



Boating Infrastructure Grant Program

D. PROJECTS APPROVED FOR FUNDING

If the application is approved for funding through the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), the following procedure will be used:

1. A formal application for agreement will be prepared and submitted to the USFWS (see sample attached). The Boating Division will coordinate this effort; the grant recipient will assist as needed. This application will include more specific information about the project. Issues including community need, project objectives, expected results and benefits, approach, future income, environmental consequences, and historic preservation, will be addressed. **Please be advised that this process will take anywhere from a few to many months, depending on project conditions.**
2. Once the formal application for agreement has been approved by the USFWS, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will enter into a formal project agreement with the USFWS for a period of up to three years.
3. DEEP will draft formal project agreements with all awarded sub-grantees to be initiated upon receipt of the DEEP/USFWS signed agreement. The Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Connecticut Attorney General and the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program grant recipient must sign this formal grant agreement.
4. DEEP will forward an original signed agreement to the applicant with a letter of authorization to proceed with the project. The applicant can then begin construction, etc. at their convenience.

NOTE: Most project costs incurred prior to Federal approval and formal agreement between DEEP and the grant recipient are not eligible for reimbursement. **It is imperative that NO construction or purchases commence prior to written approval from DEEP.** Certain pre-agreement costs such as design and archeological surveys may be eligible for reimbursement if and only if a project is selected for funding.

Permit Requirements

The applicant is required to secure all applicable local, state and federal permits required for the project. This may include building and zoning permits, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits, a Structures, Dredging and Fill and/or Tidal Wetlands permit from DEEP, Flood Management Certification from DEEP, among others. **It is strongly recommended that all permits be obtained prior to making application for a grant.** All applicable permits will be required before construction begins. Applications which demonstrate that all required permits have been obtained will receive additional consideration.

Design and Construction Requirements

The applicant must not award any construction contracts until after plans and specifications are approved by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. The applicant is obliged to cooperate with the Connecticut DEEP in order to ensure that the contractors comply with Equal Employment Opportunity requirements. This includes all bid advertisements. Funded projects must also meet federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements for barrier-free access (See

Federal Register 09/03/02). This Federal Register contains information about barrier-free access at boating facilities as well as other types of outdoor recreation facilities. Design consultants and engineers need to plan accordingly. To obtain a copy of the minimum design specifications and ADA requirements for boating facilities funded through the DEEP Boating Division, contact Mike Payton at 860-447-4347.

Compliance

Features proposed under the BIG Program cannot cause damage to the environment nor to historic features. If the scope and nature of your project requires an Environmental Assessment (EA) to be completed, it will be the grantee's responsibility to have the EA prepared and approved. All facilities must comply with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Post Construction, Operation and Maintenance

Any facility that is developed with assistance from the BIG Program and the DEEP Boating Division shall be operated and maintained in accordance with all provisions of the grant agreement. The facility will be operated so as to appear attractive and inviting to the public and shall be kept safe for public use.

Discrimination Prohibited

The applicant/recipient agrees that no person shall, on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, color, any disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act, national origin or familial status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the applicant/recipient receives financial assistance from DEEP Boating Division or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Liability

The grant recipient agrees to defend and hold the state free from liability in case of claim or suit arising from the construction, operation, or maintenance of this project.

Questions?

Contact Kate Hughes Brown (kate.brown@ct.gov, 860-447-4340) at the DEEP Boating Division, 333 Ferry Road P.O. Box 280 Old Lyme, CT 06371-0280.