Projects of Special Merit Selected for Funding: Fiscal Years 2012 to 2018

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Fiscal Years 2012 to 2018: The 2016, 2017, and 2018 Projects of Special Merit competitions identified Hazards and Comprehensive Ocean and Great Lakes Planning (Ocean and Great Lakes Resources) as enhancement areas of national importance. Eligible projects had to further state and territorial 2016-2020 Section 309 strategies related to one or more of these enhancement areas.

2016 Projects of Special Merit Competition
A total of $1,500,000 was allocated towards the 2016 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

- Hawaii: Probabilistic Tsunami Design Maps for Hawaii. $245,000
- Maine: Shoring Up Maine’s Water Dependent Economy: Incorporating Coastal Hazard Risk into Management of Maine’s Working Waterfront Assets. $201,625
- New Hampshire: Incentivizing Resiliency through Implementation Plans in Seacoast New Hampshire’s Fastest Growing Communities. $71,200
- Oregon: Tsunami Land Use. $250,000

2017 Projects of Special Merit Competition
A total of $1,500,000 was allocated towards the 2017 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

- California: Critical Infrastructure as Risk: Developing Planning Guidance for California’s Coastal Zone. $225,000
- Florida: Florida Coastal Water Quality Assessment and Integration. $153,716
- Georgia: Using Green Infrastructure as a Resiliency Approach to Future Flooding Impacts. $223,878
- Rhode Island: *Advancing the RI Coastal Environmental Risk Index (CERI) to Inform State & Local Planning and Decision Making*. $137,537

**2018 Projects of Special Merit Competition**

A total of $1,500,000 was allocated towards the 2018 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

- American Samoa: *Monitoring Coastline Change to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Current Policies to Improve Decision Making for Greater Coastal Resilience*. $78,537
- Georgia: *Analysis of Using Green Infrastructure as a Resilience Approach*. $83,201
- New Hampshire: *Using Science, Building Social Capital, and Unpacking Tax Incentives for a Resilient Coastal New Hampshire*. $250,000
- New Jersey: *A Seat at the Table: Integrating the Needs and Challenges of Underrepresented and Socially Vulnerable Populations into Coastal Hazards Planning in New Jersey*. $226,080
- Oregon: *Rocky Shores*. $224,967
- Rhode Island: *The STORMTOOLS Risk and Damage Assessment App*. $200,000
- Wisconsin: *Combining a Mapping Community of Practice with an Innovative Digital Collaborative Environment to Improve Coastal Hazard Planning and Policy Development*. $249,612

**Fiscal Years 2012 to 2015:** For the 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 Projects of Special Merit competitions, four enhancement areas of national importance were identified: Wetlands, Hazards, Cumulative and Secondary Impacts, and Ocean and Great Lakes Resources. Eligible projects had to further state and territorial 2011-2015 Section 309 strategies related to one or more of these areas of national importance. Note that the 2012 competition included regional (multi-state) projects, but regional projects were not allowed in subsequent Projects of Special Merit competitions.

**2012 Projects of Special Merit Competition**

A total of $1,482,400 was allocated towards the 2012 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

- California: *Improved Valuation of Impacts to Recreation, Public Access, and Beach Ecology from Shoreline Armoring and Beach Nourishment Projects*. $180,644
- Delaware: *Improving the Benchmark of Coastal Hazards Policy Implementation*. $126,072
- Florida: *Implementing "Adaptation Action Area" Policies in Florida*. $200,000
• Northeast Regional Project (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI): *Marine Habitat Classification in the Northeastern United States.* $161,565
• Oregon: *Updated Estuary and Shoreland Habitat Information.* $160,000
• South Carolina: *Evaluating Tidal Inlet Dynamics and Erosion in South Carolina.* $93,443
• Texas: *Galveston Bay Wetland Mitigation Assessment and Local Government Capacity Building.* $180,643.00
• Virginia: *Whale Migration Corridors for MSP.* $180,644

**2013 Projects of Special Merit Competition**

A total of $834,028 was allocated towards the 2013 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

• San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission: *The Climate Policy Implementation Project: Develop Guidance to Assist Applicants to Adapt Their Projects to Sea Level Rise and Amend the Commission’s Regulations.* $193,963
• Florida: *Enhancement of Coordinated Coral and Hardbottom Ecosystem Mapping, Monitoring and Management Program.* $126,357
• Maine: *Changing shorelines: Adaptation Planning for Maine’s Coastal State Parks.* $138,711
• Maryland: *Shoreline Rates of Change and Shoreline Management: Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties, Maryland.* $151,059
• Massachusetts: *Estuarine Wetlands and Sea Level Rise: Identifying At-Risk Resources and Supporting Climate Adaptation Responses.* $23,938
• New Hampshire: *Taking Action for Resilient Natural and Built Communities in Coastal New Hampshire through Applied Modeling and Development of a User-Driven Toolbox.* $200,000

**2014 Projects of Special Merit Competition**

A total of $1,000,000 was allocated towards the 2014 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

• California: *Managing the Coastal Squeeze. Resilience Planning for Shoreline Residential Development; Adaptation Planning for Sea Level Rise.* $200,000
• Maine: *Building Resiliency along Maine’s Bluff Coast.* $199,564
• Massachusetts: *Massachusetts and Cape Cod Bays Tide Gate Inventory and Assessment for Wetlands Restoration and Hazard Mitigation.* $148,709
• New Hampshire: *Soak up the Rain Great Bay.* $119,086
• Rhode Island: *RI Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (BEACH SAMP).* $193,090
• Wisconsin: *Collaborative Effort to Improve Wetlands and Watershed Management in the Lake Superior Watershed of Douglas County, Wisconsin.* $139,551

**2015 Projects of Special Merit Competition**

A total of $1,185,044 was allocated towards the 2015 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:
• Florida: Trainers and Tools: Building Coastal Flood Hazard Resiliency in Florida’s Regional Planning Council. $156,127
• Georgia: CZM Coastal Georgia Resiliency Planning. $134,803
• Maine: Benthic Exploration and Habitat Classification: Tools for Building Resiliency in Maine. $198,722
• New Hampshire: Climate Ready Culverts and Coastal Communities: Vulnerability Assessment for Coastal Communities. $190,398
• Oregon: Classifying Estuarine Habitats In-Depth Using CMECS. $200,000
• Virginia: Implementing Sustainable Shoreline Management in Virginia: Assessing the Need for an Enforceable Policy. $125,000
• Washington: Supporting Successful Local Shoreline Master Programs in Washington's Coastal Zone Using Oblique Aerial Photography. $179,994