



OCTOBER 2014

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

THE DIRECTOR

SEP 12 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional Management Councils Executive Directors
State Commission Executive Directors

FROM: *ES* Eileen Sobeck *[Signature]*
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

SUBJECT: 2014/2015 Saltonstall-Kennedy Research and Development Grants
Solicitation

Purpose: This memo requests review and input regarding the 2014/2015
Saltonstall-Kennedy Research and Development Grant priorities

Funds transferred into the Promote and Develop Account are derived from a transfer from the Department of Agriculture to NOAA from duties on imported fisheries products. An amount equal to 30% of these collected duties is made available to NOAA. The Saltonstall-Kennedy Act of 1954 gives authority to the Secretary of Commerce to use these funds to provide grants or cooperative agreements for fisheries research and development projects.

The National Marine Fisheries Service intends to conduct a consolidated FY 2014 and FY 2015 grants solicitation process. The solicitation will result in awarding approximately \$10 million from the FY 2014 appropriations process. The total level of funding for research and development grants under the S-K competitive grant program will be contingent on the FY2015 appropriations.

We anticipate announcing the Full Funding Opportunity to the public via the Grants.gov website in early October 2014. In preparation for this announcement we are working to finalize our solicitation, including the national priorities. Once set, applications will be ranked on how well they meet these priorities. The purpose of this memo is to request input from you regarding the priorities as drafted (see attached).

These priorities have been developed based on input from each NMFS Regional Administrator, Science Center Director and Office Director taking a look at the intent of the Saltonstall-Kennedy act of 1954, 15 USC 713(c). The NMFS strategic plan, as well as the 8 Regional Fisheries Management Councils' five year research plans were used as the basis of the priorities. It is the intent of the program to have National priorities and to ensure that they encompass all regional research needs as they pertain to the S-K program.

Please review the attached priorities and respond back to the National Saltonstall-Kennedy Research Program Manager, Daniel A Namur at dan.namur@noaa.gov. The priorities as written are intended to already encompass each region's S-K research needs, please send pointed comments back to the S-K Manager regarding any regional priority you feel may need to be further highlighted in the final National solicitation.

All comments are due to Daniel Namur by September 26, 2014. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Daniel Namur at 301-427-8730 or dan.namur@noaa.gov.

