

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG–2010–1066]

Recreational Boating Safety Projects, Programs, and Activities Funded Under Provisions of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century; Fiscal Year 2013

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In 1999, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century made \$5 million per year available for the payment of Coast Guard expenses for personnel and activities directly related to coordinating and carrying out the national recreational boating safety program. In 2005, the law was amended, and the amount was increased to \$5.5 million. The Coast Guard is publishing this notice to satisfy a requirement of the Act that a detailed accounting of the projects, programs, and activities funded under the national recreational boating safety program provision of the Act be published annually in the *Federal Register*. This notice specifies the funding amounts the Coast Guard has committed, obligated, or expended during fiscal year 2013, as of September 30, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this notice, call Jeff Ludwig, Regulations Development Manager, telephone 202–372–1061.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century became law on June 9, 1998 (Pub. L. 105–178; 112 Stat. 107). The Act required that of the \$5 million made available to carry out the national recreational boating safety program each year, \$2 million shall be available only to ensure compliance with Chapter 43 of Title 46, U.S. Code. On September 29, 2005, the Sportfishing and Recreational Boating Safety Amendments Act of 2005 was enacted (Pub. L. 109–74; 119 Stat. 2031). This Act increased the funds available to the national recreational boating safety program from \$5 million to \$5.5 million annually, and stated that “not less than” \$2 million shall be available only to ensure compliance with Chapter 43 of Title 46, U.S. Code.

These funds are available to the Secretary from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund established under 26 U.S.C. 9504(a) for payment of Coast Guard expenses for personnel and activities directly related to coordinating and carrying out the national recreational boating safety

program. Under 46 U.S.C. 13107(c), no funds available to the Secretary under this subsection may be used to replace funding traditionally provided through general appropriations, nor for any purposes except those purposes authorized; namely, for personnel and activities directly related to coordinating and carrying out the national recreational boating safety program. Amounts made available under 46 U.S.C. 13107(c) remain available during the two succeeding fiscal years. Any amount that is unexpended or unobligated at the end of the 3-year period during which it is available, shall be withdrawn by the Secretary and allocated to the States in addition to any other amounts available for allocation in the fiscal year in which they are withdrawn or the following fiscal year.

Use of these funds requires compliance with standard Federal contracting rules with associated lead and processing times resulting in a lag time between available funds and spending. The total amount of funding transferred to the Coast Guard from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund and committed, obligated, and/or expended during fiscal year 2013 for each activity is shown below.

Specific Accounting of Funds

Factory Visit Program/Boat Testing Program: Funding was provided to continue the national recreational boat factory visit program, initiated in January 2001. Under the factory visit program, contracted personnel, acting on behalf of the Coast Guard, visited 1,300 recreational boat manufacturers during the 2013 reporting year to either inspect for compliance with Federal regulations, communicate with the manufacturers as to why they need to comply with Federal regulations, or educate them, as necessary, on how to comply with Federal regulations. Funding was also provided for testing of certain associated equipment and in-water testing of atypical and used recreational boats for compliance with capacity and flotation standards. This amount satisfies the legal requirement that “not less than” \$2 million be available to ensure compliance with Chapter 43 of Title 46, U.S. Code. (\$2,516,089).

New Recreational Boating Safety Associated Travel: Funding was provided to facilitate travel by employees of the Boating Safety Division to carry out additional recreational boating safety actions and to gather background and planning information for new recreational boating safety initiatives, in support of the

National Recreational Boating Safety Program Strategic Plan. (\$10,219).

Boating Accident News Clipping Services: Funding was provided to continue to gather daily news stories of recreational boating accidents nationally for more real time accident information and to identify accidents that may involve regulatory non-compliances or safety defects. (\$30,000).

Boating Accident Report Database (BARD) Web System: Funding was allocated to continue providing the BARD Web System, which enables reporting authorities in the 50 States, five U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia to submit their accident reports electronically over a secure Internet connection. The system also enables the user community to generate statistical reports that show the frequency, nature, and severity of boating accidents. Fiscal year 2013 funds supported system maintenance, development, and technical (hotline) support. (\$327,360).

Personnel Support: Funding was provided for personnel to support the development of new regulations and to conduct boating safety-related research and analysis. (\$971,198).

Reimbursable Salaries: Funding was provided to carry out the work as prescribed in 46 U.S.C. 13107(c) and as described herein. The first position was that of a professional mathematician/statistician to conduct necessary national surveys and studies on recreational boating activities as well as to serve as a liaison to other Federal agencies that are conducting boating surveys so that we can pool our resources and reduce costs. The second position was that of an Outreach Coordinator with responsibilities that include overseeing and managing RBS projects related to carbon monoxide poisoning, propeller injury mitigation, and manufacturer compliance initiatives. (\$301,623).

Web Site Support: Funding for this initiative provides a full range of public media and boating safety information at <http://www.uscgboating.org> for a worldwide audience. It covers a wide spectrum of boating safety related topics and is dedicated to reducing loss of life, injuries, and property damage that occur on U.S. waterways by improving the knowledge, skills, and abilities of recreational boaters. (\$81,733).

Of the \$5.5 million made available to the Coast Guard in fiscal year 2013, \$2,429,831 has been committed, obligated, or expended and an additional \$1,808,391 of prior fiscal year funds have been committed, obligated, or expended, as of September 30, 2013. The remainder of the FY13 funds made

available to the Coast Guard (approximately \$3,000,000) will be transferred into the pool of money available for allocation through the FY14 state grant program.

Authority

This notice is issued pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 and 46 U.S.C. 13107(c)(4).

Dated: December 31, 2013.

J.C. Burton,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Director of Inspections & Compliance.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0056; OMB No. 1660-0072]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Mitigation Grant Program/e-Grants.

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed revision of a currently approved information collection. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning this collection that is used by: (1) Applicants and sub-applicants to apply for and report on e-Grant awards; and (2) the Federal Emergency Management Agency to evaluate, award, and monitor expenditures and program/project performance for Flood Mitigation Assistance and Pre-Disaster Mitigation program activities.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 24, 2014.

ADDRESSES: To avoid duplicate submissions to the docket, please use only one of the following means to submit comments:

(1) *Online.* Submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket ID FEMA-2013-0056. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

(2) *Mail.* Submit written comments to Regulatory Affairs Division, Office of Chief Counsel, DHS/FEMA, 500 C Street

SW., Room 8NE, Washington, DC 20472-3100.

All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket ID. Regardless of the method used for submitting comments or material, all submissions will be posted, without change, to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>, and will include any personal information you provide. Therefore, submitting this information makes it public. You may wish to read the Privacy Act notice that is available via the link in the footer of <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cecelia Rosenberg, Chief, Grants Policy Branch, Mitigation Division, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, DHS/FEMA, (202) 646-3321 for additional information. You may contact the Records Management Division for copies of the proposed collection of information at facsimile number (202) 646-3347 or email address: FEMA-Information-Collections-Management@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This collection of information is necessary to implement grants for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program. The FMA program is authorized by section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. 4104c, as amended by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 (NFIA), Public Law 108-264. The FMA program, under 44 CFR part 79, is designed to award grants so that measures are taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In addition, the FMA program now funds projects previously funded under the Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) programs. The Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, Public Law 112-141 (42 U.S.C. 4001, et seq.) eliminated the RFC and SRL programs, by combining those programs under the FMA program. Projects that were eligible for funding under the old RFC and SRL programs, and that meet criteria consistent with legislative changes made in the Biggert-Waters Act, are now eligible for increased Federal cost share under the FMA program. Under the FMA there will be grant awards for actions that reduce flood damages to individual properties for which one or more claim payments for losses have been made. Also, grant awards will be available for the goal of

reducing flood damages to residential properties that have experienced severe repetitive losses under flood insurance coverage.

The PDM program is authorized by Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. 5133, as amended. The PDM program provides grants for cost-effective mitigation actions prior to a disaster event to reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

In accordance with OMB Circular A-102, FEMA requires that all parties interested in receiving FEMA mitigation grants submit an application package for grant assistance. The e-Grants system was developed and revamped to meet the intent of the e-Government initiative, authorized by Public Law 106-107. This initiative requires that all government agencies both streamline grant application processes and provide for the means to electronically create, review, and submit a grant application via the Internet.

Collection of Information

Title: Mitigation Grant Program/e-Grants.

Type of Information Collection: Extension, without change, of a currently approved information collection.

OMB Number: 1660-0072.

FEMA Forms: No Forms.

Abstract: The FEMA pre-disaster mitigation grant programs—Flood Mitigation Assistance, and Pre-Disaster Mitigation—both utilize an automated grant application and management system known as e-Grants to apply for these grants. These programs provide funding to allow for the reduction or elimination of the risks to life and property from hazards. The e-Grants system also provides the mechanism to provide quarterly reports of the financial status of the project and the final closeout report.

Affected Public: State, local and Tribal Governments.

Number of Respondents: 56

Number of Responses: 5,264

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 43,848.

Estimated Cost: There are no operation and maintenance, or capital and start-up costs associated with this collection of information.

Comments

Comments may be submitted as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** caption above. Comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data