

## 2015 Clean Vessel Act Grant Program Quote Sheet

“The Clean Vessel Act is critical in helping states maintain clean and healthy waters,” said **Service Deputy Director Steve Guertin**. “Systems built through these funds ensure that clean drinking water, sustainable ecosystems, and healthy recreational areas will be accessible to the American public and wildlife.”

“CVA provides environmental benefits, but the program also has a substantial positive economic impact on local communities through job creation,” said **WSFR Assistant Director Hannibal Bolton**. “This is a win-win situation for conservation and businesses across America.”

“As the beneficiaries of the programs and equipment funded by these Clean Vessel Act grants, boaters have a deep appreciation of this announcement,” said **Margaret B. Podlich, President of BoatU.S.** “These grants, supported by boaters’ tax dollars, have a direct impact on keeping our waterways clean and making boating better. Along with their state agency partners, we applaud the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for their commitment to the program and look forward to its renewal as part of the reauthorization of the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.”

“The Clean Vessel Act Grant is a critical component of the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, allowing funds to be distributed to states for projects like pumpout stations and waste retention facilities,” said **Nicole Vasilaros, Vice President of Federal and Legal Affairs for the National Marine Manufacturers Association**. “This important program also helps to educate boaters on maintaining waterways through proper sewage disposal and environmental best practices. Efforts like this go a long way towards keeping our nation’s waters clean and enjoyable for generations to come.”

“The Clean Vessel Act program is crucial to the marina industry because it provides funding to keep waste out of our basins and our waterways,” said **Jeff Rose, Chairman of the Association of Marina Industries**. “I don’t know a boater that would continue to use his boat if he had to head out into visibly polluted waters or fish in contaminated areas. CVA ensures marinas can do their part to help boaters keep the waste where it belongs and in turn, keep the boaters on the water. The Association of Marina Industries and its members are strong supporters of CVA—a great example of how well a user pays, public benefits program can work.”

“As a result of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service CVA grant awards, recreational boaters will experience conveniently located and functional pumpouts and dump stations on the water,” said **Janine Belleque, President of States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA)**. “Boaters are stewards of the waterways, their playgrounds, and they see the benefit of using this equipment through improved water quality and healthier fish and shellfish populations.”