

**Fiscal Year 2022**  
**Coastal Zone Management and**  
**Research Reserve System**  
**Infrastructure Funding Competitions**  
*December 2021 Update*

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# Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

- Funding for habitat restoration projects pursuant to section 310 (16 U.S.C. 1456c), including ecosystem conservation pursuant to section 12502 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 1456)
  - CZM – \$207 million over 5 years\*
  - NERRS – \$77million over 5 years\*

\* Will include NOAA program and administrative costs (e.g, Acquisition and Grants Office .6%, Hollings Scholarship Program .1%, some OCM direct support)

# Supporting Projects and Program Capacity

## Project-Based Funding

- Habitat restoration; habitat restoration planning, engineering, and design; ecosystem conservation
- Competitively selected
- Majority of Infrastructure funding to be allocated to projects

## Supporting Program Capacity

- Non-competitive, and will require IJA-based work plan
- Est. up to \$150,000/year for Coastal Zone Management (CZM) programs, \$100,000/year for Reserve System (NERRS)
- Details TBD; might have to be separate from operations award
- Funding guidance in early 2022

# Competition – Program Priorities

For both CZM and NERRS, priority will be given to

- Projects that are ready to go
- Projects that factor in anticipated climate change effects

In addition, the Office for Coastal Management will look for

- Diversity in geographic distribution of projects
- Variety of project types (restoration/acquisition/engineering and design)
- Projects that advance equity and inclusion

# Infrastructure Funding Competition Basics (tentative)

- Two rounds of competition:
  1. Letter of Intent – 4 pages + maps, submitted via email
  2. Highly ranked projects invited to submit a full application via grants.gov
- Up to three letters of intent per program
- No match required
- 3 year project period, plus 1 additional year for monitoring
- CZM and NERRS will have separate competitions, but with similar criteria

# Competition Basics Continued

For both the CZM and NERRS competitions:

- Three types of eligible projects
  - Habitat Restoration
  - Habitat Restoration Planning, Engineering, and Design
  - Ecosystem Conservation (Acquisition)
- Public Ownership/Benefit
  - Publicly owned or leased land
  - Allow for passive public access

# NERRS-Specific Information

- Projects must be within reserve boundary or targeted watershed
- Max funding per project – \$3 million
- Projects not required to be listed in management plan
- Reserves must submit Letters of Intent for all proposals.
- NOAA is considering the opportunity for funds to go directly to eligible reserve partners (i.e., partners w/signed MOUs)

# CZM-Specific Information

- Projects must be within the CZM boundary or coastal watershed county
- Max funding per project \$5 million
- CZM programs must serve as primary applicant; however, funding can be passed through to other non-federal public partners



# Competition Process and Timeline

## *(Tentative/Draft)*

- **February 25, 2022** – Submit Letters of Intent to NOAA via email
- **Early March 2022** – NOAA reviews Letters of Intent
- **March 17, 2022** – NOAA notifies applicants if recommended to submit final application
- **April 25, 2022** – Final applications due via grants.gov
- **May 2022** – Project selection
- **June 2022** – Final project negotiation for selected projects
- **October 1, 2022** – Start date for selected projects

# Next Steps

## Early 2022

- Publish Notice of Funding Opportunities for CZM and NERRS infrastructure competitions
- Additional webinars with competition details
- Develop guidance for capacity support funding

## Longer Term

- Develop project reporting guidance and metrics
- Support for regional planning, engineering, and design
- Discuss how best to support long-term monitoring
- Develop future years' funding competitions

# Questions?

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OR

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# Implications for RAMP

Opportunity to complete on-the-ground projects

Opportunity to create program capacity, demonstrate function

No match requirement

## Next Steps

- Identify potential projects
- Identify project proposal development teams
- Identify capacity building team