



NOAA Response: Tribal Consultation on a Set Aside within the Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Competitive Funding Opportunity

Dec 5, 2024

On July 29, 2024, NOAA distributed a letter to Tribal Leaders initiating a consultation regarding Round 3 of Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Grants and a tribal set aside of up to 15% of the \$100 million remaining funds. This competitive funding opportunity is administered by NOAA's Office of Habitat Conservation.

NOAA appreciates the participation and input received from tribes both through a webinar and written feedback. We heard support and will include a tribal set aside of up to 15% in the Round 3 Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience funding opportunity. This set aside would be for direct awards and subawards to U.S. federally recognized tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and organizations representing tribes through formal legal agreements.

The tribes NOAA heard from expressed strong support for a set aside because it would provide direct and meaningful support for tribal priorities. NOAA also heard support for a set aside as it could be used to bolster recovery efforts and on-the-ground restoration projects aiming to protect and restore ESA-listed species. Lastly, we heard appreciation for NOAA's investments thus far and support for continued investments in habitat restoration.

NOAA remains committed to fulfilling the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations and communities and values the productive relationship between NOAA and tribal sovereign governments. NOAA will continue to engage and keep tribes updated as the BIL Round 3 Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grant competition application period opens.

For any questions, please reach out to Becky Lizama at becky.lizama@noaa.gov and [visit our webpage](#) for the latest information. Further information on particular funding programs will be posted on NOAA's Tribal Resources website here:
<https://www.noaa.gov/legislative-and-intergovernmental-affairs/noaa-tribal-resources>.