



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office for Coastal Management
Silver Spring Metro Center, Building 4
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

JUL - 1 2015

Leo Asuncion
Acting Director/CZM Program Manager
Hawaii State Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, HI 96804

Dear Leo Asuncion:

The Office for Coastal Management (OCM) has completed its review of Hawaii Coastal Management Program's Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2020 Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Section 309 Final Assessment and Strategy. We initially received a draft to review on February 2, 2015, and received final revisions on May 29, 2015. OCM is pleased to inform you that we approve Hawaii's 2016-2020 Assessment and Strategy. OCM also concurs with the State's designated priority rankings for the nine enhancement areas.

With an approved Assessment and Strategy, the Hawaii Coastal Management Program is eligible for FY 2016-2020 weighted formula (or base) funds under Section 309 of the CZMA to implement the work plans as presented in Hawaii's strategies. For FY 2016, both the hazards and ocean and Great Lakes resources (focusing on comprehensive planning) enhancement areas are designated as enhancement areas of national importance. Therefore you are also eligible to apply for competitive Projects of Special Merit funding to further your *Probabilistic Tsunami Design Maps for Hawaii* and *Ocean Resource Management Planning* strategies that support these enhancement areas of national importance.

We appreciate the time and effort you and your staff put into this process, as well as your continued support for and participation in the Enhancement Grants Program. OCM looks forward to working together to achieve the strategy goals you have set for Hawaii over the next five years. Again we offer our congratulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joelle", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joelle Y. Gore
Acting Chief, Stewardship Division