

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FWS - Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration

<https://www.fws.gov/program/clean-vessel-act>

F23AS00407 - FY 2023 Clean Vessel Act (CVA)

Fiscal Year: 2023

F23AS00407

Due Date for Applications: 11/22/2022

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A. Program Description

Authority:

Clean Vessel Act, 33 United States Code (U.S.C.) §1322; and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, 16 U.S.C. §777 et seq.

Assistance Listing Number:

15.616

Background, Purpose and Program Requirements:

Recreational boating is a popular activity in the United States. There are approximately 11.8 million registered motorized recreational boats in the United States, and each year over 141 million people, adults and children, enjoy a host of water-based recreational opportunities, such as fishing, cruising, waterskiing, and spending time with family and friends. Many recreational boats are equipped with on-board toilets and wastewater holding tanks, known as Marine Sanitation Devices (MSDs). Proper disposal of sewage from recreational boats is important in preserving and improving water quality in the country's vital aquatic ecosystems. The Clean Vessel Act (CVA) grant program provides funding to the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of Guam, American Samoa, and the United States Virgin Islands (hereafter States) to support their ongoing efforts to improve recreational boating opportunities and provide boaters with clean, efficient facilities to prevent waste disposal into public waterways and other ecosystems.

Funding comes from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund and consists of excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, import duties, and interest on the fund. Four percent of the trust fund, after sequestration, is divided between the CVA and Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG) programs each fiscal year.

Each year pumpouts and dump stations, funded through CVA and matched with State, local, and/or private funds, have a large impact on reducing the amount of human waste discharged to the nation's waters from recreational vessels. This has tremendous benefits such as improved water quality for public drinking water supplies, river ecosystems, shellfish beds and other aquatic life; convenient service for boaters; and boaters who are informed of how best to dispose of vessel sewage. Since the inception of CVA, the program has funded over 6,000 pumpout and dump stations and has provided funds to help operate and maintain them. Through dedication of the States, private marinas, the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, the States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA), environmental groups, and the boating public, millions of gallons of sewage are diverted from polluting waterbodies each year. These groups have also been instrumental in keeping the facilities in working order, and providing information for the boating public regarding the importance of keeping waters clean by using pumpouts and dump stations.

The CVA slogan is: Keep Our Water Clean - Use Pumpouts.

References to "you" in this NOFO refer to the State agency completing the application and any potential subrecipient, if applicable. References to "we" or "us" in this NOFO refer to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). Please note the updated TRACS (Tracking and Reporting

Actions for the Conservation of Species) requirements in Sections A2, D2 and F3 as compliance may affect your application and any future awards.

The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program's (WSFR) mission is to work through partnerships to conserve and manage fish and wildlife and their habitats for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations. WSFR's vision is of healthy, diverse, and accessible fish and wildlife populations that offer recreation, economic activity, and other societal benefits, in addition to sustainable ecological functions. WSFR's guiding principle is that society benefits from conservation-based management of fish and wildlife, their habitats and opportunities to use and enjoy them. The CVA Program aligns with WSFR's mission, vision, and guiding principle, and supports the Administration's priorities and incorporates them where appropriate and consistent with authorizing statutes and regulations.

Wildlife TRACS (Tracking and Reporting Actions for the Conservation of Species) is the tracking and reporting system used by WSFR to capture information about conservation and related actions funded by its grant programs. TRACS serves as the electronic repository system for all performance, accomplishment, and real property reporting related to those Federal awards. TRACS highlights program accountability by documenting program accomplishments and results. For applications that are selected for funding, grant and project statement information and performance reporting data must be entered into TRACS as authorized under [2 CFR 200.102\(c\)](#), [200.202](#), [200.301](#), and [200.329](#).

Notable changes from the FY 2022 announcement were made in the sections below (Note: Applicants should read this announcement in its entirety to insure all requirements are met. Failure to fully adhere to all requirements may result in your application being rejected.):

- D2. Added information on a new requirement to submit the Project Abstract Summary form, OMB Number 4040-0019, which replaces the previous requirement for a Project Summary. Clarified TRACS-related guidance.
- D3. Added requirements for Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM) which replaces the "Obtain a DUNS Number" section.
- D7. Added checklist.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding

\$13,000,000

B2. Expected Award Amount

Maximum Award

\$1,500,000

Minimum Award

\$0

An application may not be selected for funding, or we may find that it is ineligible, which would result in no funds being awarded.

B3. Expected Award Funding and Anticipated Dates

Expected Award Funding

Expected Award Date

May 16, 2023

Awards typically range from \$30,000 up to \$1,500,000 with an average award of approximately \$565,000. There is no minimum, and the maximum award amount is \$1,500,000. Coastal States may apply for up to \$3,000,000 maximum, \$1,500,000 for coastal activities and \$1,500,000 for inland activities. Inland States may apply for up to \$1,500,000. See Section C below for more detail on Coastal and Inland States. Funding approvals are expected to occur during May 2023 with grants being awarded as compliance and permitting efforts are completed over the following 12 months. These awards may supplement previous CVA awards as long as there is no overlap.

B4. Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards

34

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type

G - Grant

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

00 – State governments

Additional Information on Eligibility

Eligible applicants are the Governor-designated State agencies in the United States, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands and the Mayor-designated agency in the District of Columbia (States). **You may not apply directly if you are not one of these entities. If you are uncertain of your eligibility, please contact the national contact in Section G. or your Regional WSFR Office (below).**

American Samoa, Hawaii: Chris Swenson, Chris_Swenson@fws.gov, 503 231-6758

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam: Ruth Utzurum,
Ruth_Utzurum@fws.gov, 503-231-2083

Idaho, Oregon, and Washington: Heidi Nelson, Heidi_Nelson@fws.gov 503-231-2096

Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas: Brian Hobbs, Brian_Hobbs@fws.gov, 505-248-7476

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin: Craig Kelling, Craig_Kelling@fws.gov, 612-713-5385

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and the United States Virgin Islands: Scott White, Scott_White@fws.gov, 404-679-7113

Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia: Bill Perry, Bill_Perry@fws.gov, 413-253-8302

Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming: Michael Cotter, Michael_Cotter@fws.gov, 303-236-8179

Alaska: Cary Myler, Cary_Myler@fws.gov, 907-351-7989

California and Nevada: Julie Hana, Julie_Hana@fws.gov, 916-414-6507

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Yes

Percentage of Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

25

The maximum Federal award under CVA is 75 percent of the total allowable project cost up to \$1.5 million. Recipients are required to provide the remaining 25 percent of total allowable project costs using matching non-Federal funds. American Samoa, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are exempt from match requirements up to \$200,000.

You may meet your minimum required cost share or match through contributions from a third party. A third party is any individual or organization other than the State applicant, such as a partner or subrecipient. In order for match to be allowable, it must meet all the criteria listed in [2 CFR 200.306\(b\)](#). As the primary recipient, you are responsible for the full amount of the non-Federal match proposed, including any amount provided by one or more third parties as listed on the Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424).

You may attribute some or all of your allowable indirect costs as voluntary committed cost-share/match, however you may only charge to the Federal award the indirect costs calculated against the allowable direct costs charged to the Federal award.

C3. Other

Eligible applicants are the designated State agencies in the United States. If you are uncertain of your eligibility, please contact WSFR (see the national contact information in Section G or the Regional WSFR contacts in section C1).

Coastal State – A State of the United States in, or bordering on, the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, Long Island Sound, or one or more of the Great Lakes. The term also includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Alaska is eligible as a Coastal State for the purposes of CVA.

Inland State - A State which is not a Coastal State as defined above. The District of Columbia and American Samoa are included as inland States. American Samoa is defined as an inland State because the ratio of number of recreational vessels to number of shoreline miles is less than one.

Many States provide CVA subawards to private marinas, local municipalities, other State agencies, or other non-State entities though it is the State's decision if they want to utilize this approach to meet their public boating needs. There may be a separate application process for potential subrecipients managed by the State agency responsible for administering CVA grants.

Foreign Entities or Projects:

State Sponsors of Terrorism: This program will not fund projects in [countries determined by the U.S. Department of State to have repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism](#) and therefore are subject to sanctions restricting receipt of U.S. foreign assistance and other financial transactions.

Office of Foreign Assets Control Sanctions: This program will not fund projects in countries subject to [comprehensive sanction programs administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury, Office of Foreign Asset Control](#) without proper licenses.

In-Country Licenses, Permits, or Approvals: Entities conducting activities outside the U.S. are responsible for coordinating with appropriate U.S. and foreign government authorities as necessary to obtain all required licenses, permits, or approvals before undertaking project activities. The Service does not assume responsibility for recipient compliance with the laws, regulations, policies, or procedures of the foreign country in which they are conducting work.

Excluded Parties:

The DOI conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award. The DOI cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

D. Application and Submission Information

D1. Address to Request Application Package

Apply to this announcement in the GrantSolutions Grants Management Module (GMM). We request that you apply via [GrantSolutions](#) if you are able to do so. Note that the application package is also available on [Grants.gov](#). Using the “Search Grants” tab, enter the Funding Opportunity Number or the CFDA number (15.616). Downloading and saving the Application Package to your computer makes the required government-wide standard forms fillable and printable. Applicants should reach out to the contacts listed in Section C1 and Section G if you have questions about their applications.

Program Website Link

<https://www.fws.gov/program/clean-vessel-act>

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

All applicants must submit the Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. This form is available with the announcement on Grants.gov and in GrantSolutions. The form must be complete and signed by an Authorized Representative. For all applicants except individuals and commercial entities, the Authorized Representative’s signature on a standard application form submitted to the Service represents their certification that the entity’s financial management system meets [2 CFR §200.302](#) financial management requirements. The non-Federal entity’s financial management system must be sufficient to:

1. Permit the preparation of required reports;
2. Trace funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that the entity has used such funds per Federal statutes, regulations, and terms and conditions of the Federal award;
3. Provide for the requirements in [2 CFR §200.302\(b\)](#); and
4. Comply with [§200.334](#) Retention requirements for records, [§200.335](#) Requests for transfer of records, [§200.336](#) Methods for collection, transmission, and storage of information, and [§200.337](#) Access to records.

If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative’s signature on or submission of the SF-424 form in GrantSolutions also represents their certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying.

When completing the SF-424 Application form, enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in Box 18a, Estimated Federal Funding. Include any other Federal sources of funding in Box 18e. Estimated Other Funding and identify any such sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below). For individuals applying as a private citizen (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own or operate in your name), do NOT include your Social Security Number on this or any other document to be submitted with your application! When completing the SF-424 Application form, individuals must enter in Box 8b. Employee/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN) the substitute number “444-44-4444.” Individuals may register in SAM.gov but are not required to have a SAM.gov registration. For individuals without a SAM.gov registration enter in Box 8c. the substitute Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) “KA5HQCLKUVW1 “

SF-424D, Assurances for Construction Programs

Any applicant requesting support for a construction projects must submit as signed and dated SF-424D, Assurances for Construction Programs form. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov and in GrantSolutions

Note that applicants with their annual assurances (including SF-424B, Assurances for Non-Construction Programs and/or SF-424D, Assurances for Construction Programs), already on file at their WSFR Regional Office do not need to re-submit assurance forms. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov and GrantSolutions.

Briefly summarize the project, in one page or less. Include the title of the project, geographic location, and a brief overview of the need for the project. Goal(s), TRACS's objectives, specific project activities that would be funded, anticipated outputs and outcomes should also be included in this section.

Project Abstract Summary (OMB Number 4040-0019)

Applicants must complete and submit the Project Abstract Summary form. The Project Abstract Summary form must provide a brief award description. The description must be in plain language that the public can understand without viewing the full application proposal. It should include a brief, simple description of the project purpose, activities to be performed, deliverables and expected outcomes, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipient activities, if known at the time of submission.

Do not include personally identifiable, sensitive, or proprietary information in the award description as this is available to the public. Use only English characters, numbers, punctuation, and standard symbols. Use of non-English, non-standard characters (also referred to as special or extended ASCII characters) will result in the award description failing to be reported correctly to USASpending.gov. Award descriptions are limited to 4,000 characters or less. Applicants should check the length of the award description and proofread for proper grammar and spelling.

For applicants applying through Grants.gov: Applicants must download and complete the Grants.gov "Project Abstract Summary" form from the full text announcement. To submit the Grants.gov "Project Abstract Summary" form with the application, applicants must add the form as an attachment to the Grants.gov "Attachments" form that is included in the application package.

For applicants applying through GrantSolutions-Grants Management Module (GS-GMM): Applicants must enter the information in the Project Abstract Summary screen. Do not upload a document in place of entering the information directly into GS-GMM Project Abstract Screen.

Project Narrative

A project statement (10 pages maximum) that does not address the ranking criteria, but rather identifies and describes:

- a. Need: Explain why the project is necessary and how it fulfills the purpose of CVA;
- b. The Service created Standard Objectives to standardize performance reporting and document national accomplishments that deliver results consistent with the CVA Program's authorizing legislation and program

regulation. To avoid delay, your project narrative must only use one or more of the Standard Objectives listed in the [TRACS Performance Matrix](#). We encourage you to work with your WSFR Regional Office if you have questions about the use of TRACS Standard Objectives in your Project Narrative. Please refer to the Service's WSFR Training Portal site for [example project statements](#) that utilize TRACS Standard Objectives.

- c. Expected results or benefits from accomplishing the objectives;
- d. The approach to be used in meeting the objectives, including specific procedures, schedules, key personnel, and cooperators;
- e. Description of the activity so Service staff can make a preliminary determination of compliance needs for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 7 of Endangered Species Act (ESA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA); and
- f. The anticipated project location(s), including the GPS coordinates in minutes, degrees, seconds. If exact locations are not available at the time of application, please be as specific as possible.
- g. Provide a timeline of activities.

The Service has implemented an electronic performance reporting system called TRACS (<https://tracs.fws.gov>) in order to document recipient performance and for reporting on national program accomplishments that deliver meaningful results consistent with the CVA Program's authorizing legislation and regulation. If your application is selected for funding, you are required to enter grant and Project Narrative information in TRACS within 60 calendar days of the latter: (a) period of performance start date; or (b) the date the award was approved. If you need assistance, please contact your WSFR Regional Office (see Section C1).

You can also enter grant and Project Narrative information in TRACS prior to applying in GrantSolutions or Grants.gov. TRACS data entry will facilitate development of a complete Project Narrative. Once entered, TRACS will generate a Project Narrative that you may use as part of your application in GrantSolutions or Grants.gov.

SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs

Applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A Budget Information form for Non-Construction Programs or Projects. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov or in GrantSolutions. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 200. Applicants must show funds requested from this Federal program separately from any other Federal sources of funding. In "Section A – Budget Summary" on the SF-424A form enter the funding requested from this Federal program in the first row. Identify any other Federal funding sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below).

SF-424C, Budget Information for Construction Program

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424C Budget Information form for Construction Programs or Projects. All required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov and in GrantSolutions. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200. Applicants must show funds requested from this

Federal program separately from any other Federal sources of funding. Identify any other Federal funding sources and amounts in the required Budget Narrative (see below).

Budget Narrative

Applicants must include a budget narrative that describes and justifies requested budget items and costs. In your budget narrative, describe how the SF-424 Budget Information, “Object Class Category” totals were determined. For personnel salary costs, generally describe how estimates were determined by identifying what type of staff will support the project and how much time they will contribute to the project (in hours or workdays). Describe any proposed [items of cost that require prior approval](#) under the [Federal award cost principles](#), including any anticipated subawarding, transferring, or contracting out of any work under the award. If equipment previously purchased with Federal funds is available for the project, provide a list of that equipment and identify the Federal funding source. Identify any third-party cash or in-kind contributions that a partner or other entity will contribute to the project and describe how the contributions directly and substantively benefit completion of the project. For in-kind contributions, identify the source, the amount, and the valuation methodology used to determine the total value. See [2 CFR §200.306](#) for more information.

Be sure to provide sufficient detail for reviewers to understand the proposed costs.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.112](#), applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

a. Applicability.

1. This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.
2. In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub recipients, the conflict of interest provisions in [2 CFR §200.318](#) apply.

b. Notification.

1. Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with [2 CFR §200.112](#).
2. Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub recipients.

c. Restrictions on lobbying. Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to [43 CFR §18](#) and [31 USC §1352](#).

- d. *Review procedures.* The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.

Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in [2 CFR §200.339](#), Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also [2 CFR §180](#)).

Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit organizations expending \$750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System](#), in accordance with 2 CFR 200 subpart F. U.S. state, local government, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](#) website.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in [43CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying](#). If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in [43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A](#).

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants and recipients must not use any federally appropriated funds (annually appropriated or continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a Federal award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any U.S. agency, a Member of the U.S. Congress, an officer or employee of the U.S. Congress, or an employee of a Member of the U.S. Congress connection with the award. Applicants and recipients must complete and submit the [SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities"](#) form if the Federal share of the proposal or award is more than \$100,000 and the applicant or recipient has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the application or award. The SF-LLL form is available with this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

Applicants must provide a statement indicating if there is any overlap between this Federal application and any other Federal application, or funded project, in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, "There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects, including in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel". If any such overlap exists, provide a complete description of overlaps or duplications between this

proposal and any other federally funded project or application in regard to activities, costs, and time commitment of key personnel, as applicable. Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that proposal was submitted, to whom (entity name and program), and when you anticipate being notified of their funding decision. When overlap exists, your statement must end with “We understand that if at any time we receive funding from another source that is duplicative of the funding we are requesting from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in this application, we will immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service point of contact identified in this Funding Opportunity in writing.”

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration:

This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register as a financial assistance recipient in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#) which replaced the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet in April 2022. A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s). Entities already registered in SAM.gov should review their registration to confirm that they are registered as a financial assistance recipient, which requires completion of the SAM.gov “Financial Assistance General Certifications and Representations”. See the “Submission Requirements” section of this document below for more information on SAM.gov registration.

Applicants can register on the [SAM.gov](#) website. The “Help” tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov “[Register with SAM](#)” page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity’s IRS information. If applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications

11/22/2022

Application Due Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM, ET, on the listed application due date.

State agency applicants must submit applications through GrantSolutions or Grants.gov by the deadline. The Service recommends that you submit your application early enough to address any unforeseen technical complications. We also recommend that you verify that all documents have been received with your Regional WSFR Office before the deadline. **The Service will not consider applications received after the deadline.**

Applicants requesting comments or assistance with their applications are encouraged to submit applications to their Regional WSFR Office at least 4 weeks prior to the due date. Although there is no guarantee that the Regional WSFR Office will provide comments, feedback may include recommendations to improve the application.

D5. Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required for applications submissions from a U.S. state or local government prior to submission. Applicants must contact their State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state's process under [Executive Order 12372](#). The State Single Point of Contact list is available on the [OMB Office of Federal Financial Management website](#).

D6. Funding Restrictions

Indirect Costs: Individuals

Individuals applying for and receiving funds separate from a business or non-profit organization they may operate are not eligible to charge indirect costs to their award. If you are an individual applying for funding, you must not include any indirect costs in your proposed budget.

Indirect Costs: Organizations

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior (DOI) is your organization's cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center (IBC) will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the IBC by phone 916-930-3803 or using the [IBC Email Submission Form](#). See the [IBC Website](#) for more information.

Organizations must have an active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award. Recipients may not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted by Organization:

U.S. state or local government entities receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding must include the following statement in their application and attach a copy of their most recently negotiated rate agreement:

- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. Our current indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. Attached is a copy of our most recently negotiated rate agreement/certification.

U.S. state or local government entities receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding must include the applicable statement from this list:

- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding. We prepare and retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and documentation per 2 CFR 200, Appendix VII. Our current indirect cost rate is [insert rate], which is charged against [insert a complete description of the direct cost base used to distribute indirect costs to the award].
- We are a U.S. state or local government entity receiving \$35 million or less in direct Federal funding. We have not prepared an indirect cost rate proposal and documentation per 2 CFR §200, Appendix VII and elect to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. We understand we must use this methodology consistently for all Federal awards until we choose to establish a rate per 2 CFR §200. We understand we must notify the Service in writing if we establish a rate that changes the methodology used to charge indirect costs during the award period. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs during the project period and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.

All other organizations must include the applicable statement from this list and any related documentation in their application. Please note, an organization with a current negotiated (including provisional) rate may not elect to charge the 10% de minimis rate of Modified Total Direct Costs during the period covered by their current negotiated rate.

- We are an organization with a current negotiated indirect cost rate. In the event we receive an award, we will charge indirect costs per our current negotiated rate agreement. Attached is a copy of our current rate agreement.
- We are an organization with a negotiated indirect cost rate that has expired. Attached is copy of our most recently negotiated rate agreement. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date. We understand we must provide the Service a copy of our approved rate agreement before charging indirect costs to the Federal award.
- We are an organization that has never negotiated an indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate], which is charged against [insert a complete description of the direct cost base used to distribute indirect costs to the award]. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date. We understand we must provide the Service a copy of our approved rate agreement before charging indirect costs to the Federal award.
- We are an organization that does not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate. In the event an award is made, we elect to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.1. We understand we must use this methodology consistently for all Federal awards until such time as we negotiate a

different rate with our cognizant agency. We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if during the award period we establish a rate that changes the methodology used to charge indirect costs to the award. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.

- We are an organization submitting a [insert either “Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Program” or “Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network”] project proposal, which has an indirect cost rate cap of [insert rate; CRU is currently 15%; CESU is currently 17.5%]. In the event we receive an award, we understand that if we have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate we must charge the program’s capped indirect cost rate to the same base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement, per 2 CFR §1402.414. If we do not have current negotiated (including provisional) rate, we understand we must charge the capped indirect cost rate against Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) as defined in 2 CFR §200.1.
- We are an organization that will charge all costs directly.

Funding Restrictions

Pre-award costs are not guaranteed and may only be eligible if they are necessary and reasonable for completion of project objectives, and are approved in writing in advance by the Regional WSFR Office. Request for pre-award costs need to include the dates of validity, costs, and a justification.

Eligible grant activities include:

1. Education/information program to educate/inform recreational boaters about the environmental pollution problems resulting from sewage discharges from vessels and to inform them of the location of pumpout and dump stations.
2. The construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of pumpout and dump stations, including floating restrooms in the water, not connected to land or structures connected to the land, used solely by boaters. They may also include any activity necessary to hold and transport sewage to sewage treatment plants, such as holding tanks, piping, haulage costs, and any activity necessary to get sewage treatment plants to accept sewage, such as installing bleed-in facilities.
3. Administration and coordination your CVA grant program.

Ineligible activities include:

1. Activities that do not provide public benefits.
2. Law Enforcement activities.
3. Construction/renovation of upland restroom facilities.
4. Construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of onsite sewage treatment plants, such as package treatment plants and septic systems, and of municipal sewage treatment plants for primary and secondary treatment.

D7. Other Submission Requirements

Submit completed applications electronically through GrantSolutions or [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

Applications must be formatted to fit on 8.5" X 11" paper, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides, and page numbers at the bottom of the page. Fonts must be no less than 12 point Arial, Times New Roman, or other commonly used font.

In accepting Federal funds, you must comply with all applicable Federal laws, regulations, and policies. If we select the application for award, you will need to provide evidence of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and other Federal laws or regulations as part of the post-selection approval process.

Coastal States submitting applications for both the coastal and the inland portions of their state must submit two separate applications for ranking purposes.

Please review this announcement carefully before you apply for a CVA grant. We annually update information, including program requirements and/or application instructions so requirements may have changed. Use the following list to assist you in determining if your application is complete and your project is eligible for funding. Details on what is required for each item may be found in this announcement.

- SF-424 form, Application for Federal Assistance
- SF-424C form, Budget Information for Construction Program (note that the totals on this form should match the total on the SF-424 and in your budget narrative).
- SF-424D form, Assurances: (only if a current copy is not on file in your Regional WSFR Office).
- Project Abstract Summary form
- Project Narrative
- Budget Narrative
- Maps, Drawings, Photographs
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Uniform Audit Reporting Statement
- SF-LLL form, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (if applicable)
- Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement
- Indirect Cost Statement and if applicable, a copy of your current NICRA (only if a current copy is not on file in your Regional WSFR Office).

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

E2. Review and Selection Process

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms

of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the FWS may choose not to fund the selected project.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in [2 CFR §200.206](#). Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the Bureau is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The Bureau will consider this information when completing the risk review. The Bureau uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in [2 CFR §200.208](#) should be applied to the award.

Review and selection is a three-step process: application receipt, application ranking, and application selection.

Application receipt – Submit applications via GrantSolutions or Grants.gov. The Regional WSFR Offices determine applicant eligibility and whether applications are complete, substantial, and contain only activities that are eligible. We will return ineligible applications to the applicant. Revision and resubmission of returned applications is allowable up until the identified deadline for application submittals. Note that your Regional WSFR contact may, upon request, review a draft application prior to submission. Check with your applicable contact if you would like to explore this option.

Application ranking - Once an application is received and determined to be eligible by the Regional WSFR Office, they notify the Service WSFR Headquarters Office, which coordinates the review and ranking of the applications by WSFR staff. We invite the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Protection Agency and United States Coast Guard to review the applications and make recommendations to the Service Director.

If funding requests for eligible applications exceed available funds, we will apply a discretionary formula to distribute CVA funds to all eligible applicants and support as many projects as possible across the country. The highest scoring applications have priority and we will partially award applications based on a proportional ratio. We will attempt to provide funding to each State that applies for at least a minimal level of support to address the critical need of preventing pollution from recreational boat sewage. We may not rank applications if funds are available to fund all eligible applications. We will review all applications for eligibility and to insure they meet program requirements.

Please pay close attention to the following information as it may assist you in your planning and application efforts, and we will use it to determine the distribution of funds in an equitable

manner, with priority for the highest scoring applications. We will fully fund each eligible application requesting \$50,000 or less. No application will receive more than 10 percent of the total available funds, unless there are funds to meet all application requests. We will also:

1. Rank all eligible applications in descending point-score order;
2. Determine the percentage of each application's total score compared to the total possible score. We will use a total possible score of 50 points for all applications in determining the percentage (Note that all coastal States now have a plan. Hence the total possible score is 50 rather than 100 points.);
3. Determine funding based on the percentage in Step 2 for those applications with Federal CVA funding requests greater than \$50,000. For example, applications receiving a perfect score (100 percent) will receive the full Federal funding request (if they clear the 10 percent of total available funds threshold), applications with a percentage of 80 percent (score of 40 points out of 50 possible) will receive 80 percent of the Federal funding request, and applications with a percentage of 60 percent (score of 30 points out of 50 possible) will receive 60 percent of the Federal funding request, and so on, funds permitting;
4. Make additional adjustments as needed to ensure we award the full amount of available funding; and
5. Adjust the 25 percent matching share, if applicable.

Application selection - The Service Director makes the final funding selections.

E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

See the [Service's General Award Terms and Conditions](#) for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards. The Service will communicate any other program- or project-specific special terms and conditions to recipients in their notices of award.

E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

We anticipate announcing funding during May, 2023.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

The Service Regional WSFR Office will notify State applicants of the funding approval and the process needed to receive a grant, including approval of pre-award costs and satisfactory completion of compliance requirements. When these requirements are met, the Regional WSFR Office will send a letter to your agency detailing the terms and conditions of the award. Notice of funding approval is not an approval of pre-award costs.

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the [DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](#) for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

See the [Service's General Award Terms and Conditions](#) for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards.

Buy America Provision for Infrastructure: Required Use of American Iron, Steel, Manufactured Products, and Construction Materials.

As required by Section 70914 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58), on or after May 14, 2022, none of the funds under a federal award that are part of a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States, unless subject to an approved waiver. Recipients conducting infrastructure projects under the award must include related requirements all subawards, including all contracts and purchase orders for infrastructure work or products under this program. For the full text term applicable to infrastructure and related waiver request standards and procedures, see the Service's General Award Terms and Conditions.

Data Availability

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.315](#):

- a. All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.
- b. The Federal Government has the right to:
 1. Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a Federal award; and
 2. Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, for Federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the [SF-425, Federal Financial Report](#) form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a **final** financial report. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. The only exception to the interim financial reporting requirement is if the recipient is required to use the SF 270/271 to request payment and requests payment at least once annually through the entire

award period of performance. We will describe all financial reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Non-Construction Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals was not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. **Final** reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim performance** reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Recipients must submit all performance reports into TRACS (unless exempt) and GrantSolutions as described in the Notice of Award terms and conditions. Non-exempt recipients should first complete their performance reports in TRACS. Once completed, TRACS will generate a performance report that you can upload in GrantSolutions. When the award includes facility construction, the recipient will be responsible for entering information into the TRACS facility module to create facility records. The Service will enter facility record information into TRACS on behalf of any TRACS-exempt recipients.

All recipient's (including TRACS-exempt recipient's) performance report information must provide quantitative outputs to the approved Standard Objectives, and narrative responses to the following questions:

1. What progress has been made towards completing your objectives(s) of the project?
2. Please describe and justify any changes in the implementation of your objective(s) or approach(es).
3. If applicable, please share if your project resulted in any unexpected benefits, promising practices, new understandings, cost efficiencies, management recommendations, or lessons learned.
4. For survey projects only: If applicable, does this project continue work from a previous award? If so, how do the current results compare to prior results? (Recipients may elect to add attachments such as tables, figures, or graphs to provide further detail when answering this question).
5. If applicable, identify and attach selected publications, photographs, screenshots of websites, or other documentation (including articles in popular literature, scientific literature, or other public information products) that have resulted from this project that highlight the accomplishments of the project.
6. Is this a project you wish to highlight for communication purposes?
7. For Comprehensive Management System (CMS) States only: If the grant is a CMS, has the agency state submitted an updated report every 3 years detailing the CMS components: (a) inventory and scanning; (b) strategic plan; (c) operational plan; and (d) evaluation and control have been reviewed and summaries included which provide detailed review results and recommendations?

Construction Performance Reports

For construction awards, onsite technical inspections and certified percentage of completion data may be relied on to monitor progress for construction. Additional performance reports for construction activities may be required only when considered necessary. However, awards that

include both construction and non-construction activities require performance reporting for the non-construction activities. See [2 CFR§200.329](#) for more information. The USFWS will describe all performance reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Bureau in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify the Service in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and subrecipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest. The required frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the Federal interest period. The Bureau will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required standard form or data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Per 2 CFR §1402.112, non-Federal entities and their employees must take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements. In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the provisions in [2 CFR §200.318](#) apply. Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with [2 CFR §200.112](#). Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Service Project Officer identified in their notice of award in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that reported by subrecipients. The Service will examine each disclosure to determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, work with the applicant or recipient to develop an appropriate resolution. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies for noncompliance described in 2 CFR §200.339, including suspension or debarment.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the [System for Award Management](#) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the [Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System](#)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with [Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200](#).

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:

Brad Gunn

Telephone:

703-785-3829

Email:

Brad_Gunn@fws.gov

G2. Program Administration

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:

Brad Gunn

Telephone:

703-785-3829

Email:

Brad_Gunn@fws.gov

G3. Application System Technical Support

For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages, contact:

Grants.gov Customer Support

Numeric Input Field: 1-800-518-4726

Support@grants.gov

For GrantSolutions technical registration, submission, and other assistance contact:

GrantSolutions Customer Support

1-866-577-0771

Help@grantsolutions.gov

H. Other Information

Payments

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by the Service program. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT). The Bureau will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.

Clean Vessel Act Grant Program Questions and Answers:

Q1: Is an inspection or a monitoring program to ensure pumpouts installed with CVA funds are in working order an eligible activity?

A: Yes. An inspection or a monitoring program to ensure pumpouts installed with CVA funds are in working order is an eligible activity as long as it doesn't include law enforcement.

Q2: Is creating and/or revising a Coastal State's plan an eligible activity?

A: Yes. A Coastal State may apply for and receive funding to create and/or revise their State plan in accordance with the Technical Guidance. However, points for the first ranking criterion are only awarded to a Coastal State applicant that has no existing plan. Currently all Coastal States have an existing plan so we will award zero points for Coastal State plan development.

Please note, that Inland States may not receive funding to create and/or revise their State plan (as dictated by the Clean Vessel Act of 1992).

Q3: Which cost categories should I include in my application budget?

A: You should include the following categories, by cooperator and project location/facility:

1. Personnel services including compensation for salaries and fringe benefits;
2. Contracts for services;
3. Travel;
4. Equipment, supplies, and construction costs;
5. Education program costs;
6. Operation and/or maintenance costs; and
7. Indirect costs, if applicable.

You may include other categories of eligible costs that you feel support your activities. Ineligible costs may disqualify your application.

Q4: How long must I maintain a pumpout or dump station that I build with CVA funds?

A: You are responsible for maintaining the pumpout or dump station according to the instructions in your grant award documents and guidance from your Regional WSFR Office.

Q5: Are operation and maintenance funds eligible costs?

A: Yes. You may include operation and maintenance activities in your application. They can be

either for a specific location or for an overall CVA operation and maintenance program for the State.

Q6: May I charge more than \$5 as a usage fee for each pumpout or dump station?

A: While we encourage applicants to consider providing these services at no cost, the regulations, found in 50 CFR 85, limit the fee that you may charge for use of a CVA funded facility to \$5 or less. However, if you provide a written request to increase your per-use charges above the \$5 limit and the Service approves your request for an increase, you may charge a higher fee. The regulations also require that the facility operator must retain, account for, and use CVA usage fees to defray operation and maintenance costs for the useful life of the facility. Note that this program-specific regulation has precedence over general program income regulations as it expressly directs how the fees are to be used during, and sometimes beyond, the period of performance.

Q7: Where can I get more information about CVA and applying for funds?

A: You can contact WSFR CVA coordinators. National and regional contact information is listed above in Section G. An overview of the CVA program is available [here](#).

Q8: Are boats used for the primary purpose as a residence eligible as recreational vessels through CVA?

A: No, to qualify as a recreational vessel for CVA, the vessel must be (a) manufactured for operation, or operated, primarily for pleasure; or (b) leased, rented, or chartered to another for the latter's pleasure.

Q9: Are commercial vessels eligible as recreational vessels through CVA?

A: It depends on whether it meets the criteria to be considered as a recreational vessel under CVA. To qualify as a recreational vessel for CVA, the vessel must meet at least one of the following criteria: (a) manufactured for operation, or operated, primarily for pleasure; or (b) leased, rented, or chartered to another for the latter's pleasure.

Q10: Why must I submit a statement regarding my indirect cost rate in my application?

A: The uniform guidance in 2 CFR 200.210(a)(15) indicates that applications must now include indirect cost rate information in applications for Federal grants. Service-wide policy also has stepped down this requirement to all Service offices.

Q11: Why do I need to include a single audit statement in my application?

A: Service-wide policy has made this a requirement for all Service offices as a result of requirements published in 2 CFR 200, Subpart F.

Q12: How long can the period of performance be on a CVA grant?

A: At present there is no limit set in regulation or statute though the Regional WSFR Office may impose limits based on a number of factors including current and past performance by the recipient. We recommend a period of performance of no more than 3 years with an extension of up to 2 years in unusual circumstances. We plan to seek input from stakeholders as we consider addressing this in a revision of the CVA rule.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:

OMB Control Number: 1018-0100

Per the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA; 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) collects information in accordance with program authorizing legislation to conduct a review and select projects for funding and, if awarded, to evaluate performance. Your response is required to obtain or retain a benefit. We may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Privacy Act Statement: This information collection is authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5701 et seq. The information provided will be used to administer all Service financial assistance programs and activities including to: (1) determine eligibility under the authorizing legislation and applicable program regulations; (2) determine allowability of major cost items under the Cost Principles at 2 CFR 200; (3) select those projects that will provide the highest return on the Federal investment; and (4) assist in compliance with laws, as applicable, such as the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970. This information may be shared in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the routine uses listed in INTERIOR/DOI-89, Grants and Cooperative Agreements: FBMS - 73 FR 43775 (July 28, 2008). Furnishing this information is voluntary; however, failure to provide all requested information may prevent the Service from awarding funds.

Estimated Burden Statement: We estimate that it will take you on average about 40 hours to complete an initial application, about 3 hours to revise the terms of an award, and about 8 hours per report to prepare and submit financial and performance reports, including time to maintain records and gather information. Actual times for these activities will vary depending on program-specific requirements. Direct comments regarding the burden estimates or any other aspect of the specific forms to the Service Information Clearance Officer, USFWS, U.S. Department of the Interior, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or by email to Info_ Coll@fws.gov.