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# NOAA Habitat Restoration in Alaska

*Through the Bipartisan  
Infrastructure Law & the  
Inflation Reduction Act*

Emily Mailman | November 2024

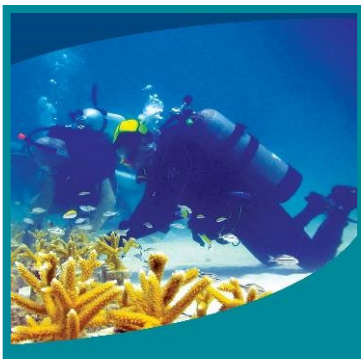
# What is the NOAA Restoration Center?



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# What Do We Do?

The NOAA Restoration Center was established in 1991, in the wake of the Exxon Valdez disaster. Since then, we've worked with thousands of partners across the country on habitat restoration projects that support our nation's fisheries, endangered species, and coastal communities.



# Who is the NOAA Restoration Center?

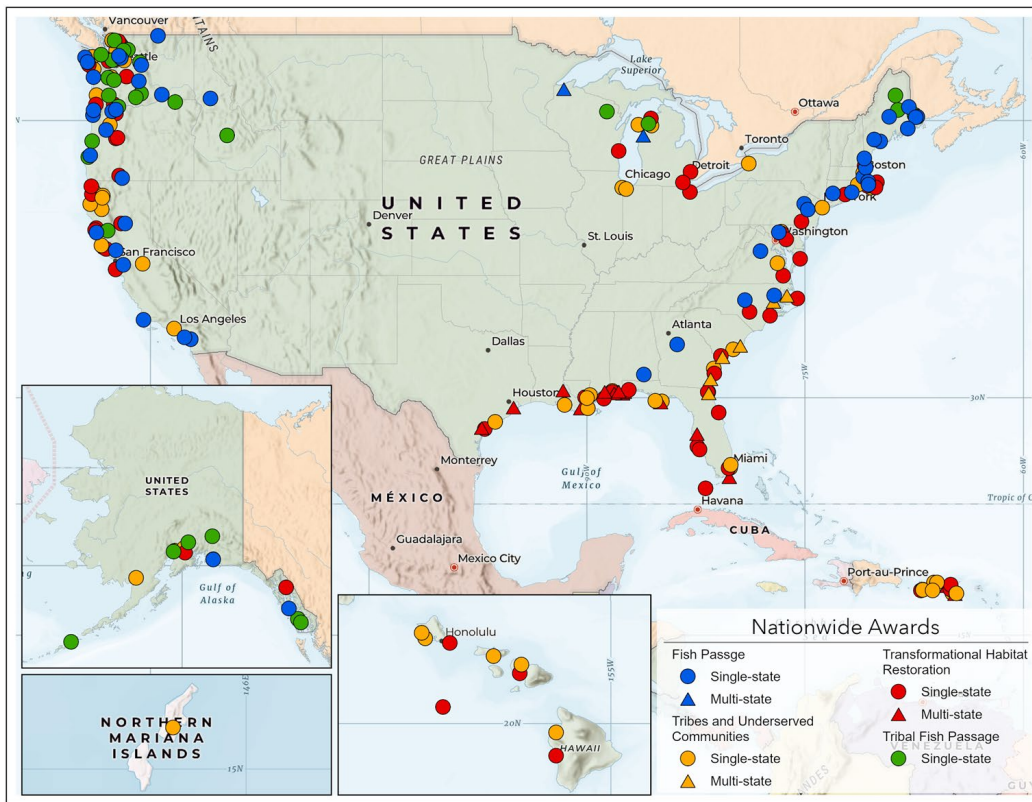
## Diverse array of knowledge, skills, & abilities

- ~140 staff across the country
- Engineers
- GIS experts
- Project Management
- Economists
- Toxicologists
- Biologists
- Ecologists
- Botanists
- Communications
- Oceanographers
- Archaeologists
- etc.



# Where do we work?

- 2 rounds of BIL funding awarded so far
  - 1 remaining
- 214 awards
- \$985 million





# 30+ Years of Partnering on Habitat Conservation

- NOAA has a long history supporting our partners' habitat conservation efforts through funding opportunities and expert technical assistance
- Unprecedented opportunities to bring that expertise to transformational projects that make an impact for coastal communities and ecosystems



Credit: NOAA



Credit: NOAA

# Additional Resources: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act

- Approximately **\$891 million** over 5 years of BIL funding:
  - **\$491 million** for habitat restoration
  - **\$400 million** for fish passage, with up to 15 percent reserved for tribes
- Additional **\$484M** of IRA funding
- At least **three rounds** of funding competitions:
  - Fish Passage
  - Tribal Fish Passage
  - Transformational Habitat Restoration
  - Tribes & Underserved Communities



*Credit: The National Forest Foundation*



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# Four Funding Opportunities

1. Fish Passage\*
2. Tribal Fish Passage\*\*
3. Transformational Habitat Restoration\*\*\*
4. Tribes & Underserved Communities\*\*\*

*\*Funding opportunity open through 02/10/25*

*\*\*Funding opportunity open through 2/27/25*

*\*\*\*Funding opportunities expected to go live this winter*



# Funding Opportunity: National Fish Passage

- Up to **\$75M** available to support a broad range of fish passage projects in coastal ecosystems, including the Great Lakes
- **Award range:** \$750K - \$8M, with typical funding ranging \$3M - \$5M
- **Application period:** 10/30/24 - 2/10/25
- Broad eligibility
- **Contact:**  
[Fish.Passage.Grants@noaa.gov](mailto:Fish.Passage.Grants@noaa.gov)



*Credit: Penobscot River Restoration Trust*



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# Funding Opportunity: Tribal Fish Passage

- Up to **\$20M** available to support tribal fish passage work and building tribal organizational capacity
- **Award range:** \$300K - \$6M, with typical funding ranging \$500K - \$4M
- **Application period:** 10/30/24 - 2/27/25
- Limited eligibility for federally recognized tribes, tribal organizations, and Alaska Native Corporations
- **Contact:**  
[Infrastructure.Tribal@noaa.gov](mailto:Infrastructure.Tribal@noaa.gov)



Credit: Cowlitz Indian Tribe



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# Coming Soon!

- **Funding Opportunity:** Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience
- **Funding Opportunity:** Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience for Tribes and Underserved Communities

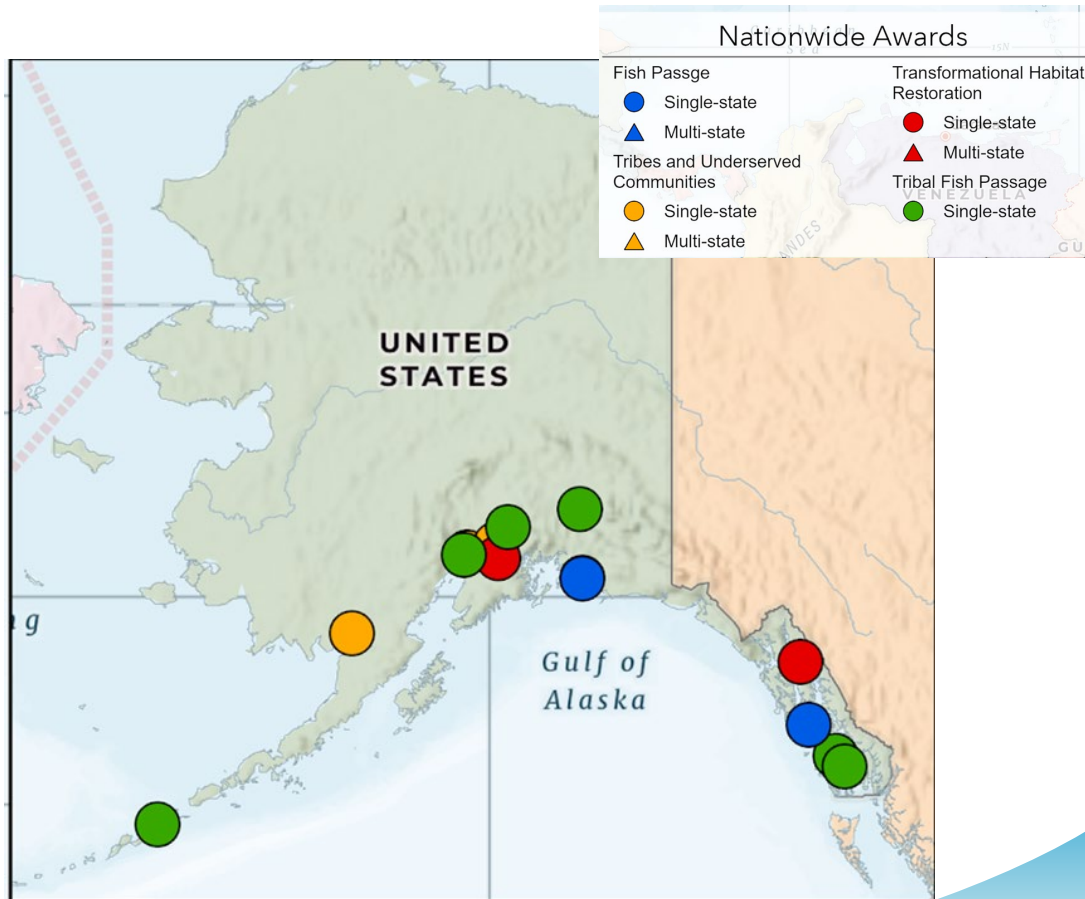


*Credit: Blake Nowack/Kuleana Coral Reefs*

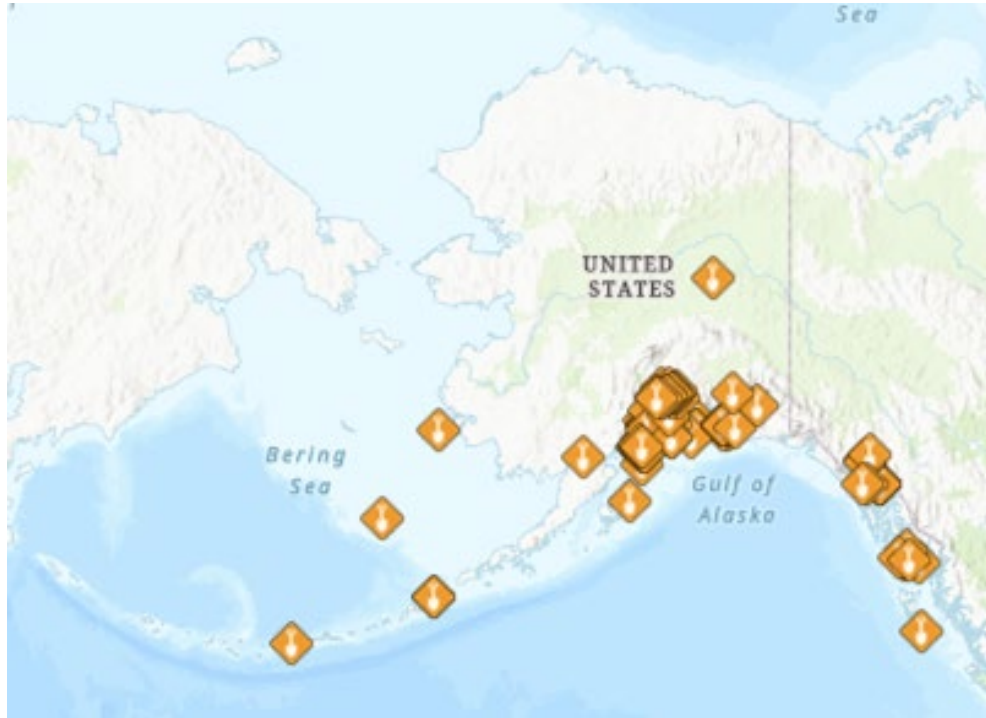


# Alaska Projects in Round 1 and 2

- 109 Awards Nationally
  - 16 in Alaska
- \$480M Nationally
  - ~\$41.5M in Alaska
- See project list on our website:  
[fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat-BIL-IRA](https://fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat-BIL-IRA)



# The Restoration Center: Across the State



Scan me to access the  
Restoration Atlas



# In Our Communities: Chickaloon Native Village

- Restoring Tribal Fish Passage Through Barrier Removal
  - \$1.5 million
- Matanuska Watershed Fish Passage Restoration Phase II
  - \$6.1 million
- Objectives:
  - Increase knowledge
  - Implement fish barrier removal
    - 6 sites
  - Develop fish passage working group



Credit: NOAA



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# In Our Communities: Tyonek Tribal Conservation District

- Sustaining Native Village of Tyonek Subsistence Salmon through Fish Passage Barrier Removal in West Cook Inlet
  - \$3.7 million
    - Design & Replacement of 4 fish passage barriers (culverts)
    - Feasibility & design of 3 fish passage barriers (culverts)
- Chuit River Studies
  - \$1.1 million
    - Anadromous fish surveys
    - Chinook spawning
    - Stream temperature/gages
    - Northern pike surveys
    - TEK & outreach
    - Goulding document development



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# Webinars for Fish Passage & Tribal Fish Passage

- **November 20** at 11 AM-12 PM Alaska
- **December 3** at 10-11 AM Alaska
- **Tribal Focused Webinar: December 12** at 11 AM-12 PM Alaska
- **Coming soon:** Webinar information for two brief webinars with tips for applying for NOAA awards with the new eRA system.
- Visit our website and explore mapper: [fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat-BIL-IRA](https://fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat-BIL-IRA)

*After the webinars are completed, a list of applicant Frequently Asked Questions from the webinars will be posted on the NOAA website.*



# Additional Funding Opportunities

- **Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP)**

- \$196 m per fiscal year (5 years)
- Year 3 of 5: Open June, 2025 - August, 2025

- **Eligibilities for culverts:**

- Projects to replace, remove, or repair culverts that would meaningfully improve or restore fish passage for anadromous fish; [§ 21203(a); 49 U.S.C. 6703(b)]

- **Eligibilities for weirs:**

- Projects to replace, remove, or repair weirs that would meaningfully improve or restore fish passage for anadromous fish. With respect to weirs, the project may include—
  - infrastructure to facilitate fish passage around or over the weir; and
  - weir improvements. [§ 21203(a); 49 U.S.C. 6703(b)]



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Questions? NOAA contact [Lucas.Byker@noaa.gov](mailto:Lucas.Byker@noaa.gov)**

# Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

- Provides funding to States and Tribes to protect, conserve, and restore/reverse the decline of West Coast salmon populations
- Funding announcement generally occurs in December
  - Applications due ~March
  - Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF) (ADF&G)
    - Manages the State's PCSRF allocations



PCSRF



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AKSSF





# National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Funding

- National Coastal Resilience Fund
  - Supports nature based solutions to enhance resilience of coastal communities & habitats
  - 2024 Timeline -
    - Pre-Proposals: April
    - Full Proposal Invitations: July
    - Award Announced: Nov/Dec
  - Supports via the 'project pipeline' - categories from planning to implementation
  - No maximum request



# Thank you & Questions

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*\*See Emily for printed resources*



Credit: NOAA



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