

GULF OF AMERICA MULTI- JURISDICTIONAL FINFISH RESEARCH

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

76th Annual Meeting

October 27-30, 2025



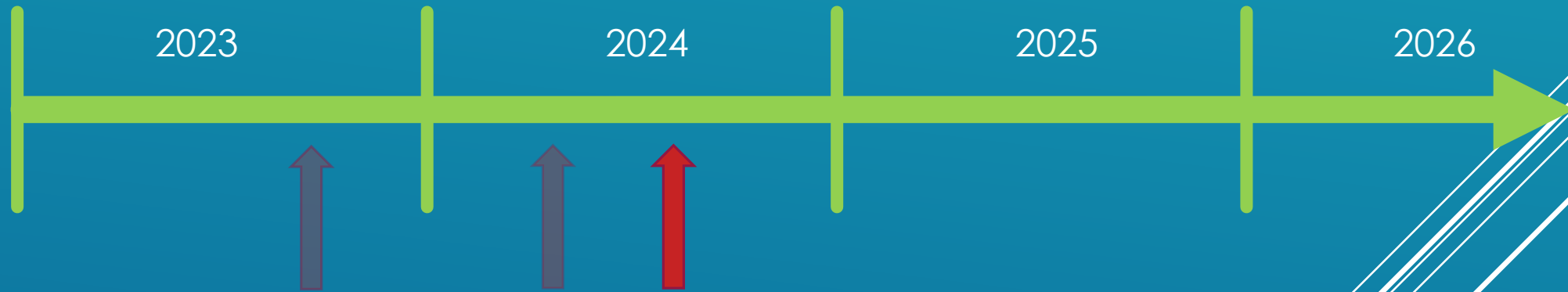


2023 – The US Senate included the following language in the budget report:

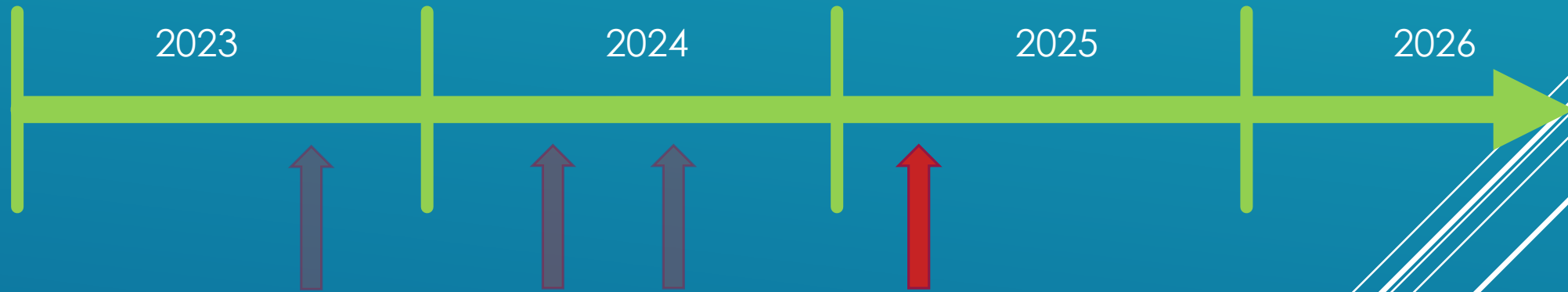
" Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Research - NMFS is encouraged, via a partnership with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, to provide grants to academic partners, including consortiums of universities, and other partners to conduct fishery-independent research on transboundary, multi-jurisdictional fish species in the Gulf of Mexico for which current data is deficient (e.g. cobia, tripletail, tarpon, and gray triggerfish), including species that are solely managed by the Gulf States."



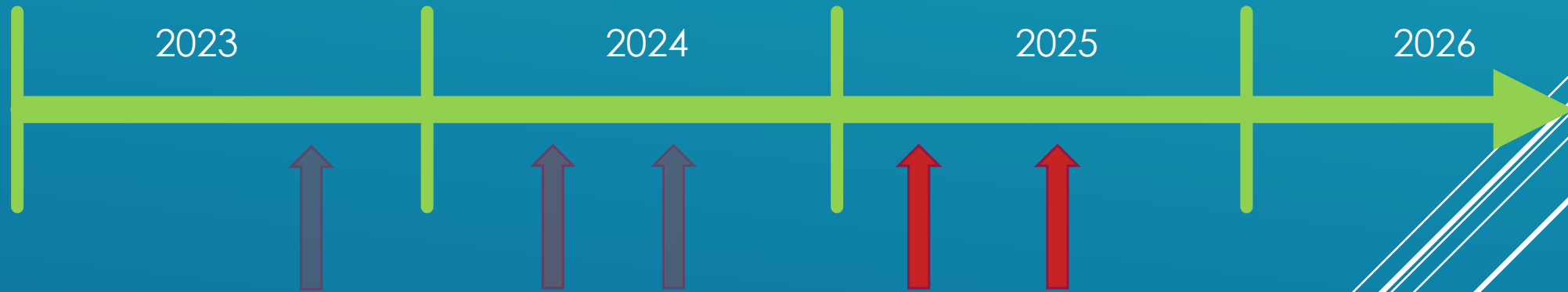
2024 – The funding was not provided immediately but Commission staff developed a full budget and SOW in anticipation of receiving the award.



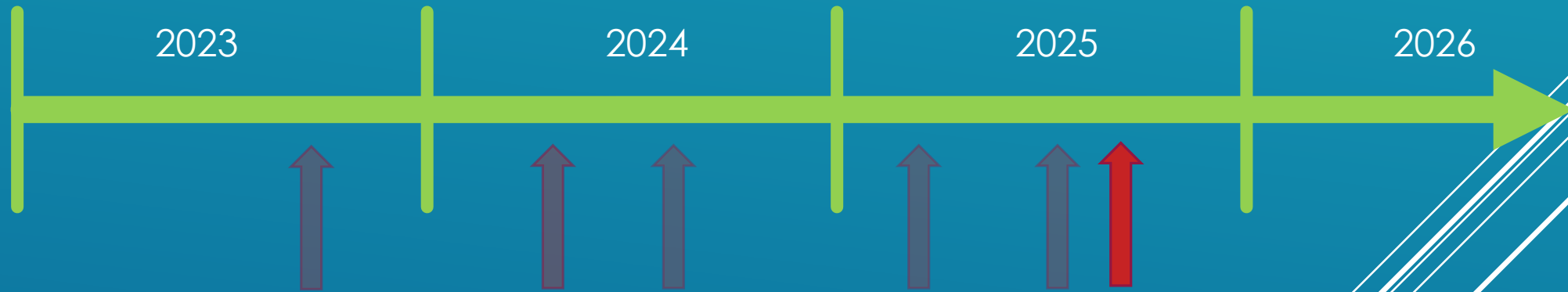
2024 – Commission staff developed a draft RFP which was provided to NOAA for review.



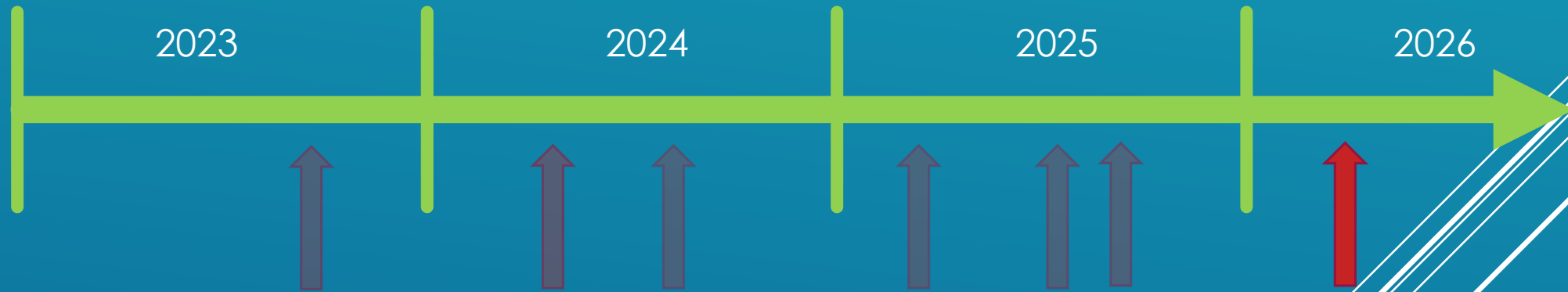
2025 – A new five-year cooperative agreement was requested from NOAA as an avenue to move the funds to the Commission once they were allocated.



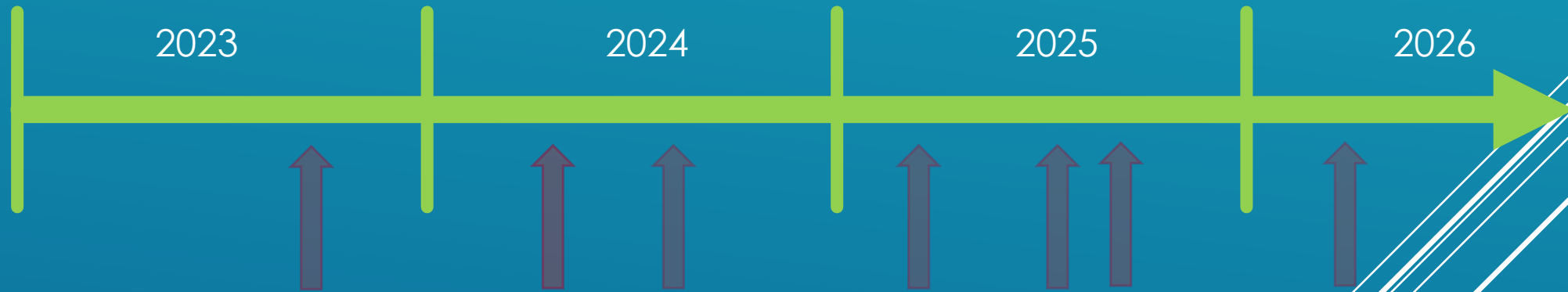
2025 – Solicitations were sent to potential reviewers outside the region. Three independent experts on Cobia and Tripletail have been identified who will help with the decision.



2025 – The full funding for YEAR-1 was received in September and the RFP was distributed. The deadline for submissions is November 14.



2026 – The selected PIs will be notified in late December or early January with work expected to begin March 1.



2027 – The appropriations staff has indicated that this is intended to be a continuing project with more funding in coming years. Cobia and Tripletail were identified as the priorities to start with and the other species, Tarpon and Gray Triggerfish to be added in out years.

QUESTIONS?

