



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**Office for Coastal Management**

MAR 26 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commonwealth, State, and Territorial Coastal Program Managers

THROUGH: Chris Cartwright   
 Chief Financial Officer, National Ocean Service

FROM: Joelle Gore   
 Acting Chief, Stewardship Division

SUBJECT: FY 2015 Final Funding Guidance and Allocations  
 Coastal Zone Management Act Sections 306/306A and 309

This funding guidance is based on the funding levels contained in the FY 2015 Omnibus Budget Act. This Act contains funding for Sections 306/306A and 309 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (CZMA). This memorandum provides guidance on the allocation and uses of these funds. If you have any questions about this guidance, I can be reached at (301) 563-1177, or via e-mail at [joelle.gore@noaa.gov](mailto:joelle.gore@noaa.gov).

Funding Facts

| <u>2015 CZMA Funding *</u> |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Section 306/306A/309*      | \$ 65,782,561        |
| CNCP Implementation        | \$0                  |
| Deobligated Funds          | <u>\$0</u>           |
| <b>Totals</b>              | <b>\$ 65,782,561</b> |

\* Figures reflect the Appropriation of \$66,146,000, less a 0.6% withhold to meet Congress de-obligation target, and a 0.1% assessment for the Hollings Scholarship program.

Overview

The FY 2015 funding is derived from the FY15 Omnibus Budget Act, less a 0.6% withhold for deobligations from all operational programs to contribute to the Congressional de-obligation target, and a 0.1% assessment for the Hollings Scholarship program. There are no deobligated funds available from prior years that are added into the allocation.

The 2015 allocation reflects the use of updated coastal population numbers taken from the 2010 U.S. Census for “coastal counties” or their equivalent jurisdictions, which was updated and vetted with the state and territorial Coastal Management Programs (CMPs).

### Section 306/306A and Section 309 Allotments

After the above described adjustments, there is \$65,782,561 in appropriated funds available in FY 2015 for Sections 306/306A and 309. The CZMA requires that between ten and twenty percent of the Section 306/309 appropriation be directed toward Section 309, up to a maximum of \$10,000,000. We will direct the statutory maximum of \$10,000,000 of the appropriation toward Section 309, leaving \$55,782,561 for Section 306/306A. The Section 306/306A funds require a 1 to 1 match and are available to states and territories with federally-approved coastal zone management programs. State and territorial allocations are provided in the attached table (Attachment 1).

Those states and territories that have successfully completed Section 309 assessments and strategies are eligible for Section 309 funding. These funds require no match. \$9,000,000 of the Section 309 funds will be awarded through the weighted formula. The primary focus of these Section 309 funds will be to implement the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the approved 2011-2015 strategies. In addition, \$1,000,000 of the Section 309 funds will be awarded as Projects of Special Merit (PSMs). These projects have been selected through a competitive process and will be awarded through separate awards.

### Implementation of Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs (CNPs)

No funding was appropriated for implementing Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Programs in FY 2015. We understand that this presents difficulties for some states and territories, and we will provide flexibility in funding relevant implementation projects with Section 306 funds.

### Section 312 Evaluations and Evaluation Metrics

Applications should include language in a new or existing task that indicates that the CMP will collect data for their three evaluation metrics and report annually on the data and their open evaluation recommendations. The FY 2015 performance report guidance and “Reporting Guidance for Recommendations and Evaluation Metrics published June 2013” includes additional information. Programs selected for evaluation in FY16 should include language in their application in a new or existing task describing the CMP’s participation in the evaluation.

### Support of NOAA Strategic Priorities

These CZMA Section 306 and 309 funds support NOAA’s strategic priorities as described in its Next Generation Strategic Plan (NGSP), which can be found at

<http://www.ppi.noaa.gov/ngsp.html>. These funds will be used in part by CMPs to support comprehensive land and water use planning and management activities that:

- lead to resilient coastal communities that can adapt to the impacts of hazards and climate change;
- incorporate a greater understanding of the risks of sea level rise, changes in Great Lakes hydrology and water levels, and other climate impacts to reduce the vulnerability of coastal communities and ecosystem resources; and assist marine resource managers to prepare for and respond to the impacts of a changing climate, ocean acidification, and other climate impacts;
- support sound ocean management; or
- maintain and improved coastal water quality.

As in FY 2014, we want to highlight the objective in the NGSP that envisions “*resilient coastal*

*communities that can adapt to the impacts of hazards and climate change.*” A key element of resilient coastal communities is sound floodplain management, which is recognized in the CZMA regulations through the requirement that state CMPs adhere to Executive Order 11988 on floodplain management. The Office for Coastal Management encourages states and territories to continue to use these funds to undertake activities to further enhance floodplain management in the context of their CMP goals and objectives.

We encourage you to continue to consider these priorities in the development of your annual work programs as an opportunity to better demonstrate the linkages between the National Coastal Zone Management Program and NOAA strategic priorities, and for developing opportunities to access a broader array of NOAA and other resources to leverage CZMA funds to their fullest extent.

#### Application Procedures

We continue to encourage you to work with your coastal management specialists early on to develop your award so that applications for July 1 start date awards and October 1 start date awards can be submitted to OCRM by the appropriate dates included in the attached application schedule (attachment 2). We are happy to provide you with an updated Coastal and Marine Management Program (CAMMP) system which can be accessed at (<https://csc.noaa.gov/cammp/>) to develop your application, the Grants.gov system ([www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov)) to submit your formal application, and use Grants Online system (<https://grantsonline.rdc.noaa.gov/>) for the rest of the processing.

#### Notice Information

According to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (CZMA), the Secretary of Commerce may make grants to eligible coastal states. Coastal states are defined as states that are in, or bordering on, the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic Oceans, the Gulf of Mexico, Long Island Sound, or one or more of the Great Lakes. For the purposes of the CZMA, the term also includes Puerto

Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. This notice is being distributed to all eligible parties, and substitutes for the Federal Register notice required for Federal grant programs.

cc:

CCartwright, NOAA

JPayne

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**Attachment #1: Final FY2015 Allocations for CZMA Sections 306/306A and 309**

|                        | <b>Section 306</b> | <b>Section 309<br/>WF</b> | <b>CNP Base</b> |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Total Funding</b>   | 55,782,561         | 9,000,000                 | 0               |
| <b>Base Funding</b>    | 674,000            | 72,000                    |                 |
| <b>Maximum Funding</b> | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   |                 |

| <b>STATE</b>                | <b>Section 306</b> | <b>Section 309<br/>WF</b> | <b>Total</b>      |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Alabama                     | 1,328,000          | 93,000                    | 1,421,000         |
| Alaska                      | 0                  | 0                         | 0                 |
| American Samoa              | 792,000            | 75,000                    | 867,000           |
| California                  | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   | 2,516,000         |
| Connecticut                 | 1,805,561          | 152,000                   | 1,957,561         |
| Delaware                    | 1,219,000          | 88,000                    | 1,307,000         |
| Florida                     | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   | 2,516,000         |
| Georgia                     | 1,996,000          | 293,000                   | 2,289,000         |
| Guam                        | 806,000            | 76,000                    | 882,000           |
| Hawaii                      | 1,996,000          | 171,000                   | 2,167,000         |
| Illinois                    | 1,996,000          | 0                         | 1,996,000         |
| Indiana                     | 911,000            | 80,000                    | 991,000           |
| Louisiana                   | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   | 2,516,000         |
| Maine                       | 1,996,000          | 438,000                   | 2,434,000         |
| Maryland                    | 1,996,000          | 508,000                   | 2,504,000         |
| Massachusetts               | 1,996,000          | 353,000                   | 2,349,000         |
| Michigan                    | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   | 2,516,000         |
| Minnesota                   | 895,000            | 79,000                    | 974,000           |
| Mississippi                 | 1,065,000          | 84,000                    | 1,149,000         |
| New Hampshire               | 891,000            | 79,000                    | 970,000           |
| New Jersey                  | 1,996,000          | 494,000                   | 2,490,000         |
| New York                    | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   | 2,516,000         |
| North Carolina              | 1,996,000          | 423,000                   | 2,419,000         |
| Northern Mariana<br>Islands | 857,000            | 77,000                    | 934,000           |
| Ohio                        | 1,620,000          | 132,000                   | 1,752,000         |
| Oregon                      | 1,996,000          | 219,000                   | 2,215,000         |
| Pennsylvania                | 1,564,000          | 125,000                   | 1,689,000         |
| Puerto Rico                 | 1,996,000          | 172,000                   | 2,168,000         |
| Rhode Island                | 1,263,000          | 89,000                    | 1,352,000         |
| South Carolina              | 1,996,000          | 375,000                   | 2,371,000         |
| Texas                       | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   | 2,516,000         |
| U.S. Virgin Islands         | 846,000            | 0                         | 846,000           |
| Virginia                    | 1,996,000          | 520,000                   | 2,516,000         |
| Washington                  | 1,996,000          | 517,000                   | 2,513,000         |
| Wisconsin                   | 1,996,000          | 168,000                   | 2,164,000         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>               | <b>55,782,561</b>  | <b>9,000,000</b>          | <b>64,782,561</b> |

Total 309 PSM Funds  
Total 306/309 Appropriation

\$1,000,000  
\$65,782,561

**Attachment #2**

**2015 Coastal Zone Management Act  
Cooperative Agreement Application Schedule**

| <b>ACTIVITY</b>  | <b>Schedule for States with<br/>July 1, 2015 Start dates</b> | <b>Schedule for States with<br/>October 1, 2015 Start dates</b> |
|--|--|---|
| State submits draft application package (via CAMMP)  | March 13, 2015   | March 27, 2015  |
| OCM provides comments to state on Draft application  | March 24, 2015   | April 24, 2015  |
| State provides Final Application to OCM via Grants.gov/Grants On-Line                            | April 1, 2015  | May 8, 2015   |
| OCM submits cooperative agreement application package to NOAA Grants Management Division via GOL | April 17, 2015   | May 29, 2015  |

## Attachment #3

### Addition Guidance and Reminders

To improve management of the cooperative agreements and be consistent with Federal and NOAA-specific financial requirements, we would like to provide the following reminders and guidance on:

#### Application Submission

Final guidance has been issued for the new OMB Uniform Grant Guidance (“super-circular”) which supersedes requirements from previous OMB Circulars. The new OMB Uniform Grant Guidance will apply to all new CZM awards. For more information, visit [https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants\\_docs](https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_docs)

CAMMP is still being used this year. Your program should have received account information by now. Please contact your specialist or [orcammphelp@noaa.gov](mailto:orcammphelp@noaa.gov) if you do run into any problems with CAMMP. The new link for CAMMP is <https://csc.noaa.gov/cammp/>

With regard to Grants.gov, to find the CZMA Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) announcement and obtain the application materials, you need to do the following:

- (1) Go to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov);
- (2) Under FOR APPLICANTS tab on Left select "Apply for grants;"
- (3) Select "Download a Grant Application package" next to STEP 1 button;
- (4) Enter Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NOS-OCM-2015-2004427 for July 1 start dates and NOAA-NOS-OCM-2015-2004429 for October 1 start dates and you should get the files. (OCM will provide you with the FFO numbers as soon as the FFOs have been published).

Also you will need to make sure that your Central Contractor Registration (CCR) is up-to date. All recipients needed to renew their registration after August 9, 2011. If you need to update your CCR go to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and click on “Get Registered” on the left hand side bar, then click on “Organization Registration,” and then click on “Step 2 Register with CCR” and follow the directions.

#### Award Administration

Programs with multiple CZM awards open simultaneously should plan to allocate administrative staff and fringe time proportionately; in order to properly account for the time spent administering each open award. We encourage you to work with your coastal management specialist and NOAA’s Grants Management Division to determine how best to account for award administrative time for each open award.

#### Signage at 306A Construction Projects

We would like to remind recipients that for any CZMA Section 306A construction or acquisition project, that NOAA Special Award Conditions require that temporary (during construction) and

permanent signage be placed at the site that identify the project and indicate that the project is being funded under the Coastal Zone Management Act, by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, in conjunction with the State Coastal Management Program.

These signs need to feature the name and/or logo of NOAA, as well as the name of the National Coastal Zone Management Program, and acknowledgement of the State/Territorial CZM program as appropriate given the sign's overall design. See Coastal Zone Management Act Section 306A Guidance (<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/backmatter/media/guide306a.pdf>) at page 16.

#### Americans with Disabilities Act Requirements

For those undertaking Section 306A construction projects, as of March 15<sup>th</sup> 2014, all new construction and alteration projects must comply with the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act standards (see [http://www.ada.gov/2010ADASTandards\\_index.htm](http://www.ada.gov/2010ADASTandards_index.htm) ). In past years these new standards were only recommended – now they are required.

#### Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 Requirements

Since 2011, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires “Prime Grant Recipients” of Federal awards, including CZMA recipients, that provide sub-awards greater than, or equal to \$25,000, to adhere to FFATA sub-award reporting requirements as outlined in the OMB guidance issued August 27, 2010. The prime awardee (i.e., the CZMA program) is required to file a FFATA sub-award report, through the FFATA Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS), “by the end of the month following the month in which the prime recipient awards any sub-grant greater than or equal to \$25,000.” The reporting requirements are located in Appendix A of 2 C.F.R. Part 170 and are available on [www.fsr.gov](http://www.fsr.gov) and GPO's FDsys website: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2011-title2-vol1-part170-appA.pdf>.

The sub-awardee is not required to report information to FSRS. Reporting of information regarding executive compensation data for sub-awardees, or any other information associated with sub-awards is the responsibility of the prime recipient. The sub-awardee, however, does have an obligation to provide to the prime grant awardee all information required for such reporting.

“Subawards” are defined as either subcontracts, or grants-specific sub-awards. A “subcontract,” means “a subcontract awarded directly by a contractor to furnish supplies or services (including construction) for performance of a prime contract, but excludes supplier agreements with vendors, such as long-term arrangements for materials or supplies that would normally be applied to a contractor's general and administrative expenses or indirect cost.” For grants, a “subaward” means “a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which the recipient received the award.”

For more information such as user guides, FAQs, and an on-line demonstration please see the FSRS website <https://www.fsr.gov>.

