

of access to include persons who entered into transactions relating to the grant of funds.

**§ 1460. Walter B. Jones excellence in coastal zone management awards**

**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall, using sums in the Coastal Zone Management Fund established under section 1456a of this title and other amounts available to carry out this chapter (other than amounts appropriated to carry out sections 1454, 1455, 1455a, 1456b, 1456c, and 1461 of this title), implement a program to promote excellence in coastal zone management by identifying and acknowledging outstanding accomplishments in the field.

**(b) Annual selection of recipients**

The Secretary shall elect annually—

(1) one individual, other than an employee or officer of the Federal Government, whose contribution to the field of coastal zone management has been the most significant;

(2) 5 local governments which have made the most progress in developing and implementing the coastal zone management principles embodied in this chapter; and

(3) up to 10 graduate students whose academic study promises to contribute materially to development of new or improved approaches to coastal zone management.

**(c) Solicitation of nominations for local government recipients**

In making selections under subsection (b)(2) the Secretary shall solicit nominations from the coastal states, and shall consult with experts in local government planning and land use.

**(d) Solicitation of nominations for graduate student recipients**

In making selections under subsection (b)(3) the Secretary shall solicit nominations from coastal states and the National Sea Grant College Program.

**(e) Funding; types of awards**

Using sums in the Coastal Zone Management Fund established under section 1456a of this title and other amounts available to carry out this chapter (other than amounts appropriated to carry out sections 1454, 1455, 1455a, 1456b, 1456c, and 1461 of this title), the Secretary shall establish and execute appropriate awards, to be known as the “Walter B. Jones Awards”, including—

(1) cash awards in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 each;

(2) research grants; and

(3) public ceremonies to acknowledge such awards.

(Pub. L. 89-454, title III, §314, formerly §313, as added Pub. L. 101-508, title VI, §6213, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-312; renumbered §314 and amended Pub. L. 102-587, title II, §2205(b)(20), Nov. 4, 1992, 106 Stat. 5052.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1460, Pub. L. 89-454, title III, §314, formerly §311, as added Pub. L. 92-583, Oct. 27, 1972, 86 Stat. 1287; renumbered §314, Pub. L. 94-370, §7, July 26, 1976, 90 Stat. 1019, related to establishment, etc., of

Coastal Zone Management Advisory Committee, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 99-272, title VI, §6045(2), Apr. 7, 1986, 100 Stat. 127.

AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsecs. (a), (e). Pub. L. 102-587, §2205(b)(20)(B), (C), after “under section 1456a of this title” inserted “and other amounts available to carry out this chapter (other than amounts appropriated to carry out sections 1454, 1455, 1455a, 1456b, 1456c, and 1461 of this title)”.

**§ 1461. National Estuarine Research Reserve System**

**(a) Establishment of System**

There is established the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (hereinafter referred to in this section as the “System”) that consists of—

(1) each estuarine sanctuary designated under this section as in effect before April 7, 1986; and

(2) each estuarine area designated as a national estuarine reserve under subsection (b).

Each estuarine sanctuary referred to in paragraph (1) is hereby designated as a national estuarine reserve.

**(b) Designation of national estuarine reserves**

After April 7, 1986, the Secretary may designate an estuarine area as a national estuarine reserve if—

(1) the Governor of the coastal state in which the area is located nominates the area for that designation; and

(2) the Secretary finds that—

(A) the area is a representative estuarine ecosystem that is suitable for long-term research and contributes to the biogeographical and typological balance of the System;

(B) the law of the coastal state provides long-term protection for reserve resources to ensure a stable environment for research;

(C) designation of the area as a reserve will serve to enhance public awareness and understanding of estuarine areas, and provide suitable opportunities for public education and interpretation; and

(D) the coastal state in which the area is located has complied with the requirements of any regulations issued by the Secretary to implement this section.

**(c) Estuarine research guidelines**

The Secretary shall develop guidelines for the conduct of research within the System that shall include—

(1) a mechanism for identifying, and establishing priorities among, the coastal management issues that should be addressed through coordinated research within the System;

(2) the establishment of common research principles and objectives to guide the development of research programs within the System;

(3) the identification of uniform research methodologies which will ensure comparability of data, the broadest application of research results, and the maximum use of the System for research purposes;

(4) the establishment of performance standards upon which the effectiveness of the research efforts and the value of reserves within