



# NH AQUATIC RESOURCE MITIGATION FUND 2024 GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



## OVER \$5.5 MILLION AVAILABLE

In the Merrimack, Pemigewasset-Winnepesaukee, Saco, Salmon Falls-Piscataqua, and Lower Connecticut [Service Areas](#)

### The Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund

The [ARM Fund Program](#) ensures that funds generated through [In-Lieu Fee \(ILF\)](#) mitigation payments for unavoidable impacts to wetlands, streams and other aquatic resources are used to fund projects that replace, restore or protect aquatic resources within the same watershed. To meet the goal of no net loss of wetland functions, the ARM Fund seeks sustainable aquatic resource restoration, enhancement and, in certain circumstances, preservation projects.

RESTORATION

ENHANCEMENT

CREATION

PRESERVATION

### Key Requirements:

- ✓ Project results in significant functional lift to aquatic resources
- ✓ All materials required on the [2024 ARM Grant Reference Checklist](#)
- ✓ Minimum 5 years monitoring
- ✓ Permanent legal protection of project area and buffers
- ✓ Compliance with federal and state rules and permitting requirements
- ✓ \*See criteria and project goals on page 2

## PRE-PROPOSALS DUE MAY 31, 2024

### How to Apply:

1. View the [2024 Guidance & Instructions](#)
2. Submit the [Pre-Proposal Form](#) and all required materials.
3. Await recommendation from ARM Fund to proceed with the ARM Fund Grant Full Application.

### Eligible Projects:

- Wetland Restoration/Enhancement
- Stream Restoration/Enhancement
- Wetland Establishment (Creation)
- Land Preservation without Restoration/Establishment/Enhancement

### Who is Eligible?

Any NH municipality, county government, regional planning commission, county conservation district, watershed or river association, state agency, educational institution, public school district, or nonprofit or for-profit organization

### SAVE THE DATE:

Pre-Proposal Office Hours  
March 22, 2024, 10 AM  
[Registration link](#)

## QUESTIONS?

Review:

[2024 ARM Grant Guidance](#)

Visit: [Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund](#)

### CONTACT

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## Targeted Project Goals:

\* View the [2024 Guidance and Instructions](#) document for full project criteria and requirements

### Wetland Restoration/Enhancement

- Reversing impacts to aquatic resources due to historic or permitted land alteration including fill and alteration of hydrology (e.g. fill for agriculture, Class VI roads, logging roads).
- Restoring aquatic organism passage by reconnecting impassable or degraded aquatic habitat.
- Enhancing degraded aquatic resources through vegetative plantings and invasive management.
- Removing hard armoring (e.g. rip-rap, bulkhead, seawall).
- Removing a barrier that results in wetland restoration within the barrier footprint and/or former impoundment.
- Benefiting wildlife in wetlands through targeted on-site enhancement measures.

### Stream Restoration/Enhancement

- Restoring bedform diversity, natural flow regimes and lateral connectivity.
- Daylighting streams.
- Enhancing stream function through bioengineering.
- Improving floodplain function by re-establishing floodplain connectivity.
- Improving water quality by eliminating or reducing indirect discharges.
- Installing livestock exclusion measures.
- Removing a barrier that results in stream restoration within the barrier footprint and former impoundment, as well as downstream channel improvements.
- Achieving barrier removal through infrastructure replacements designed in accordance with the NH Stream Crossing Guidelines (2009), Chapter III, Design Guidelines for New Stream Crossings (hydraulic & geomorphic compatibility).
- Reversing impacts to aquatic resources due to historic or permitted dredging, diversion or channel straightening.
- Restoring aquatic organism passage by reconnecting impassable or degraded aquatic habitat.
- Enhancing degraded aquatic resources and riparian buffers through plantings and invasive management.
- Removing hard armoring (e.g. rip-rap, channel lining).
- Benefiting aquatic wildlife through targeted on-site in-stream enhancement measures.

### Wetland Establishment (Creation)

- Establishing vernal pools designed to be self-sustaining and in suitable locations within the landscape context determined to provide habitat connectivity and/or habitat linkages.
- Establishing scrub-shrub or emergent wetlands designed to be self-sustaining, natural systems within the landscape and climate in which they are located, with little or no ongoing maintenance and/or hydrologic manipulation.
- Do not impact ecologically important uplands, such as mature forest.
- Living shoreline and habitat creation projects in coastal wetlands.

### Land Preservation

- Establishing permanent legal protection of streams, wetlands, surface waters and their upland buffers when the following conditions are met:
  - ✓ In all cases “preservation-only” proposals must be free from land-use practices that may affect long-terms levels of functions and sustainability;
  - ✓ Include a minimum 200’ natural buffer on jurisdictional areas;
  - ✓ Accept the limited use restrictions outlined in ARM’s Standard Conservation Easement Template;
  - ✓ Parcel features Difficult-to-Replace aquatic resource(s) (vernal pools, bogs, salt marsh or area for salt marsh migration, sand dunes, undisturbed floodplain wetlands, and habitat for state or federally-listed species).