



FWS Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Programs

OVERVIEW: APRIL, 2022



**Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
Summary of Appropriations - Division J**

(amounts in thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	Total
Energy and Water						
Central Utah Project						
<i>Central Utah Project Completion Account</i>	40,000	-	-	-	-	40,000
<i>Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation</i>	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Bureau of Reclamation						
<i>Water and Related Resources</i>	1,660,000	1,660,000	1,660,000	1,660,000	1,660,000	8,300,000
Total, Energy and Water	1,710,000	1,660,000	1,660,000	1,660,000	1,660,000	8,350,000
Interior and Related						
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service						
<i>Resource Management</i>	91,000	91,000	91,000	91,000	91,000	455,000
U.S. Geological Survey						
<i>Surveys, Investigations, and Research</i>	239,668	69,000	69,000	69,000	64,000	510,668
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement						
<i>Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund</i>	11,293,000	-	-	-	-	11,293,000
Bureau of Indian Affairs						
<i>Operation of Indian Programs</i>	43,200	43,200	43,200	43,200	43,200	216,000
<i>Construction</i>	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000
Office of the Secretary						
<i>Departmental Operations</i>	337,000	142,000	142,000	142,000	142,000	905,000
Department-Wide Programs						
<i>Wildland Fire Management</i>	407,600	262,600	262,600	262,600	262,600	1,458,000
<i>Energy Community Revitalization Program</i>	4,677,000	-	-	-	-	4,677,000
Total, Interior and Related	17,138,468	657,800	657,800	657,800	652,800	19,764,668
Total, Department of the Interior	18,848,468	2,317,800	2,317,800	2,317,800	2,312,800	28,114,668



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Ecosystem Restoration

- ▶ The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides a total of \$905 million to the Office of the Secretary for the DOI Ecosystem Restoration (ER).
- ▶ Funded programs include (over 5 years):
 - ▶ Contracts to Restore Ecosystem Health - \$150
 - ▶ Good Neighbor Agreements with States and Tribes - \$40
 - ▶ Grants to States and Tribes for Voluntary Restoration - \$400
 - ▶ Invasive Species - \$100
 - ▶ Resilient Recreation Sites on Federal Lands - \$45
 - ▶ Revegetation and Hazard Mitigation on Mined Lands - \$100
 - ▶ National Revegetation Effort including National Seed Strategy - \$70



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Ecosystem Restoration

- ▶ The Office of the Secretary has initiated a planning and implementation process for a high impact, coordinated ER Program. For FY 2022 spending, the shorter timeline requires an expedited approach, reliance on existing programs and funding vehicles for previously vetted restoration priorities, as well as greater emphasis on planning and capacity building efforts necessary for coordinated, collaborative, just and equitable, and effective restoration in the following fiscal years.
- ▶ A DOI-wide Ecosystem Restoration Working Group (ERWG) coordinated to ensure funding is spent efficiently and equitably for greatest restoration impact.
- ▶ Bulk of the \$400 million for grants to States and Tribes to be administered by NFWF
- ▶ FWS to receive portions from the other allocation accounts

FWS Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Overview



- ▶ The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides a total of \$455 million to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for 5 existing programs.
- ▶ Funded programs include (over 5 years):
 - ▶ Klamath - \$162 million
 - ▶ Lake Tahoe - \$17 million
 - ▶ Sage-steppe - \$50 million
 - ▶ Delaware River - \$26 million
 - ▶ Fish Passage - \$200 million



Klamath

▶ *Klamath Falls NFH Construction*

- ▶ Lost River and shortnose suckers are on the verge of extinction in Upper Klamath Lake. Since 2016, Klamath suckers have been successfully propagated. The existing facility needs to be expanded to reach a production goal of 60,000 to 70,000 suckers annually to stabilize existing wild populations at viable levels. By bringing this hatchery fully online, the Service believes it can secure a future for Lost River and shortnose suckers.

▶ *Securing Water for Klamath Wildlife Refuges and Improving Water Quality*

- ▶ The Klamath Basin endured one of the worst water years on record in 2021. Lower Klamath and Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuges received virtually no water throughout the summer and fall. The Service is developing a strategy to secure water deliveries to the Lower Klamath NWR by working with willing landowners and water rights holders on water transfer agreements.

▶ *Implementing Tribal and Stakeholder Basin Wide Klamath Restoration Priorities*

- ▶ A wide range of historical and ongoing human activities across the Klamath Basin, have contributed to reduced flows, habitat loss, and increases in nitrogen and sediment inputs in waters that are already naturally phosphorus-rich. Add to these pressures more frequent and extended droughts and forest fires. Large-scale habitat restoration will help ameliorate some of these conditions and provide for better conditions in the future.

FWS Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



Lake Tahoe

- ▶ The following types of projects are anticipated:
- ▶ *Aquatic Invasive Species Removal* - Aquatic invasive plants have become established in shallow water habitats, especially around manmade features such as marinas and the Tahoe Keys. Aquatic invasive invertebrates also harm the native ecosystem and make recovery of Lahontan cutthroat trout more challenging.
- ▶ *Tribal Trust* - Lake Tahoe and its resources are culturally important to the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California.
- ▶ *Biosecurity Infrastructure Investments* – Lahontan NFHC produces the unique strain of trout that is native to Lake Tahoe and has been reintroduced into Lake Tahoe in recent years to support recovery and provide recreational fishing opportunities.
- ▶ *Science and Data Collection* – FWS will monitor AIS removal efforts pre and post treatment to understand effectiveness and guide future AIS removal strategies.

FWS Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



Sage-Steppe

- ▶ Goals:
 - ▶ Defend and grow high quality sagebrush habitat “cores” to strengthen climate resilience and promote land health
 - ▶ Reduce the likelihood of future federal regulatory intervention for declining sagebrush-obligate wildlife species
 - ▶ Sustain the region’s rural, natural resources-based economies and communities, including tribes
- ▶ Build on the current collaborative process with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and other federal, state and nongovernmental partners

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Delaware River

- ▶ The Delaware River Basin program provides competitive matching grants for habitat conservation in the Delaware River Basin in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.
- ▶ The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will publish an RFP in February for a competitive grant program to fund projects that advance nature-based solutions in the Delaware River watershed.
- ▶ The Service's existing Delaware River Basin program will be enhanced with these funds.

FWS Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



Fish Passage

- ▶ The National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) is an existing program that provides technical expertise, financial assistance, and coordination support to complete aquatic ecosystem restoration projects.
- ▶ The Service works with Federal agencies, State governments, private landowners, Tribes, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to restore fish passage and aquatic connectivity by removing or bypassing barriers.
- ▶ FWS has released project list for 2022: 40 fish passage projects in 23 states and Puerto Rico will receive \$38 Million in funding
- ▶ Work collaboratively on project lists for 2023 and onward.
- ▶ Vision to also collaborate with Federal partners on the larger suite of fish passage / culverts / other funding packages.

FWS Bipartisan Infrastructure Law