

Warwick Group

CONSULTANTS

Grant Opportunities (August 22nd, 2023)

The following grant opportunities are currently available:

1. [Department of Transportation– Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods \(RCN\)](#)
2. [Department of Interior – Coastal Program](#)
3. [NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge](#)
4. [Department of Interior – WaterSMART Ecosystem Restoration Program](#)
5. [Department of Transportation – Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost Saving Transportation Program](#)
6. [NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants](#)

[Department of Transportation– Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods \(RCN\)](#)

Brief Program Summary: The program aims to advance community-centered connection transportation projects, with a priority for projects benefiting disadvantaged communities by improving access to daily needs such as jobs, education, healthcare, food, and nature and recreation. It focuses on fostering equitable development and restoration and reconnecting communities by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity. The eligible projects involve removing, retrofitting, mitigating, or replacing existing eligible dividing transportation facilities with new ones that restore community connectivity or implementing strategies to reduce environmental harm and improve access through transportation improvements.

- **Application Due Dates:** Next application due on 09/28/2023.
- **Funding Amount Available:** A total of \$148 million is available for awards.
- **Award Range:** Award amounts will be at least \$5 million (minimum).
- **Eligible Applicants:** Owners of eligible facilities, including states, units of local government, tribal governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and nonprofit organizations. Joint applications with a partner in the same state or region are encouraged for those without prior funding experience.
- **Eligible Projects:** Projects addressing eligible facilities, such as highways or transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity and have completed necessary feasibility studies and planning activities.
- **Matching Requirement:** Applicants must provide at least 50% of the total project costs in cash and/or in-kind contributions. Federal assistance from other programs can partially fulfill the match requirement, up to 80% of the total project costs. Award recipients must contribute at least 20% of project costs via local contributions.
- **Grant Period:** Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2026.

- Strategic Priorities and Objectives:
- The program seeks to reduce inequities across the transportation system and emphasizes supporting economically disadvantaged communities, rural and tribal areas, safety, climate and sustainability, equity and justice, workforce development, job quality, and wealth creation, as well as transformational and innovative solutions.
- **Funding Notes:** In addition to monetary awards, recipients will receive technical assistance through the Reconnecting Communities Institute (RCI) program, launching later in 2023. Applicants not receiving the full requested funds may be considered highly recommended for other relevant funding agency programs. Funds will generally be provided on a reimbursement basis, with alternate payment methods considered on a case-by-case basis. Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2026.

Department of Interior – Coastal Program

Brief Program Summary: The US3167 Coastal Program for FY 2023, administered by the U.S. Department of Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), aims to provide technical and financial assistance to coastal communities, conservation partners, and landowners. The program's primary goal is to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on both public and private lands. It takes an adaptive approach to designing and implementing strategies that anticipate and address the impacts of climate change and other environmental stressors. The program seeks to increase coastal resiliency by supporting projects that help coastal ecosystems adapt to environmental changes and enhance natural and nature-based infrastructure.

- **Application Due Dates:** Rolling basis (no specific deadline mentioned).
- **Funding Amount Available:** Approximately \$6 million (estimated).
- **Award Range:** Specific award amounts are not provided in the summary.
- **Eligible Applicants:** Coastal communities, conservation partners, and landowners.
- **Eligible Projects:** Projects focused on habitat protection and restoration, based on biological principles and the best available science
- **Matching Requirement:** Matching funds are recommended, but the specific percentage is not mentioned.
- **Grant Period:** The grant period's duration is not specified in the summary.
- **Program Objectives and Focus Areas:** The program aims to collaborate with partners and FWS field staff to identify geographic focus areas where resources will be directed to conserve habitat for federal trust species. It supports the vision of the funding agency's America the Beautiful initiative, promoting collaborative and inclusive conservation approaches, achieving conservation of 30% of America's lands and waters in the next 30 years, supporting tribes' habitat conservation priorities, stimulating local economies and job creation through conservation and restoration, and encouraging voluntary stewardship efforts of private landowners. Projects with greater longevity, higher partnership support and cost-sharing, and higher cost-effectiveness will receive priority consideration if other factors are equal. Overall, the US3167 Coastal Program aims to enhance coastal habitat protection and restoration efforts through strategic partnerships and adaptive approaches, contributing to the conservation and resilience of coastal ecosystems. Further details and guidelines for application can be obtained from the relevant solicitation documents.

NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge

Brief Program Summary: This grant is designed to promote collaborative approaches to achieve resilience in coastal areas, focusing on risk reduction, regional collaboration, equity, and building enduring capacity.

- **Application Due Dates:** Letter of Intent is due on 08/21/2023.
- **Funding Amount Available:** Approximately \$575,000,000 (Estimated).
- **Award Range:** \$15 million to \$75 million
- **Eligible Applicants:** Open to various entities, including organizations, communities, and potentially tribes or tribal organizations.
- **Eligible Projects:** Projects that promote resilience in coastal regions, with a particular emphasis on risk reduction, regional collaboration, equity, and enduring capacity building.
- **Matching Requirement:** While not mandatory, matching funds are recommended.
- **Grant Period:** The grant period is not specified in the summary.
- **Program Objectives:** The primary objective of this program is to foster resilience in coastal regions by implementing adaptation actions that reduce risks from weather and climate impacts. The focus is on ensuring that coastal populations, infrastructure, economies, and ecosystems are better prepared to handle challenges such as drought, extreme heat, sea-level rise, floods, wildfires, and other future weather and climate impacts.
- **Priority Areas:** Applicants are required to consider the following program priorities when developing their projects:
 - Risk Reduction: Implement adaptation actions that reduce risks to coastal communities and ecosystems from various weather and climate impacts.
 - Regional Coordination and Collaboration: Address weather and climate impacts through collaborative efforts at the regional level, with a clear vision to enhance resilience.
 - Equity and Inclusion: Develop inclusive and equitable adaptation strategies by involving marginalized, underserved, and under-represented communities in the project development.
 - Enduring Capacity: Build long-term adaptation capacity within the region and extend the benefits of the project beyond the targeted area through knowledge sharing.
- **The funding will be provided for two program components:**
 - Part A: Regional Collaborative Building and Strategy Development: This component supports the establishment and operation of regional collaboratives to develop transformational resilience and adaptation strategies for coastal communities. Eligible activities include developing regional partnerships, conducting outreach, engagement with marginalized communities, conducting assessments, planning for implementation, developing policies, and identifying funding options.
 - Part B: Implementation of Resilience and Adaptation Actions: This component focuses on implementing equitable resilience and adaptation actions in coastal communities, including capacity building and training for marginalized communities.
- **Eligible Costs:** Eligible costs include personnel expenses, contracts, subawards, travel costs, and indirect costs.
- **Funding Notes:** Overall, this grant program aims to create a collaborative approach to enhance the resilience of coastal regions, address climate impacts, and promote equity and inclusivity in adaptation efforts. Projects that benefit tribal lands and tribal priorities are particularly encouraged to apply. Further details can be found in the NOFA file, specifically on pages 8-10, which provide additional information about eligible activities.

Department of Interior – WaterSMART Ecosystem Restoration Program

Brief Program Summary: The purpose of this program is to support the study, design, and construction of collaboratively developed aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that have widespread regional benefits and aim to improve the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat through restoration and enhanced fish passage.

- **Application Due Dates:** Rolling (No specific deadline; applications accepted continuously)
- **Funding Amount Available:** Approximately \$95,000,000 (Estimated).
- **Award Range:** The number of grants will range from 5 (minimum) to 10 (maximum).
- **Eligible Applicants:** Applicants for Task A projects must be located in reclamation states or U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Task B applicants must be located in the United States or U.S. territories.
- **Eligible Projects:** Aquatic ecosystem restoration projects falling under either Task A (study and design projects) or Task B (construction projects).
- **Matching Requirement:** Applicants must provide at least 35 percent of total project costs via cash and/or in-kind contributions, except for Task A partners working on Task B projects. Matching funds are not required for applicants located in the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Matching contributions from sources outside the applicant's organization must be secured and available prior to award.
- **Grant Period:** The grant period is not specified in the summary.
- **Program Objectives:** The primary objective of this program is to support the study, design, and construction of collaboratively developed aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that have widespread regional benefits and aim to improve the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat through restoration and enhanced fish passage.
- **Task A: Study and Design Projects:** Funding under this category will support study and design activities to develop a study and design package for future funding application under Task B. Eligible activities include project outreach, restoration project design analysis, site-specific design, legal and institutional research, and more.
- **Task B: Construction Projects: Funding** under this category will support the construction of aquatic ecosystem restoration projects. Eligible activities include final design completion, outreach to stakeholders, restoration activities like fish passage improvement and aquatic habitat restoration, and related tasks.
- **Priority Considerations:** Priority will be given to projects that affect water resources management in two or more river basins, provide regional benefits beyond fisheries restoration, and are part of a larger strategy to replace aging facilities. Additionally, projects aligned with presidential and Department of the Interior priority areas may receive priority consideration.
- **Eligibility considerations:** Task A: Applicants must be located in reclamation states (Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) or U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Task B: Applicants must be located in the United States or U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands).

Department of Transportation – Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost Saving Transportation Program (PROTECT)

Brief Program Summary: The program aims to enhance the resilience of the surface transportation system, including highways, public transportation, ports, and intercity passenger rail, to natural hazards and climate change impacts. By funding projects that address these challenges, the program aims to reduce damage and disruption to the transportation system, improve public safety, and promote equity by addressing the needs of vulnerable communities.

- **Application Due Dates:** The next application due date is 08/18/2023.
- **Funding Amount Available:** Up to \$848 million is available for this program overall.
- **Award Range:** The minimum award size for this component is \$100,000 with a maximum of \$45 million.
- **Eligible Applicants:** Open to states, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and Indian tribes.
- **Eligible Projects:** Projects that strengthen the resilience of surface transportation to natural hazards and climate change impacts.
- **Matching Requirement:** No matching funds are required for the Planning Grants component.
- **Grant Period:** The grant period depends on the funding source (FY 2022 or FY 2023) and must be obligated by September 30, 2025, or September 30, 2026, respectively.
- **Program Objectives:** The primary objective of this program is to plan for and improve the resilience of the surface transportation system to natural hazards, climate change, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters. Funding will support projects that contribute to the continued operation or rapid recovery of crucial local, regional, or national surface transportation facilities, with a focus on utilizing innovative and collaborative approaches to risk reduction.
- **Program Components:** Funding will be provided for the following program components:
 - (Part A): Planning Grants: This component supports the development of resilience improvement plans, predesign, design, data tools, vulnerability assessments, and technical capacity building related to surface transportation assets and community response strategies under current and potential future conditions.
 - (Part B): Resilience Improvement Grants: This component funds projects that improve the resilience of the surface transportation system to natural hazards and climate change impacts.
 - (Part C): Community Resilience and Evacuation Route Grants: This component supports projects aimed at improving community resilience and evacuation routes for transportation facilities.
 - (Part D): At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure Grants: This component funds projects that address the resilience of at-risk coastal transportation infrastructure.

NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants

Brief Program Summary: The principal objective of this solicitation is to support transformational habitat restoration projects that restore marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystems, using approaches that enhance community and ecosystem resilience to climate hazards. Funding will prioritize habitat restoration actions that: demonstrate significant impacts; rebuild productive and sustainable fisheries; contribute to the recovery and conservation of threatened and endangered species; promote climate-resilient ecosystems, especially in tribal, indigenous, and/or underserved communities; and improve economic vitality, including local employment

Application Due Dates: Nov 17, 2023

Funding Amount Available: \$240,000,000

Award Range: \$1,000,000 - \$25,000,000

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, non-profits, commercial (for profit) organizations, U.S. territories, and state, local, and tribal governments.

Eligible Projects: Marine or coastal restoration projects

Matching Requirement: None