



NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

REAUTHORIZATION ACT

FY 2011 HIGHLIGHTS

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requests \$135.3M in FY 2011 to support the requirements of the reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSRA). This budget request supports NOAA and the Department of Commerce's efforts to implement significant domestic and international measures that are vital to ensure the long term viability and stability of fish stocks and the communities that depend on them. Overall, NOAA has successfully completed 54 of 79 specific tasks mandated in the MSRA, for a completion rate of 68 percent. More precisely, 83 percent of MSRA tasks that had mandatory deadlines have been completed. With continued support NOAA will continue to meet its MSRA mandates and deadlines and make substantial progress toward science-based, effectively managed, and economically viable commercial and recreational fisheries.

National Catch Share Program (\$54M): In FY 2011 NOAA is requesting an increase of \$36.6M for the development, implementation, and operation of catch share programs in fisheries across the Nation. Catch share programs give fishermen a stake in the benefits of well-managed fisheries, and therefore greater economic incentive to ensure effective management. This increase supports additional catch share operations for a total of 16 programs in 2011. The request also supports analysis and evaluation of new programs, the development of fishery management plans and regulations to support catch shares, observing and monitoring programs at sea and on shore for specific fisheries, and enforcement activities.

Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) (\$15.9M): NMFS is on track to ensure ACLs and Accountability Measures (AMs) are in place by required deadlines. NMFS must establish ACLs for all 532 stocks and stock complexes it manages under 46 fishery management plans. AMs are required to correct for instances where the ACL is exceeded. ACLs and AMs must be implemented in 2010 in fisheries subject to overfishing and in 2011 in all other fisheries. NMFS published and finalized guidance in January 2009 and is now working with all eight Councils to implement ACLs and AMs.

Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Data Collection (\$11M): Expansion of recreational and commercial fisheries data collection is necessary to assess which stocks are undergoing overfishing in order to set ACL levels. In FY11, NOAA will continue development of the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP). This will become a national system of coordinated regional data collection programs, including the Saltwater Angler Registry which launched on January 1st, 2010.

Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported (IUU) Fishing (\$3.4M): This request allows NMFS to continue its international leadership to identify IUU fishing nations, conduct international consultation activities to reduce these activities, and certify to Congress whether appropriate corrective action is being taken. During 2010, NOAA will prepare its second report to Congress on IUU fishing and bycatch of protected living marine resources; the report will be submitted to Congress in early 2011.

Expand Annual Stock Assessments (\$18.4M): This funding will allow NMFS to continue to update stock assessments to support implementation of annual catch limits. NMFS will expand resource surveys over larger geographic areas and habitats to monitor abundance of more fish stocks, and refine mathematical and statistical models.

Economics (\$11M): This request will allow NOAA to continue collecting significant economic and social data to develop decision support tools to conduct MSRA-mandated cost-benefit analyses of regulatory options such as ACLs. Since FY 2001, NMFS commercial fisheries data collections have increased three-fold. In FY 2001, only seven fishery management plans had the complete suite of economic data (ex-vessel revenue, operating costs, and fixed costs) on commercial fishing operations compared to the 22 fishery management plans for which had data in FY 2009.



NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION