

## Revisions to 68-1.003 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Grants Program Rule

### Summary of Changes - Florida Boating Improvement Program, Subsection 9

Below is a list of changes to the Florida Boating Improvement Program Guidelines that are made a part of Subsection 9 by reference.

Tier I and Tier II were deleted and categories in Tier I and Tier II were combined to simplify the eligible uses of program funds, eliminate duplicative categories, and allow local governmental entities, with the following changes:

- Change Section 1.2 from Florida Boating Improvement Program (FBIP) – Tier I to Statutory Authority and list all statutory authority for the Florida Boating Improvement Program (FBIP)
- Change Section 1.3 from Florida Boating Improvement Program (FBIP) – Tier II to Source of Funds and list all funding sources for the FBIP
- Revise Section 3.1 to include other local governmental entities in eligible participants
- Change Section 3.2 from Eligible Participants for Tier II to Eligible Uses of Program Funds. Removes Tier I and Tier II and replaces eight project categories in a two-tiered program with five project types: recreational channel marking and other uniform waterway markers, boating access facilities, derelict vessel removal, boater education, and other local boating-related activities. Additionally, the Commission will use FBIP funds as match for federally-funded boating access grants.
- Move Section 4.2, Ineligible Uses of Program Funds, to Section 3.3
- Add Section 5.11, Priority Consideration, to explain preferences established in 206.606(1)(b) and 328.72(15), Florida Statutes.
- Revised Applications to delete references to Tier I and Tier II and deleted project categories.

The following changes were made to fund the highest quality projects regardless of type:

- Delete Section 4.6, Distribution of Funds.
- Revise minimum score requirements to place more emphasis on the Evaluation Committee's score and less emphasis on the technical score.
- Revise Evaluation Criteria for project cost to reflect the lower cost of other projects compared to the cost of constructing boating access facilities.

The following changes was made to provide additional time to obtain permits for construction:

- Revise compliance requirement 7.1 to allow grantees 12 months to obtain permits.
- Revised the Applications to distinguish between planning/pre-construction costs and construction costs.