



NOAA
FISHERIES

NOAA Fisheries 101

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Fisheries' Impact & Objectives



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Economic Impact

- Commercial and recreational marine fisheries and aquaculture contribute more than \$89 billion annually to the national economy
- Generates \$199 billion in sales impact
- Supports over 1.7 million jobs economy-wide
- Over 70 million recreational fishing trip each year

Objectives

- Living marine resource protection and sustainability through ecosystem based management
- Protection and targeted restoration of marine habitat
- Scientific research to inform societal decision-making



**NOAA
FISHERIES**



Major Legislative Drivers

- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA)
- Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Oil Pollution Act (OPA) & RESTORE Act
- National Aquaculture Act

Major Program Areas

- Sustainable Fisheries
- Protected Resources
- Habitat Conservation
- Science and Technology
- Aquaculture
- Enforcement
- International Affairs



Where We Work

West Coast Region

- Regional Office: Seattle, WA
- Science Centers:
 - Seattle, WA
 - La Jolla, CA
- Laboratories:
 - Seattle, WA
 - Manchester, WA
 - Pasco, WA
 - Newport, OR
 - La Jolla, CA
 - Santa Cruz, CA

Greater Atlantic Region

- Regional Office: Gloucester, MA
- Science Center: Woods Hole, MA
- Laboratories:
 - Woods Hole, MA
 - Narragansett, RI
 - Milford, CT
 - Highlands, NJ
 - Washington, DC

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NOAA Headquarters
Silver Spring, MD
Annapolis, MD

Alaska Region

- Regional Office: Juneau, AK
- Science Center:
 - Seattle, WA (Sand Point)
- Laboratories:
 - Lena Point, AK
 - Auke Bay, AK
 - Kodiak, AK
 - Seattle, WA

Southeast Region

- Regional Office: St. Petersburg, FL
- Science Center: Miami, FL
- Laboratories:
 - Miami, FL
 - Beaufort, NC (shared with NOS)
 - Panama City, FL
 - Pascagoula, MS
 - Galveston, TX

Pacific Islands Region

- Regional Office: Honolulu, HI
- Science Center: Honolulu, HI
- Laboratory: Honolulu, HI

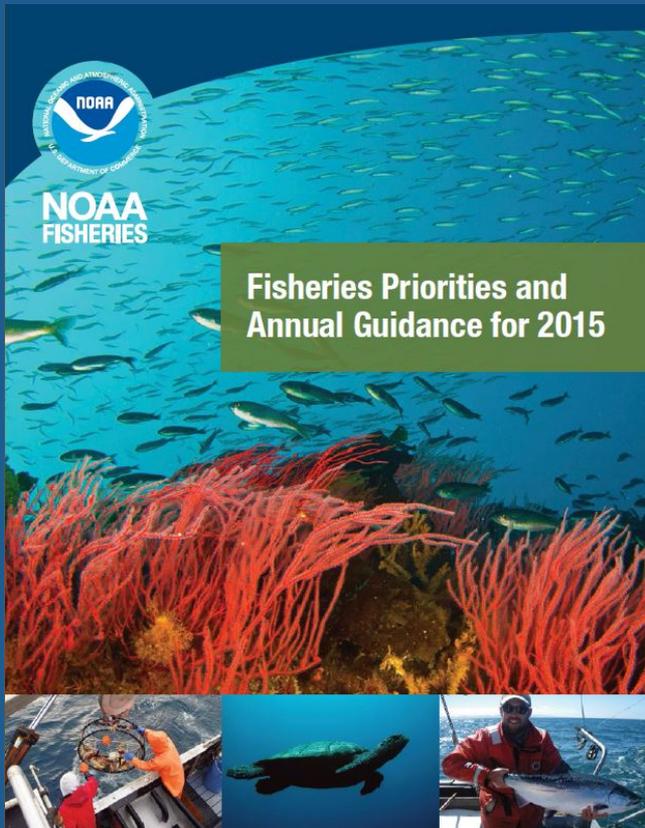


NOAA Fisheries Priorities: FY 2015 & FY 2016

Primary NOAA Fisheries mandates for science-based living marine resource stewardship:

- *To continue the quest to end overfishing and rebuild stocks*
- *To recover and conserve protected resources*

All other NOAA Fisheries programs, projects, and activities support these core mission mandates.



Sustainable Fisheries: Ending Overfishing & Rebuilding Stocks

- Maximizing the productivity and sustainability of fisheries, ending overfishing, rebuilding fish stocks, and reducing uncertainty and management complexity
- Providing economic opportunity, access, security and a sustainable food source for the Nation
- Supporting 8 Regional Fishery Management Councils
- Partnering with 4 Interstate Commissions and coastal States
- 46 Fishery Management Plans and 449 regulated stocks/stock complexes



Sustainable Fisheries – High Priorities

- End Overfishing and Rebuild Stocks
 - ✓ National Standard 1 Revisions
- Flexible and Responsive Management
 - ✓ Meet biological objectives
 - ✓ Balance socio-economic needs
 - ✓ Integrate ecosystem considerations
- International efforts to end overfishing and combat illegal, unregulated, unreported fishing
- Reducing bycatch and discards
- Disaster program assistance
- Sustainable aquaculture development
- Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization



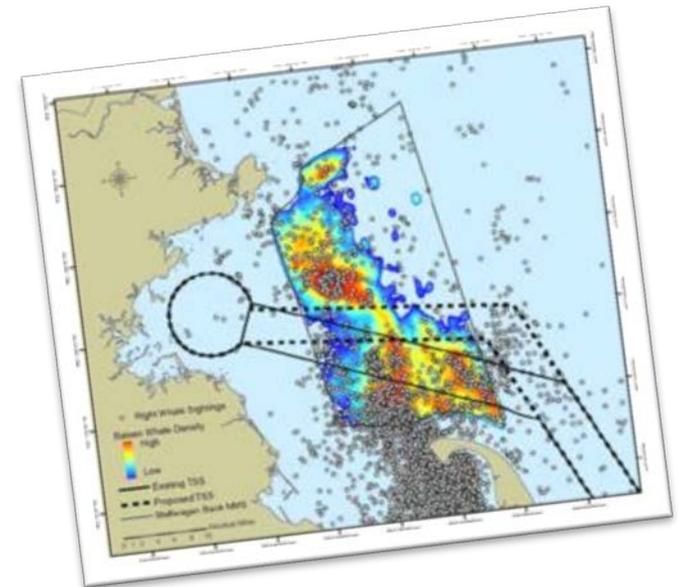
Protected Resources

- Mission to protect, recover, and conserve listed species, marine mammals and their habitats
 - ✓ Jurisdiction over 125 endangered and threatened marine species (includes 38 foreign species)
 - ✓ 117 marine mammal species protected by the MMPA (61 of those species are in U.S. waters)
- Tools for protection, recovery, and conservation
 - ✓ Listings
 - ✓ Critical Habitat
 - ✓ Conservation Plans and Research
 - ✓ Recovery Plans
 - ✓ Consultations and Permitting
 - ✓ Permits for Research and Enhancement
 - ✓ Grants – Prescott, Species Recovery
- Strandings and entanglement response
 - ✓ Partnering with health and stranding networks on turtles and marine mammals
 - ✓ Partnering with fisherman, industry, and scientists to reduce harmful fisheries interactions with marine mammals



Protected Resources - High Priorities

- Strategic Plan
- Record Level of Listing Actions, including petition to list 81 species
- Recovery of Endangered Species
 - ✓ Priority Species Initiative
- Protection of Marine Mammals
 - ✓ Updating acoustic criteria
 - ✓ Right whale speed rule
 - ✓ Unusual mortality events
- Partnerships (leveraging resources)
- Adaptation to Climate Change
- Agency Responsiveness
 - ✓ Take authorizations
 - ✓ Consultations
 - ✓ Responding to listing petitions
- Joint review of ESA regulations to improve implementation



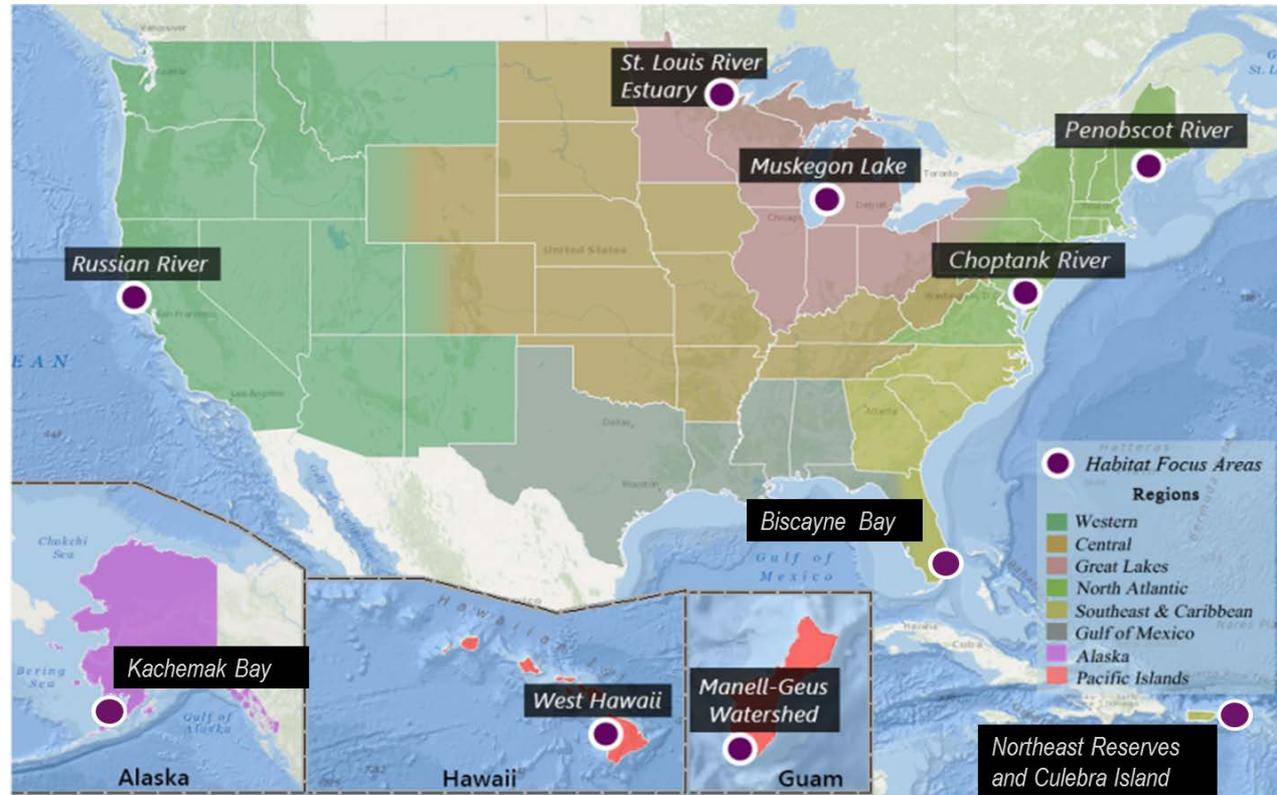
Habitat Conservation

- Coastal and marine Essential Fish Habitat
 - ✓ Consultations to protect essential fish habitat and build interagency partnerships
- On-the-ground habitat restoration projects
 - ✓ Financial and technical assistance
- Coastal Wetlands
 - ✓ Working to stem the rate of coastal wetland loss
- Corals
 - ✓ Sustain shallow and deep-sea corals
- Rivers
 - ✓ Re-establish fish passage (hydropower, dam removal)
- Natural Resource Damage Assessments
 - ✓ Response to oil spills, ship groundings, etc.



Habitat Conservation – High Priorities

- Recover listed species and rebuild fisheries
 - ✓ Protect/restore habitat as the foundation for productive fisheries
 - ✓ On the ground partnerships
- NOAA Habitat Blueprint
 - ✓ Strategic protection and focused restoration efforts
 - Habitat Focus Areas
 - ✓ Emphasis on ecosystem-level outcomes
- Gulf of Mexico Restoration
 - ✓ DWH - Natural Resource Damage Assessment
 - ✓ RESTORE Act implementation
- Protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay
 - ✓ 2009 Chesapeake Bay Executive Order
 - ✓ 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement



Habitat Focus Areas

Science and Technology

- High-quality, timely applied scientific information for conservation and management decision-making
 - ✓ Fisheries Information and Statistics
 - ✓ Living Marine Resource Assessments
 - ✓ Economic and Social Analysis
 - ✓ Marine Ecosystems Research
 - ✓ Habitat Assessment and Research
 - ✓ Monitoring and Analysis
- 6 regional science centers and HQ Office of Science & Technology
 - ✓ Broad range of disciplines
 - ✓ Academic and international collaborations and obligations



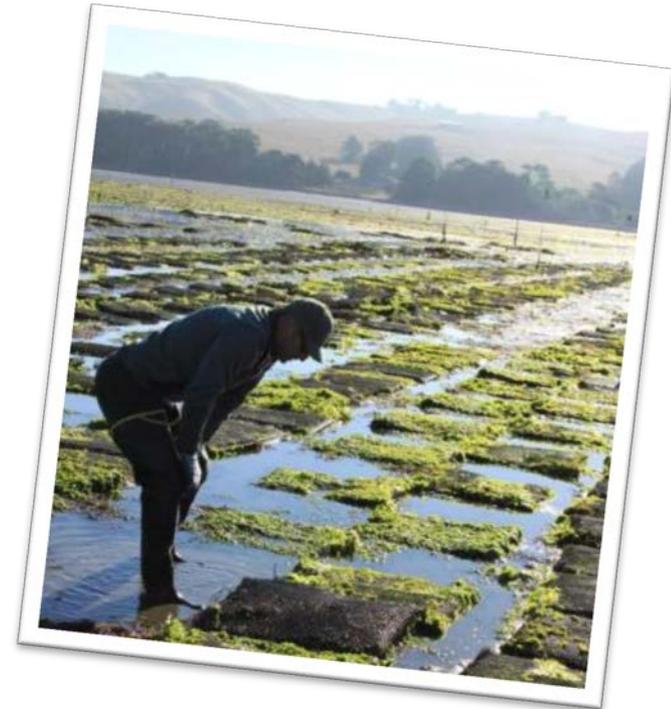
High Priority Scientific Research

- Living Marine Resource Surveys
 - ✓ Fish, Protected Resource & Habitat Assessments
 - ✓ Develop new and improved methods for assessing abundance and distribution of trust species
- Fishery-dependent Data Collection
 - ✓ Observers and electronic monitoring
 - ✓ Landings statistics and economic information
 - ✓ Cooperative research
- Ecosystem Approaches to Management
 - ✓ Incorporate ecosystem information into living marine resource assessments
 - ✓ Ecosystem and human responses to climate change
 - ✓ Economic and social analysis
- Advanced Sampling Technology
 - ✓ Advanced acoustic/video methods, unmanned vehicle systems and signal processing technologies
 - ✓ Implement improvements and efficiencies to inform management



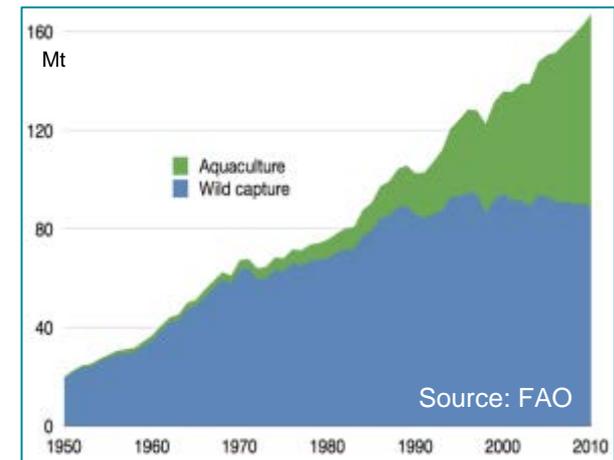
Aquaculture

- Foster U.S. marine aquaculture
 - ✓ Creates employment and business opportunities in coastal communities
 - ✓ Provides safe, sustainable seafood
 - ✓ Supports healthy ocean populations and ecosystems
 - ✓ Supports commercial and recreational fisheries
- Potential for U.S. marine aquaculture
 - ✓ Seafood industry leaders calling for action to develop aquaculture
 - ✓ Aquaculture already provides half of all global seafood, and is projected to provide nearly 2/3 by 2030
 - ✓ Domestic aquaculture industry is small but regionally critical. It is the third most valuable fishery in northeast, more than double value of groundfish fisheries.
 - ✓ U.S. has largest potential for offshore aquaculture in the world
- Trade and food security considerations
 - ✓ US seafood imports - greater than 90% and rising; more than half from aquaculture
 - ✓ Seafood trade deficit - \$12 billion and rising
 - ✓ No ability to substantially increase seafood supply from wild fisheries. Any new production will be from aquaculture



Aquaculture – High Priorities

- Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Plan for Aquaculture
 - ✓ Preparing final rulemaking to establish permitting process that will enable aquaculture to develop in Gulf
 - ✓ Currently reviewing public comments on the draft rule.
 - ✓ Work with federal partners to develop and implement a coordinated federal permitting process
- National Shellfish Initiative
 - ✓ Increase populations of bivalve shellfish in coastal waters
 - ✓ Streamline permitting and facilitate restoration
 - ✓ State initiatives in WA, CA; interest in CT, HI, OR, MS and Gulf of Mexico
- Science based “tools for rules” to inform management and decision-making
 - ✓ Feeds, siting, genetics, environmental impacts, etc.
- Technology transfer to fishermen to create jobs
 - ✓ Aquaculture can supplement fishermen's incomes
 - ✓ Example: fishermen farming mussels in New England



Law Enforcement

- Domestic
 - ✓ National Priorities – support sustainable fisheries and seafood and recovered and healthy marine and coastal species
 - ✓ Patrols & Inspections
 - ✓ Investigations
 - ✓ 28 State Cooperative Enforcement Partnerships
 - ✓ Coordination with U.S. Coast Guard
 - ✓ Compliance Assistance & Education
 - ✓ Nationwide Satellite Vessel Monitoring System
- International
 - ✓ Investigations of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activity and trafficking in IUU fish and fish products
 - ✓ Technical assistance to combat IUU fishing
 - ✓ Engagement in bilateral and multilateral arrangements to combat IUU fishing
 - ✓ Port State Measures and other IUU fishing-related agreements and legislation
 - ✓ Coordination with international organizations (e.g., INTERPOL, International MCS Network)
 - ✓ Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking



NOAA Enforcement monitors 4,500 vessels to ensure compliance and provides data to the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA scientists, and fisheries managers.

International Activities

- Advance U.S. interests at international fisheries management and science organizations and other fora
- Develop international science and research partnerships
- Technical assistance to help other countries improve their stewardship of limiting marine resources



High Priorities

- Level the playing field for U.S. fishermen (combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, reduce bycatch of protected species in foreign fisheries, improve shark conservation)
- Drive the international fisheries agenda
- Improve the monitoring of seafood imports into the United States

Fisheries and Protected Resource Issues Vary by Region

West Coast Region

- Salmon & Hydropower
- Salmon & Central Valley Water Operations
- Killer Whales
- Salmon Recovery
- California Sea Lions
- Catch Shares
- Habitat Recovery
- Pacific Highly Migratory Species
- Forage Fish

Greater Atlantic Region

- Groundfish (cod)
- River Herring
- Harbor Porpoise
- Atlantic Sturgeon
- Atlantic Sea Scallops
- Atlantic Herring
- Sea Turtles
- Right Whales
- Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

Alaska Region

- Steller Sea Lions
- Ringed and Bearded Seals
- Charter Halibut
- Declining Halibut Stock
- Cook Inlet Beluga Whales
- Salmon Bycatch
- Pebble Mine
- Observer Program Restructuring
- Unusual Mortality Event
- Arctic (Oil & Gas Development, Climate Change)

Pacific Islands Region

- Sea Turtles
- Longline Fisheries
- Hawaiian Monk Seals
- Corals (listing)
- Coral Reefs/Marine National Monuments

Southeast Region

- Shrimp/Turtles
- Red Snapper, Grouper, Greater Amberjack
- Restoration & Recovery Post-Deepwater Horizon
- Corals (listing)
- Bottlenose Dolphins
- Sturgeon/Hydropower/Fish Passage
- Port Development

Emerging Issues

- Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization
- Supporting Gulf of Mexico restoration
- Supporting the White House's Agenda for the Arctic
- Responding to the impacts of climate change on trust resources and coastal communities
- Keeping up with the requests for listing new species
- Responding to increasing industry calls for aggressive development of marine aquaculture
- Open Data Policy per Executive Order
 - Increasing access to the results of federally-funded scientific research



NOAA Fisheries Budget Status – FY 2015

NOAA Fisheries received its 2015 appropriation of **\$958.2 million** on December 13, 2014.

- Overall – \$44.6M < FY14 Spend Plan
- \$12.8 M (+1.6%) > FY14 Spend Plan for core programs.

FY 2016 Budget Request – NOAA Fisheries Overview

- Provides \$990.1 million total for NMFS
 - \$956.9 million discretionary
 - \$33.2 million mandatory
- \$31.9 million increase (3.3%) from FY 2015 Enacted
 - \$37.5 million for Technical Adjustments
 - + \$14.4 million for Calculated Inflationary Adjustments
 - + \$55.0 million for Program Changes

FY 2016 Budget - NOAA Fisheries Overview

- To meet priorities, we will:
 - Build on our successful domestic fisheries management with better science and new technologies.
 - Improve our ability to protect threatened and endangered species while still enabling economic activity through increased consultation capacity.
 - Combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing internationally and enforce restrictions on imports of illegally harvested and improperly documented seafood.

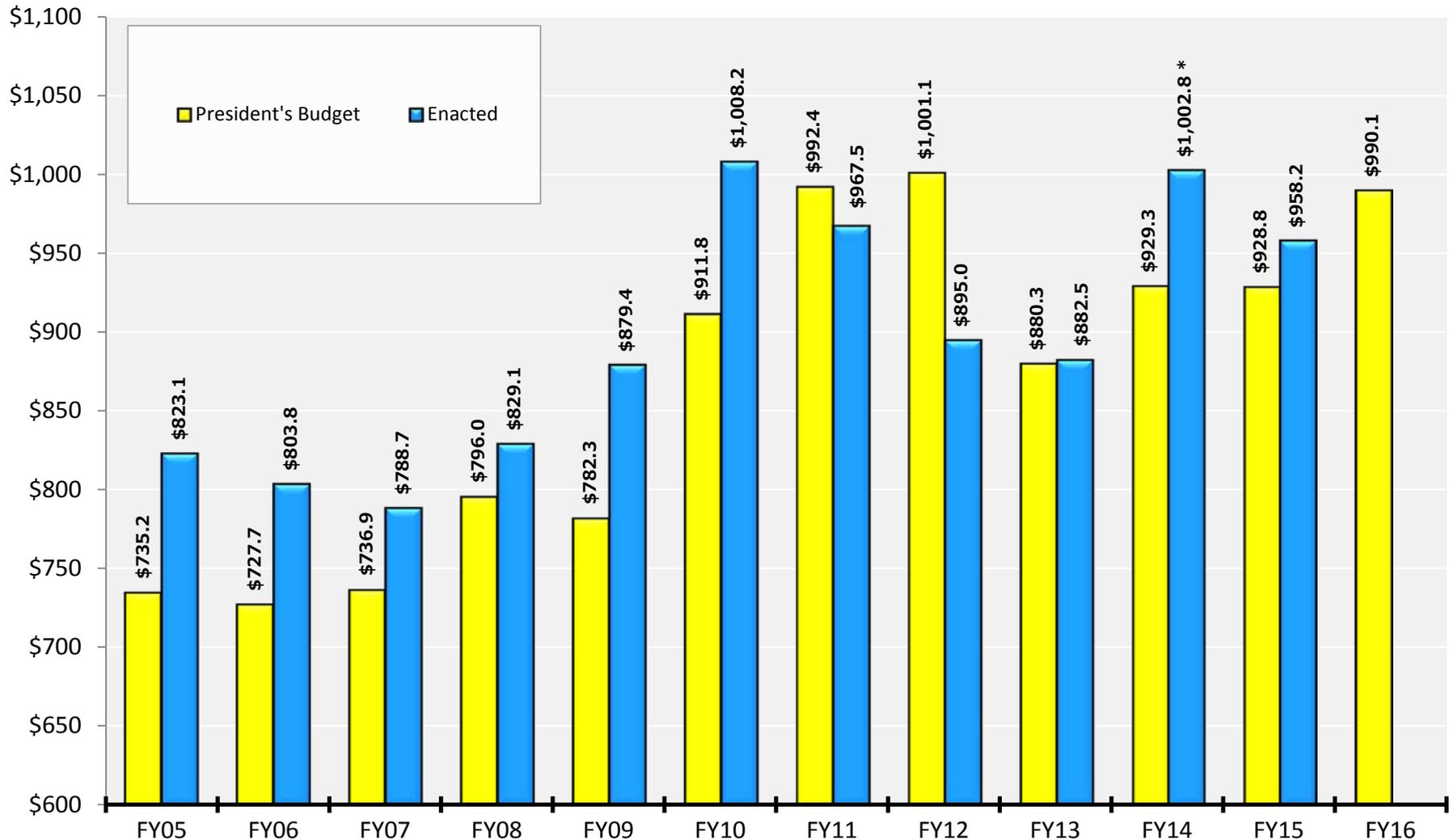
FY 2016 President's Budget Detail

FY 2016 Request – Increases (\$ in millions)	FY 2016 Program Change
Protected and Managed Species Recovery	
Increase Consultation Capacity - ESA/MMPA & Corals	\$13.2
Increase Consultation Capacity - MSA EFH	\$5.7
Species Recovery Grants	\$17.0
Atlantic and Pacific Salmon	\$1.3
Advances in Fisheries Science and Management	
Ecosystem-based Solutions for Fisheries Management	\$5.0
Electronic Technologies	\$7.0
Distributed Biological Observatory (Arctic)	\$0.9
Expand Annual Stock Assessments	\$2.8
National Catch Share Program	\$2.2
Cross-cutting Programs that Provide Overall Economic Benefits	
Domestic Seafood Production and Jobs through Aquaculture	\$2.0
Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	\$3.0
Enforcement Compliance & Forensics	\$0.9
Observers & Training	\$0.5
Fisheries Finance Program (Other Accounts)	\$10.3
*Columns may not add due to rounding	
TOTAL Increase*	\$71.8

- \$51.7M net program change increase in ORF.
- \$55.0M net program change increase in All Accounts.

FY 2016 Request – Decreases (\$ in millions)	FY 2016 Program Change
Prescott Grants	-\$1.9
Salmon Management Activities	-\$2.9
Coastal Resiliency Ecosystem Grants	-\$5.0
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (Other Accounts)	-\$7.0
TOTAL Decreases*	-\$16.8

NOAA Fisheries Budget Trends



*FY 2014 Spend Plan includes \$75M for the Fisheries Disaster Mitigation Fund.