



# 2015 Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Awards

These grants help coastal communities prepare for and recover from extreme weather events, climate hazards, and changing ocean conditions. The focus is on comprehensive regional approaches that use science-based solutions and rely on collaborative partnerships to ensure success while expanding reach and impact. Each region will benefit from the resulting risk assessments and the implementation of improved-upon resilience plans and strategies.

NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, part of the National Ocean Service, administered this funding opportunity. An estimated \$9 million is being awarded in two phases. Each project addresses evolving economic, environmental, and social pressures on the nation's oceans and coasts and will further existing efforts to improve coastal resilience.

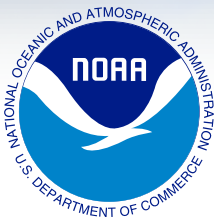
Over 130 region-based proposals were received. Six were awarded a total of nearly \$4.5 million in federal funds in fiscal year 2015, with project partners contributing over \$2.4 million in matching and in-kind support. The direct impact will be felt in 85 coastal communities. The second round of funding will come later this year. Those projects will be chosen using the initial proposal applicant pool, supported with fiscal year 2016 funds, and be subject to approval and award by NOAA's Grants Management Division.

**More information can be found at [coast.noaa.gov/resilience-grant](http://coast.noaa.gov/resilience-grant).**

## Fiscal Year 2015 Project Summaries

- \$689,850 to the University of San Diego for the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative to develop vulnerability assessments and improved resilience strategies in five San Diego County coastal cities. Total project support with match is \$1,097,850.
- \$703,028 for the Association of State Floodplain Managers and the American Planning Association to research options and develop new national planning guidelines for infrastructure investments. Pilot projects are focused on Toledo, Ohio, and Savannah, Georgia. Total project support with match is \$1,054,543.
- \$522,348 for the Cape Cod Commission to develop the economic, social, and environmental information needed to develop climate change adaptation plans. The Town of Barnstable, Massachusetts, will serve as a pilot project, and information from this effort will be used as a model for other Cape Cod communities. Total project support with match is \$781,275.
- \$898,656 for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to bring state-of-the-art professional planning practices and agency and regional coordination to 15 communities. Total project support with match is \$1,349,000.
- \$803,713 to the Coastal States Stewardship Foundation for a wide number of Southeast partners to facilitate future disaster recovery efforts across more than 30 coastal communities in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Total project support with match is \$1,257,459.
- \$867,700 for the Gulf of Mexico Alliance to identify and implement proactive, cost-effective solutions to increase local coastal resilience in 10 communities across Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Total project support with match is \$1,360,700.

**For More Information**  
[Adam.Stein@noaa.gov](mailto:Adam.Stein@noaa.gov)



# 2015 Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Awards Project Details

## Connecting the Dots and Building Coastal Resilience in the San Diego Region

**Applicant:** University of San Diego

**Recommended Federal Funding:** \$689,850

**Match:** \$408,000

The San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative, a partnership of local and regional agencies and organizations, will lead a multifaceted project to protect the county's approximately 70 miles of coastline from vulnerabilities to sea level rise, coastal flooding, and extreme weather events. By filling key information gaps and providing additional legal, scientific, and economic analyses, the project will help the cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Solana Beach, Del Mar, San Diego, and Imperial Beach develop coordinated sea level rise vulnerability assessments and integrated coastal resilience strategies. These efforts will be paired with an innovative and consistent regional communication strategy that also expands public understanding and engagement in coastal resilience planning and actions. This comprehensive strategy will result in implementable actions that reduce the region's risks and vulnerabilities and build regional coastal resilience.

**Project Partners:** San Diego Climate Science Alliance, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association, Coastal Frontiers Corporation, Revell Coastal, Nexus Planning Consultants, Environmental Law Institute, Cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Solana Beach, Del Mar, San Diego, and Imperial Beach, California

## Building Coastal Resilience through Capital Improvements Planning: Guidance for Practitioners

**Applicant:** Association of State Floodplain Managers and the American Planning Association

**Recommended Federal Funding:** \$703,028

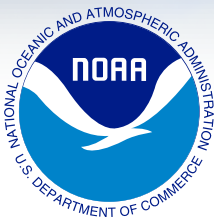
**Match:** \$351,515

The planning and construction of capital improvement projects, such as community buildings and infrastructure, present an opportunity to incorporate new, high-impact approaches for building resilience. But which approaches make the most sense in different situations? Two national organizations based in the Great Lakes region, the Association of State Floodplain Managers and the American Planning Association, will work together to answer these questions and develop national guidance by researching cutting-edge techniques used in different sectors throughout the United States and through the experience gained in two pilot communities: Toledo, Ohio, and Savannah, Georgia. The guidance developed through this project will be used to educate the 57,000 members of these organizations and others regarding the most successful techniques.

**Project Partners:** Association of State Floodplain Managers, American Planning Association, Digital Coast Partnership







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## Resilient Cape Cod: A Path Forward with Innovative Tool Development and Public Engagement

**Applicant:** Cape Cod Commission

**Recommended Federal Funding:** \$522,348

**Match:** \$258,927

The Cape Cod Commission and partners will undertake a public planning process to improve community understanding of climate change impacts, sea level rise scenarios, and various adaptation strategies. The planning process will include economic research, a public engagement process, and the development of communication tools to help residents and decision makers understand the environmental and socio-economic costs and benefits of different adaptation strategies. This information will be used to inform an adaptation plan for the Town of Barnstable, Massachusetts, to implement new policies and serve as a model for other Cape Cod towns.

**Project Partners:** The Association to Preserve Cape Cod, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Town of Barnstable and Barnstable County, Massachusetts

## New Jersey Fostering Regional Adaptation through Municipal Economic Scenarios (NJ FRAMES)

**Applicant:** New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

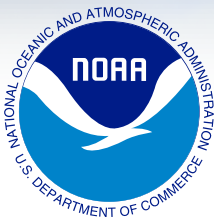
**Recommended Federal Funding:** \$898,656

**Match:** \$450,344

Since Superstorm Sandy, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Coastal Management Program has worked with an extensive network of partners to reduce New Jersey coastal communities' vulnerability to coastal hazards. Through this work, the state identified comprehensive regional planning as a high-impact strategy to build coastal resilience. In partnership with several organizations, the state will work with the 15 communities that make up the Two Rivers Council of Mayors in Monmouth County to perform a stakeholder-led scenario planning process, deploy new and enhanced decision-making tools, and develop consistent state- and community-level policy and practices that support resilience and adaptation actions.

**Project Partners:** Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve, Rutgers University Climate Institute, Louis Berger, Borough of Oceanport, New Jersey





# 2015 Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Awards

## Project Details

### Utilizing Regional Collaboration to Implement the National Disaster Recovery Framework in South Atlantic Coastal Communities

**Applicant:** Coastal States Stewardship Foundation

**Recommended Federal Funding:** \$803,713

**Match:** \$453,746

The disaster recovery process provides an opportunity to build long-term resilience to future hurricanes, flooding, and other hazards. Working across the four southeastern states, and in partnership with industry, regional organizations, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and NOAA, over 30 coastal communities will build upon the foundation laid out by the Governors' South Atlantic Alliance, strengthening the region's ability to recover from the next coastal disaster in ways that protect the economy and the environment. At the completion of the project, state and local emergency managers and planners will have updated information, tools, and plans to guide the disaster recovery process. In addition, the development of a regional "resilient business advisory network" will help prepare businesses by delivering better information and advising on critical support services.

**Project Partners:** Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association, state emergency management agencies, state coastal management agencies, Federal Emergency Management Agency, The Nature Conservancy, South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium, business industry partners

### A Systematic and Integrated Approach to Creating More Resilient Communities in the Gulf of Mexico Region

**Applicant:** Gulf of Mexico Alliance

**Recommended Federal Funding:** \$867,700

**Match:** \$493,000

While significant funding may be available to communities after a disaster, there are few funding opportunities for communities that want to take proactive measures to become more resilient. Through this project, the Gulf of Mexico Alliance and partners will help 10 Gulf of Mexico coastal communities enhance their overall resilience to future hazards through pilot projects using new and updated information and tools. The approach involves evaluating each community from a natural resource and human use perspective, and providing a small grant to implement cost-effective solutions to increase resilience. Project partners will also create a network to support additional regional coordination and collaboration for resilience efforts and sharing lessons learned.

**Project Partners:** Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Geological Survey of Alabama, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium