

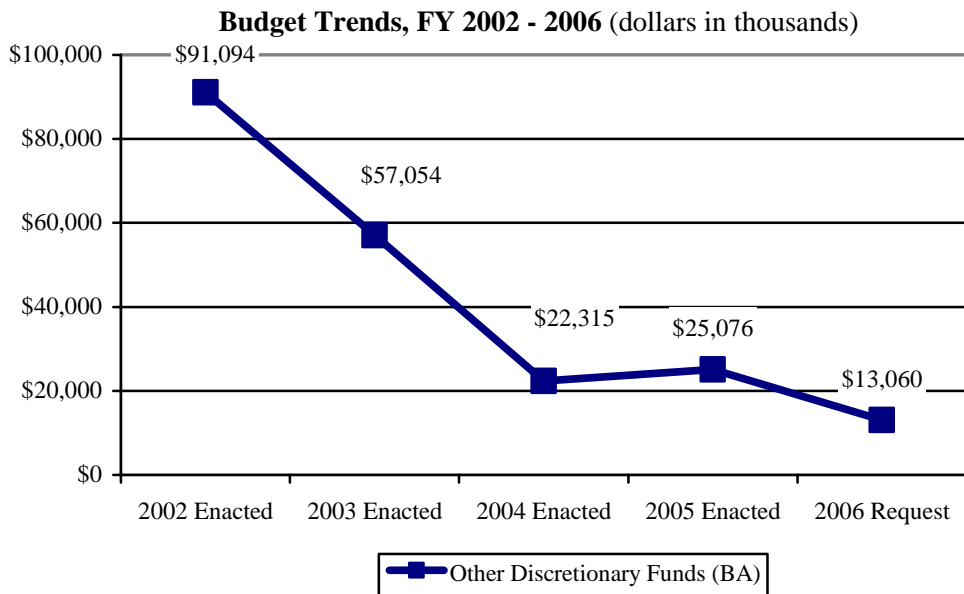
Chapter 6

Other Accounts



Other Discretionary Funds

(Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Base	Program Changes	Total Request
Other Discretionary Funds				
Coastal Zone Management Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fisherman's Contingency Fund	492	0	0	0
Foreign Fishing Observer Fund	0	0	0	0
Fisheries Finance Program Account	1,368	0	60	60
Promote and Develop American Fisheries	-65,000	-77,000	0	-77,000
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund	88,216	90,000	0	90,000
Total Other Discretionary Funds (Budget Authority - BA)	\$25,076	\$13,000	\$60	\$13,060
Total FTE	1	1	0	1





Other Discretionary Funds



NOAA's other discretionary funds are a significant part of NOAA's ecosystem-based management of coastal and ocean resources. These funds address threatened and endangered species, promote biodiversity, contribute to the improvement of ocean science, and promote fisheries research.

Coastal Zone Management Fund

The Coastal Zone Management Fund (CZMF) was created in 1990, to reimburse NOAA for expenses incident to the administration of the Coastal Zone Management Act. CZMF was intended to issue grants to states for improving coastal zone management. Emphasis was placed on planning for unforeseen or disaster-related circumstances and recognition of excellence in coastal management. NOAA will continue to work with Congress to reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Fishermen's Contingency Fund

The Fishermen's Contingency Fund (FCF) program minimizes financial instability of the fishing industry caused by competing uses of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), and provides for timely resolution of claims by vessel owners. The Fishermen's Contingency Fund is authorized under Section 402 of Title IV of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands

Act Amendments of 1978. NOAA compensates U.S. commercial fishermen for damage or loss of fishing gear, vessels, and resulting economic loss caused by obstructions related to oil and gas exploration, development, and production in any area of the Outer Continental Shelf. The funds used to provide this compensation are derived from fees collected on an annual basis by the Secretary of the Interior from the holders of leases, exploration permits, easements, or rights-of-way in areas of the Outer Continental Shelf. FCF account is funded totally through user fees. Disbursements can be made only to the extent authorized in appropriation acts.

Foreign Fishing Observer Fund

The Foreign Fishing Observer Fund (FFOF) is financed through fees collected from owners and operators of foreign fishing vessels fishing within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the United States (such fishing requires a permit issued under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act). This includes long-line vessels fishing in the Atlantic billfish and shark fishery and other foreign vessels fishing in the EEZ. FFOF reimburses NOAA for costs incurred in placing observers aboard foreign fishing vessels. The observer program is conducted primarily through contracts with the private sector. NOAA/NMFS places these observers aboard foreign fishing vessels to monitor compliance with U.S. fishery laws and to collect fishery management data.



Green Sea Turtle

Amounts available in the Fund can be disbursed only to the extent and in amounts provided in appropriation acts. In FY 1985 Congress approved the establishment of a supplemental observer program. The program provided that foreign vessels without

Federally-funded observers are required to obtain the services of private contractors certified by the Secretary of Commerce. Unobligated balances are sufficient to provide observer coverage aboard foreign vessels fishing within the United States' EEZ in FY 2006.

Fisheries Finance Program Account

The Fisheries Finance Program (FFP) Account provides direct loans that promote building sustainable fisheries. This account was established in FY 1997 to cover the cost of financing direct loans as authorized by Title XI of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936. The President's Request proposes loan levels of \$5 million for individual fishing quotas, and \$18.9 million for a proposed Atlantic pelagic longline swordfish buyback program. Budget Authority of \$60,000 is requested to fund the subsidy costs associated with these loans. The re-authorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act in October 1996 changed the program to provide direct loans rather than loan guarantees previously made under the Fishing Vessel Obligation Guarantee appropriation.

Promote and Develop Fisheries Products

The Promote and Develop Fisheries Products (PDFP) account makes grants for fisheries research and development projects. Funds are derived from a Department of Agriculture transfer to NOAA from duties on imported fisheries products. An amount equal to 30% of these duties is made available to NOAA, subject to appropriation limitations. The PDFP grants program has provided substantial assistance to address impediments in the management, development, and utilization of the Nation's living marine resources. ORF expenses related to PDFP support are reimbursed from the PDFP account.

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) was established to augment state, tribal and local programs to conserve and restore sustainable Pacific salmon populations and their habitats. The FY 2006 funds are to be used by the states of California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho and the Pacific Coastal and Columbia River Tribes to supplement state and federal programs and promote the development of federal-state-tribal-local partnerships in salmon conservation efforts. The state and tribes will use these funds for projects necessary for restoration of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or identified by a State as at-risk to be so-listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat. Funds provided to the states will have a matching requirement of at least 25% of total costs. Funds provided to Pacific Coastal and Columbia River Tribes do not require matching dollars.

Other Discretionary Funds ADJUSTMENTS TO BASE:

NOAA requests a net decrease of \$12,076,000 distributed as follows:

- A decrease of \$492,000 for the Fishermen's Contingency Fund;
- A decrease of \$1,368,000 for the Fisheries Finance Program Account;
- A decrease of \$12,000,000 for Promote and Develop Fisheries; and
- An increase of \$1,784,000 for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund.

OTHER DISCRETIONARY FUNDS PROGRAM CHANGE HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2006:

NOAA requests FY 2006 funding at \$13,060,000. The funding includes a program increase of \$60,000 in the Fisheries Finance Program Account, for an Atlantic pelagic longline swordfish buyback. Detailed numeric breakouts are located in Chapter 7, *Special Exhibits – Control Table*. Descriptions of each request by line item are located in the NOAA FY 2006 Technical Budget.

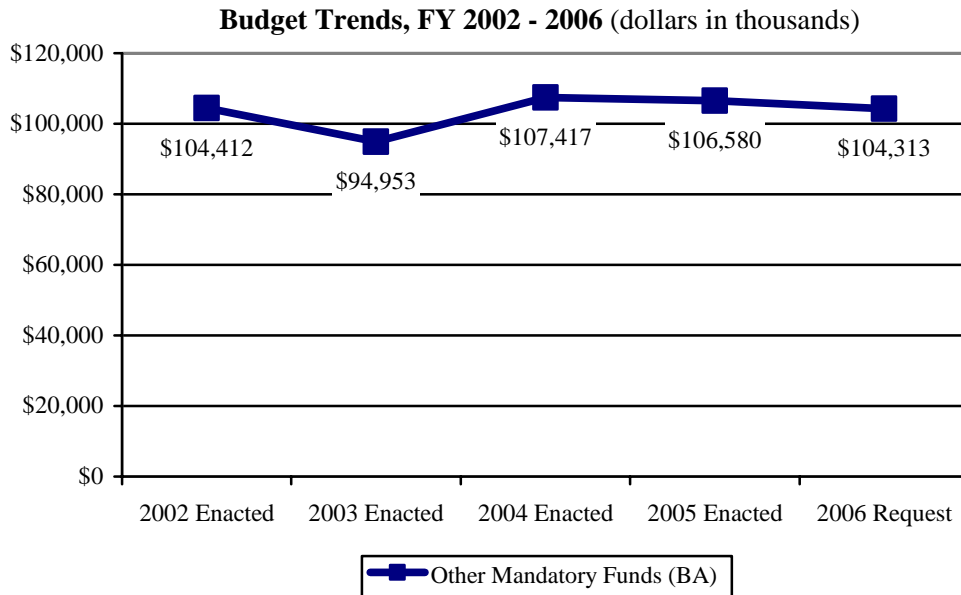


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Other Mandatory Funds

(Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Base	Program Changes	Total Request
Other Mandatory Funds				
Coastal Zone Management Fund	-\$3,000	-\$3,000	\$0	-\$3,000
Damage Assessment & Restoration Revolving Fund	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
Promote and Develop American Fisheries Products	77,539	77,539	0	77,539
Fisheries Finance Program Account	5,144	0	0	0
Environmental Improvement & Restoration Fund	4,689	6,636	0	6,636
Limited Access System Administration Fund	3,634	3,634	0	3,634
NOAA Corp Commissioned Officers Retirement	17,574	18,504	0	18,504
Total Other Mandatory Funds (Budget Authority - BA)	\$106,580	\$104,313	\$0	\$104,313
Total FTE	20	20	0	20





Other Mandatory Funds



Coastal Zone Management Fund

The Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Fund was established under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-508) to receive repayments from the coastal energy impact program. These payments are used for CZM programs and administration as authorized by section 308 of the Coastal Zone Management Act, and will offset CZM administration costs in the ORF account. In FY 2006, NOAA proposes to continue the transfer of authorized funding in the CZM Fund to the ORF account for obligation to facilitate operation of the Fund.

Damage Assessment & Restoration Revolving Fund

The Damage Assessment and Restoration Revolving Fund (DARRF) was established in 1990 to facilitate oil and hazardous material spill response, damage assessment and restoration activities for damages to natural resources for which NOAA serves as trustee. The Fund receives proceeds from claims against responsible parties, as determined through court settlements or agreements. In FY 1999 and prior years, funds were

transferred to the Operations, Research and Facilities account for the purposes of damage assessment and restoration. Beginning in FY 2000, funds were expended in DARRF and treated as mandatory budget authority. Receipts from the settlements are expected to be \$2.0 million in FY 2006.

DARRF facilitates and sustains: (1) oil and hazardous materials contingency planning and response, automated spill assessment, and countermeasure capabilities; (2) natural resource damage assessment while the Departments of Commerce and Justice seek full reimbursement from potentially responsible parties; and (3) restoration, replacement or acquisition of the equivalent of injured or lost natural resources, including resources of National Marine Sanctuaries and National Estuarine Research Reserves, tidal wetlands and other habitats, for which NOAA is trustee. To fulfill its responsibility as a Federal trustee for living natural resources under the Superfund, Clean Water, and Oil Pollution Acts, NOAA conducts comprehensive assessments of damages to trust resources from discharges of oil or releases of hazardous substances in coastal and marine areas. DARRF uses recovered damages to restore injured resources, monitors the restoration to assess its effectiveness, conducts basic and applied research on restoration methodologies, applies these techniques to restoration of resource habitats, and provides guidance to habitat managers for selecting among restoration approaches.



Oil spill cleanup and restoration

As the scientific support coordinator to the U.S. Coast Guard's Federal on-scene coordinator at coastal and marine spills of oil and hazardous materials, NOAA provides critical information on spill trajectory, chemical hazard analyses, and assessments of the sensitivity of marine and estuarine habitats. The program's substantial involvement in response activities related to the Exxon Valdez oil spill continues. The program provides similar support to the environmental hazardous waste sites in coastal areas.

Promote and Develop American Fishery Products & Research Pertaining to American Fisheries Fund

The American Fisheries Promotion Act of 1980 authorized a grants program for fisheries research and development projects to be carried out with funds derived from the import duties the Department of Agriculture collects on fishery-related products. 30 percent of these duties go towards the Promote and Develop American Fishery Products & Research Pertaining to American Fisheries Fund. The FY 2006 budget estimate is \$77.5 million. Of this amount, \$0.539 million will be used for the grants program to promote industry development through competitively-awarded external grants for innovative research and development of projects in the fishing industry and for internal research that complements the external program. The remaining \$77 million will be transferred to offset marine fishery resource programs in the Operations, Research and Facilities appropriation in FY 2006. This program supports the NOAA strategic plan goal to build sustainable fisheries.

Fisheries Finance Program Account

All Fisheries Finance Program Account (FFP) Account authority is subject to the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (FCRA) (2 U.S.C. 661). The FCRA requires estimated loan losses (FCRA cost) be appropriated in cash at the time Congress authorizes annual credit ceilings. FFP Account loan activity demonstrates that no FCRA subsidy cost need be funded in FY 2006. Statutory authority is found in 46 U.S.C. 1274 and 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq. FFP Account lending guidelines are found at Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 253, subpart B; and tempered by NOAA's sustainable fisheries policy and by the practical considerations of a program that has been self-sustaining throughout its credit history.

Environmental Improvement & Restoration Fund

The Environmental Improvement and Restoration Fund (EIRF) was established by Title IV of P.L. 105-83, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998, to fund marine research activities in the North Pacific. Twenty percent of the interest earned from this fund is made available to the Department of Commerce. The Fund issues grants to Federal, State, private or foreign organizations or individuals to conduct research activities on or relating to fisheries or marine ecosystems in the North Pacific Ocean, Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean. Research priorities and grant requests are reviewed and approved by the North Pacific Research Board with emphasis placed on cooperative research efforts designed to address pressing fishery management or marine ecosystem information needs. This program supports the NOAA strategic plan goal to sustain healthy coasts.

Limited Access System Administration Fund

The Limited Access System Administration Fund (LASAF) fund was established by Title III of Public Law 104-297. Fee Collections equaling no more than one-half percent of the proceeds from the sale or transfer of limited access system permits are deposited into the Fund. These deposits into the Fund are used to administer an exclusive central registry system for the limited access system permits.

Under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Act Section 304(d)(2)(A), NMFS must collect a fee to recover the costs of managing and enforcing the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Halibut/Sablefish program. Funds collected under this authority are deposited into the Limited Access System Administration Fund. Of the funds collected, seventy-five percent of fee payments are to be made available to the Secretary to offset costs of management and enforcement of the halibut and sablefish IFQ program and 25 percent of fees collected are to be made available for appropriation to support the North Pacific IFQ loan program.

NOAA Corp Commissioned Officers Retirement

The retirement system for the uniformed services provides a measure of financial security after release from active duty for service members and their survivors. It is an important factor in the choice of a career in the uniformed services and is mandated by Federal statutes under Title 10, United States Code. NOAA transfers retirement pay funds to the Coast Guard, which handles the payment function for retirees and annuitants. Health care funds for non-Medicare-eligible retirees, dependents, and annuitants are transferred to the U.S. Public Health Service, which administers the health care program.

OTHER MANDATORY FUNDS - ADJUSTMENTS TO BASE:

NOAA requests a net decrease of \$2,267,000 for ATBs, distributed as follows:

- A decrease of \$5,144,000 for the Fisheries Financing Program Account;
- An increase of \$1,947,000 for the Environmental Improvement and Restoration Fund; and,
- An increase of \$930,000 for NOAA Corp Commissioned Officers Retirement.

OTHER MANDATORY FUNDS - PROGRAM CHANGE HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2006:

NOAA requests total funding of \$104,313,000 in FY 2006. Detailed numeric breakouts are located in Chapter 7, *Special Exhibits –Control Table*. Descriptions of each request by line item are located in the NOAA FY 2006 Technical Budget.

There are no program changes for Other Mandatory Accounts in FY 2006.