

COASTAL STATES ORGANIZATION

FEMA ENGAGEMENT



ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

CSO has prioritized working to increase engagement with FEMA to bring information and resources to coastal programs and to provide increased connectivity between CSO members and FEMA headquarters and regions.

In the past this type of engagement has been successful with EPA and we hope to foster a similar relationship.

The goal of this engagement is to increase the working relationship of states with federal resources through FEMA.

Contact:

- Please contact Brittney Parker with any questions.
- bparker@coastalstates.org
- (202) 800-0748

UPDATES

- NOAA Knauss Marine Policy Fellow, Brittney Parker, will be acting as a direct link between CSO and FEMA as she is placed in a joint position for the 2020 fellowship year. She will be working in the Community Infrastructure Resilience Branch at FEMA and acting as the CSO point of contact for the CHPA WG.
- The *Gaining Access to Federal Resources for Coastal Resilience* workshop was held in Oakland, CA in conjunction with NOAA OCM March 3-4. The purpose of this workshop was to:
 - Connect state managers with federal partners to provide information and tools to increase access to federal resources
 - Create a forum for dialogue on past successful and future planned resilience opportunities
 - Discuss roadblocks and challenges faced in pursuit of funding for hazard mitigation and brainstorm solutions
 - Report can be found here.
- CSO continues to develop relationships through partnerships between NOAA and FEMA centered around the shared goals of improving coastal resilience. Engagement priorities include:
 - Risk MAP and Cooperating Technical Partner Program
 - Hazard Mitigation Planning
 - Connecting Coastal Programs to their SHMO

FUTURE WORK

- Communication materials on FEMA resources to ease the FEMA grants application process for coastal states and communities
 - FEMA Mitigation Grants QuickStart Guide for state and local government
 - Frequently Asked Questions about FEMA Mitigation Grants and Resources Document
- Developing a report outlining FEMA program access in the Island States and Territories. The focus is on increasing equity in program delivery by identifying FEMA funding and policy roadblocks that are unique to the islands.