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PRESS RELEASE

Amata Welcomes Over 2.5 million CARES Act Grant for American Samoa Fishermen

Washington, D.C. – Thursday, Congresswoman Aumua Amata is welcoming a \$2,553,194 CARES Act grant for coronavirus relief for American Samoa’s fishermen.

The news is part of a national announcement by Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross allocating \$300 million in fisheries assistance. Congress provided this funding in Sec. 12005 of the CARES Act, to States, Tribes, and Territories with coastal and marine fishery participants who have been negatively affected by COVID-19.

“Thank you to our hardworking fishermen who provide fish to feed the country,” said Aumua Amata. “Food security is a very real part of national security. Our fishing industry is important, and challenged by interruptions and costs because of the pandemic. Thank you to President Trump and Secretary Ross for this assistance.”



Congresswoman Amata and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross (file photo)

NOAA announced the agency will use these allocations to make awards to address direct or indirect fishery-related losses as well as subsistence, cultural, or ceremonial impacts related to COVID-19.

Fishery participants eligible for funding—including Tribes, commercial fishing businesses, charter/for-hire fishing businesses, qualified aquaculture operations, processors, and other fishery-related businesses—should work with their state marine fisheries management agencies, Territories, or Tribe to understand the process for applying for these funds.

More information will be posted on the Department of Commerce’s [NOAA Fisheries COVID-19 Updates](#) webpage soon.

Summary of allocations*:

Entity	Allocation of Sec. 12005 Funding
Alaska	\$50,000,000
Washington	\$50,000,000
Massachusetts	\$28,004,176
Florida	\$23,636,600
Maine	\$20,308,513
California	\$18,350,586

Oregon	\$15,982,827
Louisiana	\$14,785,244
New Jersey	\$11,337,797
Texas	\$9,237,949
New York	\$6,750,276
North Carolina	\$5,460,385
Federally Recognized Tribes on the West Coast	\$5,097,501
Virginia	\$4,520,475
Hawaii	\$4,337,445
Maryland	\$4,125,118
Pennsylvania	\$3,368,086
Alabama	\$3,299,821
Rhode Island	\$3,294,234
New Hampshire	\$2,732,492
American Samoa	\$2,553,194
Georgia	\$1,921,832
Connecticut	\$1,835,424
Mississippi	\$1,534,388
South Carolina	\$1,525,636
Delaware	\$1,000,000
Puerto Rico	\$1,000,000
United States Virgin Islands	\$1,000,000
Federally Recognized Tribes in Alaska	\$1,000,000
Guam	\$1,000,000
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	\$1,000,000
Total	\$300,000,000

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