



FY2006 Budget Highlights



NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), also known as "NOAA Fisheries," requests \$727.9 million in FY 2006, reflecting a net increase of +\$53.2M over the FY 2006 base level. This budget request supports the enhanced operations of the NOAA programs.

FY 2006 Program Changes

Protected Species Research & Management +\$2.3M: Funds will be used for protected resources research and management services, such as expanding and modernizing protected resources stock assessments.

Other Protected Species +\$5.4M: Funds will be used for recovering those species listed on the Endangered Species Act (ESA) that do not have a separate program; for example, shortnose sturgeon, Gulf sturgeon, white abalone, Johnson's seagrass, and smalltooth sawfish. Activities supported include completion of ESA section 7 consultations and implementing recovery programs. Funds will also be used to initiate pilot proactive conservation efforts for species nearing the need for listing under the ESA, to prevent additional listings.

Pacific Salmon +\$19.5M: Funds will be used for Pacific salmon research, conservation, and recovery. Specifically, these funds will be used for section 7 consultations, salmon status reviews, critical habitat designation, and recovery planning. Of this amount, \$11.0M is targeted for implementation of the Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion.

Expand Stock Assessments +\$4.6M: Funds will be used for the expansion and improvement of stock assessments to more adequately assess fish stocks around the country; thereby reducing the number of stocks with an unknown population status.

Regional Councils and Commissions +\$1.3M: Funds will be used to expand the operations of the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils in order to ensure that they can improve implementation of the many requirements of the Sustainable Fisheries Act.

Economics and Social Science +\$5.5M: Funds will be used to expand the agency's economic and social science data collection capabilities. Researchers will be able to estimate the economic impact of fishing on the local, state, and national economies, as well as assess the human impacts from and responses to management decisions.



Enforcement +\$6.4M: Funds will be used to support research and development efforts to expand the use of the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), which will provide additional, more effective surveillance and enforcement capabilities using the latest satellite technologies. This increase also will be used to address an increased caseload and to enhance enforcement agreements with States and Territories.

Observers +\$1.5M: Funds will be used to expand and modernize observer data collections. With this funding, NOAA will have observers deployed in 40 fisheries, with adequate levels of observer coverage in approximately 28 fisheries.

Fisheries Habitat Restoration: No increase from the base is requested. However, NOAA will utilize \$1.5M of base resources to establish a Great Lakes Habitat Restoration Program, emphasizing protection and restoration of NOAA trust resources within the Great Lakes.

NEPA Implementation +\$5.0M: Funds will be used to expand training and address regional and headquarters staffing needs to perform more comprehensive analyses.

NOAA FY 2006 Budget (\$ in Millions)		
	Current Program	Program Change
ORF	\$572.3	\$53.2
PAC	\$2.0	\$0.0
OTHER	\$100.4	\$0.0
TOTAL	\$674.7	\$53.2

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