



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Tribes and Underserved Communities Recommended for NOAA Funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act

NOAA Fisheries is recommending more than \$45 million in funding for 27 new projects that will advance the coastal habitat restoration and climate resilience priorities of tribes and underserved communities. Of the more than \$45 million in funding, we are recommending more than \$20 million for federally recognized tribes and tribal organizations. This investment is provided through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act. These projects were selected through the second round of NOAA's [Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Tribes and Underserved Communities](#) funding opportunity.

Alaska

Indigenous Stewardship Initiative Coastal & Climate Resilience in Southeast Alaska

The [Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska](#) will build capacity to implement coastal restoration work and strategies for climate resilience. They will hire regional coordinators for tribal fisheries, traditional foods security, youth stewardship, and communications. They will also support capacity for the Seacoast Indigenous Guardians Network, which helps tribal communities steward and restore their traditional lands and water. (\$3 million*)

Alaska South Coast Resilience Partnership: Creating Resilient Alaska Native Communities

The [Chugach Regional Resources Commission](#), an intertribal consortium of Alaska Native villages in the Chugach region, will partner with the Kodiak Area Native Association, The Native Conservancy, and the Kodiak Archipelago Leadership Institute to help create and strengthen a network of tribal collaborators to steward coastal resources and build coastal resilience. They will hire new positions that will serve as catalysts to coordinate the regional network, engage with tribal communities, and implement restoration projects. (\$2.9 million*)

Chuit River Studies: Finding Key Habitats, Increasing Knowledge, and Enabling Resilience for a Critical Cultural and Subsistence Resource for the Native Village of Tyonek, Alaska

The [Tyonek Tribal Conservation District](#) will support the Native Village of Tyonek in conducting actionable science to guide planning for restoration in the Chuitna River. They will collect and analyze information to learn more about the causes of the decline of Chinook salmon—a key tribal subsistence resource—in the river. They will also work to protect existing salmon habitat, identify key spawning locations, and conduct yearly surveys of salmon nests. (\$1.1 million*)

West Coast

California

Klamath River Tributary Salmonid Habitat Restoration Project

The [Mid Klamath Watershed Council](#) will restore habitat on Red Cap Creek and Old Campbell Creek, two tributaries of the Klamath River. They will work to improve spawning and rearing habitat for threatened coho salmon and other species. Restoration will occur on the ancestral territory of the Karuk Tribe and the Tsnungwe Tribe, and the project will work closely with the tribes to support tribal capacity for community-driven habitat restoration. (\$589,000*)

* Indicates recommended funding for U.S. federally recognized tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and organizations that represent tribes through formal legal agreements, through direct awards or subawards.

California North Coast Tribal Capacity and Climate Resilience Project

The [Salmonid Restoration Federation](#) will work with North Coast Tribes to identify and plan restoration projects that benefit salmon and to develop climate resilience plans. In collaboration with several partners, including the California Indian Environmental Alliance, they will conduct technical trainings, coordinate a restoration symposium, and create a fund to compensate tribal members for their time participating in project development and consultations. (\$550,000)

Ecological Restoration of the Blue Creek Salmon Sanctuary Project

The [Yurok Tribe](#) will restore habitat in the lower Blue Creek, a tributary of the Klamath River that provides critical habitat for salmon and other culturally important species. The project will also increase the tribe's capacity to plan and implement restoration projects and to steward a coastal watershed, tribally managed forest, and salmon sanctuary. (\$1.4 million*)

Oregon

Tribal Leadership of an Integrated Approach for Prioritizing Restoration Actions in Underserved Communities Facing Climate Change: Using Hydrological Models and Environmental Justice Principles

The [Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission](#) will work to support salmon recovery in the Columbia River estuary. CRITFC is a tribally-led organization created and governed by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, and the Nez Perce Tribe. They will work to model the impacts of habitat conservation and restoration, identify climate change threats, and produce actionable science to guide future restoration work that conserves salmon habitat and reduces flooding. (\$794,000*)

Washington

Capacity Building to Improve Tideland Habitat Integrity within the Lummi Nation

The [Lummi Indian Business Council](#) will build capacity and conduct actionable science to support habitat restoration in the Lummi Reservation tidelands. The 10,000-acre tidelands provide habitat for oysters, clams, crabs, and salmon, which are culturally and economically significant to the Lummi Nation. This project will provide employment and training opportunities that will focus on protecting and restoring tidal habitat and helping build resilience to impacts from climate change. (\$491,000*)

Habitat Restoration, Monitoring, and Scientific Research to Guide Habitat Restoration to Aid the Recovery of Lake Ozette Sockeye Salmon and the Community and Ecosystem Resilience of the Makah Tribe

The [Makah Tribe of the Makah Reservation](#) will conduct habitat restoration and monitoring to support the recovery of Lake Ozette sockeye salmon, a culturally important species to the Makah and Quileute Tribes. They will remove shoreside vegetation that has encroached on historical salmon spawning areas, conduct monitoring to measure the impacts of the restoration work, and map potential spawning sites to target for future restoration. (\$1 million*)

Upper Quinault River Restoration Program-Upper Quinault River "Blueback" Sockeye Habitat Restoration Project

The [Quinault Indian Nation](#) will restore salmon habitat on the Upper Quinault River that has been degraded by forest clearing and development. This area is a cold-water refuge that historically sustained large populations of sockeye salmon, an important staple for the Quinault people. The project will also build capacity for restoration planning, design, and construction through new staff positions. (\$3 million*)

Carpenter Creek Full Passage Restoration Project

The [Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group](#) will repair two culverts blocking fish passage on Carpenter Creek, which flows into the Skagit River. They will also take initial design and permitting steps to address three additional fish passage barriers on the creek. This project will engage the large agricultural community surrounding the creek, including tribal members. Through a partnership with Vamos Outdoors, the project will develop an outdoor education program focused on Latine youth. (\$825,000)

Skagit Basin Riparian Restoration

The [Skagit River System Cooperative](#), which provides natural resource management services for the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, will work to support salmon and other fish species in the Skagit River. The project will restore streamside habitat, upgrade a native plant nursery, and build the capacity of the tribes to identify and plan future restoration work. (\$656,000*)

Hawai'i

Activating Community Stewardship Through the Traditional Hawaiian Practice of Adaptation

[Hui Aloha Kīholo](#) will support watershed restoration and capacity building to help protect natural and cultural resources and increase the resilience of the Kīholo community. Through this work, they will provide opportunities for Native Hawaiians and communities to help design and participate in coastal restoration. They will also support workshops, trainings, and learning exchanges that provide opportunities for community members to learn about key scientific tools, discuss restoration work, and share challenges. (\$2.2 million)

Scalable Restoration Capacity through Direct Employment and Coral Restoration on West O'ahu and West Maui

[Kuleana Coral Reefs](#) will expand the ability of Native Hawaiians and local community members to participate in coral restoration in Hawai'i. They will provide training and employment opportunities in the coral restoration field, expand the network of community-based coral restoration areas on West O'ahu and Maui, and engage local people and youth in coral restoration, stewardship, and coastal restoration solutions. (\$553,000)

Maui Nui, Hawaii - Fishpond, Wetland Taro, and Coastal Habitat Restoration

The [Maui Nui Makai Network](#) will use a ridge-to-reef (ahupua'a) strategy to restore coastal and stream habitat and traditional Hawai'i fishponds and taro fields on Maui and Molokai. They will also build the capacity of their network, which brings together nine communities and four partner organizations, to support ecological and community resilience using place-based, collaborative strategies. (\$2.2 million)

Gulf of Mexico

Alabama

Leveraging Past Restoration and Community Engagement Efforts for Resilience Implementation and Planning in South Mobile County, Alabama

[The Nature Conservancy](#) will improve stormwater infrastructure in the Bayou La Batre watershed to help protect communities in South Mobile County from the impacts of climate change. They will map current stormwater infrastructure, construct new stormwater infrastructure to improve water quality, and engage community members in coastal resilience planning and implementation. (\$2.9 million)

Florida

OysterCorps: Strengthening Florida's Marginalized Communities through Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Building

[Franklin's Promise Coalition](#) will support conservation corps positions in northwest Florida through their OysterCorps program, providing education and hands-on experience to young people experiencing barriers to

sustainable careers. OysterCorps members will engage in restoration and resilience projects in their communities by leading coastal restoration, engaging their neighbors in opportunities to increase climate resilience, and implementing outreach and education activities. (\$2.9 million)

Louisiana

Caad Kuujaaminix Living Shoreline Design and Construction

The [Chitimacha Tribe](#), through the tribally owned business Wayti Services, LLC, will construct a living shoreline to restore and protect areas of Caad Kuujaaminix (Bayou Sale) that are home to culturally sensitive sites. This project will build the tribe's capacity to plan and implement future restoration projects by engaging Chitimacha students pursuing environmental degrees in project planning, permitting, monitoring, and implementation. (\$3 million*)

Caribbean

Puerto Rico

Urban Reforestation of Cucharillas Marsh Nature Reserve with Community Participation to Amplify Ecosystem and Community Resilience in Cataño and North Guaynabo, Puerto Rico

[Caras of the Americas](#) (Caras con Causa) will restore a deforested urban wetland near the communities of Cataño and northern Guaynabo. They will restore habitat in Cucharillas Marsh Nature Reserve by removing invasive species and planting mangroves and trees. They will also collaborate with community members to plan and implement the restoration work, conduct environmental education programs at several public schools, and fund paid internships and salaries for additional employees. (\$650,000)

U.S. Virgin Islands

St. Croix West End Coastal Resilience for Underserved Communities Project

[Ceiba Strategies](#) will collaborate with local communities on the west end of St. Croix in a ridge-to-reef watershed effort to restore coastal habitat and coral reefs. They will outplant corals on reefs in Butler Bay and implement watershed management practices to protect coral from land-based sources of pollution. They will also help build community capacity for restoration through paid internship and mentorship opportunities, educational programs for local schools, and an advisory council of community leaders. (\$2.3 million)

South Atlantic

Florida

Building Miami Community, Coastal, and Climate Resilience through Citizen Science Habitat Restoration

The [University of Miami](#) and partners will support capacity building, coastal habitat restoration, and climate resilience in Miami. In collaboration with the [Black Women in Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Science](#) network, they will create internship opportunities for undergraduates, graduate students, and early career scientists interested in habitat restoration, climate education, and marine science. They will also engage local community members in on-the-ground restoration of mangroves and coral reefs within NOAA's [Biscayne Bay Habitat Focus Area](#). (\$1.4 million)

Georgia

The Martha Randolph Stevens Park Living Shoreline Project for Coastal Resilience and Cultural Preservation

The [Georgia Conservancy](#) will collaborate with the Seabrook Village Foundation to create a living shoreline along the Public Landing—an important historical park and community resource in Seabrook, a historic Gullah Geechee community. They will design and construct the living shoreline to help protect the site from erosion and

stormwater runoff. They will also lead outreach and education activities such as volunteer opportunities, community meetings, summer camps, and educational forums. (\$528,000)

South Carolina

Advancing Nature-Based Restoration and Resilience in Five Underserved Communities in Coastal South Carolina

[The Sustainability Institute](#) will build local capacity for salt marsh restoration and climate resilience work in 5 communities along the South Carolina coast. Through their AmeriCorps service learning program, they will provide training and employment opportunities to local community members, who will assist in conducting salt marsh studies, implementing salt marsh restoration, and designing, building, and maintaining rain gardens. (\$2.7 million)

Northeast

Maryland

Leveraging Urban Stream and Wetland Restoration to Enhance Climate Resilience and Engage Underserved Communities in Baltimore, Maryland

[Parks and People](#) will restore a degraded urban stream and support education and workforce development opportunities for young people in Baltimore. This work is connected to a larger, ongoing effort to convert a private country club to Hillside Park, a future public green space to be open to the community. The project will support new community engagement initiatives and park programming, including paid environmentally-focused internships for high school students and an environmental education summer camp. (\$1.3 million in first year; up to \$2.1 million total over 3 years)

Massachusetts

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Restoration of the Mashpee River, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

The [Association to Preserve Cape Cod](#) will work closely with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe to restore habitat for river herring on Cape Cod. They will assess potential restoration actions along the Mashpee River, including an abandoned cranberry bog and damaged lake outlets that may be impairing fish migration. Tribal staff, members, resources, and information will be fully integrated into all stages of the restoration effort, to help build tribal capacity for developing and managing restoration projects. (\$2.6 million*)

Great Lakes

Illinois

Mobilizing People for Equitable Resilience and Restoration in the Calumet Coastal Region of Lake Michigan

[Friends of the Forest Preserves](#) will increase capacity for community-led restoration in Chicago and southeastern Cook County, Illinois. They will recruit and train two Conservation Corps cohorts to conduct restoration work in four forest preserves in the Lake Michigan watershed. They will also start a new program to train two Engagement Crew cohorts that will work with community partners, gather local input, and plan locally relevant events. (\$1.8 million)

Michigan

Capacity, Engagement, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge: An Indigenous Approach to Resiliency (CETEK)

The [Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians](#) will work to identify and assess future climate-related threats to tribal properties and develop a tribal strategic plan for climate resilience. They will conduct a

greenhouse gas emission study to help measure tribal progress toward carbon neutrality, and create a Tribal Youth Advisory Council to foster intergenerational connectivity and support tribal climate literacy. (\$2 million*)