



**Institute for Fisheries Resources-NOAA Community-based Restoration Program
Partnership Now Accepting Proposals for
San Francisco Bay Fisheries Habitat Restoration**

The Institute for Fisheries Resources (IFR) is pleased to invite proposals for community-based fisheries habitat restoration projects. This is the first year of a three-year partnership with the [Community-based Restoration Program](#) (CRP) within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The partnership encourages local efforts to accomplish meaningful on-the-ground habitat restoration projects that benefit living marine resources in the San Francisco Bay.

Unite. Protect. Restore. These are the principles upon which IFR relies to accomplish meaningful, lasting reforms towards sustainable fisheries. Our mission is to protect and restore fish populations and the human economies that depend on them. By establishing alliances among fishing men and women, government agencies, and concerned citizens, IFR **unites** resource stakeholders, **protects** fish populations, and **restores** aquatic habitats. The difference between IFR and other conservation organizations is that the inspiration for our work is the fishing community itself. Our board of directors consists of fishing men and women who represent small to mid-sized fisheries along the U.S. Pacific Coast. They realize that the way of life they treasure cannot continue unless 1) habitat is protected and restored, and 2) fish stocks are rebuilt and harvested in a sustainable manner. Our unique role as a "bridge" between traditional conservationist organizations and the commercial fishing industry enables us to build strategic alliances. In this way, we can reinforce essential conservation campaigns while underscoring the connection between environmental protection and a sound and sustainable economy.

The objective of NOAA's CRP program is to bring together citizens, public and non-profit organizations, watershed groups, industry, corporations and businesses, youth conservation corps, students, landowners, and local government, state, and federal agencies to implement habitat restoration projects to benefit NOAA trust resources (anadromous, estuarine, and marine species and their habitats).

This partnership between IFR and NOAA recognizes the significant role that communities can have in habitat restoration and acknowledges that habitat restoration is often best implemented through technical and monetary support provided at a community level. Projects funded under this IFR/NOAA partnership must result in restoration or reestablishment of marine, estuarine and/or riparian habitats benefiting native species of fish and wildlife in the San Francisco Bay.

Eligible Applicants:

Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, other non-profits, commercial organizations, organizations under the jurisdiction of foreign governments, international organizations, state, local and Indian tribal governments.

Grant Amounts:

Typical grants will be within the range of \$12,500 - \$50,000. Proposals can be part of a larger restoration project funded through additional sources, however a discrete project objective should be completed within one year of an award. Funds shall not be used for mitigation projects. These grant amounts must be matched 1:1 with non-federal funds. Be sure to list all pending and

received matching funds for the project by category (see attached budget template). These are one-year grants. Longer term projects will need to re-apply each year.

Project Qualifications:

Only projects meeting the following minimum requirements should pursue funding under this partnership:

- Project implementation should result in tangible restoration of habitat (s) that support living marine resources within the San Francisco Bay Region;
- Project should involve significant community engagement and support that is tied to the restoration activities. This should be done to ensure the community is aware of restoration activities, feels ownership in specific projects, and voices any concerns they may have;
- Project can include a research component to measure the effectiveness of the restoration action;
- Project should be staffed by a local project manager;
- Project should involve partners;
- Projects *must* have the ability to provide the minimum 1:1 non-federal matching funds;
- Federal funds or federal funds that are passed through state agencies may not be used as matching funds nor can be used for mitigation, restitution, or other permit or court-ordered settlements.

Proposal Contents:

If the project qualifies, the proposal must be completed and received by Institute for Fisheries Resources (P.O. Box 29196, San Francisco, CA 94129 Attn: SF Bay Restoration Partnership) **by 5 p.m. (PST) on January 23, 2004**. Proposals will only be accepted by mail. Email or fax submissions will not be accepted. Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

When applying for funds, please submit two (2) stapled sets and one (1) paper clipped set of the information listed below:

- **Application** (see below)
- **Letter(s) of Support**
- **Financial Reports** (may be asked for)

Additional supporting documentation such as plans, drawings, maps, photos, etc are highly recommended, however, proposals that do not contain these products will not be excluded from review or consideration. These products instead help the reviewers with their decision making process. Submissions should be double-spaced in 12 point font and not to exceed 10 pages in length (not including letters of support and supporting documents).

Application Outline

Basic Information:

- Project Name
- Contact Person (address, phone, fax, email)
- Congressional District (<http://congress.org/congressorg/dbq/officials>)
- Longitude/Latitude Coordinates of project site (in decimal degrees, if available)

Project Description:

- Description of site and current conditions

- List all endangered or threatened species that are present or will be affected by this project
- Problem to be addressed/corrected
- Desired future conditions (in measurable terms where appropriate)
- Anticipated benefits to species and habitat(s)
- Relevant maps or photos (may be included as appendices)
- Land ownership (public and private)
- Partners involved

Work Plan

- Start and end date
- Restoration methodology
- Timeline for anticipated actions
- Identification of the mechanism that will be used, by IFR/NOAA or a partner, to ensure that necessary environmental permits and consultations will be secured prior to the use of Federal funds
- Monitoring and long-term maintenance plans
- Project-specific benchmarks for measuring short-term success (i.e. number of stream miles opened for fish access, acreage of habitat restored)
- Description of long-term success measures (i.e. number of stream miles opened for fish access, acreage of habitat restored)
- Community engagement (may include: hands-on training and restoration activities undertaken by volunteers; sponsorship from local entities, either through in-kind goods and services or cash contributions; public education and outreach; and/or support from state and local governments)

Qualifications

- List of project personnel and roles
- 1-page resumes of all listed personnel (may be included as appendices)

Projected Budget and Narrative (see Appendix I)

- Completed One-Year Projected Budget Template
- Grant Amount Requested
- Match Amount (1:1, non-federal is required)
- Source(s) of Match (confirmed and pending)
- Justification for Fund Use (as listed in projected budget)

Evaluation Criteria:

This will be a competitive process. Proposals will be jointly evaluated by NOAA technical staff and IFR staff based on the following criteria:

- Extent to which the project will improve habitat for fisheries resources both immediate and long-term;
- Technical merit and project feasibility;
- Specificity of results, benefits and products;
- Cost effectiveness and budget detail and justification;
- Monitoring and long-term maintenance plan;
- Partnership/cooperation from community groups and other organizations.

Preference will be given to projects that:

- Benefit areas identified as Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) as identified by NOAA Fisheries, and areas within EFH as habitats of particular concern;
- Focus on the region bounded by Carquinez Strait and the Golden Gate bridge;
- Focus on one or more of the following habitats: rock reef habitat, subtidal habitat such as soft bottom and sand shoals, tidal, marsh, oyster reef and riparian habitats (see appendix II for more examples);
- Directly benefit species of the bay, such as herring, native oysters, and Dungeness crab, which are either of historic or current economic and ecological importance, that have been largely overlooked in other governmental restoration efforts (see appendix II for more examples);
- Focus on areas identified as habitat that support federal- or state listed anadromous, estuarine and marine species;
- Include participation of the IFR/NOAA partnership staff to strengthen the development and implementation of sound restoration.

Project Selection:

Project selection will take place in two steps. First, IFR will preliminarily review and recommend project proposals that most closely meet the qualifications and evaluation criteria. Second, NOAA headquarters, NOAA regional staff, and IFR staff will review, evaluate, and select final projects. Our goal is to fund between two and ten projects in year one of this three-year partnership.

Awardees will be notified in February of 2004.

Upon award notification, awardees will be informed of the required financial and programmatic reporting requirements. This information will assist IFR in meeting federal guidelines for reporting expenses and project status on a semi-annual basis as part of this national partnership.

For more information on this funding opportunity contact:

Sara F. Randall, IFR, srandall@ifrfish.org, 415.561.3474.

Natalie Cosentino-Manning (marine or estuarine projects), NOAA Fisheries, Natalie.C-Manning@noaa.gov, 707.575.6081.

Leah Mahan (riparian projects), NOAA Fisheries, Leah.Mahan@noaa.gov, 707.575.6077.

For more information on the Institute for Fisheries Resources, or the NOAA Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) and its partners, please visit the following websites:

Institute for Fisheries Resources: www.ifrfish.org

NOAA Restoration Center Community-based Restoration Program:
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/index.html>

APPENDIX I

ONE-YEAR PROJECTED BUDGET TEMPLATE
February 2004 – January 31, 2005)
PROPOSED COMMUNITY-BASED HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT

FUNDS	REQUESTED GRANT FUNDS	MATCH (state whether confirmed or pending)	PURPOSE (briefly state and elaborate in narrative)
Personnel			
Fringe Benefits (full-time@ 25%/short- term @ 8.5%)			
Travel			
Equipment			
Supplies			
Contractual			
Other			
Total Indirect Expenses			
Total Direct Expenses			
TOTAL			

NARRATIVE. Provide detail on how the amounts listed above will be used to meet the goals of this project.

APPENDIX II

LIST OF POSSIBLE RESTORATION ACTIVITIES

- Restoring marsh, wetland, seagrass, or riparian communities through revegetation, invasive plant control, natural re-contouring of the landscape, removing levees and artificial drainage systems, and related activities.
- Restoring native populations of aquatic organisms through re-introductions and control of invasive plant and animal species.
- Working with landowners or managers to improve water clarity, quality, and natural flow of fresh and saltwater.
- Working with water managers to restore natural volumes and timing of freshwater flows through rivers and into estuarine and coastal areas, and to remove or reduce the impacts of barriers to the movement of aquatic organisms in rivers and estuaries.