Resilience: An Implementation Guide. 2019
  - Report Link