

WILDLIFE INFRASTRUCTURE AT-A-GLANCE

Nationally Significant Federal Lands & Tribal Projects Program

Next Steps: The FY2022 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Nationally Significant Federal Lands & Tribal Projects Program (NSFLTP) was published on August 17, 2022. The FY22 Notice solicits applications for NSFLTP funding opportunities and will award up to \$125M in funding. For the FY22 funding cycle, applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EDT on October 24, 2022. **NOTE:** Applicants must register and use the www.grants.gov system to submit applications electronically. Applicants are encouraged to register in advance of the submission deadline and to register to receive notifications of updates/amendments, as approval of user registrations may take multiple weeks; applicants are also responsible for monitoring any updates to the pending Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Key features of the NSFLTP grant program are described below, including:

- The total amount of funding allocated to the program for Federal FY22-FY26
- A summary of eligible wildlife-related projects and eligible funding recipients
- An overview of the competitive grant process for accessing these funding sources
- The amount of the project that can be supported by Federal funds
- Additional details of potential interest
- Links to additional resources

Additional Resources:

NOTE: Some resources have not been updated to reflect program changes implemented as a result of BIL.

- [Press release](#)
- [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [FAST Act Guidance](#)
- [NSFLTP Fact Sheet](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [2020 Project Awards](#)

This fact sheet was prepared by Renee Callahan, ARC Solutions, on behalf of the following partners:



ARC (Animal Road Crossing) Solutions. ARC Solutions is a not-for-profit network whose mission is to identify and promote leading-edge solutions to improve human safety, wildlife mobility and long-term landscape connectivity. ARC is fiscally sponsored by *Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs*. **Contact:** Renee Callahan (info@arc-solutions.org)

National Parks Conservation Association. NPCA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to protect and enhance America's National Park System for present and future generations. **Contact:** Bart Melton (bmelton@npca.org)

Wildlands Network. Wildlands Network is a non-profit organization whose mission is to reconnect, restore and rewild North America so that life—in all its diversity—can thrive. **Contact:** Erin Sito (e.sito@wildlandsnetwork.org)

NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FEDERAL LANDS & TRIBAL PROJECTS PROGRAM (NSFLTP) (FAST ACT § 1123(C))

Amount: \$275M in FY22-26; \$125M available in FY22.

Eligible wildlife-related projects: Wildlife-related projects that are eligible under Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP), Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP), and Tribal Transportation Program (TTP), *except* that a project must be “continuous” (FAST Act § 1123(c)).

- Under FLTP and TTP, eligible projects include environmental mitigation in or adjacent to Federal land open to the public, or Tribal land, respectively – “(I) to improve public safety and reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity; and (II) to mitigate the damage to wildlife, aquatic organism passage, habitat, and ecosystem connectivity, including the costs of constructing, maintaining, replacing, or removing culverts and bridges, as appropriate” (23 U.S.C. §§ 203 (FLTP), 202 (TTP)).
- Under FLAP, eligible projects include “environmental mitigation in or adjacent to federal land to improve public safety and reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity” (23 U.S.C. § 204(a)(1)(A)(iv)).

Eligible recipients: Same eligibility as under the FLTP, FLAP, and TTP, *except* that states, counties, and local governments may also apply if sponsored by an eligible FLMA or Tribe (FAST Act § 1123(b)).

- Under FLTP, eligible recipients include “transportation facilities owned and maintained by FLMAs.”
- Under TTP, eligible recipients include tribes only.
- Under FLAP, eligible recipients include: “States, Tribes, counties, towns, municipalities or local governments.”

[Notice](#) at pp. 8-11.

Process: Competitive grant process. FHWA will award the NSFLTP Program funds based on the selection criteria and policy considerations outlined on [Notice](#) pp. 26 - 45. Evaluation criteria vary based on the type of project but generally include whether the proposed project:

- Advances USDOT goals;
- Maintains a state of good repair;
- Improves safety and quality of life for a local community and traveling public;
- Improves the condition of critical transportation facilities;
- Supports economic vitality at national and regional levels;
- Uses new technologies and innovations, especially to enhance efficiency of the project;
- Is in *demonstrated* need of construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation;
- Provides economic benefits;
- Is supported by non-NSFLT matching (or other) funds, with preference to projects with higher matching funds;
- Is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places;
- Involves 2 or more States; and,
- Serves land owned by multiple Federal agencies or Tribes.

[Notice](#) at pp. 4, 26 - 29.

Federal-share payable: The Federal cost-share is typically up to 90%, except for projects involving tribal transportation facilities, for which the Federal cost-share is 100%. Notwithstanding any other legal provision, any Federal funds may be used to pay the non-Federal share of the cost of a NSFLTP project. [Notice](#) at pp. 3, 10.

Additional details of potential interest:

- Projects must have cleared NEPA and have an estimated cost of \$12.5M or greater. [Notice](#) at pp. 11-12.
- Funds cannot be used to support project design. [Notice](#) at p. 12.
- Each fiscal year, exactly 50% of funds shall be awarded to eligible projects on Tribal transportation facilities for which the federal share will be 100%. [Notice](#) at pp. 3.
- At least one eligible NSFLTP project shall be on a National Park System unit with at least 3M annual visitors. [Notice](#) at pp. 3.