Navigating Challenges on B.I.G. Projects

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Navigating Challenges on B.I.G. Projects

So you were awarded B.I.G. funding, SUPER!.................Now what?
Navigating Challenges on B.I.G. Projects

• Timing
• Compliance
• Procurement
• Reimbursement
• Resources Available
Timing

• 3 years to obligate
• 3 years to construct

1. Compliance
2. Funding
3. Design
4. Procurement
5. Construction

Keep overall schedule in mind and keep state coordinator/subrecipient “in the loop.”

• “Conditional Obligation”
• 2-year construction extension
Compliance

• Permitting/Entitlement
  • State
  • Federal
  • Local
  • Tribes
  • SHPO

• Special Challenges
  • National Marine Fisheries
    – ESA/Section 7

*Start early and be aware of ESA/Section 7*
Procurement

- Communicate regarding procurement reqs.
  - Competitive bid, low bid, RFP, etc.
- Also may apply to consulting work
- Sole sourcing?
- Specify certain vendors?
- Signed/sealed documents?
- Performance bond?

*Be aware and start early. Consult state coordinator/sub-recipient*

*May impact project timing and costs!*

Reimbursement

- B.I.G. is a REIMBURSEMENT grant
- You must pay all contractors and then request reimbursement
- Can affect cash flow
- Reimbursement will require clear documentation and inspection by local state agency
- May be impacted by cash flow on state level, fiscal year timing
- **The process takes time!**

*Be aware, budget appropriately, communicate closely with state coordinator/sub-recipients!*
Resources

- State coordinators
- USFWS
- 50 CFR 86
- Annual Notice of Funding Opportunities
- SOBA
  - An Applicant’s Guide to the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program
  - State coordinator listing
    - Updated March 2019
Thank you!