



September 2023 | Wood Innovations Program Funding Opportunities

FY 2024 WOOD INNOVATIONS FUNDING PROGRAM SUMMARIES

Grant Program	Community Wood Program	Wood Innovations Funding Opportunity	BIL Section 40804(c)3 Wood Products Infrastructure Assistance (WPIA)	Temporary Water Crossing – Skidder Bridges
Funding Source and Amount:	\$6+ million: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Division J <i>2024 Appropriations TBD;</i>	\$20+ million: BIL Division J; Inflation Reduction Act, <i>2024 Appropriations TBD</i>	\$23.3 million: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law FY 2022: \$3.3 million remaining) FY 2023: \$8.0 million
Authorization:	2018 Farm Bill (P.L. 115-334) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58)	2018 Farm Bill (P.L. 115-334); Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58); Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169)	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58)	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58)
Intent:	Support local economies by funding turn-key ready-to-implement projects that either expand the number of thermally led wood energy systems or build or expand innovative wood products manufacturing facilities.	Stimulate, expand, and support U.S. wood products and wood energy markets.	Financial assistance to facilities that purchase and process byproducts from ecosystem restoration projects in areas at risk of unnaturally severe wildfire or insect or disease infestation. The intent is to substantially decrease the cost of conducting restoration projects involving vegetation removal on Federal and Tribal lands.	Support the establishment of temporary bridge rental programs with States and Indian Tribes to protect water resources and reduce water quality degradation during forestry related operations requiring temporary water resource crossings.
Request for Proposal Open Date:	October 16-20, 2023 (tentative)	October 16-20, 2023 (tentative)	October 16-20, 2023 (tentative)	Rolling Applications Open: Reviews 3x / year

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Submission Deadline:	December 15, 2023 5pm Local Time (tentative)	December 15, 2023 5pm Local Time (tentative)	December 1, 2023 5pm Local Time (tentative)	Rolling application
Approximate Award Announcement:	April/May 2024	April/May 2024	April/May 2024	3x / year
Approximate Date of Award Execution:	Summer 2024	Summer 2024	Summer 2024	August/September 2024, January 2025, May 2025
Project Length:	2 – 3 years, not to exceed 5	2 – 3 years, not to exceed 5	2 – 3 years, not to exceed 5	2 – 3 years, not to exceed 5
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible applicants are non-profits; local, state, and tribal governments; businesses, companies, corporations (for profit); institutions of higher education; and special purpose districts (public utility districts, fire districts, conservation districts, school districts, and ports.)	Eligible applicants are for-profit entities; state, local, and tribal governments; school districts; community, not-for-profit organizations; institutions of higher education; and special purpose districts (e.g., public utilities districts, fire districts, conservation districts, and ports).	Eligible applicants are for-profit entities; state, local, and tribal governments; school districts; community, not-for-profit organizations; institutions of higher education; and special purpose districts (e.g., public utilities districts, fire districts, conservation districts, and ports). Applicants need to demonstrate that 50% of the material will come from federal or tribal land and they are high priority for ecosystem restoration.	Eligible applicants are State Governments and Indian Tribes. States may defer the grant authority to another responsible entity through a letter of designation.

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Individual Award Ceiling:	\$1-1.5 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal funds pay for up to 35% of total capital costs. Federal funds can pay up to 50% of total capital costs for special consideration (e.g., high unemployment or other priorities). Must obtain approval from Forest Service Coordinator before submission. 	\$300,000 except for highly significant projects. \$1,000,000 for a stationary wood energy system rated greater than 5 Megawatts in thermal output.	\$50,000 - \$1,000,000.	Up to \$300,000 annually.
Match Requirement:	No formal match required. Leveraging is required – applicant must provide remainder of funds from non-federal sources.	100% match required. For every \$1 of Forest Service funds requested, applicant must provide \$1 of non-federal match.	No match required. 25% match receives additional preference scoring.	No match required.
Program Goals:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expand thermally led community wood energy or innovative wood product opportunities. Improve forest health Stimulate local economies. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health on National Forest System and other forest lands. Reduce the costs of forest management on all land types. Promote economic and environmental health of communities. Reduce the occurrences of catastrophic wildfire. Improve forest health through supporting the facilities that can utilize the byproducts of the on-the-ground land management activities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide financial assistance to facilities that purchase and process byproducts from ecosystem restoration projects. Support ecosystem restoration projects in areas at risk of unnaturally severe wildfire or insect or disease infestation that are in close proximity to facilities. Reduce the costs of forest management on Federal and Tribal lands. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support the establishment of temporary bridge rental programs for portable skidder bridges, bridge mats, or other temporary water crossing structures, to minimize stream bed disturbance on non-Federal land and Federal land.

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<p>Allowable Use of Forest Service Funds (include but are not limited to):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs to install a thermally led community wood energy system or build or expand an innovative wood product facility as long as those costs don't fall under any of the specific prohibitions. • Purchase of stationary equipment – be aware of federal interest. • Architecture and engineering design, inspections, legal work, and permitting costs associated with real property. • Infrastructure improvements, such as site prep or road improvements in advance of construction, that do not significantly increase value of real property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairly broad. See examples of eligible projects. Previously funded project can be viewed at Wood Innovations (Wood Products Markets and Wood Energy) Project Search • Stationary or permanently installed wood processing and manufacturing equipment are the only types of equipment eligible for purchase with federal funds. • Architecture and engineering design, inspections, legal work, and permitting costs associated with real property. • Facility engineering, permitting, or design costs. • Applied research and demonstrations considered. • Stationary wood energy system rated greater than 5 Megawatts in thermal output 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs to establish, reopen, retrofit, expand, or improve a sawmill, wood energy, or other wood-processing facility as long as those costs don't fall under any of the specific prohibitions. • Facility engineering, permitting, or design costs. • Leasing of mobile equipment will be allowed if they are not lease-to-own arrangements. • Mobile equipment purchases will be allowed for Indian Tribes only. • Stationary or permanently installed wood processing and manufacturing equipment are the only types of equipment eligible for purchase with federal funds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase cost of each bridge including delivery, freight, and other charges. • Program administrative costs to support the grant are limited to 10% of total bridge costs. • Training, education, and program education materials are limited to 3% of total bridge costs. • Maintenance costs are limited to 10% of total bridge costs to support for loan and rental programs. Storage of bridges should be a collaborative effort to maximize existing locations around the state

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<p>Forest Service Funds Cannot Be Used For:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movable or mobile equipment* • Basic research* • Self-marketing, self-promotion* • Forest Service participation* • Program income* • Operating costs* • Construction (Note: Leveraged funds can pay for construction) • Capital costs that create federal interest in real property (e.g., land, permanent land improvement, permanent structures that are immovable/fixed to the land). • Purchasing or improving real property, relocation expenses and payments associated with real property; site work; demolition and removal; or contingencies. Applicants can use non-federal leveraged funds to contribute toward real property improvements. • Community wood energy systems > 5 MW capacity • <u>Electric only</u> wood energy system if system is not part of a thermally led wood system or associated with an innovative wood facility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movable or mobile equipment* • Basic research* • Self-marketing or self-promotion* • Forest Service participation* • Program income* • Operating costs* • Construction • Equipment, other than stationary wood energy equipment. • Capital costs that create federal interest in real property (e.g., land, permanent land improvement, permanent structures that are immovable/fixed to the land). • Purchasing or improving real property, relocation expenses and payments associated with real property; site work; demolition and removal; or contingencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movable or mobile equipment (unless Tribe)* • Basic research* • Self-marketing or self-promotion* • Forest Service participation* • Program income* • Operating costs* • Construction • Capital costs that create federal interest in real property (e.g., land, permanent land improvement, permanent structures that are immovable/fixed to the land). • Purchasing or improving real property, relocation expenses and payments associated with real property; site work; demolition and removal; or contingencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent bridges and bridge structures.

***Common across multiple funding programs**

Note: Proven commercially viable technologies are most competitive. Buy USA clause: Projects must provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States.

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