

**Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund
Surrendered and Abandoned Vessel Exchange Grants (SAVE)
February 2021**

Summary:

Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) is authorized by Harbors and Navigation Code Section 525 to provide grants to local public agencies for the abatement, removal, storage, and disposal of abandoned or surrendered recreational vessels, and for the removal of partially submerged objects that pose a substantial navigational hazard from California's waterways. These grants increase public and navigational safety and reduce the potential of environmental contamination.

The Surrendered and Abandoned Vessel Exchange (SAVE) grant program allows grantees the ability to use funds for either removal of abandoned vessels (previously accomplished through the Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund grant program) or to receive surrendered vessels (previously accomplished through the Vessel Turn-In Program).

Funding Source: Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund (AWAF)

FY 2020/2021 Funding Available: \$2,750,000 (\$1.75 million HWRF, \$1 million SB1)

Typical Grant Size: \$20,000 to \$250,000

FY 2020/2021 Funding:

In FY 2020/21, 23 agencies were awarded grants totaling \$2,750,000.

Program Updates:

- 1) An independent group was utilized to score applications for FY 2020/21 funding as directed by the Parks transformation effort.
- 2) The grant application and scoring criteria were revised in 2020/21 to better assess how the funding requests will meet the objectives and priorities of the SAVE program.
- 3) Applications open on March 15, 2021 and close April 16, 2021 for FY 2021/22 funding.
- 4) A virtual grant applicant workshop is being conducted on March 25, 2021 to provide an overview of the SAVE program, review the grant application and scoring criteria, and provide training and advice for completing a competitive application.
- 5) SAVE grantees continue to increase awareness of VTIP by participating in public awareness presentations and distributing SAVE brochures to boaters and marina operators.
- 6) SAVE program staff continue to assist agencies in managing the program; make direct contact with marina operators; and increase awareness of the program to inland communities.
- 7) SAVE program staff continue to participate in regional coordination meetings such as the Delta Officers Intelligence Team and the Abandoned Derelict Vessel Workgroup.