

Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)—FY 2011

Preserving a Fragile Balance Through Conservation

Nowhere in the nation is the threat of sprawl, habitat loss, and the break-up of interconnected lands and water more significant than along our nation's coasts. They are under enormous pressures from unplanned and unmitigated development.

From Maine to Alaska, increasing numbers of people are flocking to the coast to build first and second homes, to play, and to work. Our attraction to these areas is warranted, but this affinity is consuming coastal land at a rapid rate, before we can plan for or understand the long-term consequences.

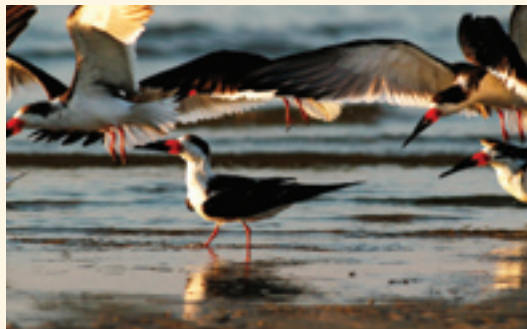
The preservation of coastal and estuarine areas is critical to both humans and the environment. These areas shield us from storms, filter pollutants to maintain water quality, provide shelter, nesting and nursery grounds for fish and wildlife, protect rare and endangered species, and provide access to beaches and waterfront areas.

Protecting Coastal Resources for Future Generations

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) protects coastal and estuarine lands important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical, and aesthetic values, giving priority to ecologically-significant lands that can be managed for long-term protection. The program provides state and local governments with matching funds to permanently protect these important areas.

To date, CELCP has:

- ▶ Invested over \$200 million towards over 150 completed conservation projects
- ▶ Served nearly three-quarters of the nation's 35 coastal states and territories
- ▶ Leveraged more than an equal amount of state, local and private funding
- ▶ Encouraged thousands of acres of land protected or donated as in-kind match



Your Support Preserves Critical Coastal Habitats

FY 2011 Appropriations

It is critical for our nation's health that Congress support \$60 million in funding for CELCP.

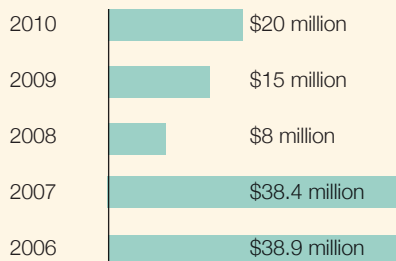
This will be implemented cooperatively with willing sellers and matched with state and local funds. \$60 million is a nominal down-payment to protect these invaluable coastal resources for future generations. For fiscal year 2010, requests for over \$90 million in projects from 29 states were submitted to the national competition.

2011 Request **\$60 million**

Funding History

Congress has provided the following funds in the past:

COASTAL AND ESTUARINE LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM



This program is located in the Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill under NOAA.



Coastal States Organization
Hall of the States
444 North Capitol St., NW,
Suite 322
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 508-3860
www.coastalstates.org



CELCP Projects

Managed by NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) is managed by NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM). Participation in CELCP is voluntary and dependent on states and territories to complete and submit a strategic land conservation plan for their coastal areas to OCRM. To date, nearly all states and territories have submitted a strategic plan and actively participate in CELCP. For those states and territories, OCRM annually invites the nomination of projects that are "ready and eligible" for funding.



Credit: Trust for Public Land

Kiket Island, Washington

In Washington, CELCP provided for the acquisition of the first phase of the Kiket Island property, which is located north of Seattle. Kiket Island is part of the greater Skagit River Delta, a biologically rich and complex region characterized by tidal marshes and flats, wetlands, and prolific agricultural areas. Kiket Island was identified as a priority conservation area by the state coastal management plan, if it had not been awarded CELCP funding the property was scheduled for high-end development.

San Miguel Natural Reserve, Puerto Rico

The Northeastern Ecological Corridor (NEC) is one of the Caribbean's most important unprotected areas. Located within the NEC and serving as a cornerstone property, CELCP provided for the acquisition of 174 acres of the San Miguel Natural Reserve. The acreage contains extensive wetland areas next to the Pitahaya and Sabana rivers and is located within a range of over 40 rare flora and fauna, including 16 federally listed threatened and endangered species. The area is best known as one of the most important nesting grounds for endangered leatherback sea turtles in the United States and the Caribbean. Without the assistance of the partial acquisition of the Reserve through CELCP, it was at risk to be developed as a mega luxury tourist-residential resort area.

Seven Mile Point and Basaltic Bedrock Lakeshore, Michigan

CELCP contributed to the protection of 120 acres of coastal wetland habitat and 2,000 feet of lakeshore in Keeweenaw County. The unique, pristine property contains cobble beach coves, basaltic bedrock shoreline, and islands that provide habitat for threatened and endangered plant and animal species. The habitat provides a critical stopping point for several migratory birds, bald eagles and other raptors. Without the assistance of acquisition through CELCP, the property was likely to be turned into low-density residential and/or vacation homes.

Isinglass River, New Hampshire

The Isinglass River flows freely for 18-miles through the southeastern portion of the state and is recognized for its outstanding natural and cultural resources. The CELCP property is 288 forested acres bounded by the Isinglass River, which is surrounded by 1,500 acres of contiguous forest. The Isinglass River provides habitat for a variety of wildlife, including many threatened and endangered species, which include the bald eagle, common loon, osprey, wood



Credit: Trust for Public Land

turtle and spotted turtle. Identified in as a Conservation Focus Area in the New Hampshire Coastal Management Plan, the property possesses the highest quality wildlife habitat at a regional level. Before receiving CELCP funding, the property had been submitted for a subdivision plan for 72 housing lots.

Coastal States Organization

A Voice for the States

CSO represents the interests of the thirty-five Governors of the coastal states and territories on legislative and policy issues relating to the sound management of coastal, Great Lakes, and ocean resources. Economically, geographically and socially, the states and territories are as diverse as their individual coastlines, yet their commitment to common objectives in coastal and ocean management is what shapes the organization's unique character. Together, we serve the nation by maintaining healthy coasts.

COASTAL STATES

Alabama
Alaska
American Samoa
California
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Guam
Hawaii
Illinois
Indiana
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
North Carolina
N. Mariana Islands
Ohio
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Puerto Rico
Rhode Island
South Carolina
Texas
U.S. Virgin Islands
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin

