

**Executive Host Information 2005
Placement Week November 15-19, 2004**

Office Name: NOAA Fisheries Office of Constituent Services

Position Title: Constituent Services Coordinator

How many total staff are in your immediate office / branch? (Select one option, mark with X)

1-5	
6-10	
> 10	X

Have you previously hosted a Sea Grant fellow (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	
No	X

If yes, how many?

If fellow is currently on assignment, please provide contact information.

Name	
Tel	
Email	

Does your office accept non-United States (foreign) citizens? (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	X
No	

Organizational Overview

Mission Statement: (Please limit to 30 words.)

The NOAA Fisheries Office of Constituent Services is a newly created office, marrying four distinct constituent oriented programs - Outreach and Education, Recreational Fisheries Services, Trade and Commercial Services and the Environmental Liaison. The Office's mission is provide a point of contact for constituents and the general public so they may better understand the NOAA Fisheries mission, receive accurate and timely information about our nation's living marine resources, participate in the public regulatory process, and monitor our progress in building sustainable fisheries, recovering protected resources, and conserving and restoring marine habitats.

Brief Overview of Your Office's work: (Please limit to 150 words.)

The Office provides information and acts as the main communications conduit for the diverse NOAA Fisheries constituencies. The Outreach and Education Team designs resources and implements programs to increase communications and understanding between the agency, our constituents and the general public. Recreational Fisheries Services works specifically with recreational constituents and coordinates with other NOAA programs to plan and implement

NOAA's recreational fisheries related activities. Trade and Commercial Services works with the seafood industry, commercial fishing and processing interests, and with seafood consumers to advance NOAA's conservation and management messages. This team includes NOAA's international trade expertise, and regularly works with USTR, FAO, and other organizations representing the US to a variety of international forums. The Environmental Liaison is our proactive outreach arm to environmental NGOs to improve cooperation between these groups and the agency, and to more fully include them as a partner in our processes.

Do you have partnership projects, multi-agency workgroups, or working relationships with other offices? Please list.

Smithsonian Ocean Hall, Ocean Exploration, NOAA Education Council, Recreational Fishing Groups, Environmental Groups, Trade and Industry Groups, Universities

Assignment Description.

It is understood that the fellow's specific responsibilities will be tailored to his / her unique skills and interests. Please articulate probable assignments and duties and the education / professional development that these tasks will bring to the fellow.

Estimated Fellow Travel, Out-of-Office: (Select one option, mark with X)

0 days / month	
1-3 days / month	X
4-7 days / month	
8-10 days / month	
> 2 weeks / month	

Estimated DC-Area Travel: (Select one option, mark with X)

0 days / month	
1-3 days / month	X
4-7 days / month	
8-10 days / month	
> 2 weeks / month	

Does this position require mandatory skills: (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	
No	X

Desired Background Skills: Please list. (e.g. strong written / communication skills, knowledge of Microsoft PowerPoint software, etc.).

Web content skills, writing and editing, ability to use presentation software, oral communication, ability to present complex and controversial issues without bias.

In 300 words or less, please describe the tasks, duties, or projects the fellow will undertake, the skills a fellow will gain, and the deliverables a fellow can expect to produce from completing these tasks.

This opportunity is unique. We are presenting the following options. Each option will be more fully explained during the interview process.

- 1) **Broad Experience Option:** The fellow will work directly with the CS chief on a variety of projects related to Outreach, Recreational Fisheries, Environmental NGOs, Commercial Fisheries, Aquaculture and Trade. The emphasis on each area will depend completely upon the individual fellow's background, interests, and goals for the program.
- 2) **Aquaculture Specific Option:** The Office of Constituent Services has been involved in developing an offshore aquaculture program for the exclusive economic zone off the coast of the U.S. Recently, legislation has been developed for consideration by Congress, and the Ocean's Board has issued a report calling for the development of an Aquaculture Office in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This project will assist a national team of aquaculture experts develop a report on the potential for offshore, marine, aquaculture in the U.S. Academic experts have been assembled who will provide analyses of different components of the aquaculture industry. These components will be assembled into a final report for release to the Department of Commerce and to the general public after a thorough review. The fellow will also work with the Aquaculture matrix team to develop analyses and assessments of different aspects of the aquaculture program in the National Marine Fisheries Service. Once completed, this fellowship program will provide the fellow with an extensive background in aquaculture policy, the interaction of different government agencies involved in aquaculture management and regulation, and an understanding of the issues and concerns of conservation groups about the NMFS aquaculture policy.
- 3) **Trade Services Option:** The Office of Constituent Services or its predecessor offices has been involved in international trade of fishery products since the establishment of the National Marine Fisheries Service. The Trade and Commercial Services branch works with international fishery management organizations (e.g., the World Bank, The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation), and interfaces with other federal agencies involved with international trade (e.g., United States Trade Representative's Office, the Department of State, and The International Trade Administration and Commission). This project will expose the fellow to the broad role the federal government plays in developing trade policy and providing services to constituents who wish to operate in the international markets for seafood products. The fellow will undertake market assessments, trend analyses, and statistical procedures to determine changes in market conditions. The fellow will develop a thorough understanding of available data bases for international trade. In addition, the fellow will get a deep understanding of how international trade issues, such as the role of subsidies, capacity, ecolabeling, illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, antidumping

- 4) **Shrimp Business Plan Option:** Duties, tasks, and responsibilities will be consistent with developing an update to the shrimp business options paper promised by the Assistant Administrator to the shrimp fishing industry once 2004 data become available. This project will include collecting data from secondary sources on the domestic and international markets for shrimp products, from the domestic shrimp harvesting and processing industry, and from shrimp aquaculture producers and marketers. Summaries of trends and conditions in domestic and international markets will have to be updated and implications for each of several options identified by the harvesting industry determined. In addition, the predictions of changes in net benefits and regional impacts will have to be updated. This will involve working with National Marine Fisheries Service staff and academic experts on the shrimp industry. The completed report will be released to the shrimp harvesting industry, the fishery management councils, marine fishery commissions, and other interested members of the public. As a result of this project, the fellow will develop an intimate knowledge of the U.S. shrimp fishery and the international market for shrimp. This project should begin in January 2005 and continue until September 2005 with presentations of the results continuing until December 2005.