

Science, Service, Stewardship



NOAA Fisheries Update:

A Presentation to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

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**NATIONAL
MARINE
FISHERIES
SERVICE**

NOAA



A Milestone Year for Fisheries

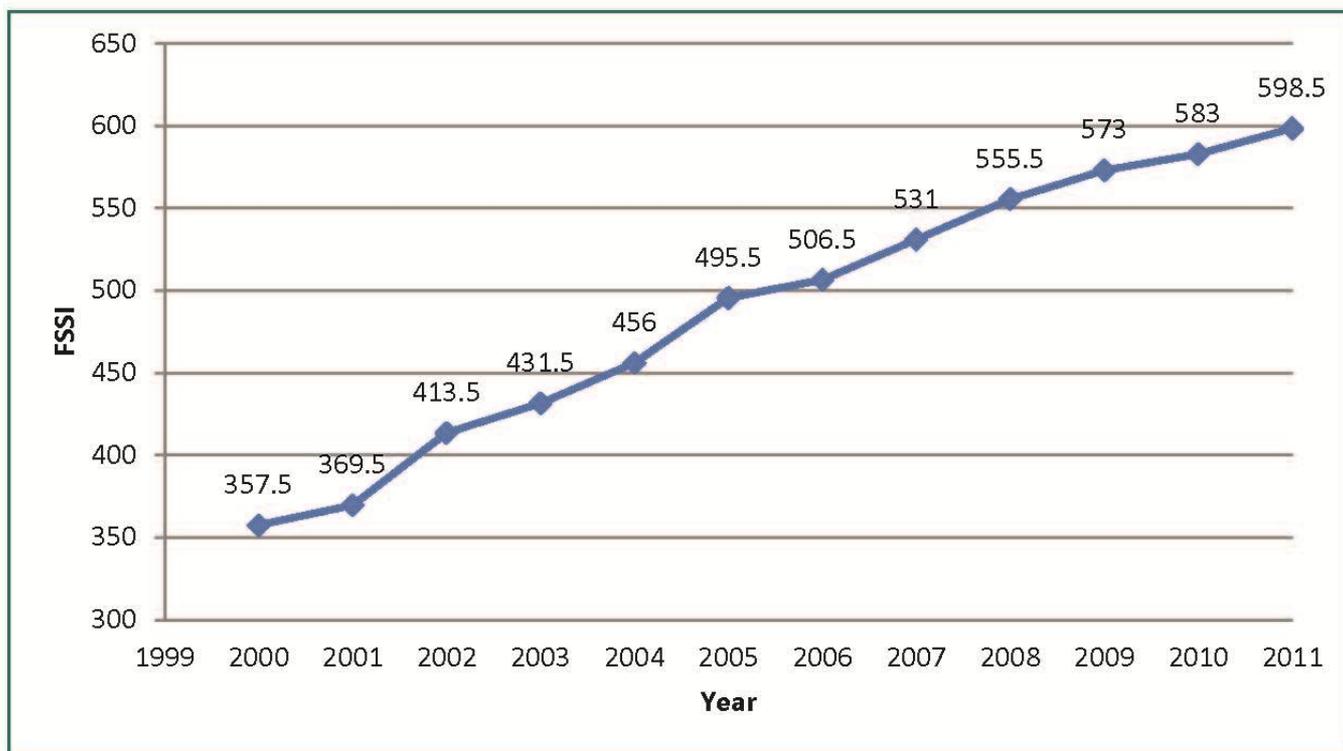
- Working together, we have accomplished much in our shared mission to have sustainable fisheries
- Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures in place in U.S.
- U.S. is become a model for international management strategies
- States, Councils must continue to be key partners to ensure success
- Turning our attention to maintaining healthy stocks and rebuilding





Stocks Steadily Rebuilding

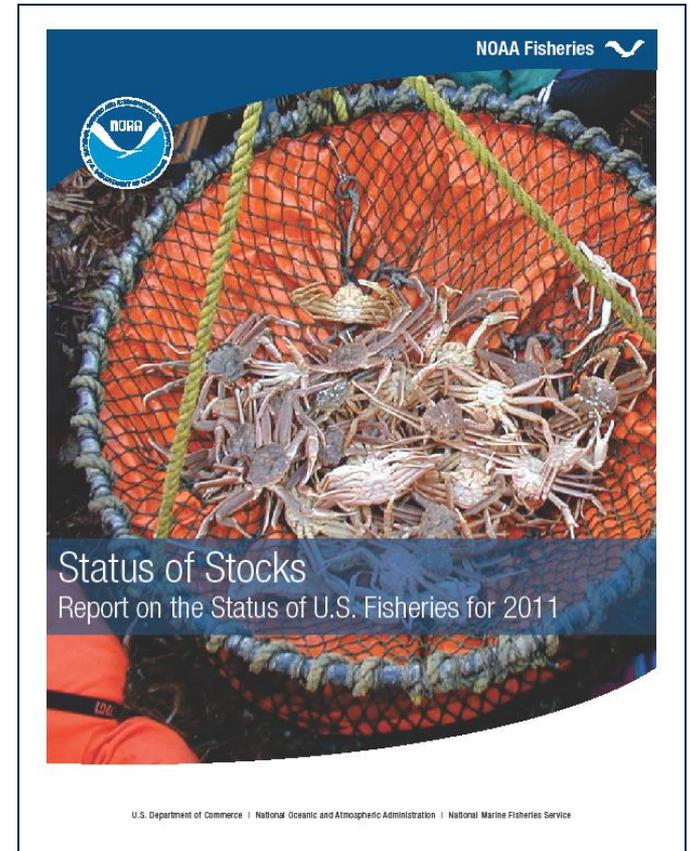
- Have rebuilt 30 stocks since 2000
- Measure increasing understanding of primary stocks, management success through the Fish Stock Sustainability Index (FSSI)





Stocks Steadily Rebuilding

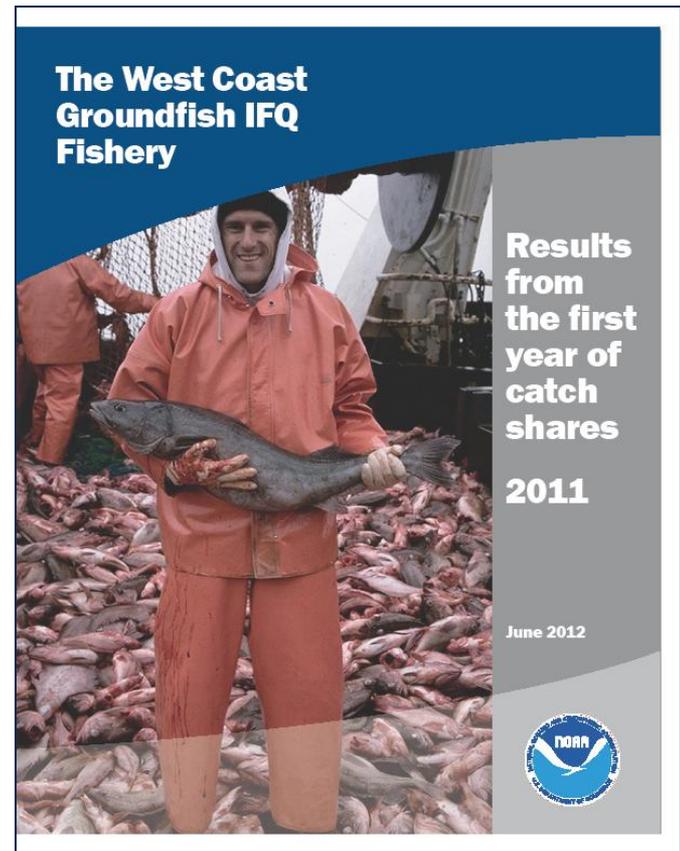
- As of June 30, 2012: 44 Overfished Stocks, 35 Stocks Subject to Overfishing, 30 Rebuilt Stocks
- The majority of our nation's fisheries are at sustainable levels and management measures are responding to overfishing when it is found to occur
- All stocks subject to overfishing have ACLs in place, but we cannot confirm overfishing has ended until the next assessment
- We are on a steady trajectory for rebuilding stocks





Initial Results Positive for West Coast Groundfish Catch Share Program

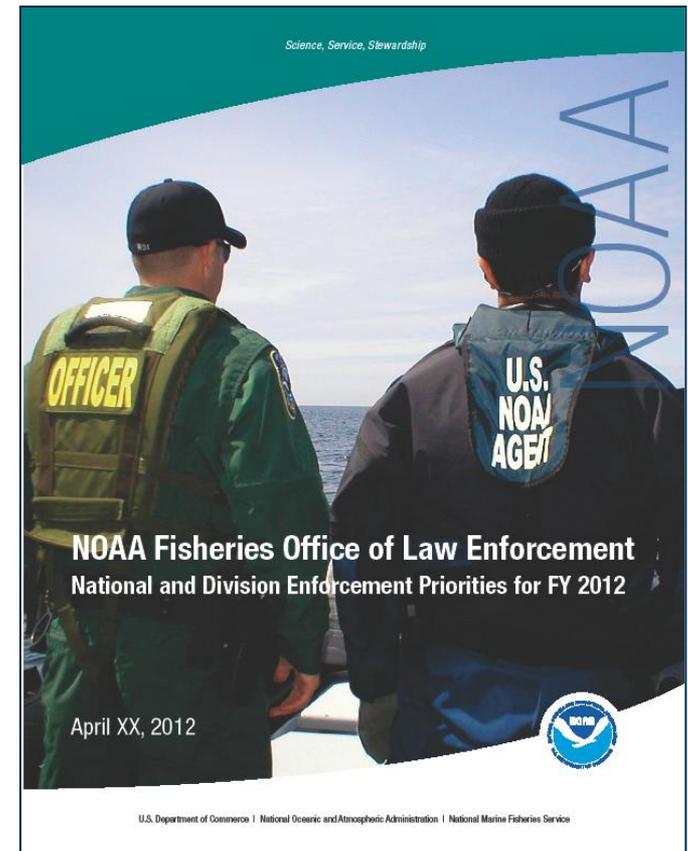
- Most participants are pleased with initial results as revenues have increased and costs appear to be declining
- Shoreside trawl fishery has reduced bycatch level
- Successful partnership with fishermen, Pacific Council, west coast states, and NOAA Fisheries





Moving Forward on Fisheries Enforcement

- Federal and state enforcement officers “Shoulder to Shoulder” in enforcing conservation measures
- West Coast Enforcement Priorities
 - Quota share deficits under the catch share program and noncompliance with trip and cumulative limits
 - Monitoring for restricted gear types in groundfish conservation areas.
 - Selling recreationally caught fish, such as halibut
 - Mislabeling of seafood imports such as king crab
 - Implementation and monitoring of tuna tracking and verification program





NOAA Launches Habitat Blueprint

- The NOAA Habitat Blueprint provides a forward-looking framework for the agency to act strategically across programs and with partner organizations to improve habitat conditions
- As a first step, NOAA began regional initiatives to explore new collaborative approaches for habitat science and conservation
- NOAA will also identify Habitat Focus Areas through collaboration with regional partners
- Partnerships are key to the implementation of NOAA's habitat approach





NOAA Projects Support Species Recovery

- We continue to focus on in protecting and recovering threatened and endangered species
- Recent successes driven by fish passage and hydro system improvements, habitat projects
 - Fish return to Elwha River in July
 - Columbia River sees highest sockeye returns in 70 years
- NOAA, EPA, State work to protect salmon from pesticides





Enhancing our Scientific Capabilities

- Fisheries is committed to delivering world-class science to support sustainable fisheries and long term ecosystem health
- Looking at advanced sampling technologies to assist with more precise surveys and assessments
- Expanded partnerships are critical to improve our understanding of marine ecosystems





West Coast Scientific Partnerships Yield Good Results

- Agency partners with industry to enhance science for valuable West Coast federal fisheries
- Pacific Hake and Sardine Survey reflects integration, efficiency; supports data needs for Pacific Council





West Coast Scientific Partnerships Yield Good Results, Cont'd

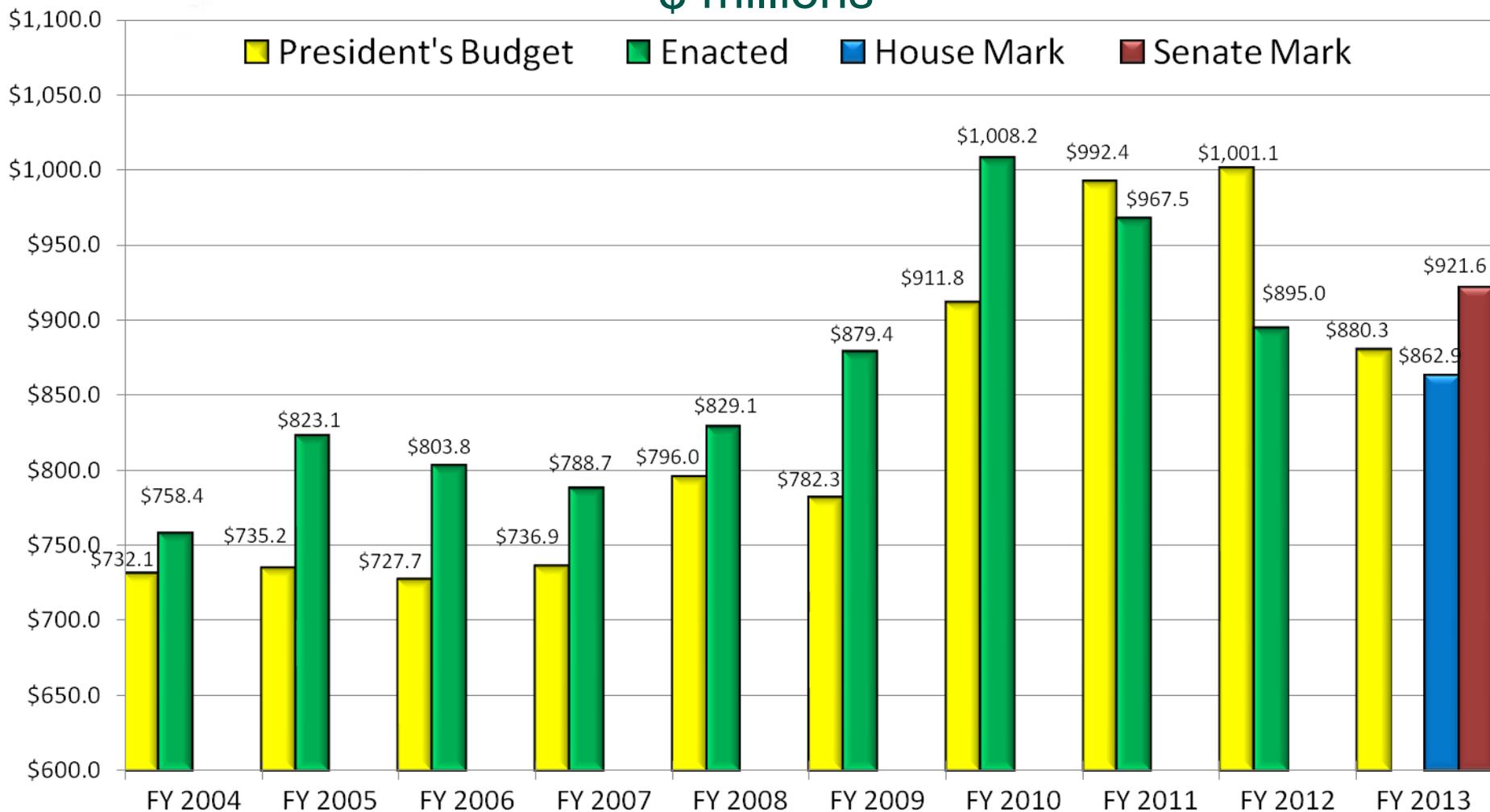
- NOAA's first Integrated Ecosystem Assessment meshed with existing management frameworks
- California Current IEA incorporates models and risk assessments into existing fisheries management decision making tools





NOAA Fisheries Budget Trends

\$ millions





Summary of FY13 House and Senate Marks

- House Mark
 - Provided \$775.4 million for ORF, which is \$32.4 million (4.0%) below the FY 2013 request and \$29.3 million (3.6%) below the FY 2012 Spend Plan
 - Prevents development or implementation of new catch shares in GOM, S. Atlantic, Mid Atlantic, and Northeast.
- Senate Mark
 - Provided \$834.1 million for ORF, which is \$26.3 million (3.3%) above the FY 2013 request and \$29.4 million (3.7%) above the FY 2012 Spend Plan



Proposed FY 2013 NMFS Budget Increases

- Expand Annual Stock Assessments: + \$4.3 M (\$68.6 M Requested)
 - House & Senate provided \$68.6 M (same as request)
- Observers: + \$2.9 M (\$43.1 M Requested)
 - House & Senate provided \$43.1 M (same as request)
- Fisheries Oceanography (IEAs): + \$5.0 M (\$7.1 M Requested)
 - House provided \$6.4 M (\$0.7 below request)
 - Senate did not fund the increase request



Proposed FY 2013 NMFS Budget Decreases

- Habitat and the Chesapeake Bay Office: -\$11.8 M
 - House: Further reduced Habitat by \$6.6M from Request, for a total of \$29.4M. Marine debris transfer not approved. NCBO reduction was accepted.
 - Senate: Provided an additional \$7.7M for Habitat, for a total of \$43.7M. Estuary Restoration Program transfer accepted, Marine Debris transfer rejected. Rejects proposed Chesapeake Bay Office reduction, provides ~\$5.1M.
- Regional Councils & Fisheries Commissions: -\$5.1 M (\$27.3 M Requested)
 - House provided \$24.6 M (\$2.7 below request)
 - Senate provided \$31.9 M (\$4.6 M over request)
- Prescott Grants: - \$3.8 M (\$0.0M requested)
 - House provided for full reduction, but recommended funding the grants in the report.
 - Senate provided \$3.9 M, same as FY 2012 level
- Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund: -\$15 M (\$50.0 M requested)
 - House & Senate did not provide requested reduction, leaving PCSRF at \$65.0 M
- The Sandy Hook Closure proposal was been rejected by the Senate; the House was silent



FY13 President's Budget Request West Coast Proposal

- Reconfigure Fisheries' Southwest and Northwest Regional Offices into a single *West Coast Regional Office*.
- Close the Pacific Grove Laboratory; that staff would be co-located with the main science divisions in Santa Cruz and La Jolla, CA
- End the Northwest Center's support for the Newport Seawater Research program at the Newport Laboratory; Northwest Center staff associated with this program would be relocated
- Eliminate the Puget Sound ecosystem survey and lay up the small vessel R/V Harold Streeter



FY 2013 Budget

- Expecting a six-month Continuing Resolution (CR) at roughly the same level as FY 2012
 - Threat of sequestration remains
- We cannot do it all - must collectively evaluate our requirements and what we can do together for collaborative state-federal management
- Need to build efficiencies through partnerships, emerging technologies, and strategic choices



Looking Ahead



- Partnerships will be key as we move ahead to resolve challenges, increase efficiency.
- Ongoing communication between the States and NOAA will ensure that our partnerships will succeed.
- Questions?