



# NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

## FY 2013 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requests \$880.3M in FY 2013. This total includes the Operations, Research, and Facilities (ORF) and other Mandatory and Discretionary accounts. For the Discretionary accounts this is a decrease of \$11,910,000 from the FY 2012 estimate. This budget request supports NOAA and DOC efforts to conserve, protect, and manage living marine resources, affords economic opportunities, and enhances the quality of life for the American public.

**Expand Annual Stock Assessments +\$4.3M:** will increase NMFS's capability to conduct assessments. Building on advances in stock assessment prioritization begun in FY 2012, NMFS will conduct improved surveys using advanced technologies to estimate fish abundance in additional habitats. The National Research Council has found that a strong fishery stock assessment program is the foundation of successful management of commercial and recreational fisheries.

**Observers and Training +\$2.9M:** will support observing and monitoring for fisheries currently under catch share management and those expected to transition to catch share management in FY 2013. NOAA will also continue to provide coverage in approximately 47 fisheries nationwide, with a goal of expanding observer coverage in existing fisheries and implementing new observer programs in fisheries with bycatch concerns. To provide this coverage, FY 2012 funds from the Hawaii Longline Observer Program are also reallocated. Additional funds supplemented data collection to achieve statistically valid protected species interactions and bycatch estimates for the American Samoa Long Line fishery.

**West Coast Reconfiguration (-\$5.0M):** will achieve administrative efficiencies by reconfiguring the NMFS' Southwest and Northwest Regional Offices into a single West Coast Regional Office, closing the Pacific Grove Laboratory in California; eliminate support for the Puget Sound ecosystem surveys and Newport Seawater Research program at the Newport Laboratory in Oregon.

### NMFS FY 2013 Budget Request (\$ Millions)

	FY11 Enacted	FY12 Estimate	FY13 Request	FY13 Request vs. FY12 Estimate
ORF	\$845.2	\$804.7	\$807.8	\$3.1
PAC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER	\$122.3	\$90.3	\$72.5	(\$17.8)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$967.5</b>	<b>\$895.0</b>	<b>\$880.3</b>	<b>(\$14.7)</b>

**John H. Prescott Grants (-\$3.8M):** will terminate funding for the Prescott Grant program. In FY 2013, NMFS will continue to support the rescue of large whales entangled in fishing gear; coordinate the stranding network; provide limited support for unusual mortality event investigations; and administer the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank.

**Habitat Management and Restoration (-\$11.3M):** will continue support for mandated restoration activities related to Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA), Oil Pollution Act (OPA), Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and other priority habitat restoration activities. NOAA will focus on projects that enhance stewardship and advance priorities for sustainable fisheries, recovering protected resources, and supporting coastal economies.

**Sandy Hook \$0.0M (savings realized in FY14):** will save administrative costs by relocating Sandy Hook research programs from New Jersey to other facilities in the region in the beginning of FY 2014, the lease expires in December 2013. Disruption to the programs will be minimized by relocating staff and assets to other NOAA facilities in the region.



NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION