

## United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/AWSR/POP/050297

JAN 1 3 2012

Memorandum

To:

Director

From:

Honnital Bolton Assistant Director, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program

Subject:

Boating Infrastructure Grant Program Award Recommendations, Fiscal Year 2012

This memorandum seeks your approval of awards for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program. The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) recommends fully funding all 26 Tier 1 and 12 of the 13 Tier 2 applications submitted to construct, renovate, or maintain boating infrastructure facilities and associated amenities for transient, nontrailerable recreational boats at least 26-feet long.

The BIG program includes two funding tiers, Tier 1 and Tier 2. Through Tier 1, each State, Commonwealth, territory, and the District of Columbia may receive up to \$100,000 each year by submitting an eligible application to the Service. Twenty-six States requested a total of \$2,541,181 in BIG Tier 1 funds in FY 2012 (Enclosure 1). We recommend fully funding all Tier 1 applications.

Tier 2 is a competitive funding tier for larger scale projects with a maximum Federal award of \$1.5 million each. Ten States requested a total of \$9.3 million for 13 Tier 2 projects. We recommend fully funding 12 of the 13 Tier 2 applications. We do not recommend funding one Tier 2 application because the applicant incorrectly prorated ineligible costs and proposed costs that seemed unreasonable. Brief descriptions of the Tier 2 projects are attached for your review (Enclosure 2). Enclosure 3 contains the list of Tier 2 projects recommended for funding.

Both Tier 1 and Tier 2 grants require at least 25 percent cost share, and many Tier 2 grants include greater than the minimum 25 percent cost share. Non-Federal cost share for the 12 recommended Tier 2 projects totals \$5.9 million.

In FY 2012, we expect \$12 million to be available in new funds and \$3.1 million in recoveries and carryover, pending availability of funds. The Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2011, Part II extended expenditure authority from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund through March 31, 2012. Therefore, we will partially award the grants approved, and will fully fund awards if and when expenditure authority is granted.

The appropriate Regional Office and the Washington Office reviewed each Tier 2 application for eligibility. WSFR sent the applications to the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council's

"Tier 2 Review Team." They concur with this recommendation, and their review letter is forthcoming.

The Tier 2 projects will contribute approximately 242 new slips or side tie access, 51 moorings, 1 fuel dock, and 2 restrooms for the use and enjoyment of the transient nontrailerable recreational boating public.

If you have specific questions or would like a briefing, please contact Christy Vigfusson, WSFR, at 703-358-1748.

Concur: Fugora & Sukanuc	Date: 13 Jan 2012
Concur with Changes:	Date:

Enclosures

## **News Release**





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January 11, 2012

## **Interior Secretary Ken Salazar Announces Major Boating Grants for Ten States**

The Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced today the awarding of more than \$9.3 million in competitive grants to 10 states for 12 boating infrastructure projects. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service awards these grants, which will help fund construction of docks, boat slips and other facilities to support recreational boating, through the Service's Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program.

"The Boating Infrastructure Grant program is one of the many ways we support access and provide quality outdoor opportunities for the nation's recreational anglers and boaters," said Secretary Salazar. "These grants also spur major construction projects, creating jobs and providing much-needed economic benefits."

Funding for the BIG program comes from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, formerly known as the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, which boaters and manufacturers support through excise and other taxes on certain fishing and boating equipment and boat fuels. The Service will also release approximately \$2.5 million to 26 states, commonwealths, and territories willing to match a smaller, non-competitive grant program known as "BIG Tier 1" funding.

Grantees use Boating Infrastructure Grant funds to construct, renovate, and maintain facilities with features for transient boats (those staying 10 days or less) that are 26 feet or more in length and used for recreation. Grantees may also use funds to produce and distribute information and educational materials about the program and recreational boating.

The 12 winning projects for competitive grants include:

The Docks at Manderson Landing, Tuscaloosa, Alabama	BIG Grant	\$ 199,568
The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will partner with the University of Alabama to construct a floating dock with eight handicap accessible slips, a pumpout, dockside electric service, a pedestrian access ramp, retaining wall, and a gangway ramp providing ADA accessibility for transient nontrailerable recreation boaters.	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 368,000
	Total Project Cost:	\$ 567,568
Rockwater Marina, North Little Rock, Arkansas	BIG Grant	\$1,028,425
The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will partner with LAD, LLC, MariCorp U.S., LLC, the	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 578,489
City of North Little Rock, the North Little Rock Visitors Bureau and the Arkansas Department of Health to create 25 transient slips and fuel services	Total Project Cost:	\$1,606,914
for recreational vessels up to 70 feet long at Rockwater Marina.		
Slidell Municipal Marina at Heritage Park, Slidell, Louisiana	BIG Grant	\$1,500,000
The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will partner with the City of Slidell to	Non-Federal Match:	\$1,001,000
renovate existing bulkheads, construct 42 additional floating lay along docking spaces, and install safe walkways for boaters to access the park and	Total Project Cost:	\$2,501,000
downtown area at its current Heritage Park location.		
Garrison Bight Marina Transient Dock, Key West, Florida	BIG Grant	\$ 500,000
The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will partner with the City of Key West to replace the transient dock restroom, bathhouse, laundry facilities and electric wiring at the Garrison Bight Marina.	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 400,000
	Total Project Cost:	\$ 900,000

St. Pete Beach Transient Docks, St. Pete Beach, Florida	BIG Grant	\$ 219,750
The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will partner with the City of St. Pete Beach to construct 12 new transient boat slips. Electrical, water, and pumpout utilities will be provided.	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 91,285
	Total Project Cost:	\$ 311,035
J. P. Coleman State Park, Iuka, Mississippi	BIG Grant	\$ 802,560
The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks will partner with Tishomingo County	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 451,440
Board of Supervisors, the Tishomingo County Development Foundation and The Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District to	Total Project Cost:	\$1,254,000
construct 20 transient boating slips at the J. P. Coleman State Park marina.		
Wethersfield Cove Marina, Wethersfield, Connecticut	BIG Grant	\$ 494,650
The State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection will partner with the	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 298,400
Town of Wethersfield to construct a transient boat marina, consisting of seven transient slips and 51 moorings designated for the use of transient, non-	Total Project Cost:	\$ 793,050
trailerable recreational vessels.		
Market Pier Docks, Washington, DC	BIG Grant	\$1,423,110
The District of Columbia, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development	Non-Federal Match:	\$1,423,111
will partner with the private development team of Hoffman-Madison Waterfront, LLC for the redevelopment efforts of the District's Southwest Waterfront. The project includes the construction	Total Project Cost:	\$2,846,221
waterfrom the project inclindes the construction		

Gratwick Park Marina, New York	BIG Grant	\$ 686,919
The New York Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will partner with the City of North Tonawanda and the Lumber City Development Corporation to install new transient docks with utilities, replace bulkheads and provide a landside restroom.	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 241,350
	Total Project Cost:	\$ 928,269
SouthSide Works Marina, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	BIG Grant	\$ 405,377
The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will partner with the City of Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority, in collaboration with the	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 238,079
Soffer Organization and Fox Chapel Sea Ray Inc. to construct 16 transient boat slips and other transient amenities and services adjacent to the South Shore	Total Project Cost:	\$ 643,456
Riverfront Park on the Monongahela River in Pittsburgh.		
Oyster Point, San Mateo County, California	BIG Grant	\$ 250,000
The California Department of Boating and Waterways will partner with the San Mateo County	Non-Federal Match:	\$ 350,000
Harbor District to replace an existing 156-feet long transieint dock with a wider transient dock of the same length, with upgraded electrical serice and	Total Project Cost:	\$ 600,000
new gangway.	PIC C 4	¢1 220 100
City of Martinez Marina, California  The California Department of Boating and Waterways will partner with the City of Martinez to	BIG Grant  Non-Federal  Match:	\$1,329,190
renovate transient facilities at the City's Marina, including replacement of docks, installation of new dockside utilities and fire fighting equipment, repair	Total Project Cost:	\$1,772,270

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <a href="www.fws.gov">www.fws.gov</a>.
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