



Beaver Lake, AR



Board Meeting Book

June 13, 2023
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM EST
(Virtual)

**Zoom: [https://fishwildlife-org.zoom.us/j/86561769103?](https://fishwildlife-org.zoom.us/j/86561769103?pwd=d1gzQnc1MEtLNi9wL2dwSHpoNXN1dz09)
[pwd=d1gzQnc1MEtLNi9wL2dwSHpoNXN1dz09](https://fishwildlife-org.zoom.us/j/86561769103?pwd=d1gzQnc1MEtLNi9wL2dwSHpoNXN1dz09)**

Meeting ID: 865 6176 9103
Passcode: 999166

National Fish Habitat Virtual Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 from 1:00 – 5:00 PM ET

Zoom link: <https://fishwildlife-org.zoom.us/j/86561769103?pwd=d1gzQnc1MEtLNi9wL2dwSHpoNXN1dz09>

Time (PM ET)	Agenda Item	Board Tab	Lead(s)
1:00	<p>Welcome & Attendance <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome new Board members. • Board action to approve the June meeting agenda. • Board action to approve the February meeting summary. 	Tab 1	Robert Boyles (<i>Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Board Chair</i>) & Board Staff
1:10	<p>Board Reminders & Resources <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of NFHP calendar June & July. • Board awareness of recent orientations. • Board awareness of plans for December 5-7 Board Meeting & December 4-5 FHP workshop. 	Tab 2	Alex Atkinson (<i>NOAA Fisheries, Board Staff</i>) & Ryan Roberts (<i>AFWA, Board Staff</i>)
1:15	<p>USFWS Update <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of USFWS new hires. • Board awareness of FY23 funding status & BIL funding. 		Steve Guertin (<i>USFWS, Board member</i>)
1:35	<p>NOAA Fisheries Update <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of NOAA Fisheries' FY23 BIL & NFHP funding. 		Sam Rauch (<i>NOAA Fisheries, Board member</i>) & Carrie Robinson (<i>NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation Director</i>)

Time (PM ET)	Agenda Item	Board Tab	Lead(s)
2:05	<p>Board Vote on FY24 FHP Funding <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board vote on the FY24 Fish Habitat Conservation Project proposals presented by the Board review team leads. 	Tab 3	<p>Stan Allen (<i>Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, NFHP Partnerships Committee Co-Chair</i>) & Bryan Moore (<i>Trout Unlimited, NFHP Partnerships Committee Co-Chair</i>)</p>
2:30	<p>Board Vote on Corporate Industry Seat <u>in Executive Session</u> <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board will break into executive session. • Board vote to select a candidate to fill the corporate industry Board member seat. 		<p>Robert Boyles (<i>Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Board Chair</i>)</p>
2:45 – 2:55	BREAK		
3:00	<p>ACE Act Implementation Status Update <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of the status of ACE Act implementation. • Board discussion about budget and scientific and technical assistance funds. 		<p>Ryan Roberts (<i>Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Board Staff</i>)</p>
	Board Committee Updates		
3:30	<p>Science & Data Committee <i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of the 2025 National Fish Habitat Assessment progress. • Board awareness of the Project Tracking Database updates. 	Tab 4	<p>Gary Whelan (<i>Board Staff, Science and Data Committee Co-Chair</i>), Daniel Wieferich (<i>USGS, Board Staff, Science and Data Committee Co-Chair</i>), & Kate Sherman (<i>Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Board Staff</i>)</p>

Time (PM ET)	Agenda Item	Board Tab	Lead(s)
3:50	<p>Policy Committee</p> <p><i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of timelines for ACE Act and re-authorization. 		Tim Schaeffer (<i>PA Fish & Boat Commission, NFHP Policy Committee Chair</i>)
4:10	<p>Partnerships Committee</p> <p><i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board vote on the process and form for Congressional designation for FHPs. • Board awareness and discussion of the FHP & Board Member Buddy System. 	Tab 5	Carter Kruse (<i>Turner Enterprises, Partnerships Committee Board member</i>) & Joe Nohner (<i>MGLP Coordinator, NFHP Partnerships Committee Co-Chair</i>)
4:30	<p>Governance Committee</p> <p><i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of the draft Board policy and attorney questions list. 		Doug Austen (<i>AFS, NFHP Governance Committee Chair</i>)
4:50	<p>Communications Committee</p> <p><i>Desired outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board awareness of upcoming NFHP communications products. • Board awareness of website and social media analytics. 	Tab 6	Johnny LeCoq (<i>Fishpond, NFHP Communications Committee Chair</i>)
5:00	Adjourn		

Board Member Terms			
Last Name	First Name	Seat	Term Expires
Allen	Stan	At Large - Commercial Fishing	February 9, 2024
Austen	Doug	Science-based fisheries organization	February 9, 2024
Booth	Austin	State Agency (SEAFWA)	February 1, 2026
Boyles	Robert	AFWA	February 1, 2026
Cantrell	Chris	State Agency (WAFWA)	November 1 2023
Eischeid	Ted	Local government	February 9, 2024
Gilliland	Gene	Freshwater recreational anglers	February 9, 2023
Guertin	Steve	Federal Agency	Serves by virtue of office
Conley	Kimberly	Federal Agency	Serves by virtue of office
Kinsinger	Anne	Federal Agency	Serves by virtue of office
Kruse	Carter	National private landowner	February 9, 2024
LeCoq	John	Corporate industry	February 9, 2024
Leonard	Mike	Recreational sportfishing industry	February 9, 2022
Linnell	Karen	Tribal	February 1, 2025
Moore	Chris	At Large - Commercial Fishing	February 9, 2024
Moore	Bryan	At Large - Conservation	February 9, 2022
Rivers	Pat	State Agency (MAFWA)	February 15, 2025
Perry	Steve	Landowner representative of an active FHP	February 9, 2024
Plumer	Christy	At Large - Sportfishing	February 9, 2024
Rauch	Sam	Federal Agency	Serves by virtue of office
Ringia	Adam	Tribal	February 15, 2025
Rivers	Pat	State Agency (Midwest AFWA)	January 31 2025
Schaeffer	Timothy D.	State Agency (Northeast AFWA)	November 1 2023
Singler	Amy	At Large - Conservation	February 1, 2026
Trushenski	Jesse	Agricultural production	February 9, 2024

National Fish Habitat Board Meeting Summary

Tuesday, February 28 – Wednesday March 1, 2023
1100 First Street NE 8th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20002

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

- **9:00 AM Welcome and Opening Comments – Robert Boyles (AFWA, Board Chair)**
 - Attendance – Quorum was determined to be present to conduct business.
 - Board Approval of meeting agenda as presented - Approved by consent
 - Board Approval of notes from November Meeting that were distributed - Approved by consent
 - Icebreaker Activity
 - Favorite place to visit that you have not
- **10:00 AM 2023 NFHP Board Meeting Schedule & NFHP Calendar – Gary Whelan (MI DNR Board Staff)**
 - A review of upcoming Board meetings was conducted, and the following are the next Board meetings:
 - Tuesday June 13, 2023 (Virtual) Half Day
 - Tuesday September 12, 2023 (Virtual) Half Day
 - December 5-7, 2023 (In-person/Hybrid Meeting) – Location to be determined with Portland, OR as one option mentioned.
 - Meeting will be held in conjunction with FHP workshop that will last 1.5 days.
 - Alaska to be considered for the 2024 in-person.
 - NEW NFHP Communications calendar developed shared with FHPs and in TAB 2 linked in Board book.
- **10:15 AM NFHP Board Member Appointment Process – Gary Whelan (MI DNR, Board Staff)**
 - Options were provided to the Board on how to proceed with voting
 - Process discussion ensued with the following points made:
 - Whether to handle each vacant Board seat as a group or individually was discussed. The Board preferred to have each seat voted on individually.
 - There was an interest expressed to ensure both individual and geographic diversity.
 - Motion for Executive Session – Motion by Doug Austen and 2nd by Karen Linnell – Approved by Board and Board moved into Executive Session.
- **10:30 AM Board Review, Discussion, and Vote of Board on Member Applicants - Robert Boyles (AFWA, Board Chair)**
- **1:30 PM Thank you to Ed Schriever – All Board Members**
 - The Board took an opportunity to thank Ed Schriever for his service to the Board as a member and chair. Ed attended this part of the Board meeting virtually.
- **1:45 PM USFWS Update – Steve Guertin (USFWS, Board Member)**
 - Overall Comment – Steve Guertin stated that Director Martha Williams is 100% supportive of NFHP and views us as emblematic of how conservation should be done.
 - Budget - NFHP is a line item in budget in the USFWS budget. A \$500K increase was provided

and NFHP now at \$7.1M. The President's 2024 budget will be released on March 7 and support from NFHP partners would be appreciated. The USFWS is appreciative of the glidepath to get to the ACE Act and will continue to support our efforts to do so. This year's project list in progress and all 20 FHPs will get their needed funding in FY2023. The USFWS will receive \$100K to provide support to FHPs.

- NFHP Coordination – The USFWS NFHP Coordinator position is open at this time and will be full-time on just NFHP.
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) – There is a large amount of funding for USFWS and DOI in BIL with \$200 million for fish passage alone. The first round of funding is on the ground and the 2nd slate of projects is coming. For Years 3-5, a better overall federal process is being developed with initial groundwork done at last summer's meeting at NCTC that AFWA and NFHP were involved in. This includes trying to develop a one-point location for grant opportunities, the consideration of unified NOFOs, and better federal family coordination and accessibility to partners, in particular FHPs. An example of better coordination was noted for the USFS who are using master shared stewardship and cooperative relationships along existing contracts, multi-year awards and other contract simplifications. In addition to a need seen by the federal agencies involved with BIL, CEQ wants closer coordination on fish passage from federal agencies as there is \$2B in total dollars that needs to be spent well. BIL also has large amounts of funding for NFWF, Klamath River, hatchery and infrastructure improvement, Delaware River, and Chesapeake Bay projects to name a few.
- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) - IRA has \$500M in funding with \$150M for refuges and climate resiliency, \$150M for TES recovery, and \$250M for storm damage in the Southeast. Administrative costs have not been included to date and working to get 5% of amount to handle all of these funds.
- Funding Movement to FHPs – Right now this is impaired by budget line items. There is interest in trying to front load funding and bigger packages coming in next few years to speed things with more nimble processes being attempted.
- Board Comments
 - A concern with AK refuges being very underfunded. Supporting refuge entities are launching an effort to increase funding and capacity.
 - NFWF funding priorities was noted as a concern and it was a policy decision to have money available there.
 - The opportunity for a unified NOFO for NFHP was mentioned and this is still a possibility as there is some decision space for DOI to operate.
 - How to assist with priority setting was asked as there were 97 projects funded with 45 projects unfunded.
 - Are there opportunities to package the other 45 projects with Year 3 BIL funding and front load projects was asked. Spending bill will have \$7.6 million and need to ask funding at Congressional but this could cause a tradeoff somewhere else.
 - It was noted that FHPs really need \$120K for coordination to do this program properly and to acquire and keep talented staff.

- **2:45PM Congressional Designation FHP Application – Carter Kruse (Board Member, Turner Enterprises), Steve Perry (Board Member, EBTJV), and Stan Allen (NFHP Partnerships Committee Co-Chair, Board Member, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission)**
 - Initial comments were limited from Board and a few more received from FHPs.
 - Draft document will be ready soon and seeking final comments from the Board
 - Congressional visits were conducted by NFHP Board members and resulted in a range of responses were received from congressional offices. The Board recommends that now is not ripe for FHP designation as new offices still in flux and unclear what congressional staff would like at this time. The Board suggested a path of approval in correspondence to authorizing committees as long as ACE Act requirements followed. This could be as a complete package of all FHPs. It is important that all ACE Act specifics are clearly noted in the package such as FHPs being fiscally responsible.
 - Actions
 - Board staff will send out new draft ASAP to Board
 - Board to review by April 1
 - Approval by Board at June meeting
 - Letter from Board to authorizing committees will be developed to include a request from Board on an approval path with a step to have selected congressional staff review prior to submittal.
 - Submit FHP approval package following approved path.
 - Complete task by October 30, 2025.
- **3:00 PM Beyond the Pond Visioning Session – Kelly Hepler (Beyond the Pond Chair)**
 - A broad range of FHPs and business operations were noted and a critical item is how to tell the story to attract interest.
 - The Beyond the Pond goal is to develop the total match needed by the FHPs to do their work.
 - Background - Beyond the Pond became a 501c3 entity in 2015 and is Incorporated as NFHP Fund doing business as Beyond the Pond. It has chapters of incorporation and is designed to have overlap with Board with 3 joint members. It is available to all FHPs as a place to have tax deductible donations sent for specific purposes and projects. There is an online donation page established and a website (Beyondthepondusa.com). Beyond the Pond is in a much better position today with a Congressionally recognized Board.
 - Current Board Members
 - Jon Johnson
 - Johnny LeCoq
 - Steve Moyer
 - Christy Plumer
 - Doug Boyd
 - Dick Ludington
 - Kelly Hepler
 - While there have been some minor contributions over time, the two large contributions are \$1.578M from BassPro and \$250K for the Mid Atlantic Black Bass Habitat Project from ACFHP. Other donations have come through RepYourWater sales of hats for DARE, EBTJV and ACFHP with 3% of sales going to Beyond the Pond. A partnership is currently in development with Fishpond who recently was added to the conservation partners page.

- Accounting and Budget – Beyond the Pond uses Zick Accounting Associates for their bookkeeping. Currently, Beyond the Pond has a \$5K operating budget with \$118K in reserve funds (\$40K general funds and \$78K BassPro grants). Additionally, three FHPs have funds deposited at Beyond the Pond including EBTJV (\$9.5K), ACFHP (\$6K), and DARE (\$5K).
- Key Needs – There is a need to examine how to tap into a broad range of funds including wills. To be successful there is a need for an Executive Director and the Turner Foundation is interested in assisting. A set of measurement metrics is also needed to show Beyond the Pond success. A Development Director was also suggested as a need.
- Board Thoughts
 - WNTI and EBTJV are examples of entities who have fiduciary mechanisms but replicating this model on an individual FHP basis is uncertain. A suggestion is to develop more non-profit training opportunities such as the Parker Group in AK.
 - There is a clear need to generate strategic funding mechanisms and decisions on a big enough scale to make a difference. To do this a prospectus is needed with a clear picture of the whole habitat story that packages FHPs together as a collective. Fish and water are key messages to use here. It should be a one-stop shop for donations and a potential regrating mechanism similar to NFWF.
 - FHP call was suggested to make sure that all FHPs understand what Beyond the Pond is.
 - Beyond the Pond to collect funds and NFHP Board directs where funding is used.
 - Since BassPro is clearly interested in NFHP, request assistance from BassPro to get Beyond the Pond running better.
 - Maybe merge NFHP and BTP websites to help with communications issues.
- Beyond the Pond Plan
 - Hire an Executive Director
 - Maybe Development Director too
 - Duties of the position maybe a bit of a blend of the two positions
 - Build metrics
 - Build a need picture to support this position's work to include:
 - What makes NFHP unique
 - What is the role of Beyond the Pond
 - What will be the funding source as federal and private entities have different requirements and personnel
 - What means Beyond the Pond and NFHP unique for potential donors
 - **Key Message - NFHP cares about all things about where fish live that leads to more fish for people**
 - Develop a business plan for Beyond the Pond to include a clear timeline
- Action
 - Board and FHP need to provide input into what value that BTP should bring to NFHP
 - Workgroup of Board and FHP members
 - Short term task
 - Request Board members to participate
 - Jesse T and Steve P are willing to participate
 - Partnership Committee to assist

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

- **9:45 AM Science and Data Committee – Gary Whelan (Board Staff, Science and Data Committee Co-Chair, MI DNR), Kate Sherman (Board Staff, Science and Data Committee Member, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Committee), Daniel Wieferich (Board Staff, Science and Data Committee Co-Chair, USGS)**
 - National Fish Habitat Assessment Options – Powerpoint is attached to minutes
 - 2025 National Fish Habitat Assessment
 - Design considerations include:
 - ACE Act requires an assessment be completed by 2025.
 - Likely limited funding available.
 - Audience will be informed and interested in NFHP.
 - Assessment needs to provide information at multiple scales.
 - Assessment should have similar look to 2015 report.
 - SDC Selected Options for Further Evaluation
 - 2015 approach with updated data layers and current coastal assessments to include filling known gaps in hydrology, grazing intensity, timber harvest, and socioeconomics
 - Similar to approach above and will include lakes, impoundments, reservoirs, and coastal areas not addressed before.
 - Similar approach to the first option with incorporation of a climate change/resiliency component
 - **NFHP Project Tracking System**
 - ESRI Survey123 connect data form will provide for quick queries and input as each FHP will have pre-populated data and all input data aligns with ACE Act requirements.
 - Each FHP has their own dashboard for entering and updating project information.
 - Fields available for photos and ability to generate single page summaries for each project.
 - Draft internal dashboard for summarizing and querying NFHP accomplishments
 - Data available on federal funding, other funding sources, and total leveraged funds.
 - Excellent system with room for USFWS to use for things like identifying priority areas for fish passage projects.
 - FHPs will have four training sessions in March to allow for easy entry for this round of projects.
 - NCP Metrics
 - Initial set of NCP metrics developed that will be integrated into FHP project tracking where relevant. Metrics will include estimated accomplishments and actual post-monitoring accomplishments.
 - Next Steps
 - Finalize internal dashboard
 - Build draft public facing dashboard
 - Transfer past projects from old database and archive then crosswalk all projects.
 - **10:15 AM Partnerships Committee – Stan Allen (Board Member, Partnership Committee Co-Chair, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Committee), Joe Nohner (MGLP Coordinator, Partnership Committee Co-Chair, MI DNR), Bryan Moore (Board Member, Partnership Committee Co-Chair, Trout Unlimited)**
 - Co-Chairs have change from Therese Thompson to Joe Nohner and FHP Coordinators have

- changed so Doug N and Todd have joined.
- Ted Eischeid and Karen Linnell will join Partnership Committee as Board Members.
 - Congressional reporting is a key of work at this time as are the Congressional applications for the FHPs.
 - The new Project Tracking Database will be integrated with project proposals to facilitate 2024 project reviews. A review team being sought, and we have 7 Board members and 1 Board staff member are currently engaged.
 - Planning is in progress for the FHP workshop coming at the December Board Meeting.
 - **10:45 AM Governance Committee – Doug Austen (Board Member, Governance Committee Chair, AFS), Shannon Boyle (Board Staff, Governance Committee Board Staff, USFWS)**
 - Held the second meeting in mid-February.
 - Bylaws and procedures for operation in development and will use both ACE Act and NFHP 1.0 elements. Key elements and work areas are as follows:
 - Code of conduct and conflict of interest.
 - New members recruitment
 - On-boarding of new Board members with orientation session can be handled by staff
 - Standing committee charters and reviews of them
 - Board performance metric development.
 - Nomination Committee need determination and if needed process will be developed. Options include an ad-hoc and standing committees.
 - Status
 - Bylaw revision has been Started with attorney review and template from Bryan Moore will be used.
 - Draft set will be ready for the June Board meeting with potential approval at the September meeting.
 - Legal questions concerning the ACE Act and Beyond the Pond will be developed and vetted then conveyed to attorney group to include land acquisition issues.
 - **11:30 AM Policy Committee – Tim Schaeffer (Board Member, Policy Committee Chair, PA Fish and Boat Commission) and Kate Sherman (Board Staff, Policy Committee Staff, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Committee)**
 - Developed draft list of ACE Act issues and items to resolve as follows:
 - Approach to bringing FHPs to Congress
 - Annual congressional report template
 - Board membership policy
 - ACE Act land acquisition. The language is unclear so this will create a question to the attorneys. This is a key interest for DOI staff and includes water rights. These are new authorities as DOI did not have authority before for these NFHP items.
 - How to get tech and science support assistance funding to agencies
 - Resolving the 1:1 non-federal match issue and can Sportfish Restoration or State Wildlife Grants could be used for matching funds. This item will include examining removing operations funding requirement, that the match could be anything not just non-federal, and what level is the match – project, FHP or program overall. The latter will likely be set to the attorney team for some initial input.
 - DOT, BLM and EPA maybe another agency for Board – Maybe IOP improvement
 - Have periodic roundtables with federal agencies
 - Joint call with FHPs will be schedule to get input on needed changes from their

perspective.

- Congressional meetings were positive and supportive. Any reauthorization will be closely examined so increases unlikely and will need pay-fors. ACE Act has a number of other programs with a similar issue so we need to build partnerships with these other bill entities. It is critical to put in the refresh request at authorization levels as soon as possible and will need to talk to original sponsors for get support for reauthorization.
- **12:00PM Communications Committee – Johnny LeCoq (Board Member, Communications Committee Chair) and Ryan Roberts (Board Staff, Communications Committee Staff)**
 - Committee stated that NFHP brand needs to be a carefully guarded brand and tell clear story with graphic standards following the use-guidance in the Board Book.
 - A revised fact sheet has been completed and was provided at the meeting.
 - Prior to next Board meeting, the 2022 report will be completed with Ryan leading the effort.



NFHP Communications Calendar

JUNE 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 National Fish Habitat Board Meeting (Virtual)	14	15	16	17
18	19 Deadline for content for monthly newsletter	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 FHP Coordinators Meeting (Post-Board Meeting)	29	30 June NFHP Newsletter Distribution Date	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8



NFHP Communications Calendar

JULY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26	27	28	29	30	1 Board Submission to DOI Deadline for Projects
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 FHP Coordinators Meeting	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Deadline for content for monthly newsletter	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 July NFHP Newsletter Distribution Date	1	2	3	4	5

FY2024 FHP Allocation Subcommittee Update

Membership

- Stan Allen
- Bryan Moore
- Carter Kruse
- Pat Rivers
- Adam Ringia
- Steve Perry
- Jesse Trushenski
- Gary Whelan (*Board staff*)
- Kate Sherman (*Board staff*)
- Alex Atkinson (*Board staff*)

FHP Project Review Process:

The FHP Allocation Subcommittee (Subcommittee) consisting of a subgroup of Board with Board staff support reviewed all the FHP project submissions for FY24 and developed a set of funding suggestions for FHP allocations with a list of FHP projects for presentation and Board approval at the June meeting. All 20 FHPs submitted funding requests which totaled \$8.1M for 132 projects and 19 FHPs submitted operational funding proposals. One FHP, the Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership, submitted only for operational funds and has other funding sources for projects.

To determine FHP allocations and project lists, the subcommittee developed a scoring system which used a combination of “soft” and “hard” ACE Act criteria (which were weighted differently in the final scoring) in addition to standard questions about funding, project details, and National Conservation Priorities to develop funding tiers for each FHP. The scoring fields are pasted below in the blank report card that each FHP received with their scores. This year, the NFHP Project Tracking Database was used for all FHP project submissions and the Board utilized the dashboard and database fields to complete their scoring. The details of the procedure are further detailed described below in the methodology notes. The project list was then narrowed to fit within the each FHP suggested allocation level and a recommended set of projects for Board consideration was determined. After the Board reviews the Subcommittee recommendations and approves by consensus a project package, a final recommendation package including the methodology, project summary table, and cover letter will be submitted to Department of Interior by July 1, 2023.

SAMPLE FHP REPORT CARD

Question	Scoring Scale	Score
Do the proposed projects meet ACE Act "Hard" requirements #2 - #5?	Yes (score of 5 for all projects)= 30; Partial (some of projects with score of 5) = 15; None of projects with score of 5= 0	
<p>ACE ACT "Hard" Requirement - Are there clear, informative descriptions of ecological benefits, and measurable goals and objectives?</p> <p>ACE ACT "Hard" Requirement - Did the FHP clearly provide justification for why the project was selected and a summary of project sponsor experience?</p>	<p>0-10 (0: not included, 10: all included and very clear)</p> <p>0-10 (0: not included, 10: all included and very clear)</p>	
Did the FHP request base operational funds? (Y/N)	Yes or No	
ACE ACT "Hard" Requirement - Is there 1:1 non-Federal financial match for the base operational funds request?	Yes or No	
ACE ACT "Hard" Requirement - Will 1:1 matching requirements be satisfied for the full FHP proposal overall (across all proposed projects - *EXCEPT Tribal projects)?	0-10 (0: no match, 10: meets or exceeds 1:1 match requirement)	
	Match Funding (cash & in-kind): NFHP Request Ratio	
Does the project meet "SOFT" requirements?	0-20 (0: projects do not meet a minimum of 6 requirements, 20: all projects meets at least 10 of the soft criteria)	
Is there a clear description of FY22/23 project status?	Yes or No	
Does the application include a clear justification for operational support funding?	0-10	
Assess the overall FHP application package (e.g. overall application and performance, including cover letter, partnership accomplishments, and work plan)	0-10	
Score Subtotal	Hard Criteria	
	Soft Criteria	
	Overall Package	
	Total Score	

Subcommittee Recommendation:

Given the uncertainties in the Federal budget at this time, **the Subcommittee is proposing \$8.6M in project funding that has a total of \$19.7M in non-federal match for 133 Fish Habitat Conservation projects (including 10% towards Tribal-led projects). The recommendation also includes \$333,000 in support of the Board project proposal, \$175,000 in support of the National Assessment, and \$85,000 in support of the USFWS.** If final appropriations for NFHP project funding are increased over last year, the FHP allocation levels for the two tiers will be scaled up and the FHP project lists will be expanded to include the next highest priority projects.

Other Important Methodology Notes

Funding Tiers – The subcommittee used two small groups to score 10 FHPs each. To ensure no bias, Board members were also randomly assigned additional FHPs to score that were from the other team’s list. The subcommittee used a 3-tier system to divide the FHPs based on their average scores from subcommittee members. The top fourteen average FHP scores received an allocation in tier 1 at an allocation level of 1.5X. The full subcommittee agreed upon the FHPs for tier 2 at an allocation level of X and then one FHP only requested operational funds at a level of \$85K.

Operational Funds & Match – A total of 19 of 20 FHPs requested base operational funding (\$85K). Nearly all demonstrated full 1:1 non-federal match at the FHP-level. Not all FHPs could demonstrate 1:1 non-federal match at the individual project level.

Unallocated Funds – In some cases, the recommended FHP allocation exceeds the individual FY2024 FHP request. In those cases the subcommittee recommends that those be fed back into the allocation methodology and proportionally redistributed among all remaining FHPs per the tier system (X, 1.5X)

Tribal Projects – The ACE Act requires that 5% of the total appropriation projects carried out by Indian Tribes. A total of \$542K in project funding was recommended by the subcommittee in support of Tribal-led projects (8 projects) which would be 10% if NFHP receives the authorized amount of funding (\$5.4M).

Materials to be submitted to the Department of Interior Secretary by July 1, 2023:

1. Cover letter from the NFHP Board Chairman on behalf of the Board referring to the ACE Act
2. FY2024 FHP allocation level table; and
3. FY2024 FHP project table with descriptions.

FY2024 Preliminary FHP Project Allocation Recommendations

Fish Habitat Partnership	FY21 Allocation	FY22 Allocation	FY23 Allocation	FY24 Recommended Allocation
Atlantic Coastal FHP	\$258,333	\$335,000	\$352,056	\$300,000
CA Fish Passage Forum	\$258,333	\$244,769	\$317,965	\$300,000
Desert FHP	\$258,333	\$294,682	\$234,645	\$300,000
Driftless Area Restoration Effort	\$119,667	\$205,000	\$262,000	\$300,000
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	\$258,333	\$307,598	\$235,037	\$300,000
Fishers and Farmers Partnership	\$189,000	\$230,156	\$335,556	\$200,000
Great Lakes Basin FHP	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$85,000
Great Plains FHP	\$258,333	\$164,500	\$196,000	\$200,000
Hawaii FHP	\$189,000	\$323,900	\$234,645	\$200,000
Kenai Peninsula FHP	\$258,333	\$223,914	\$234,645	\$200,000
Mat Su FHP	\$258,333	\$335,305	\$234,645	\$300,000
Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	\$258,333	\$324,237	\$352,056	\$300,000
Ohio River Basin FHP	\$258,333	\$199,722	\$201,000	\$300,000
Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	\$85,000	\$214,286	\$360,524	\$300,000
Pacific Marine Estuarine Partnership	\$258,333	\$316,780	\$347,915	\$300,000
Reservoir FHP	\$258,333	\$325,000	\$352,056	\$300,000
Southeast Alaska FHP	\$85,000	\$224,203	\$494,010	\$300,000
Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	\$189,000	\$204,972	\$128,560	\$300,000
Southwest Alaska FHP	\$258,333	\$204,972	\$151,572	\$200,000
Western Native Trout Initiative	\$258,333	\$320,000	\$352,056	\$300,000
NFHP Board Proposal (includes FY24 assessment budget)		\$333,532	\$363,424	\$508,000

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#	Project Name	States	Tribal	FHP Sponsor	Local Sponsor	NFHP Funds Requested	Non-Federal Match	Federal Leveraged Funds	Other Leveraged Funds	Total Project Cost	Project Description
1	ACFHP Operational Funding	Multiple	No	Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$100,000	\$798,000	\$175,000	-	\$1,073,000	The project will support personnel salary and partner travel to allow the Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership (ACFHP or Partnership) to carry out its mission, goals, and objectives as stated in its Strategic and Action Plans. ACFHP holds spring and fall meetings of its Steering Committee, with the spring meeting to be supported from the grant. An ACFHP Science and Data Committee meeting will also be supported. Grant funds will also be used to provide partial salary and fringe support for the ACFHP Director, who runs the Partnership on a day-to-day basis. Activities include soliciting restoration proposals by distributing various RFPs, developing agendas and materials for meetings, leading habitat science and assessment projects, organizing and participating in ACFHP and other Fish Habitat Partnership webinars and calls, and outreach and communications initiatives.
2	Maryland Coastal Bays Salt Marsh Restoration Project - Phase I	NJ	No	Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership	Delmarva Resource Conservation and Development Council	\$42,602	\$75,000	\$187,500	\$4,003	\$309,105	The Maryland Coastal Bays Salt Marsh Team, consisting of resource agencies and NGOs seeks to restore degraded salt marshes in the Maryland Coastal Bays. This project aims to improve fish habitat, water quality, and coastal resiliency by reversing human impacts and restoring salt marsh processes on 39 acres on two private properties. The 90% designs include four restoration techniques: sediment addition to nourish degraded marsh from grid-ditching, filling man-made ditches, creating meandering channels for drainage, and planting marsh grasses to revegetate pools. funded, this first-of-its-kind marsh restoration in the Coastal Bays would serve as a template for future opportunities.
3	Engineering, Design and Permitting for the Removal of the Upper E.R. Collins Dam (NJ Dam #24-29) on the Pequest River in New Jersey	VA	No	Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership	The Nature Conservancy	\$85,000	-	-	\$135,000	\$220,000	Engineering, design and permitting for removal of the Upper E. R. Collins (7-foot-high, 85-foot-wide concrete ogee dam, owners: two citizens). Located within 1,500 feet of Pequest and Delaware Rivers confluence, this dam blocks fish migration, degrades instream habitat and contributes to flooding of homes and businesses in Belvidere. As project manager, TNC will bring to "shovel ready" status.
4	CFPF Coordination & Operational Support	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$85,000	\$40,000	\$15,000	-	\$140,000	This project consists of coordination and operational activities to support the Forum's various activities and initiatives in support of its goal to restore connectivity of freshwater habitats throughout the historic range of anadromous fish in California. Activities include coordinating and participating in the Forum's Science & Data, Governance, and Policy & Permitting committees, as well as leading the Education & Outreach Committee. Planning and facilitating Forum Steering Committee meetings, and overseeing the creation and distribution of outreach materials relating to the importance of fish passage barrier removal including but not limiting the Forum's website, and barrier case studies. This project also manages and coordinates the Forum's annual funding solicitation process (development of the request for proposals (RFP), evaluation criteria, facilitating project selection, and collection of triennial progress reports from funded projects).
5	Designing for Sturgeon Passage in the San Joaquin River at Eastside Bypass Control Structure	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	US Fish and Wildlife Service Lodi Fish and Wildlife Office	\$54,014	\$6,273,000	\$3,000	-	\$6,330,014	We are interested in answering questions to inform design modifications to the Eastside Bypass Control Structure (EBCS) and associated downstream rock ramp, and to validate sturgeon usage before project construction. This project will compile movement data of an anadromous state Species of Concern, together with habitat and environmental variables to improve native fish passage. In conjunction, the proposed monitoring study presents an opportunity to possibly document new habitat usage by sturgeon in the Restoration Area and further inform integrated management of San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) Restoration Flows for the benefit of multiple species (White and Green Sturgeon, spring-run Chinook Salmon, Pacific Lamprey, and others).
6	Jenny Creek Man-made Barrier Removal	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	Trout Unlimited	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	-	\$500,000	Trout Unlimited is seeking implementation funding to remove a man-made concrete barrier on Jenny Creek in California. In 2024 Iron Gate Dam will be removed and allow for the return of Chinook Salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>), coho salmon (<i>O. kisutch</i>), and steelhead (<i>O. mykiss</i>) to Jenny Creek for the first time since Iron Gate Reservoir was constructed in 1964. The barrier removal will be especially important for Coho Salmon because of declining populations in California.
7	Weaver Basin Fish Passage Assessments	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	Trinity County Resource Conservation District	\$21,850	\$20,380	\$2,200	-	\$44,430	This project seeks to update all of the unassessed (26) or unknown passage (11) barrier status in the Weaver Creek Watershed to provide baseline data as part of a larger watershed restoration plan.

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8	Wildcat Creek Fish Passage and Community Engagement Project (Phase 3)	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	The Watershed Project	\$100,000	\$658,504	-	-	\$758,504	The Wildcat Creek Fish Passage and Community Engagement Project (Project) is located in North Richmond, an unincorporated area in western Contra Costa County and the Cities of Richmond and San Pablo, along the Wildcat Creek between Ruffin Boulevard and 6th Street. The Project will improve habitat connectivity for Central California Steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) by retrofitting the existing fish passage structure that is a barrier to fish passage and sediment basin to meet fish passage criteria and by improving channel conveyance. This will be done by retrofitting the existing fish ladder and sediment basin to create a more natural fish passage corridor. In addition to benefits to steelhead, the Project includes community-oriented improvements, including the creation of public facilities such as trail improvements, overlook areas, interpretive features, and potential recreational and educational areas. Funding for this Project include that from DWR and the California Fish Passage Forum (see Project Costs & Budget section in this application for amounts). Additional analysis is required to complete the Project, therefore requiring additional funding.
9	Channel Design at River Road Bridge Crossing, Gill Creek, Sonoma County, CA	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	Sonoma County Public Infrastructure	\$50,000	\$50,000	-	-	\$100,000	This project is the development through 30% design of an existing basic conceptual design for improving geomorphic function and fish passage along a segment of lower Gill Creek that passes across River Road, Geyserville, CA. At the River Road crossing, the existing county bridge and related infrastructure represent a hydraulic constriction and grade control, which collectively have compromised the bridge, adversely impacted Gill Creek's natural geomorphic processes, and are assumed to affect fish passage during certain flows.
10	North Fork Schooner Gulch Culvert Replacement	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	North Fork Schooner Gulch Property Owners	\$54,000	\$9,700	-	-	\$63,700	The project is to restore a road crossing that serves 7 parcels in the southern part of Mendocino County. This project will include design and implementation of a structure that will meet fisheries habitat concerns while providing landowners access to their properties.
11	Mid-Klamath Rearing Habitat Assessment and Enhancement Project	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	Salmon River Restoration Council	\$54,010	\$54,040	-	-	\$108,050	The objectives of this project are to maintain and improve access to existing salmonid habitat by removing or manipulating seasonal barriers that impede fish passage and to improve connectivity at coldwater refugia sites. This project is designed to ensure primarily juvenile fish passage into high-quality thermal refugia and rearing habitat during critical periods of rearing and migration, but also adult fish. Fish passage improvement work will be complemented by habitat enhancement activities such installation of brush bundles and placement of woody debris. This project is an ongoing annual project.
12	Blodgett Dam Restoration Feasibility	CA	No	California Fish Passage Forum	Omochumne Hartnell Water District	\$104,710	\$115,000	-	-	\$219,710	This phase of the work includes stakeholder outreach, alternative development, and refined modeling and data gathering.
13	DARE Coordination, Operations and Partnership Support	Multiple	No	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	Trout Unlimited	\$31,359	\$38,190	-	-	\$69,549	DARE is a partnership to restore the native aquatic resources of the Driftless Area
14	Root River Habitat Restoration Project Expansion-MN	MN	No	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center	\$41,267	\$104,000	-	-	\$145,267	The Root River Habitat Restoration Project Expansion will enhance a segment of the Root River that has been damaged by flood conditions which created highly erosive stream banks and loss of fish habitat. Eagle Bluff applied for state of Minnesota LCCMR- Environmental Trust Fund and FWS funding to reconnect the river section (that borders the learning center's property) with the adjacent floodplain, address erosive conditions, install instream habitat features and conduct instream monitoring to evaluate biological response to proposed actions. This project will install 230 linear feet with 3,300 linear feet encompassing the length of the learning center property. In-stream pre- and post-construction biological monitoring for fish and macro invertebrates will be conducted. Biological monitoring will also be conducted as a part of Eagle Bluff's educational curriculum in cooperation with the local MNDNR staff from Lanesboro Fisheries office to determine how the habitat improvements affect changes in fish and aquatic species populations.
15	A Brook Trout Conservation Portfolio to Inform Strategic Planning in the Driftless Area	WI	No	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	Trout Unlimited	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$20,000	-	\$120,000	A GIS-based conservation analysis for Brook Trout in the Driftless Area
16	Danuser Creek DARE Habitat Improvement Project, Wisconsin	WI	No	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	Trout Unlimited Clearwater Chapter	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$20,000	-	\$120,000	Danuser Creek is a tributary of Waumandee Creek, located in the Trempealeau River watershed, WI. The watershed is a priority brook trout area for the DARE fhp. The proposed project will focus on reducing erosion and improving fish habitat and water quality on Danuser Creek. The project site suffers from severe erosion and the accumulation of sediment in-stream. Surrounding farm fields have created an entrenched stream bed and disconnected the stream channel from the natural flood plain. Stable in-stream habitat is lacking as well. Objectives of project are to stabilize 0.5 miles of eroding streambank, restore 1.21 acres of riparian vegetation, and enhance 0.25 miles of instream habitat for brook trout and other native fishes and invertebrates in the project area.
17	Chimney Rock Tributary DARE Habitat Improvement Project, Wisconsin	IL,IA,MN,WI	No	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	Elk Rod and Gun Club	\$85,000	\$85,000	-	\$152,000	\$322,000	The project is located in the Middle Trempealeau watershed, a DARE priority brook trout watershed. The project stream, Chimney Rock, suffers from severe erosion and accumulation of sediment in the surrounding farm fields, created an incised stream bed, and is disconnected with the natural flood plain. Stable in-stream habitat is lacking for trout and other fish species. Proposed action is to remove invasive brush in the riparian area, re-slope and stabilize the project streambanks, and install instream habitat to benefit native brook trout.

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18	Occurrence Patterns and Relative Abundance of Sculpins as Indicators of Ecosystem Diversity in the Kickapoo Watershed	IL,IA,MN, WI	No	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	University Wisconsin-La Crosse	\$21,572	\$21,638	-	-	\$43,210	The mottled sculpin (<i>Cottus bairdi</i>) and slimy sculpin (<i>C. cognatus</i>) are native to the Driftless Area, serve as indicators of degradation, and are state endangered in Wisconsin. Both species show restricted movement and are unlikely to have recolonize habitats where they have been extirpated. A better understanding of their disturbance and abundance will inform resource managers and stream restoration practitioners about how to design future projects to promote this important native species. University Wisconsin- La Crosse graduate student plans to sample 15 subwatersheds in the Kickapoo River Watershed based on previous models that have predicted but not sampled the likelihood of sculpin presence. Graduate student will sample sites with low, intermediate, and high probabilities of sculpin occurrence based on previous models. Abiotic variables such as stream temperature, current velocity, riparian zone measurements, and stream restoration activities will be collected to determine factors that best explain the presence or absence of sculpin. A better understanding of their occurrence may further the understanding sculpin as indicators of past and present watershed impairment and their responses to stream habitat restoration. Applicant objectives are to determine relationships between these two native species and their environments.
19	Turton Creek (American Valley) DARE Habitat Improvement Project, Wisconsin	WI	No	Driftless Area Restoration Effort	Trout Unlimited Clearwater Chapter	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$20,000	-	\$170,000	Overall objectives are to stabilize eroding stream banks and improve habitat quality on Turton Creek, a DARE priority brook trout watershed. Conservation actions include restoring 1.37 acres of riparian habitat to increase water infiltration and reduce sediment loads to the stream and enhancing 0.28 miles of instream habitat by installing woody structures such as root wads, logs and rocks, etc. to diversify habitat for brook trout and other aquatic organisms. Turton Creek is currently a mixed brook trout/brown trout stream with some natural reproduction. Project objectives include removing brown trout and relocating downstream of a barrier prior to proposed habitat work.
20	DFHP Operational Support FY2024	Multiple	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	\$22,072	\$23,332	\$4,653	-	\$50,057	Operational support of the Desert Fish Habitat Partnership is critical in attaining our purpose of to conserve aquatic habitat in the arid west for desert fishes for the American people by protecting, restoring and enhancing these unique habitats in cooperation with and in support of, state fish and wildlife agencies, federal agencies, tribes, conservation organizations, local partners, and other stakeholders.
21	Riparian Restoration of the Moapa Valley	OR	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$50,000	\$318,407	\$20,000	-	\$388,407	Moapa Valley is home to warm springs and streams that contain a unique endemic system of underwater life in the desert. The Moapa Dace and Moapa White River springfish are endemic desert fish species that have survived throughout human disturbances in the valley. Several streams have been reconstructed to restore the area to more natural hydrologic conditions, but riparian vegetation has yet to thrive. This project will plant native species in riparian areas to improve leaf litter input, combat invasion by invasive species, and stabilize hydrologic conditions and provide invasive vegetation control along any streams that negatively impact stream processes.
22	Upper Drews Creek Fish Passage Project	WY	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council	\$50,000	\$562,000	\$350,000	-	\$962,000	Drews Valley Ranch is located 21 miles west of Lakeview in Lake County, Oregon. The 11,400-acre ranch is surrounded by the Fremont-Winema National Forest and includes nine miles of streams, eight tributary creeks, a reservoir, and grassy wetlands. The ranch is home to more than 185 species of birds, fish, and mammals, including the bald eagle and red-band trout. The Drews Creek Fish Passage and Stream Restoration project was initiated in the summer of 2020 as the Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council secured an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Technical Assistance grant to survey the project sites and develop a 60% design plan to address fish passage and stream function. A design plan has been developed and cost estimates have been retained from a local engineering firm. The Council is seeking construction funds to implement work to restore fish passage at an irrigation diversion on Drews Creek to provide access upstream, while enhancing stream and riparian function using large wood and willow plantings. The project will compliment and build upon several conservation actions that have been executed on the ranch over the last three decades.
23	Little Sandy Fish Passage and Protection	NV	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	Wyoming Game and Fish Department	\$100,000	\$100,000	-	\$87,800	\$287,800	The Wyoming Game and Fish Department initiated a project in fall 2022 on Little Sandy Creek that will ultimately reconnect 46 miles of stream to benefit Flannelmouth Sucker and Bluehead Sucker. Designs are underway to retrofit an existing diversion to create a robust barrier to allow future removal of non-native species upstream of the barrier to secure native fish populations long-term. A permanent barrier is needed on Little Sandy Creek to preclude upstream movement of non-native species from recolonizing the stream after treatments. Upstream, lie two irrigation diversions operated by the Little Sandy Grazing Association. Both diversions will have these push-up dams removed and replaced with passable structures that will fully connect 46 miles of Little Sandy Creek upstream of Eden Reservoir diversion.
24	Wall Canyon Sucker Barrier Project	AZ	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	Nevada Department of Wildlife	\$41,626	\$45,712	-	-	\$87,338	The Wall Canyon Sucker is an undescribed unique catostomid endemic to one watershed in the Wall Canyon drainage in Washoe County, Nevada. The purpose of the project is to better exclude non-native salmonids such as Brown Trout and Rainbow Trout from the upper reaches of Wall Canyon Creek, where they threaten the population size and the extent of occupied habitat of native species, including rare and narrow endemics. The Nevada Department of Wildlife conducts annual surveys to monitor abundance and distribution of Brown Trout and has performed chemical and manual removals (2009 and 2022) to eradicate them from Wall Canyon Creek. The existing gabion barrier provides some control against ingress of these non-native species into Wall Canyon Creek, but it has suffered damage and overtopping in the past.

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25	Desert Fish Stream Habitat Enhancement in Desert Biome of BioSphere II	NM	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	University of Arizona	\$49,427	\$49,741	-	-	\$99,168	The University of Arizona's Biosphere 2 is the world's largest controlled environment dedicated to understanding the implication, mitigation, and adaptation solutions for resilience of our planet (Biosphere 1) due to the global climate crisis. Biosphere 2 is a meso-scale science facility with five synthetic ecosystems including an arid desert scrub ecosystem. A major focus of the research, outreach, and education programs at Biosphere 2 is how will climate change impact a wide variety of habitats and organisms throughout the world. This project will provide the funding necessary to install/complete a desert stream/pond/cienega in this desert habitat to be stocked with Gila Topminnow, Desert Pupfish, and an extirpated lineage of Longfin Dace from the Rio Sonoyta, to provide an educational and outreach opportunity about endangered desert fishes and habitats to over 100,000 visitors and students annually.
26	Blue Sucker and Gray Redhorse Habitat Assessment	ID	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	CEHMM	\$235,000	\$188,735	-	-	\$423,735	This multi-year project seeks to identify areas of suitable habitat for the Blue Sucker and Gray Redhorse in the Black Delaware, and Pecos rivers in New Mexico. To identify these areas, habitat assessments will be conducted at various points along these three river systems, with a primary focus on the Black River during the first year and the Pecos and Delaware rivers during the second year. These habitat assessments will evaluate the following parameters: flow rate, substrate type, length of riffles, water depth, and water quality (salinity, conductance, and temperature). This data will guide future decisions made in partnership with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) to repatriate the Blue Sucker and Gray Redhorse throughout the Black, Delaware, and Pecos rivers.
27	Upper Loving Creek Barrier Removal and Stream/Wetland Restoration Project	AZ,CA,CO,JD,NV,NM,OR,TX,UT,WA,WY	No	Desert Fish Habitat Partnership	Silver Creek Alliance	\$85,000	\$51,900	\$22,700	-	\$159,600	The goal of the Upper Loving Creek Gardner Ranch project is to reconnect upstream spring-fed creek and wetland headwaters, restore habitat through conversion of agricultural fields to the native sagebrush and riparian dominant ecosystem, remove an irrigation fish barrier, restore the creek system, and connect headwaters to the lower tributary that feeds Silver Creek. Loving Creek is a highly valuable tributary to Silver Creek, currently blocked from fish migration due to an irrigation barrier placed on the property over 60 years ago. This project will directly address farmland practice improvements targeted by the Working Lands for Wildlife program to greatly enhance wildlife habitat on working landscapes.
28	EBTJV operations and management FY24	Multiple	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Canaan Valley Institute	\$45,248	\$66,762	\$44,510	\$3,000	\$159,520	Canaan Valley Institute will support coordination and management of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV). The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) has developed a roadmap for wild Brook Trout conservation grounded in science and guided by its mission to facilitate integrated approaches to conserving healthy coldwater aquatic resources and fishable wild Brook Trout populations. The EBTJV coordinator supports the goals and outcomes of the EBTJV.
29	Restoring a Brook Trout Metapopulation in Moore Springs Branch, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, NC	NC	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	National Park Service Great Smoky Mountain National Park	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$133,071	\$17,796	\$300,867	This project will restore Brook Trout to 3.8 km (2.4 miles) of Moore Springs Branch (120 mile watershed) in western NC within Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This involves removal of non-native Rainbow Trout in 3. km of Moore Springs Branch using the piscicide Antimycin and translocation of roughly 600 Brook Trout per year over two years (2024 & 2025) to reestablish the species in Moore Springs Branch. There will also be pre-and post project monitoring with electrofishing.
30	Helicopter-assisted Large Wood Additions, Narraguagus River, TWP 34, ME	ME	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Project SHARE	\$45,356	\$90,846	\$30,000	-	\$166,202	This project will add wood complexity to a 0.42-mile reach of the mainstem Narraguagus River, assisting with remediation of legacy log driving effects on a Downeast coastal river. This project will provide necessary physical features that promotes instream habitat complexity that native salmonids need to complete their lifecycle and for their populations to thrive. The wood additions will occur in a cold-water influenced reach in the upper mainstem of the Narraguagus river where there is not a convenient source of trees along the riparian buffer and there is not a local access point for trucking wood in from off-site. Project SHARE has reached an agreement with the Maine Army National Guard (Guard) for helicopter assistance to transport wood material to the restoration site. The Guard will use this partnership as a training opportunity for its pilots and crews. SHARE staff will use the wood material to construct PALS to increase habitat complexity in the reach. This project will be the first of its kind in designated Atlantic salmon critical habitat.
31	Charles Creek Aquatic Passage Project, Transylvania County, NC	MA	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Trout Unlimited	\$50,000	\$276,078	-	-	\$326,078	This project will replace an undersized culvert on Charles Creek and Forest Service Road 471 in Pisgah National Forest, NC. This watershed hosts a population of wild Brook Trout, serves as the water supply for the town of Brevard and is part of the Cathays Creek USFS Priority Watershed/Sky Island collaborative focal area. This replacement will reconnect 1.0 mile of upstream habitat, decrease sedimentation caused by increased scouring from the constricting pipe, reduce the likelihood of a crossing failure due to extreme storm events and will serve as a catalyst project for the Forest Service's Southern Appalachian Subregional initiative.
32	Wheeler Pond Dam Removal and North Brook Restoration, Berlin, Massachusetts	VT	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord watershed organization (OARS)	\$50,000	\$167,500	-	-	\$217,500	This project will support the key pre-construction tasks of obtaining all necessary permits and preparing the 100% engineering design plans necessary to remove the Wheeler Pond dam. Wheeler Pond Dam, which impounds North Brook, a tributary to the Assabet River, in Berlin, Massachusetts. This will restore connectivity and ecological function to the channel, floodplain, and riparian corridor of North Brook, and allow wild Eastern Brook Trout to move upstream and downstream to spawning areas, food sources, and summer temperature refugia. This will enhance the recreational fishing opportunities in North Brook. It will also remove a Significant Hazard Dam in unsafe condition which will contribute to public safety and improve resiliency to future negative impacts of intense precipitation and flooding.

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33	Small Dam Removal, East Branch North River, Whitingham, VT	CT,GA,ME,MD,MA,NH,NJ,NY,NC,OH,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Trout Unlimited	\$85,000	\$43,053	\$12,934	-	\$140,987	The purpose of this project is to restore fish passage, improve stream function, and increase riparian shading in the headwaters of the East Branch North River. Deliverables will include removing 1 dam and associated infrastructure, replanting up to 1 acre of riparian habitat, upslope 1 private driveway culvert.
34	Poplar Lick Run & Big Run Fish Passage Barrier Removal Projects Poplar Lick Run & Big Run, Fairview, MD	MD	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Trout Unlimited	\$50,000	\$51,500	-	-	\$101,500	This project by Trout Unlimited will replace two passage barriers to improve habitat conditions for eastern brook trout in The Savage River watershed, Maryland. The Savage represents the regional "stronghold" of eastern brook trout populations, and an important priority for conservation efforts and building climate resilience for native aquatic species. This project will provide access to critical thermal refugia as well as headwater spawning habitat. TU will remove a vented concrete ford on Poplar Lick will and replace it with a low-water stream crossing, enabling access to over 2 miles of tributary stream habitat for native brook trout and other aquatic organisms. TU will replace an embanked stone road crossing/culvert on Big Run, and replace it with an open-bottom "box" culvert. This will open 1.6 miles of tributary. TU will perform pre/post implementation fish population monitoring to assess project outcomes/results at both sites.
35	Culvert Replacement on Tributary to Taft Brook at Corrow Basin Rd, Westfield, VT	VT	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation District	\$50,000	\$170,000	\$90,000	\$5,400	\$315,400	This proposed, shovel-ready culvert replacement project is located on an unnamed tributary to Taft Brook in the Upper Missisquoi River basin featuring prime coldwater habitat and thermal refugia for brook trout. The 3 existing culverts are undersized, improperly graded and perched, creating impassable barriers for migratory fish. The structures also contribute to water quality issues by interfering with upstream sediment transport and by generating significant erosion of sediment into the brook. Localized flooding has also been a repeated problem at the sites. The funding from EBTJV for this project would be focusing on the most upstream culvert at Corrow Basin Road.
36	Indigenous Wetland and Fish Passage Project, Cedar Creek, Natural Bridge, VA	VA	No	Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture	ND Ponics, Inc.	\$37,500	\$49,500	-	\$75,000	\$162,000	This project will be to design and replace two triple barrel culverts that are barriers to an isolated BKT population at high elevation in Rockbridge County Virginia. NFWF funding will be utilized for an assessment of the entire 56 acre wetland, which runs parallel and congruent to the 2.5 miles of Cedar Creek on the property and which includes an assessment of all man-made fish barrier impediments. As a related component to our work, although funding is not being sought through EBTJV, is to create a fish passage through the 8 acre impoundment further downstream on the property.
37	NFHP FFP FY24 Operations Coordination & Communications for Fishers & Farmers Partnership	Multiple	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Fishers & Farmers Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin	\$85,000	\$62,434	-	-	\$147,434	Funding will be used to carry out the Fishers & Farmers Strategic Plan, Communications Plan, and Coordination Actions include expanding outreach systems & processes, contact management, communications platforms, meeting coordination, funding allocation and grant writing. Focus will be on showcasing funded projects, expand network of local, farmer-driven groups and initiatives, fish, fishing and recreation, in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri and states that show the most need in the National Fish Habitat Assessment - Iowa and Illinois.
38	NFHP FFP FY24 Science Team Coordination for Fishers & Farmers Partnership	IL,IA,MN,MO,WI	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Fishers & Farmers Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin	\$20,000	\$20,000	-	-	\$40,000	We are requesting \$20,000 for the Science Team Lead, for finding ways to sustain Fishers & Farmers Partnership GIS/Science assessment and/or monitoring work to fill in data gaps and help sustain Fishers & Farmers for long term. Funding will help provide salary, travel, and collaboration of the FFP Science Team Lead with the FFP Steering Committee, NFHP Science Team and partners. The goal for the FFP Science Team is to help guide the FFP Steering Committee in making decisions about protection versus restoration projects, to assist with strategic habitat conservation and enable future learning which will initiate more conservation.
39	FY 2024 Fishers and Farmers Partnership Watershed Leaders Workshop	WI	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	\$74,970	\$179,942	\$50,000	-	\$304,912	The Watershed Leaders Workshops are the heart of the Fishers & Farmers Partnership for supporting farmer leadership and collaborative action, so farms and fish thrive together. We developed the Watershed Leaders Network, which connects farming neighbors, landowners, and local collaborators to learn, share and define the next steps forward. Our vision is shared work and productive relationships between landowners, agriculture, and conservation organizations. We desire to connect people and empower landowners to act for themselves, their communities, and the greater good.
40	NFHP FFP FY24 Stream Stewardship Through Watershed Council Leadership, WI	IL,IA,MN,MO,WI	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Valley Stewardship Network	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$12,725	-	\$82,725	This educational outreach project will provide funding to support for existing watershed councils with meetings, events, funding, watershed stewardship technical assistance, and outreach. Networking, outreach, resources, and logistics support for the Hill Country Watershed Alliance. Develop 9 Key Element Watershed Plans based on activities in Coon Creek. Collect water quality samples at 21 stream locations: once per month from August-Oct 2024 and May-Oct 2025. Analyze data to compare water quality parameters with pre-project data collected since 2015. Manage, demonstrate, monitor, and promote prairie STRIPS and other watershed stewardship practices with Council partners. Develop the Youth-Led Watershed Council, events, and programs. Watersheds include Tainter Creek (W2W 2019), Upper/West Fork Kickapoo River, Bad Axe River, Springville Branch, Coon Creek, Rush Creek.

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41	NFHP FFP FY24 Le Sueur River Watershed Soil Health Initiative, MN	MN	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Minnesota State University Mankato, Water Resources Center	\$23,460	\$38,500	-	-	\$61,960	This project will help increase adoption of soil health practices, particularly conservation tillage and cover crops, to support the transition toward more continuous living cover across the Le Sueur River Watershed. The Le Sueur River Watershed Protection and Restoration Strategy and Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy highlight beneficial impacts of increased conservation tillage and cover crop adoption to reduce annual peak flows and sediment and nutrient pollution to improve poor aquatic habitat. This project will decrease sediment loading, decrease nitrogen and phosphorus loading, improve water quality and fish populations, increase understanding about positive impact of cover crops for reducing flows, sediment and nutrient loading, stabilizing hydrology, and improving habitat for aquatic organisms.
42	NFHP FFP FY24: Spoon River Watershed Streambank Stabilization, IL	IL	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Knox County Soil & Water Conservation District	\$65,358	\$34,786	-	-	\$100,144	Four reaches the Spoon River Watershed will be stabilized using Best Management Practices (stone toe protection with vegetation; STP) which will reduce the sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus entering the watershed at these points. Floodplain shelves will be installed in these project areas, where applicable, in conjunction with bank stabilization. This project is entirely driven by landowners who want to stabilize their streambanks and keep the associated stream water clear. Native fish will benefit from the reduction of nutrient and sediment loads going into the stream network.
43	NFHP FFP FY24 Farmer-Led Efforts to Improve Aquatic Habitat in the Lower Illinois-Lake Chautauqua Watershed, IL	IL	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	American Farmland Trust	\$74,965	\$126,796	-	-	\$201,761	Through the Fishers & Farmers Aquatic Habitat Project Proposal, American Farmland Trust (AFT) proposes to engage farmers and partners in several demonstration projects and outreach events. The demonstration projects will offer an opportunity for farmers to see best management practices (BMPs) in real life before implementing them on their farm, as well as test different combinations of BMPs and impact on fish habitat. The outreach events will serve to increase awareness of watershed and fish habitat efforts and provide farmers with access to financial and technical resources to improve water quality and in-stream habitat. Where possible and aligned with impaired waterways, AFT plans to focus project efforts on women and minority farmers. The overall objective of the proposed project is to increase conservation agriculture practices that will reduce sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus loading, and in turn improve water quality and fish habitat.
44	NFHP FFP FY24 Relay Cropping the Intersection of Conservation and Return on Investment, IA	IA	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Iowa Soybean Association	\$60,907	\$60,947	-	-	\$121,854	This project aims to understand agronomics, economics, and environmental benefits of relay cropping in Iowa. The project will assist with the collection of data from field scale replicated strip trials conducted by cooperating farmers. This will primarily focus on the harvest yield for both crops to create basic crop budgets compared to full season soybeans, as well as be analyzed with market data to determine net yield profitability. Management strategy recommendations such as seeding rates, seeding dates, fertility managements, and other factors will also be reported. In addition to yield, the trial fields will be sampled for soil N, tile N (where feasible), and small grain biomass from each treatment. The reduction of nutrient losses from cropland begins upstream with agronomically and economically viable options for farmers. Practices like relay cropping can improve their downstream impact on water quality and fish habitat by increasing groundcover and reducing opportunities for N losses. Support from FFP would help engage with more cooperating farmers and collect more in-field data.
45	NFHP FFP FY24 Centering Women Landowners for Stewardship at the Edges, IA	IA	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Women Food and Agriculture Network	\$49,286	\$63,868	-	-	\$113,154	The Women Food and Agriculture Network has found that conservation programming directed toward women is successful when it helps women landowners overcome key roadblocks along their land stewardship journey. We recognize that before women landowners can implement a new practice on their ground, they must first gain the information, confidence, and connections they need to approach a farmer tenant with a request. They must then initiate a conversation with their farmer tenant - and potentially co-owners of their land - about implementing a new practice. In our experience, these conversations may spark immediate interest and action on the part of a farmer or may be met with years of resistance from the farmer. We support women landowners to navigate these difficult conversations. Given that women landowners must navigate this myriad of challenges, we define a successful conservation action differently than many other agricultural conservation projects. For the purposes of this project, we will measure success according to the number of women who: attend events, form a new relationship with a conservation professional, report starting a conversation about edge-of-field conservation with a farmer partner, and take the first steps toward implementing a practice.
46	NFHP FFP FY24 Boone River Fish Passage, IA	IA	No	Fishers and Farmers Partnership	Iowa Department of Natural Resources	\$37,900	\$83,779	-	-	\$121,679	This project would restore stream connectivity at three road crossings within the Boone River Watershed. This would add to the previous habitat restoration work conducted by natural resource organizations and land owners over the past 19 years within this watershed.
47	Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership Operational Support (FY 24)	MN	No	Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	\$85,000	-	-	-	\$85,000	The Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership is requesting operational support for FY 2024 to continue implementation of the Strategic Plan and fund fishery habitat restoration, barrier removal (dams and culverts) and non-barrier proposals (inventories, assessments, and feasibility and design) to benefit fish and wildlife resources in the Great Lakes Basin.
48	GPFFHP Operation and Coordination	Multiple	No	Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership	US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$75,000	\$162,300	-	-	\$237,300	This funding is essential to the continued operation and functioning of the fish habitat partnership. These funds are used to request, input and coordinate habitat conservation projects under the guidelines of the NFHP strategy and the priorities of the Fish Habitat Partnership. In addition, coordination activities that align this FHP with the national initiative are essential.

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49	Bighorn River Side Channel Reactivation Evaluation	CO,IA,KS, MN,MO,MT,NE,ND,SD,WY	No	Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership	Bighorn River Alliance	\$85,000	-	-	-	\$85,000	The Bighorn River Alliance, together with our Federal and State partners, are engaged in a large-scale effort to restore much of the geomorphic complexity that characterized the Bighorn River before construction of Yellowstone Dam. The project proposed here is to develop the information that documents the results of the side channel reactivation, estimates the net benefits, and provides guidance so that these benefits can be sustained in the future.
50	Upper Yellowstone Project Prioritization Plan	MT	No	Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership	Montana Freshwater Partners	\$55,000	\$91,000	-	-	\$146,000	Develop a Watershed Project Prioritization Plan (Plan) for the Upper Yellowstone and Shields River Watersheds in partnership with the Upper Yellowstone and Shields River Watershed Groups. The Plan will identify and prioritize projects that support drought and flood resiliency and overall watershed health, including natural water storage (beaver mimicry, floodplain reconnection, soil health), wetland and stream restoration, habitat restoration for native species, invasive species management, riparian land preservation, and managing recreational use pressures.
51	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership Operational Support	HI	No	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership	Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office	\$122,453	\$122,453	-	-	\$244,906	The Hawai'i Fish Habitat Partnership (FHP) requests \$85,000 for operational support for FY24. The primary focus of the Hawai'i FHP is on-the-ground conservation of both inland water habitats and coastal aquatic ecosystems. The Hawai'i FHP provides technical and financial support for voluntary conservation of high-value streams, estuaries, and coastal aquatic systems. Support for habitat restoration in these systems fills an un-met conservation need in the islands.
52	Huli Hou Na Lima i Hā'ena: Expanding the 'O'opu Restoration Project	HI	No	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership	National Tropical Botanical Garden	\$49,200	\$49,200	-	-	\$98,400	This project will restore approximately 1,000 feet of riparian area and wetlands adjacent to Limahuli Stream located in the Halele'a District on the north shore of the island of Kauai. Restoration efforts will focus on an ancient Hawaiian wetland agricultural complex consisting of a constructed wetlands previously used for taro production (lōi) as well as reconstruction of a low-head water diversion, and the tributary ditch system (auwai). The restoration of the lōi complex will increase habitat for native freshwater fish and invertebrates, serve as flood mitigation for the lower reaches of the valley, and will limit the amount of sediment transport in the main channel.
53	Guiding Estuarine Habitat Conservation through High Resolution Imagery Assessments	HI	No	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership	The Nature Conservancy in Hawaii	\$98,000	\$96,000	-	-	\$194,000	This project will collect, process, and analyze high-resolution 3D imagery in West Hawai'i to guide efforts at six sites of high conservation value (four anchialine pools and two fishponds) in partnership with the Hui Loko community-based restoration network. This methodology will allow us to assess the extent of micro-habitat types and conditions, track restoration progress over time, and evaluate anticipated sea level rise impacts to these important estuarine systems. Our project will benefit fish habitat conservation efforts and researchers across Hawai'i and internationally, improving our collective ability to monitor and prioritize conservation efforts.
54	LokoEa/Uko'a Tributary Assessment Project	HI	No	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership	Malama Loko Ea	\$85,000	\$25,000	-	-	\$110,000	This assessment will evaluate habitat conditions and biological communities in the LokoEa/Uko'a Tributary. Our work plan will collect physical, chemical and biological information from the full length of the water flow from mauka to makai (from the sea to the inland areas). To conduct this, we will use novel remote sensing tools along with basic science data collection. The use of drones will photograph the system for mapping and spectral photography will be utilized to spectrum tag vegetation for species identification and mass calculation. MLEF will use an underwater drone to locate native and introduced stream species. GPS and digital video and photographs will be used to provide documentation and records.
55	Piloting Community-Based Coral Restoration Areas in West Oahu	HI	No	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership	Kuleana Coral Reefs	\$38,720	\$32,800	-	-	\$71,520	In partnership with local fishers and community partners that work in the area, our restoration team will restore degraded reef habitat with a focus on re-establishing <i>Porites compressa</i> . In addition to restoring the site with target species, we aim to engage local fishers in restoration directly through our Education & Outreach community events, where fishers can participate in the process. There is an immediate need to intervene at Pokai Bay by restoring important habitat for target fish species, so that the fishery, residents, and economy that relies on it can continue into the future. Community-based Coral Restoration Areas are an equitable, impactful, and collaborative approach to restoring these important habitats.
56	Place-based and Community-assisted Invasive Species Removal to Improve Habitat Connectivity for Migratory Native Stream Species and Conserve Aquatic Habitats in Ala Wai Watershed	HI	No	Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership	University of Hawaii Dept Natural Resources and Environmental Management	\$127,684	\$129,668	-	-	\$257,352	This project proposes to remove nonnative aquatic fauna in the Makiki, Mānoa, and Pālolo streams of Ala Wai Watershed through engaging community effort and at the same time prevent further introduction and advocate for the health of stream ecosystems through outreach education.
57	KPFHP Coordination and Operational Support	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Kenai Watershed Forum	\$36,161	\$36,162	-	-	\$72,323	The KPFHP exists to maintain healthy fish, healthy people, healthy habitat and healthy economies in the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The region's freshwater fish habitat is unique nationally due to its road-accessibility and proximity to a major population center. Yet it continues to support robust fisheries and cultural significance. Population growth, unregulated development, habitat fragmentation, degraded water quality, loss of water quantity, and climate change threaten fish habitat on the Kenai Peninsula. The KPFHP aims promote partnerships among our many stakeholders, support projects that address the top threats to fish habitat, and educate the public about the importance of fish habitat.

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58	Soldotna Creek Watershed: Conserving Hydrologic Conditions for Fish	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	\$85,000	\$47,906	\$11,200	-	\$144,106	This project will provide legal protection, by means of instream flow reservations, for the Soldotna Creek watershed. Hydrological data characterizing the watershed will be made available. Opportunistic streamflow measurements and fish sampling will occur on Soldotna Creek tributaries to obtain additional hydrological and fish use data for potential reservations and inclusion to the Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC). ADF&G and Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF) will collaborate to execute this project.
59	Stream Watch: Expanding Volunteer-Based Outreach and Habitat Stewardship on the Kenai Peninsula	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Kenai Watershed Forum	\$44,365	\$44,367	-	-	\$88,732	The Stream Watch is a volunteer driven program that was established in 1994 to mitigate the negative impacts associated with high river usage from anglers in the region. Trained volunteers visit high use sportfishing areas to educate the public about fish habitat conservation, ethical angling, and more. In addition, volunteers remove massive quantities of litter from riparian areas, participate in streambank rehabilitation projects, and participate in organized educational events such as the Kenai River Festival.
60	Creating Kenai Watershed Stewards Through Adopt-A-Stream and Junior Stream Watch Programs	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Kenai Watershed Forum	\$45,045	\$45,045	-	-	\$90,090	Adopt-A-Stream (AAS) is a long standing and nationally recognized environmental education program. The AAS program has introduced children and adults to watershed science and the study of natural resources since 2006. Through K-12 School programming, summer camp, and the introduction of the Junior Stream Watch program, we emphasize the importance of high level conservation education, and encourage participants to develop a personal connection to the natural areas that surround and support us.
61	Baby Salmon Live Here	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Kachemak Heritage Land Trust	\$26,143	\$26,120	-	-	\$52,263	A coalition of Kenai Peninsula partners including Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, Kachemak Bay Conservation Society, Kenai Watershed Forum, the City of Homer, and Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve will build upon the existing, effective salmon education outreach programs that have been established over the past eight years, focusing on the "Baby Salmon Live Here" campaign. A primary objective is to translate existing science and outreach onto the babysalmon.org website.
62	West Cook Inlet Pike eDNA Early Detection Monitoring	AK	Yes	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Tyonek Tribal Conservation District	\$43,527	\$43,604	-	-	\$87,131	Northern pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) are an invasive species that preferentially prey on juvenile salmonids and are implicated in the decline of upper Cook Inlet salmon. Research indicates pike can travel considerable distances through saltwater to invade novel freshwater drainages. This project will conduct pike eDNA early detection monitoring on at-risk West Cook Inlet Kenai Peninsula waters with unknown pike presence to facilitate rapid response action if a novel infestation is identified.
63	Elodea surveys at ten priority lakes on the Kenai Peninsula	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association	\$12,390	\$12,390	-	-	\$24,780	Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association will survey up to 10 lakes on the Peninsula for elodea. They will visually survey lake shorelines for elodea. Using predetermined sites around the lake, they will use rake throws to sample aquatic vegetation. These sites will be sampled twice, by independent surveyors. All survey data will be submitted to the Alaska Exotic Plants Information Clearinghouse (AKEPIC). If elodea is found during the surveys the crew will determine the extent of the infestation and notify state agencies.
64	Promoting AIS Prevention Through Education on the Kenai Peninsula	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Kenai Watershed Forum	\$36,021	\$36,027	-	-	\$72,048	This project seeks to develop a suite of educational materials based on recent research on the prevention and early detection of invasive species. KWF and partner organizations will create and deliver educational materials to new and existing audiences including user groups identified as being important within the KP-CISMA Strategic Plan and the AKISP Communications Framework. KWF will also seek to augment surveys efforts for aquatic non-native species through eDNA and water quality sampling.
65	Educating the public on how beavers are essential to supporting fish habitat	AK	No	Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	Alaska Wildlife Alliance	\$50,000	\$50,000	-	-	\$100,000	The watersheds of southern Kenai include vast peatlands which provide significant ecosystem services including salmon stream support. These peatlands are dependent on groundwater recharge to remain inundated, however drying conditions are lowering water tables. Beavers offer a unique opportunity to mitigate this drying. This project will quantify hydrologic impacts of beaver dams on peatland recharge, and educate the public and decision-makers that beavers are essential to salmon stream support.

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66	Mat-Su Salmon Partnership Coordination and Outreach Engagement	AK	No	Matsu Basin Salmon Partnership	Trout Unlimited	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$250,000	\$300,000	\$670,000	The Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership (Partnership) formed in 2005 to bring together diverse stakeholders to protect salmon habitat through conservation, education and restoration. Through collaboration, the Partnership advances the goals identified in its Strategic Action Plan, to guide salmon conservation and science efforts in the Mat-Su Basin. To continue past success, this proposal seeks funding to 1) support the Partnership Coordinator salary 2) conduct trainings and workshops for partners and community members, including the 2024 Mat-Su Salmon Science and Conservation Symposium and 3) advance outreach and engagement activities for the Partnership to benefit salmon habitat in the Mat-Su Basin.
67	Removing Salmon Barriers Through the Mat-Su Fish Passage Program: Coal Creek Fish Passage Culvert Replacement	AK	Yes	Matsu Basin Salmon Partnership	Matanuska Susitna Borough	\$37,700	-	\$199,208	\$6,824	\$243,732	This project would replace a culvert that currently completely blocks passage for both adult and juvenile Coho and Chinook salmon on Coal Creek in the Little Susitna drainage - an important sport fishery and priority of the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership. Restoration would open access to 4.3 upstream miles for adult and juvenile salmon, and provide unimpeded downstream access to juvenile rearing and overwintering habitat - including at low flows.
68	Establishing a Stream Temperature and Water Quality Monitoring Program, and Salmon Genetic Sampling in the Eklutna River	AK	Yes	Matsu Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership	Native Village of Eklutna	\$73,088	\$73,138	-	\$5,000	\$151,226	In 2018 the abandoned lower Eklutna dam was removed from the Eklutna River, reconnecting more than 8 miles of upstream salmon habitat. Currently, a second upstream dam limits water in the river to support wild salmon. Mitigation measures for this hydroelectric project's impacts to fish and wildlife will be decided in 2024. Project will provide two years of important baseline temperature (loggers in 5-6 locations) and water quality data (key water quality parameters in stream temperature locations) in key habitat of the Eklutna River to help inform streamflow restoration and habitat enhancement decisions and projects in the future. Project will also obtain over 50 genetic samples from salmon to identify genetic stocks - of which none currently exist.
69	Protecting Mat-Su Salmon Habitat from Aquatic Invasive Species through Collaborative Training and Partnership	AK	Yes	Matsu Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership	Tyonek Tribal Conservation District	\$48,913	-	-	\$3,850	\$52,763	The aquatic invasive species (AIS) northern pike, Elodea canadensis, and dreissenid mussels threaten Mat-Su Borough's freshwater resources and the subsistence, commercial, and sport fisheries that rely on healthy salmon habitat. This project proposes to build a sustainable multi-partner AIS network that leverages existing resources to effectively implement early detection monitoring across the Mat-Su Borough. This will be accomplished by developing AIS survey prioritizations by taxa and designing and implementing AIS-focused training and hands-on learning opportunities to increase regional capacity for early detection monitoring and to support AIS prevention, outreach, and rapid response.
70	Stream Ecology: Modern Tools for Mapping and Sampling of Mat-Su Priority Salmon Streams-Willow and Fish Creeks	AK	Yes	Matsu Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership	Knik Tribe	\$74,488	\$46,925	-	-	\$121,413	The Knik Tribe, in collaboration with the Alaska Center for Conservation Science at the University of Alaska Anchorage, proposes to map riparian wetlands in two Mat-Su watersheds using geospatial data. The resulting dataset will identify relative salmon habitat importance and provide resource managers at all levels with information on stream health. The project will culminate with public outreach at the Mat-Su Salmon Science Symposium. Knik Tribe will promote educational field exercises, camps, and trainings to build aerial imagery of the riparian wetlands and watersheds. The project aims to ensure healthy salmon habitat in the Mat-Su Basin and create a repeatable workflow for mapping other riparian corridors.
71	Homebuilding in Salmon Country: Connecting Building Codes to Salmon Habitat Conservation	AK	No	Matsu Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership	Chickaloon Village Traditional Council	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$46,740	-	\$216,740	As the human population in the Mat-Su Basin increases from 110,000 in 2022 to a projected 148,000 by 2050, homebuilding will continue to be an important economic driver, as will the need for increased awareness of drinking water protection, flood zones, surface water quality, and salmon habitat conservation. Salmon conservation goals prioritized in the MSSHP Strategic Action Plan are best reached if riparian zone information and regulations are well known to homebuilders and residential contractors, so they may participate in conserving salmon habitat. This project creates a two-hour educational course that residential contractors may take as a continuing education requirement for licensing; emphasizing the interconnectedness of home development, water quality, and salmon habitat.
72	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Operations	Multiple	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Michigan Department of Natural Resources	\$78,082	\$78,784	\$5,000	-	\$161,866	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership protects, rehabilitates, and enhances sustainable fish habitats in glacial lakes of the Midwest for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations. This project will coordinate the partnership's three committees, implement tasks identified by the committees, maintain partnership operations, and enable participation in the National Fish Habitat Partnership. This project will partially fund the coordinator and provide funding for partnership activities including printing copies of the partnership's Shoreline Living publication. Additional objectives include implementation of Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership objectives on inland lake management, climate change, outreach, and habitat conservation grants within Michigan.
73	Stearns County Shoreline Habitat Restoration Projects - 2024	MN	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District	\$75,000	\$86,400	-	-	\$161,400	The Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will work with approximately five lakeshore landowners who have committed to completing a shoreline restoration. Each of these projects will use natural techniques to rehabilitate and protect fish and wildlife habitat. With the restoration or protection of natural shorelines, many native fish species will enjoy additional and improved habitat due to improved water quality and reduced sedimentation. The property owners will promote additional projects by allowing site visits, typically 12 times a year, demonstrate shoreline restoration for other shoreline property owners.

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74	Designing and Engineering Wetland Restoration to Protect Aquatic Habitat and Benefit Cisco Population at Long Lake	MI	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Springfield Township	\$40,000	\$45,000	-	-	\$85,000	This project will complete the Design, Engineering and Permitting Phase of a wetland restoration project benefitting Long Lake, a glacial lake in Springfield Township, Michigan. The project is in the Shiawassee Basin Preserve, a 600-acre park. Long supports populations of numerous MGLP Priority Species including Cisco and is a popular lake for paddle-in fishing. The project will fund a design to stabilize and restore the wetland including the eroding ditch which will prevent future sediment deposition into the lake and stabilize the shoreline. After completion, the Township will pursue funding for the construction phase to implement the design work.
75	Nutrient and sediment reduction strategies to improve fish habitat in Lake Wawasee	IN	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation	\$42,000	\$202,000	\$300,000	-	\$544,000	This project will leverage data on external nutrient and sediment loadings entering Lake Wawasee through the MGLP funded Wawasee Inlet Nutrient Study (WINS) to reduce priority nutrient and sediment sources in the watershed. This project will install best management practices at pollution "hotspots" including Grassed Waterway, Field Filter Strip Buffer, and Stream Bank Stabilization in Turkey Creek and a Field Border Buffer, Tile Inlet Buffer, and Constructed Wetland to reduce pollution, improve water quality, and benefit fishes such as Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Northern Pike, Rock Bass, Walleye, Blackchin Shiner, Least Darter, and Iowa Darter.
76	Assessing and Restoring Shoreline Vegetation to Improve Lake Habitat	MN	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District	\$60,000	\$60,000	-	-	\$120,000	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District is proposing to implement 10-15 shoreline restoration projects on one or more priority lakes to improve habitat for native fish species, perform two or more shoreline inventories to identify restoration opportunities, and reach out to 1,000 lakeshore residents with information about shoreline buffers and benefits to native fish species. The shoreline inventories will evaluate the quality of shoreline vegetation and quantify the need for shoreline restorations relative to CLFLWD's goal for each lake to have natural shoreline buffers on at least 75% of the shoreline.
77	Local Partners Collaborate to Solve Fish Passage Issues in Two Priority Systems & Train Local Teams	MN	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Hubbard Soil and Water Conservation District	\$99,867	\$153,596	-	-	\$253,463	Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District (HCSWCD) will partner with Park Rapids DNR Fisheries, the MN Board of Water and Soil Conservation (BWSR), townships and lake associations to address fish passage and spawning habitat connectivity issues by replacing two existing culverts with correctly sized and placed culverts to reduce flow rates and improve passage. This will protect fisheries from climate change impacts, create a local process, train local teams to continuously recognize and utilize opportunities to improve passage while replacing existing culverts and raise public awareness about the importance of passage and connectivity for healthy fisheries.
78	Leelanau Lakes Aerial Drone Shore and Shoal Survey Project	MI	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Leelanau Clean Water	\$30,300	\$66,480	-	-	\$96,780	Leelanau Clean Water will conduct aerial drone surveys of all 7 Leelanau County residential lakes, collecting high resolution shoreline and littoral imagery for mapping, early detection and management of invasive species, and assessing compliance with BMPs for inland lakes. The goal is to establish and maintain a replicable data set of water quality indicators, target education and remediation efforts, and evaluate the impact of education efforts. The project will also complete seven BMP projects on lake shorelines to improve water quality.
79	Ottawa County Natural Shoreline Restoration Project	MI	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Ottawa Conservation District	\$99,052	\$101,486	-	-	\$200,538	Shoreline development has led to a variety of negative ecological impacts and significant shoreline and near-shore habitat loss on Ottawa County lakes. This project will conduct an education and outreach campaign and provide cost share funding to encourage native plantings and natural shoreline planning/implementation throughout Ottawa County lakes. The project will provide information and technical assistance on natural shorelines to landowners through mailers, social media, public presentations, events, and workshops. The project will provide technical expertise and a pool of cost share funds to help reduce out of pocket costs for landowners to implement natural shoreline designs on their properties.
80	Coordination of a shoreline restoration program to benefit water quality and fish habitat	WI	No	Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership	Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance	\$85,000	\$202,813	-	-	\$287,813	This project will implement recommendations from the Winnebago Waterways Lake Management Plan (WW LMP) to protect and restore water quality and fish habitat in the Winnebago System. It will also continue regional programs to increase likelihood of implementation success. This includes installation of shoreline Best Management Practices (BMPs), water quality monitoring, coordinating implementation across multiple jurisdictions, and building community support through outreach and education. All actions taken will work to address the impairments of excess sediment and nutrient loading in the system that leads to poor water quality and fish habitat degradation.
81	ORBFHP Coordination	Multiple	No	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$105,300	\$122,000	\$58,100	-	\$285,400	Coordination fund for the Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership (ORBFHP). With these funds, American Rivers will coordinate the Partnership to ensure that all activities are in alignment with the ORBFHP's and NFHP's mission, vision, and goals
82	Assessment of low-head dams and fish passageway barriers in seven stream basins in Southern Indiana and Northern Kentucky	IN	No	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	Ecosystems Connections Institute	\$60,000	\$165,000	-	\$60,000	\$285,000	This project proposes to focus on low-head dams in eight, HUC 8 basins in Indiana and Kentucky. This study will use ecological, and GIS based data specific to each dam to use in a pragmatic tool to prioritize dam removal, construction of a fish passageway, or leave the dam intact. Prioritization of dams will identify optimal opportunities. This project will allow the ORBFHP and its partnering agencies and programs the ability to continue its mission and goal of providing full connectivity of its priority drainages by accomplishing these initial tasks related to dam removal and restoring fish passage.

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83	Wabash River Bank Restoration	IN,KY	No	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	Wabash River Defenders	\$15,850	\$15,850	-	-	\$31,700	Streambank restoration on the Wabash River. This project addresses 2,400 linear feet of actively eroding banks, typically 10'-13' in height, and 600 linear of grading inside the floodplain. The project focuses on river restoration utilizing rock and wood toe stabilization to prevent toe erosion and reestablishing a riparian buffer zone. Floodplain grading will restore an inner berm and flood bench to alleviate outside bank shear stress, support appropriate sediment transport and flood capacity. Wood reincorporated into the toe stabilization will provide habitat diversity, channel roughness to dissipate energy, and trap for aquatic food sources like small sticks and leaves. Native seed and 950 native bare root shrub and tree plantings will be applied to the bank and top of bank to support vegetation growth, provide a more natural function to the bank, and add habitat value for wildlife.
84	French Creek Stream Stabilization	CA	No	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	Crawford County Conservation District	\$35,000	\$35,000	-	-	\$70,000	Streambank stabilization and instream habitat improvements at the confluence of French Creek and Coulter Run.
85	Laurel Feeder Dam Feasibility Study	IL,IN,KY,MD,NY,N C,OH,PA,TN,VA,WV	No	Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership	Flatland Resources	\$85,000	\$30,751	-	-	\$115,751	This project will complete a feasibility study for the Laurel Feeder Dam on the Whitewater River. This dam provides the water flow for the Whitewater Canal – once used to move materials through southeast Indiana, but now is an historic site run and managed by the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. Because the dam plays a vital role in the tourism industry and the study must be carried out to carefully consider its cultural importance within the region.
86	PLCI Coordination & Operational Support (FY 24)	Multiple	No	Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$37,871	\$44,935	\$10,846	-	\$93,652	This project consists of coordination and operational support for PLCT's various activities and initiatives in support of its goal to achieve long-term persistence of Pacific Lamprey and their habitats, and support their traditional tribal cultural use throughout their historical range. Activities include but are not limited to coordinating and participating in PLCT's various committees and workgroups (Policy Committee, Conservation Team, Steering Committee, Lamprey Technical Workgroup (and its subgroups), and Regional Management Units etc.), planning and implementation of in-person and virtual events (Lamprey Information Exchanges, workshops/trainings etc.) and outreach in support of partnership, and coordination of annual funding opportunities. This project targets Pacific Lamprey (Entosphenus tridentatus) and other native lampreys along the U.S. West Coast representing FHP priority species and Species of Greatest Conservation Needs, and addresses all of PLCT's objectives in support of the overarching mission.
87	PLCI Tribal Engagement and Outreach Relations	WA	Yes	Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	Columbia River Inter Tribal Fish Commission	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$2,000	-	\$28,000	This project will be the tribal engagement and outreach relations support to the PLCI which includes tribal, outreach and partner engagement efforts. They will support the PLCI by conducting activities such as tribal partner support and engagement, partner/listserv management, web and social media and promotions, event planning, and committee support.
88	Puget Sound eDNA Seasonal Surveys	ID	No	Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station	\$14,082	\$14,082	-	-	\$28,164	This project proposes collecting eDNA from 13 site locations on a monthly basis from September 2023 to August 2025. Consistent eDNA collection at these sites strives to illuminate changes in seasonal detections, changes in seasonal abundance, and inform life stage habitat use. This project primarily addresses lack of awareness threat, which is the second highest threat for the Puget Sound RMU. This project will expand knowledge about habitat use and migration timing, much of which is unknown for this region and may vary based on watershed characteristics. Additionally, project leads (USFS, WDFW, OSU) will present findings to local managers and restoration practitioners. Understanding when and how lamprey utilize these watersheds will help to make informed decisions regarding conservation of lampreys.
89	Native Lampreys of North America Poster	CA	No	Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$41,680	\$200,000	-	-	\$241,680	The goal and deliverable of this project is to develop and produce a poster, "Native Lampreys of North America." The poster will show illustrations of each of the lamprey species that occur in North America along with information about them including geographic range, adult maximum length, life history strategy, and conservation status. There will be information about the benefits and services that native lampreys provide in the ecosystem and how they contribute to healthy ecosystems. This project is a deliverable of the ecosystem subgroup of the Lamprey Communication Committee (LCC). This project addresses lack of awareness and needs for outreach in all RMUs and beyond our region and into other parts of North America on the benefits of native lampreys and the need to conserve them. The poster will be printed and available for digital use on websites and social media.
90	Using eDNA to Assess the Distribution of Pacific Lamprey (Entosphenus tridentatus) in the Potlatch River, Idaho Following Translocation Efforts	CA	No	Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	Latah Soil and Water Conservation District	\$53,901	\$17,270	\$42,000	-	\$113,171	The Latah Soil and Water Conservation District proposes to collect and analyze environmental DNA (eDNA) samples for Pacific Lamprey within select subwatersheds of the Potlatch River watershed. The goal of this project is to understand the spatial distribution and tributary habitat use of adult, larval, and juvenile lampreys from translocation efforts. The objectives of this project are to collect and analyze 52 eDNA samples to identify the presence/absence of Pacific Lamprey. Samples will be collected along mainstems and near the lower end of tributaries and analyzed by the National Genomics Center for Wildlife and Fish Conservation. The sample results from this project will be delivered spatially through The Aquatic eDNA Atlas Project database.

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91	Estimating Rotary Screw Trap Efficiency for Juvenile Pacific Lamprey	AK,CA,ID,OR,WA	No	Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	FISHBIO	\$85,000	\$88,000	-	-	\$173,000	Each spring during rotary screw trap (RST) operation on the Stanislaus River, migrating juvenile Pacific Lamprey (Entosphenus tridentatus macrophthalmia) are incidentally captured during outmigration monitoring of anadromous salmonids. Little is known regarding production and migration characteristics of this species in the Stanislaus River. Our goals are to 1) identify an appropriate marking method for juvenile lamprey, 2) perform multiple releases of marked juveniles at different flow conditions, and 3) evaluate the relationship between trap efficiency and flow conditions to permit abundance estimation of migrating Pacific Lamprey juveniles. A key finding from this work will be the empirical relationship between trap efficiency and discharge, which may then be applied to past and future catch data. Although this relationship will be specific to the Stanislaus RST, demonstrating an effective method for estimating lamprey efficiency can be used to incorporate lamprey monitoring into existing salmonid RST monitoring programs. Project deliverables will include presentations to managers and a final project report in manuscript format suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed publication.
92	Salmon River Lamprey Distribution and Habitat Assessment	OR	Yes	Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative	Salmon River Restoration Council	\$75,782	\$20,000	\$5,000	-	\$100,782	The Salmon River Restoration Council (SRRC), in collaboration with the Karuk Tribe Fisheries Program and Klamath National Forest (KNF), seeks to expand existing knowledge of lamprey distribution and habitat suitability and use in the Salmon River watershed with the goal of gathering data to inform future management decisions and restoration actions to benefit Pacific Lamprey.
93	PMEP Operational Support	Multiple	No	Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$85,000	\$25,250	\$8,286	-	\$118,536	PMEP Operational Support will result in increased collaboration and coordination amongst restoration practitioners, researchers, and resource managers throughout the U.S. West Coast.
94	San Juan County, WA Eelgrass Health Assessment and Conservation Project	WA	No	Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership	Friends of the San Juans	\$48,180	\$339,993	\$28,000	-	\$416,173	The Eelgrass Health Assessment and Conservation Project will provide new and actionable data on eelgrass distribution and health to inform strategic fish habitat protection and restoration efforts in San Juan County, Washington and beyond. Outcomes include: 1) comprehensive field surveys and mapping of eelgrass habitat, distribution, and depth data; 2) eelgrass disease and fish presence data; 3) a 20-year change analysis for eelgrass habitat in San Juan County; and 4) the identification of resilient and at-risk eelgrass habitats to inform marine ecosystem recovery actions in a changing climate. The project will benefit the multitude of fish and shellfish species eelgrass supports.
95	Bayview Oxbow Tidal Restoration Final Design, Alsea Bay, Oregon	OR	No	Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership	Mid Coast Watersheds Council	\$47,355	\$199,070	-	-	\$246,425	The project design proposed in this application, will restore tidal conditions to one half of an old oxbow of the Alsea River, restoring about 34% of the tidal wetlands that have been lost. It is one of the largest (75 acre) remaining restoration sites on the Alsea. The other 75 acres on the other side of the oxbow, now behind a road that forms a dike, is still being used for cattle grazing, but presents a potential future opportunity for increased ecological lift.
96	Henderson Bay Armor Removal	WA	No	Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership	Pierce Conservation District	\$74,250	\$330,904	-	-	\$405,154	This project will remove up to 700 feet of shoreline armor, including creosote-treated wood, on the shoreline of Henderson Bay in Pierce County. The project will benefit forage fish and salmonids in the nearshore. Removal of up to 700 feet of armor will restore natural shoreline sediment processes, by allowing the feeder bluff to erode over time and contribute sediment to the beach. This will also reconnect up to 12.8 acres of existing mature marine riparian vegetation, providing shade and organic debris to the nearshore. The project site is a large, forested residential parcel under a Conservation Easement. There is documented herring spawning and patchy eelgrass presence at the project site.
97	Biological Assessment of the Ediz Hook Lagoon in Port Angeles, WA	WA	Yes	Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	\$97,155	-	-	-	\$97,155	Project Purpose is to conduct field surveys to determine fish and shellfish use of a 28-acre estuarine lagoon at the base of Ediz Hook in Port Angeles, WA. Proposal will fill a data gap for this specific habitat as currently available data collected by NOAA using beach seine methods or listed on Pacificfishhabitat.org is from nearby but not in the estuarine lagoon. Project Outcome will be an assessment of what species (fish and shellfish) are present in the lagoon along with collection of continuous water quality data to inform future restoration/clean-up activities.
98	Duckabush Oxbow Floodplain Reconnection	WA	No	Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	\$24,136	\$143,072	-	-	\$167,208	This final design and restoration project will improve salmonid habitat in the Duckabush Oxbow Wetlands and Preserve. These actions will reconnect the oxbow side channel and restore floodplain connectivity and channel complexity, benefiting spawning habitat downstream by promoting sediment processes return to a more natural state. Additionally, the reestablishment of the side channel and subsequent improved ability for the river to access its floodplain will decrease flow velocities during high water events. Slower flow velocities will reduce the potential of redds to be lost due to scour, and thus improve incubation survival rates.

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99	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership Operations	Multiple	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	\$50,000	\$103,945	-	-	\$153,945	The Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership was established in 2010. Our goal is to promote the protection, restoration, and enhancement of habitat for fish and other aquatic species in reservoir systems. We are committed to integrating watershed conservation, in-reservoir management, and the management of downstream flows to attain more holistic and coherent strategies for addressing aquatic habitat impairment issues in reservoir systems. In addition, we created The Friends of Reservoirs Foundation [a 501(c) (3) corporation] in August 2010 to provide a mechanism to procure non-governmental funding for reservoir fisheries habitat restoration efforts. Reservoirs are inextricable parts of our natural landscapes. Constructed to meet a variety of human needs, reservoirs impact almost every major river system in the United States, affecting to various degrees habitat for fish and other aquatic species. Conservation of reservoir systems is essential to maintaining the quality of life for the American people. Reservoirs provide essential infrastructure services, from storage and delivery of water to generation of power to the reduction of flood risk in downstream communities. Reservoirs are focal points of recreation for tens of millions of Americans, from anglers to birdwatchers, and they generate tens of billions of dollars for local economies and national recreational industries.
100	Expansion of North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's native aquatic plant program	KS	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	North Carolina Wildlife Commission	\$42,000	\$42,000	-	-	\$84,000	Aquatic plants can play a major role as a food source for aquatic invertebrates as well as juvenile and adult fish habitat. Aquatic plants can improve water clarity and quality and can reduce rates of shoreline erosion, sediment resuspension and help prevent spread of nuisance exotic plants. Ageing reservoirs begin to lose a significant portion of their aquatic habitat due to siltation, eroding banks, decaying of large wood debris and poor water quality. This loss can affect the quality of the fishery, which could have detrimental economic impacts. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) has been establishing native aquatic vegetation in reservoirs for decades. In 2018, a small-scale aquatic plant nursery was constructed at our facility in Mebane, NC to address increasing demand. While this nursery has expanded our capabilities, we are currently limited to a production capacity of 3,500 plants annually, and we have limited capabilities to overwinter plants or maintain self-sustaining on-site sources of various plant species. The construction of a larger facility will increase plant production capability as well as provide a better capability to overwinter plants and create sustainable on-sites sources of material. An expanded nursery will also provide more space for aquatic plant research that will be used to increase the overall effectiveness of our in-reservoir habitat enhancement projects.
101	Stop the Squeeze: utilizing hypolimnetic oxygenation to improve sport fish habitat, water quality, climate adaptation, and economic opportunity for Island Park Reservoir and the Henry's Fork of the Snake River, Idaho	IA	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	Henry's Fork Foundation	\$56,500	\$67,220	\$2,880	-	\$126,600	Develop a hypolimnetic oxygenation design plan to oxygenate the Island Park Reservoir hypolimnion to 6 mg/L. Project goal is to permanently eliminate the drawdown-driven oxythermal habitat squeeze by designing, evaluating, and installing a hypolimnetic oxygenation system. A shovel-ready plan allows leveraging up to \$3 million in USBR WaterSmart grants available through the Infrastructure and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act.
102	Lake Red Rock Fish Habitat Enhancement Project	MO	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	Red Rock Lake Association	\$20,000	\$21,500	\$13,500	-	\$55,000	Lake Red Rock is the largest lake in Iowa with a surface area of 15,250 acres at conservation pool. The lake lacks adequate littoral structure. The project will increase structural habitat, improve angler opportunities and enhance the quality of the fishery in Lake Red Rock. The project will provide quality structural habitat for natural spawning, nursery locations for young fish, congregation areas for forage fish and feeding opportunities for predator fish. The project will place 42 Mossback Essential Shallow Water Bundles, 20 Mossback Essential Deep Water Bundles, 22 Mossback Basic Shoreline Bundles, 14 Mossback Mega Reef structures. In addition, there will be placement of 30 Cedar Trees Adjacent to the newly treated USACE shoreline riprap stabilization project.
103	Establishment of aquatic vegetation at Banner Creek Reservoir	IL	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	Kansas Department of Wildlife Parks and Tourism	\$40,000	\$56,287	\$650,000	-	\$746,287	Currently, Banner Creek Reservoir's nearly eight miles of shoreline are mostly devoid of aquatic vegetation with the exception of sparse pockets of water willow and patches of American lotus in the shallow areas of western third of the reservoir. As such, much of the lake's shorelines are left exposed to erosion caused by wind and waves. This project involves construction of a greenhouse structure for the purpose of double cropping propagated native aquatic vegetation for transplantation in Banner Creek Reservoir. The establishment of aquatic vegetation at Banner Creek Reservoir would improve the impoundment water quality and fishery by securing shorelines and shallow areas, limiting nutrient availability to harmful algal blooms, and providing refuge and foraging grounds for popular sport fish species.
104	Rend Lake Native Habitat Improvement and Shoreline Erosion Prevention	NC	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	US Army Corps of Engineers, Rend Lake	\$75,000	\$117,737	-	-	\$192,737	Rend Lake has a surface area of 20,633 acres, a maximum depth of 35 feet, and a mean depth of 10 feet. The lake is thirteen miles long and three miles wide and has 162 miles of shoreline. It is the second largest impoundment in Illinois. This project is proposed to create biological habitat, inhibit shoreline erosion on highly eroded areas, inhibit mobilization of sediment and nutrients, and reintroduce native plants to an area invaded by common reed. The benefits expected include: increased complexity and diversity of habitat for fish and other wildlife, decreased turbidity, siltation and nutrient loading for improved water quality, increase of native plant species, and the protection of infrastructure necessary for the outdoor recreators to Rend Lake and its surrounding communities. This will promote increased density of priority game fishes and other desirable organisms for greater quality of experiences for anglers, campers, and other outdoor enthusiasts. This improvement project will also increase tourism dollars spent in the surrounding communities.

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105	F.J. Sayers Lake Shoreline Enhancement Project	PA	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	Northeast Pennsylvania Conservancy	\$75,000	\$161,728	\$30,000	-	\$266,728	<p>F.J. Sayers Lake located in central Pennsylvania is a popular fishing destination and at one time had the second most application for bass tournaments. The lake hosts over 500,000 visitors to the park generating over \$18 million revenue to the local community. The lake was constructed in the late 60s for flood control by the US Army Corps of Engineers and has an annual winter drawdown of 20'. Drawdown and reservoir aging are extremely detrimental to the fishery.</p> <p>Lack of aquatic habitat is the limiting factor. The lake and region in general has been impacted by storm events, climate change, and urbanization which fluctuates lake and stream levels. Native aquatic plants are usually frozen out during winter and ice crushes all artificial and natural habitat in the 5'-20' water column. We feel that planting trees as part of the riparian buffer plantings and shoreline enhancement structures should help protect and prevent issues from climate change.</p> <p>The objective of this project is to stabilize shorelines at F.J. Sayers Lake by creating stone deflectors at specific locations. The plan is to create 103 stone framed deflectors at several sites. Project partners will create riparian buffer plantings and access points where practicable. The partners will continue volunteer scale efforts at the lake and plan to add an additional 1600 rock rubble reef, 300 short vertical plank structures, and 180 channel catfish boxes.</p>
106	Mark Twain Lake Fisheries Habitat Development Project	KS	No	Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership	US Army Corps of Engineers	\$85,000	\$23,000	-	-	\$108,000	<p>Mark Twain Lake, built in 1984, is a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project authorized for flood risk management in the Salt River Basin, hydroelectric power generation, water supply, fish and wildlife conservation, recreation, and incidental navigation support to the Mississippi River system. At normal pool, the reservoir provides 18,600 acres of warm water fisheries habitat. The reservoir has progressed through the natural maturation process associated with man-made impoundments. The standing timber is deteriorating, and the underwater structure it creates is diminishing. This results in impacts to aquatic invertebrate populations, species recruitment, and protective habitat. The project will place 100 4'x4'x4' MTL Fish Cubes, 150 Spider Blocks, and 150 Porcupine Cribs in the basin of the reservoir based on strategic habitat requirements. 63 reservoir acres will be addressed with this project. This proposal is on a small, but impactful scale, address the loss of structural habitat, create appealing shoreline access to the management unit, and encourage increased recreational angling opportunities.</p>
107	SARP Operational Funding FY2024	Multiple	No	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies	\$100,000	\$115,000	\$200,000	-	\$415,000	<p>This will provide operational funding to SARP to support administrative activities, connectivity projects, outreach, planning, and travel to meetings.</p>
108	Huntsville Dam Removal and Stream Restoration in the Beaver Lake Watershed	AR	No	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	Beaver Watershed Alliance	\$100,000	\$265,000	\$50,000	-	\$415,000	<p>This project seeks to implement goals in regional strategic plans for water quality improvements, aquatic life enhancement, and increased stream connectivity. The project will improve stream connectivity, hydrology, and aquatic/terrestrial habitat by removing fish passage barriers and installing in-stream habitat structures in the Beaver Lake Watershed.</p>
109	Gar Hole Stream Crossing Improvement and Streambank Restoration in the Beaver Lake Watershed	VA	No	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	Beaver Watershed Alliance	\$50,000	\$102,500	\$16,000	-	\$168,500	<p>The project will improve stream connectivity, hydrology, and aquatic/terrestrial habitat of War Eagle Creek by removing a low water crossing and restoring streambanks. It will enhance approximately 1000 linear feet of riparian zone by planting native vegetation. It will enhance water quality through the removal of stream barriers and habitat restoration. It will also improve watershed connectivity. Removal of the Gar Hole low water crossing will connect approximately 283 miles of upstream habitat with 83 miles of downstream habitat.</p>
110	Upper Clinch Watershed Stream Restoration and Riparian Corridor Enhancement, Tazewell County, VA	NC	No	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	Canaan Valley Institute	\$85,000	\$85,000	-	-	\$170,000	<p>This project will restore riparian and instream habitat in a tributary of the North Fork Clinch River. The Upper Clinch River watershed is known for its global biodiversity significance, containing the most species of rare and endangered freshwater fish and mussels worldwide. This project will entail 5 acres of buffer restoration, 8,500 ft of bank stabilization, and 1.6 miles of riparian corridor enhancement, improving instream habitat, benefitting aquatic and riparian species, and increasing native diversity while combatting accelerated erosion and sedimentation. This should benefit the over 20 federally listed mussels and 2 federally listed fishes found in the area.</p>
111	Streambank and Riparian Enhancement for Native Black Bass Protections in the Upper Chattahoochee & Lake Lanier Watershed FY 2024	GA	No	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	Habersham County, GA	\$100,000	\$125,000	-	-	\$225,000	<p>Through partnerships and collaboration, this project aims to build off an established interagency workgroup facilitating riparian and streambank enhancement through the implementation of best management practices with farmers for native black bass protections and water quality improvements for Lake Lanier.</p>
112	Safeguarding aquatic life through an educational streambank restoration program in TN and VA.	TN,VA	No	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership	Mainspring Conservation Trust	\$20,000	\$28,000	-	-	\$48,000	<p>The Tennessee River Basin Network will expand the educational streambank restoration program, Shade Your Stream, into several new Conservation Opportunity Areas. Soft-touch restoration will be implemented by trained volunteers to control invasive species, restore healthy buffers, and reduce or control thermal impairments, surface runoff and sedimentation.</p>

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113	SEAKFHP FY24 Coordination and Operational Support	AK	No	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Trout Unlimited	\$80,000	\$81,000	-	-	\$161,000	This project funds the operations and coordination services for the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP). SEAKFHP provides a variety of coordination and facilitation services to partner organizations as well as other natural resource managers and interested stakeholders throughout Southeast Alaska. These services provide for the maintenance of the partnership's governance and committee structures, keeps partners engaged, facilitates science, education and outreach actions, allows for participation with NFHP Board requests and associated committees, and executes the solicitation of partner project proposals eligible for NFHP related funding opportunities. Partnership coordination is key in providing services to partner members and with continued support through FY24 NFHP operational funding these services will remain stable.
114	Restoring Salmon and Fish Habitat on Kootznoowoo (Admiralty Island) with Angoon Work Crew	AK	Yes	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Kootznoowoo, Inc.	\$50,000	\$50,000	-	\$100,000	\$200,000	Kootznoowoo Inc., the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (SAWC), and US Forest Service (FS) are partnering to restore habitat for coho and sockeye salmon, trout, and char in the Cube Cove Area of the Admiralty National Monument, located on Admiralty Island in Southeast Alaska. This project will restore fish habitat by constructing log jams in the channel and enhance riparian forest to accelerate recovery of old-growth conditions, while at the same time building an important partnership between agency and community interests that will foster watershed stewardship. The proposal will build on the broader Cube Cove restoration project by enabling Kootznoowoo, Inc. to run a tribal work crew that will conduct stream restoration and riparian forest enhancement.
115	Fish Habitat Restoration Assessments: Filling information gaps for non-federal lands on Prince of Wales Island, Alaska	AK	No	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Southeast Alaska Conservation Council	\$24,750	\$24,750	-	\$40,000	\$89,500	Decades of old growth logging, including logging within the riparian area and road building, has left salmon stream impaired throughout Southeast Alaska. Through this project, the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (SAWC) will engage with tribal, community groups, and agency partners to conduct watershed assessments, including stream survey, culvert and road inventory, and forest condition assessment, to prioritize restoration of salmon habitat on non-federal lands on Prince of Wales Island.
116	ADFG Instream Flow Protection in Southeast Alaska Phase II	AK	No	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	\$30,130	\$30,911	-	\$11,020	\$72,061	The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Instream Flow Protection in Southeast Alaska Phase II Project will continue previous efforts the department has initiated to secure reservations of water (ROW) to protect instream flows in Southeast Alaska. Since 2022, ADF&G has operated a network of streamgauge and discharge measurement stations on Wrangell Island and Eagle River near Juneau. Using streamflow data collected at these ADF&G stations and existing United States Geological Survey (USGS) streamgages on the Dangerous River, Italio River, and Twelvemile Creek this project requests funding to complete 10 ROW applications for submittal to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR).
117	Fostering Fish Habitat Stewardship in Skagway, Alaska	AK	Yes	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Southeast Alaska Conservation Council	\$91,030	-	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$241,030	This proposal funds an ongoing effort to foster fish habitat stewardship in the community of Skagway, Alaska, extending 20-plus years of collaborative watershed protection, restoration, and enhancement. Grant funds will leverage existing funding from the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition, Sustainable Southeast Partnership, Skagway Traditional Council, and Audubon Alaska in support of a watershed stewardship catalyst position currently hosted by the Skagway Development Corporation. New funds will extend the position and stewardship work into 2024 and 2025. The catalyst will work with a variety of community partners to promote watershed stewardship activities and implement projects that improve, protect, and maintain fish habitat in the greater Skagway area.
118	The Alaska Fish Habitat Mapping Project	AK	No	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Trout Unlimited	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$15,000	-	\$185,000	The Trout Unlimited Alaska Fish Habitat Mapping Project (AKFHMP) is an ongoing effort by Trout Unlimited (TU) staff and volunteers to expand Alaska's Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC) by documenting previously unlisted anadromous fish species and their spawning, rearing, and migrating habitat in Southeast Alaska. We will engage volunteers in a community science effort to observe habitat use by anadromous fish, document the findings, and nominate new species and/or waters for addition to the AWC. Funds requested will support staff time and transportation expenses for ~4 months during the 2024 and 2025 field seasons.
119	Using LiDAR to Improve the Effectiveness of Salmon Stream Restoration in Southeast Alaska	AK	No	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition	\$34,760	\$43,395	-	\$100,000	\$178,155	Over the last several years, the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (SAWC) has increasingly become engaged with fish habitat restoration projects taking place across Southeast Alaska, including being involved in the implementation of two heavy equipment projects and 5 hand tool projects in 2022 alone. This project will bolster SAWC's ability to acquire and analyze LiDAR and Photogrammetric data to plan, implement, and monitor salmon stream restoration projects around the region. Seven case study stream restoration sites (3.2 miles of habitat) will directly benefit from this project, and the project will improve SAWC's capacity to identify and implement future stream restoration projects in the region.
120	Community, Culture, Coho, and Collaboration: Assessing Stream Resilience and Stewardship Opportunities (short name: 4-Cs Project)	AK	No	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Sitka Conservation Society	\$67,650	\$67,650	\$10,000	-	\$145,300	The proposed project, "Community, Culture, Coho, and Collaboration: Assessing Stream Resilience and Stewardship Opportunities, (4-Cs project)" merges traditional knowledge with western science in four Southeast Alaska communities. Proposed funds leverage existing partnerships, enhance relevant youth programming, and support field work to enhance and validate an on-going coho habitat modelling effort in southeast Alaska. Using a cycle of community engagement, community meetings will be held with elder-to-youth conversations, field work to locate off-channel groundwater habitats supporting coho, and communication of results in on-line and written formats.

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121	Chilkat Valley Water Quality Monitoring	AK	No	Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership	Takshanuk Watershed Council	\$41,600	\$46,680	\$10,000	-	\$98,280	This monitoring project will expand previous efforts to better understand the local hydrology and freshwater environment in the Chilkat Valley, a high priority area that includes both the Chilkat and Chilkoot watersheds located in northern Southeast Alaska; each include important salmon spawning and rearing habitats. Water chemistry baseline data will be collected at multiple sites with a focus on waters that may be impacted by future industrial development and changing climate conditions. These data will be used to map the thermal landscape and identify both areas of thermal concern, and areas of thermal refugia for important species, particularly salmon. This information will be used to direct planning, permitting, and development activities as well as serve to support a conservation action plan for the watershed.
122	Assessment of the effects of climate change on the rearing capacity for sockeye salmon in the Upper Nushagak River lakes	AK	No	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership	University of Washington	\$83,194	\$83,194	-	-	\$166,388	Quantify how recent climate change has altered the productivity of sockeye nursery lakes in the Upper Nushagak River
123	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership Partnership Coordination (FY24)	AK	No	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership	Bristol Bay Heritage Land Trust; Bristol Bay Heritage Land Trust	\$73,821	\$73,821	-	-	\$147,642	To provide the Partnership the ability to coordinate the implementation of its strategic conservation plan and provide an entity that can arrange for meetings of the Partnership Steering Committee and the Science and Technical Committee, take minutes, carry out directives of the committees, plan science symposia and workshops, interact on behalf of the partnership with the national board and staff to the national board, and most importantly, coordinate and seek matching and other funding opportunities from foundations, government agencies, tribal organizations, etc. to assist partners pursuing projects that help implement the strategic objectives of the partnership conservation plan.
124	Very-High-Resolution Mapping of Anadromous Streams and Salmon Habitat in the Chignik Watershed	AK	No	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership	University of Alaska Fairbanks	\$35,565	\$35,000	-	-	\$70,565	This project will update and improve existing anadromous stream identification and generate nearshore salmon habitat datasets through the acquisition of very-high-resolution optical imagery and bare-earth elevation data from a variety of sources. The resulting mapping products will rely on in-situ hydrographic data and geospatial data fusion techniques critical for monitoring the impacts of climate change and informing sustainable management of the fisheries supported by the Chignik Watershed.
125	Environmental Conditions Influencing Potential Trophic Interactions and Growth of Juvenile Sockeye Salmon & Threespine Stickleback within Iliamna Lake	AK	No	Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership	University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences	\$85,000	\$85,000	-	-	\$170,000	Determine how three spine stickleback (<i>Gasterosteus aculeatus</i>) and juvenile sockeye salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>) in Iliamna Lake of Bristol Bay's Kvichak River system are responding to climate change, and the potential trophic interactions between these species.
126	Middle Fork Rock Creek Fish Passage Reconnection Project	MT	No	Western Native Trout Initiative	Trout Unlimited	\$50,000	\$294,332	\$110,000	\$5,000	\$459,332	Rock Creek is a core area for Bull Trout, claiming some of the best remaining spawning and rearing habitat and where recovery efforts should be targeted. Rock Creek also supports populations of genetically non-hybridized Westslope Cutthroat Trout. This project will reconnect 25 miles of priority native fish spawning habitat and improve passage in upper Rock Creek, which is crucial for foraging, migration, and winter habitat. Two fish passage barriers associated with entrainment in irrigation ditches will be consolidated and a fish screen installed. The screen will allow for better fish passage, eliminate water loss from a faulty irrigation ditch, and improve angling and recreation for the public. Trout Unlimited is collaborating with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Montana Natural Resource Damage Program, USFWS regional staff, the Lolo National Forest, and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest for over five years in Rock Creek to prioritize and implement fisheries restoration projects.
127	Western Native Trout Initiative FY24 Operational Support	Multiple	No	Western Native Trout Initiative	Western Native Trout Initiative	\$60,000	\$67,340	\$30,000	\$97,660	\$255,000	The Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI) serves as a key catalyst building and maintaining effective conservation partnerships among local, state, and federal partners to catalyze and accelerate conservation of 21 native trout and char species across 12 western states. Project activities include coordination, facilitation, project development/implementation/administration; grant administration; outreach and education activities and products; social media strategies; professional and public events; and WNTI's 12 state Western Native Trout Challenge.
128	Lower McCoy Creek Wet Meadow Restoration	MT	No	Western Native Trout Initiative	Trout Unlimited	\$110,000	\$220,000	\$263,678	\$266,719	\$860,397	The McCoy Creek Wet Meadow Restoration Project is a Trout Unlimited (TU) and Caribou-Targhee National Forest (CTNF) project to improve habitat for Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout and other native species through wet meadow restoration and floodplain reconnection on 2.1 miles of degraded stream. Project will secure and enhance the existing 34 acres of wet meadow habitat and add up to 43 additional acres. High flow refuge habitat, which is lacking in much of the 28 miles of upstream habitat, will become established. Activities that degraded this site to a single thread, incised channel began in the 1800s; these activities ended in the 1990s when the land was acquired by CTNF, but the project site has been unable to recover on its own.

NFHP FY 24 Proposed Projects

129	Mill Creek Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Conservation Project	OR	No	Western Native Trout Initiative	Trout Unlimited	\$65,000	\$298,291	-	\$22,125	\$385,416	Mill Creek, the largest watershed in the Upper Yellowstone River Subbasin, supports a Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (YCT) metapopulation in 45 stream miles and is therefore among the top five conservation priorities for the Upper Yellowstone GMU Workgroup. Nonnative rainbow trout are rapidly expanding their distribution and abundance in the drainage and threaten YCT core conservation populations in upper mainstem Mill Creek and its tributaries through hybridization. Moreover, channelization in 3 miles of what should be the most productive low gradient YCT habitat on Mill Creek has resulted in a simplified single thread channel, depauperate of pools, LWD, and spawning gravel, rendering it well below its potential for providing quality YCT spawning and rearing habitat. This reach also harbors high densities of nonnative brook trout in a connected spring creek that if not removed could serve as a source population for invasion throughout the Mill Creek watershed. The main goals of this project are to install a permanent barrier to exclude Rainbow trout and improve spawning and rearing habitat for YCT, and to improve spawning and rearing habitat, as well as improve floodplain function.
130	Cottonwood Creek Fish Habitat Restoration	ID	No	Western Native Trout Initiative	Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council	\$43,890	\$104,416	-	-	\$148,306	The Goose Lake Basin in South-Central Oregon is a closed desert system with multiple endemic fish species, including Goose Lake Redband Trout. The basin is vulnerable to losing these species due to human impacts and drought; exceptional drought conditions impacted aquatic habitat throughout the basin as stream temperatures increased and viable habitat decreased. This project restores 1.5 stream miles at multiple locations on Cottonwood Creek to reduce the effects of erosion, agricultural land conversion, stream crossings, and water rights usage. This project will convert surface water rights to groundwater rights, reduce pollution to the stream, create and improve pool habitat, and provide stream bank stability. Project partners include Cottonwood Cattle Company, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, River Design Group, and Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council.
131	Teton Basin Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Genetics Assessment	OR	No	Western Native Trout Initiative	Friends of the Teton River	\$50,000	\$710,000	\$200,000	\$555,500	\$1,515,500	The upper Teton River Watershed (Idaho/Wyoming) is a stronghold for Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (YCT), containing a significant source population for the species within their remaining range. Over the past 20 years, a significant amount of data has been added to population and range-wide assessments for YCT. Targeted improvements in habitat, stream flow, and fish passage have led to an unprecedented rebounding in YCT populations in the Teton River Watershed, without any stocking or non-native suppression efforts. However, hybridization (YCT x Rainbow Trout) and competition from the invasion of Brown Trout (BNT) pose significant risks to basin YCT. Additionally, preliminary genetic work by IDFG discovered genetic divergence of YCT up and downstream of Felt Dam, indicating that anthropogenic barriers to migration may be impacting population connectivity in this system. Fisheries managers are interested in a more detailed genetic analysis of the YCT population potentially influenced by the dam, as well as the sources and extent of hybridization and non-native invasion in order to critically evaluate various mitigation scenarios proposed for the site. These scenarios include those that would fully reconnect the upper and lower river.
132	Upper Wallowa River Habitat Enhancement	ID	No	Western Native Trout Initiative	Wallowa Resources	\$85,000	\$89,800	\$68,076	\$48,720	\$291,596	Restoring and enhancing priority habitat conditions for threatened ESA-listed Bull Trout and Kokanee salmon in the West Fork of the Wallowa River is the focus of this project. The project area encompasses 1.5 miles of the Wallowa River, beginning near the confluence of BC Creek and flowing into Wallowa Lake. This section of the river is primarily managed for recreation with a mix of small property ownership, small businesses, and Wallowa Lake State Park, which is a large attraction for local tourism and is crucial to the Wallowa County economy. The focal river reach is subject to anthropogenic and natural stream alteration due to past channelization which has severely degraded and/or eliminated suitable fish habitat for Bull Trout and Kokanee salmon. Concurrently, encroachment and development in this high-use recreation area have reduced habitat quality and quantity. The goal of the project is "whole ecosystem function improvement" to improve habitat conditions.

Title: Science and Data Committee Report

Desired Outcomes:

- **Board understanding** of the status of the 2025 National Fish Habitat Assessment planning.
- **Board understanding** of the status of the NFHP Project Tracking System.

2025 National Fish Habitat Assessment Planning

The SDC has started the process of fully scoping the three proposed assessment options shown below. As scoping is finalized the SDC will present information to the board by electronic means for further review and approval prior to the December board meeting.

Assessment options being scoped:

- *2015 approach with updated datasets to include data to fill known data gaps (hydrology, grazing intensity, timber harvest, and socioeconomics). This approach will also add in completed regional coastal assessments, where available.*
- *2015 approach with updated datasets to include data to fill known data gaps (hydrology, grazing intensity, timber harvest, and socioeconomics) and incorporate additional large-scale habitats including lakes, impoundments, reservoirs, and coastal areas. This approach will also add in completed regional coastal assessments, where available.*
- *2015 approach with updated datasets to include data to fill known data gaps (hydrology, grazing intensity, timber harvest, and socioeconomics) with a climate/resiliency component. This approach will also add in completed regional coastal assessments, where available.*

Assessment planning proposed schedule:

- Finalize scoping and share materials with Board - July 2023
- Request board feedback – August 2023
- Board decision on 2025 assessment direction – December 2023

NFHP Project Tracking System Update

- **FHP specific dashboards developed to support project entry and review**
- **FY24 proposed projects submitted to the NFHP database**
 - The newly developed data entry form was used by FHPs to submit FY24 proposed projects (March 31st) as part of FHP project submission reports to the NFHP Board.

- Board review committee used NFHP database results and a mapping dashboard of FY24 proposed projects for review processes
- **Internal mapping dashboard drafted**
 - Internal dashboard of NFHP projects allows NFHP Board, Staff and FHPs to summarize, filter and visualize projects in the NFHP database.
 - The internal dashboard is password protected. Contact Kate Sherman for access.
 - Not all NFHP projects are currently in the database, project transfer from old database to new database is currently underway.
- **Next steps (summer 2023)**
 - Finalize internal dashboard
 - Draft public facing dashboard
 - Update new database with data from the old project tracking database

Partnerships Committee Update

Committee Members:

- Jessica Speed
- Heidi Keuler
- Deborah Hart
- Lori Maloney
- Carter Kruse
- Therese Thompson
- Bryan Moore (co-chair)
- Todd Ewing
- Melissa Smith
- Joe Nohner (co-chair)
- Ted Eischeid
- Karen Linnell
- Stephen Perry
- Stan Allen (co-chair)
- Alex Atkinson (Board staff support)

Committee Updates:

1. Shifts in Partnerships Committee membership

- a. Welcomed Melissa Smith, Todd Ewing, and Karen Linnell as Committee members

FOR BOARD VOTE:

2. FHP Congressional Designation Process (*form is also attached*)

- a. Recommendation to submit all FHPs seeking Congressional designation at one time to Congress.
- b. Board would submit the template form that all FHPs have completed, a summary with cover letter describing how all FHPs in the package meet the necessary requirements to seek Congressional designation.
- c. FHPs would have from **June 13, 2023 to June 1, 2024** to do the following:
 - i. Draft the Congressional FHP designation application by December 31, 2023.
 - ii. Solicit Board feedback on their Congressional FHP designation application.
 - iii. Revise their Congressional FHP designation application.
 - iv. Submit their final applications to the Board (*which will then be submitted by the Board to Congress*).

3. FHP workshop – December 4-5, 2023

- a. Board meeting and workshop are targeted for the Charleston, SC area.
- b. Workshop dates: December 4-5 (location TBD)
- c. Board meeting dates: December 5-7 (location TBD)
- d. 2 FHPs have volunteered thus far to be on the agenda planning team.

- e. FHPs will be surveyed via Survey Monkey in June to find out how many are likely able to travel to participate in person and ask for more volunteers for the planning team.



**National Fish Habitat Board
INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A
FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION TO CONGRESS**

The form for submitting a Fish Habitat Partnership application begins on the third page. If you have questions about these instructions or the form, please contact Alex Atkinson at 301-427-8710 or alex.atkinson@noaa.gov.

Applications must be submitted by the deadline established by the National Fish Habitat Board. Contact Alex Atkinson for submission deadline(s).

Submit an **electronic copy** of the completed application and all supporting materials via a (*to be determined*) web-based file sharing method.

- Assign a file name that clearly identifies the Partnership the application pertains to. For example, WNTI 2023.pdf. If multiple files are submitted as part of the application, assign file names that clearly identify the Partnership and section(s) and/or subsection(s) of the application (as provided below) the file pertains to. For example, WNTI 2023 Sections 1-3.pdf.
- Provide files in both PDF format and Microsoft Word format.

Do not exceed the specified maximum length for each section of narrative.

America's Conservation Enhancement Act (2020) - Section 204. Fish Habitat Partnerships

Note: This section of the ACE Act includes the purposes, criteria, and requirements for a Fish Habitat Partnership and Partnerships should be familiar with this section relative to completing this application.

(a) Authority to Recommend. The Board may recommend to Congress the designation of Fish Habitat Partnerships in accordance with this section.

(b) Purposes. The purposes of a Partnership shall be (1) to work with other regional habitat conservation programs to promote cooperation and coordination to enhance fish populations and fish habitats; (2) to engage local and regional communities to build support for fish habitat conservation; (3) to involve diverse groups of public and private partners; (4) to develop collaboratively a strategic vision and achievable implementation plan that is scientifically sound; (5) to leverage funding from sources that support local and regional partnerships; (6) to use adaptive management principles, including evaluation of project success and functionality; (7) to develop appropriate local or regional habitat evaluation and assessment measures and criteria that are compatible with national habitat condition measures; and (8) to implement local and regional priority projects that improve conditions for fish and fish habitat.

(c) **Criteria for Designation. An entity seeking to be designated by Congress as a Partnership shall— (1) submit to the Board an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Board may reasonably require; and (2) demonstrate to the Board that the entity has— (A) a focus on promoting the health of important fish and fish habitats; (B) an ability to coordinate the implementation of priority projects that support the goals and national priorities set by the Board that are within the Partnership boundary; (C) a self-governance structure that supports the implementation of strategic priorities for fish habitat; (D) the ability to develop local and regional relationships with a broad range of entities to further strategic priorities for fish and fish habitat; (E) a strategic plan that details required investments for fish habitat conservation that addresses the strategic fish habitat priorities of the Partnership and supports and meets the strategic priorities of the Board; (F) the ability to develop and implement fish habitat conservation projects that address strategic priorities of the Partnership and the Board; and (G) the ability to develop fish habitat conservation priorities based on sound science and data, the ability to measure the effectiveness of fish habitat projects of the Partnership, and a clear plan as to how Partnership science and data components will be integrated with the overall Board science and data effort.**

(d) Requirements for recommendation to Congress. The Board may recommend to Congress for designation an application for a Partnership submitted under subsection (c) if the Board determines that the applicant— (1) meets the criteria described in subsection (c)(2); (2) identifies representatives to provide support and technical assistance to the Partnership from a diverse group of public and private partners, which may include State or local governments, nonprofit entities, Indian Tribes, and private individuals, that are focused on conservation of fish habitats to achieve results across jurisdictional boundaries on public and private land; (3) is organized to promote the health of important fish species and important fish habitats, including reservoirs, natural lakes, coastal and marine environments, coral reefs, and estuaries; (4) identifies strategic fish and fish habitat priorities for the Partnership area in the form of geographical focus areas or key stressors or impairments to facilitate strategic planning and decision making; (5) is able to address issues and priorities on a nationally significant scale; (6) includes a governance structure that— (A) reflects the range of all partners; and (B) promotes joint strategic planning and decision making by the applicant; (7) demonstrates completion of, or significant progress toward the development of, a strategic plan to address declines in fish populations, rather than simply treating symptoms, in accordance with the goals and national priorities established by the Board; and (8) promotes collaboration in developing a strategic vision and implementation program that is scientifically sound and achievable.



**National Fish Habitat Board
FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION**

Date:

PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION

Partnership Name:

Primary Contact (address, email, and phone):

Partnership web site:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (500 word maximum)

Note: Provide a summary of this application by briefly restating the high point(s) of each section.

PARTNERSHIP RATIONALE (500 word maximum)

- a. Describe the fish and fish habitat focus or purpose around which your Partnership is organized (e.g., native species, estuaries, reservoirs, etc.).
- b. What is the mission/vision of your Partnership?
- c. Provide the goals and objectives of your Partnership. Priority species, habitats, geography, or project type, if any, can be included here.
- d. Describe how the geographic boundaries of your partnership are appropriate to prioritize and address regional habitat needs.

SECTION 1. Demonstrate how your Partnership promotes the health of important fish and fish habitats (ACE Act 204(c)(2)(A)). (up to 1000 words)

Note: Promote is broadly interpreted here to include on-the-ground restoration, maintenance, construction, conservation, or preservation of fish or fish habitats, as well as outreach, education, and research regarding Partnership projects, fish or fish habitat issues, the National Fish Habitat Partnership, or Board's national priorities.

Note: Throughout this application the term project is intended to mean discrete or individual projects solicited, managed, or collaborated on by the Partnership, as opposed to a group of projects presented as a package to the Board on an annual basis.

- a. How do the goals, objectives, and priorities of your Partnership help promote fish and fish habitats.
- b. Describe how you solicit and prioritize fish or fish habitat projects for funding.
- c. Provide summary statistics of numbers and types of fish or fish habitat projects implemented over the history of your Partnership to demonstrate activity, capacity, and success in promoting fish and fish habitats.
- d. Describe the type and amount of outreach/education your Partnership conducts (e.g., how do you highlight the issue of fish and fish habitat health in project solicitation, project selection, outreach and education events, social media, project implementation, etc.).

SECTION 2. Demonstrate your Partnership's ability to coordinate the implementation of priority projects that support the goals and national priorities set by the Board (ACE Act 204(c)(2)(B)). (up to 1000 words)

Note: Coordinate is interpreted here to include the activities necessary to solicit, review, prioritize, select, contract (with Partnership or partner acting on Partnership behalf), inspect, monitor, and report on fish habitats projects; it does not include those activities required to implement or conduct the project.

- a. Describe the organizational structure and capacity of your Partnership and the duties and responsibilities of each position and organizational layer, individually and/or collectively to coordinate priority projects to successful completion (i.e., how does the Partnership itself or key partners take care of the steps – e.g., *soliciting, selecting, contracting, oversight, review and inspection, fund disbursement* – necessary for project implementation to occur).
- b. Describe how your Partnership's priorities or targets that guide project solicitation and selection (for funding) are established and support the national priorities set by the Board.
- c. Does your Partnership's boundaries overlap with other Fish Habitat Partnerships, and if so, how do the Partnerships differentiate/coordinate/collaborate on fish and fish habitat projects.

SECTION 3. Demonstrate a self-governance structure that supports the implementation of strategic priorities for fish habitat (ACE Act 204(c)(2)(C)). (up to 1000 words)

Note: Self-governance is broadly interpreted here to include governing activities conducted by the Partnership itself or activities conducted by partners in support of the Partnership (e.g., support from US Fish and Wildlife Service can be part of the governance structure).

- a. Describe the governance and organizational structure of your Partnership and the decision-making protocol(s) (e.g., consensus, majority vote).
- b. Describe how your Partnership conducts fiscal administration including your ability to accept, manage, track, disburse, and report on federal and state grant income.
- c. How does your Partnership governance structure promote joint strategic planning, establishment of Partnership priorities, project selection, and decision-making among partners or, if applicable, other Partnerships?
- d. Provide copies of your Partnership's governance documents (e.g., charter, memorandum of understanding, other).

SECTION 4. Demonstrate your Partnership's ability to develop local and regional relationships with a broad range of entities to further strategic priorities for fish and fish habitat (ACE Act 204(c)(2)(D)). (up to 1000 words)

Note: Entities and partners are terms used interchangeably throughout this application and refer to the collection of agencies, organizations, municipalities, individuals, governments, etc. that support and work with a Partnership. We understand you may have many different partners and providing an exhaustive summary of those entities may be outside the scope this Section. Please focus on "key" partners that demonstrate the breadth and depth of your Partnership's local and regional relationships.

- a. Describe your Partnership's engagement with partners on fish and fish habitat priorities and projects within your region, especially touching on state and federal resource agencies, tribal entities, local communities, landowners, or private organizations.
- b. Describe your Partnership's key partners' and their interest/mission/philosophy in conserving fish and fish habitat, as well as their role in your Partnership's governance or operation, if any.
- c. Provide an estimate of the overall number of partners your Partnership has worked with. If available provide a link to or a list of these entities.
- d. Describe the procedures in place for communicating with your partners and for recruiting additional partners.
- e. Provide documentation indicating support and commitment to your Partnership by key partners (e.g., federal or state agencies, Native American governments), regional Associations of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, or similar entities.

SECTION 5. Development of a strategic plan that details required investments for habitat conservation that addresses the strategic fish habitat priorities of your Partnership and the Board (ACE Act 204(c)(2)(E)).

(up to 1000 words)

- a. Describe the status of your Partnership's strategic plan and provide a copy of the plan with this application (file or link).
- b. Describe the process used to identify your Partnership's strategic priorities.
- c. Summarize the strategic priorities of your partnership (e.g., priority focal areas, key stressors, or impairments).
- d. Describe how your strategic plan/priorities are used to solicit and select fish habitat conservation projects and the process for finalizing the prioritized list of projects for submission to the NFHP Board.
- e. Demonstrate that your Partnership's strategic plan addresses the following (*reference to specific sections of or language in Partnership's strategic plan is adequate*):
 - i. includes specific, measurable, achievable, time-bound goals and objectives;
 - ii. supports the national priorities established by the Board;
 - iii. connects to one or more goals and objectives of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan;
 - iv. identifies desired outcomes in terms of habitat conditions and/or fish and aquatic community conditions;
 - v. identifies strategic priorities in the form of geographic focus areas or key stressors or impairments, as examples;
 - vi. connects priorities of the Partnership to state wildlife action plans, watershed plans, recovery plans, land and water use plans, or other regional-scale plans (does not need to be an exhaustive description, but demonstrate this connection with key examples and/or summary statistics);
 - vii. identifies fish and fish habitat information gaps and priorities for filling gaps; and
 - viii. identifies conservation actions needed to address strategic priorities and achieve desired outcomes.

SECTION 6. Demonstrate your Partnership’s ability to develop fish habitat conservation priorities based on sound science and data, measure the effectiveness of fish habitat projects, and a clear plan as to how the Partnership’s science and data components will be integrated with the Board’s science and data efforts (ACE Act 204(c)(2)(G)). (up to 1000 words)

- a. Describe how scientific information and data are used to establish your Partnership’s priorities.
- b. Explain how your Partnership has organized itself and its information systems to make use of scientific information, partners’ data, and other data to help set habitat conservation priorities.
- c. Describe your Partnership process for tracking projects and the types of data or metrics that are collected and used by your Partnership to assess project success, measure project effectiveness (e.g., type and amount of fish habitat impacted), and report progress.
- d. With examples, describe resources and capabilities that partner organizations have made available to your Partnership to measure baseline conditions and progress in habitat conservation.
- e. Describe the technical and financial resources your Partnership has to support its assessment work.
- f. Provide documentation or examples of how your Partnership manages information that is provided by partners or other sources.
- g. Provide documentation of resource assessments conducted by your Partnership.

Note: The Board is satisfied that the criterion as defined in the ACE Act Section 204(c)(2)(F) has been sufficiently addressed in Sections 1-6 of this application. Specifically, Sections 1,2, and 5 have addressed the Partnerships ability to develop and implement fish and fish habitat projects consistent with the strategic priorities of the Partnership and the Board.

Communications Committee Report

Committee members: Steve Guertin, John LeCoq, Chris Cantrell, Pat Rivers, Gene Gilliland

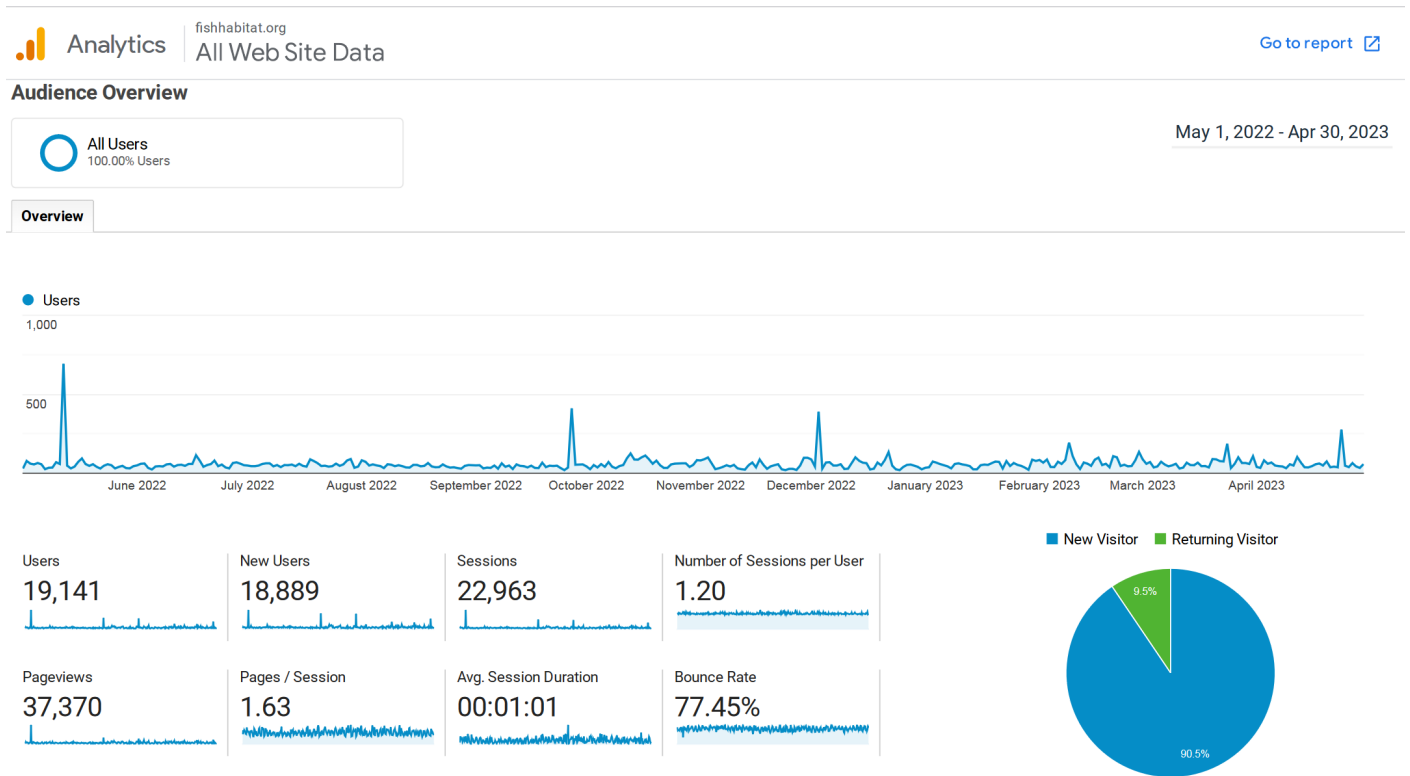
The National Fish Habitat Board approved the Communications Strategy for NFHP in November of 2022. During the November Board meeting, there was interest by the Board in having guidance developed on the National Fish Habitat Partnership Brand and Logo.

In November the Board approved a [Communications Strategy](#) presented by the Communications Committee. Building on the Communications Strategy, the Board also approved [NFHP Branding and Logo Guidance](#) that was presented by the Communications Committee in February 2023.

Upcoming Communications Products for NFHP

- NFHP FY23 Project Infographic - June
- NFHP 2022 Annual Report – July
- NFHP 2023 Waters to Watch Campaign – October Announcement

As you know the National Fish Habitat Partnership has a [Website](#), and is on social networks, [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). As we are looking to redevelop our website later this year, we wanted to share some analytics from our website over the past year May 2022 – April 2023.



Facebook April – May (Page Reach):

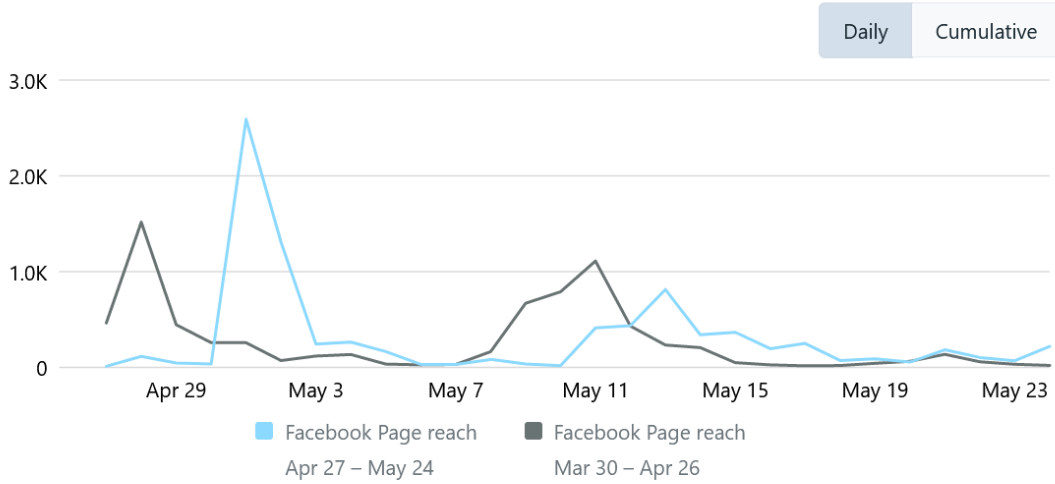
Reach

Compare your reach from this period to the previous one.

See more about your content performance

Facebook Page reach ⓘ

7,093 ↑ 33.8%



Ways to help grow your reach

Post frequently and consistently

Improve engagement for your content

Try reaching more people with an ad

Twitter Analytics (top month March 2023):

Analytics
Home
Tweets
More ▾

NFHP ▾
 ▾
[Sign up for Twitter Ads](#)


Mar 2023 · 31 days

TWEET HIGHLIGHTS

Top Tweet earned 866 impressions

We are pleased to announce our 2023 project list today! [@USFWSFisheries](#) and partners are investing \$39.2 in projects across 24 states benefitting [#fishhabitat](#)

fishhabitat.org/news/usfws-ser...
pic.twitter.com/5ANjgBLv8X



🔄 5 ❤️ 12


[View Tweet activity](#)
[View all Tweet activity](#)

Top mention earned 51 engagements

USFWS Fisheries
@USFWSFisheries · Mar 20

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and partners are providing more than \$39.2 million to support 95 fish habitat conservation projects in 24 states through the National Fish Habitat Partnership. ow.ly/ZyHX50NncPp [@FishHabitat](#)

Photo USFWS Ryan Hagerty
pic.twitter.com/TQShxg06dP



🔄 4 ❤️ 23

[View Tweet](#)

MAR 2023 SUMMARY

Tweets	Tweet Impressions
2	992
Profile visits	Mentions
113	3
New followers	
0	

Top Follower followed by 734 people

