



FY 2007 NOAA BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requests \$737.7M in FY 2007, reflecting a net increase of \$81.1M over the FY 2007 base level, which is a reduction of \$73.8M from the FY06 Enacted level. This budget request supports funding and program requirements to enable NMFS to be effective stewards of living marine resources for the benefit of the Nation through science-based conservation and management and the promotion of ecosystem health.

FY 2007 Program Change Highlights

Gulf of Mexico Initiative +\$19.7M: This increase will support largely research driven activities such as Observers, Southeast Cooperative Research, Stock Assessments, and Highly Migratory Species. Expected benefits are increased knowledge of fish species through stock assessment studies; increased knowledge of impacts to fishing communities through socio-cultural surveys; and increased knowledge of the impacts of hurricanes on the commercial and recreational fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem. As the Gulf region rebuilds, these programs will ensure that adequate science and management resources are available to promote and support sustainable and robust fisheries. Some of the individual components are discussed in more detail below.

Protected Species Research & Management +\$5.8M: Funds will be used to investigate ocean noise and its effects on the recovery of protected species, expanding and modernizing protected resources stock assessments, and completing Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandated activities.

Other Protected Species +\$3.2M: Funds will be used for recovering those species which do not have a separate program including completion of ESA section 7 consultations and implementing recovery plans. Funds will also initiate pilot proactive conservation efforts for species nearing the need for ESA listing, preventing additional listings.

Pacific Salmon +\$9.7M: Funds will be used for Pacific salmon recovery activities (i.e. section 7 consultations, recovery planning), as well as research such as predicting ocean survival. Of this amount, \$2.0M will support section 7 consultations in response to EPA's court ordered requirements for pesticides registration.

Fisheries Research and Management Programs +\$6.8M: These funds will support the following: Catch and Release Mortality Research in the Gulf of Mexico; an ESA status review of the Atlantic white marlin; and Regulatory Streamlining to improve the quality and timeliness of regulatory processes and policy development.

Enforcement +\$4.0M: Funds will support increased investigations and monitoring in the Northeast and Gulf of Mexico. Funds will also be used for Cooperative Agreements with states.



Economic and Social Science Research +6.5M: Funds will support socioeconomic surveys in commercially important fisheries nationwide. This will support the expansion of sociocultural surveying and community profiling in coastal states, including areas impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions +\$3.0: This increase will enhance the capacity of the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils to participate fully in the Regulatory Streamlining Program and to develop Dedicated Access Privilege programs.

Fish Information Networks +\$2.1M: Funds will improve NOAA's ability to increase the quantity of data collected and improve the quality of statistics used to inform regulatory decisions.

Habitat Conservation and Restoration +\$11.2M: Funds will: support the new requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, refine EFH designation activities, volunteer dam removal through the Open Rivers Initiative, and establish a Great Lakes Restoration Program.

Southeast Monitoring and Assessment Program +\$3.8M: Funds will enhance monitoring of key larval fishery species in the Gulf of Mexico. Funds will support environmental impact assessments related to new oil and natural gas facilities needed to offset hurricane related damage.

NMFS FY 2007 Budget Request (\$ in Millions)				
	FY06 Enacted	FY07 Base	Program Change	FY07 Request
ORF	\$ 667.2	\$ 567.9	\$ 81.1	\$ 649.0
PAC	\$ 30.4	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0
Other	\$ 113.8	\$ 88.7	\$ 0.0	\$ 88.7
TOTAL	\$ 811.5	\$ 656.6	\$ 81.1	\$ 737.7

For more information, contact the NOAA Budget Office: (202) 482-4600 – or – AskNOAABudget@noaa.gov