

APR -7 2016



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office for Coastal Management
Silver Spring Metro Center, Building 4
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

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

THROUGH: Christopher Cartwright *Cartwright*
Chief Financial Officer, National Ocean Service

FROM: Joelle Gore *Joelle Gore*
Chief, Stewardship Division

SUBJECT: REVISED FY 2016 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 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016. 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 (240) 533-0813, or via e-mail at joelle.gore@noaa.gov.

Funding Facts

<u>2016 CZMA Funding *</u>	
Section 306/306A/309*	\$ 69,236,049
Deobligated Funds	<u>\$598,000</u>
Totals	\$ 69,834,049

* Figures reflect the appropriation of the FY16 Omnibus Budget Act of \$70,000,000, less \$284,843 across the board reduction in the Department of Commerce Working Capital Fund Assessment, a \$409,803 withhold to meet Congress de-obligation target, a \$69,305 assessment for the Hollings Scholarship program, and \$598,000 of deobligated funds from Oregon's FY15 Section 306 award.

Overview

The FY 2016 funding is derived from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, less a \$284,843 across the board reduction in Department of Commerce Working Capital Fund Assessment, a \$409,803 withhold for deobligations from all operational programs to contribute to the Congressional de-obligation target, and a \$69,305 assessment for the Hollings Scholarship program. There are also FY15 deobligated funds in the amount of \$598,000 that have been redirected to eligible states and territories, and described further below.

The 2016 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 \$69,236,049 in appropriated funds available in FY 2016 for Sections 306/306A and 309, which excludes the \$598,000 of deobligated funds (see below). 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 \$59,236,049 for Section 306/306A.

In addition, as a result of the January 2015 finding by NOAA and EPA that Oregon has not submitted an approvable coastal nonpoint program under Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments, NOAA is redirecting a total of \$637,500, or 30 percent, of the State’s FY2016 Section 306 allocation and \$598,000, or 30 percent, of the State’s FY15 Section 306 allocation, to the twenty-two states with approved coastal nonpoint pollution control programs, as directed by statute (16 U.S.C. §1455b(c)(3)). The twenty-two state recipients of these funds are encouraged, but not required, to undertake projects and tasks that support the protection of coastal waters and habitats from nonpoint sources of pollution.

The Section 306/306A funds, including the redirected funds described above, require a 1 to 1 match and are available to states and territories with federally-approved coastal zone management programs. State and territorial allocations and redirected funding amounts 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. A total of \$8,500,000 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 first year of the approved 2016-2020 strategies. In addition, \$1,500,000 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.

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 2016 performance report guidance and “Reporting Guidance for Recommendations and Evaluation Metrics published June 2013” includes additional information. Programs selected for evaluation in FY17 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/>. 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 2015, 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 resources to leverage CZMA funds to their fullest.

Multiyear Awards

Three states – Louisiana, Massachusetts, and Ohio – have agreed to work with the Office for Coastal Management in FY2016 and FY2017 to pilot multiyear awards. This two year pilot is designed to test whether multiyear awards result in increased efficiency and effectiveness in award administration, in comparison to administering multiple single-year awards.

Pilot programs should develop two-year budgets based on the FY2016 allocations. We are assuming that the second year of funding will remain relatively equal to the FY2016 allocations; however, we are allowing pilot programs to develop initial application budgets with up to a 5% increase in Section 306 funds during the second year in order to accommodate possible between-year budget fluctuations and adjustments. Please note that the FY2017 Final Funding Guidance and Allocations will include the final funding allocations for the 2nd year of the multiyear award and OCM will work with pilot states to develop any necessary budget revisions in FY2017.

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 NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management by the appropriate dates included in the attached application schedule (attachment 2). We are happy to provide you with the Coastal and Marine Management Program (CAMMP) system which can be accessed at (<https://coast.noaa.gov/cammp/>) to develop your application, the Grants.gov system (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:

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Attachment #1: Final FY2016 Allocations for CZMA Sections 306/306A and 309

	Section 306	Section 309 WF	Redirected FY16 Sec. 306	Redirected FY15 Sec. 306	
Total Funding	59,235,764	8,500,000	637,500	598,000	
Base Funding	724,000	72,000	13,000	12,500	
Maximum Funding	2,125,000	515,000	33,000	30,000	

STATE	Section 306	Section 309 WF			Total
Alabama	1,400,000	87,000	0	0	1,487,000
Alaska	0	0	0	0	0
American Samoa	846,000	75,000	17,000	18,000	956,000
California	2,125,000	515,000	33,000	30,000	2,703,000
Connecticut	1,883,000	135,000	33,000	30,000	2,081,000
Delaware	1,289,000	84,000	31,000	30,000	1,434,000
Florida	2,125,000	515,000	33,000	30,000	2,703,000
Georgia	2,125,000	260,000	0	0	2,385,000
Guam	861,000	75,000	18,000	18,000	972,000
Hawaii	2,118,049	151,000	0	0	2,269,049
Illinois	2,125,000	197,000	0	0	2,322,000
Indiana	969,000	77,000	0	0	1,046,000
Louisiana	2,125,000	515,000	0	0	2,640,000
Maine	2,125,000	387,000	33,000	30,000	2,575,000
Maryland	2,125,000	451,000	33,000	30,000	2,639,000
Massachusetts	2,125,000	314,000	33,000	30,000	2,502,000
Michigan	2,125,000	480,000	0	0	2,605,000
Minnesota	952,000	0	20,000	21,000	993,000
Mississippi	1,128,000	81,000	0	0	1,209,000
New Hampshire	947,000	77,000	20,000	21,000	1,065,000
New Jersey	2,125,000	438,000	33,000	30,000	2,626,000
New York	2,125,000	515,000	33,000	30,000	2,703,000
North Carolina	2,125,000	376,000	33,000	30,000	2,564,000
CNMI	913,000	76,000	19,000	20,000	1,028,000
Ohio	1,703,000	117,000	0	0	1,820,000
Oregon	2,125,000	195,000	-637,500	0	1,682,500
Pennsylvania	1,646,000	110,000	33,000	30,000	1,819,000
Puerto Rico	2,125,000	153,000	33,000	30,000	2,341,000
Rhode Island	1,334,000	85,000	31,500	30,000	1,480,500
South Carolina	2,125,000	333,000	33,000	30,000	2,521,000
Texas	2,125,000	515,000	0	0	2,640,000
U.S. Virgin Islands	902,000	0	19,000	20,000	941,000
Virginia	2,125,000	503,000	33,000	30,000	2,691,000
Washington	2,125,000	458,000	0	0	2,583,000
Wisconsin	2,095,000	150,000	33,000	30,000	2,308,000
TOTALS	59,236,049	8,500,000		598,000	68,334,049

Total 309 PSM Funds

\$1,500,000

Total FY16 Appropriation + FY15 Redistribution

\$69,834,048

Attachment #2

**2016 Coastal Zone Management Act
Cooperative Agreement Application Schedule**

ACTIVITY	Schedule for States with July 1, 2016 Start dates	Schedule for States with October 1, 2016 Start dates
1. Initial Discussions between State and OCM	January 2016	February - March
2. State submits draft application package (via CAMMP)	March 3, 2016 <i>(March 11, 2016 for multiyear pilot applications)</i>	April 8, 2016
3. OCM provides comments to state on Draft application	March 18, 2016	April 22, 2016
4. State provides Final Application to OCM via Grants.gov/Grants On-Line	March 30, 2016	May 6, 2016
5. Specialists complete review and circulates application package with OCM	April 8, 2016	May 20, 2016
6. OCM submits cooperative agreement application package to NOAA Grants Management Division via GOL	April 15, 2016	May 27, 2016

Attachment #3 Additional 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

CAMMP has been fixed and is working well. Your program should have received account information by now. Please contact your specialist or cammphelp@noaa.gov if you do run into any problems with CAMMP. The new link for CAMMP is <https://coast.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;
- (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-2016-2004826 for July 1 start dates and NOAA-NOS-OCM-2016-2004828 for October start dates and you should get the files. (Note: As of mid-February, these RFAs have not yet been posted on grants.gov. OCM will notify you as soon as the RFAs are posted).

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 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 must allocate and account for staff and fringe time for each open award. Specifically, each open award must have actual or an estimate of staff time allocated to the award for project work performed and, at minimum, proportional staff time allocated in order to account for award management and other administrative activities. 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 within each open award.

Budget Narrative Guidance

NOAA's Grants Management Division has developed a detailed Budget Narrative Guidance that provides additional details regarding the information that Grants Officers are looking for when reviewing applications. This Guidance can be found at http://www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/docs/budget_narrative_guidance-04.09.2015.pdf

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 of Ocean and Coastal Resource 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 <https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/media/guide306a.pdf> at page 16.

Americans with Disabilities Act Requirements

For those undertaking Section 306A construction projects, as of March 15th 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). 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." All awardees of applicable grants and cooperative agreements are required to report to the Federal Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) available at www.FSRS.gov on all subawards over \$25,000.

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.fsrs.gov>.