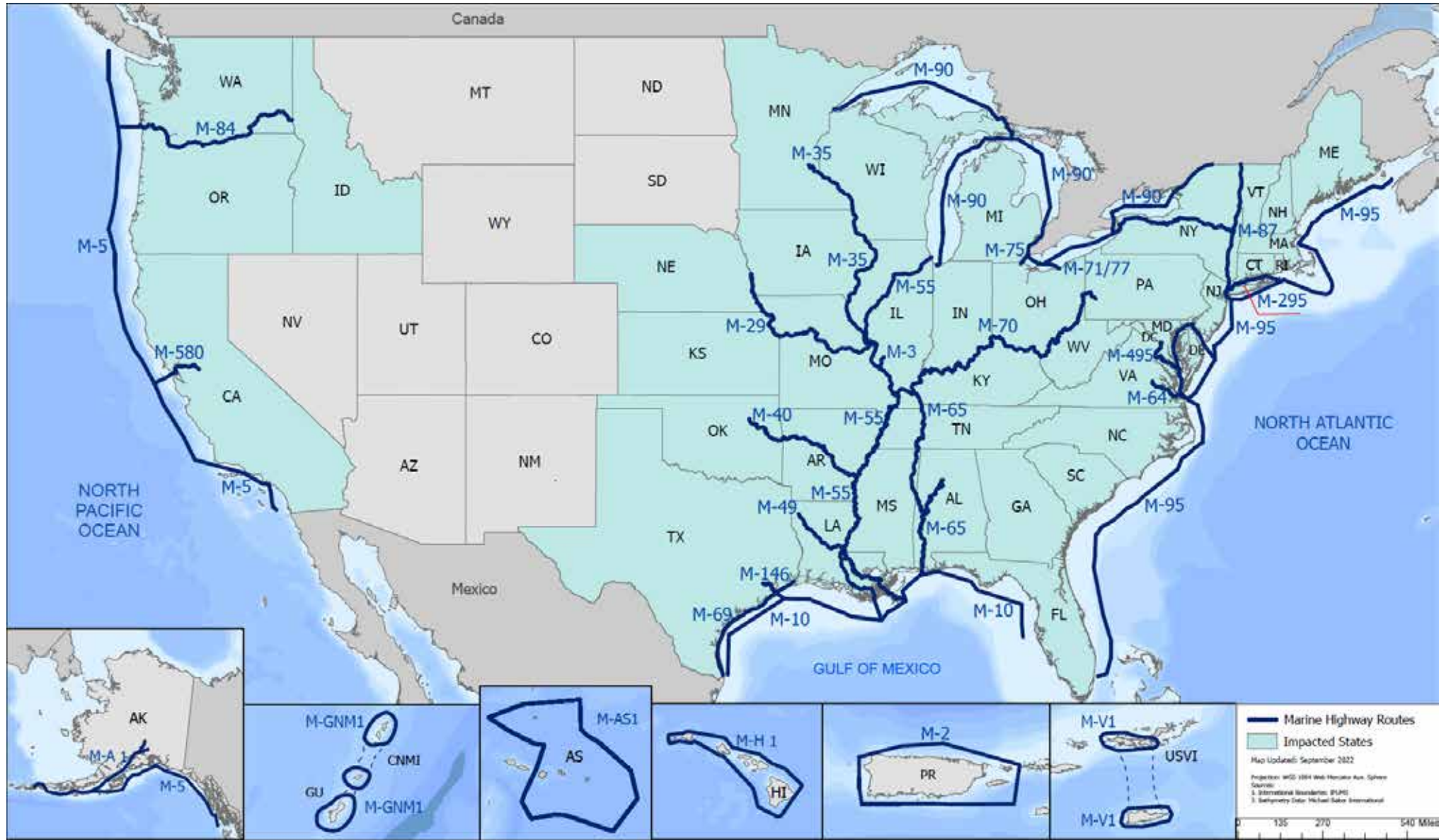


United States Marine Highway System

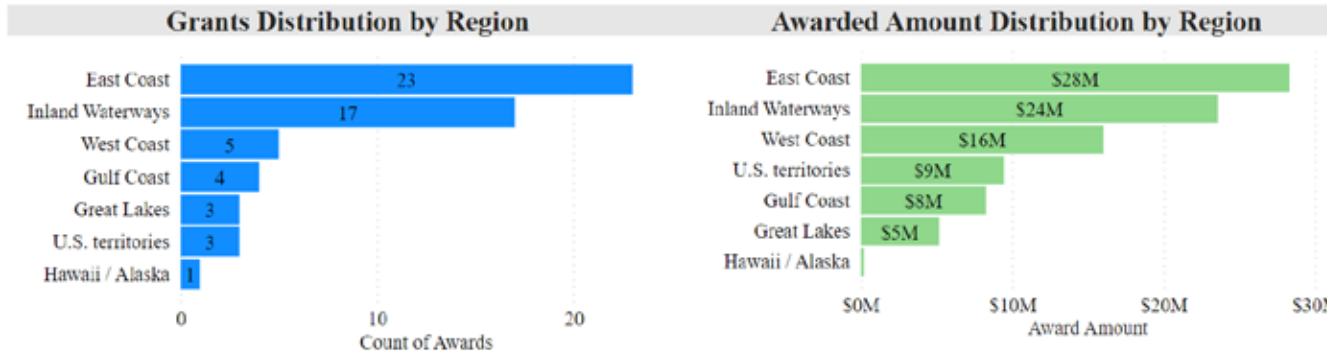
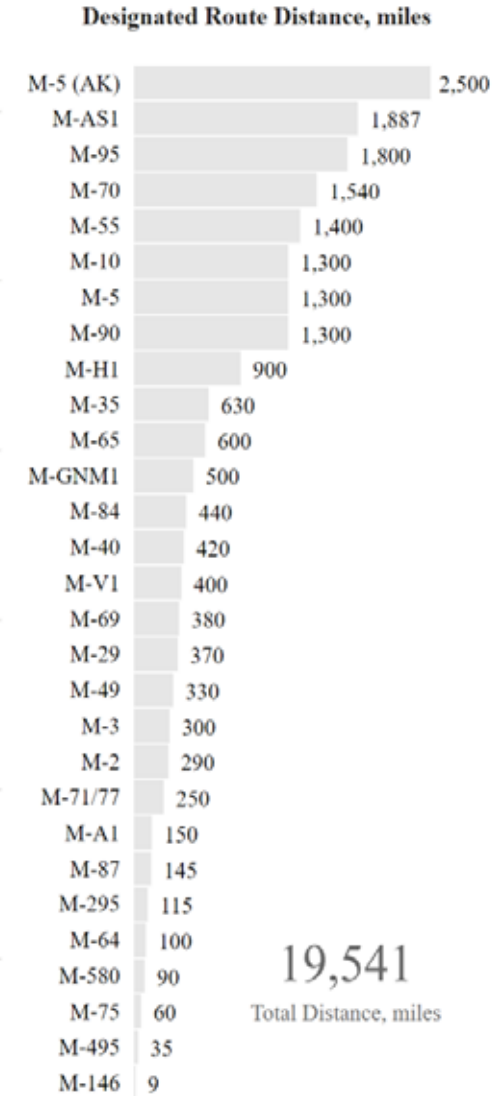


USMH Routes:

- 29 Designated Marine Highway Routes spanning 19,541 miles (**80% of nation's navigable waterways** including rivers, bays, channels, coasts, the Great Lakes, open-ocean routes and the Saint Lawrence Seaway System)
- 2 Route applications are under review
 - M-11 (AK) – 6,500 miles
 - M-79 (WV/PA) – 250 miles

USMH Grants:

- \$76.4M appropriated (FY10-23)
- \$25M Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- 56 grants awarded (through FY22)



19,541
Total Distance, miles

Marine Highway Program Founding Legislation

The America's Marine Highway Program was established by Section 1121 of the **Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007** (also known as The Clean Energy Act) to reduce landside congestion through the designation of Marine Highway Routes.

Amendments

2012 - Coast Guard and Marine Transportation Act expanded the scope of the program beyond reducing landside congestion to efforts that generate public benefits by increasing the utilization or efficiency of domestic freight or passenger transportation on Marine Highway Routes between U.S. ports.

2016 – National Defense Authorization Act added packages that are handled individually, palletized or unitized for purposes of transportation, or freight vehicles carried aboard commuter ferry boats.

2020 – National Defense Authorization Act changed the legislated Program name from “Short Sea Shipping” to “Marine Highways”

Amendments (Continued)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023:

- changed the name of “America’s Marine Highway Program” to “United States Marine Highway Program”
- expanded the definition of marine highway transportation to include:
 - bulk, liquid, and loose cargo
 - shipments to / from ports in Canada and Mexico
 - *no grant funds can be used outside of the U.S.*
- Required to release the NOFO within 60 days and award within 270 days after enactment of the FY23 Appropriations Act.
 - Release NOFO by February 28, 2023
 - Award announcement by September 26, 2023.
- Increase in federal share for projects in rural areas and grants to tribal governments. They may request up to 100 pct Federal funding for such grants.
- Exclusions for building structures and raising sunken vessels

Amendments (Continued)

2023 - The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023:

- **Project Designations *are no longer required* in order to be eligible for USMHP grants.**
- Private entities can continue to apply for USMHP grants. While prior year applications required the support of the designated project sponsor. Per the NDAA, these applicants will now require the support of the Marine Highway Route Sponsor.
- Report On Maritime Highway Transportation in Gulf of Mexico and Puget Sound. Within one year, submit to Congress a report on opportunities for maritime highway transportation in the Gulf of Mexico, Puget Sound, and Salish Sea System by vessels documented under Chapter 121 of Title 46, United States Code.
 - The study is being conducted by the Volpe Center, the research division of the Office of the Secretary