

# Office of Protected Resources

NOAA Fisheries -- Managing Marine Ecosystems

## Mission

To conserve and recover those protected species under NOAA Fisheries stewardship. The primary mission is carried out through implementation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), and a variety of other national and international treaties and agreements.

## Organization

The Office of Protected Resources (PR) has four divisions: Permits, Conservation, and Education; Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation; Endangered Species; and Planning and Program Coordination. The divisions work closely with NOAA Fisheries' Regional Offices, Science Centers, and other NOAA Offices to protect marine species.

NOAA's Protected Species Program Manager is housed in PR, and is also the NOAA Fisheries representative to the Ecosystem Research Program. All of PR participates in the Protected Species Program and the protected species science components of the Ecosystem Research and Ecosystem Assessments Programs.



## FY 2010 Priorities

- 1) Make the ESA more effective by working with FWS to update our implementation of it.
- 2) Support the Science Centers in implementing the Protected Species Stock Assessment Improvement Plan to acquire additional information on protected species status and factors affecting their survival.
- 3) Implement the Strategy for Sea Turtle Conservation and Recovery in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.
- 4) Respond to human and natural marine mammal and sea turtle stranding events and determine the causes of deaths
- 5) Support implementation of new Take Recovery Teams to minimize impact of commercial fisheries on marine mammals.
- 6) Complete authorizations for US Navy and Oil and Gas Industry activities to minimize potential impacts to marine mammals.
- 7) Complete consultations on critical national-level Federal actions (US Navy exercises, EPA pesticide registrations) to ensure that threatened and endangered species are not jeopardized.
- 8) Support the regions in responding to petitions to list new species under the ESA.

## Office Budget

	FY09 Actual
OR&F & PAC	\$18,432,699
Reimbursables	\$50,000
Total FTEs	68.2

For more information contact:

James H. Lecky, Director  
[Jim.Lecky@noaa.gov](mailto:Jim.Lecky@noaa.gov), or  
Helen Golde, Deputy Director  
[Helen.Golde@noaa.gov](mailto:Helen.Golde@noaa.gov)  
1315 East West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Tel: 301-713-2332

