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Biden-Harris Administration invests nearly \$66M to improve roads, trails, and water quality as part of Investing in America Agenda

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WASHINGTON, March 8, 2024 – Today, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced nearly \$66 million to improve water quality, roads, trails, bridges and fish habitat on national forests and grasslands nationwide.

The announcement is part of President Biden’s [Investing in America](#)  agenda and the Administration’s work to create economic opportunity in communities across the country. This investment, made possible by President Biden’s [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#), will fund more than 100 projects in 24 states and the District of Columbia.

“President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has given us a remarkable opportunity to improve our national forests and public facilities,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “These investments will ensure that millions of Americans can continue to enjoy clean water, world-class recreation, and more resilient transportation infrastructure across hundreds of communities in and around national forests and grasslands.”

With more than 160,000 miles of trails, 7,200 trail bridges, 6,700 road bridges, and 370,000 miles of roads in national forests, this investment will support urgently needed maintenance and repairs



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forests and grasslands. These investments will protect infrastructure and support healthy watersheds in national forests so that they can continue to provide clean drinking water to the people and communities that depend on them.

“This work is critical as we continue to see the devastating effects from extreme climate events. By moving and repairing roads and trails, we are reducing potential impacts of flooding – ensuring access and water quality is preserved, especially in emergency situations,” said Forest Service Chief Randy Moore. “Local collaboration with tribes and partners has been key to identify and carry out this work.”

Of the total funding, \$37.5 million will be invested in the [Legacy Roads and Trails Program](#), which improves water quality, restores habitat for threatened and endangered fish or wildlife, and maintains access for visitors, businesses and wildland firefighters on national forests and grasslands.

\$28.1 million will be invested through the [Collaborative Aquatic Restoration Program](#) to support a second round of projects to improve water quality, prevent the spread of E. coli, restore fish passage for threatened, endangered, and other aquatic species, increase landscape resiliency, and eliminate high sediment loads in drinking water systems.

For a complete list of projects being funded in fiscal year 2024, visit [Legacy Roads and Trails | US Forest Service](#) and [Collaborative Aquatic Landscape Restoration | US Forest Service](#)

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden–Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate–smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

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