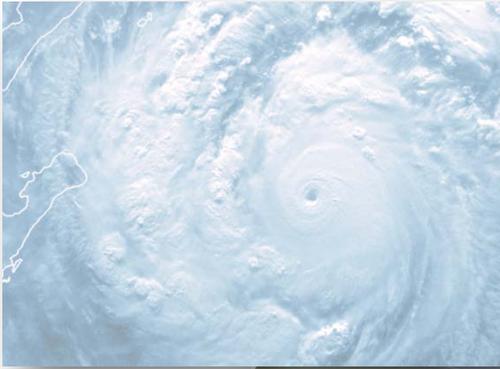


# FY2015 President's Budget Request

Briefing on Proposed STEM Consolidation Plan for  
NOAA Staff, Grantees, Partners, and other External Stakeholders

Louisa Koch  
NOAA Director of Education  
April 10, 2014

# NOAA's Mission Statement



- \* Science, Service and Stewardship
  - \* To understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans, and coasts,
  - \* *To share that knowledge and information with others, and*
  - \* To conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.

# NOAA's Education Mandates

- \* America COMPETES Act provides broad authority for educational activities.
- \* National Sea Grant College Program Act
- \* National Marine Sanctuaries Act
- \* Coastal Zone Management Act
  - \* National Estuarine Research Reserve System
- \* Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- \* Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005
  - \* Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program
- \* Coral Reef Conservation Act
- \* Tsunami Warning and Education Act
- \* Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009
  - \* Ocean Exploration
  - \* NOAA Undersea Research Program
  - \* Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring

# FY 2013 Accomplishments Estimates

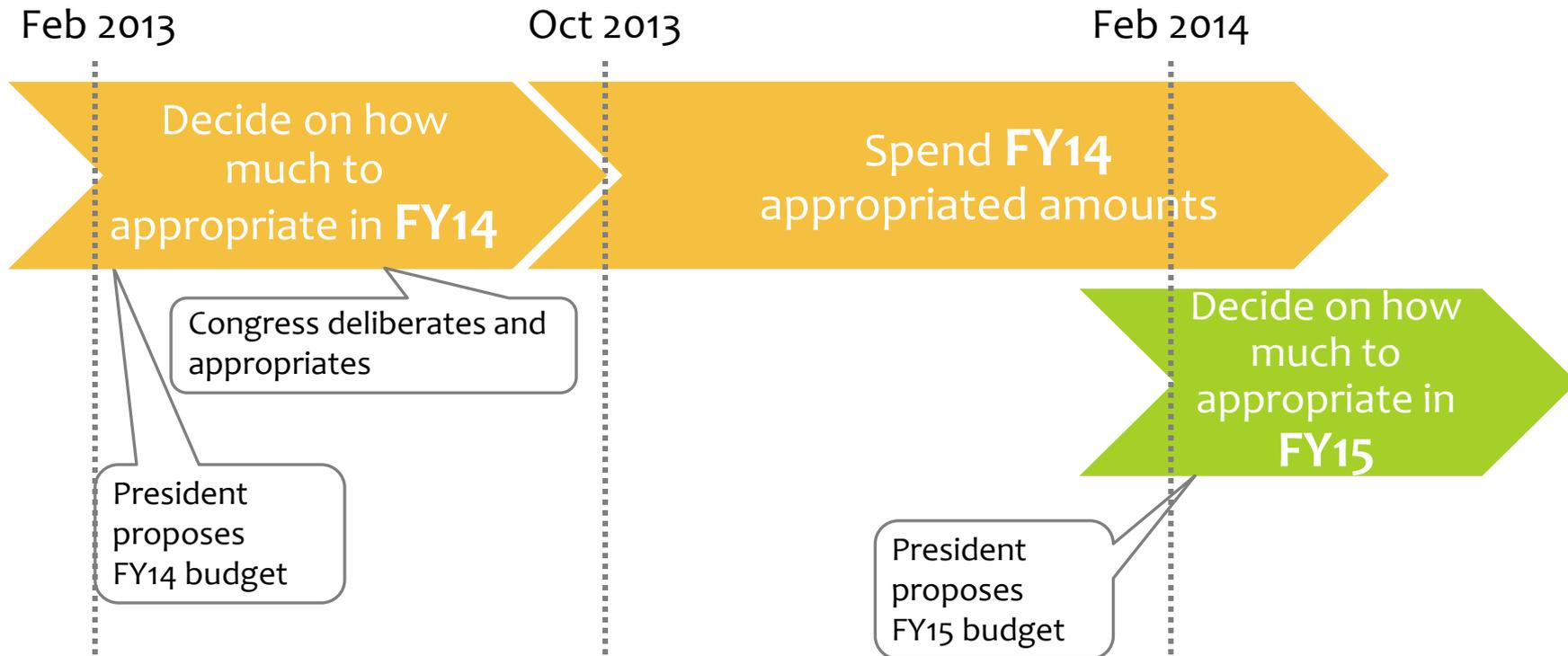
## \* **Support an environmentally literate public**

- \* Over 61 million people visit informal education institutions hosting NOAA supported exhibits or programs that enhance stewardship and promote decision making.
- \* Over 470 institutions increase educational capacity through NOAA-funded interpretive/educational centers, exhibits or programs.
- \* Over 2.2 million lifelong learners participate in NOAA supported informal education programs that enhance stewardship and promote informed decision making.
- \* Over 340,000 preK-12 students participate in NOAA supported formal education programs that enhance understanding and use of NOAA science and other resources.
- \* Over 32,800 educators participate in NOAA supported professional development programs that enhance understanding and use of NOAA science and other resources.
- \* Over 19 million people visit NOAA Education websites that support a broad spectrum of educational activities and provide critical information to the Nation.

## \* **Develop a diverse workforce**

- \* Over 3,850 postsecondary students trained in NOAA-mission related sciences through NOAA-funded higher education programs that prepare students for career paths at NOAA and related organizations.
- \* Over 550 postsecondary degrees in NOAA-related disciplines awarded to students who were supported by NOAA in higher education programs.

# Keeping Track of Fiscal Years



# FY15 STEM Education Reorganization Proposal

- \* The Administration is proposing a comprehensive reorganization to facilitate a cohesive national strategy of STEM education programs to increase the impact of Federal investments in four areas:

<b>1) Improve K-12 instruction</b>	<b>2) Reform undergraduate Education</b>	<b>4) Education activities that typically take place outside the classroom</b>
<b>3) Graduate Fellowships</b>		
Department of Education	National Science Foundation	Smithsonian Institute

# FY15 STEM Education Programs Proposed for Termination

- \* 31 programs across 9 agencies are proposed for consolidation or restructuring in the FY15 request – no funding is transferred between agencies.
- \* **Six NOAA education programs** are proposed for termination in the FY15 request.
  - \* Teacher at Sea
  - \* National Sea Grant Education
  - \* Competitive Education Grants
  - \* Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program
  - \* Ocean Exploration and Research Education
  - \* Bay Watershed Education and Training
- \* These are the same programs that were proposed for termination in the FY14 request.

# Constituent Feedback to Congress on FY14 STEM Consolidation Proposal

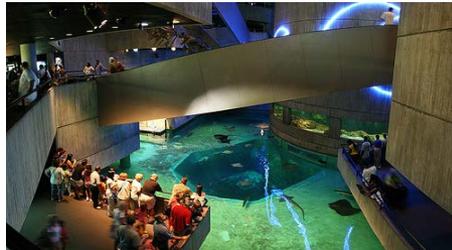
- \* A year ago constituents provided feedback on the FY14 President's Budget Proposal to Congressional representatives by direct contact and by invitation.
  - \* Individual calls and emails to Congressional representatives.
  - \* Group letters to the Appropriation Committees in the House and Senate.
  - \* Testimonies and presentations at Congressional briefings such as the House Oceans Caucus and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums-sponsored briefing on the proposal.

# FY14 Omnibus Appropriation

- \* January 17, 2014: While the Congress is supportive of attempts to improve efficiency and effectiveness in Federal STEM education programs, the proposed reorganization of these programs contained in the budget request was incomplete and lacked sufficient detail. The proposal contained no clearly defined implementation plan, and no buy-in from the education community and failed to sufficiently recognize or support a number of proven, successful programs. Accordingly, **the agreement does not adopt the reorganization; all STEM activities are funded in their existing programmatic structures** unless explicitly noted otherwise elsewhere in this statement or through language in either the House or Senate report that is not modified or superseded by this statement.

# Status of Education Programs Proposed for Termination Under the FY14 Request

- \* The **Teacher at Sea Program** recently selected and announced their cohort for the 2014 field season.
- \* The **National Sea Grant Program** is focusing on environmental literacy and workforce development as part of their 2014-17 strategic plan.
- \* Multiple new **Competitive Education Grants** awards will be made in 2014.
- \* The **Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program's** 2014 scholarship applications are currently under review.
- \* The **Ocean Exploration and Research Education Program** is planning education programs around the 2014 explorations.
- \* 2014 funding opportunities for the **Bay Watershed Education and Training Program** have closed and are under review.



# Why is the Administration proposing a similar plan in FY15 without addressing Congressional concerns expressed in FY14?

- \* The Administration continues to support the Goals of the Federal STEM Education 5-Year Strategic Plan.
- \* The Administration has reduced the number of STEM education programs from approximately 228 STEM education programs in 2012 to an estimated 138 as reflected in FY14 agency operating plans.
- \* The Federal STEM Progress Report states “reduction in the number of programs has improved the ability of agencies to evaluate programs, locate strategic partners, and deploy resources against priorities.”
- \* The President’s 2015 Budget builds on this record by further reducing fragmentation to 111 requested programs.

# How can mission agencies support the STEM lead agencies if programs are terminated?

- \* The Budget provides tangible support for the work agencies are doing to implement the Federal STEM Education 5-Year Strategic Plan, with a focus on building and using evidence-based practices and developing new interagency models for leveraging assets and expertise.
- \* In NOAA, \$2M is requested to develop and execute an efficient, streamlined process to help lead STEM agencies, such as the National Science Foundation and Department of Education, translate NOAA expertise into materials and strategies to support former NOAA STEM education goals in the reorganization process.

# What external consultation was conducted and how did this shape the FY15 proposal?

- \* Selected representatives from the Committee on STEM Education (CoSTEM) presented the Administration proposal at a variety of stakeholder events.
- \* One significant change made in the FY15 proposal is that no funds are transferred between agencies.

# What happens to the funding of the programs proposed for termination?

- \* In FY15 the Administration is not proposing to transfer funding between agencies.
- \* Funds from the termination of Teacher at Sea, National Sea Grant education, Nancy Foster Scholarship, and Ocean Exploration and Research are redirected to other activities within the home office.
- \* Funds from the termination of the Competitive Education Grants Program and the Bay Watershed Education and Training Program will result in a funding decrease to the Office of Education.

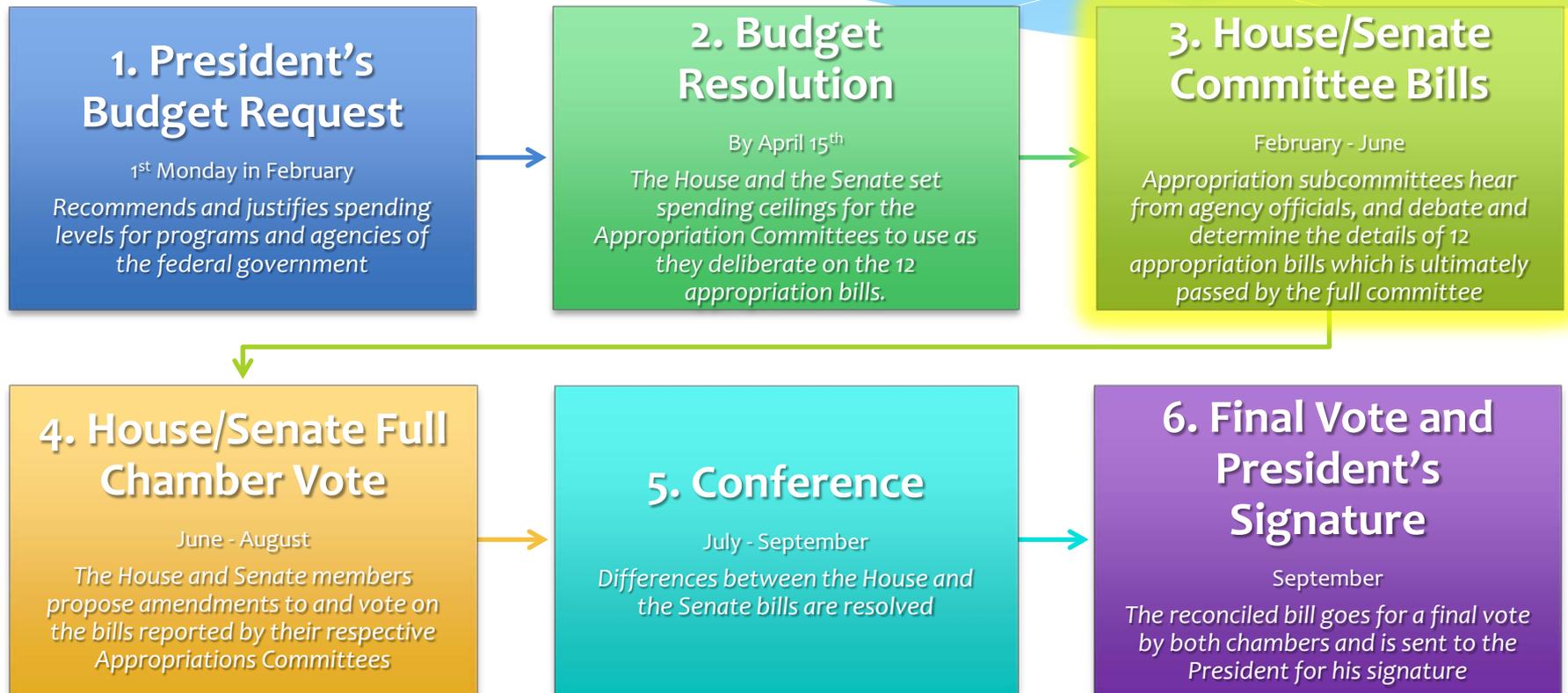
# How will the intent of successful small programs be continued once terminated within NOAA?

- \* Agencies through the Committee on STEM Education (CoSTEM) have convened working groups focused on the priority areas identified in the 5-Year Strategic Plan and are working to develop joint pilot projects, joint administration of programs, and common data-collection strategies.

# How will this impact current grant recipients and applicants?

- \* FY14 competitions and continuing awards will be funded from the FY14 appropriations.
- \* Future funding will be determined by Congressional appropriation levels.

# What Happens Next?



Questions?