

FEDERAL AGENCY FUNDING FOR CORAL REEF CONSERVATION

The Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 requires NOAA to submit to the Congress a National Action strategy that includes a statement of goals and objectives, an implementation plan, and a description of the funds obligated each fiscal year to advance coral reef conservation. Federal agencies provide funding for a wide variety of activities that directly, or indirectly, advance coral reef conservation. Federal agencies were asked to provide information on their funding that directly supported coral reef conservation activities in fiscal years 1999-2002.

The information provided by each agency for use in this report is shown in Tables 5 and 6. Tables 5 and 6 only include funding directly related to coral reef conservation activities as determined by each agency, and do not include funding for activities indirectly related to coral reef conservation. Note that these Tables will not include indirect support from federal agencies for activities related to coral reef conservation.

Table 5 shows estimates of federal funding directly related to coral reef conservation by each agency during fiscal years 1999-2002. The data suggest that from 1999-2001, overall federal funding directly related to coral reef conservation activities increased by approximately \$30 million to a total of \$90 million. Complete data were not available for 2002 from some agencies.

Table 6 shows estimates of federal funding for coral reef conservation by each of the 13 major goal areas of the strategy during fiscal years 1999-2001 (values for 2002 were not available). Table 6 allows comparison and tracking of funding levels for different goal areas over time. Total funding increased in the period from 1999 to 2001, and funding increased for some goal areas more than others (e.g., mapping, monitoring, research, marine protected areas, reducing fishing impacts). Funding for other goal areas remained about the same (e.g. understanding social/economic factors, reduce pollution, restoration, education/outreach, international activities, impacts of trade, improve coordination), or declined (reduce impacts of coastal uses).