

Department of the Interior IIJA/BIL Funding Opportunities

Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership
Science Symposium – IIJA/BIL Panel Discussion

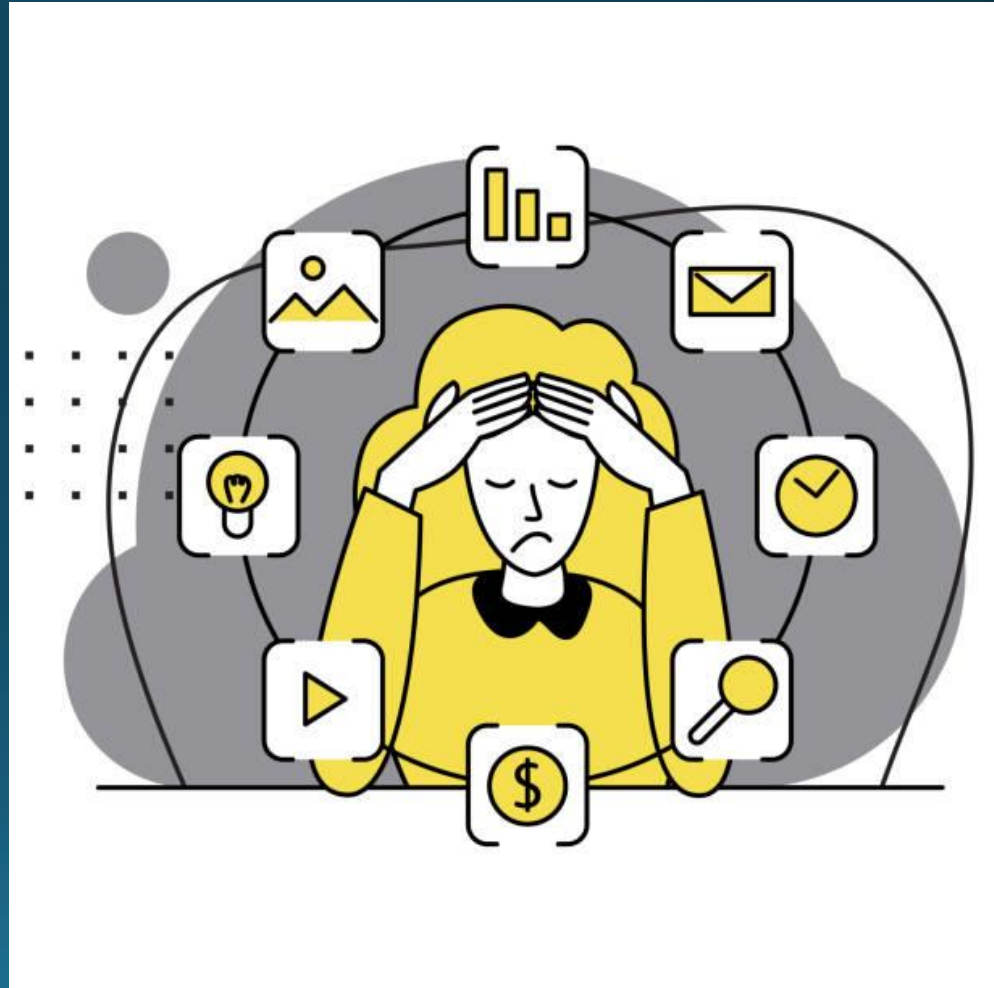
November 14, 2023

Mike Daigneault
US Fish and Wildlife Service



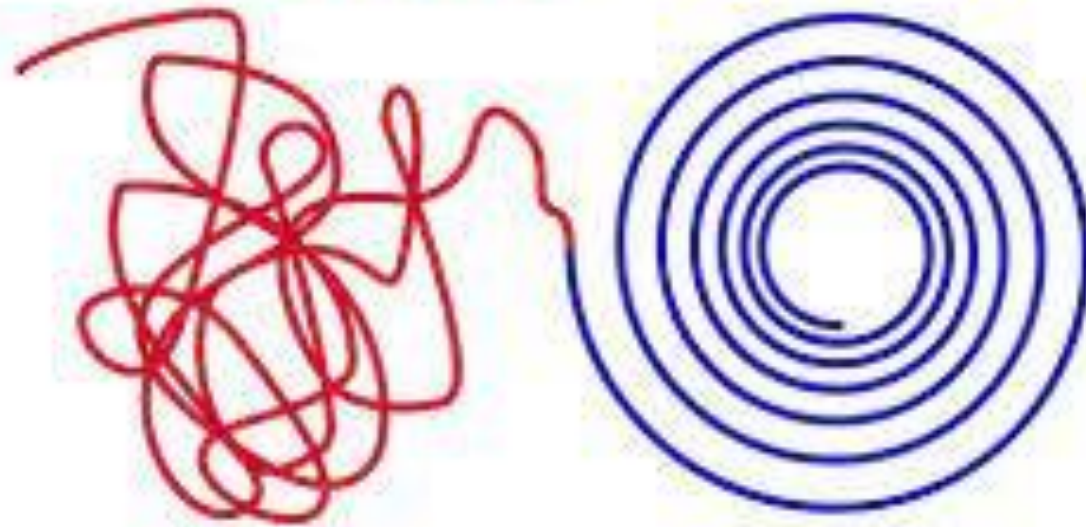
You Are Not Alone

- IJJA/BIL was signed into law on November 15, 2021
- Entering year 3 of a 5-year funding opportunity



Today's Goal

Chaos → **Order**



Overarching themes of IIJA/BIL Funding

- Address Climate Resilience
- Advance Environmental Justice
- Boost Local Economies

DOI Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Programs

Western Water	Indian Water Rights	Ecosystem Restoration	Orphan Wells/ Abandoned Mines	Wildland Fire	USGS	FWS Restoration Programs	Tribal Infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Central Utah Project Completion Account•Water & Groundwater Storage, and conveyance•Aging Infrastructure Account•Rural water projects•Water recycling•Water desalination projects•Dam safety program•WaterSMART Grants•Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan•Watershed Management Projects•Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration and Protection Projects•Multi-benefit projects to improve watershed health•Endangered species recovery and conservation programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Contracts and Agreements for restoration on Federal Lands•Working Capital Fund•Good Neighbor Agreements with States and Tribes•Grants for States and Tribes for voluntary restoration•Direct federal spending for Invasives•Direct federal spending for resilient recreation sites•Direct federal spending for revegetation of mined lands•Direct federal spending (or other) for national revegetation strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund•Orphaned Well Site Plugging, Remediation, And Restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Preparedness•Fuels Management•Burned Area Rehabilitation•Fire Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Earth Mapping Resources Initiative•Energy and Minerals Research Facility•National Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Delaware River Basin Conservation Act•Klamath Basin•Lake Tahoe•Fish Passage•Sagebrush-steppe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Tribal Climate Resilience - Adaptation Planning•Tribal Climate Resilience - Community Relocation•Tribal Irrigation and Power Systems•Safety of Tribal dams, water sanitation, and other facilities

For More Information, visit <https://www.doi.gov/priorities/investing-americas-infrastructure>

America the Beautiful Challenge (NFWF)

Funding: \$116,000,000 target for FY23

Overview: To conceive and develop large-scale, locally led projects that advance the America the Beautiful Initiative and its goals to connect and restore the lands, waters, and wildlife upon which we all depend.

Eligible Applicants: *Full:* States, Territories, Tribes; *Partial:* 501(c) organizations, Local Gov't, Universities

Program Priorities: Benefit At-Risk Fish, Wildlife, and Plants; Expand Habitat Connectivity; Provide a range of Ecosystem Services; Strengthen Ecosystem and Community Resilience; Expand Public and Community Access to Nature; Engage Local Communities; Support Tribally Led Conservation and Restoration Priorities; Contribute to Local or Tribal Economies; Contribute to Workforce Development

Match Requirements Varies by fund source and recipient type

Next Opportunity FY23 Opportunity closed July 2023; approved projects not announced yet

Tribal Climate Resilience (BIA)

Funding: \$216,000,000 (over 5 years)

Overview: For tribal climate resilience, adaptation, and community relocation planning, design, and implementation of projects which address the varying climate challenges facing tribal communities across the country.

Eligible Applicants: Tribes

Program Priorities: Enable climate preparedness and resilience across all Indian Affairs programs and for all Federally-recognized Tribal Nations and Alaska Native villages.

Match Requirements None specified

Next Opportunity FY23 Funding Opportunity closed October 13, 2023 – approved projects not announced yet

National Fish Passage Program

Funding: \$200,000,000 (over 5 years)

Overview: For the removal of barriers and for technical assistance under the National Fish Passage Program, an existing program that relies on a network of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists and engineers stationed throughout the country.

Eligible Applicants: Open

Program Priorities: Species/Habitat Benefits; Duration of Benefits; Watershed Context; Climate Change Resilience; Community Benefits (e.g., public safety, recreation opportunity, economic benefits); Benefits to Underserved or Indigenous Communities; Leveraged Resources; Broad-based Community Support

Match Requirements 1:1 desired, but not required

Next Opportunity FY24-25 Notice of Funding Opportunity OPEN – discuss project ideas with USFWS staff – Letters of Interest due 11/17/23

NFPP BIL Funded Alaska Projects

- FY22 (~\$3.5M)
 - Little Tonsina River (culvert to bridge) - \$1.3M
 - Tyonek Creek Culvert - \$1.6M
 - Gustavus - \$600K
- FY23 (~\$4M)
 - Metlakatla - \$630K
 - Tyonek Creek Culvert - \$780K
 - Port Graham - \$262K
 - Deep Creek (Kenai) - \$1.4M
 - Copper River Delta - \$525K
 - Yakutat Highway 10 - \$491K

NFPP BIL FY24-25 Scoring Criteria

- 1st Level Technical Review
 - Benefits to Priority Species and Habitats
 - Regional and Watershed Context
 - Permanence of Fish Passage Benefits
 - Benefits for Human Community Resilience, Climate Change Impacts, and other Co-benefits
 - Tribal Projects
 - Leverage
 - Community Support
 - Project Timeline
- 2nd Level Review by Service and DOI leadership
 - Service/DOI watershed priorities, equitable geographic distribution, equitable distribution by partner type

National Culvert Removal Program (FHWA)

Funding: \$1 Billion appropriated (up to \$4B “authorized”)

Overview: For the replacement, removal, repair, and improvement of culverts or weirs that would meaningfully improve or restore fish passage for anadromous fish.

Eligible Applicants: States, Tribes, Local Gov't

Program Priorities: Anadromous fish stocks that:

- are listed as endangered/threatened under the ESA;
- could reasonably become listed as endangered/threatened;
- are identified as prey for endangered, threatened, or protected species, including southern resident orcas;
- are identified by NMFS or USFWS as climate resilient stocks.

Match Requirements States and Local Gov't = 20%; Tribes = None

Next Opportunity FY22 opportunity awarded ~\$196M – Expect next RFP in Spring 2024 (potentially \$400M available)

FHWA Culvert Program Funded Alaska Projects

- FY22 Funding (FY23 announcement)
 - Parks Highway (12 sites) - \$20M
 - Threemile Creek (Klawock) - \$4.5M
 - Port Valdez (Mineral Creek area) - \$4.3M
 - Kulixelcan River (Yakutat) - \$3.8M
 - Naknek River tributaries - \$3.8M
 - Eyak Lake Weir (Cordova) - \$3.5M
 - Metlakatla - \$1.8M
 - Meadow Creek (Knik Tribe) - \$1.7M
 - Yakutat Coastal Areas - \$837K
- TOTAL ALASKA Funding = \$44M!

Other Relevant BIL Funding?

Program	Description	Lead Agencies	Funding	Notes
Local and Regional Project Assistance	Projects to improve transportation infrastructure - contains provisions for <u>aquatic organism passage</u>	Dept. of Transportation	\$7.5B FY22-FY26	Applies in areas of "persistent poverty"
Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program	Pilot program to fund wildlife crossings and improve <u>habitat connectivity</u> for terrestrial and <u>aquatic species</u>	Dept. of Transportation	\$60-80M FY22-FY26	
Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation	Establish PROTECT program to provide resilience improvements including promoting <u>natural infrastructure, ecosystem restoration elements</u>	Dept. of Transportation (consult Interior)	\$250-300M FY22-FY26	
Healthy Streets Program	Deploy porous pavements, expand tree cover, and implement other BMPs to mitigate heat islands and <u>reduce storm water/flood risks</u>	Dept. of Transportation	\$100M FY22-FY26	
Invasive Plant Elimination Program	Eliminate or control existing invasive plants or prevent introduction or encroachment of new plants in and along corridors	Dept. of Transportation	\$50M FY22-FY26	Program for States

IJA/BIL Resources

- Department of Interior BIL Website: <https://www.doi.gov/investing-america-infrastructure>
- White House BIL Website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/>
 - Includes a Guidebook to BIL, a BIL Rural Playbook, a BIL Tribal Playbook, a Technical Assistance Guide, and many other resources
- Federal Agency Fish Passage Task Force: <https://interagency-bil-fish-passage-project-1-fws.hub.arcgis.com/>
- Your local Agency representative!
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