

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Funding Opportunity

F25AS00274 Water Supply Analyses Project for Coleman National Fish Hatchery Intake 2

Funding Opportunity Number

F25AS00274

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BASIC INFORMATION

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: F25AS00274

Assistance Listing Number(s): 15.608

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$600,000

Expected Number of Awards: 1

Award Ceiling: \$600,000

Award Floor: \$1

Cost Sharing Required?

No

Closing Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM, ET, on the listed application due date.

U.S. states and local governments may be required under [Executive Order 12372](#), [Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs](#) to submit their application to their State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for review. For more information, see the [Intergovernmental Review SPOC List](#).

OMB Control Number: [1018-0100](#)

Have Questions?

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Executive Summary

The Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office (RBFWO), Battle Creek Program, is soliciting proposals for fluvial geomorphic, hydrologic, bathymetric and terrestrial surveying including a sediment transport analysis to provide the baseline data necessary for the future design of a screened and fish-safe diversion at the Intake #2 location on Battle Creek. These analyzes should assess stream conditions, model flow and sediment regimes, and thereby inform the plan to ensure adequate water diversions for Coleman National Fish Hatchery (CNFH) in perpetuity. CNFH also is the location of one of the largest production hatcheries in the continental United States, producing tens of millions of salmonids annually, supporting an economically important sport fishery. RBFWO, CNFH, US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife have been working collaboratively on a multi-benefit water infrastructure improvement program. Part of that program focuses on establishing a population of endangered winter-run Chinook Salmon into Battle Creek, so they have a secondary population outside the Sacramento River. CNFH has been chosen as a prime site for us to raise these fish in addition to its sport

fishing production goals, but currently the water intake system does not meet specific standards and are under an aged infrastructure review being led by BOR. Under this review a new water intake system is to be added along with updating older water intake structures. The analysis and model to be generated by this agreement would directly assist BOR with creating designs for updating this water intake and overall help CNFH meet their production goals. Required deliverables include a complete and comprehensive assessment for the future design team.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants

Unrestricted (i.e., open to any type of entity above), subject to any clarification in the text field entitled “Additional Information on Eligibility”

Additional Information on Eligibility

The final applicant will have to be approved by California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Cost Sharing Requirement

Cost Sharing Required?

No

GET READY TO APPLY

Required System Registrations

Unique Entity Identifier and SAM.gov Registration

Before applying, all **applicants** except individuals applying as a natural person **must be registered in SAM.gov**. During the SAM.gov registration the entity will obtain their Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

The SAM.gov registration process can take several months. If your organization is not already registered in SAM.gov, begin the registration process as soon as possible.

To register in SAM.gov, go to the [SAM.gov website](#) and use the available resources to complete registration.

- **Financial assistance registrants** must review and certify compliance with the SAM.gov “Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications”.
- **Already registered?** You already have a Unique Entity ID. Before applying, check that your “Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications” on SAM.gov is complete. Remember to renew your registration every year to keep it active while you have an award or application in progress. You can update your registration whenever you need, including during renewal.
- **Need help?** For additional information and contact information on the [SAM.gov Help page](#).

GRANTSOLUTIONS

This program accepts applications through GrantSolutions.gov. You must register with GrantSolutions. See [Submission Instructions](#).

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Goals

- Project Goals:
 1. Gather baseline data on the current fluvial geomorphic conditions of Battle Creek relevant to Intake 2, identify limitations to diversion capacity, identify pool depth needed to improve operation of the existing Intake 2, and create a complete and comprehensive assessment for the diversion of 72 CFS at a fully screened, fish-safe intake.
 2. Build and calibrate a model that can be handed over to the future design team, including considerations for sediment transport and flow regimes of current and projected conditions at the intake site, as well as information that could be used for an alternative location.
 3. Provide recommendations to inform infrastructure improvements, ensuring that the new design aligns with ecological and operational needs.

Funds under this award will be used to complete the implementation and analysis of these studies at and around Intake #2 on the mainstem of Battle Creek.

Project tasks and applicant responsibilities:

1. Collect, analyze, and provide both historic and current data trends from water intake system and gauges related to CNFN to determine yearly requirements to ensure adequate diversion levels.
2. Complete instream study, measurements, and mapping of the channel and intake system.
3. Provide a calibrated model of stream conditions, including sediment transport, hydrology, bathymetry and fluvial geomorphology relevant to the Intake #2 location.
4. Create feasibility study of how a fish safe screen design may be affected by different flow regimes.
5. Develop a monitoring and maintenance plan for the intake reach,
6. Provide a complete and a comprehensive assessment of the Intake #2 site and reach; related to geomorphic processes (emphasizing the fate and transport of sediment) for relevant flow conditions for the future design team.

Program Description

Background:

Battle Creek is a vital tributary of the Sacramento River, supporting Central Valley (CV) steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and all four runs of Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), including the endangered winter-run Chinook Salmon. This unique population is adapted to the specific geological conditions of the upper Sacramento River Basin (Lindley et al. 2004). Reintroducing winter-run Chinook Salmon into Battle Creek aligns with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Recovery Plan to restore the spatial structure of this Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) by reintroducing populations to their historic habitats (NMFS 2014).

Battle Creek is home to Coleman National Fish Hatchery, one of the largest production hatcheries in the continental United States, playing a vital role in supporting an economically significant sport fishery. Coleman National Fish Hatchery (CNFH) also plays a crucial role in supporting the winter-run Chinook recovery efforts by collecting returning adults. The 2016 CNFH Adaptive Management Plan and the 2019 agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) highlight CNFH's commitment to restoring natural salmonid populations in Battle Creek. However, winter-run are currently raised at an offsite facility, necessitating a more strategic approach by utilizing CNFH's unique position to raise endangered winter-run salmon effectively.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) operates several hydroelectric facilities on the North and South Forks of Battle Creek. In 1999, PG&E, along with NMFS, CDFW, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aimed at restoring salmon and steelhead populations. The Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project (BCRP) implements various restoration actions, including the removal of ageing and unused diversions and the incorporation of fish ladders and screens. After many years of planning, portions of the major restoration project have been implemented on Battle Creek. Unfortunately, one side effect of these actions has led to CNFH losing its main water supply.

CNFH holds non-consumptive water rights to withdraw up to 122 cubic feet per second (cfs) from Battle Creek, with 109 cfs designated for fish culture and 13 cfs for downstream users. The hatchery relies on four water intake structures to ensure uninterrupted water delivery. Currently, Intake #1 and Expanded #1, which draw from the PG&E powerhouse, are the primary sources, but both are slated to become inoperable by 2026. This will leave CNFH dependent on Intake #2 and Intake #3, which are un-screened.

The Northern California Area Office (NCAO) at USBR is working to install fish screens at Intake #3, but screening Intake #2 will necessitate significant additional funding and design analysis. Given the sediment mobility and flow dynamics of Battle Creek, appropriate screening solutions are critical.

Intake #2 has also been identified as under-performing, with a maximum capacity of approximately 65 cfs under normal conditions, decreasing to 58 cfs during low water conditions. Changes in channel morphology, sediment deposition, and a malfunctioning valve have further compromised its functionality. To optimize Intake #2, sediment removal and construction of a barrier to prevent continual aggradation may be necessary, while ensuring fish passage for ESA-listed salmonids.

The ongoing aged infrastructure review and alternatives analysis for CNFH's water supply, led by BOR and a private contractor, will provide essential data to address these challenges. Utilizing this information is vital for developing sustainable strategies to ensure CNFH meets its operational needs while supporting the recovery of endangered salmonid populations in Battle Creek.

Scope of Work:

This project will operate under a tight deadline, as the grant agreement funding it expires on November 1, 2025. All billing must be completed, and deliverables received, before this date. The primary goal of this funding is to identify options for increasing the water capacity at Intake #2 for Coleman National Fish Hatchery.

To achieve this, both the upstream and downstream areas of the current intake must be thoroughly mapped and studied, along with an evaluation of historical data trends. This comprehensive analysis will ensure that Intake #2 can operate at full capacity throughout the year across a range of annual flows, while also meeting screening requirements in compliance with NMFS and CDFW criteria.

Legislative Authority

[Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act—Cooperation of agencies \(16 U.S.C. §661\)](#)

Type of Award

Projects will be funded through G (Grant).

PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

Application Content and Format

Application Documents

Applicants must submit the following forms with their application as specified below. Instructions for accessing and submitting application forms are provided in the [Submission Instructions](#) section of this document below. For instructions on completing form fields, see the form instructions on the [Grants.gov Forms Repository](#).

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance Note: For applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative's signature (or electronic equivalent) on the Application for Federal Assistance form also represents their certification of the statements in Appendix A to 43 CFR 18-Certification Regarding Lobbying	Required from all applicants
SF-424A, Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs	Required for non-construction projects
SF-424C: Budget Information – Construction Programs	Required for construction projects
SF-429 (Cover Page & Attachment B), Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish Real Property	Required if requesting to acquire, improve, or furnish real property.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
Note: The SF-429 forms are only available in the Grants.gov Forms Repository . Applicants must download the form and include the completed form as an application attachment.	
SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	Required if requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds <u>and</u> the applicant has used or plans to use funds other than Federal appropriated funds for lobbying related to the proposed project.
Project Abstract Summary (OMB 4040-0019). Must include, in plain language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award purpose, • Activities to be performed, • Expected deliverables or outcomes, • Intended beneficiaries, Subrecipient activities (if known or specified at time of award)	Required from all applicants

Project Narrative

Project Narrative should include:

- Project Title
- Description of entity(ies) undertaking the project
- Statement of need that addresses: the specific concern, problem, or issue to be addressed or opportunity to be leveraged; the consequences of not addressing the need; and how the proposed project aligns with the Service program's goals
- Project objectives that are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound, and any milestones that must be reached to achieve objectives
- Activities, including detailing for each who is carrying out the activity, what is involved, how will it be carried out (method), and when and where the activity will be carried out
- Timeline of when significant project events or milestones are anticipated
- Sufficient information to support environmental compliance review requirements.
- Information on key project personnel, including details on their expertise, skill, or significance to the project
- Project location details and supporting documentation such as maps, GIS data, or geopolitical data, as applicable.
- Description of stakeholder coordination or involvement
- Expected deliverables
- Project monitoring and evaluation plan, including description of assessment tools

Budget Narrative

Applicants must describe and justify items and costs listed in their budget. The budget narrative must identify the following cost items: total estimated costs, non-Federal cost share, third-party contributions, and any pre-award costs. Total project cost is the sum of all allowable costs, including required and voluntary cost share and third-party contributions.

Budget items must be:

- Reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary
- Compliant with [2 CFR §200 Subpart E](#) cost principles

Indirect Costs: Applicants must indicate in their budget narrative how they will charge indirect costs, including the rate to be applied:

- De Minimis Rate: If eligible, state if your organization is opting to use the de minimis rate of up to 15% of total modified direct costs. Entities that do not have a current Federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate) may propose to use the de minimis rate. For more information, refer to [2 CFR 200.414\(f\)](#).
- Negotiated Rate: State if you will negotiate with your cognizant agency. If your organization has previously negotiated a rate, attach a copy of the most recently negotiated rate agreement (active or expired).

Conflict of Interest and Unresolved Matters Disclosures:

If any actual or potential conflict of interest exists related to this project at the time of application, the applicant must provide sufficient information to support a program determination of significance per [2 CFR 1402.112](#). Refer to [2 CFR 200.112](#) Conflict of Interest and [2 CFR 200.113](#).

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:

Applicants must state in their application if the activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel proposed in this application overlap with those in any other Federal proposal or award or not. If no overlap exists, include a statement to that effect. If any overlap exists, provide:

- Activities: Description any overlapping activities.
- Costs: Description of any overlapping costs.
- Time: Description of any overlapping key personnel time.
- A copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity.
- Details on when any overlapping proposal was submitted, to whom, and the expected date of the funding decision.

Other Required Information

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

Address to Request Application Package

All applications should be submitted through GrantSolutions.

Submission Dates and Times

Closing Date for Applications: 04/20/2025

Closing Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM, ET, on the listed application due date.

Submission Instructions

Apply Through GrantSolutions

To apply through [GrantSolutions](#), follow these steps:

1. **Register your organization.** Send an e-mail to help@grantsolutions.gov with:
 - Subject: New Organization Request
 - Entity name (organization or individual applying as a natural person)
 - Entity type
 - SAM.gov Unique Entity Identifier (not required for individuals)
 - Employer Identification Number (individuals, do not include your SSN)
 - Address
 - Contact details (First and last name, e-mail, phone)This information should be the same as entered on the entity's SAM.gov profile.
2. **Assign system user roles.** Follow the [GrantSolutions "Recipient user" registration instructions](#). Submit a separate Recipient User Account Request form for each official to be assigned a system role. At minimum, the Authorizing Official (ADO) and Principal Investigator/Program Director (PI/PD) must be assigned.
3. **Log in.** GrantSolutions requires users to log in through Login.gov. Each user must create a [Login.gov](#) account. For instructions, see the [GrantSolutions Training Resources web page](#).
4. **Find and apply to this Funding Opportunity.** After logging in, click on either the "Begin an application" link (first time applicants) or the "Funding Opportunity" link to go to the "Competing Announcements-Application Kits" list screen. Search the list for this Funding Opportunity's title and number. Click on the associated "Apply" link. Follow the prompts from there. Required applications forms are provided with the Funding Opportunity in GrantSolutions unless otherwise indicated on the Required Forms table above.
5. For detailed instructions, see the [GrantSolutions Training Resources web page](#).
6. **Need help?** Find help topics and contact information on the [GrantSolutions Contact Us page](#).

APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

Eligibility Review

During the eligibility review, the application is checked for timely submission, completed packages (see [Application Documents](#) above) and alignment with the requirements of this announcement. The Federal agency may remove an application if it does not pass the eligibility review.

Entities are unrestricted but final choice of applicant must be approved by CDFW.

If an applicant selected for funding hasn't finished their SAM.gov registration (see [2 CFR 25.200](#) and [2 CFR 25.110](#)) when the federal agency is ready to make an award, we may decide that the applicant is ineligible for the award and choose to grant it to someone else. Please refer [2 CFR 25.205](#) for more information.

Prior to making an award, the DOI checks the anticipated recipient and their key project personnel against the current list of prohibited or restricted persons or entities in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Exclusions database. We are prohibited from making an award if a recipient or any key personnel are found ineligible, prohibited, restricted, or otherwise excluded from receiving or participating in an award, as their ineligibility condition applies to this program.

If removed from consideration for ineligibility, the Federal agency will notify the applicant in writing.

Merit Review

Applicants will be rated on a combination of experience level, proposed technical approach, and budget estimates. To be considered for funding, applications must provide information that shows they meet the following criteria:

Demonstrate expertise in hydrology, hydrological modeling and sediment transport;
Demonstrate expertise in fish passage engineering;
Demonstrate expertise in aquatic habitat mapping;
Experience working on anadromous salmonid restoration projects (minimum of 3) in California streams and rivers;
One or more of the applicants and/or sub-recipients must be a qualified geomorphologist with experience (10+ years) designing or modifying salmonid fish passage projects;
Applicant's and sub-recipients record of performance and expertise;
Proposal's clearly state goals, objectives, and methods;
Economic efficiency, budget is reasonable and provide good value for funds requested; and
Demonstrate ability to provide timely updates to the Project Manager.

Review and Selection Process

This program reviews proposed budgets to ensure:

- figures are correct
- estimated costs are necessary and reasonable and clearly linked to project narratives
- avoid obviously unallowable costs
- identify costs requiring prior approval
- ensure indirect cost rates are applied correctly
- confirm cost sharing requirements are reflected in the budget.

This program reviews applications for potential overlap or duplication between the proposed project and any other funded or proposed project. Depending on the circumstances, DOI may choose to not make an award.

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the FWS may choose not to fund the selected project.

Prior to award, the program will conduct and document a review of the proposed budget to ensure figures are calculated correctly, proposed costs are clearly linked to the project narrative and seem necessary and reasonable, no obviously unallowable costs are included, costs requiring prior approval are identified and described, indirect cost are applied correctly, and any program match or cost share requirements are addressed.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Risk Review

Prior to making an award, the program assesses the risk posed by the applicant per [2 CFR 200.206](#). If an award will be made, the program may apply special conditions corresponding to the risk assessed. For awards over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the program reviews eligibility and financial integrity information in the applicant's SAM.gov records per [2 CFR 200.206\(a\)](#). The program also assesses financial management capabilities, project delivery experience, staffing resources, past performance, administration and reporting compliance records, and overall project complexity and potential challenges.

AWARD NOTICES

Notices of Federal Award are sent electronically via GrantSolutions or e-mail. These notices outline the terms, conditions, and payment instructions per [2 CFR 200.211](#). The Notice of Federal Award signed by an authorized Grants Officer is the legal instrument obligating financial assistance to a recipient. Any other prior notice is not an authorization to begin work. If the program allows pre-award costs per [2 CFR 200.458](#), beginning performance before receiving a Notice of Federal Award is at the applicant's own risk.

Anticipated Project Start Date: 06/15/2025

Anticipated Project End Date: 11/01/2025

This project will be under a tight deadline, and the period of performance expires on November 1, 2025.

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

Administration and National Policy Requirements

For award administration and national policy requirements, see the [DOI General Terms and Conditions](#). Infrastructure projects require the use of American iron, steel, manufacture products, and construction materials per [2 CFR 184](#).

See the [FWS General Award Terms and Conditions](#) for national policy requirements for FWS awards. Special terms and conditions will be detailed in award notices.

Reporting

The recipient's Notice of Award will detail all reporting requirements, including frequency, due dates, and instructions for requesting extensions. In general, but not limited to, recipients must:

- Submit Federal Financial reports and Program Performance reports.
- Use the [Federal Financial Report \(SF-425\) form](#) for financial reporting,
- Monitor award activities and report on program performance per [2 CFR 200.329](#),
- Promptly notify the awarding program in writing of any issues, delays, or conditions impairing award objectives per [2 CFR 200.329\(e\)](#),
- Disclose any conflicts of interest related to their award that arise during the award period per [2 CFR 1402.112](#),
- Report on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest per [2 CFR 200.330](#), and
- Report all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award per [2 CFR 200.113](#).
- Report any matters related to recipient integrity and performance to SAM.gov per [Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200](#).
- If the Federal share of the award is more than \$100,000 and the recipient makes or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection to the award, disclose those activities using the Disclosure of Lobbying (SF-LLL) form per [43 CFR 18.100](#).
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires certain recipients to report information on executive compensation through SAM.gov and information on all sub-awards, subcontracts, and consortiums over \$30,000 to the [FFATA Subaward Reporting System \(FSRS\)](#).

Other Information