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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510–6250

May 18, 2011

The Honorable Dr. Jane Lubchenco Administrator National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Room 5128 Washington, DC 20230

## Dear Administrator Lubchenco:

We are writing to request that you appear as a witness at an upcoming hearing titled "How Is NOAA Managing Funds to Protect the Domestic Fishing Industry?"

This hearing will focus on the current balance of NOAA's Asset Forfeiture Fund (AFF) and whether or not it has been used for inappropriate purposes. The hearing will also explore whether NOAA's ability to retain enforcement proceeds may serve as an incentive for overzealous enforcement. Furthermore, the hearing will examine how NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is handling money allocated to assist New England fisherman transition to a new catch share fishery management system.

This hearing will be held by the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 10:00 AM at Faneuil Hall in Boston, Massachusetts.

The subcommittee requests that your oral presentation be limited to five minutes, although longer written statements may be submitted for the official record. Committee rules require written statements to be submitted by 10:00 a.m. on Friday June 17th, 2011. You can send a copy of your written testimony and a short biography via e-mail to the subcommittee Chief Clerk, Deirdre Armstrong (deirdre\_armstrong@hsgac.senate.gov). You should bring 50 copies of the testimony to the hearing. If you will be using a shorter written testimony to give your oral testimony, we ask that you supply a copy of that statement to the subcommittee before the hearing as well.

I look forward to your participation in this hearing. Should you have any questions, please contact Deirdre Armstrong at (202) 224-7155.

Sincerely yours,

Senator Thomas R. Carper

Chairman

Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and

International Security

Senator Scott P. Brown

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and

International Security