

Projects of Special Merit Selected for Funding: Fiscal Years 2012 to 2020

NOAA Office for Coastal Management
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Fiscal Years 2016 to 2020

The 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 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. In 2020 Public Access with a focus on projects that broaden and enhance safe access for all, including underserved communities with disabilities and non-English speakers was also included as an enhancement area 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.

2020 Projects of Special Merit Competition

A total of \$1,500,000 was allocated towards the 2020 Projects of Special Merit competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

- **Maine:** *Integrated Marine Management for Maine's Future: advancing offshore wind siting through spatial analysis, new data collection, and partner engagement.* \$227,256
- **Oregon:** *Updating Oregon's Estuary Management Plans: Facilitating a Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Update Process and Developing a Plan Update Guide for Local Jurisdictions.* \$220,000
- **New Hampshire:** *Strategy Synthesis: Integrating tidal crossing strategies and advancing salt marsh resilience planning.* \$250,000
- **Wisconsin:** *New tools and practices from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Data Infrastructure to support hazard resilience planning in the Lake Superior region and beyond.* \$249,866
- **Hawaii:** *Probabilistic Tsunami Design Maps for Maui and Kauai.* \$250,000
- **Maryland:** *Equity and Access in Maryland State Parks.* \$167,200
- **Virginia:** *Develop guidance document that interprets the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act for applicants, local government and other agencies in order to meaningfully improve coastal resource management.* \$135,678

2019 Projects of Special Merit Competition

A total of \$1,421,322 was allocated towards the 2019 PSM competition. The following projects were selected for funding:

- **Delaware:** *Assessing the Potential Economic and Environmental Impacts of Offshore Oil Spills on Delaware's Coastal Communities and Resources.* \$221,340
- **Florida:** *Establishment of Buffer Zones to Protect Rookery Islands.* \$112,348
- **Illinois:** *Field and Laboratory Studies to Incorporate Hydrologic and Sediment Data into Wetland Mapping and Wetland Functional Assessments Along the Northern Illinois Coast.* \$125,452
- **New Hampshire:** *Coast Shift: Changing How the New Hampshire Seacoast Transports, Plans, Permits, and Finances for Resilience.* \$250,000
- **New Jersey:** *A Risk Communication Campaign for Coastal New Jersey.* \$247,488

- **Michigan:** *Applying a Flipped-Classroom Approach to Engage, Educate, and Connect Michigan's Great Lakes Coastal Communities Towards Improved Coastal Resilience.* \$214,704
- **Washington:** *Washington Coastal Resilience Demonstration Project.* \$250,000

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 Resiliency 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:** *Updating the Oregon Rocky Shores Management and Communication Strategies.* \$224,967
- **Rhode Island:** *The STORMTOOLS Risk and Damage Assessment App.* \$200,000
- **Washington:** *Ensuring Effective Implementation of the Marine Spatial Plan for Washington's Pacific Coast.* \$187,603
- **Wisconsin:** *Combining a Mapping Community of Practice with an Innovative Digital Collaborative Environment to Improve Coastal Hazard Planning and Policy Development.* \$249,612

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
- **Hawaii:** *Updating the Hawaii Historical Shoreline Database: Modeling Past Present and Future Shoreline Change to Assess and Analyze Shoreline Management Policies for Greater Coastal Resilience.* \$225,000
- **Illinois:** *High-resolution Monitoring of Illinois Lake Michigan Waves and Currents to Improve Coastal Models and Public Safety.* \$124,981
- **Maine:** *Protecting Maine's Beaches for the Future: Assessing Sediment Budgets in Support of Beach Restoration.* \$222,388
- **New Hampshire:** *Resilient Crossings for Coastal NH: Prioritizing Tidal Crossing Replacement for Community and Ecosystem Resilience.* \$187,500
- **Rhode Island:** *Advancing the RI Coastal Environmental Risk Index (CERI) to Inform State & Local Planning and Decision Making.* \$137,537

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
- **Illinois:** *Mapping Sand Distribution Along the Illinois Lake Michigan Shore Using Airborne Electromagnetic Method.* \$233,671
- **Maine:** *Shoring Up Maine's Water Dependent Economy: Incorporating Coastal Hazard Risk into Management of Maine's Working Waterfront Assets.* \$201,625
- **New Hampshire:** *New Hampshire Setting SAIL: Acting on the Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission Science, Assessment, Implementation, and Legislation Recommendations.* \$249,995
- **New Hampshire:** *Incentivizing Resiliency through Implementation Plans in Seacoast New Hampshire's Fastest Growing Communities.* \$71,200
- **New York:** *Protocol for Monitoring Nature-based Shorelines Measuring Success.* \$248,509
- **Oregon:** *Building Resilience to Tsunamis along the Oregon Coast: Local Government Land Use Implementation* \$250,000

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.

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

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

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

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
- **Maine:** *Integrating Science into Policy: Adaptation Strategies for Marsh Migration.* \$199,389

- **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