

# CALIFORNIA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



## OVERVIEW - 2015

Many of our nation's most urgent issues – the economy, energy policy, environmental protection and climate change – converge along our nation's coasts. Coastal areas are home to more than half of the nation's population and a rich diversity of natural resources, species, and habitats. Our coasts are also critical economic drivers. Coastal economies contribute almost half of the nation's GDP, providing jobs, recreation and tourism, coastal- and ocean-dependent commerce, and energy production.

The U.S. Congress recognized the importance of the nation's coasts by passing the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) in 1972. The Act, administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), provides for management of the nation's coastal resources, including the Great Lakes, and balancing economic development with environmental conservation. The CZMA also provides for state participation in coastal management through federally-approved state Coastal Management Programs (CMP). Federal approval provides the CMP agencies with federal funding and gives those states federal consistency review authority – an unparalleled ability to work with federal agencies to ensure that federally proposed or funded projects are consistent with a state's CMP, including the protection of coastal zone resources.



California's CMP includes a variety of planning, permitting, public education and non-regulatory mechanisms. Implementing the CMP relies on cooperation between federal, state, and local agencies. It requires that California balance needed development with natural resource protection, providing for sound, responsible stewardship of one of the nation's most spectacular coastlines. Maintaining this balance, however, is an increasing challenge. **Federal funds provided by CZMA State Grants are critical to the success of California's program and responding to these challenges.**

Three state agencies administer the California's CMP: the California Coastal Commission (CCC), the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), and the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC). These agencies collectively manage the California coast, which stretches 1,100 air miles from Oregon to Mexico (over 3,400 miles of waterfront land). BCDC has jurisdiction over the San Francisco Bay and shoreline, while the CCC has jurisdiction over the rest of the state's coastal zone. The SCC's jurisdiction overlaps those of both CCC and BCDC and includes additional inland areas. Additional information about each agency's roles and responsibility is provided on the following page.

## THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL MANAGEMENT AGENCIES

### CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION (CCC):

In 1972, California voters approved Proposition 20, creating the California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission to protect the state's coastal resources. In 1976, the state Legislature affirmed Proposition 20 by passing the California Coastal Act, which established the CCC as a state agency with mandates to protect and enhance coastal resources, including public access, recreation, wetlands, sensitive habitats, scenic views, agriculture, and coastal-dependent commercial and industrial activity. In 1978, NOAA approved California's Coastal Management Program, giving the state authority to review federal projects conducted, funded or permitted by the federal government.

The CCC protects the coast by planning for and regulating new development, including working with local governments to develop Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) to implement the Coastal Act. Once an LCP is approved, permitting authority is delegated to the local government, subject to CCC oversight – a unique state-local government partnership providing statewide policy guidance for coastal conservation through local coastal planning and development decisions. The CCC and local governments approve the vast majority of all permits, but often with conditions to assure that sensitive resources are protected. The CCC also has strong public education and volunteer programs, and works to provide technical assistance and grants to help local governments. Current CCC priority efforts include:

- Updating and approving LCPs for 76 local governments to provide for environmentally-sustainable community development;
- Providing comprehensive guidance for adapting to global sea level rise to local governments and project applicants; and
- Enforcing the Coastal Act to protect sensitive resources and public shoreline access for all Californians and visitors.

### SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (BCDC):

In response to public outcry over rampant filling of the Bay, in 1965 the state legislature created BCDC to protect the Bay. BCDC adopted the San Francisco Bay Plan in 1968, and one year later, became a permanent state agency and the first state coastal management program. In 1976, the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act was enacted directing BCDC to protect California's largest remaining wetland. BCDC's enabling legislation (the McAteer-Petris Act) focuses on limiting fill, increasing public access to and along the Bay; and providing for water-oriented uses such as ports, airports, water-related industry, wildlife refuges, and recreation. Thus, BCDC issues permits for Bay fill or excavation, and changes in land use along the shoreline. In 2011, BCDC adopted sea level rise adaptation policies and is working with local, regional, state and federal partners on adaptation to rising sea level.

### STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY (SCC):

The SCC was created in 1976 for the purposes of developing and implementing projects and programs to protect, restore, and enhance resources in California's coastal zone and around San Francisco Bay. The SCC complements the permitting and planning activities of the CCC and BCDC with its authority to purchase land, design and implement resource restoration and enhancement programs, preserve agricultural land, facilitate public access and recreation projects, resolve coastal land use conflicts, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and help address impacts from a changing climate. The SCC has been a leader in supporting the planning and implementation of nearly 30 SLR resiliency projects, including three involving managed retreat. In addition, the Conservancy collaborates with the CCC and the BCDC to implement permit conditions requiring public access and other forms of mitigation.

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# COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

## FY 2016



## Uniting Local and National Coastal Objectives

*NOAA estimates that by 2025, nearly 75% of the population of the United States will live within 50 miles of a coast.*

Coastal management is our national interest, and it is essential that Congress continue to support key programs dedicated to protecting that interest. State and local governments depend on Coastal Zone Management Programs to facilitate on-the-ground management and science. The Coastal States Organization strongly urges Congress to fund NOAA programs that directly benefit states, territories, and the nation.

## Your Support Empowers the Coastal States

The Coastal States Organization strongly urges Congress to support coastal states and territories by enacting the following line items:

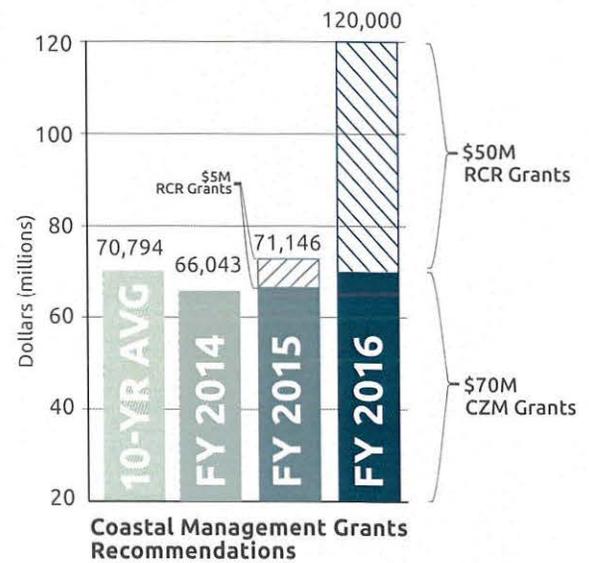
### \$120 million to Coastal Management Grants

#### •\$70 million for Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Grants

The average enacted budget of CZM grants has been \$70.79 million over the past ten fiscal years (in 2014 dollars). These grants provide critical funding for states and territories to develop programs that balance protection of coastal and ocean resources with the need for sustainable development in coastal communities. They are the key mechanism for empowering states and communities to design their own coastal management programs, and for leveraging local and private investment.

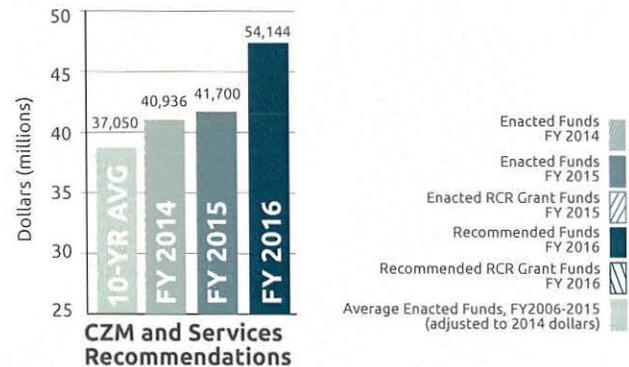
#### •\$50 million for Regional Coastal Resilience (RCR) Grants

Congress funded Regional Coastal Resilience (RCR) Grants in FY15 at \$5 million, and in FY16 the President is requesting an additional \$45 million. These grants will support the implementation of activities that enhance resilience of coastal communities to storm and flood risks.



### \$54.14 million to CZM and Services

CZM and Services include the administration of national programs that manage and conserve ocean and coastal resources, including the CZM Program, with a focus on creating more regionally driven and functionally aligned programs. These services are a critical component of NOAA's on-the-ground activities and ensure consistency through state and federal activities.



## How CZM Funding Helps Your Constituents

*These programs strive to promote the wise use of land and water resources along the coast by taking into account the ecological, economic, cultural, historic, and aesthetic values of communities. They implement coastal resource policies and facilitate the coordination of local, state, and federal governments to make effective decisions and plan for the future development, conservation, and restoration of coastal resources.*

### Coastal Hazards

The CZM Program engages states and communities to become more resilient through:

- *comprehensive planning*
- *floodplain management*
- *disaster preparedness*
- *responding to coastal hazards*

### Public Access

The CZM Program protects, creates, and enhances public access to the coast through:

- *regulatory programs*
- *acquiring new public access sites*
- *enhancing recreational facilities*
- *alternative public access financing methods*

### Coastal Community Development and Dependent Uses

Competition for coastal resources makes comprehensive planning critical to achieve sustainable development. The CZM Program provides funding and expertise to help communities sustain their economies, human health, environment, and coastal resilience. Through Coastal Community Development, states work with communities to carry out:

- *mapping of shoreline changes*
- *ocean area management and resilience planning*
- *coastal energy development assessments*

### Coastal Habitats

Coastal habitats are vital to maintaining local and national economies through fisheries, recreation, and tourism. The CZM Program uses funding and expertise to:

- *protect and restore coastal habitat*
- *develop local partnerships and leverage private funding*
- *engage citizens*

*The success of the CZM Program is a result of states working with communities to design coastal management programs that address specific issues and priorities affecting local areas.*



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Virginia Oyster Heritage Program

California Public Beaches

# APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES

## FY 2016



## Protecting State Priorities and State-Federal Partnerships

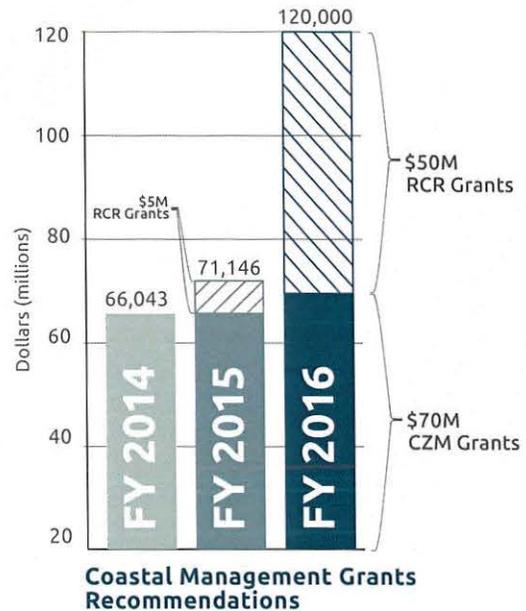
- 52% of the US population lives in a coastal county
- Coastal counties account for 60% of the US GDP

Coastal management is our national interest, and it is essential that Congress continue to support key programs dedicated to protecting that interest. State and local governments depend on Coastal Zone Management Programs to facilitate on-the-ground management and science. The Coastal States Organization strongly urges Congress to fund NOAA programs that directly benefit states, territories, and the nation.

### Coastal Management Grants

**Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Grants** directly fund state and territory coastal zone management programs. These cooperative agreements provide the money necessary for states to perform permitting and planning, as well as create policy that addresses national coastal and ocean priorities.

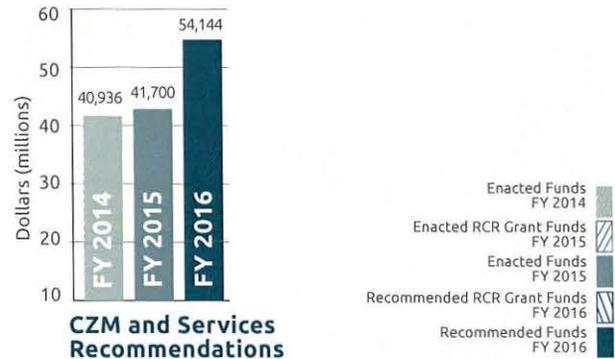
Congress funded **Regional Coastal Resilience (RCR) Grants** in FY15 at \$5 million, and in FY16 the President is requesting an additional \$45 million. These grants will support the implementation of activities that enhance resilience of coastal communities to storm and flood risks.



### Coastal Zone Management (CZM) and Services

These appropriations enable NOAA to provide administrative, planning, and technical support to regionally-driven coastal management strategies. This includes the Office of Coastal Resources Management, Coastal Services Center and Coastal Storms Program.

In the President's FY16 Budget, NOAA requests a total increase of \$11.78 million for the creation of an AmeriCorps Resilience Corps Pilot Program (\$2M); to develop Ecosystem Solutions for Coastal Resilience (\$5M); and to increase Capacity to Respond to Extreme Events (\$4.78M).



Bellingham Harbor, WA



Tijuana Estuary Reserve, CA

### National Estuarine Research Reserve System

NERRS partners with states and territories to ensure long-term education, stewardship, and research on estuarine habitats, supporting management of coastal water quality and practical solutions for coastal communities.

(ORF): \$23.9M  
(PAC): \$1.7M

### National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science

NCCOS provides cutting-edge research, scientific information, and tools that help balance the Nation's ecological, social and economic goals, in partnership with scientists and managers at local, state and national levels.

### National Marine Sanctuaries

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the federal trustee for a system of 13 national marine sanctuaries and one Marine National Monument. Community-based advisory councils, representing state and local stakeholders, provide advice to the superintendent on sanctuary management and operations.

(ORF): \$55M  
(PAC): \$5.5M

### Integrated Ocean Observing System

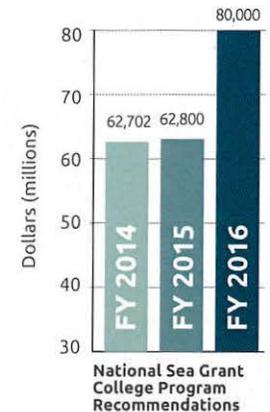
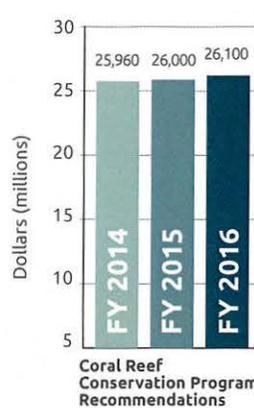
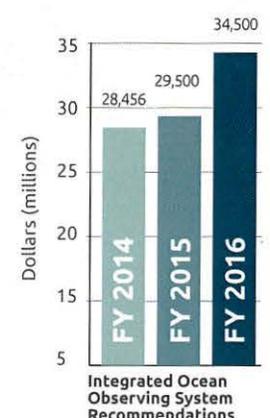
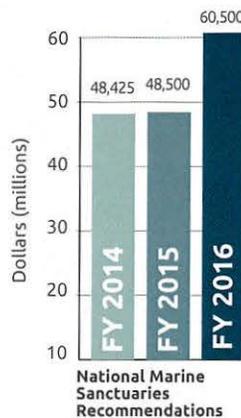
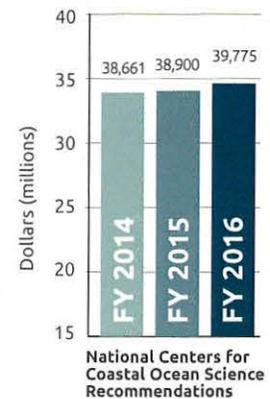
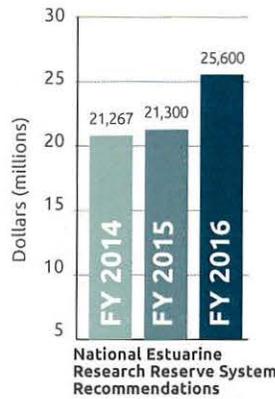
IOOS is a Federal-regional partnership providing quality science-based ocean, coasta and Great Lakes information to stakeholders and decision-makers at local, tribal, state, regional, and national levels.

### Coral Reef Conservation Program

CRCP provides critical funding to states and territories to support Local Action Strategies that protect these productive and endangered habitats. The deliverables are on-the-ground management and conservation planning strategies.

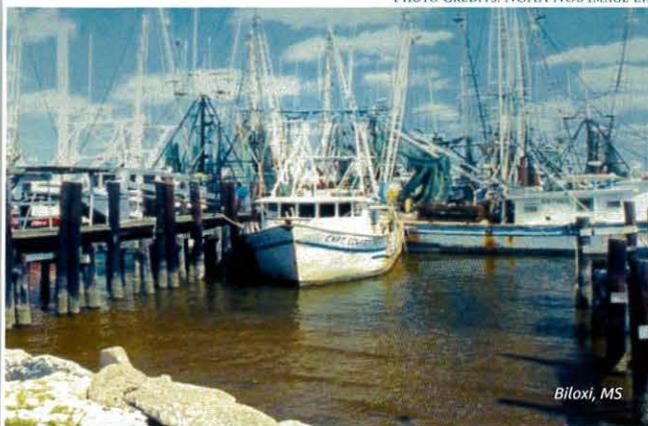
### National Sea Grant College Program

Sea Grant's mission is to enhance the practical use and conservation of coastal, marine and Great Lakes resources in order to create a sustainable economy and environment. A network of 33 Sea Grant programs across the country perform research, extension and education activities.



Enacted Funds  
FY 2014  
Enacted Funds  
FY 2015  
Recommended Funds  
FY 2016

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Biloxi, MS

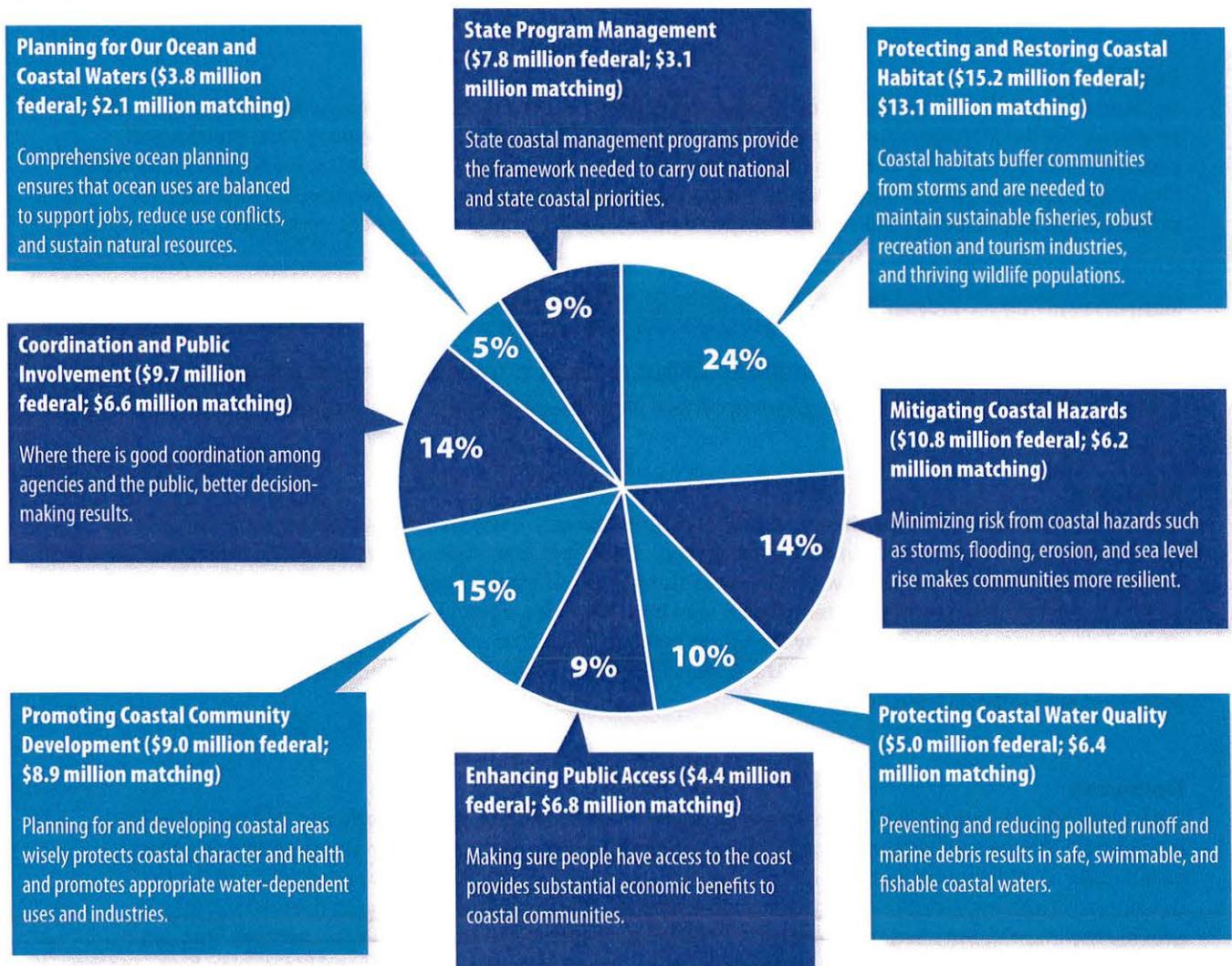


Galveston, TX

# NOAA'S NATIONAL COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING SUMMARY 2014

Our coastal communities are home to over 160 million people, support 66 million jobs, and contribute \$8.3 trillion to the U.S. economy, accounting for 58 percent of the nation's economic output. Recognizing the importance of our coasts, Congress created the National Coastal Zone Management Program in 1972, a voluntary partnership between NOAA and coastal states and territories designed to enhance and protect our coastal resources and communities.

In fiscal year 2014, NOAA invested almost \$66 million, allocated through the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), to implement coastal management programs in the 34 participating states and territories. Federal funding was matched by more than \$53 million from state and local governments and others. These funds are being used to achieve the goals of the CZMA.



# Using Coastal Management Dollars and Partnerships to Learn from the Past, Improve the Future

## Improved Resilience through Improved Disaster Recovery.

Adequate preparation determines how quickly and successfully a community can bounce back after a natural disaster.

### Georgia

The State of Georgia is upping its game with the creation of a post-disaster redevelopment guidance document. In addition to leading the development of this document, the Georgia Coastal Management Program is also providing technical assistance, training, and outreach to state agencies and communities on disaster recovery and preparedness. Partners in this effort include local communities and the Georgia Emergency Management Agency. The program is currently helping two coastal communities that are working on pilot redevelopment plans based on the guidance—the first post-disaster recovery plans in the state.

### Louisiana

Because of the state's dynamic and low-lying coastal areas, coastal community resilience is essential here. The Louisiana Coastal Management Program is working with St. Tammany Parish to develop local policies and procedures to reduce risk and vulnerability. Lessons learned will be used to expand this work to other parishes. The coastal management program will also continue working with emergency managers to host disaster preparedness and response drills for first responders and parish emergency-services personnel.

## Protecting and Restoring Coastal Habitat.

Coastal communities host the majority of our nation's population and contribute more than \$8 trillion to the U.S. economy. Compromise the natural habitat and everything is in jeopardy.

### Michigan

Coastal sand dunes around the Great Lakes are vital and distinctive ecosystems, supporting more unique species of plants, insects, and animals than any other ecosystem in the Great Lakes Basin. The Michigan Coastal Management Program is working with Van Buren County to restore the Syndicate Park dune area, part of the world's largest freshwater dune system, which stretches 100 miles along Lake Michigan. Detailed engineering plans and cost estimates are underway for a project that will stabilize and restore 17 acres of a critical dune complex by planting native vegetation. The restoration will include managed beach trails designed to provide access yet limit impacts from human use.

### Delaware

Tidal wetlands are immensely valuable from an environmental and economic standpoint, but they are also increasingly threatened by coastal erosion, development, and sea level rise. Community leaders are often called upon to make tough wetland-related decisions and must weigh the positive economic impact from development against possible negative economic and environmental impacts due to the wetland loss. To provide the information needed to make the right decision, the Delaware Coastal Management Program is leading a study that is quantifying the economic value of the state's tidal wetlands and identifying high-priority wetland areas that provide unique or highly valuable services critically important to protect.