

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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May 21, 1999

TO: California Coastal Commissioners

FROM: James W. Burns, Chief Deputy Director
Susan Hansch, Deputy Director
Jaime C. Kooser, Federal Programs Manager

SUBJECT: **Recommended Approval of an Agreement with the University of Southern Mississippi to Complete an Interagency Technical Review of Beach Nourishment Sites Along the California Coast**
(For consideration during the Executive Director's Report at the Commission's June 8, 1999 Meeting)

Staff Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Commission authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the University of Southern Mississippi to support the completion of a project entitled "Technical Review of Beach Nourishment Sites Along the California Coast" carried out by a Coastal Management Fellow under the overall sponsorship of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Coastal Services Center (CSC). The total project funding is \$72,000, and the Coastal Services Center is contributing \$60,000 toward this project. The state's share of this project is \$12,000. The total amount of this agreement is \$12,000, \$6,000 of which is the Commission's contribution, with the remaining contribution made by the California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBAW) through a separate Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and DBAW (see Attachment 1).

Staff Summary

In 1994, CSC was created within NOAA to identify, develop and facilitate the use of technologies and information that support the sustainable use and management of coastal resources. To that end, CSC established a competitive coastal management fellowship program that provides both professional education and training opportunities for post-graduate students in coastal management and policy. In California, a proposal authored jointly by the Commission, and DBAW was accepted and awarded a CSC Fellow. Acceptance of California's proposal for the fellowship program was announced to the Commission at the May 1998 El Niño and Storm Damage Workshop and the two-year fellowship began in October 1998. The fellowship project

is entitled "Technical Review of Beach Nourishment Sites Along the California Coast". The following sections discuss why this project was initially proposed for the CSC Fellowship program, the project goals, and the scope of work.

The Fellowship Program requires each of the host agencies to provide a sum of \$6,000 cash contribution toward the salary of the Fellow during the second year of the CSC Fellowship. The entire two-year grant is funded at \$72,000, of which CSC pays \$60,000, the Commission will pay \$6,000 and DBAW will pay \$6,000. All funds for the Fellow's stipend and expenses are paid to University of Southern Mississippi, the sponsoring Sea Grant Institution for this Fellowship.

On February 19, 1999, the Commission and DBAW entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) (Attachment 1) for this Fellowship that set out the project tasks, the Fellow's duties and the responsibilities of the host agencies (the Commission and DBAW). Through this MOA, the Commission has agreed to administer the fellowship, provide Internet and computer access, day to day supervision and primary office space. DBAW has provided the Fellow with a personal computer, visiting office space, computer access, training, and up to \$3,000 for travel expenses incurred between October 1, 1998 and June 30, 1999. All stipulations in the MOA are valid and enforceable only if sufficient funds are made available by the Budget Act of 1999 for the Fiscal Year 99/00. In addition, the MOA is subject to any additional restrictions, limitations, or conditions enacted by the Legislature, which may affect its provisions, terms, or funding.

Importance of Beach Nourishment to the California Coastal Commission

One of the greatest threats to the California coast is the loss of its world famous beaches. California's beaches are being lost due to natural erosion by ocean waves, reduction in upland sediment supplies, and the proliferation of shoreline protective structures. The demand for beaches and beach recreation is growing with the growing population and beach nourishment is the only action that can both enhance our available beach areas and provide protection to back beach development.

Beach nourishment is viewed, in general, as being good for the coast and the Coastal Act and policies of the Resources Agency encourage the use of beach nourishment. The California Coastal Act strongly supports public beach access, protection of public beach areas and beneficial reuse of acceptable dredged material to nourish public beaches. Beach nourishment is undertaken occasionally in California, often with satisfactory results. However, additional information on options for beach nourishment and beneficial reuse of dredge material is needed to expand the opportunities for implementation of beach nourishment.

Some of the impediments to beach nourishment are:

- Incomplete or inadequate information on beach sites and nourishment material (beach sand) to make fully informed policy and financial decisions on proposed beach nourishment projects;
- Lack of state-wide analysis of areas where beach nourishment will perform successfully;

- Inability to prioritize proposed beach nourishment sites and material based on objective, technically sound criteria; and,
- Policies, fiscal practices and regulations that deter maximum implementation of beach nourishment.

Project Description

This Fellowship Project will provide detailed technical information on the potential statewide applicability of beach nourishment. The Fellow will develop a technically driven process to screen the coast for suitable beach nourishment material and nourishment sites. In addition, the Fellow will work with policy planners and decision makers to provide the technical basis for an analysis of existing policies and regulations that affect beach nourishment, with recommendations, if appropriate, for changes or modifications that will provide greater state-wide support for beach nourishment.

The achievable goal for this Fellowship project is the development of the information and evaluation tools for objective examination of beach nourishment throughout California. The products from the Fellowship project will provide a valuable resource for state and local resource managers who, with limited financial resources, are trying to balance needs of the environment while enhancing coastal access, tourism, and recreation.

Scope of Work

During the two-year time frame of this project, the CSC Fellow has the lead role in developing information and evaluation tools for objective examination of beach nourishment throughout the state. The Fellow will establish criteria to evaluate and prioritize the suitability of a site for beach nourishment and develop a methodology to apply the criteria. Lesley Ewing, coastal engineer and staff to the Commission, and Kim Sterrett, DBAW Project Monitor, will provide day to day project supervision. Peer review is incorporated into the work program.

The major objectives of the project are:

- Compile, review and summarize available information on factors affecting the establishment and maintenance of California's natural and nourished beaches.
- Establish criteria for evaluating and prioritizing the suitability of a site for beach nourishment.
- Develop a methodology to apply criteria to projects addressing a range of concerns.
- Prepare a thorough evaluation of changes to existing policies and regulations that would improve support for beach nourishment.

Benefits from approving the Agreement with the University of Southern Mississippi.

The two-year CSC Fellowship will provide the Coastal Commission and its staff with information on beaches throughout California, and with criteria and a methodology to determine the suitability of beach nourishment for specific beaches or sections of coast. This methodology can be a useful tool for local and regional shoreline planning and management.

This project requires expertise in coastal processes and computer mapping. Commission staff could not undertake this project unless engineering and mapping resources were diverted from current critical assignments. The cost for the Commission staff to undertake this effort would greatly exceed the agreement with the University of Southern Mississippi. Since the Commission has been able to coordinate this project with DBAW, and identify a federal program that will provide over 80% of the total funding, it can obtain \$72,000 worth of work for a cash contribution of only \$6,000.

Under the proposed standard agreement, the University of Southern Mississippi will receive \$12,000 (\$6,000 from the Commission and \$6,000 under separate agreement from DBAW) to support the remaining stipend of the CSC Fellow to complete the above-mentioned work, in accordance with the specifications of the Fellowship project.

CALIFORNIA BEACH NOURISHMENT PROJECT
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS

DBW C# 98-300-081



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

ATTACHMENT 1

between

THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION,

and

THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The California Coastal Commission (CCC), and Department of Boating and Waterways (DBAW) (hereinafter referred to as the "host agencies"), have been selected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Services Center (CSC) to host a Coastal Management Fellow ("Fellow") for two years beginning October 1998. The University of Southern Mississippi will handle the administration of this fellowship for CSC (i.e. salary and benefits).

The achievable goal for this Fellowship program is the development of the information and evaluation tools for objective examination of beach nourishment throughout California. The Fellow will produce a valuable resource for state and local resource managers who, with limited financial resources, are trying to balance needs of the environment while enhancing coastal access, tourism, and recreation. The project is described in detail in the attached (Exhibit A), "1998 Coastal Services Center Fellowship Proposal: Technical Review of Beach Nourishment Sites Along The California Coast" (the Project).

The major objectives of the Project are to:

- Compile, review and summarize available information on factors affecting the establishment and maintenance of California's natural and nourished beaches.
- Establish site evaluation criteria for evaluating and prioritizing the suitability of a site for beach nourishment.
- Develop a methodology to apply criteria to projects addressing a range of concerns.
- Prepare a thorough evaluation of changes to existing policies and regulations that improve support for beach nourishment.

The Fellowship Program requires the host agencies to provide a total sum of \$12,000 cash contribution toward the salary of the Fellow during her second year and to pay her in-state travel expenses for the two-year Project period as described in Section 5: Cash Contributions. In addition, in-kind support in the form of office space and standard office equipment and support, computer hardware and software and Internet access is required as identified in Section 6: In-kind Contributions.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Agreement is to set out the Project tasks, the Fellow's duties, and the responsibilities of the host agencies. The Project Work Plan is attached as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference into this agreement.

3. FELLOW'S TASKS/DUTIES

The Fellow's time will be divided between research, analysis, networking and writing. As described below, a more detailed work program will be developed between the sponsoring agencies and the Fellow. Peer review will be incorporated into each task, as appropriate.

Task Number	Activity	Deadline
Task #1	Familiarize Fellow with California coast and detailed work plan.	November, 1998
Task #2	Develop a personal, detailed program to accomplish goals of the fellowship and to establish communication links for information exchange between all interested individuals and agencies.	February, 1999
Task #3	Compile and review existing information on beach nourishment projects, with relevance to the west coast environment.	April, 1999
Task #4	Establish acceptable beach nourishment criteria and analyze suitability of existing beach change models for evaluating potential nourishment success.	October, 1999
Task #5	Investigate and make recommendations for utilization of GIS technology for integration into project data gathering and presentation.	October, 1999
Task #6	With assistance from mentors, produce list of invitees and plan agenda for beach nourishment environmental workshops to be held in spring and early summer of 2000.	January, 2000
Task #7	Finish beach nourishment suitability and characteristics analysis for the California coastline and prepare for presentation of results. Look for partnerships between beach areas and sand supplies, such as, port and harbor districts or flood control districts.	June, 2000
Task #8	Present final results and all work products in report form to the sponsoring agencies. If appropriate, work with sponsoring agencies to prepare oral presentations or journal articles.	September, 2000

The Fellow will be situated and supervised primarily in the Coastal Commission's San Francisco headquarters, but would spend time as needed at both agencies.

4. FELLOW MENTORING

The Fellow will work closely with host agencies and other interested agencies throughout the two-year effort. Each host agency will designate a staff member who will serve as a mentor while the Fellow is on-site. Overall Project direction will be provided by a project Advisory Committee comprised of a mix of managers and the assigned mentors. It is intended that the Advisory Committee will meet with the Fellow regularly.

5. CASH CONTRIBUTIONS

Salary: The host agencies agree to provide \$6,000 cash contribution each toward the salary of the Fellow during her second fellowship year. The combined state cash contribution of \$12,000 must be paid on or before October 1, 1999 to the University of Southern Mississippi. The Coastal Commission will invoice DBAW for \$6,000, no later than August 30, 1999, and funds will be passed through, along with the Coastal Commission's \$6,000 contribution, to University of Southern Mississippi.

Travel Expenses: For the first year of the Fellowship, DBAW will provide up to \$3,000 for travel expenses, covering 6 to 8 non-automotive site visits. Details of this travel estimate are provided in Exhibit B. Under this Agreement, the Coastal Commission will invoice DBAW no later than August 31, 1999 for the Fellow's travel costs incurred through June 30, 1999 (not to exceed \$3,000).

In late June or early July 1999, the Coastal Commission and DBAW will meet and establish a FY99/00 Fellowship budget and cost sharing agreement for in-state travel and training. The Commission will again invoice DBAW no later than August 31, 2000, for travel expenses incurred through June 30, 2000, and again no later than December 31, 2000, for travel costs incurred between July 1, 2000 and September 30, 2000, the conclusion of the fellowship.

6. IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Each of the host agencies will provide in-kind support to the Fellow as follows:

- CCC-- administration of fellowship, Internet and computer access, day to day supervision, primary office space and support (supplies, postage, communications, training, miscellaneous equipment, state vehicles, secretarial, etc.)
- DBAW -- personal computer, visiting workspace, computer access, and training.

7. AVAILABILITY OF STATE FUNDS

This Agreement is valid and enforceable only if sufficient funds are made available by the Budget Act of 1999 for the Fiscal Year 99/00, for the purpose of this program. In addition, this Agreement is subject to any additional restrictions, limitations, or conditions enacted by the Legislature, which may affect the provisions, terms, or funding of this Agreement.

8. TERM OF AGREEMENT AND TERMINATION

The terms of this Agreement shall become effective upon the signature of the approving officials of the respective parties entering this Agreement. This Agreement shall remain in effect through September 30, 2000, or until terminated by (1) mutual written agreement, or (2) completion of this Agreement. This Agreement may be extended beyond the termination date upon written mutual consent of the parties concerned.

9. AMENDMENT

This Agreement may be amended by the mutual consent of the parties thereto.

10. LAWS GOVERNING

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

11. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The Executive Directors of the host agencies may delegate any of the responsibilities or authorities specified in this Agreement to other members of their respective staffs.

12. PROJECT MONITOR

Department of Boating and Waterways appoints Kim Sterrett as a project monitor to oversee the Department's interest in this project. Said monitor is not authorized by the state to make any commitments or make in changes which affect the price, terms or conditions of this memorandum.

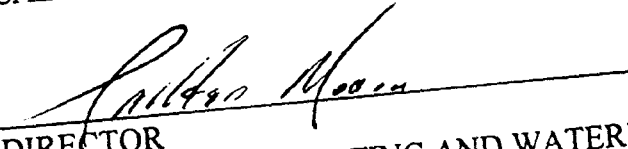
Memorandum of Agreement
 Coastal Services Center Fellowship Program

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement and the Exhibits attached hereto contain the entire agreement of the parties, and no representation, provision, warranty, term, condition, promise, duty or liability, expressed or implied, not incorporated into this Agreement shall be binding upon or applied to any of the parties, except as herein stated.

EXECUTED, by the California Coastal Commission, and the Department of Boating and Waterways as of the date of the last signature.

Date: 2/18/99 
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

Date: 2/1/99 
 DIRECTOR
 DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS

DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS

CONTRACT # 98-300-081

with California Coastal Commission

BUDGET APPROPRIATION:

CH 324/98

ITEM 3680-001-516

AMOUNT \$3,000.00

Line Item Allotment: SUPPORT/CLEARING ACCOUNT


FUND: Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund

FY 98-99

Amount of this estimate

\$3,000.00

I certify upon my own personal knowledge that budgeted funds are available for the period and purpose of the expenditure stated above.


 Accounting Officer

Date: January 25, 1999

FFY 98	VENDOR 2045 00	DATE 01-25-99	DOCUMENT 98-300-081	INDEX 3680
OBJ AJ 382	PCA 30000	AMOUNT 3,000.00	PROJECT	WP