Implementing Actions in Support of Recovery of Atlantic Salmon and Their Ecosystems.

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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: Implementing Actions in Support of Recovery of Atlantic Salmon and Their Ecosystems.

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NMFS-GARFO-2017-2005209

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

Dates: Dates: Applications must be postmarked, provided to a delivery service, or received by www.Grants.Gov by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on May 19, 2017. Use of a delivery service other than U.S. Mail must be documented with a receipt. PLEASE NOTE: It may take Grants.gov up to two business days to validate or reject an application. Please keep this in mind when developing your submission timeline.

Funding Opportunity Description: The Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment of Atlantic salmon is one of the eight critically endangered species included in the Species in the Spotlight: Survive to Thrive initiative. This initiative involves targeted efforts vital for stabilizing these species and preventing their extinction. We are soliciting competitive proposals for grants and cooperative agreements that work to address any of the four key actions identified in the Atlantic Salmon 5-Year Action Plan (http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2016/02/docs/atlantic_salmon_spotlight_species_5_year_action_plan_final_web.pdf). We are also soliciting proposals that will develop and implement new education/outreach and engagement tools (e.g., interactive displays, exhibits, kiosks, etc.) or activities highlighting the biology, status and threats faced by Atlantic salmon and their ecosystems. These outreach and education projects must be in support of the International Year of the Salmon initiative. Total funding available under this notice is not anticipated to exceed $600,000. Actual funding availability for this program is contingent upon FY 2017 Federal appropriations. NOAA anticipates typical federal funding awards will range from $50,000 to $300,000 over one to two years. NOAA will not accept proposals with a federal funding request of less than $50,000 or more than $300,000 over two years. Award amounts will be determined by the proposals and available funds; two or more awards may be granted.

FULL ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT

I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Program Objective

The Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment of Atlantic salmon is one of the eight critically endangered species included in the Species in the Spotlight: Survive to Thrive initiative. This initiative involves targeted efforts vital for stabilizing these species and preventing their extinction. We are soliciting competitive proposals for grants and cooperative agreements that work to address any of the four key actions identified in the Atlantic Salmon 5-Year Action Plan (http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2016/02/docs/atlantic_salmon_spotlight_species_5_year_action_plan_final_web.pdf)

The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) and the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) are collaborating to celebrate salmon restoration and recovery with an International Year of the Salmon in 2019. The overall theme is salmon and people in a changing world. During the International Year of the Salmon, our outreach efforts will raise awareness of what humans can do to better ensure salmon and their varied habitats are conserved and restored in light of increasing environmental variability. The International Year of the Salmon will also stimulate an investment in research and leave a legacy of knowledge, data/information systems, tools and a generation of scientists better equipped to provide timely advice to inform rational management of salmon. We are also soliciting competitive proposals for grants and cooperative agreements to develop outreach and education tools and activities to help raise awareness of the plight of Atlantic salmon and their ecosystems consistent with the International Year of the Salmon initiative.

Total funding available under this notice is not anticipated to exceed $600,000. Proposals are limited to $300,000 per project. Actual funding for this program is contingent upon FY 2017 Congressional appropriations. NOAA anticipates typical federal funding awards will range from $50,000 to $300,000 over one to two years. NOAA will not accept proposals with a federal funding request of less than $50,000 or more than $300,000 over two years. Applicants may request funds for an award period between one and three years. Applicants will be selected by NMFS on a competitive basis.

B. Program Priorities

Projects funded under this award must respond to one of the priority objectives. Applicants should ensure that proposals clearly address one or more of the following stated priorities:

Implementing one or more of the four key actions identified in the Atlantic Salmon 5-Year

Action Plan;

Developing education and outreach projects that support the International Year of the Salmon initiative.

Applicants should ensure that proposals clearly indicate which of the stated priorities, the proposal will address. If a project addresses more than one of these priorities, applicants should list first the action that most closely reflects the objectives of the proposed project. All proposals must identify the benefits to the recovery of Atlantic salmon and their ecosystems expected from the proposed project.

Priority A. Implementing the Species in the Spotlight Action Plan

The four priority actions identified in the Species in the Spotlight action plan are:

Reconnect the Gulf of Maine with Headwater Streams

Increase the Number of Fish Successfully Entering the Marine Environment

Reduce International Fishery Mortality in West Greenland; and,

Increase our Understanding and Ability to Improve Survival in the Marine Environment.

Action I. Reconnect the Gulf of Maine with Headwater Streams

Projects under this priority will remove barriers that prevent or impair the ability of salmon (and other sea run fish) to move through waterways. When properly implemented, these projects will increase ecosystem and infrastructure resilience to changing environmental and climatic conditions. Applicants must indicate how they will restore the productive capacity of freshwater habitats by restoring free flowing rivers, water quality, and fish communities altered by the dams, road crossings, and other barriers; and/or, increase resilience from the negative impacts from climate change by improving connectivity within watersheds and providing salmon with access to thermal refugia. Priority activities include: dam and other barrier removals and/or projects to improve fish passage for Atlantic salmon; providing passage around blockages, including culverts and dams that prevent or impair the movement of Atlantic salmon.

Action II. Increase the Number of Fish Successfully Entering the Marine Environment

Projects under this priority must indicate how they will: restore smolt production capacity of freshwater habitats through process-based restoration; increase production of naturally-reared smolts; and/or, increase abundance of native freshwater and diadromous fish by restoring properly functioning ecosystems, thereby, reestablishing the ecosystem services these species provide to Atlantic salmon. Priority activities include sustainable, watershed-scale restoration projects that promote and sustain natural stream processes and other projects that improve natural fish production. Types of projects could include those that: restore longitudinal connectivity and thus, natural flow regimes and sediment transport, enhance, lateral connectivity

(i.e., floodplain reconnection), reduce fine-sediment erosion from man made causes such as road crossings, and restore riparian function.

Action III. Reduce International Fishery Mortality in West Greenland
Projects under this priority must indicate how they will reduce, to the maximum extent possible, directed harvest of U.S. origin salmon. Priority activities will involve work to minimize the impact of the intercept fishery on U.S. origin fish.
Action IV. Increase our Understanding and Ability to Improve Survival in the Marine Environment.
Projects under this priority must indicate how they will either provide information on threats in the marine environment and/or, increase marine survival and thereby, the number of healthy adult returns to U.S. rivers. Priority activities will assess marine survival by a) monitoring smolt production and adult returns; b) indexing estuary and coastal mortality and identifying location, intensity, and causes of high mortality; c) describing return migration of sub-adults from West Greenland; and/or d) investigating prey resources for Atlantic salmon in the marine environment. Projects must tie research objectives to potential management measures that could be implemented to address the identified problem.
Priority B. Developing Outreach and Education Tools and Activities in Support of the International Year of the Salmon

The International Year of the Salmon is geared toward increasing our outreach efforts in order to raise awareness and engagement in what people can do to better to ensure salmon and their varied habitats are conserved and restored in light of increasing environmental variability. In order to increase awareness about the critical nature of Atlantic salmon status in the United States and engage the general public in helping to prevent the extinction of this species, outreach and education tools and activities need to be developed to ensure that this information is disseminated as broadly as possible.
We are soliciting projects to improve communication, education, and awareness of the biology, status and threats of endangered Atlantic salmon and their ecosystems and to identify how measures can be implemented by the public to reduce these threats. Projects should include a component that addresses not only the ecological importance of Atlantic salmon in the various ecosystems that they inhabit but also the social, economic and/or cultural importance of the species and its habitats and the effects of humans on Atlantic salmon, particularly in light of changing environmental conditions. Projects should highlight both the Species in the Spotlight and International Year of the Salmon efforts. Preference will be given to projects that (1) present a communications plan and social marketing strategy that incorporate the elements addressed above; (2) include implementation strategies for disseminating this message to as broad an audience as feasible; (3) move beyond basic outreach and present targeted, effective messaging and communication strategies that will be meaningful for different target audiences and influence widespread awareness of Atlantic salmon; (4) emphasize the social, economic and cultural value of Atlantic salmon and the ecosystems on which they depend; and, (5) incorporate a performance monitoring/evaluation

system and adaptive management mechanisms to increase longevity and effectiveness of the project.

C. Program Authority

The Secretary of Commerce is authorized under the following statutes to provide grants and cooperative agreements for habitat restoration and conservation: Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act 16 U.S.C. 661, as amended by the Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1970; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act, 16 U.S.C. 1891a; and Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1535

II. Award Information

A. Funding Availability

NOAA anticipates that up to $600,000 may be available for distribution under the FY 2017 competitive Implementing Actions in Support of Recovery of Atlantic Salmon and Their Ecosystems. Approximately two to six proposals are expected to be awarded under this grant solicitation Submitted proposals should have a budget narrative of no less than $50,000 and no greater than $300,000. The exact amount of funds that may be awarded will be determined during pre-award negotiations between the applicant and NOAA representatives. Funds have not yet been appropriated for this program, and there is no guarantee that funds will be appropriated or that sufficient funds will be available to make awards for all projects or any projects. Publication of this notice does not obligate NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds. If an application for a financial assistance award is selected for funding, NOAA has no obligation to provide any additional funding in connection with that award in subsequent years beyond the award period. There is no obligation on the part of NOAA to cover pre-award costs unless approved by the Grants Officer as part of the terms when the award is made or Research Terms are applied to the award.
In no event will NOAA or the Department of Commerce be responsible for proposal preparation costs if programs fail to receive funding or are cancelled because of other agency priorities.

B. Project/Award Period

Projects are anticipated to start on or after October 1, 2017, unless otherwise directed by the NOAA Program Officer. In general, a project period will extend up to a maximum of three years. For multi-year proposals, applicants must include project plans and separate budgets for each year of the project. Multi-year projects may be funded in one-year or

greater increments depending on
available funds and terms of the award. In either case, multi-year awards do not compete for funding in subsequent budget periods within the approved award period. Rather, any funding required for subsequent years is added to the multi-year award incrementally, provided demonstration of satisfactory performance by the recipient and provided funds to support the continuation of the project are available. If a recipient a grant from this program wishes to continue work on a funded project beyond the project period and obligated award funds have not
been expended by the end of this period, the recipient can notify the assigned Federal Program
Officer no later than 30 days prior to the end of the award period to determine eligibility for a
no-cost extension. If, however, the money is expended and funds are needed to continue the project, the applicant should submit another proposal during the next competitive award cycle
(e.g. FY 2018) or seek an alternate source of funding.

C. Type of Funding Instrument

A cooperative agreement will be utilized if the proposed work entails substantial involvement between the applicant and NMFS. The final determination of the funding instrument (grant or cooperative agreement) will be made by the NOAA Grants Management Division.
If Selected applications will be funded through cooperative agreements, as described in 2 C.F.R. Sec. 200.24, NOAA expects to be substantially involved in many aspects of the awards. Substantial involvement may include, but is not limited to, collaboration on the scope of work, and providing assistance with technical aspects of the habitat restoration project.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are individuals, institutions of higher education, non-profits, commercial organizations, State, local and Indian tribal governments. Federal agencies, or employees of Federal agencies, are not eligible to apply.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

No cost sharing or matching is required under the program.

C. Other Criteria that Affect Eligibility

None.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Address to Request Application Package

Application instructions for this grant program are available through the Grants.gov website at http://www.grants.gov. For applicants without internet access, an application package may be received by contacting Lanni Hall, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Suite 04-400, Gloucester, MA 01930; Phone: 978-282-8492, Email: Lanni.Hall@noaa.gov

B. Content and Form of Application

All prospective applicants should read this section in its entirety. All instructions regarding formatting and preparation of proposals must be followed. There is no limit on the number of applications that can be submitted by the same Principal Investigator, agency, or State. Multiple applications submitted by the same applicant must, however, be clearly distinct projects. Proposals must adhere to the following provisions and requirements by the proposal submission deadline.

The following forms are required as part of each application: Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424); Budget Information, Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A); assurances, non-Construction Programs (SF-424B); and Certifications Regarding Lobbying (CD-511). These forms are available on Grants.gov and may be downloaded with the application package. For applicants submitting proposals by mail, all forms requiring signatures must be signed in ink (preferably blue ink).

Proposals and all attachments must be formatted to fit on letter-sized paper (8.5 x 11). Text must be no smaller than 10-point font, and all pages must be numbered. If possible, please submit proposal documents as pdf files to ensure conversion errors do not occur when proposals documents are later accessed in Grants Online system.

The Project Description is limited to 15 pages. Pages exceeding this limit will not be reviewed. The list of references cited will not be counted against the 15-page limit. Appended material must not exceed a total of 10-pages. Abbreviated CV's or resumes for all individuals named in the proposal must be appended and are considered appended material. If indirect costs are included in the budget, and a copy of the most recent indirect cost rate agreement for the applicant's organization must also be provided as part of the appended material. Additional appended material can include letters of endorsement; letters of cooperation; maps, photos or other visual materials; permit information; related grant progress reports; or any other supporting information.

Applicants are highly encouraged to submit a map or maps of the geographic location of the proposed work (as applicable); such visual information helps inform reviewers.
DO NOT submit any letters of support or endorsement from any NMFS, NOAA or Department of Commerce personnel.
Proposals must include the following elements:
1. Title Page
Provide the project title, project duration (with a start date no later than October 1, 2017, unless applicants request and get approval for an earlier start date from the Program Officer, Lanni Hall; See Section VII, Agency Contacts), applicant name(s), name(s) of the Principal Investigator (or Project Manager) and any Co-Investigators (or Co-Managers), complete contact information (mailing address, email address, and phone number) for the applicant(s) and all Co-investigators (or Co-Managers), and a statement regarding the total costs of the project. If the proposal is a multi-state proposal being submitted through multiple agencies, include a list of the other applicant state agencies.
2. Project Summary (300 word limit)
Clearly identify which priority objective (listed in Section I.B Program Priorities) that the proposed project addresses. Provide a brief summary discussing the proposal's purpose; the proposed activities; the geographic area where the activities would occur; the recovery objective as it relates to the Atlantic salmon action plan and/or the International Year of the Salmon initiative; and the anticipated benefits of the proposed activities.
3. The Project Description should be a clear statement of all work to be undertaken and how it addresses one of the priority objectives of the Atlantic salmon 5-year Action Plan and/or International Year of the Salmon Initiative. Multi-year proposals must include a project description that covers each year of the proposed award period and annual/interim milestones that correspond to requested funding increments. If multiple projects are included in the proposal, the information listed below must be included for each project. The 15-page limit does not change if a proposal includes multiple projects. Proposals should include the information listed below:

(a) Goals/objectives: Identify which priority objective (listed in Section I.B Program Priorities) that the proposed project addresses. Identify the specific problem(s) or opportunities the project intends to address and describe its significance to the conservation of the species. Identify the project objectives, which should be simple and understandable, as specific and quantitative as possible and attainable with the time, money and human resources available. Scientific research proposals must state the hypotheses to be tested.

(b) Methods: Describe the methodologies or technical plan for activities that are to be conducted during each budget period of the project. Include detailed descriptions of the specific plan and/or methods that will be employed. Project milestones and the timelines (e.g. the number of months) necessary to meet them should also be discussed. Information about relevant permits necessary to conduct the work must be included. See Section IV.G.

(Other Submission Requirements (Permits and Approvals) below for further information about permits and approvals. For habitat projects that align with Action I or Action II under Priority A (See Section I.B. Program Priorities), detailed, technical information about the proposed activities, techniques, and site(s) should be included. Applicants should clearly describe the project phase being proposed for funding (e.g. feasibility study, design, construction). For applicants proposing construction, design plans, specifications, scope of work for services, and engineering opinions of cost or cost estimates (if available) should be included in the proposal. Project design plans should be included in the application in order for reviewers to comprehensively assess the technical merit of the proposed restoration action(s).

(c) Benefits or results expected (300 word limit): Identify the outcomes or results and the benefits to the species that should result from the successfully completed project. Discuss how the project's success in meeting the stated goals and objectives will be measured or assessed. Describe how these expected outcomes, results, or products will be applied and/or shared with appropriate user groups.

(d) Sustainability: Include documentation of private owner or public land managers support and commitment of the proposed project. To protect the federal investment, the Project Description should describe future management, beyond the award period, including mechanisms to protect, maintain, or sustain the project restoration site(s) so the effects of the funded project(s) can benefit Atlantic Salmon into the future. Applicants proposing to install structures such as fish passage devices or tide gates as a component of the project should include discussion of an operation and management plan that specifies the entity responsible for the operation and maintenance of the structure(s) and how they will be operated and maintained throughout the life of the structure(s) to ensure lasting habitat benefits.

(e) Need for government financial assistance: Demonstrate the need for government financial assistance. List all other sources of funding that are or have been sought for the project.

(f) Federal, State and local government activities: List any plans or activities (Federal, State or local) this project would affect and, if applicable, identify the relationship between the proposed work and other ongoing work, or work planned, anticipated, or underway through Federal Assistance or other means. If the proposal is a continuation of previous or ongoing work, a brief discussion of results or accomplishments to date should be included; progress or final reports for previous awards may be included in the appendix.

(g) Environmental impacts: Describe the environmental biological, social, political, or economic impacts are expected as a result of the proposed activities. Also discuss any potential negative impacts on listed species or their critical habitat as a result of the proposed activities. If any negative impacts are anticipated, describe what steps will be taken to minimize or mitigate these impacts. Incidental take of protected species and impacts to Essential Fish Habitat should be noted. Identify all consultation and permitting requirements

and their status (e.g. not applied for, pending, secured). This information is the basis for a determination of the level of analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), so please be thorough. See Section VI.B. (Administrative and National Policy Requirements) below for further information about NEPA requirements.

(h) Project management:Describe how the necessary experience, facilities, and administrative resources are in place to successfully meet the responsibilities associated with managing a federal financial assistance award. Describe how the project will be organized and managed and who will be responsible for carrying out project activities. The lead organization/individual and person listed as the technical contact should be identified as the Project Manager (PM) or Principal Investigator (PI). Use of sub-contractors or volunteer staff time to complete project activities and oversight of those individuals should be discussed. The PM/PI is responsible for all technical oversight and implementation of the approved work plan as delineated in the proposal. One PM or PI must be designated on each project, but the PM/PI may or may not be the applicant. However, if the applicant is not the PM/PI, there must be an explanation of the relationship between the applicant and PM/PI (e.g., applicant will be responsible for managing the grant funds and the PM will be responsible for completing the project milestones on time and within budget, etc.). Project participants or organizations that will have a significant role in conducting the project should be listed as Co-investigators or Co- Managers. Organizations or individuals that support the project, for example, researchers contributing data or materials, should be referred to as Cooperators. Copies of the PM's or PI's and all Co-investigator's/Co-Manager's abbreviated resumes or curricula vitae must be appended. For projects that align with Action I or Action II under Priority A (See Section I.B. Program Priorities), describe the capacity and knowledge that is in place to construct the scope and scale of the proposed work, as indicated by the qualifications and past experience of the project leaders or partners in designing, implementing, and effectively managing habitat conservation and restoration projects.

4) Total project costs and budget justification:

Each application must include clear and concise budget information, both on the required Federal forms and as described here.

The budget justification should include a table showing costs by category (e.g., salary, benefits, supplies, equipment, travel, contractual, indirect) and by Federal and non-Federal share (if applicable). For multi-year applications, costs must also be shown by year for each year of the proposal. Costs should be itemized to the maximum extent possible. Budget tables must be formatted to fit letter-sized paper (8.5 x 11). Do not format tables as multiple sheets or tabs within an Excel spreadsheet as sheets can be lost when applications are prepared for review in NOAA's Grants Online system. For an example of how to display costs and format budget tables, please refer to the sample table posted here: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/conservation/docs/budget_table.pdf. All funds MUST be

estimated to the nearest dollar; any budgets containing cents will be returned for revision. A budget justification for each year of the requested budget must also be provided to explain and justify all project costs, including contractual costs. This narrative must be organized to clearly correspond to the information provided in the budget table. For an example of how to prepare a budget justification, please refer to the sample posted here: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/conservation/docs/budget_narrative.pdf.
Detail provided in the budget table and/ or the budget justification must be sufficient so that reviewers can interpret how costs were estimated or calculated, especially for costs over $5,000 (including any contractual costs). For the non-Federal share, the itemized costs should be identified as cash or in-kind contributions. If in-kind contributions are included as part of the non-federal cost share, the basis for estimating the value of these contributions must be provided. The amounts per category and total amounts indicated on the OMB standard form (SF) 424A, Budget Information Non- construction Programs form must correspond with amounts indicated on other proposal documents.
5) Outreach Plan

(a) Stakeholder Coordination/Involvement: As applicable, describe how you/your organization has coordinated with and involved other relevant organizations or individuals in planning the project to demonstrate stakeholder support and to what degree the project has been put forward by common agreement., and detail if/how stakeholders and relevant organizations will be involved in conducting project activities, disseminating project results and/or incorporating your results/products into their activities.

(b) Describe how project results or products will be shared appropriately given the nature of the proposed work. Depending on the nature of the project, outreach and education may include, for example, peer reviewed publications; presentations at professional meetings; development of brochures; development of exhibits, interactive displays, or kiosks; internal agency meetings; public meetings; or distribution of project results to appropriate managers or management agencies. Describe how the outreach/education component is appropriate for the type and nature of the proposal and why the outreach/education is expected to be effective.
6) Appendices (10-page limit)
Abbreviated curricula vitae or resumes of the PM/PI and any Co-Managers/ Co-Investigators must be included with the application. Applicants requiring ESA scientific research permits must also include evidence of such a permit (e.g. by providing the permit number) or evidence that they have submitted an ESA permit application. Project design plans, specifications, scope of work for services, and engineering opinions of cost or cost estimates (if available) should be included. Additional material that is necessary or useful to the description of the project may also be provided (e.g. letters of endorsement, maps, photos, tables or other visual materials).
If indirect costs are being requested as part of the proposed budget, a copy of the requesting

agency's indirect cost rate agreement must be provided. Do not submit any letters of support or endorsement from any NMFS, NOAA, or Department of Commerce personnel. Completion of the NOAA NEPA Questionnaire is not required.

C. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal awarding agency that is excepted from those requirements under 2 CFR 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal awarding agency under 2 CFR 25.110(d)) is required to: (i) be registered in SAM before submitting its application; (ii) provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application; and (iii) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award, application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency. The Federal awarding agency may not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant. Applicants should allow a minimum of five days to complete the SAM registration; registration is required only once, but must be renewed periodically.

D. Submission Dates and Times

Applications must be received and validated by Grants.gov, postmarked, or provided to a delivery service and time-stamped on or before 11:59 p.m. ET, May 19, 2017.
NOAA strongly recommends that applicants do not wait until the application deadline to begin the application process through Grants.gov. To use Grants.gov, applicants must have a unique entity identifier (i.e., Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number) and register in the System for Award Management (SAM) before submitting its application; the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) is now a part of SAM and is located at www.sam.gov. Applicants should allow at least 5 business days to complete the SAM registration; registration is only required once, but must be updated annually. If issues arise, the process may take three weeks or more. Note that organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or via the internet, (http://www.dunandbradstreet.com)
To apply on Grants.gov, you must first have an up-to-date registration in the Federal System for Award Management (SAM) described in Section IV.C. Applications submitted through Grants.gov are automatically stamped with the date and time of submission and will be the basis of determining timeliness. For applications submitted through Grants.gov, there will be three automated email receipts sent to the application submitter with the date and time of

submission. The first email confirms initial receipt of the application by the Grants.gov portal. The second email confirms that there are no errors with the application submission and the third email confirms the application has been forwarded to NOAA for further processing. If email confirmation receipts are not provided within two business days of application submission, contact the Grants.gov Help Desk (800-518-4726) and Lanni Hall at Lanni.Hall@noaa.gov and (978) 282-8492. PLEASE NOTE: It may take Grants.gov up to two business days to validate or reject the application. Please consider this when developing your submission timeline. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all required application elements have been appropriately submitted. Applications received after the Grants.gov deadline will be rejected without further consideration. Use of U.S. Mail or another delivery service for hard copy applications must be documented with a receipt. No facsimile or electronic mail applications will be accepted.
Important note on Grants.gov application attachment file names: Attachment file names may only include the following UTF-8 characters: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore (_), hyphen (-), space ( ) and period (.). If applicants use any other characters when naming their attachment files, their applications will be rejected.

E. Intergovernmental Review

Applications under this program are subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," relating to state and local government coordination and review of proposed federal financial assistance. Applicants should visit the Office of Management and Budget's Intergovernmental Review website for more information and to see if their state has chosen to participate in the intergovernmental review process http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc/).

F. Funding Restrictions

Proposals should contain project costs and a budget narrative with no less than $50,000 and no greater than $600,000.
Proposals with less than the minimum federal funding amount and greater than the maximum federal funding amount will not be evaluated.

G. Other Submission Requirements

Applications should be submitted electronically through the Grants.gov website at http://www.grants.gov. First-time registration with Grants.gov may take up to three to six weeks. It is strongly recommended that this registration process be completed as soon as possible. Grants.gov will not accept submissions if the applicant has not been authorized or if credentials are incorrect. Authorizations and credential corrections can take several days to

establish. Please plan your time accordingly to avoid late submissions as such submissions will be rejected. The Grants.gov validation process for a submitted application can take up to two business days to complete (following submission through Grants.gov). Only validated applications are sent to NOAA for review. To ensure successful submission of an application, it is strongly recommended that a final and complete application is submitted at least two business days prior to the submission deadline.

Applicants should contact the Grants.gov Help desk and Lanni Hall, the Federal Program Officer for this award, to confirm that the application has been transmitted to and received by NOAA.

The application process in Grants.gov cannot be completed without completing SAM registration.

Also, it may take Grants.gov up to two business days to validate or reject an application. Please keep this in mind when developing your submission timeline. Following submission of applications through Grants.gov, applicants should receive two automated responses from grants.gov: one confirms receipt of the application; the other confirms that the application has been forwarded to NOAA. If both confirmation messages from Grants.gov are not received, applicants should contact both the Grants.gov Helpdesk and the NMFS Office of Protected Resources to confirm the application has been transmitted to and received by NOAA. If you experience a Grants.gov “systems issue” (technical problems or glitches with the Grants.gov website) that you believe threatens your ability to complete a submission before the application deadline, please (i) print any error message received; and (ii) call the Grants.gov Contact Center at 1-800-518-4726 for immediate assistance. Applicants need to obtain a case number regarding communications with Grants.gov. Please note: problems with an applicant organization’s computer system or equipment or failure to comply with the Grants.gov system requirements are not considered “systems issues.” Similarly, an applicant’s failure to: (i) complete the required registration, (ii) ensure that a registered Authorized Representative (AOR) submits the application, or (iii) notice receipt of an email message from Grants.gov are not considered systems issues. A Grants.gov “systems issue” is an issue occurring in connection with the operations of Grants.gov itself, such as the temporary loss of service by Grants.gov due to unexpected volume of traffic or failure of information technology systems, both of which are highly unlikely. It is the applicant’s responsibility to take necessary steps to document a "systems issue” and contact NOAA. In the event of a confirmed “systems issue,” NOAA reserves the right to accept an application in an alternate format (i.e. hard copy submission), however all applications must be received by the deadline. Late applications will not be accepted. For applicants with internet access issues, hard copies may be submitted (by postal mail or commercial delivery) by the deadline to the NOAA/GAR/PRD, Attn: Lanni Hall, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Applications submitted by U.S. Postal Service must have an official postmark; private metered postmarks are not acceptable. Use of a delivery service other than the U.S.

Postal Service must be documented with a receipt. Paper applications should be printed on one side only, on 8.5” x 11” paper, and not be bound in any manner. A SF-424 form must be included, signed in ink or with a signature meeting the requirements in ‘Use of Electronic Signatures in Federal Organization Transactions’ (2013), page 14, at http://go.usa.gov/xcHkm. No facsimile or electronic mail applications will be accepted.

V. Application Review Information

A. Evaluation Criteria

The proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following:

1) Importance/Relevance and Applicability of the Proposal to the Program Goals: This criterion addresses whether there is intrinsic value in the proposed work and relevance to NOAA, Federal, regional, State, or local activities.

Reviewers will consider whether proposals clearly identify project goals and objectives and whether those goals and objectives are applicable to conservation and recovery of Atlantic salmon and align to one or more of the priority objectives identified in Section I.B. Program Priorities. For scientific research proposals, reviewers will evaluate whether proposals clearly state the hypotheses to be tested and whether it aligns with Action IV of Priority A within the Program Priorities.

Reviewers will also score the proposal based on their consideration of the contribution of potential outcomes, significance of the results, or products to species conservation and management goals; whether milestones and products are clearly identified; whether the proposed project will result in tangible results, and whether performance measures for evaluating effectiveness of the completed project were clearly identified.

Reviewers will consider whether the proposal is designed to have a direct impact on species recovery as a result of implementation of management actions. If the proposal addresses the continuation of previously funded or ongoing work, reviewers will consider whether an adequate justification for the continuation of the same work is provided by the applicant (e.g., what benefit would additional results have?).

(Score: 1-35 points; where, for example, 1= no importance/relevance to the program goals or objectives, very limited potential to contribute to species recovery, no implementation of management actions; 18= moderately important/ relevant, reasonably likely to make some meaningful contribution to species recovery; 35= extremely important/relevant, extremely likely to make a significant contribution to recovery of Atlantic Salmon, involves implementation of significant management actions, addresses a priority species.)

2) Technical/scientific merit:

This criterion assesses whether there are clear project goals and objective, whether the approach is technically sound and/or innovative, if the methods are appropriate for achieving the stated goals/objectives.

Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the proposed project is feasible, technically sound, safe for the public, and uses appropriate methods and personnel to achieve the stated goals and objectives.
Reviewers will consider whether sufficient information is provided to evaluate the design of the project relative to the stated goals/objectives. For proposals including research and monitoring, this criterion addresses whether the approach is technically sound, if the methods are appropriate for achieving the stated goals/objectives, and if the anticipated results can be achieved in the time- line specified. For habitat projects that align with Action I or Action II under Priority A (See Section I.B. Program Priorities), reviewers will evaluate the extent to which detailed, technical information about the proposed restoration activities, techniques, and site(s) was provided.
Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which environmental impacts are described and whether sufficient information about relevant permits and consultations are provided, and if the anticipated results can be achieved in the specified timeline and if there are clear project goals and objectives.
Reviewers will consider the sufficiency of information to evaluate the project technically, the strengths and/or weaknesses of the technical design relative to securing productive results. For all applications, reviewers will consider whether the proposal includes an effective mechanism for evaluating the project's success in meeting the stated goals and objectives. Reviewers will also evaluate the potential of the effort to be sustainable and provide lasting benefits into the future.
For all applications, reviewers will consider whether the proposal includes an effective mechanism for evaluating the project's success in meeting the stated goals and objectives. Reviewers will also evaluate whether application instructions contained in this document were followed. (Score: 1-30 points; where, for example, 1= completely unsound and/ or unlikely to meet the stated objectives, application instructions were not followed, and no performance measures included; 15 = intermediately sound, and/ or reasonably likely to meet the stated objectives, application instructions generally followed; 30 = extremely sound and highly likely to meet the stated objectives, application instructions followed thoroughly.)
3) Overall Qualification of Applicants:
This criterion ascertains whether the applicant possesses the necessary education, experience, training, facilities, and administrative resources to accomplish the project and meet the responsibilities associated with managing a federal financial assistance award. Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the proposal describes how the project will be organized and managed. Reviewers will evaluate whether the applicant has the administrative resources available to successfully fulfill the responsibilities associated with managing a federal financial assistance award.
Reviewers will evaluate whether the applicant has the capacity and knowledge to conduct the scope and scale of the proposed work, as indicated by the qualifications and past

experience of the project leaders and/or partners in designing, implementing and effectively managing and overseeing project. Reviewers will consider previous related experience and qualifications of the project's PM or PI, Co-Manager(s) or Co-Investigator(s) and other personnel, including designated contractors, consultants, and cooperators. For projects that align with Action I or Action II under Priority A (See Section I.B. Program Priorities), reviewers will evaluate the capacity and knowledge of the project managers and leaders to construct the scope and scale of the proposed work, as indicated by the qualifications and past experience of the project leaders or partners in designing, implementing, and effectively managing habitat conservation and restoration projects. Reviewers will also consider past award performance of the applicant(s) and PM/PI, if applicable.
(Score: 1-10 points; where, for example, 1= completely unqualified and/or lacking the resources or capacity to accomplish the project, poor past award performance, 5=intermediate level of qualifications or experience and/or adequate resources and capacity to accomplish the project, satisfactory past award performance, 10= extremely qualified/experienced, has all necessary resources and demonstrated capacity to accomplish the project, exceptional past award performance.)
4) Project Costs:
This criterion evaluates the budget to determine if it is realistic and commensurate with the project needs and time frame. Reviewers will assess the degree to which costs are itemized costs and whether the overall budget is adequately justified and appropriately allocated. For multi-year project proposals, reviewers will evaluate to what extent the costs are detailed by year for each year of the proposal.
Reviewers will consider whether sufficient detail was provided to evaluate how costs were estimated for both federal and non-federal shares (if applicable).
Reviewers will evaluate whether the applicant demonstrated that a significant benefit will be generated at a reasonable cost; (i.e.) Does the proposed budget direct the majority of funds, including funds for salaries, to implement the project, compared to the percentage used for general program support including administration.
(Score 1-15 points; where, for example, 1=unrealistic and lacking sufficient detail; 8=adequately detailed and realistic; 15=extremely detailed and realistic.)
5) Outreach and Education:
This criterion addresses whether the project provides a focused and effective education and outreach strategy regarding NOAA's mission to protect the Nation's natural resources. Reviewers will consider whether project results or products will be shared appropriately given the nature of the proposed work and whether sufficient detail is provided to make this determination. Depending on the nature of the project, outreach and education may include, for example, peer reviewed publications, presentations at professional meetings, development of brochures, internal agency meetings, public meetings, or distribution of project results to appropriate managers or management agencies. Proposals will be evaluated

on whether the outreach/education component is appropriate for the type and nature of the proposal and whether the outreach/education is expected to be effective.
Reviewers will evaluate the extent to which the applicant has coordinated with relevant organizations and partners and whether the project has been put forward by common agreement. (Score: 1-10 points, where 1=insufficient/ineffective outreach, 5= adequate outreach, 10= extremely effective outreach.)

B. Review and Selection Process

Screening, review, and selection procedures will take place in three steps: initial evaluation, merit review, and final selection by the Selecting Official (i.e., the Regional Administrator for NMFS Greater Atlantic Region Fisheries Office). Initial screening and evaluation of applications will be conducted to ensure that application packages have all required forms and application elements, clearly relate to the 2017 Implementing Actions for Atlantic Salmon, A Species in the Spotlight solicitation, and meet all of the eligibility criteria.
Applications meeting the requirements of this solicitation will then undergo merit review. Each application will be reviewed by a minimum of four reviewers, who will independently evaluate and score proposals using the evaluation criteria provided in section V.A. (Evaluation Criteria) above. Merit reviewers will be individuals with appropriate subject-matter expertise and may be from Federal or state agencies, academic institutions, or non-profit organizations. The reviewers ratings will be averaged and used to produce a rank order of the proposals. After applications have undergone merit review, the Selecting Official will make the final decision regarding which applications will be funded based upon the numerical ranking of the applications as well as the selection factors set forth in Section V.C. (Selection Factors) below.

C. Selection Factors

The program review panel shall provide a rank order to the Selecting Official for final funding recommendations. The Selecting Official shall award in the rank order, unless the proposal is justified to be selected out of rank order based upon one or more of the following factors:
1. Availability of funding.
2. Balance/distribution of funds: a. Geographically; b. By type of institutions; c. By type of partners; d. By research areas; e. By project types.
3. Duplicates other projects funded or considered for funding by NOAA or other Federal

agencies.
4. Program priorities and policy factors as set out in Section I.
5. Applicant's prior award performance (including report submission).
6. Partnerships and/or participation of targeted groups.
7. Adequacy of information necessary for NOAA to make a NEPA determination and draft necessary documentation before recommendations for funding are made to the Grants Officer.
Therefore, the highest scoring proposals may not necessarily be selected for an award. NOAA may select all, some, or none of the applications, or part of any application, ask applicants to work together or combine projects, defer applications to the future, or reallocate funds to different funding categories, to the extent authorized. Applicants may be asked to modify objectives, work plans or budgets, and provide supplemental information required by the agency prior to the award. The exact amount of funds to be awarded, the final scope of activities, the project duration, and specific NOAA cooperative involvement with the activities of each project will be determined in pre-award negotiations among the applicant, the NOAA Grants Office, and NOAA program staff.
In addition, the NOAA Grants Officer will review financial and grants administration aspects of a proposed award, including conducting an assessment of the risk posed by the applicant in accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.205. NOAA is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently FAPIIS) (see 41 U.S.C. 2313). An applicant, at its option, may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through SAM and comment on any information about itself that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM. NOAA will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants as described in 2 C.F.R. 200.205 Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants.

In addition to reviewing repositories of government-wide eligibility, qualifications or financial integrity information, the risk assessment conducted by NOAA may consider items such as the financial stability of an applicant, quality of the applicant;s management systems, an applicant?s history of performance, previous audit reports and audit findings concerning the applicant and the applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-federal entities. Applicants should be in compliance with the terms of any existing NOAA grants or cooperative agreements and otherwise eligible to receive federal awards, or make arrangements satisfactory to the Grants Officer, to be

considered for funding under this competition. All reports due should be received and any concerns raised by the agency should be addressed in a timely fashion in order to receive a new award. Upon review of these factors, if appropriate, specific award conditions that respond to the degree of risk may be applied by the NOAA Grants Officer pursuant to 2 C.F.R. 200.207. In addition, NOAA reserves the right to reject an application in its entirety where information is uncovered that raises a significant risk with respect to the responsibility or suitability of an applicant. The final approval of selected applications and issuance of awards will be by the NOAA Grants Officer. The award decision of the Grants Officer is final and there is no right of appeal.

D. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Subject to the availability of funds, review of proposals will occur in late Spring 2017, and funding is expected to begin in the late Summer of 2017. Project start dates may be no earlier than October 1, 2017.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Award Notices

Successful applicants will receive notification of funding from the NOAA Grants Management Division. The award cover page, i.e., CD-450, Financial Assistance Award is available at http://go.usa.gov/SNMR. Applicants should not initiate any project in expectation of Federal funding until they receive a grant award document signed by an authorized NOAA Grants Officer. After successful applicants have been notified, a Federal Program Officer will notify unsuccessful applicants. Comments and scores from the Technical Review will be provided to applicants. Unsuccessful applications will be kept on file in the Program Office for a period of twelve months and will then be destroyed.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINICIPLES AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS:
Through 2 C.F.R. 1327.101, the Department of Commerce adopted Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 C.F.R. Part 200, which apply to awards in this program. Refer to http://go.usa.gov/SBYh and http://go.usa.gov/SBg4.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS: The Department of Commerce will apply the Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions dated December 26, 2014 to this award. Refer to http://go.usa.gov/hKbj. If the Department of Commerce publishes revised Standard Terms

and Conditions prior to issuance of awards under this FFO, the revised Standard Terms and Conditions will apply.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC) PRE-AWARD CONDITION REQUIREMENTS:

The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the Federal Register notice of December 30, 2014 (79 FR 78390), are applicable to this solicitation.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA):

Department of Commerce regulations implementing FOIA, 5 U.S.C. 552, are found at 15 C.F.R. Part 4, Public Information. These regulations set forth rules for the Department regarding making requested materials, information, and records publicly available under the FOIA. Applications submitted in response to this FFO may be subject to requests for release under the Act. In the event that an application contains information or data that the applicant deems to be confidential commercial information which is exempt from disclosure under FOIA, that information should be identified, bracketed, and marked as Privileged, Confidential, Commercial or Financial Information.

Based on these markings, the confidentiality of the contents of those pages will be protected to the extent permitted by law.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:

In no event will NOAA or the DOC be responsible for proposal preparation costs. Publication of this announcement does not oblige NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds. Recipients are subject to all Federal laws and agency policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

NOAA'S DATA SHARING POLICY:

Environmental data and information collected or created under NOAA grants or cooperative agreements must be made discoverable by and accessible to the general public, in a timely fashion (typically within two years), free of charge or at no more than the cost of reproduction, unless an exemption is granted by the NOAA Program.

Data should be available in at least one machine-readable format, preferably a widely-used or open-standard format, and should also be accompanied by machine-readable documentation (metadata), preferably based on widely used or international standards. Proposals submitted in response to this Announcement must include a Data Management Plan of up to two pages describing how these requirements will be satisfied. The Data Management Plan should be aligned with the Data Management Guidance provided by NOAA in the Announcement. The contents of the Data Management Plan (or absence thereof), and past performance regarding such plans, will be considered as part of proposal review. A typical plan should include descriptions of the types of environmental data and information expected to be created during the course of the project; the tentative date by

which data will be shared; the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content; methods for providing data access; approximate total volume of data to be collected; and prior experience in making such data accessible. The costs of data preparation, accessibility, or archiving may be included in the proposal budget unless otherwise stated in the Guidance.

Accepted submission of data to the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) is one way to satisfy data sharing requirements; however, NCEI is not obligated to accept all submissions and may charge a fee, particularly for large or unusual datasets. NOAA may, at its own discretion, make publicly visible the Data Management Plan from funded proposals, or use information from the Data Management Plan to produce a formal metadata record and include that metadata in a Catalog to indicate the pending availability of new data. Proposal submitters are hereby advised that the final pre-publication manuscripts of scholarly articles produced entirely or primarily with NOAA funding will be required to be submitted to NOAA Institutional Repository after acceptance, and no later than upon publication. Such manuscripts shall be made publicly available by NOAA one year after publication by the journal. More information about the Data Sharing Policy is available on NOAA's Environmental Data Management Committee website at: www.nosc.noaa.gov/EDMC/PD.DSP.php.

REVIEW OF RISK:

After applications are proposed for funding by the selecting official, the Grants office performs administration reviews. These may include financial stability of an applicant, quality of the applicant's management systems, history of performance, and the applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities. Upon review of these factors, if appropriate, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk may be applied. Applicants may submit comments to the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) about any information included in the system about their organization for consideration by the awarding agency.

INDIRECT COST RATE:

If an applicant has not previously established an indirect cost rate with a Federal agency they may choose to negotiate a rate with the Department of Commerce or use the de minimis indirect cost rate of 10% of MTDC (as allowable under 2 C.F.R. 200.414). The negotiation and approval of a rate is subject to the procedures required by NOAA and the Department of Commerce Standard Terms and Conditions Section B.06. The NOAA contact for indirect or facilities and administrative costs is:

Lamar Revis, Grants Officer
NOAA Grants Management Division
1325 East West Highway

9th Floor
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
lamar.revis@noaa.gov

UNPAID OF DELINQUENT TAX LIABILITY: When applicable under appropriations law, NOAA will provide certain applicants a form to be completed by the applicant's authorized representative making a certification regarding Federally-assessed unpaid or delinquent tax liability or recent felony criminal convictions under any Federal law. If a form is provided, an award may not be issued until it is returned and accepted by NOAA.
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA): NOAA must analyze the potential environmental impacts, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for applicant projects or proposals which are seeking NOAA federal funding opportunities. Detailed information on NOAA compliance with NEPA can be found at the following NOAA NEPA website: http://www.nepa.noaa.gov/, including our NOAA Administrative Order 216-6 for NEPA, http://www.nepa.noaa.gov/NAO216_6.pdf, and the Council on Environmental Quaplementation regulations, http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/NEPA-40CFR1500_1508.pdf. Consequently, as part of an applicant's package, and under their description of their program activities, applicants are required to provide detailed information on the activities to be conducted, locations, sites, species and habitat to be affected, possible construction activities, and any environmental concerns that may exist (e.g., the use and disposal of hazardous or toxic chemicals, introduction of non- indigenous species, impacts to endangered and threatened species, aquaculture projects, and impacts to coral reef systems).
In addition to providing specific information that will serve as the basis for any required impact analyses, applicants may also be requested to assist NOAA in drafting an environmental assessment, if NOAA determines an assessment is required. Applicants will also be required to cooperate with NOAA in identifying feasible measures to reduce or avoid any identified adverse environmental impacts of their proposal. Failure to do so shall be grounds for not selecting an application. In some cases if additional information is required after an application is selected, funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the recipient to submit additional environmental compliance information sufficient to enable NOAA to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment.

C. Reporting

Grant recipients will be required to submit financial and performance (technical) reports. All financial reports (SF-425) shall be submitted electronically via NOAA Grants Online to the NOAA Grants Management Division in accordance with the award conditions. Progress

reports should be submitted via NOAA Grants Online to the Prescott Grant Program Officers in accordance with the award conditions. All progress reports will be submitted on a semiannual schedule and must be submitted no later than 30 days following the end of each six month period from the start date of the award. The comprehensive final report is due 90 days after the award expiration. Additional reporting on project details may be required at the request of the Program Office. Grant recipients must submit any copies of publications printed with award funds (e.g., manuals, surveys, etc.) to the NMFS Federal Program Officer for dissemination to the public. Publications should be submitted either as three hard copies or in an electronic version.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006: This Act includes a requirement for awardees of applicable Federal grants to report information about first-tier subawards and executive compensation under Federal assistance awards issued in FY 2011 or later. All awardees of applicable grants and cooperative agreements are required to report to the Federal Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) available at www.FSRS.gov on all subawards over $25,000.

VII. Agency Contacts

The point of contact is Lanni Hall, Protected Resources Division, NOAA NMFS Greater Atlantic Region, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930; Phone: (978) 282-8492; or e-mail at lanni.hall@noaa.gov.

VIII. Other Information

None.