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Chinook salmon in the Sacramento River

Agenda

1) Program Overview

2) Priorities and Guidelines

3) Eligibility

4) Environmental Compliance

5) Monitoring and Reporting

6) How to Apply

Funding Overview

- Funding within this RFP comes from partnerships with NRCS and FWS to support multi-benefit floodplain restoration projects including planning, design, implementation, and monitoring efforts to benefit anadromous fish, migratory shorebirds, and the long-term health of the Sacramento River Basin.

- The majority of funding is for Technical Assistance for planning and design.

- If you are proposing an implementation or monitoring project, please contact NFWF staff to discuss budget planning.

- NFWF expects to award 8 - 12 projects with an estimated award range of $200,000 - $500,000.

Geographic Focus: Sacramento Valley

Figure 1. Target geography for the Sacramento Valley Floodplain Enhancement for Salmon and Shorebirds

Projects must be located on privately owned land in the Sacramento River watershed.

Conservation Partners Program (NRCS)

Anticipated award range: $200,000 - $500,000
1:1 match is recommended

- Provide technical assistance to private landowners/operators to advance conservation on working lands
  - Management plans
  - Best management practices
  - Participation in Farm Bill programs
  - Knowledge-sharing

- Align with NFWF's California Forests and Watersheds Business Plan and NRCS priorities

- Maximize benefits for fish, wildlife, and people
  - Enhance wildlife values
  - Improve water resources
  - Store and sequester carbon
  - Improve productivity and profitability
  - Engage communities

Conservation Partners Program (NRCS)

Western Water and Working Lands Strategies

Western Water and Working Lands Strategies enable NRCS leaders and managers to set program delivery goals and plan supporting business activities. These strategies may be incorporated into the deliberations of State Technical Advisory Committees and local working groups to complement the locally led conservation model. The strategies are also program neutral and may be supported though the various conservation programs that NRCS delivers. See Appendix 1 for more information about the kind of assistance NRCS may be able to provide through applicable USDA Conservation Programs.

The following strategies support NRCS efforts to direct assistance for conserving water and working land resources across the West:

1. Improve reliability of water supply forecasts
2. Improve soil moisture and irrigation water management
3. Improve water and nutrient management in crop fields and pastures
4. Modernize water infrastructure
5. Improve community water supply by completing watershed projects
6. Increase reuse of wastewater for agriculture and conservation
7. Prolong aquifer life
8. Complete managed aquifer recharge projects
9. Reduce surface water withdrawals
10. Install conservation systems that protect water quality
11. Restore and protect streams and wetlands
12. Manage and restore rangelands and forestlands
13. Increase resilience during disaster recovery

Table 3.1. Western Water and Working Lands Strategies, Needs, and How NRCS Will Help

Strategy	Purpose and need:	How NRCS Will Help)
1. Improve reliability of water supply forecasts	Under increased demand for water and with climate change impacts, supply from surface water sources to a myriad of users is increasingly unreliable. Forecasting expected streamflow is an important aid in planning water storage and release as well as irrigated agriculture planting decisions.	NRCS will improve the network of sites for monitoring snowpack and invest in innovative technology, methods, and models to inform water forecast products
2. Improve soil moisture and irrigation water management	Soil moisture may be supplied by precipitation or irrigation. Irrigation water mitigates the lack of soil moisture and high salt concentrations. Naturally available soil moisture needs to be managed in dryland agriculture, and both soil moisture and irrigation needs to be managed in irrigated agriculture to achieve economical production of common and high value crops in dry climates	NRCS will help farmers in dry climates efficiently use soil moisture and irrigation water to sustain productivity and build resilience to agricultural drought in dryland or irrigated crop fields and pastures.

Drought Resilience Technical Assistance (NRCS)

Anticipated award range: $50,000 - $200,000
1:1 match is required

- Provide technical assistance to private landowners to advance conservation on working lands

- Promote voluntary participation of landowners in conservation programs funded by the Farm Bill, especially the Conservation Stewardship Program

- Align with NFWF's California Forests and Watersheds Business Plan priorities and NRCS priorities

- Maximize benefits for fish, wildlife, and people
  - Enhance wildlife values
  - Improve water resources
  - Store and sequester carbon
  - Improve productivity and profitability
  - Engage communities

NRCS Funding Guidelines

- Prioritize strategies outlined in:
  - Western Water and Working Lands Framework for Conservation Action
  - Rapid Watershed Assessment Report

- Reference the California NRCS Conservation Practice Standards guidelines.

- Confer with the California State Conservationist before submitting a proposal, to ensure that the proposed project aligns with NRCS goals, priorities, and capacity needs.
  - Contact Jon Gustafson at Jon.Gustafson@usda.gov.

Sacramento River-San Joaquin Delta

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Funding

Anticipated award range: $50,000 - $100,000
1:1 match is required

Implement and monitor multi-benefit floodplain restoration projects to benefit anadromous fish and migratory shorebirds, especially:

- Creating surrogate floodplain habitat by flooding fallow rice fields

- Restoring on-channel floodplain habitat

- Removing permanent or seasonal fish passage barriers

- Maintaining or modifying tributary mouths to ensure access to high quality rearing habitat

- Installing fish screens on unscreened diversions

Projects that incorporate baseline monitoring, account for habitat and species impact, and that are collaborative will be prioritized.

Long-billed dowitcher

Program Guidelines and Eligibility

- Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Tribal governments and organizations, special districts (e.g., conservation districts, planning districts, utility districts), and educational institutions.

- No political advocacy, fundraising, lobbying, terrorism, or litigation.

- Not to implement legal requirements (mitigation, permit conditions, etc.).

- Applicants are encouraged to rent equipment where possible and cost-effective, or use matching funds to make equipment purchases.

- Cannot use funds for telecommunications equipment or services produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation.

NFWF

Environmental Compliance – Applicant Responsibilities

- Especially if you are proposing to conduct in-water work, coordinate with NFWF to ensure all environmental compliance is complete and adheres to Agency standards. Grants are subject to:
  - ✓ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA),
  - ✓ Endangered Species Act (ESA),
  - ✓ National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA),
  - ✓ Clean Water Act (CWA),
  - ✓ Additional federal, state or local requirements based on project parameters.
    - CDFW's "Cutting the Green Tape" program (https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cutting-Green-Tape)

- Account for project lead (or subcontractor/consultant) staff hours and resources in schedule/budget:
  - ✓ Incorporate cost estimates from qualified compliance consultants if needed.
  - ✓ Incorporate time allowance for environmental compliance.
  - ✓ Coordination and collaboration with NFWF and funding partner.

- **Funding for implementation projects will only be released after federal environmental compliance is complete and grantee receives a written notice to proceed.**
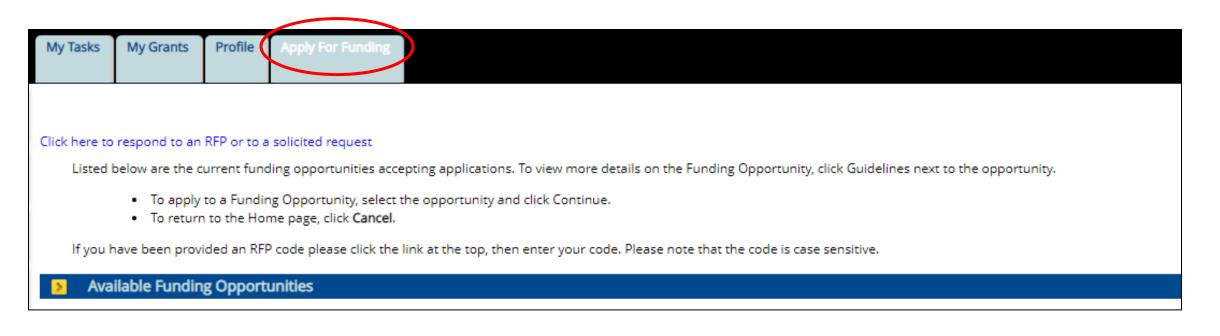
How to Apply in Easygrants

How to Apply in Easygrants

Once you are on your Easygrants homepage, click on "Apply for Funding"

Choose the **Sacramento Valley Floodplain Enhancement for Salmon and Shorebirds 2025** Funding Opportunity

Submitting Your Full Proposal

My Tasks	My Grants	Profile	Apply For Funding

To access a task below, <u>click the task name link in the **Task** column</u>. Please note that a task will not be considered submitted until you open the task, go to the Review and Submit page, and click the Submit button. After submitting the task will no longer display on this page but you may view a PDF copy (if applicable) by clicking the View All My Tasks button.

Peer Reviewers: To view the proposal you are reviewing please click the "Third Party Review" link. Please do not click View PDF, as it will open a copy of the review you are submitting and not the proposal.

Apply for Funding   **View All My Tasks**

▶ My Tasks

Easygrants ID	Primary Contact/PI	Task	Program Name	Funding Cycle Name	Status	Outcome	Due Date	
86520	Schmitz, Dalton	Full Proposal	Grants	Klamath Basin Forests and Watersheds Restoration 2025	Incomplete	Not Submitted	2/25/2025	View PDF
87280	Schmitz, Dalton	Full Proposal	Grants	Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program 2025-2026	Incomplete	Not Submitted	4/22/2025	View PDF
89201	Schmitz, Dalton	Full Proposal	Grants	Sacramento Valley Floodplain Enhancement for Salmon and Shorebirds 2025	Incomplete	Not Submitted	8/5/2025	View PDF

Main

▸ Project Information

Due: **8/5/2025 11:59 PM ET**   Easygrants ID: 89201

Schmitz, Dalton|
Grants| Northern California Forests and Watersheds| Sacramento Valley Floodplain Enhancement for Salmon and Shorebirds 2025

▸ Instructions

Click the page links on the left navigation bar, or in the summary below to view the pages where you will enter the information required for **instructions.** Click **Home** to return to your Home page. You may save and return to edit your information as many times as needed until you able to make changes. Click here to view Foundation Guidelines for this Funding Opportunity.
Other useful links that will appear in the navigation bar at left include:

- **Home** brings you back to your Home page and out of this submission task.
- **FAQ** provides answers to common questions about the Foundation's proposal elements.
- **Help** provides guidance on both content and technical aspects related to completing many of the pages in the system.
- **Log Out** logs you out of the system.

▸ Validation Summary

Page Name	Status
Contact Information	✓ Complete
Organization Information	✗ Incomplete
Project Information	✗ Incomplete
Project Location	✗ Incomplete
Map	✗ Incomplete
Uploads	✗ Incomplete
Metrics	✗ Incomplete
Budget	✗ Incomplete
Matching Contributions	✓ Complete
Permits and Approvals	✓ Complete

Project Information

Title: Short, descriptive name indicating project purpose. (~100 characters)

Project start and end dates: NFWF's recommendation is to use a start date within <u>six months</u> of the award date and an end date no later than June 30, 2029.

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

Uploads

Upload Checklist

Upload Type	Required	Template	File Types Allowed	Max Uploads	Max File Size	Max Pages	Max Words	Max Characters
Full Proposal Narrative	Yes	Full Proposal Narrative Template	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf	No Limit	16 MB	6	No Limit	No Limit
Project Map	Yes		.xls, .doc, .pdf, .rtf, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .docx	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Letters of Support	No		.xls, .doc, .pdf, .rtf, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .docx	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Photos - Jpeg	No		.jpeg, .jpg	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Statement of Litigation	Yes	Statement of Litigation	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf	No Limit	16 MB	6	No Limit	No Limit
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent	Yes		.doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Applicant Controls Questionnaire	Yes	Applicant Controls Questionnaire (Rev 4.11.25)	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
GAAP audited financial statements	Yes		.xls, .doc, .pdf, .rtf, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .docx, .xlsx	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
IRS Form 990	Yes		.xls, .doc, .pdf, .rtf, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .docx	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Single Audit (Formerly A-133 Audit)	Yes		.doc, .docx, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .pdf, .rtf, .xls	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Indirect Rate Agreement	No		.xls, .doc, .pdf, .rtf, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .docx	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
Other Documents	No		.doc, .docx, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg, .pdf, .ppt, .pptx, .rtf, .xls, .xlsx	No Limit	16 MB	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit

Full Proposal Project Narrative

Full Proposal Project Narrative

Instructions: Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The final narrative should not exceed six (6) pages; do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line application as instructed.

1. **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.

2. **Outcome(s):** Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.

3. **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.

4. **Project Team:** List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation.

5. **Other (Optional):** Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal.

Full Proposal Narrative Question #1

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.

If you are applying for technical assistance funding, please list the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard(s) that your project will follow. Complete lists of practice standards for your state are available at California | Field Office Technical Guide | NRCS - USDA under "Section 4 - Practice Standards and Supporting Documents".

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

Full Proposal Narrative Question #1 (continued)

Full Proposal Narrative Question #1 (continued)

List of Conservation Practice Standards, linking to detailed information about specifications and requirements.

Full Proposal Narrative Questions #2 and #3

2) Outcome(s): Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.

3) 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.

Full Proposal Narrative Question #3 – Metrics

Appendix A

Applicable Metrics
Sacramento Valley Floodplain Enhancement for Salmon and Shorebirds

Project Activity	Recommended Metric	Additional Guidance
Habitat Restoration – Fish passage improvements	# passage barriers assessed and/or with design plans	Enter the # of instream barriers with assessments or engineering/design plans completed in this grant. In the "Notes" section, provide the barrier's SARP ID (see aquaticbarriers.org/). If the barrier(s) is not in SARP, provide its latitude/longitude or its name and source.
Habitat Restoration – Fish passage improvements	# passage barriers rectified	Enter the # of instream barriers removed/rectified in this grant. In the "Notes" section, provide the barrier's SARP ID (see aquaticbarriers.org/). If the barrier(s) is not in SARP, provide its latitude/longitude or its name and source.
Habitat Restoration – Fish passage improvements	Miles of stream opened	Enter the number of miles of stream made accessible to aquatic organism passage. NFWF prefers that this metric indicate the miles of upstream habitat until the next barrier upstream (or end of flowline) as well as the miles of downstream habitat until the next barrier downstream using PADnew (see California Fish Passage Assessment Database). This estimate should include both the mainstem of

- A full list of potential metrics appears at the end of the RFP as **Appendix A**.
- Please complete the NOTES section for each metric as needed.
- NFWF staff may reach out to applicants and request that they add specific metrics once proposals are submitted.

Full Proposal Narrative Questions #4 and #5

4) Project Team: List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation.

5) Other (Optional): Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal.
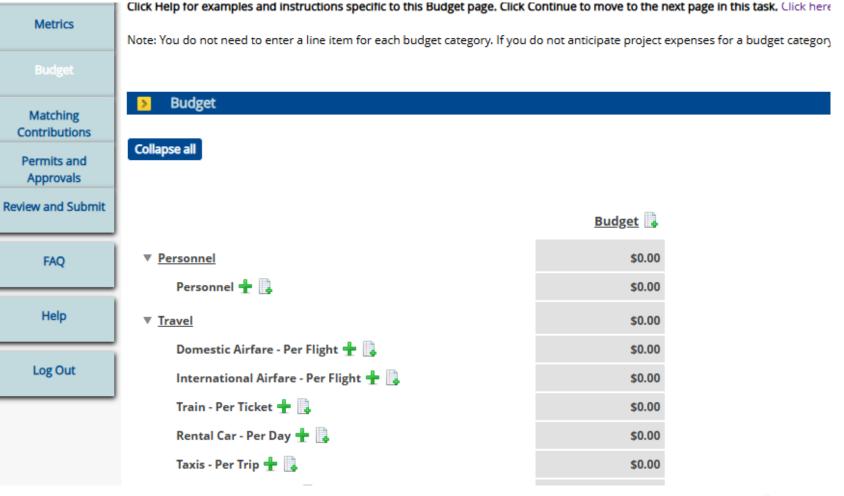
Metrics

5. To remove a metric after you've selected it, click the **red X** to the right of the line item. To delete several metrics at once, click the checkbox to the left of each metric name and click **Delete Selected** at the bottom of the page. The system will request confirmation before deleting Metrics, and the page will refresh with the remaining metrics. All metrics remaining on the page must contain values before final submission.

6. When you are finished providing values, click **Save and Continue** to save your metrics and move to the next page.

Note: The metrics provided here are those selected by the Foundation. If you would like to report on additional metrics, please include these in your project narrative.

Uploads

Metrics

Budget

Matching Contributions

Permits and Approvals

Review and Submit

Applicant Submission Version

Filter By: Show All Templates ▾   Show All Strategies ▾   **Select Metric**

Show All Strategies
Habitat Restoration
Habitat Management
Capacity, Outreach, Incentives
Planning, Research, Monitoring

No results to display

☐ Select All   **Delete Selected**

Save   **Save and Continue**

Show: Show All Templates ▾   Show All Strategies

Add	Metric		S
☐	CA - Research - Acres assessed	?	Planning, Monitoring
☐	CA - Economic benefits - # jobs created	?	Capacity, C
☐	CA - BMP implementation for prescribed burns - Acres burned	?	Habitat Ma
☐	CA - Fish passage improvements - # passage barriers rectified	?	Habitat Re
☐	CA - Project footprint - Acreage of project footprint	?	Habitat Ma
☐	CA - Riparian restoration - Acres restored	?	Habitat Re
☐	CA - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people with changed behavior	?	Capacity, C
☐	CA - Fuels management treatment (mechanical/hand) - # of acres treated	?	Habitat Ma
☐	CA - Instream restoration - Miles restored	?	Habitat Re
☐	CA - Incentives - Acres covered by gov't agency cost share or financial assistance	?	Capacity, C

Select Metric

Starting Value	Target value	
___ Acres assessed	___ Acres assessed	📄✗

Page size 25 ▾ First | Previous | Next | Last | Show All

Budget

- Click the green plus icon to include line items
- To add narrative, click the paper icon
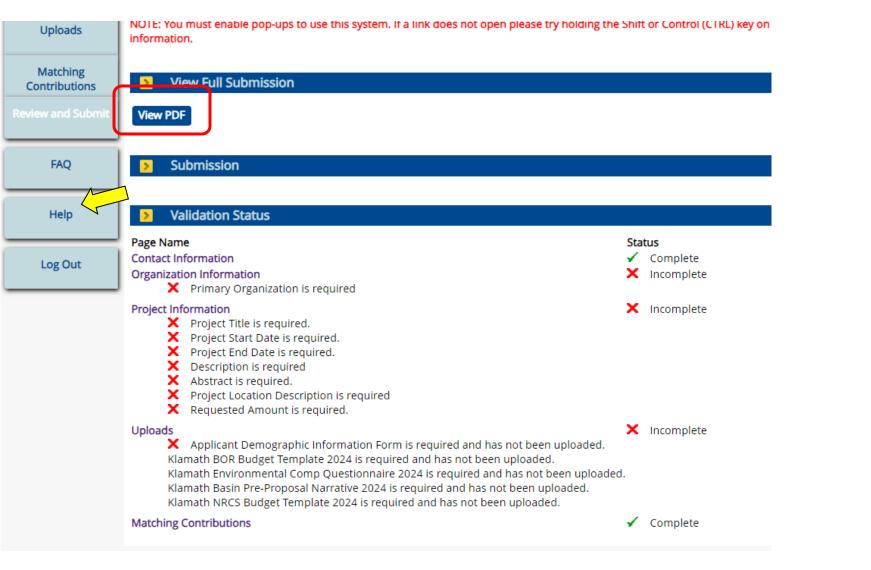- **All line items will need a narrative**

Matching Contributions

Review and Submit

Uploads

Matching Contributions

Review and Submit

FAQ

Help

Log Out

NOTE: You must enable pop-ups to use this system. If a link does not open please try holding the Shift or Control (CTRL) key on information.

▶ View Full Submission

View PDF

▶ Submission

▶ Validation Status

Page Name	Status
Contact Information	✔ Complete
Organization Information	✘ Incomplete
✘ Primary Organization is required	
Project Information	✘ Incomplete
✘ Project Title is required.	
✘ Project Start Date is required.	
✘ Project End Date is required.	
✘ Description is required	
✘ Abstract is required.	
✘ Project Location Description is required	
✘ Requested Amount is required.	
Uploads	✘ Incomplete
✘ Applicant Demographic Information Form is required and has not been uploaded.	
Klamath BOR Budget Template 2024 is required and has not been uploaded.	
Klamath Environmental Comp Questionnaire 2024 is required and has not been uploaded.	
Klamath Basin Pre-Proposal Narrative 2024 is required and has not been uploaded.	
Klamath NRCS Budget Template 2024 is required and has not been uploaded.	
Matching Contributions	✔ Complete

Timeline

Proposal Due Date	August 5, 2025, by 8:59 PM PST
Review Period	August – October 2025
Awards Announced	November 2025

Questions?

Snowy egrets in a Sacramento Valley rice field