



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
Division of Institution & Award Support

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Alexandria, VA 22314
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May 21, 2025

Basilio Martinez
Chief Financial Officer
Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
7700 Sandholdt Road
Moss Landing, CA 95039

Reference: OIG Report No. 23-1-009

Dear Basillio Martinez,

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has completed the review and resolution of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) audit report, on costs incurred under NSF awards by Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), dated August 4, 2023.

The audit report identified a total of \$2,981.00 in questioned costs claimed on NSF awards and recommended that MBARI strengthen its administrative and management controls, over the areas in which the findings and questioned costs were identified. As a result of its resolution efforts, NSF determined \$2,891.00, will be sustained. The table below summarizes the sustained, allowed, and disallowed costs by the finding number:

Recs	Audit Report Description	Questioned	Disallowed	Allowed	Final Action Complete
1.1	Inappropriately Allocated Expenses	\$2,891	\$2,891	\$ 0	Yes
1.2	Inappropriately Allocated Expenses	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
2.1	Non-Compliance with MBARI's Purchasing Policy	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
2.2	Non-Compliance with MBARI's Purchasing Policy	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
3.1	Non-Compliance with Mid-Scale Reporting Policy	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
Summary of Total Questioned Costs		\$2,891	\$2,891	\$0	

To resolve the audit findings and questioned costs, NSF conducted detailed reviews of applicable Federal and NSF requirements, proposal and award information maintained by the Agency, and documentation provided by the MBARI. Based on the table above NSF considers all audit report findings, recommendations, and questioned costs resolved and closed. No further actions are required by MBARI.

MBARI's timely responses and full cooperation with the NSF audit resolution process are greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions regarding this letter or the NSF audit resolution process, please contact me at (703) 292-4827 or rgray@nsf.gov.

Sincerely,

Chief, Resolution and Advanced Monitoring Branch
Division of Institution and Award Support
(703) 292-4827