



# NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FY 2012 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) requests a total of \$5,497.7M in FY 2012, reflecting a net increase of \$749.3M from the FY 2010 Enacted level. This budget request reflects efforts to focus on program needs, identify efficiencies, and ensure accountability. In response to the President's Administrative Efficiency Initiative, NOAA has reduced administrative costs by \$67.7 million in several areas including NOAA corporate offices and line office headquarters operations.

**Coasts:** NOAA is committed to supporting resilient coastal communities; promoting sustainable coastal economies; and protecting the productivity and diversity of coastal and marine places. The FY 2012 budget proposal includes an \$8.0M increase to create a National Working Waterfronts grant program to assist fishing dependent coastal communities. In the wake of the Deepwater Horizon incident, a further \$2.9M is provided for oil spill research and response, and \$5.0M for mapping surface current measurements important for national defense, oil spill response, search and rescue, and marine transportation. Also, a \$20.0M increase will go towards a competitive grant program to support development and implementation of priority actions identified in plans of regional ocean partnerships. Additional funds of \$6.8M will support the development of an agency-wide capability to conduct comprehensive Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP) to ensure balanced use of our oceans and coasts.

**Fisheries:** NOAA is faced with the challenge of ending overfishing and improving fisheries management. In FY 2012, NOAA proposes an additional \$15.0M to expand annual stock assessments -- the scientific basis for all of our fisheries management decisions. An increase of \$36.6M supports analysis and evaluation of new catch share programs that incentivize more effective fisheries management. Other investments include \$3.0M for improved recreational fishing surveys. The budget also seeks to close data gaps for protected species conservation, with an additional \$2.5M for critical protected resources stock assessments and another \$8.0M for Species Recovery grants.

**Research:** NOAA strives to strengthen the scientific underpinnings necessary to improve NOAA climate, weather, coastal, and ocean services. In FY 2012, NOAA will support the development of wind renewable energy by using its expertise in weather and atmospheric research to improve wind resource characterizations and forecasts. An increase of \$6.1M for ocean acidification (OA) will enhance our understanding of the impacts on our marine environments.

## NOAA FY 2012 Budget Request (\$ Millions)

	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request	FY 2012 Request vs. FY 2010 Enacted
<b>NOAA</b>	<b>\$4,748.4</b>	<b>\$4,748.4</b>	<b>\$5,497.7</b>	<b>\$749.3</b>

**Climate:** NOAA's FY 2012 request supports steps needed to improve our climate services, including establishing a Climate Service line office within the Agency on par with the National Weather Service and other line offices. NOAA needs to better understand and characterize the Nation's vulnerability to climate change. Building on the past two decades of experience, NOAA proposes a \$4.7M increase for monitoring atmospheric carbon sources and determining the distribution of fossil fuel emissions across the United States, and \$3.0M to support regional climate services.

**Weather:** Concern for public safety drives NOAA to continue to improve the timeliness and accuracy of warnings for all weather and water-related hazards. The FY 2012 budget request seeks an additional \$11.0M for NOAA's operational high performance computing to improve weather modeling. Also, an investment of \$26.9M will fund Next Generation Air Transportation (NextGen) development activities, allowing for better integration of weather information into air traffic decision-making solutions.

**Satellites:** One of the greatest challenges facing NOAA today is ensuring continuity of satellite operations to provide unbroken coverage of weather forecasts and climate measurements into the future. In FY 2012, NOAA will continue development of the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) with an increase of \$687.8M, and other satellite missions including DSCOVR (+\$47.3M), COSMIC-2 (+\$11.3M), Jason-3 (+\$33.0M), and the restoration of climate sensors (+\$30.4M). In addition, funding for GOES-R preserves the 2015 launch date and begins the acquisition of two additional satellites which will improve our ability to detect and predict severe weather events.

**Mission Critical:** The FY 2012 budget continues to provide the core infrastructure services that are essential to NOAA's mission. An additional \$11.6M is requested for priority repairs to two vessels in deteriorating condition that collect data to support scientific programs. The FY 2012 budget also includes \$9.1M in increases for IT improvements and security.