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NOAA CZM Habitat Protection & Restoration Funding

2024 Funding Cycle- Informational Webinar

Claire Fiegner, Coastal Habitat Project Coordinator

5/21/2024

An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline. The top half of the image shows a rocky shore with waves crashing against the rocks, creating white foam. The middle section features a large, dark, circular rock formation in the water. The bottom half shows a steep, rocky cliffside covered in dense green vegetation, overlooking the ocean. A solid green rectangular overlay covers the left side of the image, containing the text for the agenda.

Agenda

1. Overview of funding opportunity
2. Eligibility
3. Program Priorities
4. Specific Priorities for project types
5. Application Process/timelines
6. Tips for applying for Federal Funding
7. Next Steps
8. Time for Q & A



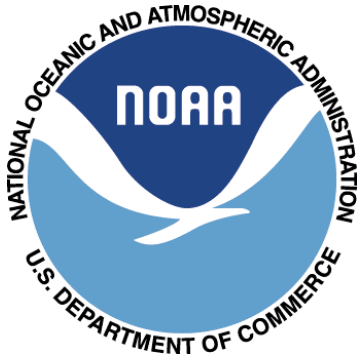
Funding Coastal Resiliency Projects



OCMP



DLCD



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)



CZM Bipartisan
Infrastructure
Law Funding
(BIL)

Purpose of Funding:

Increase resilience through landscape-scale habitat restoration and conservation in coastal ecosystems and promote coastal resilience in underserved coastal communities as well as those most vulnerable to climate impacts.

Total Funding and Timeline:

- CZM – \$207 million over 5 years
 - Year 1- Awarded \$50M - OR awarded \$2.05M
 - Year 2-Awarded \$59.8M - OR awarded \$6.9M

Eligible Project Types

Eligible Projects Types

- Habitat Restoration
- Habitat Restoration Planning, Engineering, and Design
- Land Conservation (Acquisition of Land (fee or Conservation Easement))

ALL Eligible Projects MUST

Be implemented on non-federal public or Tribal-owned lands.

- Restoration/Restoration Planning- takes place on land owned or controlled by public entity or Tribe. NGO's can receive \$ to implement projects.
- Land Conservation-Only **non-federal public entity or Tribe** is a qualified entity to hold title to land (fee simple or Conservation Easement interest). NGO not eligible to directly receive \$ for land conservation projects.

Eligibility Criteria

- Coastal zone
- Project goals highlighted in state or regional conservation plans
 - Oregon Conservation Strategy
 - Estuary Plan
 - ESA Recovery Plan
 - OCMP-Statewide Planning Goals
 - County conservation plans
 - OWEB priorities
 - Oregon Territorial Sea Plan
- Eligible applicants- DLCD/OCMP (submit up to 3 LOI's)
 - Sub applicants –non-federal public entities/Tribes + NGO's
 - Non-federal = State agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, local Governments & local/regional entities
- Public Benefit-passive public access

Project Budgets

- Funding range per project: up to \$6 million max
 - Restoration Planning - \$200,000-500,000/project
 - Restoration - \$2-6M/project
 - Acquisition - \$1-4M/project
- Consider BABA requirements in budget development
- No match required- but cost sharing is an important element considered in the evaluation criteria.
- CZM programs (DLCD) must serve as primary applicant.
- Generally, can be up to a 3-year project time period- plus additional year for restoration monitoring

Program Priorities

- Climate Resilience-factor in climate change effects
- Strengthening protection of key land and water areas and support the habitat protection goals and priorities of the National Coastal Zone Management Act
- Protecting or restoring high quality coastal ecosystems
- Increasing connectivity to improve habitat condition
- Preventing fragmentation, maintaining species or habitat diversity
- Diversity in geographic distribution of projects (nationally)
- Variety of project types (restoration/acquisition/engineering and design)
- Leverage additional funding sources
- Advance equity and inclusion



Habitat Restoration Projects

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Reflect coastal habitat restoration priority areas identified in state, tribal or regional plans
- Restore important habitats and connected ecosystem functions/species
- Restore hydrologic connections between habitats that improve ecosystem function;
- Enhance or restore important ecosystem services that support coastal communities, vulnerable populations or cultural resources (i.e., coastal flood protection, extreme weather resilience, water quality and quantity, food safety security, and chronic coastal erosion, etc.)
- Include a long-term plan for monitoring specific criteria relevant to achieve project objectives
- Provide for engineering and design needs, if not already completed.

Habitat Restoration Planning, Engineering, & Design Projects

- Habitat restoration planning, engineering, and design projects will be evaluated using the same criteria as noted for habitat restoration projects-with the exception that monitoring plans are not required.
- Habitat restoration planning activities should demonstrate how these efforts will support or catalyze subsequent on-the-ground restoration.

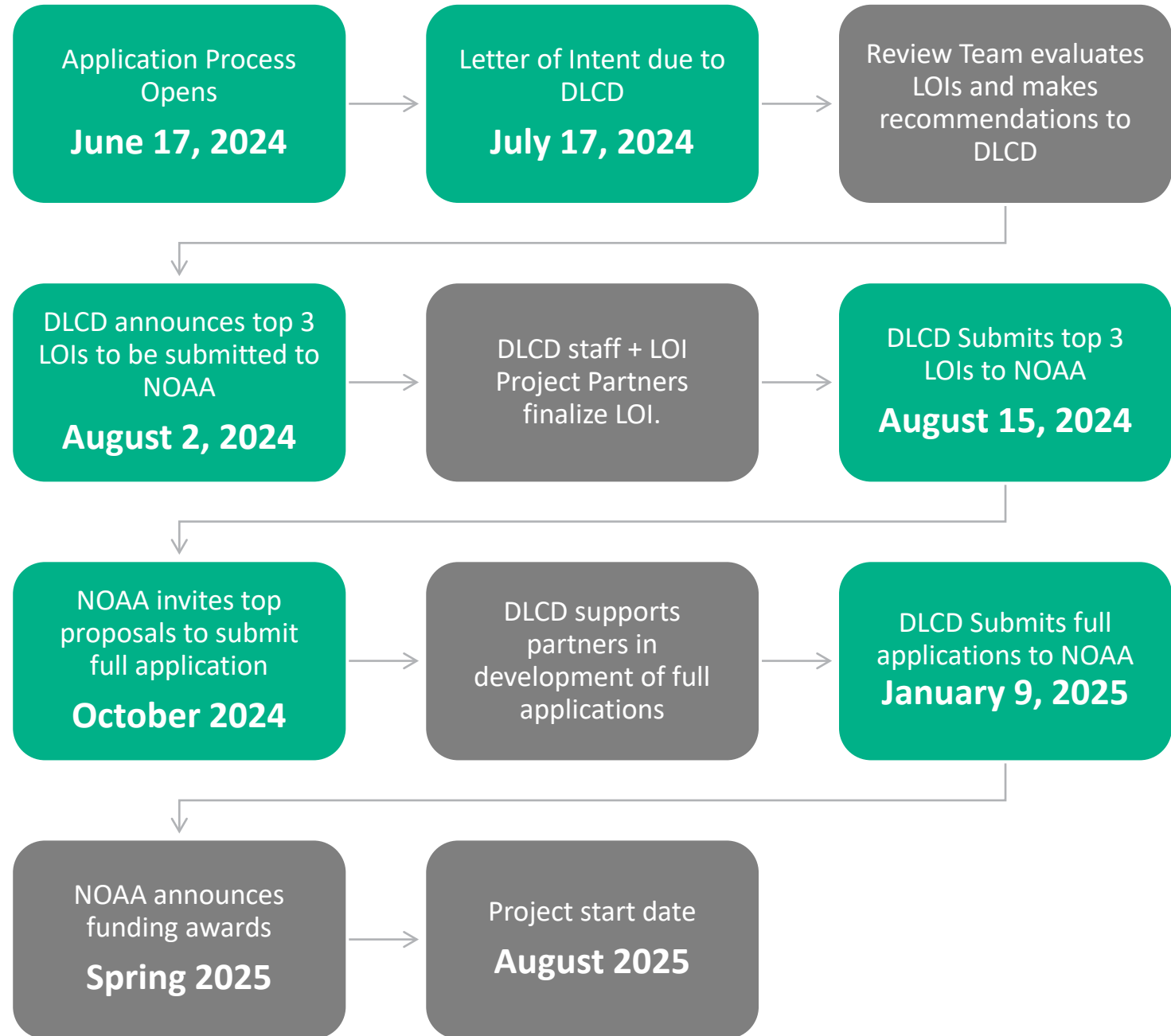
Land Conservation Projects

Priority will be given to projects that:

- have significant ecological value
- have a demonstrated need for protection
- are designed to protect properties under an imminent threat of conversion to a use that will degrade or diminish their natural, undeveloped, or recreational state
- can be effectively managed and protected
- serve to mitigate the adverse impacts caused by coastal population growth in the coastal environment
- reflect that the land conservation project goals are identified in national CZMA goals, and/or other regional, tribal or statewide conservation plans
- has a high level of project readiness
- Deed restriction requiring land is managed according to funding/application in perpetuity



Estimated Dates
**APPLICATION
PROCESS**



LOI Instructions

- Sign up for Pre-Application Consultation Meeting
- Use Letter of Intent Template
- Letter of Intent
 - Cover page
 - Body of LOI (4-page limit)
 - Attachments
- DLCDC's budget template
- Acquisition Projects:
 - Signed agreement from willing seller describing interest to sell property to buyer
 - Signed acknowledgement document/letter from proposed buyer that entity is willing to own and manage property in accordance with proposed application
- Restoration or Restoration Planning Projects:
 - Signed acknowledgement document/letter from authorized representative of entity that owns land that they will grant permission for the restoration project. Only necessary if the restoration project is proposed by an entity that does not own or control the land.

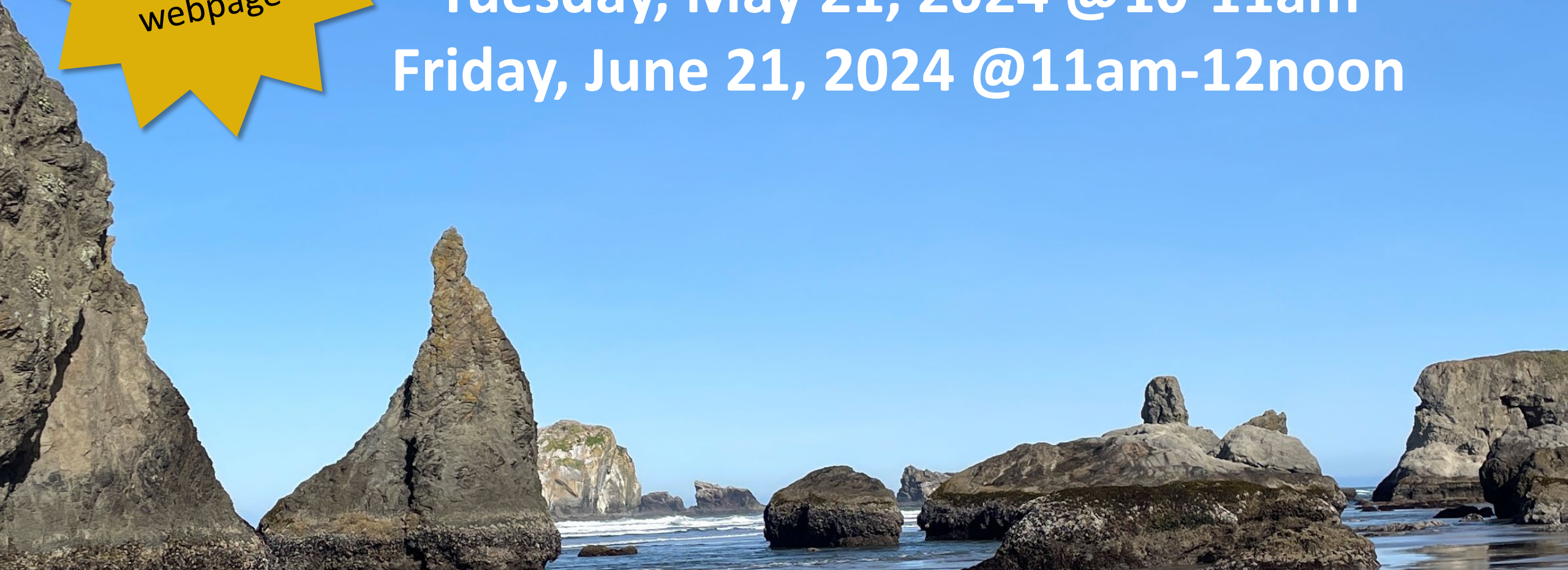


To Register go
to DLCD's
Coastal Grants
webpage

CZM Habitat Protection & Restoration Funding
Informational Webinar + Q&A (Zoom):

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 @10-11am

Friday, June 21, 2024 @11am-12noon



Tips for Applying for Federal Funding



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- Read through NOFO's/RFP's
- Reach out to funders with questions
- Small, individual projects tend to not compete nationally as well as projects that have strong partnerships, community support, provide transformational results and serve/lead by underserved communities
- Make your LOI's and applications persuasive, logical and emphasize how the project meets the program goals (climate resilience)
- LOI's and applications should be concise and engaging- avoid jargon and statements not supported by facts
- Review the evaluation criteria provide in NOFO's/RFP's and make sure your proposal addresses all the criteria
- Review list of previously funded projects
- Get and update your SAM.gov number
- Familiarize yourself with Build America, Buy America Act requirements

Next Steps

- Reach out with questions to Claire Fiegener
- Schedule your **pre-application consultation with DLCD** prior to submitting your LOI
- Read the NOFO and list of funded projects
- Visit DLCD's Coastal Grants webpage for additional resources
 - 2023 Letter of Intent Checklist + Instruction Guide (2024 instructions should be similar).
 - 2023 LOI Template
 - 2023 LOI Project Evaluation Criteria
 - 2024 Pre-Application Consultation Meeting Fact Sheet
- Restoration/on-the-ground activities must clear federal environment compliance – DLCD may need to schedule consultation with NOAA prior to submitting LOI. Schedule your pre-consultation meeting with Claire ASAP.

Thank you!

Claire Fiegener

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<https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/OCMP/Pages/Grants.aspx>

