

A scenic coastal landscape featuring blue water, rocky islands, a lighthouse on a cliff, and a bird in flight. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Species Recovery Grants Program

Section 6 Workshop
Bangor, ME

July 19, 2016

Species Recovery Grants: Overview

www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/conservation/section6.htm

- **Authorized under Section 6 of the ESA (“Cooperation with States”) and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act**
- Conservation partnerships between NMFS and States are formalized by entering into agreements pursuant to section 6 of the ESA
- Grant funding supports recovery through management, research, monitoring, and outreach activities, or any combination thereof
- Eligible species include listed, candidate, and recently de-listed species

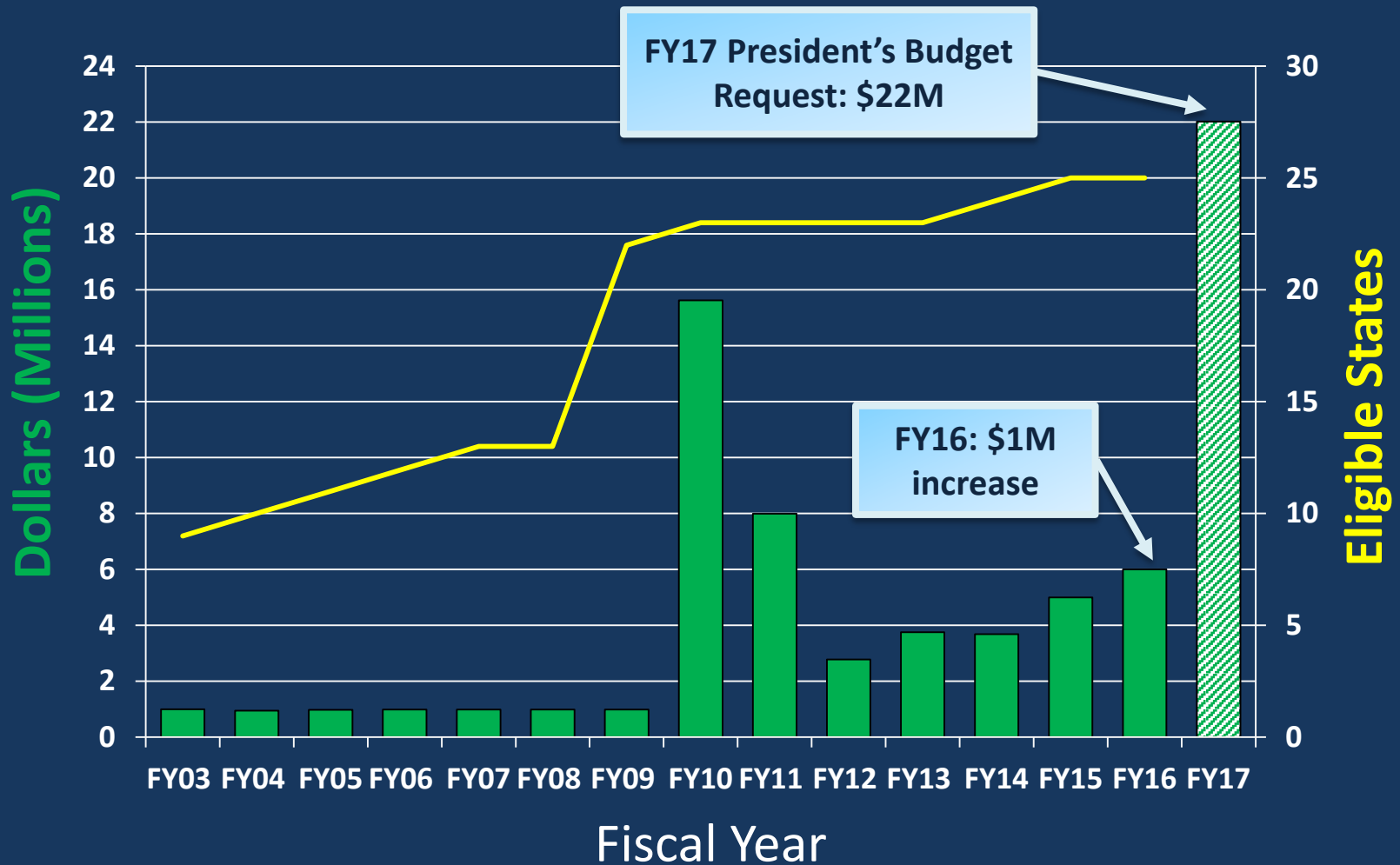


Species Recovery Grants: History

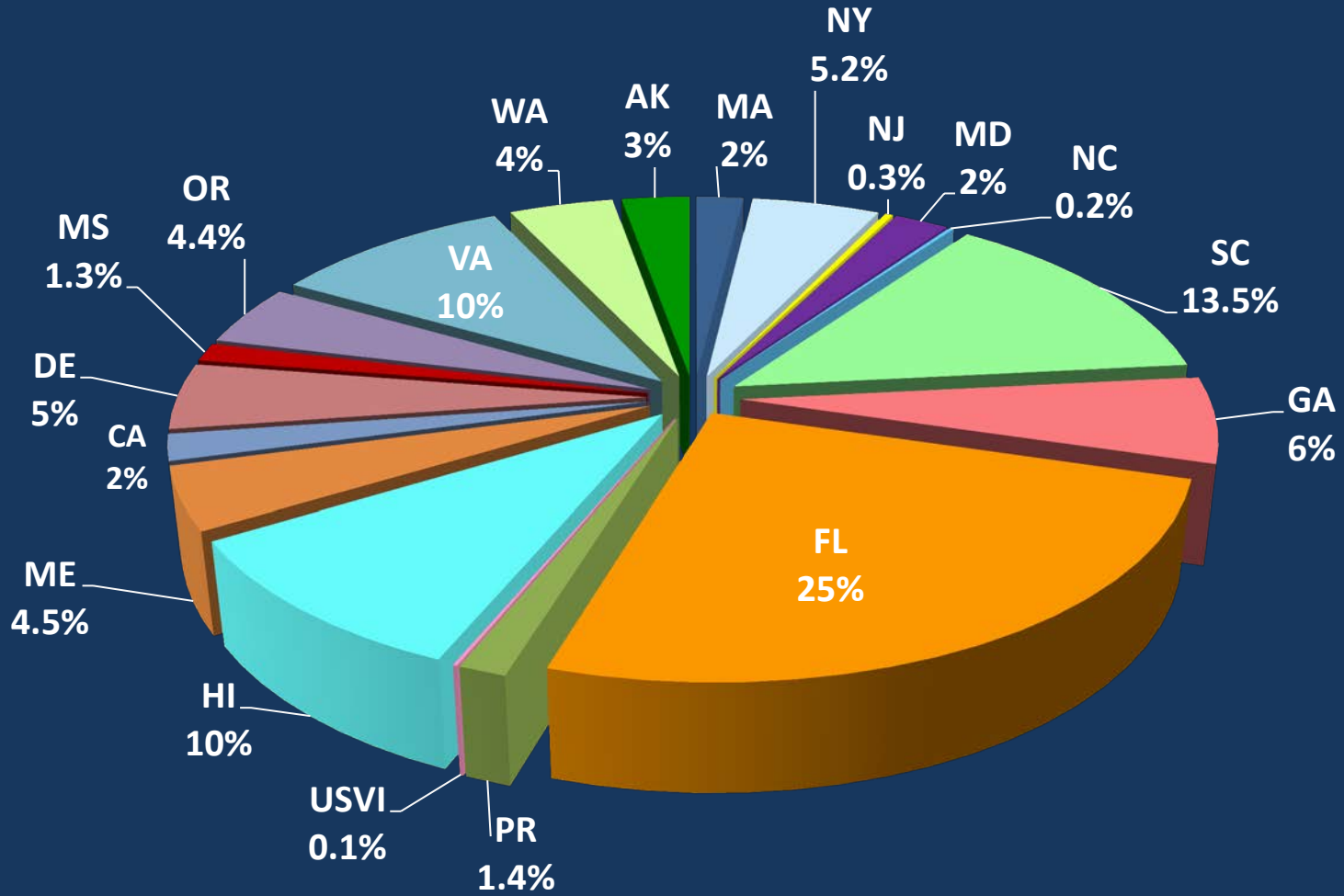
- Received dedicated funding at ~\$1M in FY03
- Level funding until FY10: funding increased to \$15.6M
 - Tribal grant program initiated
 - Number of state agreements increased – currently 25 total
- Two, annual competitive grant programs



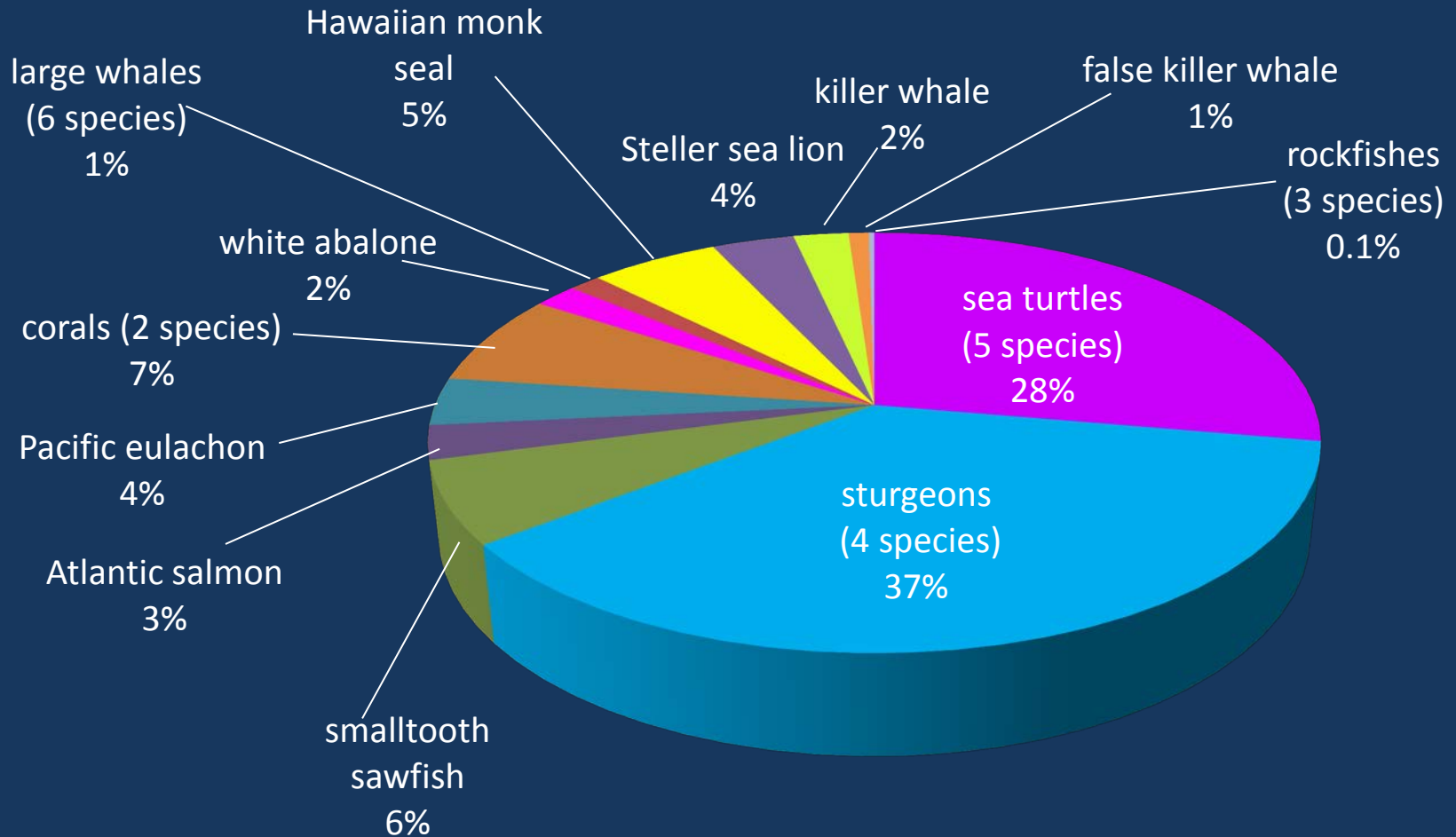
Species Recovery Grants: Funding History



Funding by State (FY03 – 15)



Funding by Species (FY03- 15)



Species Recovery Grants: Funding Priorities

- Projects addressing high priority actions in Recovery Plans – i.e., actions needed to prevent extinction
- Listed species prioritized over candidate and recently de-listed species
- “Management projects” are prioritized over ones that include research only
- New as of FY16: additional priority for proposals addressing *Species in the Spotlight*



Successful Proposals

- Will directly address a management problem or threat
examples: Captive breeding program for white abalone, derelict gear reporting retrieval program in Puget Sound

Or

- Will contribute needed data or information that will directly lead to improved management or ability to address threats
example: Characterizing and assessing the spatial and temporal overlap between insular false killer whales and state fisheries

And

- Clear and specific methods
- Clear and obtainable results or benefits



Proposal Elements

- **Title page**: project title, contact info, funding requested
- **Project summary**: may become public (300 word limit)
- **Project description** (15 page limit):
 1. Goals/objectives: *problem or issue to be addressed and why matters for the conservation of the species*
 2. Methods
 3. Benefits or results expected (300 word limit)
 4. Need for government financial assistance
 5. Federal, State, and local activities
 6. Environmental impacts
 7. Project management
- **Data Sharing Plan**(2-page limit): refer to guidance on our website
- **Budget**: cover all years, include narrative justification and explanation of costs and tables
- **Appendices** (10 page limit): e.g., CVs, maps, letters of endorsement



How Proposals are Reviewed and Evaluated

- Two stage review: peer review, then panel meeting
- All reviewers are required to apply same evaluation criteria:
 - Importance/ relevance of the proposed work to the program goals (35 points)
 - Technical/ scientific merit (30 points)
 - Overall qualifications of applicants (10 points)
 - Project costs (15 points)
 - Outreach /education (10 points)



Applicants Tools and Tips

www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/conservation/states/grant.htm

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Federal Agency Name(s): National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce

Funding Opportunity Title: Species Recovery Grants to States (Section 6 Program)

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NMFS-PRPO-2016- 2004539

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 11.472, Unallied Science Program

Dates: Applications must be postmarked, provided to a delivery service, or received by www.grants.gov **11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on October 8, 2015**. Use of a delivery service other than the one listed on www.grants.gov is not allowed when developing a proposal.

Funding Opportunity Description: This funding opportunity is for species listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) and species under

Applicants

- [Federal Funding Opportunity \[pdf\]](#)
- [FAQs](#)

Frequently Asked Questions: Species Recovery Grant Proposals and Awards

Topics

- [Non-Federal Cost Sharing or Matching](#)
- [Structuring Proposals](#)
- [Allowable Costs and Budget Requirements](#)
- [Eligibility](#)
- [Data Sharing Policy](#)
- [Other](#)

How Do I?

- [Write a Budget Narrative \[pdf\]](#)
- [Prepare a Budget Table \[pdf\]](#)

Project Budgets

Proposed budgets should...

- Address all years of proposed activities
- Show federal and non-federal costs separately
- Round to nearest dollar!

New awards...

- Can include up to 3-years worth of funding
- Will be funded in 12-month increments
- Have no upper or lower funding limits - however, federal funding request over \$300K per year are not encouraged in FY17
- Have no limit on negotiated indirect cost rates



Cost Sharing

- Requirement: 25% of total or 10% of total costs if multi-state

“...the Federal share of such program costs shall not exceed 75 percent of the estimated program cost stated in the agreement; and the Federal share may be increased to 90% whenever two or more States having a common interest in one or more endangered or threatened species, the conservation of which may be enhanced by cooperation of such States, enter jointly into an agreement with the Secretary.”

- Must be non-federal and guaranteed
- Can include in-kind contributions
 - e.g., donated or volunteer services, equipment, buildings



Partnering

- Partners can be any entity! (academic, international, non-profit, other states, etc.)
- Partners can contribute to the non-federal cost share
- Multi-state proposals: two methods for applying



Annual Grant Cycle

- **Late summer**: Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) posted to www.Grants.gov
- **Early fall**: Proposal deadline – 80 days after FFO posts
- **Fall**: Proposals screened for eligibility and required elements; reviewers solicited and assigned; proposals undergo merit review
- **Winter**: Review panel convened; funding recommendations made
- **Late winter/spring**: Pre-award negotiations with recommended applicants; any revisions to paperwork completed
- **Spring**: Completion of required environmental and legal reviews; submission of award files to NOAA Grants Management Division (GMD)
- **April-June (1-3 months)**: Awards finalized by GMD Grants Official



Species Recovery Grants to Tribes

www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/conservation/tribes.htm

- Funding priorities same as for state grants
- Annual grant cycle similar to state program
- All Federally recognized tribes eligible
- No match requirement

- Program Coordinator: Heather Coll (Heather.Coll@noaa.gov)
- Regional liaison: Ellen Keane (Ellen.Keane@noaa.gov)

*** Expect FY2017 FFO ~ August 2017*



Questions?

FOR MORE INFO:

Section 6 Program:

www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/conservation/states/index.htm

Tribal grants:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/conservation/tribes.htm>

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NOAA FISHERIES