



Regional Fishery Management Councils Coordination Committee



February 25, 2014

Ms. Eileen Sobeck
Assistant Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910



Re: FY 2014 Funding Allocation to Regional Fishery Management Councils

Dear Ms. Sobeck,



Thank you for the presentation of Mr. Paul Doremus February 19, 2014 on the status of FY 2014 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) budget and current thinking on the allocation to Regional Fishery Management Councils (RFMC) at this time. As we understand the current state of spending plan development at this time, key information is as follows in terms of spendable dollars.

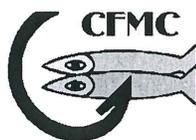


New England
Fishery Management Council

<u>Funding Category</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>	<u>FY 2014</u>
NMFS Total Budget	\$895.0 M	\$992.3 M (\$917.3 absent the \$75 M Disaster Fund)
NMFS ORF Budget	\$804.7 M	\$812.6 M
RFMC Allocation (all PPAs)	\$28.2 M	\$26.5 M



MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



Preparatory to this meeting, the RFMC were under the impression that a reasonable allocation in terms of spendable dollars would be approximately at the FY 2012 level and that agency management and administration user-costs would not be charged to RFMC in FY 2014, contingent to an in-depth discussion of the relevant issues at this meeting that was to be preparatory to FY 2015 decision-making. There are several components and ramifications of the described approach to resolve agency management and administration user-cost charges that remain unclear at this point.

The RFMC view the best barometer of Congressional intent for an RFMC

allocation of traditional line items to be the Regional Councils and Commissions line item, which was \$31.8 M in FY 2012 and \$32.0 M in FY 2014. Given this, the key partnership role the RFMC play in the NMFS core mission, and the status of the NMFS budget, the RFMC request that you reconsider the current state of spending planning to reflect an allocation of \$28.2 M in spendable dollars, reflecting stability with the FY 2012 status of funding.

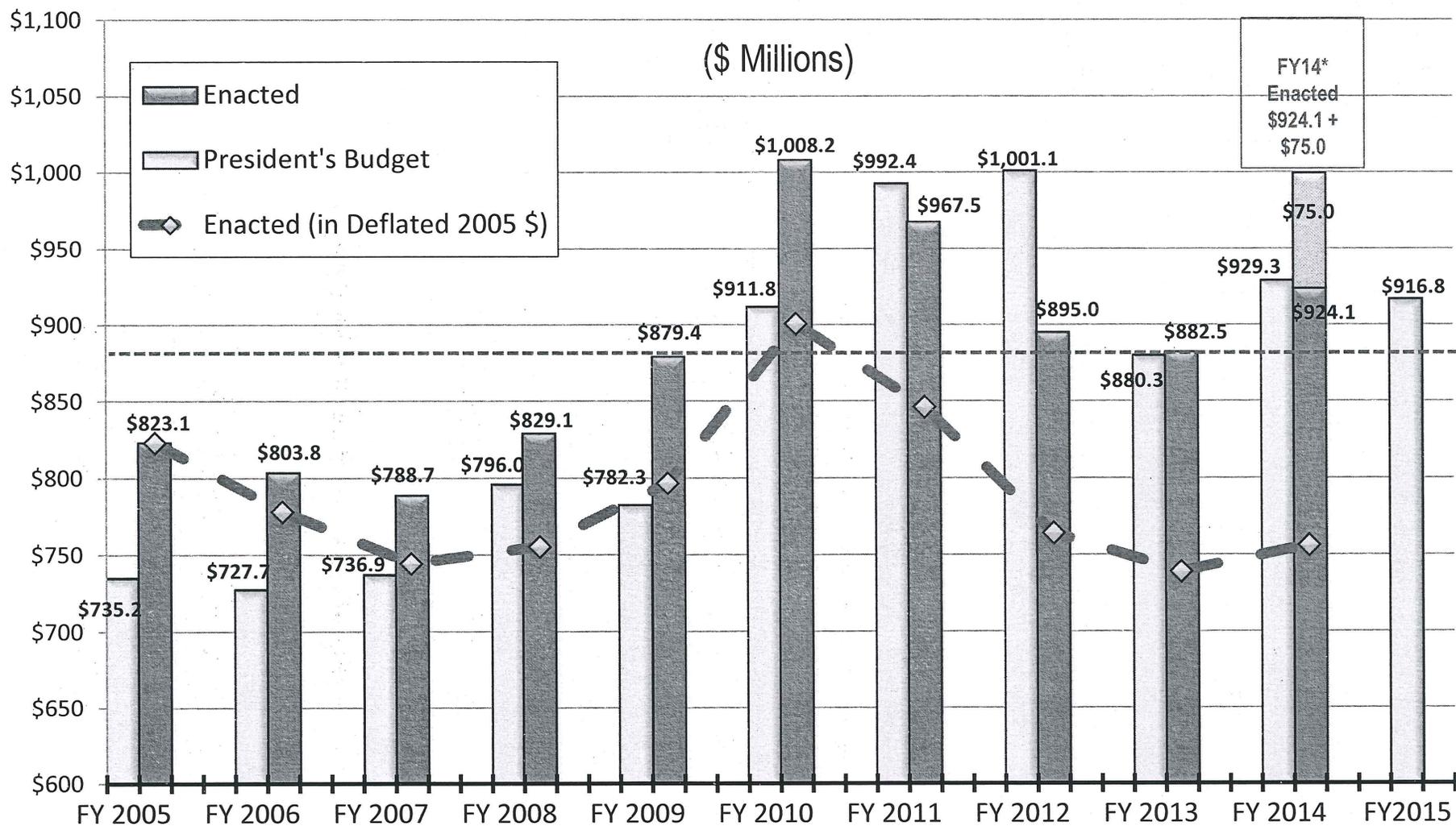
On behalf of the eight RFMC,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R B Robins, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard B. Robins, Jr.
2014 CCC Chairman

cc: RFMC Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Executive Directors
Paul Doremus
Sam Rauch
Alan Risenhoover
Emily Manashes

NOAA Fisheries Budget Trending in Right Direction



*FY 2014 Omnibus includes \$75M for the Fisheries Disaster Mitigation Fund



NOAA FISHERIES

FY 2014 Council Funding

[Estimate based on current spend plan (03/14) and is subject to change]

NMFS Funding Source	FY2012 Spend Plan	FY2013 Spend Plan	FY2014 Spend Plan Proposed	New England	Mid-Atlantic	South Atlantic	Gulf of Mexico	Caribbean	North Pacific	Pacific	Western Pacific
Regional Council PPA	\$23,317,450	\$20,861,339	\$22,542,450	\$3,302,469	\$2,862,891	\$2,423,313	\$2,919,247	\$1,544,158	\$3,528,410	\$3,307,587	\$2,654,375
National Environmental Policy Act	\$752,304	\$707,049	\$757,333	\$110,949	\$96,181	\$81,413	\$98,075	\$51,877	\$118,523	\$111,139	\$89,176
Fisheries Research and Management Program PPA:											
ACL Implementation	\$1,763,799	\$1,631,905	\$1,680,862	\$246,246	\$213,470	\$180,693	\$217,672	\$115,139	\$263,055	\$246,666	\$197,922
Regulatory Streamlining Program	\$785,371	\$765,545	\$788,511	\$115,517	\$100,141	\$84,765	\$102,112	\$54,013	\$123,402	\$115,714	\$92,847
SSC Stipends	\$497,935	\$460,705	\$474,526	\$69,518	\$60,265	\$51,012	\$61,451	\$32,505	\$74,263	\$69,637	\$55,875
Council Peer Review	\$497,935	\$460,705	\$474,526	\$71,179	\$0	\$118,631	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$142,357	\$142,358
Expand Annual Stock Assessments	\$513,299	\$455,815	\$513,299	\$0	\$0	\$483,299	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
National Catch Share Program	\$90,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 2014 Spend Plan			\$27,231,507	\$3,915,878	\$3,332,948	\$3,423,126	\$3,428,557	\$1,797,691	\$4,107,653	\$3,993,101	\$3,232,554
FY 2013 Spend Plan		\$25,343,063		\$3,647,592	\$3,102,173	\$3,170,579	\$3,189,501	\$1,673,217	\$3,822,754	\$3,722,807	\$3,014,440
FY2012 Spend Plan	\$28,218,073			\$4,137,224	\$3,443,769	\$3,522,866	\$3,541,658	\$1,857,518	\$4,243,816	\$4,128,808	\$3,342,414



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Amounts shown on this table includes reductions for M&A, 0.1% Hollings, and 0.23% reprogramming

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NMFS Budget Lines Relating to Regional Fishery Management Councils

NMFS Funding Line (\$ millions)	FY 2012 Spend Plan	FY 2013 Spend Plan	FY 2014 Spend Plan Proposed	FY 2015 Estimate	Change: FY 2015 Estimate minus FY 2014 Spend Plan
Regional Council PPA	\$23.3	\$20.9	\$22.5	\$24.4	\$1.9
National Environmental Policy Act	\$6.4	\$6.1	\$6.5	\$6.6	\$0.1
Fisheries Research and Management Programs PPA	\$178.4	\$170.5	\$174.6	\$181.8	\$7.2
Expand Annual Stock Assessments	\$63.6	\$64.0	\$68.8	\$72.2	\$3.4

Changes in Regional Council PPA subject to M&A, Hollings, and reprogramming FY15 does not yet include M&A, Hollings and any congressional rescission enacted