CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT
NEW YORK GREAT LAKES FISHERIES RELIEF PROGRAM

Spend Plan

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE, GREAT LAKES SECTION
P.O. Box 292, Cape Vincent, NY 13618
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Purpose of this Spend Plan

The federal government is authorized to provide $15 million of Coronavirus Response and Relief funds through the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021, P.L. 116-260, for activities authorized under section 12005 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) to support qualifying participants in Great Lakes fisheries industries impacted by the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). The Consolidated Appropriations Act New York Great Lakes Fisheries Relief Program Spend Plan has been developed to facilitate equitable distribution of New York’s portion of these funds to qualifying New York residents. Financial relief in the form of one-time direct payments will be distributed by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) through a federal grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The purpose of this spend plan is to develop a process to:

- Identify qualifying industry sectors and specify criteria for relief aid qualification among businesses in major Lake Erie and Lake Ontario fisheries-related industries.
- Notify potentially eligible applicants in each sector and provide terms for relief qualification.
- Review all initial and appealed applications for eligibility.
- Establish a direct payment schedule of qualified applicants.
- Provide the GLFC with a list of qualified applicants and their respective payments per sector.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and GLFC intend to distribute the New York apportionment of Great Lakes CARES Act funds to qualifying fisheries industries by September 2022 and through a marketing campaign by March 2023, contingent on marketing plan approval by NOAA.

Background and Situation Analysis

Economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on sectors of the marine fisheries industries were recognized by the US Congress during March 2020 with passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Section 12005: Assistance to Fishery Participants (hereafter, CARES Act). During May 2020, the US Secretary of Commerce announced availability of $300 million in economic assistance to fisheries industries impacted by the pandemic; however, the relief package applied only to marine coastal industries. Recognition of similar impacts to Great Lakes fisheries industries resulted in their inclusion in CARES Act relief during passage of a supplemental appropriations act in December 2020 that specified $15 million for “non-tribal commercial, aquaculture, processor, and charter fishery participants in States of the United States bordering the Great Lakes” (hereafter, CARES Act II; Appendix 1). These relief funds do not include coverage for restaurants, retail markets, boat yards, vessel repair businesses, or inland fisheries. Criteria for relief eligibility specified in CARES Act II include verification of “economic revenue losses greater than 35 percent as compared to the prior 5-year average revenue”, but individual states have flexibility
to establish state-specific and sector-specific criteria within these bounds. New York State received a total allocation of $1,976,427, adjusted to $1,968,325 after adjustments for NOAA (~ 0.1%) and GLFC administrative costs.

NOAA Fisheries and the GLFC used current and historical data to apportion funds among Great Lakes states based on the economic volume of Great Lakes fisheries activities in each state. This approach is similar to that used to allocate CARES Act funding to marine coastal states. Allowable uses of these funds include direct payments to eligible fisheries-related businesses in several major industry sectors, outlined under section 12005 of the CARES Act, projects mitigating negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, marketing of impacted industries, and administrative costs not to exceed 2% of state allotments. Great Lakes fisheries industries eligible for assistance under the CARES Act II include commercial fishing businesses, charter/for-hire fishing businesses, qualified aquaculture operations, fish processors and dealers, as well as other fishery-related businesses. Businesses lower on the supply chain are not considered fishery-related businesses for the purpose of this funding and are ineligible for assistance through the CARES Act II; these industries include vessel repair businesses, boat yards, restaurants, and seafood retailers.

The geographic scope for qualifying businesses along the Great Lakes borders include the New York state waters of Lake Erie, the Upper and Lower Niagara River, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Other tributaries along these water bodies are not included in this relief funding. As there are no commercial aquaculture operations in operation in the New York waters of Lakes Erie or Ontario, the primary fisheries-related business sectors considered eligible under for CARES Act II fisheries relief funding in this spend plan are for-hire fishing businesses and the very limited commercial fisheries permitted in Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Due to mixed sources of income between eligible Great Lakes waters and ineligible tributary and inland waters, fish processors/dealers and bait and tackle shops will not be considered for CARES Act II fisheries relief funding in New York State. Affected businesses must demonstrate a greater than 35% revenue loss either directly or indirectly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fisheries-related businesses in New York suffered economic hardship due to the impacts of COVID-19, as Executive Orders mandated the closure of all non-essential businesses beginning in March 2020. During the “NY on PAUSE” restriction orders, for-hire fishing businesses were prohibited from operating, although commercial fisheries were able to continue operating as “essential businesses,” although processing and sale of fresh fish were likely impacted as a result of the general statewide closure of businesses. For-hire fishing operations were closed from 22 March through 18 May 2020, as “Phase 1” of New York’s reopening plan began for all regions of New York’s Great Lakes border. Impacts may have continued for the for-hire fisheries industry due to prohibitions on out-of-state travel and reduced tourist contributions to the industry.
Between 2009-2018, the NYSDEC issued an average of 888,116 freshwater fishing licenses per year. New York sport fisheries were estimated to result in approximately $2.7 billion in annual expenditures, provide 32,317 jobs, and produce $1.5 billion in salaries, with a total economic impact of nearly $1.5 billion in 2011 from both inland and Great Lakes fisheries combined (Southwick Associates 2012; US Fish and Wildlife Service 2014). Sport and commercial fisheries operating in the New York waters of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario provide economic benefits exceeding $1 billion per year to New York (Southwick Associates 2012, Table 1).

In 2017, anglers fished an estimated total of 3,194,911 angler days on Great Lakes waters in New York, including the Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers (Responsive Management, 2019). Between Lake Erie (excluding tributaries) and the Upper Niagara River, a total of 920,905 angler days were fished, comprising 28.8% of the total NY Great Lakes effort. Lake Ontario (excluding tributaries), the Lower Niagara River and the St. Lawrence River had a total of 2,274,006 angler days, or 71.2% of the total Great Lakes fishing effort (Table 2). Because of this imbalance in angler effort between the New York Great Lakes waters, the total available funding for each lake may be scaled to accommodate both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario fisheries industry needs to ensure equitable distribution of aid.

New York’s federal relief funds will be administered through the GLFC, which will provide a subaward to the NYSDEC once NOAA Fisheries approves the state’s spending plan. The methodology outlined in this spend plan is modified from the CARES Act New York Fisheries Relief Program Spend Plan and the Consolidated Appropriations Act New York Fisheries Relief Program Spend Plan, which were both previously reviewed and approved by NOAA to provide aid to New York’s marine fisheries, with adjustments to accommodate the different criteria required for the CARES Act II funding allocated to the Great Lakes fisheries.

It is likely that a portion of New York State’s allocation will remain after the direct payment application and payout process has been completed. Unused funds from this allocation will be used to fund marketing analysis and develop promotional campaigns to bolster a resilient customer base for the for-hire fishing industry in New York’s Great Lakes waters. Further details regarding these marketing campaigns will be provided in a future addendum to this spend plan, as the amount of money leftover after direct payments will not be known until this process is completed. Marketing campaigns will not commence until NOAA approves the addendum.

**Spend Plan Objectives**

The *Consolidated Appropriations Act New York Great Lakes Fisheries Relief Program Spend Plan* has been developed to facilitate distribution of CARES Act II relief funds to interested and qualifying New York residents. Financial relief in the form of one-time direct payments will be distributed through the GLFC through a federal grant from NOAA. The objective of the spend plan is to distribute the New York State allocation of the CARES Act II Great Lakes Fisheries Relief Program funding to eligible Lake Erie
and Lake Ontario commercial and for-hire fisheries businesses that have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 1. Retail sales, salaries and wages, jobs, and economic impact of Great Lakes sport fisheries in 2011 and their estimated annual economic impact in December 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Retail sales ($)</th>
<th>Salaries &amp; wages ($)</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Economic impact ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MI</td>
<td>1,272,352,928</td>
<td>774,938,502</td>
<td>19,805</td>
<td>2,231,549,094</td>
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<tr>
<td>NY</td>
<td>612,789,066</td>
<td>340,811,049</td>
<td>6,787</td>
<td>1,029,998,139</td>
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<tr>
<td>OH</td>
<td>486,482,882</td>
<td>207,718,420</td>
<td>7,048</td>
<td>759,942,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>WI</td>
<td>114,344,635</td>
<td>56,867,409</td>
<td>1,883</td>
<td>185,460,010</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN$^b$</td>
<td>85,158,787</td>
<td>51,378,186</td>
<td>1,494</td>
<td>154,284,123</td>
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<tr>
<td>IL$^b$</td>
<td>58,496,056</td>
<td>34,388,935</td>
<td>786</td>
<td>105,389,187</td>
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<td>PA$^b$</td>
<td>55,208,013</td>
<td>31,861,877</td>
<td>891</td>
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<td>IN$^b$</td>
<td>18,918,669</td>
<td>7,114,508</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>27,872,459</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,703,751,036</strong></td>
<td><strong>38,907</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,589,929,277</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

$^a$Southwick Associates 2012
$^b$Small sample size (N=10 to 30); use results with caution

Table 2. Values used to scale direct payment allocation by Great Lake by 2017 angler use of Great Lakes waters in New York.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody</th>
<th>Estimated Angler Days$^a$</th>
<th>Relative Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Erie$^b$</td>
<td>650,180</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Niagara River</td>
<td>270,725</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Ontario$^b$</td>
<td>1,557,203</td>
<td>48.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Niagara River</td>
<td>148,546</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Lawrence River</td>
<td>568,257</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^a$Responsive Management 2019
$^b$Excluding tributaries
Eligibility Criteria for Great Lakes Fisheries Businesses

Under federal CARES Act and Consolidated Appropriations Act guidelines, only fishery-related businesses that incurred a revenue loss greater than 35% as compared to the previous five-year average revenue (2015-2019), either as a direct or indirect result of the coronavirus pandemic, will be eligible for funds. Qualified applicants may not be made “more than whole” by receiving assistance above their total average annual revenue from the previous five years when combined with their traditional revenue from the year. Traditional revenue includes the Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan/Advance if the loans are forgiven, USDA’s Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, fishery-related unemployment payments, and payments received under Section 12005 of the CARES Act.

Applicants who have received funding through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) from the CARES Act (i.e., Paycheck Protection Program) or another program are eligible to receive CARES Act II relief funding. Such funding will not be included when establishing the greater than 35% revenue loss; however, when calculating the amount of CARES Act II relief funding an applicant may receive, the terms of the applicant’s SBA funding will be taken into consideration.

- SBA funds which must be paid back are deemed a loan. These amounts will not be included when calculating CARES Act II relief funding.
- SBA funds which do not require repayment (forgiveness) are considered assistance. Any amount which is forgiven will be included in the calculations for, and will reduce the amount of, CARES Act II relief funding they may be eligible for.

To be eligible for funding, all applicants must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Resident of New York, with proof of residency in the form of one of the following:
  - Valid NY driver’s license;
  - Valid NY non-driver photo identification card;
  - Prior year’s New York State income tax return showing proof of payment of personal income tax as a resident of New York; OR
  - Current NY voter registration card.
- Applicant is 18 years or older at time of application.
- Provide a Tax ID number; there may only be one Tax ID number associated with each application. If an applicant has multiple qualifying fisheries related businesses, each individual business may apply for relief funding, provided each business has a unique Tax ID number.
- Active participant in one or more fishery-related sectors in 2020 and/or 2021 and previous years with documented fishing history as required under this spend plan. Fishing history to be verified by the NYSDEC from logbooks or other forms of documentation (i.e., invoices, tax returns).
Have participated in for-hire or commercial fishing industry on Lake Erie or Lake Ontario during 2020, or in 2019 and 2021 if the 2020 fishing season was skipped due to the pandemic.

Businesses that have been operating less than five years but at least two or more years immediately prior to 2020 can base calculations on the average of these years of operation. Businesses operating for the first time in 2019 will not qualify.

Submit an affidavit that:

Self-certifies the applicant has suffered a greater than 35% revenue loss from for-hire or commercial fishing operations as a direct or indirect result of the COVID-19 pandemic between 1 March – 31 December 2020 and/or 1 January – 31 December 2021 relative to their five-year average revenue during that timeframe in 2015-2019, or during the eligible period if in business for less than five years.

Quantifies the total revenue lost in 2020 and/or 2021 as a direct or indirect result of the COVID-19 pandemic, relative to the five-year average revenue, or during the eligible period if in business for less than five years.

Discloses the amount and source of any other aid that the applicant has received to offset COVID-19 related fisheries business losses. Other aid should account for other forms of pandemic-related aid (e.g., PPP), but does not need to account for other COVID-19 related relief, like the blanket stimulus checks received by all qualifying Americans.

The applicant will not be made “more than whole” through a combination of traditional revenue, federal funding from this program, and any other form of COVID-19 related aid, when compared to the total average annual revenue from the previous five years. The “more than whole” requirement will be evaluated on a yearly basis.

Acknowledges that the information provided is subject to verification or audit by either New York State or the US Department of Commerce.

The applicant has not applied to other Federal programs for assistance to address the same impacts resulting from COVID-19. Applicants shall disclose any other federal aid funds they have received due to impacts and revenue losses from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The applicant does not have any unresolved violations of any federal or state laws, including state executive orders.

The applicant is not debarred, not on the government “do not pay list”, is in good standing with the federal and state government and has no unresolved NYSDEC violations.

The applicant attests to having applicable documentation/records to support their claim of a greater than 35% fishery-related income loss and will maintain these records for a period of no less than three years after the close of the primary grant award (8/31/26). Records must be made
available upon request by the NYSDEC, GLFC, NOAA Fisheries, or the Office of the Inspector General.

- All applicants are subject to random audits. New York State reserves the right to seek documentation that supports the economic loss from the fishery participant at any time and for any reason. If the documentation supplied does not support the loss or is not provided within a reasonable amount of time, New York State may seek to enforce compliance with the request, or the applicant may forfeit the award and be subject to repayment of the award.

**Application Process**

Information regarding the application process will be posted electronically and application details will be shared in press releases, communications with Great Lakes charter boat associations, as well as posted on the NYSDEC website. Instructions and application materials will be posted on the NYSDEC website (https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/124633.html) and made available to applicants within 31 days of spend plan approval. The application will include an affidavit for self-certification with penalties outlined for submitting false or intentionally inaccurate information. The application process and timeline are outlined below.

Applications will be available for submission electronically or by paper filing. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit their applications electronically to expedite the evaluation process and to reduce paper and administrative handling by staff. Protocols for accepting electronic signatures will be provided on the application consistent with NYSDEC Policies and Procedures to ensure appropriate criteria are met. Applications postmarked or electronically time-stamped after the application deadline will not be considered.

**COVID-19 period for evaluation and qualifying revenue loss:** 1 March – 31 December 2020 and/or 1 January to 31 December 2021, using a minimum of 30 consecutive days of revenue within the selected time period for evaluation of losses.

**Application Timeline**

- March 1, 2022 – The application period will be open for 45 days. NYSDEC will mail application materials to eligible commercial fishing permit holders and post a digital application online for eligible for-hire fishing businesses. Interested parties may review the materials and submit the application and supporting materials as specified above in the eligibility criteria section. Incomplete applications will be returned with identification of missing information and will be permitted to be resubmitted for review for up to five days after the closure of the application period. No resubmitted applications will be accepted after this five day grace period.

- April 15, 2022 – Application period closes. Applications received after this published, 45-day period will not be reviewed or considered.
April 18, 2022 – Application review begins. Completed applications will be reviewed by the NYSDEC within 30 days of the closing of the application period.

May 18, 2022 – Application review ends. NYSDEC will notify applicants of review results within two weeks.

June 1, 2022 – Appeal period begins. Applicants that disagree with a determination may appeal the process up to 15 calendar days after review results are received. Appeals postmarked or time stamped after this deadline will not be considered. NYSDEC will respond to appeals within 15 calendar days after the appeal is received.

August 1, 2022 – NYSDEC will send the list of applicants eligible for relief funds, payment schedule, and related information to the GLFC.

August 16, 2022 – It is anticipated that the GLFC will complete direct payments to qualifying applicants.

Applicants must attest that they have supporting documentation qualifying them for the program and retain that documentation for no less than three years after the close of the primary grant award for future auditing purposes.

**Direct Payments**

The NYSDEC will authorize the GLFC to issue direct payments of CARES Act II relief funding to for-hire and commercial fishing businesses in New York that have demonstrated experiencing a >35% loss caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Qualified applicants will receive a direct payment equal to their documented COVID-19 related losses. If total losses claimed for 2020 and 2021 exceed the available funds, the NYSDEC will determine individual payments as a proportion of combined losses of all successful applicants relative to available funds.

The direct payment process will begin after the NYSDEC has reviewed all applications and responded to all appeals. The New York payment schedule, individual identification numbers (e.g., Social Security or Tax ID number), and supporting documentation (e.g., applications and signed affidavits) will be sent to the GLFC to engage the payment process. The GLFC will issue all recipients a 1099 form at the end of the calendar year and notify the Internal Revenue Service of the distribution of relief funds. State and federal auditors are expected to audit the records of those receiving funds.

**Benefits to Fishery Participants**

New York’s Great Lakes commercial and for-hire fishing industries are important to the state’s economy. The economic assistance provided to the fishery-related businesses that were negatively impacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic under the CARES Act II will provide some relief to assist them financially during this pandemic. While this relief may provide a portion of the revenue loss to these businesses and may not make them whole, it provides direct payments to the industry to help support them during this unprecedented pandemic and economic hardship to the industry.
References


Maine Department of Marine Resources. 2020. State of Maine spending plan for fisheries relief. Augusta, ME.


Ohio Department of Natural Resources. 2021. State of Ohio Spend Plan for Lake Erie Fisheries Industry Relief. Columbus, OH.


Appendix A: NOAA Guidance to GLFC

Mr. Robert Lambe
2200 Commonwealth Blvd.,
Suite 100,
Ann Arbor, MI, 48105

Dear Mr. Lambe,

The Division M of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. 116-260 (December 27, 2020) (the “Act”) authorizes $300,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2021, “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, which shall only be for activities authorized under section 12005 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136) (the “CARES Act”).” Under the Act, this funding shall only be available to the states bordering the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Great Lakes, as well as Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and federally recognized Tribes in any of the Nation’s coastal States and territories, and federally recognized Tribes in any of the Nation’s Great Lakes States with fisheries on the Tribe’s reservation or ceded or usual and accustomed territory. In making allocation determinations for this funding to Great Lakes states, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) used readily available total annual revenue information from the commercial fishing, charter fishing, and processor sectors of Great Lakes states. Given the foregoing, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission has been allocated $14,985,000 for the purpose of assisting non-tribal commercial, aquaculture, processor, and charter fishery participants affected by COVID–19 related fishing impacts to States of the United States bordering the Great Lakes.

BACKGROUND AND PROCESS:

In order to receive your allocation, you must submit a grant application for NOAA review and approval. Your grant application, which must be submitted through Grants.gov, must reflect the appropriate use of your allocated funds and compliance with the below-listed requirements, as well as those specifically detailed in the Act. Your award will include a special award condition that will require the development of a detailed spend plan within the states. The spend plan must be submitted for NOAA Fisheries review and NOAA Grants Officer approval before you may disburse funds for the purpose of providing assistance to “fisheries participants.” Funds may be expended to support administrative processes of the grantee, as well as to support economic or other analyses that may be necessary for a detailed spend plan.

Section 12005 of the CARES Act defines “fishery participants” to include Tribes, persons, fishing communities, aquaculture businesses (not otherwise eligible for assistance under part 1416 of title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations for losses related to COVID–19), processors, or other fishery-related businesses, who have incurred, as a direct or indirect result of the coronavirus pandemic:

(1) economic revenue losses greater than 35 percent as compared to the prior 5-year average revenue (2015–2019); or
(2) any negative impacts to subsistence, cultural, or ceremonial fisheries.

Under this award, applications addressing negative impacts to subsistence, cultural, or ceremonial fisheries will not be considered. The Act expressly identifies separate funding to assist applicants from federally recognized Tribes.

REQUIRED CONTENTS

In addition to the requirements outlined in the GrantsOnline Application Portal, your application must:

- Describe how you will identify and determine fishery participants who would be eligible to receive funding. For the purposes of carrying out the provisions of the Act, “fishery-related businesses” are limited to commercial fishing businesses, charter/for-hire fishing businesses, qualified aquaculture operations, processors, and dealers.

  - NOAA does not consider businesses farther down the supply chain (e.g., vessel repair businesses, restaurants, or seafood retailers) as “fishery-related businesses” for the purposes of this funding. While NOAA Fisheries generally does not expect bait and tackle operations and gear and vessel suppliers to be eligible for funding, the states will have the discretion to determine how they will identify eligible fishery participants, consistent with the requirements of the Act.
  
  - Qualified aquaculture operations include privately owned aquaculture businesses growing products in state or federal marine waters of the United States and the hatcheries that supply them. This includes all molluscan shellfish and marine algae. Non-salmonid marine finfish grown in marine waters not covered by USDA are also included.
  
  - All eligible participants must have incurred economic revenue losses greater than 35 percent as compared to the applicable prior five-year average revenue (2015-2019).
  
  - Entities that have been in business less than five years are still eligible for assistance. Participants can only be eligible for assistance from their state of residence.

- Describe the main categories of funding as applicable (e.g., direct payments, fishery-related infrastructure, fishery-related education, research, restoration) that address direct and indirect COVID-19 impacts to commercial fishermen, charter businesses, qualified aquaculture operations, processors, and dealers.

- Direct payments are authorized under section 12005 of the CARES Act. However, applications must address direct payments as follows:
  
  - Applications should demonstrate how the state will determine “more than whole” calculations that account for traditional revenue, along with any other direct financial assistance received through programs including, but not limited to, the Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster
Loan/Advance, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Coronavirus Food Assistance Program.

- Direct payments may not be directed to minors.
- Funds cannot be used to compensate state, local, or tribal governments for lost municipal or government tax revenue.
- Funds must be used to address fishery-related direct or indirect losses.

Your application should also, if applicable, identify funds available from other Federal programs for disaster relief (e.g. FEMA disaster assistance funding, National Flood Insurance Program assistance funding, Hurricane disaster relief funding, etc.), and describe the process you use to account for and ensure no duplication with such funds. Funds provided by NOAA under this award shall not be used for activities or relief for which the recipient has received Federal or other funds. In addition, NOAA will not pay for costs that are funded by other sources (Department of Commerce, Standard Terms and Conditions, Other Federal Awards with Similar Programmatic Activities, Section A.03).

As soon as possible, please have a member of your staff contact Daniel A. Namur from the NOAA Fisheries Financial Assistance Division to begin the grant application process via the Grants.gov website. You may contact him at 301-742-7475 or Dan.Namur@NOAA.gov.

We look forward to working with you to expedite the distribution of this much needed assistance to the affected fishing industry and affiliated constituents.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Doremus
Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations at NOAA Fisheries
Attachment:

Allocation Table by State*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Illinois</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
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* Final award amounts reflect required NOAA recissions for Hollings