

Non-Motorized Boat Launching Facility Grant Program
Division of Boating and Waterways
November 13, 2025

Summary:

The Non-Motorized Boat Launching Facility (NMBLF) program provides grants to construct or improve public non-motorized boating access. The intent of this program is to provide a dedicated source of HWRF monies to address the boating facility needs of the non-motorized boating community. There are an estimated 4 million non-motorized watercraft in use in California. Typical grant-funded items include the construction of small, hand-launch boat ramps, low freeboard boarding floats, small parking lots, and restrooms.

Application Deadline: February 2, 2026, for consideration in the FY2027/28 state budget.

Application Procedure: Applicants are required to submit a complete application online.

FY2026/27 Funding: Beginning in FY2022/23, each non-motorized boat launching facility grant project selected for award needs to be approved for funding by the legislature using the State's Budget Change Proposal (BCP) process. This is a two-year process; applications submitted this year, will be considered for the FY2027/28 state budget.

Typical Grant Amount: The amount of funds provided typically ranges from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 depending on the proposed project, usage and benefits that can be economically justified, and availability of funding.

Funding Source(s): Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund.

Project Funding Procedure: Each year, DBW reviews project applications and recommends the highest-ranking projects for funding through the BCP process.

Eligible Grant Recipients: Local government agencies including cities, counties, special districts, and the federal government.

Restrictions:

- The project area shall be open and accessible for the use and enjoyment of the general public on equal and reasonable terms.
- The grantee is required to operate and maintain the facility for 20 years after construction at no cost to the State.

Accomplishments/Planning: DBW completed the following projects in the past two years.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>	<u>FY Funding</u>
Arcata NMBLF	City of Arcata	\$550,000	FY 2016/17
Diaz Lake	County of Inyo	\$202,860	FY 2015/16
Tuolumne River Front NMBLF	City of Modesto	\$780,000	FY 2017/18