

Proposed Appropriation Language

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses for international fisheries commissions, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by law, \$31,291,000: Provided, That the United States share of such expenses may be advanced to the respective commissions pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3324.

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Resource Summary

(\$ in thousands)

Appropriations	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
Funds	53,976	53,976	31,291

Program Description

The International Fisheries Commissions (IFC) appropriation supports the Department's strategic goals of securing a sustainable global environment and ensuring economic prosperity and security by funding U.S. shares of operating expenses for ten international fisheries commissions and organizations, the International Whaling Commission, two international marine science organizations, the Antarctic Treaty, and international sea turtle and shark conservation initiatives. In most cases, U.S. contributions are mandated by treaty; failure to meet assessments results in loss of voting rights or influence within the commissions. The appropriation also provides for travel expenses of the U.S. commissioners and their advisors, as well as compensation to non-government employees of the Pacific Salmon Commission for days actually worked as U.S. commissioners, panel members, advisors, and/or alternates.

The commissions funded by this appropriation were established by treaties and agreements negotiated by the U.S. and ratified by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The U.S. entered into these treaties to protect its access to shared international fisheries resources and to support other vital economic and environmental interests.

Recent developments have underscored the importance of working through the commissions and programs funded by this account to conserve and manage finite and vulnerable shared marine resources. The recently re-authorized Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act lays out a specific new mandate for the U.S. to work multilaterally to address illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing and by-catch of protected living marine resources. It specifically calls on the U.S. to promote improved monitoring, control, and surveillance for high seas and shared fisheries; improve the effectiveness of international fisheries governance through adoption of IUU vessel lists, stronger port state controls, and market-related measures; and build capacity in other countries to ensure sustainable fisheries and regulatory enforcement. The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, worked with other countries and international organizations to establish rules based on sound science to enhance sustainable fishing practices and eliminate unregulated destructive fishing practices that jeopardize fish stocks and the habitats that support them. The Regional Fishery Management Organizations and other cooperative arrangements funded by this account are the primary means of achieving each of these goals.

The commissions and organizations funded by this appropriation enable the U.S. to promote critical U.S. economic and conservation interests. Each facilitates international cooperation by conducting or coordinating scientific studies of fish stocks and other living marine resources and establishing common management measures to be implemented by member governments based on their results. Many also oversee the allocation of member nations' fishing rights.

Three of the commissions are bilateral U.S.-Canada bodies established by treaties governing shared resources.

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The Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) plays a critical role in the management of the Great Lakes fisheries. The FY 2012 submission reflects the funds necessary to continue programs to implement the core missions of the GLFC — to suppress invasive, parasitic sea lamprey; to assist state, provincial, and tribal partners in the achievement of their fish community objectives for the Great Lakes; to facilitate the effective and efficient coordination of fisheries policies on the Great Lakes; and to implement a bi-national fisheries research program. FY 2012 activities will include sea lamprey control to reach target levels that protect the commercial and sport fisheries on all the lakes, valued at up to \$7 billion annually, as well as coordinated efforts to prevent other invasive species and restore populations of native fish such as American eels. The GLFC has traditionally relied on chemical lampricide to control sea lamprey, but in recent years the Commission has researched and advanced the use of alternative controls, including barriers to lamprey migration and sterilization of male lampreys. In FY 2012, the GLFC intends to continue efforts to deliver 50 percent of sea lamprey control through the use of alternatives. To help reach that goal, the commission currently directs approximately 30 percent of its sea lamprey budget to controls using alternative techniques. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission is a model for adherence to performance measures, as it establishes and articulates clear and quantitative targets for sea lamprey control and other program elements and prioritizes its program to meet those targets. The U.S. and Canada share proportional responsibility for funding sea lamprey control programs.

The Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) conducts activities necessary to conserve, rebuild, and share the salmon resources in the Pacific Northwest and Southeast Alaska with Canada. Through the Commission, the two nations have put an end to divisive disputes over one country's interceptions of salmon originating in the other country. The Commission also provides an effective forum in which governments and stakeholders cooperate to research and conserve Pacific salmon. This has recently led to renegotiated fishery regulations for most Pacific salmon fisheries that will extend until 2018. The Commission's conservation and management activities depend on information and recommendations from each country and from experts and resource managers from state/provincial, federal and tribal agencies in the U.S. and Canada. Recent research priorities have focused on improved understanding of the migratory patterns of salmon stocks and where, when, and by whom the fish are caught; this information is essential for the countries to properly allocate and conserve salmon stocks. This appropriation provides for salary payments to non-government U.S. individuals serving as commissioners, panel members, and/or alternates for hours spent in their Commission duties. Travel and expenses of U.S. commissioners and other U.S. participants in the PSC are also funded from this activity. In 2012, Treaty provisions for Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon conservation and harvest sharing will be renewed.

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC), founded in 1923, is one of the most successful fisheries management commissions in the world. Throughout its existence, the IPHC has facilitated unprecedented cooperation between the U.S. and Canada and has successfully managed the shared halibut stock to high biomass levels. The Pacific halibut fishery is diversified over coastal communities from northern California, past the Aleutian Islands in Alaska, to the eastern shore of the Bering Sea, and yields an annual catch for the U.S. with a 2007 retail value of over \$600 million. Additional revenues generated from extensive guided and recreational fishing on the halibut resource exceed \$200 million. Both the U.S. and Canadian Governments provide funds to support the Commission, which conducts research to further understanding of Pacific halibut, and provides a forum to establish joint catch limits and management measures. The IPHC treaty and U.S. law require the U.S. to provide headquarters for the Commission, but a 40-year office space arrangement with the University of Washington expired recently.

This appropriation also funds seven multilateral commissions charged with conservation and management of important fish stocks and other living marine resources in the Pacific, Atlantic and Southern Oceans.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

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(ICCAT) each provide a forum for nations to cooperate to ensure the long-term sustainable management of tuna and tuna-like species. Through each of these commissions, coastal and fishing nations cooperate to establish catch limits, area closures, gear restrictions, and compliance and enforcement mechanisms; combat illegal fishing; minimize impacts on threatened species such as sea turtles, seabirds, and sharks; and oversee a program of scientific research. In addition, through the International Dolphin Conservation Program, the IATTC is also the only international organization dedicated to reducing incidental mortality of dolphins in a tuna purse-seine fishery. The program's efforts have resulted in a reduction of dolphin mortality in the eastern Pacific tuna fishery from approximately 100,000 animals in 1989 to less than 2,000 in recent years, well below the target levels.

The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) and the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) are charged with conservation of salmon and other anadromous stocks in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans respectively. A key part of the NPAFC's mission is to enforce an agreed prohibition on catching salmon on the high seas through coordinated enforcement. U.S. membership in the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) ensures the restoration of the world's largest untapped source of marine protein and aids in protecting future U.S. access to important marine resources in the Antarctic region. CCAMLR has implemented a pioneering ecosystem approach to managing valuable stocks of toothfish, sold in the U.S. as "Chilean seabass" and has been a leader in developing innovative approaches to combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) allows coastal nations, including the U.S., and others who fish in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean to coordinate scientific study and promote the conservation and optimum use of the region's fishery resources. In FY 2010, NAFO completed the final stage of a comprehensive program to strengthen and modernize the organization's functioning, including a total overhaul of its establishing treaty that will significantly reduce the cost of U.S. participation. The U.S. has led efforts within NAFO to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems and end destructive fishing practices, as well as adopt the first binding international conservation and management measures for threatened shark stocks.

Finally, this appropriation also supports two marine science organizations, the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat (ATS), and activities to conserve migratory sharks and endangered sea turtles. The Atlantic-focused International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES) and its Pacific counterpart, the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), promote and coordinate scientific research, particularly with respect to fisheries, marine ecosystems, marine mammals, and marine pollution. Both organizations advance U.S. goals of strengthening ecosystem considerations in marine resource management and ensuring that science informs environmental policy and natural resources management. The IWC provides for the conservation, scientific study, and optimum use of whales, and in particular provides a quota for the taking of whales by U.S. Natives for aboriginal subsistence purposes. The IWC has had several significant achievements that advance U.S. environmental interests, such as severe constraints on commercial whaling, critical analyses of unilateral whaling activities in other countries, and the establishment of whale sanctuaries in the Southern and Indian Oceans. The ATS oversees scientific and environmental cooperation in Antarctica and specifically addresses problems involving the marine environment, marine protected areas, and the sea and ice interface. The funds in the appropriation allocated to international sea turtle conservation programs support U.S. participation in one treaty-based initiative, the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention (IASTC), and the non-binding Indian Ocean and South East Asia Sea Turtle Memorandum of Understanding (IOSEA MOU). Both initiatives provide a unique forum for nations in the respective regions to cooperate to promote the recovery of endangered sea turtle populations and their habitats throughout their migratory ranges.

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Justification of Request

The FY 2012 request of \$31.3 million is a decrease of \$22.7 million from the FY 2010 Actual level, and reflects \$24.5 million in non-recurred funds and an increase of \$1.8 million in other assessments. Non-recurred funds include \$15 million for the completion of the Pacific Salmon Special Assessment and \$9.5 million for the completion of a Great Lakes Fishery Commission research project. The FY 2012 request covers the United States' treaty-mandated assessments and other expenses related to the commissions. Funds are required to maintain good standing, and in some cases voting privileges, in each of the commissions and organizations to advance the interests of the U.S. and important constituent groups. Through the ongoing efforts of the commissions and programs funded by this account, many fishing areas that were nearly depleted are now yielding sustainable catches for U.S. commercial and sport fishermen, and some key endangered populations are recovering. The commercial and recreational fisheries managed by these organizations generate income from \$12 to \$15 billion annually in the U.S.

Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	1,998

Overall, U.S. payments to the IATTC remain near half of what they were in FY 1999. This reduction has been coupled with successful efforts by the Department to encourage new members to join the IATTC and to negotiate increased contributions from the other members of the Commission. These new contributions have compensated for the reduced U.S. payment while allowing the Commission to handle the additional workload placed on it by its members. In addition to the extensive workload associated with the implementation of the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP), the Commission has also been tasked by its members to expand its research into minimizing the by-catch of juvenile tuna and non-target species, such as sharks and sea turtles, improve its monitoring and recording of fish landings at ports throughout the eastern Pacific, augment its research program for bigeye tuna, and improve compliance. The request will enable the IATTC to continue the research, assessment and analysis activities and programs necessary to conserve and manage the commercial tuna stocks of the eastern Pacific Ocean and to evaluate and manage the impacts of the fishery on the broader marine ecosystem of the eastern Pacific, contributing to the IATTC's and the Department's objectives of sustainable use of marine resources and ecosystem management. In FY 2012 the IATTC will conclude the third and final year of its second long-term conservation and management regime for the stocks under its jurisdiction, and will review and make decisions on continuing such a program in FY 2012 and beyond. The Commission will also conduct further research on the stocks of dolphins taken in conjunction with tuna and will continue to administer the IDCP to reduce and, to the extent possible, eliminate dolphin mortality in the fishery, a priority objective of the U.S. Government and constituent groups. With the entry into force of the Antigua Convention in FY 2010, the Commission will be re-negotiating the formula used to determine assessed contributions. The U.S. priority for this exercise is to maintain the relative share for the U.S. while ensuring the Commission staff have the resources necessary to accomplish the objectives of the Commission.

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Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	18,700

FY 2012 activities will include sea lamprey control to reach target levels that protect the valuable fisheries in all the lakes, enhanced stream treatments to provide the maximum control without expanding infrastructure, and maximum suppression of lamprey on the St. Mary's River. The proposed funding provides for baseline research and assessment programs regarding the sources of lamprey and the success of treatment options. The FY 2012 program will fund continued research into and deployment of alternative controls and to continue efforts to reduce lampricide used in the Great Lakes beyond the 35 percent reduction achieved by 2006, while still delivering successful sea lamprey control. The request will allow the GLFC to continue its work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct barriers that block sea lamprey from spawning in streams, continue existing highly successful sterile-male release activities, and support some field studies critical to the development of the newest alternative control method – pheromones.

Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	3,250

The FY 2011 request included a one-time \$60,000 reduction in funding for the Pacific Salmon Commission. Unexpected and beneficial changes in the Canadian dollar exchange rate allowed the Commission to fund activities in 2009 that resulted in a lower assessment in FY 2011. As noted then, this situation is not expected to continue in FY 2012, and the current request parallels those from previous years. The funds will be used for fisheries research and management demands placed on the PSC and negotiations for a key treaty regime governing Fraser River fisheries. Decisions made by the Pacific Salmon Commission affect where, when, and by whom valuable Pacific salmon resources are caught, and involve input from state, tribal, and Federal stakeholders. IFC funding provides for compensation to non-governmental U.S. commissioners, panel members, and alternates while conducting PSC duties and for travel and expenses of U.S. participants as per the Pacific Salmon Treaty Act. IFC funding also is used to fund the operations of the U.S. section of the PSC, and for meeting the U.S. share of joint expenses for the PSC Secretariat.

International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	4,500

The request would allow the IPHC to continue vital research on and management of Pacific halibut, a resource that contributes \$700 million per year in fisheries activity to the U.S. economy. Base funding for the IPHC provides for annual stock assessment and recommendation of catch limits for Canada and the U.S. Examples of core activities include 1) monitoring harvest in commercial, sport, and bycatch fisheries; 2) scientific surveys to determine the abundance and distribution of halibut stocks; and 3) research into the population structure of halibut to determine the correct management framework for the species. FY 2012 funding includes non-assessed operational costs of the IPHC that are solely the responsibility of the U.S., and separate from the regular contributions assessed to Canada and the U.S. as

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members of the IPHC; which helps the U.S. meet treaty and statutory obligations to provide headquarters facilities for the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC).

A 1968 Federal grant agreement provided funds to the University of Washington (UW) to construct a multi-purpose campus building and to house the IPHC rent-free there at least until 2009. The university now has a need for the space occupied by the IPHC; the Department and UW have been working together to relocate the IPHC headquarters and identify long-term office space for the Commission. The IPHC recently relocated from the UW campus of the University of Washington (UW) to leased space in Seattle. To expedite the move, the University pledged to pay for relocation, build-out of new rented space, and interim lease payments.

The increase of approximately \$1,250,000 for FY 2012 will pay for the U.S. share of new costs in four areas: 1) increased expenses in conducting the Commission's annual stock assessment survey; 2) initiation of a pilot study to compare cost effectiveness and efficiency of alternative baits for research catches; 3) purchase and deployment of next-generation tags and receivers for tracking movement of halibut between Canada and the U.S. (which impacts yield allocation between the two countries); and, 4) address U.S. treaty obligations to provide IPHC headquarters facilities which is the current lease expenses and an examination of cost-efficient space for the Commission offices to occupy in the long-term.

Other Marine Conservation Organizations

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	2,843

The FY 2012 request will cover other fishery commissions and organizations and expenses of the U.S. commissioners. For all but a portion of the funds that go to International Sea Turtle Conservation Programs and the International Shark Conservation Program, U.S. payments reflect the treaty-mandated share of each organization's agreed operating budget and in most cases, requested increases are limited to inflationary and exchange-rate adjustments.

Antarctic Treaty

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	67

The FY 2012 request of \$66,500 reflects the expected contribution amount for the Antarctic Treaty System. It includes the increase in dues associated with the October 2009 entry into force of the Measure formally establishing the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat and providing for shared funding of the costs of Consultative Meetings, including increases in translation and interpretation costs. The Secretariat carries out numerous administrative tasks in support of the annual meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties. The Treaty System oversees scientific and environmental cooperation in Antarctica and specifically addresses problems involving the marine environment, marine protected areas, and the sea and ice interface. As such, the work of the Secretariat relates directly to the work of other organizations covered by this appropriation, including the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), a sister organization under the Antarctic Treaty System.

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Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	117

The request will provide CCAMLR with funding sufficient to develop and implement measures to ensure effective conservation and management of Antarctic marine living resources based on a pioneering ecosystem approach. In FY 2012, the U.S. will work to advance efforts through CCAMLR to eliminate illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and implement the recommendations of the recently completed independent review of CCAMLR's performance. Membership in this Commission, which is headquartered in Australia, ensures the restoration of the world's largest untapped source of marine protein and aids in protecting future U.S. access to important marine resources in the Antarctic region.

Expenses of the U.S. Commissioners

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	180

The U.S. commissioners to the various fisheries commissions are appointed by the President and are responsible to the Secretary of State in carrying out their duties. They receive transportation expenses and per diem while engaged in the commissions' work. The FY 2012 request will fund travel expenses for the U.S. commissioners to participate in meetings of all fishery commissions except the Pacific Salmon Commission, which is covered within the funds requested for that Commission.

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	325

ICCAT's mission is to coordinate management of populations of tuna and tuna-like species found in the Atlantic Ocean at levels that will permit the maximum sustainable catch. The Commission provides a forum for fishing nations to establish catch limits and national allocations and combat illegal fishing, and oversees a program of research on tuna, swordfish, and billfish. In FY 2012, the U.S. will continue to work within ICCAT to implement effective, science-based measures to rebuild seriously depleted Atlantic bluefin tuna stocks and to enforce stronger measures for the protection and conservation of Atlantic shark populations. The U.S. will also work to advance an ongoing initiative to strengthen ICCAT's functioning, in particular through key improvements recommended by the independent performance review of ICCAT that occurred in FY 2008 and FY 2009. The FY 2012 request will fund increased costs associated to a larger role by ICCAT in coordinating fisheries monitoring and control and the addition of a new focus on doing more to minimize bycatch of vulnerable non-target species in ICCAT fisheries. The request will also support the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Research Program, a multi-year program in addition to regular budgetary items intended to improve the conservation and management of this vital fishery. Commercial U.S. fisheries under ICCAT purview are worth more than \$500 million annually; revenue from recreational fisheries for Atlantic marlin and other billfish alone are estimated at more than \$10 billion each year.

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International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	268

The FY 2012 request will enable ICES to promote and coordinate research and investigation of the North Atlantic Ocean, particularly focusing on fisheries, as well as ecosystem management, marine mammals, and marine pollution. ICES plans programs; organizes research and investigation as determined necessary, in agreement with member nations; supports approximately one hundred intersessional meetings of scientific and advisory working groups and study groups to coordinate and synthesize this research; and publishes or encourages the publication of data and research resulting from investigations carried out under its auspices. In FY 2012, ICES will work to implement recommendations to improve organizational efficacy and efficiency that grew out of a major review and revision of the relationship between the scientific and advisory branches of the organization in FY 2008. ICES is also seeking to further broaden the relevance of its research and scientific participation beyond its traditional products that focused on fisheries. ICES advances U.S. goals of strengthening ecosystem considerations in marine resource management and ensuring that science informs environmental policy. ICES will continue to provide scientific advice to its member nations, the European Community, regional fisheries management organizations, and other international organizations.

International Sea Turtle Conservation Programs

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	173

The FY 2012 request of \$173,400 will support International Sea Turtle Conservation Programs associated with the Inter-American Convention for Sea Turtles (IAC) and the Indian Ocean and South East Asia Sea Turtle Memorandum of Understanding (IOSEA MOU). The U.S. is a Party to the IAC, and is a signatory of the IOSEA MOU. Following the relocation of the IAC interim Secretariat to the U.S., regional participation in the Convention and associated project development has significantly increased. In addition to further engaging the Caribbean, IAC will finalize mechanisms to share technologies to reduce sea turtle interactions with fishing gear, such as improvements to turtle excluder devices (TEDs), and will assist developing countries sustainably manage traditional utilization of sea turtles. The IOSEA MOU region is currently engaged in a variety of economic development projects. IOSEA will work to ensure port and coastal development and extraction of natural resources take into account environmental concerns, sea turtles in particular. Under the IOSEA MOU, a Site Network is being developed to give special status to habitats identified as critical to sea turtles, and is seeking cost effective means of evaluating and reducing light pollution on nesting beaches to improve survival of turtle hatchlings.

International Shark Conservation Program

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	100

This is a new request intended to support international efforts to conserve and protect migratory sharks through the recently adopted Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (MOU). The request would support the functioning of the interim secretariat of the newly-negotiated MOU, housed within the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species, and any other costs for

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implementation of the MOU regarding international cooperation on shark conservation. The MOU represents a mechanism to achieve U.S. policy objectives and the requested funding will allow it to be fully operational and effective as an international framework.

International Whaling Commission (IWC)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	200

This request assumes that a previously forecast assessment increase for all large economies in the IWC membership will not be adopted for FY 2012, although it is still possible in future years. The U.S. remains vigilant on this issue since a simple majority vote controls budgetary decisions in the deeply divided organization, and the U.S. will lose its voting rights in the IWC if its full assessment is not paid. Funding for the IWC provides for the conservation, scientific study, and optimum use of whales, and in particular provides a quota for the taking of whales by U.S. Natives for aboriginal subsistence purposes. The IWC and its associated committees collect and analyze information on the status and trends of whale stocks, evaluate the effects of whaling, and develop conservation strategies for numerous whale species. The IWC has had several significant achievements that advance U.S. environmental interests, such as adoption of the moratorium on commercial whaling, critical analyses of unilateral whaling activities in other countries, the establishment of whale sanctuaries in the Southern and Indian Oceans, and the establishment of a Conservation Committee.

North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	55

NASCO promotes the conservation, restoration, enhancement, and rational management of salmon stocks in the North Atlantic Ocean through international cooperation, as well as the acquisition, analysis, and dissemination of scientific information pertaining to these salmon stocks. NASCO has completed an in-depth review of its working methods and structure, and in 2006 adopted a series of reforms designed to improve transparency and accountability. In FY 2012, NASCO will act as a forum for information-sharing on the status of salmon stocks and the challenges facing salmon management and will continue to develop partnerships to promote salmon conservation, management, and research. This request will ensure the U.S. remains in good standing in NASCO, will be able to shape the implementation of new reporting requirements to ensure accountability of members, and help the organization meet key strategic goals to restore salmon stocks and improve international governance.

North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	187

NPAFC activities help manage and preserve anadromous and ecologically-related species in the North Pacific and Central Bering Sea. Anadromous fish, such as salmon, spend their adult lives in the oceans but return to freshwater to spawn. The NPAFC treaty mandates a prohibition on fishing for anadromous stocks on the high seas of the North Pacific, and thereby provides a valuable tool to deter the use of large-scale driftnets in that region, and significantly contributes to the U.S. goal of achieving sustainable coastal

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fisheries. The NPAFC also promotes and coordinates scientific studies on anadromous stocks, the results of which can help minimize the incidental catch of valuable anadromous stocks in other fisheries. Additionally, the Parties to the Convention — the U.S., Canada, Russia, Japan, and Korea — collaborate internationally on high seas enforcement of the NPAFC fishing ban.

North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	212

PICES is the Pacific Ocean counterpart of ICES, and its work is a similar combination of research planning and coordination. The North Pacific Ocean not only is rich in resources of great importance to the U.S. economy, but also exerts a major influence on weather and climate in North America. In FY 2012, PICES will encourage capacity building through scientific seminars and collaborations, workshops, symposia, technical publications, and an Intern Program. Future PICES work will be guided by the Integrative Science Program, which was finalized in FY 2008—a multidisciplinary, international research program to address some of the key challenges and questions in ecosystem-based management of marine resources. In the interest of furthering North Pacific marine science, PICES is also exploring means of expanding collaboration with non-member States. PICES supports numerous collaborative and ecosystem-based research initiatives that promote data exchange and science-based decision-making about natural resource management. The FY 2012 request of \$212,200 will allow the U.S. to maintain standing and will support essential programs.

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	234

NAFO promotes the conservation and optimum use of fishery resources in the Northwest Atlantic. It encourages international cooperation and consultation and is responsible for investigating the abundance, life history, and ecology of any species of aquatic life in the Convention Area, and collecting and analyzing statistical information relating to the fishery resources of the area. In recent years, NAFO has successfully increased its workload without a corresponding budget increase by achieving substantial efficiencies in its administrative operations. Significant cost savings stemming from unfilled personnel vacancies in the NAFO Secretariat had resulted in unusually low Contracting Party contributions in FY 2010 and 2011. The FY 2012 request reflects a return to normal funding levels. Key FY 2012 U.S. initiatives will include working to secure a permanent U.S. share of fishing quota, ensuring that management measures for NAFO stocks are consistent with scientific advice on sustainable levels, and expanding NAFO management of threatened shark stocks. The U.S. will also continue to work within NAFO to strengthen efforts to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems and end destructive fishing practices.

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

	Positions		Total Funds
	American	FSN	
FY 2012 Request	0	0	725

WCPFC's objective is to ensure, through effective management, the long term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks such as tunas in the western and central Pacific Ocean. The

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Commission provides a forum for fishing nations to establish catch limits, gear restrictions, area closures, and compliance and enforcement mechanisms; combat illegal fishing; minimize impacts on threatened species such as sea turtles, seabirds, and sharks; and oversee a program of scientific research.

Commercial fisheries under WCPFC purview are worth over \$3 billion annually; revenue from U.S. fisheries for Pacific tunas alone are estimated at more than \$140 million each year. In FY 2012, the U.S. will continue to work within WCPFC to strengthen and implement effective, science-based measures to arrest the decline of Pacific bigeye and yellowfin tuna stocks, and to advance implementation by all nations of agreed monitoring, control, and surveillance measures and tools such as the Commission's vessel monitoring system and observer program. The projected costs associated with implementing these programs will increase more quickly in FY 2011 and 2012 than expected given the high level of participation from WCPFC members, additional costs to establish the programs, such as to train observers, and the necessity of both programs to securing compliance with the conservation measure for bigeye and yellowfin tuna adopted for 2009-2011. The U.S. will also work to implement the strong measures to protect and conserve Pacific sea turtle populations and to advance the adoption of fisheries management measures for key shark populations based on the best science. In order to meet these objectives, the WCPFC requires further resources to undertake additional scientific assessments of key shark populations and bigeye tuna, and critical research to reduce the catch of juvenile tunas around fish aggregating devices.

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Funds by Program Activity

(\$ in thousands)

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)	1,915	1,915	1,998
Great Lakes Fishery Commission	28,200	28,200	18,700
International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC)	3,250	3,250	4,500
Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC)	3,250	3,250	3,250
Pacific Salmon Special Assessment	15,000	15,000	0
Other Marine Conservation Organizations	2,361	2,361	2,843
Antarctic Treaty	50	40	67
Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)	150	109	117
Expenses of the U.S. Commissioners	140	150	180
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlanta Tunas (ICCAT)	270	301	325
International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)	280	225	268
International Sea Turtle Conservation Programs	170	170	173
International Shark Conservation Program	0	0	100
International Whaling Commission (IWC)	182	182	200
North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)	55	55	55
North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC)	187	160	187
North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)	127	169	212
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)	305	200	234
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)	445	600	725
Total	53,976	53,976	31,291

Funds by Object Class

(\$ in thousands)

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
4100 Grants, Subsidies & Contrb	53,976	53,976	31,291
Total	53,976	53,976	31,291