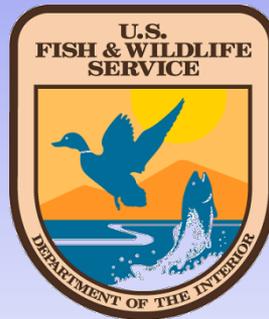


Potential Funding for River Herring from the US Fish and Wildlife Service



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September 3, 2014

Funding Opportunities

- Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program
 - Sport Fish Restoration, State Wildlife Grants
- Fisheries Program
 - National Fish Passage, National Fish Habitat
- Other Programs
 - North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
 - Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Coastal Program

Sport Fish Restoration - Individual State Grants

- Revenues from excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat fuels
- Dedicated annual funding to state agencies
- \$326M National, \$54M Northeast in FY14
- Projects must benefit recreationally important finfish species
- Many Northeast states using SFR to monitor different life stages of river herring

Sport Fish Restoration - Grants across States

- Several states pool their SFR funding for common project
- Example is Connecticut River anadromous fish coordination
- Need lead state/coordinator (e.g., ASMFC)
- <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/SFR/SFR.htm> - SFR URL

Sport Fish Restoration - Multi State Conservation Grants

- \$3M set aside separate from state allocations
- For projects affecting states on a regional or national basis
- Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies plays key role – Strong competition
- <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/MultiState/MS.htm>

State Wildlife Grant Program - Individual State Grants

- Annual appropriations - \$46M in FY14
- To benefit Species of Greatest Conservation Need defined in State Wildlife Action Plans
- Any animal taxa eligible, so strong competition for funding terrestrial species
- Some states using for river herring
- <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/SWG/SWG.htm>

State Wildlife Grant Program - Competitive Grants

- Set-aside from annual national appropriation
- \$5.6M in FY14 for 16 projects
- Needs to involve two or more states
- Need lead state agency to coordinate
- <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/SWG/SWG-NOFA2013.pdf>

State Wildlife Grant Program - Regional Conservation Needs Grants

- Set-aside of four percent of Northeast state allocations – Approximately \$400K annually
- RCN Topic 7 to identify and assess threats to SGCN was originally developed for river herring
- Anyone can apply, but strong state support needed
- Administered by Wildlife Management Institute
- <http://rcngrants.org/content/northeast-regional-conservation-needs-grant-program>

National Fish Passage Program

- Northeast received \$1.3M in FY14
- About half of funds for on-the-ground projects identified by USFWS field offices
- Proposals for FY15 funding need to be developed with USFWS field offices and are due first week of November
- National - <http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/whatwedo/nfpp/nfpp.html>
- Northeast - <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/fisheries/help/nfpp.html>

National Fish Habitat Program

- National Fish Habitat Action Plan - <http://fishhabitat.org/news/2015-national-fish-habitat-partnership-fhp-funding-opportunities> - about half the funding as National Fish Passage
- Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership: <http://bit.ly/1IsqqZw> (Deadline: October 3)
- NFHP Northeast Region - <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/fisheries/help/nfhap.html>

North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative Priority Science Program

- Demonstration projects might be appropriate
- Wildlife Management Institute administers -
March deadline
- <http://wildlifemanagementinstitute.cmail2.com/t/ViewEmail/j/ED5B6A1485E78CD5/FBE4596BD818142B9A8E73400EDACAB4>

Ecological Services Funding Opportunities

- Partners for Fish and Wildlife
 - Work on private lands
 - <http://www.fws.gov/partners/>
- Coastal Program
 - Work on public or private lands
 - <http://www.fws.gov/coastal/>

Best Bets for USFWS Funding for New River Herring Work

- Establish relationships with state and USFWS partners
- Regional Conservation Needs grant program
 - Only two proposals submitted in March 2014 for less than available FY14 funding
 - RCN Topic 7 originally designed for river herring work, but none has ever been funded
- National Fish Passage Program