

HAWAII FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP



The Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership seeks to cooperatively develop and implement conservation projects to benefit native aquatic life and sustainable uses of streams, estuaries, and nearshore marine habitats through the support and participation of government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and communities.

Project Support for Aquatic Habitat Conservation Pre-proposals due September 11th, 2026

The [Hawai'i Fish Habitat Partnership](http://www.fishhabitat.org) is seeking pre-proposals for **aquatic habitat conservation projects** in streams, estuaries, and nearshore marine habitats of the main Hawaiian Islands. Projects developed in coordination with the Hawai'i FHP may be eligible for funding through the National Fish Habitat Partnership (www.fishhabitat.org) and other federal assistance programs.

Projects submitted for NFHP funding will be reviewed for selection on a competitive basis by the Hawai'i FHP Steering Committee. The Hawai'i FHP administers financial assistance awards of up to \$100,000 for fish passage improvements and aquatic habitat restoration. A minimum 1:1 non-federal match is required, with the exception of projects implemented through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. Projects scheduled for completion in 18-24 months are preferred. Successful applicants will have funds in place in the third quarter of 2027.

On-the-ground aquatic habitat conservation projects are given highest priority, especially “shovel-ready” projects that have completed environmental compliance requirements. If funding permits, secondary consideration may be given to support aquatic habitat conservation project planning and design, or applied research that will guide future Hawai'i FHP aquatic habitat conservation activities such as engineering and design for fish passage projects, regional aquatic habitat assessments, and aquatic invasive species control. Outcomes must clearly address priority objectives of the [Hawai'i FHP Strategic Plan](#) and conservation goals of the [National Fish Habitat Action Plan](#). Projects located in priority watersheds and habitat types identified in the Hawai'i FHP Strategic Plan are preferred. Hawai'i FHP conservation goals are:

- 🐟 **Healthy Waters *Mauka to Makai*:** Improve healthy stream flows and connectivity from *mauka* to *makai* through strategic nonstructural and structural barrier removal.
- 🐟 **Climate-Resilient Habitat Restoration:** Restore stream, estuarine, wetland, and near coastal habitats and anchialine pools to increase ecological function and sustainable uses while recognizing and adapting to a changing climate and changing aquatic landscapes.
- 🐟 **Community Partnerships:** Support communities that utilize resources for support of their livelihoods and customary practices in restoring and maintaining healthy inland waters and aquatic habitats across Hawai'i.

Pre-proposals are due September 11th, 2026. Pre-proposal narrative project descriptions are limited to one (1) page with an optional second page for a budget table, maps, or other illustrations. The project narrative must contain a description of planned project activities, measurable outcomes, anticipated federal and state permit requirements, and recreationally and culturally important aquatic species expected to benefit from the project. A subset of pre-proposals will be selected for full proposal development upon review by the Hawai'i FHP Steering Committee with a due date in mid October. Early direct consultation with the Hawai'i FHP Coordinator is strongly recommended. Please submit pre-proposals via email to:

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