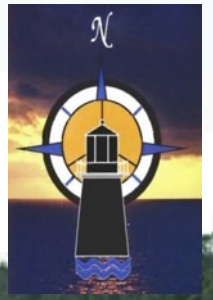


NAML Winter Meeting, Washington, D.C. March 2015



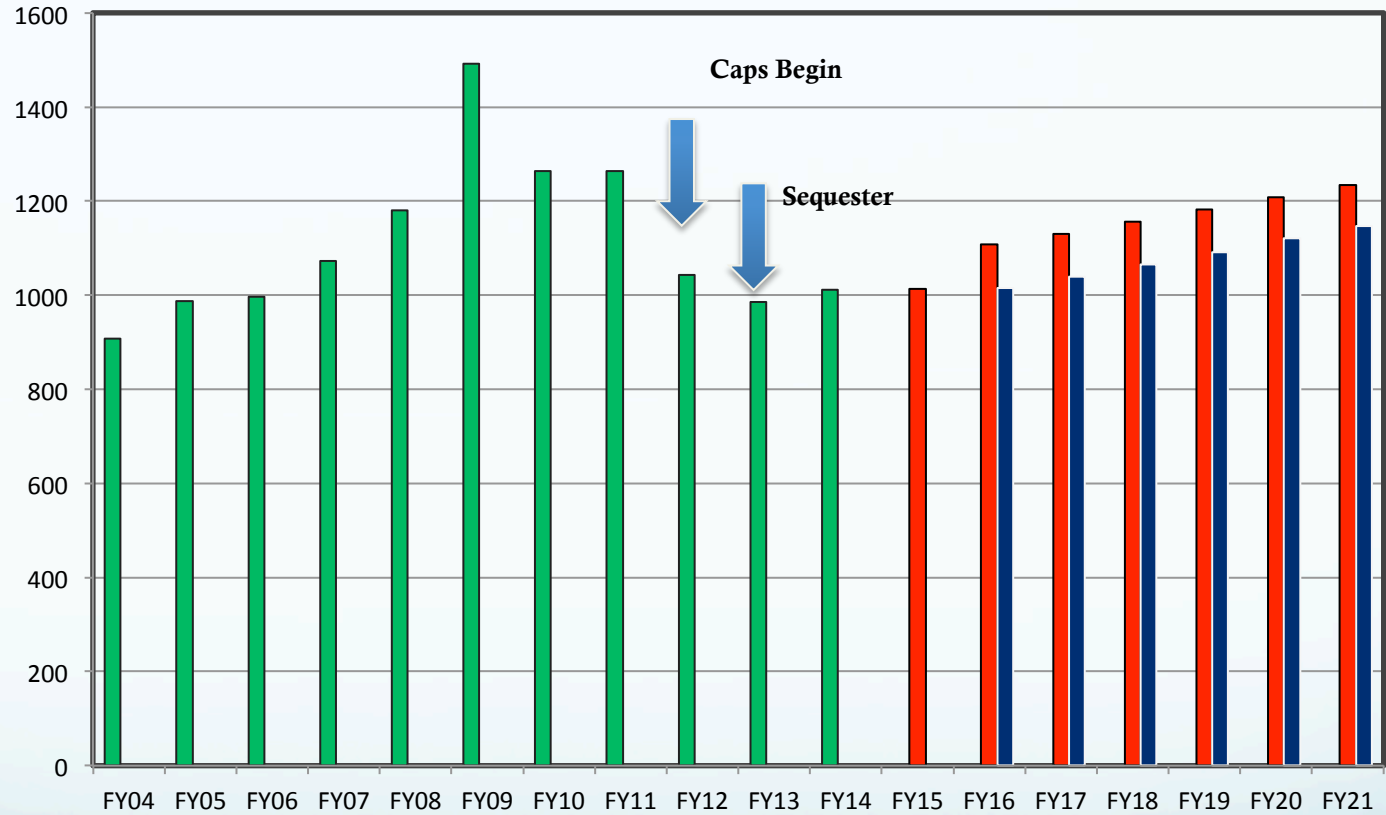
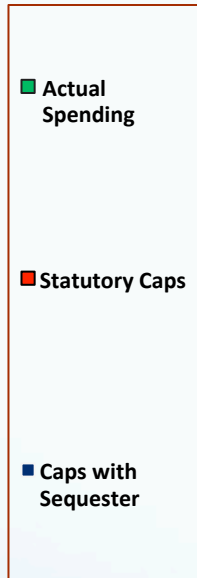
**FY16 Budget and Policy Issues Facing the Ocean,
Coastal and Great Lakes Research and Education
Community: A Briefing to the NAML Membership**



Joel Widder, Partner
Meg Thompson, Partner
Federal Science Partners LLC
March 1, 2015



The Budget Parameters Influencing FY 2016





Administration Proposes.... FY2016 Administration Priorities

- Suspend Sequester for FY 2016
- Raise taxes
- Increase spending by 7% -- with defense and nondefense growing each by \$37 billion
- Invest in high priority activities including: accelerating manufacturing industry growth, investing in R&D; cutting carbon pollution and investing in climate preparedness and resilience; maintain natural resources; building a 21st century infrastructure; high quality affordable education from Pre K to College; maintain the nation's security; tax reform that promotes growth and opportunity.
- Congressional reaction: “Thanks, but no thanks.”





FY 2016 Administration R&D Priorities

- World class research via NSF, DOE Office of Science, and NIST;
- Invest in Innovation via DOD, DARPA, NASA, Nanotechnology, etc;
- Improve Health via the BRAIN initiative and new precision medicine, combat anti-biotic resistant bacteria, etc;
- advanced manufacturing;
- clean energy;
- climate change and related resiliency actions; and
- STEM education.

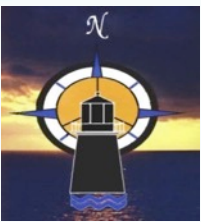




Other Issues Impacting the Public Policy Environment

- **NAS Decadal Survey on Ocean Sciences**
- **NAS Report on FSML's**
- **President's Climate Action Plan – Resiliency**
- **Global climate change, climate research, and its relationship to funding for the geosciences**
- **House Science Committee's emphasis on MPS, CISE, ENG, and BIO**





Highlights of FY16 NSF Budget

- Overall increase is 5.2% over FY15; education and human resources up by 11.2%;
- Four NSF-wide initiatives including ramp up of Risk and Resilience which includes; start up of Food-Energy-Water Systems; phase down of SEES (as planned);
- Geosciences declines by \$16M in FY15; Proposed to grow by \$61 or 4.7% in FY16;
- OCE to grow by 3.8%; EAR up by 6.2%; AGS up by 4.7%
- OCE's FY 2016 Request includes support for PREEVENTS and INFEWS. It also supports SEES.
- OCE is strongly supporting the President's Executive Order establishing a National Ocean Policy (NOP) through enablement of research, education, and infrastructure. OCE continues to support OOI.
- OCE is continuing to invest in research infrastructure and planning for potential new Regional Class Research Vessels (RCRV).
- GEO to launch new mid-scale infrastructure initiative at \$9.3M





Highlights of the FY16 NOAA Budget

- Resiliency and Climate
- NOS: +\$45M for coastal resiliency grants; +\$4M for competitive research in coastal science and assessment
- OAR: +\$8.5M for ocean acidification (total program of \$21.4M); +\$1M for Sea Grant – for expansion of marine aquaculture program; climate research grows by 19%; O/C/GL research by 5%
- NMFS: Prescott program – proposed for termination, again
- Office of Education: Drops from \$27.67M to \$16.4M – STEM consolidation proposal continues to be pushed by Administration





Highlights from Other Agencies -- EPA

- EPA Science and Technology \$769.1M; 5% increase though sustainable and healthy communities declines by 7.2%;
- Research on safe and sustainable water up by 3.3%, competitive grant program on water quality started by Congress in FY15 is eliminated in FY16;
- STEM ed consolidation impacts EPA with proposed elimination of STAR and Greater Research Opportunities Fellowship programs eliminated to save \$11.1M.





Highlights from Other Agencies

- **DOE Bio & Enviro Research: \$612.4; 3.4% increase; climate and enviro sciences grows to \$318.1M an increase of \$26M;**
- **NIH to grow by \$1 billion or 3.3% with \$200M for new precision medicine initiative and \$100M for BRAIN initiative;**
- **Smithsonian – support for Marine Global Earth Observatories to increase;**
- **US Fish and Wildlife Service – science support would nearly double to \$31.7M includes increased support for Landscape Conservation Cooperative partnerships;**
- **USGS – total budget up by 14.3% including funding for climate resilience and science infrastructure; 12.3% increase for USGS ecosystems activity; increases proposed for water resources activity;**

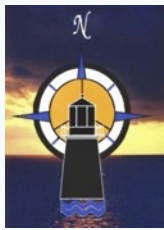




And the Congress Disposes....?

- **Develop budget resolution reflecting Congress' priorities for spending and taxes**
- **House budget will likely increase spending (raise caps) on defense programs**
- **Senate budget may look closer to Administration Request**
- **Budget caps and the sequester are already in law for FY 2016 – if Congress does nothing the cuts of about \$109 billion occur January 1, 2016 – total spending is essentially flat with spending levels of FY 2015 and FY 2014**
- **Expect science authorization bills (FIRST Act, COMPETE, weather forecast improvement, NASA authorization, etc) to reflect Congressional views embodied in budget resolution**





And the Congress Disposes (cont)

- House Appropriations will move their bills in the Spring – expect higher defense bills in House than in Senate
- Senate – more difficult to move appropriations bills as Republicans need to compromise with Democrats to reach 60 vote margin to pass bills
- White House has said that it will, “ Veto bills that move money from non-defense to Defense”
- Expect to start FY 2016 this October under a continuing resolution.
- Negotiations over FY 2016: suspend sequester, increase spending on defense and non-defense priorities, tax reform, etc likely to take place in late fall.
- Facing January 2016 - the sequester takes effect if nothing gets enacted into LAW to change it
- Will the compromise involve some relief from sequester for both defense and non-defense and will it happen in time to meet January 2016

