

Marina Dock Age & The Docks Expo Nashville 2018

National Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG), and Clean Vessel Act (CVA) Programs



BIG/CVA Program (s) Purpose

To provide funding for the construction, renovation, and **maintenance** of boating infrastructure tie-up facilities for transient, nontrailerable, recreational vessels or pump-out & dump station infrastructure including floating restrooms and boats

BIG Program Need

- Approx. 12 million registered recreational vessels in the U.S. of this total an estimated 560,000 are **26 feet or more in length** and are considered non-trailerable
- Marinas and other facilities that provide docking amenities were not designed or adequate to accommodate larger RECREATIONAL vessels
- Recreational vessels of this size are more likely to have holding tanks and therefore need docking facilities to access pump-out and sanitary services

Clean Vessel Act Program Need

- *Lack of sewage handling and conveyance infrastructure to accommodate sewage generated by boaters and stored in Type III Marine Sanitation Devices
- *Increase in the manufacture of vessels (size) that provide Type III Marine Sanitation Devices or onboard portable toilets
- *Increase in the number of areas developed for the purpose of accommodating boaters
- *Increase in the opportunities that boaters have for temporary or overnight mooring (via BIG development)

BIG/CVA Program Funding



- Established with the Sportfishing and Boating Safety Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-178).
- Funded through the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust derived from excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, import duties, and interest on the fund.

Who Administers the BIG/CVA Programs



- Administered nationally by United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- Statewide by a Fish and Game, Conservation, or Health Department
- <http://www.sobaus.org/resources/resources.html>

BIG Applicant Eligibility

- Both public (state, county, cities, or towns) or private facilities are eligible for funding
- Are you in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws?
- Is there a need for transient boating infrastructure?

Must Have's Before You Apply

- Offer security, safety, and service for eligible users and vessels
- Open/accessible to eligible vessels on **navigable waters** that are at **least 6 feet deep at the lowest tide** or **fluctuation**
- Must provide public access to shore!
- Recreational: operated primarily for pleasure; or leased, rented, or chartered to another person for the latter's pleasure.
- Pump-out

What you should do before applying?

- Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov
March 2020
- READ “An Applicants Guide to the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program” Published by the States Organization for Boating Access
- <http://www.sobaus.org/publications/publications1.html>
- Use winter months or down time to review BIG
- **Attend workshops!**

What you should do before applying?

- Do you have a business plan? Does your plan include the accommodation of transient boaters?
- What are the state laws, regulations, ordinances, and/or requirements that may impact your project?
- Draft a list of infrastructure that you will need to not only attract transient boaters but to accommodate their needs
- Do you have data to support what you want? (Proration)

BIG Grant Types

Tier I- State

- Project (s) cannot exceed \$200,000 in federal funding
- One or more projects may be selected pending the amount of Federal share sought
- Can submit more than one proposal as long as the project (s) are not dependent on the completion of the other
- Some years can be competitive

BIG Grant Types

Tier II-National

- USFWS expects to award approx. \$10-14 million/funding cycle
- \$1.5 million (federal) funding limits on projects
- Compete against all other projects nationwide
- Can submit more than one as long as the projects are not dependant on completion of the other. Must stand alone.

BIG Eligible Infrastructure

1. Mooring buoys
2. Day-docks
3. Navigational aids
4. Transient slips
5. Safe Harbors
6. Floating docks/fixed piers
7. Floating/fixed breakwaters
8. Dinghy docks
9. Restrooms/showers
10. Retaining walls/living shorelines

BIG Eligible Infrastructure

11. Bulkheads
12. Dockside utilities
13. Pump-out stations
14. Recycling and trash receptacles
15. Debris deflection structures
16. Marine fueling stations
17. One-time dredging

Eligible Pre-Award Costs

Eligible for reimbursement if project is completed!

1. Conducting appraisals
2. Administering environmental reviews and permitting
3. Conducting technical feasibility studies
4. Carrying out site surveys and engaging in site planning
5. Preparing cost estimates
6. Preparing working drawings, construction plans, and specifications

*Must submit request to Regional Office (USFWS) for pre-award costs approval regarding eligible actions. USFWS will only reimburse pre-award costs if approved and you receive a grant. **The grantee incurs pre-award costs at their own risk.**

Mandates

Facilities must:

- Charge equitable fees
- Open for reasonable periods
- Designed to last at least 20 years (**ULD**).
- Built to **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** standards
- **Signage**

Mandates cont.

Facilities must:

- Program income must be used for operation and maintenance of the funded infrastructure.
- State will conduct an annual inspection to ensure compliance with BIG regulations

Whitehouse Cove Marina



- Floating Docks
- Bulkhead
- Dockside utilities
- Restroom facilities

Tier I/II

- Sanitary waste pump-out/dump station
- water/electric/sewer upgrade



Town of Cape Charles Harbor



Tier I/II

- Water/electrical upgrade to site

- Transient slips
- Dockside utilities
- Restroom facilities
- Wave attenuator



Town of Chincoteague



- Fixed Piers
- Floating day dock
- Dockside utilities
- Restroom facilities
- Fuel system

Tier I/II

- Curtis Merritt Harbor of Refuge: fuel system
- Robert N. Reed Waterfront Park



Ingram Bay Marina



Tier I

- Fixed docks
- Vinyl bulkhead
- Dockside utilities
- Laundry



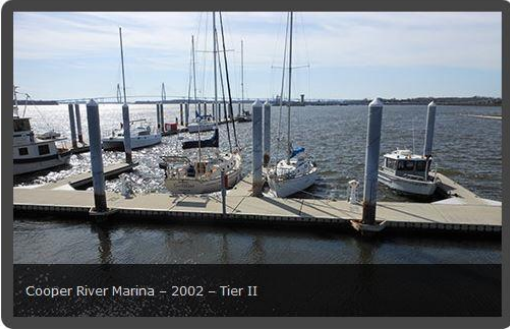
Other Sources of Information

Life's Better
Outdoors
Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program

Google Custom Search Go
Site map | SCDNR Home

Information
Contact us
Forms
Past Projects
Resources
Submitting a Proposal

What is the National Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)?



Cooper River Marina - 2002 - Tier II

Pause < 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 >

Congress has recognized that insufficient tie-up facilities exist for transient (staying 10 days or less), nontrailerable (26 feet or more in length) recreational boats to provide for reasonable and convenient access to and from our navigable waters. As a result, these boaters are unable to enjoy many recreational, cultural, historic, scenic, and natural resources of the United States. It has also been determined that there is an insufficient quantity of marinas or commercial tie-up facilities along extended stretches of the United States coastlines and rivers that benefit transient, nontrailerable boats. In many parts of the country, the number of places to tie up, moor, or anchor a cruising boat, especially during a storm, is limited. Basic features, such as tie-ups, fuel, utilities, and restrooms, are often nonexistent.

As a result, Congress passed the Sport Fishing and Boating Safety Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 777g). Under the Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducts the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program. The BIG Program provides funding to States and Territories to construct, renovate, or maintain tie-up facilities and safe harbors for recreational boats 26 feet or more in length. Objectives include enhancing access to recreational, historic, cultural, natural, and scenic resources; strengthen local ties to the boating community and its economic benefits; promote public/private partnerships and entrepreneurial opportunities; provide continuity of public access to the shore; and promote awareness of transient boating opportunities.

The purpose of South Carolina's BIG Program

- State BIG websites
- Wildlife & Sportfish Restoration Program
- State Organization for Boating Access
- Marine Trades Association

BIG – Are You Ready?

- Do your homework:
 - ✓ Read the Code of Federal Regulations/NOFO.
 - ✓ Consult your marina peers (VISIT BIG SITES)
 - ✓ Attend BIG Workshops
 - ✓ Do you have financial capacity
- **Please do not wait until the last minute**
- **If it is a large project consider hiring a professional**