WILDLIFE CROSSINGS PILOT PROGRAM

Program Summary

The goal of the Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) is to reduce the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVCs) and improve habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. This NOFO announces two application periods.

DOT and FHWA seek to fund projects that do the following:

- Provide substantial safety benefits and advance safe, efficient transportation.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate evidence-based climate resilience measures and features, and avoid adverse environmental impacts to air or water quality, wetlands, and endangered species, and address the disproportionate negative environmental impacts of transportation on disadvantaged communities.
- Create proportional impacts to all populations in a project area, remove transportation related disparities to all populations in a project area, and increase equitable access to project benefit.
- Support the creation of good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union and the incorporation of strong labor standards and training and placement programs.

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

State DOT; MPO; unit of local government; regional transportation authority; special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function; Indian Tribe; or FLMA.

Eligible Activities

Grants are available for all project activities, including but not limited to research, planning, design, and construction. All projects should seek to protect motorists and wildlife by reducing the number of WVCs and improve habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species.

Want to Apply? Here are some important Details

- Register early. The process can take several weeks to complete so should be started well before the application deadline.
- FHWA will award 60% or more of available funds for projects located in rural areas. See NOFO for the definition of "rural areas".
- There is no limitation on the number of applications that may be submitted by an eligible applicant.
- Applicants are encouraged to identify scaled funding options in case insufficient funding is available to fund an application at the full requested amount.
- Projects that reduce WVCs and improve habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species will be prioritized.



Contact Information:

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Funding Details

Award Size: No min/ max, however, applicants are encouraged to submit comprehensive applications for large-scale projects with total project costs of \$200,000 or greater.

Cost Sharing: Max Federal share is 80% of the total project costs, unless an exception applies.

NOFO Funding:

- FY 2024 and FY 2025 Funding: up to \$145 million
- FY 2026 Funding: up to \$80
 million
- FHWA also intends to award \$2,269,418 in unawarded FY 2023 funds under this NOFO.

Total Funding Available: \$350M

Important Dates

FY 24/25 Application Deadline: September 4, 2024

FY 2026 Application Deadline: August 1, 2025

Partnerships

- FHWA encourages multiple Eligible Applicants to submit a joint application.
- Joint applications should include a description of the roles and responsibilities of each applicant and be signed or include a letter of support by each applicant.

Resources

- <u>Website</u>
- <u>NOFO</u>