# Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund 2021 Request for Proposals

#### Webinar – Wednesday, September 30, 2020



Matanuska River, Alaska



### Agenda

- **1. Introduction to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**
- 2. Overview of the Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund Request for Proposals
- 3. How to Submit a Proposal





### Introduction to NFWF

### WHO WE ARE

- Chartered by Congress in 1984
- Non-advocacy, non-litigious
- > 30 member Board appointed by Secretary of the Interior
  - Includes USFWS Director & NOAA Administrator

### WHAT WE DO

- Sustain, restore, enhance the nation's natural heritage
- Bring collaboration among federal agencies & private sector

### How we do it

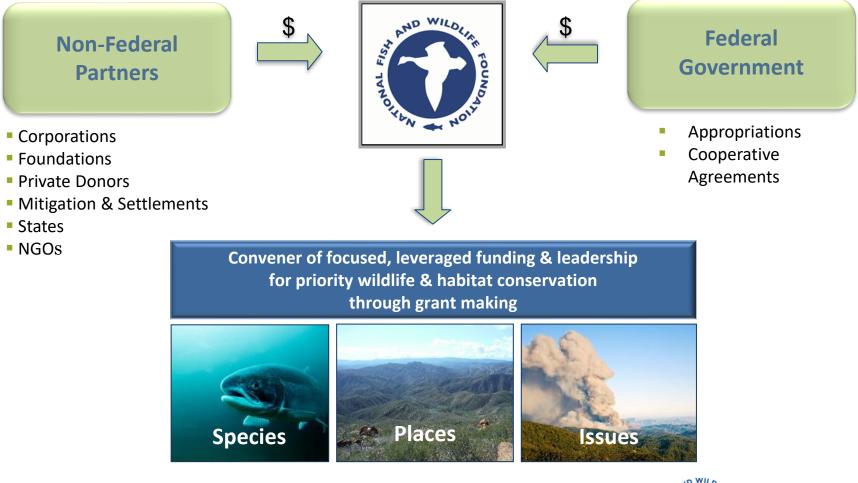
- Leverage public funding with private money
- Grantmaking for on-the-ground conservation projects
- Transparent process that involves multiple stakeholders





### Introduction to NFWF

### How WE DO IT





### Overview of Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund

#### **PROGRAM PARTNERS**







# Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund 2021 Request for Proposals

#### **FOCAL GEOGRAPHIES**

Funding will be made available to entities which demonstrate outcome-based conservation approaches which benefit fish and wildlife in the following geographies:



- Alaska North Slope
- Cook Inlet/Matanuska-Susitna Basin
- Chugach National Forest
- Pacific salmon projects throughout the State of Alaska targeting habitat restoration and filling data gaps that will inform management activities



#### **PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

#### Alaska North Slope

- Fill key information gaps for fish and wildlife populations to improve monitoring and management of species impacted by development and changing climate.
- Implementation of monitoring to assess migratory bird populations, abundance, and trends.
- Implementation of PRISM (Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring) surveys to inform the status and trends of shorebird populations along the North Slope.
- Outreach to Native Alaskan communities to foster traditional ecological knowledge sharing and conservation stewardship.





### **PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

#### Cook Inlet/Matanuska-Susitna Watershed

- Restore, enhance, and conserve Pacific salmon habitat to enhance the goals of Alaska-based Fish Habitat Partnerships in the Cook Inlet and Matanuska-Susitna Basin regions.
- Facilitate acquisition of improved hydrologic and other biological information essential to identify, monitor, and conserve key Pacific salmon resources.
- Assessments of threats to shorebird breeding, staging and non-breeding habitats
- Outreach to Native Alaskan communities to foster traditional ecological knowledge sharing and conservation stewardship.





#### **PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

#### Chugach National Forest

- Collect baseline data for maintenance, replacement, and/or enhancement of roads, bridges, culverts, and drainage features to improve hydrologic connectivity and aquatic organism passage (AOPs).
- Improve access to recreational fishing and wildlife viewing/interpretation that broaden Alaskan Native engagement on National Forest lands.
- Projects utilizing Native Alaskan interns will be prioritized.





# Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund 2021 Request for Proposals

#### **PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

#### Pacific Salmon

- Improve and maintain connectivity and access to existing habitat
- Habitat restoration planning, design, outreach, or implementation activities
- Facilitate detection of population level changes in stock characteristics
- Strengthen monitoring and enhance escapement models and practices
- Increase understanding of the composition of returning runs to improve management, develop run re-constructions, and develop outlooks for future returns
- Enhance hydrologic information essential for identifying, monitoring, and conserving key Pacific salmon resources





# Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund 2020 Request for Proposals



#### **FUNDING AVAILABILITY**

- Grant awards anticipated to total ~\$500,000
- Award amounts are expected to range between \$50,000 \$200,000
- Grants greater than \$200,000 will be considered on a case by case basis



# Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund 2021 Request for Proposals

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE\***

### **Full Proposal**

Six page detailed description of project, including itemized budget, task descriptions, qualifications, and other supporting documents



✓ Full Proposal Due Date✓ Review Period✓ Awards Announced

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 by 7:59 PM AST October 2020 – March 2021 March 2021



\*Dates subject to change

## Request for Proposals Review

### **ELIGIBILITY**

# Eligible applicants

✓ Non-profit 501(c) organizations
 ✓ Local and municipal governments
 ✓ Resource conservation districts
 ✓ State and federal agencies
 ✓ Tribal governments
 ✓ Alaska Native tribal organizations

✓Educational institutions

# Ineligible applicants



- Businesses
- Unincorporated individuals
- International organizations





### INELIGIBLE USES OF GRANT FUNDS

- NFWF funds and matching contributions may not be used to support political advocacy, fundraising, lobbying, litigation, terrorist activities or Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations.
- NFWF funds may not be used to finance compliance with another regulatory obligation, including permit conditions, and mitigation agreements. However, grant funds may be used to support projects that enhance or improve upon existing baseline compliance efforts.
- NFWF funds may not be used to cover permanent federal employee salary expenses and/or to supplement shortfalls in government agency budgets.
- Equipment: Applicants are encouraged to rent equipment where possible and costeffective or use matching funds to make those purchases. If the project requires using NFWF funds to procure equipment, please contact Jana Doi to discuss options.



### **MATCH REQUIREMENT**

- Projects are expected to meet or exceed a 100% match ratio to be competitive. The strongest projects will meet or exceed a 1:1 match ratio. Projects not meeting the match expectations will be considered on a limited case-by-case basis.
- Eligible match can include **non-federal** cash or in-kind contributions, such as:
  - staff and volunteer time
  - donated materials and services
  - cash
  - other tangible contributions to the project objectives and outcomes
- Matching funds do not need to be fully secured prior to submitting a grant proposal, but should have a demonstrable likelihood of being secured during the project period.



#### **EVALUATION**

Proposals will be evaluated by a Review Committee made up of representatives from the USFWS, USFS, NFWF, and other experts as needed.

Grant applications are evaluated according to:

- How well they address the priorities and goals of the Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund
- How well they address the specific project needs described in the RFP
- Adequacy and clarity of application information
- Ability to meet evaluation criteria

Organizations may submit multiple proposals for funding consideration.



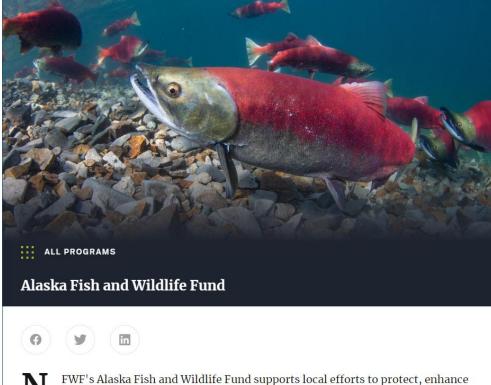
### **QUICK TIPS FOR APPLICANTS**

- ✓ If you've never used Easygrants before, create your login *TODAY* and familiarize yourself with the system.
- ✓ Turn off your pop-up blockers. If you use Internet Explorer, turn them off again and again...
- ✓ Print the "Tip Sheet" from <u>https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2020-09/2021-afwf-tipsheet.pdf</u> and use it as a reference tool, field-by-field in Easygrants.
- $\checkmark$  Do not mail letters of support to the office upload electronic copies.
- $\checkmark$  Re-read the RFP. Call us if you're confused.
- ✓ Talk to people about your project idea. Listen.
- ✓ Save as you go!



### Submitting a Proposal

#### How to Apply?



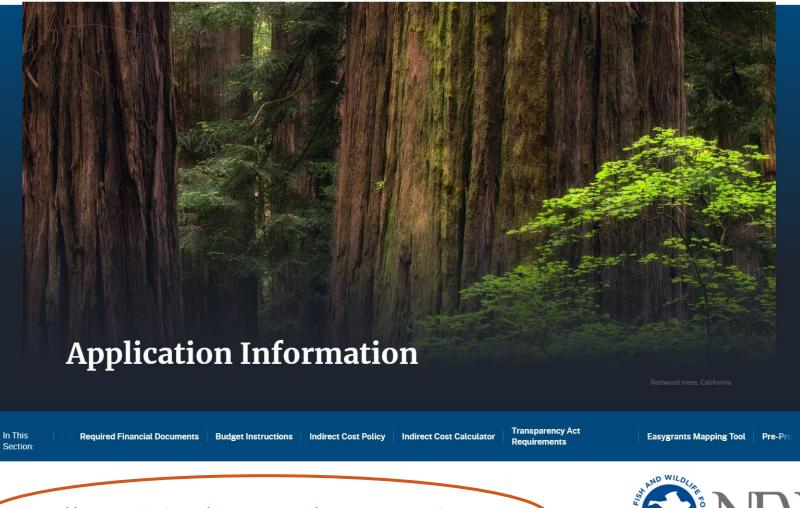
**N** FWF's Alaska Fish and Wildlife Fund supports local efforts to protect, enhance and restore fish and wildlife habitat. NFWF's investments in Alaska are focused on providing support to resource managers and local communities that are seeking creative solutions to respond to the challenges of a changing climate and multiple uses on the landscape.





### Submitting a Proposal

#### **IMPORTANT APPLICANT INFORMATION**



https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/application-information





Enter your login ID and password and click Log In below. If you have forgotten your password, click Forgot your password? below. If you are a first time visitor to this system, click Register here below.

Frequently Asked Ouestions

#### Easygrants Helpdesk:

*Email*: <u>easygrants@nfwf.org</u> *Voicemail*: 202-595-2497

Log In		New User?
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C Remember Me		Forgot Password?
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For the optim	al Easygrants experience, plea	ase:
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### Creating a Username or Organization

Add Person Contact	
Prefix	<none> V</none>
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Last Name *	
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Email Address *	
Organization * '	Select Organization

Add or Edit Grant Administration Organizations		
Primary Organization Role	<select> ✓</select>	
Organization *	Select Organization	
Save Save and Close Close		

- Do not create duplicate accounts.
- Use your professional email address and full <u>legal</u> organization name.
- Fill out all required information.
- Unsure if you already have a user account <u>or</u> if organization is registered in Easygrants? Contact helpdesk at <u>easygrants@nfwf.org</u> or 202-595-2497.

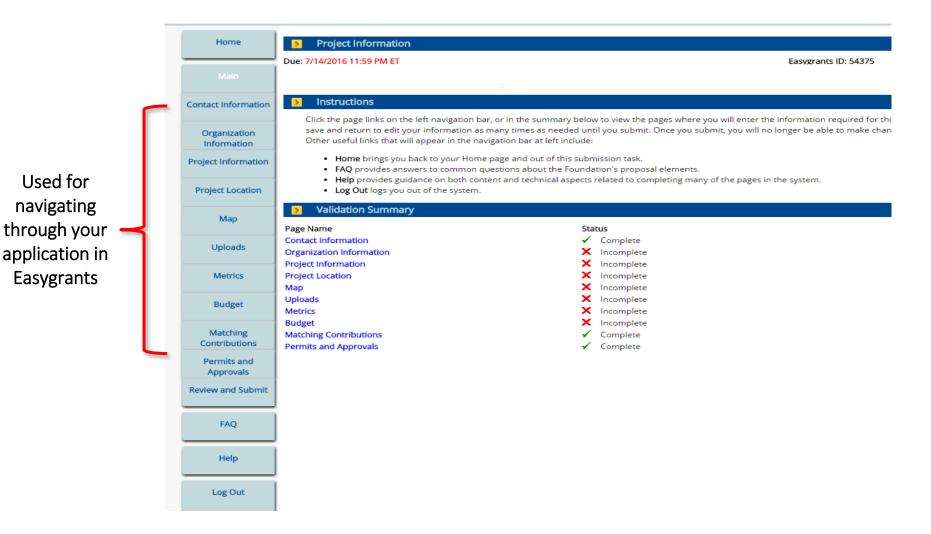


Once you have created your Easygrants log-in and or you log-in as an existing user, please visit review your contact details and make sure that you provide a phone number. To do so...

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Home	View My Contact Details
Change Password	Manage My Communication and Interests Manage My Demographics
FAQ	
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### **Project Information**

- Title: short, descriptive name indicating project purpose. (~100 characters)
- **Description**: Two sentences about primary project activities, location, outcome/metrics and relevance to conservation. (~500 characters)
  - Clearly state the main activity and the method being used
  - Address a specific habitat, location or species benefitted
- Abstract: More detailed description including location, major activities, outcome/metrics, and partners. (~1,500 characters)
  - State what your organization will do
  - Provide context and background information
  - Explain how the project outcomes will specifically address a conservation issue



### Narrative

- Activities: Elaborate on the primary activities that will be employed through the grant. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location.
- **Outcome(s):** Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.
- **Tracking Metrics:** Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on the metrics selected previously in the application. Please note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.
- **Project Team:** List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation. (include contractor info is known)
- Other (Optional): Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal

#### Most Competitive Narrative Elements:

- Program Goals and Priorities
- Technical Merit
- Partnership
- Transferability
- Communication
- Funding Need
- Conservation Plan and Context
- Monitoring
- Long-term
   Sustainability
- Past Success
- Key Personnel



### Budget

- Budget represents <u>only</u> the grant amount requested from NFWF
- Must comply with OMB's Uniform Guidance (whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html)
- Itemize all costs in appropriate budget categories. Costs must relate to project activities.
- No lumping costs i.e., 'All Salaries: \$10,000' Add narrative details to explain costs in budget line items.
- 'Total Amount Requested' in Project Information section must equal the 'Budget Grand Total' in Budget section
- Budget Narrative must accompany every section of the budget

Materials and Supplies	\$0.00
Materials and Supplies  🛨 🖡	\$0.00
▼ <u>Contractual Services</u>	\$0.00
Subcontract/Contract - Per Agreement  🛨 🖡	\$0.00
Subgrant - Per Agreement  🛨 🔃	\$0.00
Other Direct Costs	\$0.00
Other Direct Costs  🛨 🔝	\$0.00
▼ Indirect Costs	\$0.00
Indirect Costs  🛨 🛝	\$0.00
Total Direct Costs	\$0.00
Total Indirect Costs	\$0.00
Total Costs	\$0.00



### Adding a Budget Narrative



Notes		×
Line Item	Domestic Airfare - Per Flight	
Budget	Travel for one biotech and one volunteer to Seattle from Boston for Killer Whale Conference. Travel for principal investigator to Anchorage from St. Petersburg for site visits.	
Save Save and Close	Cancel	



### Uploads

Required
Yes
No
No
No
Yes
No

Review 'Upload Checklist' and upload relevant files into Easygrants.

**Required:** 

- IRS-990
- A-133 Audit
- GAAP Audit
- Board of Trustees, Directors or Equivalent

Templates provided for:

- Statement of Litigation
- Full Proposal Narrative

*If you don't have a required document, just upload an explanation on your company letterhead in place of the required document.* 



### **Financial and Other Documents**

All financial documentation must:

- Represent the same fiscal year period
- Must be the most recent financial information available
- Must be less than two years old

For details on what documents you need to submit and for FAQs regarding financial documents, go here: <u>www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/required-financial-docs.aspx</u>



# **Application Assistance**

#### **Program Homepage:**

https://www.nfwf.org/afwf/Pages/home.aspx

#### **RFP:**

https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2020-09/2021-afwf-rfp.pdf

#### **Technical Assistance / Easygrants Helpdesk:**

Email: Easygrants@nfwf.org

Voicemail: 202-595-2497

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ET, Monday-Friday.

Include: your name, proposal ID #, e-mail address, phone number,

program you are applying to, and a description of the issue.



# **Contacts**

Programmatic Questions

Jonathan Birdsong Regional Director Email: Jonathan.Birdsong@nfwf.org

Jana Doi Manager, Alaska and Hawaii Programs Phone: 415-243-3102 Email: Jana.Doi@nfwf.org Application/Easygrants Questions

Jessica Perla Regional Coordinator Phone: 202-595-2422 Email: Jessica.Perla@nfwf.org



