

National Sea Grant Advisory Board (NSGAB) Fall Meeting  
September 7-8, 2014  
Meeting Minutes

Hilton Clearwater Beach  
400 Mandalay Avenue  
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

Sunday, September 7, 2014

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 8:30 am—4:00 pm EDT

Introductions, review agenda, approval of minutes, etc. (R. Schmitten, Chair, NSGAB)

**Roll Call:**

Richard Vortmann, Michael Orbach, Dale Baker, Richard West, William Stubblefield, Nancy Rabalais, Rosanne Fortner, Paulinus Chigbu, Rolland Schmitten, Harry Simmons, Dale Baker, LaDon Swann (*ex-officio*), Leon Cammen (*ex-officio*)

National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) attendees: Elizabeth Rohring (Designated Federal Officer), Nikola Garber, Sami Grimes, Jon Eigen.

Other attendees:

Jennifer Maggio- National Sea Grant Office, Contractor, 2020 Company, LLC.

Kathryn MacDonald-National Sea Grant Office, Contractor, 2020 Company, LLC.

Byung-Gui Lee, Jeju Sea Grant, Jeju University

Peter Betzer, St. Petersburg Downtown

Karl Havens, Florida Sea Grant

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes (R. Schmitten, NSGO)**

Mr. Schmitten raised two additional items that need further discussion which are the NSGAB appointment process and the difference between public and business meetings in terms of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

**February 2014 Draft Minutes**

Questions/Comments/Changes

- Mr. Schmitten asked if there will be a replacement for Dr. Terrance Smith, NMFS Liaison for the National Sea Grant Office. Dr. Cammen replied, a job announcement is being prepared.
- Dr. Michael Orbach asked Dr. Cammen to explain the cost different between an IPA (Intergovernmental Personal Agreement) and hiring federal employees. Dr. Cammen replied they both cost the same, however IPAs must be from a university. Dr. Orbach also noted on page 14 of the draft minutes, it notes that IPAs cost around \$57M and should be changed to the correct amount.

- Mr. Schmitten asked if the term of Vice Chair is voted for 1 or 2 years. Mrs. Rohring, noted that there is nothing specific in the legislation that says it has to be 1 or 2 years. It can be either.
- Dr. Fortner asked if the minutes could be distributed quicker to the Board in order to use the information in future discussions.
- Dr. Orbach noted on page 8 that he does not oppose the PIE ranking system. Dr. Orbach requested the last two sentences of paragraph 8 be deleted.

### **August 2014 Draft Minutes**

No comments or changes.

**Motion by Mr. Vortmann to approve the February 2014 and August 2014 draft minutes with the recommended changes.**

**Dr. Orbach 2nd, unanimous approval.**

**Motion approved.**

### **Chair's update (R. Schmitten, NSGAB)**

Mr. Schmitten thanked everyone for their attendance. Mr. Schmitten noted he would like the NSGAB to participate in the sessions during Sea Grant Week to give their comments and be involved in discussions. Mr. Schmitten also thanked Dr. Karl Havens and his team for putting together the Sea Grant Week program.

Mr. Schmitten reported, he and Dr. Fortner briefed Mr. Craig McLean, Acting Administrator for OAR and Dr. Steven Fine, Deputy Administrator for OAR on the draft 2014 Biennial Report to Congress on the State of Sea Grant. Mr. Schmitten reported that Mr. McLean had excellent recommendations. Mr. McLean noted, Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, NOAA Administrator has 4 priorities for NOAA (*Provide information and services to make communities more resilient; Evolve the National Weather Service; Invest in observational infrastructure; Achieve organizational excellence*). Two of those priorities, resilient communities and achieving organizational excellence, tie very well into what has been highlighted in the Biennial Report. Dr. Schmitten noted that Dr. Fortner and he will be briefing the Science Advisory Board agenda in November on the 2014 Biennial Report. Mr. Schmitten noted that Dr. Fortner and he are planning to meet with Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, as well.

Mr. Schmitten reported that Mr. Frank Beal declined to be a part of the nominating committee because he had to miss the fall meeting, so Dr. Stubblefield has agreed to take his place. The nominating committee consists of Dr. Nancy Rabalais, Dr. William Stubblefield, and Mr. Rolland Schmitten and they are charged with finding a candidate to be the next Vice Chair.

Mr. Schmitten reported that the Board is currently low on members. The NSGAB is authorized to have 15, and there are currently 13. In March, Dr. Stubblefield will have reached his term limits as well as Admiral West in January 2016. That is a 30% reduction to where the NSGAB should be. The issue is in the nomination process. Mr. Schmitten reported, recently two of the three nominees were turned down by NOAA leadership. Mr. Schmitten feels the process needs to

be revised. It takes simply too long to put someone through a year process, if we don't get accurate guidance to follow.

Dr. Stubblefield asked if the NSGO has approached NOAA leadership with their concern in the process and the change in needed expertise. Dr. Rabalais reported she approached former NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco and she felt the process has been too long for some time. Admiral West asked if the candidates know they were being considered and if so, who is going to tell them they are no longer in the process. Dr. Cammen replied, the nominees were told very carefully they are potential nominees, and they have not yet been told they were rejected.

Dr. Cammen noted that he will be meeting with NOAA leadership in the first week of October to discuss the nomination process. Dr. Sullivan will not be present. He said that a bi-level process was put in place two years ago, where we informally received an okay on the nominations from NOAA Leadership (the Under Secretary) and then they were sent through the formal process. There are two things that need to come out of the meeting – 1) An informal process to get the okay before going through the final process and 2) the actual clearance process.

We are not allowed to call the Administrator, we have to get approval from OAR and they have to get approval from several offices. The quick process now takes as long as the formal process. The process is broken and that's the argument that needs to be made. Mr. Schmitt said that he would also like to discuss the appointment process with Dr. Sullivan in their meeting.

Dr. Orbach asked for a chronological timeline of the nominations process. Mrs. Rohring explained that the most recent nominations process has taken about a year and that includes coming up with candidates and alternate candidates. Some suggestions were made by Dr. Robert Detrick, but when the NSGO called those nominees none of them were interested.

### **National Sea Grant College Program, Director's Update (L. Cammen, NSGO)**

Dr. Cammen thanked the NSGAB for their service and recognized the substantial commitment and work they have done, which is a vital function to the program. Now, however, he believes it's time for the Board to start thinking about programmatic advice. The NSGAB is the national think tank for the program and Dr. Cammen believes it is where the Board's expertise will be used over the next couple of years.

Dr. Cammen noted Sea Grant is a very valuable program and has a lot to offer NOAA and we need to get the message across. The real problem NOAA faces is getting the results out. There will be more emphases on getting information out to our stakeholders and that is Sea Grants' strong suit. We are no longer fighting for our existence, we are at a point we've just started to grow and we want to continue to grow. We have real opportunity to shape where the program is going.

Dr. Stubblefield asked why Dr. Cammen has optimism that this is an opportune time for growth. Dr. Cammen replied that he believes there is a lot of leadership at NOAA that understands Sea Grant and that the culture is changing.

*Topic: Sea Grant News*

Dr. Cammen noted that there has been word that NOAA is interested in using the Performance, Implementation, and Evaluation Resource (PIER) database created by the National Sea Grant Office. Dr. Stubblefield noted his sense of PIER is that they are small local accomplishments. It is a problem that these projects are not integrated; Sea Grant does not do a good job of regional global accomplishments. Dr. Stubblefield asked if there is there something in PIER that can simulate or combine to show there are local and large projects. He doesn't feel Sea Grant gets much credit by having a 100 small projects as much as two significant projects that say we couldn't do it without the program.

Dr. Cammen replied that the database itself won't do that, however it does let one search for a region. The suggestion from Dr. Stubblefield is a hands-on exercise and the NSGO does that when they have time. Dr. Stubblefield noted to Dr. Swann that he feels the greatest justification for removing the cap is to allow the staff sufficient personnel to do this large scale marketing, it is great efficiency. That alone would justify addressing the administrative cap.

Dr. Cammen reported, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is restructuring rules and regulations for the federal grant making process in the Super Circular. Each individual agency will interpret these changes differently. Agencies have until December 26, 2014 to comply with the new rules. There are a lot of small changes, but there will be a major impact on removing the distinction between a grant and a project. Funded awards will have to have outcomes and emphasis on evaluating the success on meeting those outcomes. Sea Grant is already in a good position to do this.

Also, under the new rules, federal agencies and pass-through entities must accept a negotiated indirect cost rate if one exists, or negotiate a rate in accordance with federal guidelines. There are some exceptions. Universities can still use overhead money as match, but there won't be the ability to negotiate an overhead rate. There are a lot of other details, and we are waiting to see what other changes are going to be made.

Dr. Cammen reported that Virginia Sea Grant is now a College Program. Dr. Cammen congratulated Troy Hartley. Dr. Cammen reported, Pennsylvania Sea Grant submitted their application for College status and is currently going under review. The team that will review Pennsylvania Sea Grant will be a subcommittee of the Board which will present a recommendation that will be acted on by the Board.

Dr. Cammen reported that he met with representatives from the Northern Mariana Islands which included the President of the College, Dean and member of the board of trustees. They are interested in becoming affiliated with Sea Grant. At this point the NSGO is letting them know what Sea Grant is all about. It was a great conversation. They have a very strong aquaculture program and a good amount of extension agents. They are a land grant college.

There is a possibility of emerging programs within Sea Grant. Mr. Vortmann asked, if they are planning on working through the University of Guam, becoming their own affiliation or having two programs. Dr. Cammen replied, they are interested in creating their own affiliation. We asked them to give us a concept paper on what they are trying to accomplish. Dr. Orbach noted, this is a very smart move for Sea Grant and in developing relationships.



Mr. Baker asked, if Guam Sea Grant's resources go through Hawaii Sea Grant, or directly to Guam Sea Grant. Dr. Cammen replied, directly to Guam Sea Grant. There is an agent in the Marshall Islands that is with Hawaii Sea Grant.

Dr. Orbach noted that Guam is a territory of the US, and the Northern Marianas is a commonwealth in a free association of the U.S. That makes a big difference in how we do programs and what we call them. I would put this clearly in with the same discussion with Korea. This is part of the whole shift with the Western Pacific. Dr. Cammen noted, one of the things they are talking about is a potential collaboration with their college and Japanese and Korean Universities.

*Topic: Sea Grant Related Personnel News*

Dr. Cammen reported that he is looking at ways of how the NSGO can continue to function with the current staff. One way is to have the office split assigned duties. Half of the staff would be program officers and the other half would work on program development.

*Topic: Enhancing the Sea Grant-NOAA Working Relationships*

Dr. Cammen reviewed the historical data on Sea Grant-NOAA working relationships. Dr. Cammen noted the NSGO is working with the National Ocean Service (NOS) on filling a liaison position. Penny Dalton engineered an agreement at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) laboratory in Washington. The NOAA Sentinel Site Extension Specialists were created over the last few years by NOAA Sentinel Sites and NOS. It puts together an observational network with programs.

Dr. Cammen noted there are five total agreements where Sea Grant is going to offer extension support. Sea Grant is going to pay part of the salary and NOS will pay a part. The job of the extension specialists is to take the information from the sentinel sites and bring it back to the Sea Grant Network.

Dr. Cammen noted the SG-NMFS exchange program is a competitive program that involves taking Sea Grant Extension Agents and moving them into laboratories or science centers and moving scientists to work with Sea Grant programs. Their salaries would continue to be paid, but the NSGO would pay for living expenses. These exchanges are short one month to one year exchanges that will begin this fall. NMFS will pay the same amount for their employees who work with Sea Grant programs. The project is supposed to be an identifiable project prior to the exchange. It will get the local Sea Grant programs involved in what's going on in the NMFS program.

Dr. Orbach asked Dr. Cammen if there's been any discussion on affiliation with the regulatory agency. Sea Grant has a fisheries extension program. A lot of what they do is the same kind of program and they do work with NMFS. Dr. Cammen replied, participants will have to pick the project carefully.

Dr. Mace asked, is this an opportunistic program. Dr. Cammen replied, this developed out of a joint meeting at a NMFS workshop last spring. It came up in a discussion to figure out how to get collaboration going. The NSGO has had meetings with NOS and nothing similar came out of the meeting.

*Topic: FY 2014/2015 Budget*

Dr. Cammen noted that FY 2015 is the highest appropriation for Sea Grant.

*Topic: Funding Allocation Policy Highlights*

Dr. Cammen noted the final draft of the Allocation Policy has been sent out. Dr. Cammen is looking for policy discussions that aren't clearly written. Admiral West noted he will send his corrections to Dr. Cammen.

Dr. Cammen pointed out that he feels it's important to have a large pool of merit funding. The NSGO does pay attention to those programs that do a good job. There is a competitive side to this.

*Topic: Focus Teams*

Dr. Cammen noted the focus team structure the NSGO currently has is not appropriate for the new plan. There's been a lot of discussion within the network on where we go from here.

Dr. Cammen reported focus teams were very useful for the NSGO, and retrospective analysis, however, the feeling throughout the network was that the focus teams weren't helpful, weren't as connected.

Dr. Cammen noted focus teams were large, geographically diverse and the overall recommendation was that the NSGO take over this role. The network felt that the focus teams failed to identify new opportunities and directions and form new partnerships. The new teams will hopefully focus on the advisory role and stop having operational responsibilities

The new focus teams would be NSGAB sub-committees with working groups as needed to pull in additional participants. These teams are going to function on behalf of the entire network. They aren't there to represent their organizations, their job is to step back and represent the entire network and they will have to be consistent with the National Plan.

Admiral West noted that the PIE Committee looked at focus teams and liked the idea Dr. Cammen put forth. Admiral West feels the NSGAB should be involved.

Admiral West mentioned in 2006-07, the NSGAB went to the Hill and had their name changed from the National Sea Grant Review panel to an advisory board and he feels the members have done a lot of that. The site reviews are very high level reviews on changes to Sea Grant. One thing Admiral West feels the NSGAB hasn't done is look to see what's in the future.

Mr. Schmitten said that using the focus teams to review the annual reports for top impacts is not a good use of their expertise. He said that the burden could be put on the program to give the NSGO their best 5 or 10 accomplishments. Mrs. MacDonald noted the programs are asked to give twenty for the new PIER public search. These "featured" impacts are used for many other communication tools. It is up to the programs to ensure that these are current and reflect their top impacts.

Many of the Board members voiced their concerns with the Board members taking on this task and still being able to complete their normal functions. Dr. Cammen replied that anyone can be on a subcommittee and anyone can chair them. The Board can have external experts on these sub-committees.

Dr. Cammen pointed out that having the focus teams as subcommittees of the board allows them to report to the Board, and then to NOAA which is required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA.) Dr. Cammen felt that these subcommittees are not going to be a lot of work.

Dr. Orbach noted if there's only one member as a liaison in the group, it may work. Dr. Orbach suggested to Dr. Cammen that it would be better to ask the Board to create not just one liaison, but a subcommittee of the Board to essentially be more of a full liaison to the focus groups. That would be better than saying the NSGAB is going to make them total subcommittees of the Board.

Several Board members asked about the legislation and its wording regarding subcommittees. Dr. Rabalais read from the current Sea Grant Legislation, "The Board may establish such subcommittees as are reasonably necessary to carry out its duties under subsection (b). Such subcommittees may include individuals who are not Board members." Dr. Rabalais feels it's the Board's duty as members to advise the program.

Admiral West noted his only concern about the Board having decisions that influence Sea Grant, is that it needs to be public. Dr. Orbach feels shifting responsibilities from the NSGO to the NSGAB raises a red flag. Dr. Cammen said this could be discussed further before implementing.

### **Florida Sea Grant Current Program Highlights (K. Havens, Florida Sea Grant)**

#### *Topic: Introduction to Florida Sea Grant*

Dr. Havens presented on Florida Sea Grant's state-wide program structure that is made up of partnerships between the University of Florida, Florida Academic Institutions and Florida coastal counties. Florida Sea Grant participates with 18 other universities within the state. Dr. Havens reports to the provost of the University of Florida and Senior VP of Agriculture; and reports annually through the provost office on finances, as well as a 5-year detailed report.

Dr. Havens noted he has been negotiating regionally to have agents work in several different areas. Mr. Baker asked if coastal counties help with funding. Dr. Havens replied, Florida Sea Grant contributes some, and the land grant university side pays part and that county pays part. It isn't the same percentage split with each agent.

#### *Topic: Outreach: Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative.*

Dr. Havens noted Florida Sea Grant now gets \$750K a year for research related to the outreach program. Florida Sea Grant is trying to do the same thing with NOAA.

#### *Topic: Habitat Restoration Training Program*

Dr. Havens reported there are currently 150 trainers that use a very regimented curriculum. The program is for six months and participants receive a certificate for master naturalist. The

program graduates about 1000 people a year and is a revenue generating project. Dr. Havens noted Florida Sea Grant has received a donation to cover half the program.

*The Regional Waterway Management System & Results*

Dr. Havens noted this is a GIS-based framework for achieving municipal, county and state goals of facilitation of safe navigation and reducing impacts on aquatic habitats. There are several marinas and communities branching off the inter-coastal waterway that Florida Sea Grant has managed and dredged. Every piece of waterway is in a GIS system in order to prevent boats from getting in places where water is too shallow.

Dr. Havens noted there are 51 communities using this system. Dredging permits are now covered under one single blanket permit that is protective of sea grass, whereas before they were individual permits.

*Topic: Enhancing survival in catch & release fishing*

Dr. Havens noted long term mortality reduction rates are not known at this time, only short term. Florida Sea Grant received a grant from West Marine for kiosk that will show people how to use different devices. A group has been going around and presenting this information. Mr. Schmitt noted, this has national implications and would like to see Sea Grant's name attached to these efforts.

*Topic: Responding to a Disaster (Collapse of a historic oyster fishery); Monthly AB Landings; Oyster Recovery Team; Outcomes*

Dr. Havens noted the oyster fishery collapsed in 2012. 80% of the oysters in Apalachicola Bay were destroyed, which used to sell 10% of the oysters in the U.S. Dr. Havens heard about the fishery collapse and he became the chair of the Oyster Task Force. Dr. Havens retrieved experts from all state agencies, people representing the oyster community, universities and county commissioners of the county where the fishery was located. The University of Florida used \$250k for grant funding to the program.

Dr. Havens referenced the hydro-graph map and noted, as a result of drought, a lot of species came to eat the oysters. Oyster disease rose and therefore the fishery was named a disaster. Due to the declaration, \$8M was given to the state to use on an oyster restoration project. It has been guided by this model. Florida Sea Grant just received a grant to do experimental oyster restoration projects.

*Topic: Research Technology Transfer*

Florida Sea Grant is researching a partnership with a commercial roofing company to produce a new product to strengthen old roofs against hurricane force winds.

*Topic: Everglades Restoration and Climate Change; Outcomes*

Dr. Havens reported Florida Sea Grant partnered with the Army Corps of Engineers and have held workshops to look at climate change. A workshop was held where future climate scenarios were developed. The hydro models were developed into data and ecologists reported on what the data means. Dr. Havens presented to regional groups to the everglades restoration team.

*Topic: Emerging Issues (Shortage of Freshwater; Coastal Hazards and Climate Change; Public Health and Climate Change; and Lack of Adequate Ocean Governance)*

Dr. Havens noted there have been a lot of health related issues due to Vibrio. People aren't allowed to swim if they have open wounds. No one can eat raw shellfish because of cyanobacterial blooms. An aquatic health specialist has been added to the Florida Sea Grant team.

Dr. Havens reported there is no ocean governance in Florida. Florida Sea Grant has been working with the legislatures and holding workshops on why they need an ocean governance plan and have developed fact sheets. Dr. Mace noted the Florida Ocean Council was supposed to be governance. An oceans council was formed and there were 15 members. Dr. Havens noted once their new governor came into office, they lost all funding. They still exist by legislation and the Sunshine Law.

Dr. Orbach applauded Dr. Havens for going into inland waterways, which makes perfect sense crossing land sea boundary. Mr. Schmitt noted he was very impressed with the work Florida Sea Grant has done.

### **Sea Grant Reauthorization Update (L.Cammen, NSGO; R. Schmitt, NSGAB)**

Dr. Cammen reported the NSGO has been talking to various parts of Congress and the Senate Commerce Majority and Minority regarding the Knauss Fellowship language. Committees are unhappy they aren't getting fellows every year. There was language proposed that is mandatory they get fellows. That will leave the NSGO in the position to have to force the fellows into certain positions.

The NSGO has had some conversations with the Science Committee and the Resources Committee. These groups usually have jurisdiction over reauthorization. The House is pretty doubtful they are going to get to the reauthorization before they finish in December. Once the new Congress comes in, everything will start over again.

There is language about dropping some committee reports; no one seems to be opposed to that. The admin cap is the big point of contention. The NSGO's position is to get rid of it entirely. The SGA's position is to keep it. We ended up, after a lot of back and forth with the Senate, raising it by ½ percent, which is about \$300K, enough to hire two or three more people.

The other item in the language is the authority to hire university staff under Intergovernmental Personnel Acts (IPAs). This is nothing new, but the NSGO could now hire them without taking the cost out of the cap if the IPA is working with administrative issues, which is hard to avoid if they are sitting in the NSGO. An extra ½ percent and having IPAs is better than what the NSGO has now, but not sufficient.

Mr. Vortmann noted if the language is successfully changed, it is very significant as far as staffing. Dr. Cammen replied it can be. As long as the NSGO hires university people, on short term assignments, the impact on the program is the same such that the money will not be available to the programs, whether we are paying an IPA or a federal employee.

Dr. Cammen said that the NSGO can't spend right up to the penny of 5%. The NSGO does not want to hire someone one year and fire them the next. Ideally, the positions can be filled with contracting, but the NSGO has to be conservative in how it deals with the cap.

Dr. Swann asked Dr. Cammen what he will be doing with the extra 5% cap increase that came as a result of the increase in budget. Dr. Cammen replied, part of it we are carrying over to FY15. If you look at the President's budget request, the 5% is being taken away. Dr. Swann noted the budget increased which means there is an extra \$250K of money to hire more people. The SGA would like to understand the spend plan for that. If the NSGO can't hire someone due to the uncertainty of next year's budget, then the cap isn't the biggest issue.

Dr. Swann noted two other minor things that are significant to the SGA. Marine aquaculture could be codified in the appropriations, but wasn't listed as an extra initiative. There is a new one that would help us as we market ourselves from a resilient standpoint - coastal resilience in America's working coasts.

### **SGA President's Report (L. Swann, SGA)**

*Topic(s): Self-Reflection; Operational; SGA Election; Program Mission Committee; Communications; Growth; Congressional & Agency Communications; Sea Grant Association Award; SG Communications; Messaging Outcomes; NOAA Coastal Roundtable; Joint Efforts with the NSGAB & NSGO; Unfinished Business; When We are at Our Best; A Good Year in 2016; Unfinished Business; New Business*

Dr. Stubblefield noted when the NSGO was at its best, they did a lot better when everyone was robust and had the flexibility to do their job. The NSGO, he believes, has historically done a lot of hand holding and interaction with the programs. What the NSGO hasn't been able to do is be aggressive at marketing or developing the network, as well as partnerships and coming together with coherent highly persuasive accomplishments. The NSGO can do this, but they don't have the manpower or skill set.

The only way to do this is to redirect marketability or to get more resources to do the job. Dr. Stubblefield said that without the NSGO having the ability to do this, there won't be more growth. The network won't be able to do what the NSGO can with growth. Dr. Stubblefield noted he is in support of the SGA, but feels they don't recognize how best to work and support the NSGO and let them do what they are best equipped to do.

Dr. Swann noted that a good business deal would include "this is what we'll do and this is the cost and this is your return". If you don't say what you are going to do, I have the opportunity to go elsewhere. What is the National Office's proposal to the SGA?

Dr. Orbach asked Dr. Swann, what are the things, outside of the cap, that the Advisory Board should be doing to foster these common objectives. Dr. Swann noted he's never seen such a group of highly qualified people on the Board. He feels they are in the middle of any success with growth. Dr. Swann suggested that the Board work with the SGA and together they can influence from a growth stand point.

## **Biennial Report Update and Vote (R. Fortner, NSGAB)**

Mr. Schmitt noted Dr. Fortner has done a wonderful job in developing and steering the NSGAB's Biennial Report to Congress. Dr. Fortner reported there are two documents that were given to the Board. The one is a layout of the Biennial Report, which was created by Puerto Rico Sea Grant. The layout does not include all of the pictures and is not final. The other document is the latest text version in draft form.

Dr. Fortner handed out the power point presentation titled "The State of Sea Grant 2014: Impacts, Challenges and Opportunities. Dr. Fortner noted it was presented to OAR Leadership and well received. Dr. Fortner commented that one of the challenges (slide 20) that the NSGO faces is interior meetings within NOAA. For example, if there is a NOAA team looking at the three year budget, certain parts of NOAA can send a lot of people to those meetings. Sea Grant has trouble finding one person to go to those meetings.

*Topic: State of Sea Grant 2014 Report; National Sea Grant Advisory Board; What is Sea Grant?; Sea Grant's Mission; The Sea Grant Network; Sea Grant's Niche; Sea Grant and NOAA; Sea Grant Program Focus Areas; Recommendations*

Dr. Fortner noted that the project was very difficult to complete without an in-house editor. When Amy Painter was not replaced we had to find the material through individual staff. It slowed the process because of a lack of in-house resources.

*Topic: State of Sea Grant 2014 Report-Recommendations*

Dr. Fortner noted on slide 22 that Sea Grant should strengthen the focus area in Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development. It is really important before the federal budget threatens the education component. Sea Grant needs to build on this case and demonstrate how all of our levels of education can contribute to the critical mission and how they can respond to national priorities and evidence based accomplishments. Our problem with educators is we are stressed and there isn't enough time to get things done.

They are working on collecting, compiling and enhancing the educators' abilities themselves to writing impacts and effective evaluation. It will take more money than they have now. At North Carolina Sea Grant for example, the Sea Grant educator's budget is her salary. She doesn't have money to travel or to conduct research. There's an expectation that can't be met. We need to treat our educators as the experts that they are.

*Topic: Emerging Opportunities*

Dr. Fortner reported the Sea Grant educators' network added the two emerging opportunities under education. The NSGO fellows did not add anything because the past focus areas did not include education. We want to stress that environmental literacy and workforce development are just as important as the other focus areas. Education is what Sea Grant is supposed to be doing. Preparing seafood safely, educating children, preparing for the next storm, etc., are all equally important.

*Topic: Performance measures and metrics*

Mr. Vortmann noted the numbers of jobs created or sustained is impressive and makes him wonder whether the numbers are correct. Dr. Mace suggested the numbers should be distinguished between jobs created or jobs sustained. Dr. Cammen replied that the NSGO is now requiring wages to be included in the jobs created metric. Either they know the exact wages or they can research an average wage. Regardless, there is a way to convert jobs into wages.

Dr. Stubblefield and Dr. Rabalais noted the performance measures and metrics documents should not be at the end of the Biennial Report. Due to its importance, it should be at the front. Dr. Fortner explained that there are pieces in the narrative that we want people to know before they get to the appendix material, including the performance measures and metrics.

Dr. Mace asked if there are any other NOAA programs that have a congressionally mandated administrative cap. Dr. Cammen replied, no. Dr. Mace noted on page 24 of the text document that the only thing mentioned regarding the cap is that it is at 5.5% and feels it should be mentioned that Sea Grant is the only program with the cap for those who aren't aware.

**Motion by Dr. Fortner to add that Sea Grant is the only NOAA program with a congressionally mandated administrative cap.  
Unanimous approval.**

Dr. Fortner asked Mrs. Rohring to include links to the original Sea Grant Legislation in the introduction and 2008 Reauthorizing legislation that was enacted in Appendix B.

**Motion by Dr. Fortner: Approve the draft 2014 Biennial Report to Congress with noted changes.  
2nd Mayor Simmons; Unanimous approval.  
Motion approved.**

**Nomination of New Vice Chair (R. Schmitten, NSGCP)**

Mr. Schmitten noted the Nominating Committee consisted of himself, Dr. Rabalais and Dr. Stubblefield. The committee did receive one Vice Chair nomination; however, they viewed the full Board to see if there are others that feel they should be recommended. Mr. Schmitten noted the committee has two actions of interest. The first is to elect a Vice Chair and then to decide on the length of the term. Dr. Stubblefield reported the Nominating Committee recommends Mr. Dale Baker to be Vice Chair for one year. Mr. Schmitten noted historically, the Vice Chair has moved to the Chair position.

**Motion by Mr. Vortmann to elect Mr. Dale Baker as Vice Chair for one year.  
2nd, Mayor Harry Simmons; Unanimous approval.  
Motion approved.**

**Pennsylvania Sea Grant Program Status: Charge to Board (L. Cammen, NSGO)**

Dr. Cammen reported that Pennsylvania Sea Grant has applied for college status. They are currently an Institutional Program and it's the NSGAB's responsibility to decide the designation



of the Pennsylvania Sea Grant Program. The NSGAB then delivers a recommendation to Dr. Cammen. If it's a positive recommendation, Dr. Cammen sends it forward with documentation to the Secretary of Commerce for approval.

In the case for Pennsylvania Sea Grant, the status review can be added to the upcoming, quadrennial site visit. They have many similar requirements. To become a Sea Grant College Program, they have to demonstrate the standards of excellence required in the legislation and regulations. The NSGO has decided to be a little flexible and combine the two reviews in order to be more efficient.

Dr. Cammen charged the NSGAB with putting together a committee and carrying out the review process. It was noted that Dr. Fortner, Admiral West, Mr. Baker, Mr. Jonathan Pennock and Mr. Jonathan Eigen will make up the status review team for Pennsylvania Sea Grant.

Mr. Vortmann asked about the University of Southern California Sea Grant becoming a College Program. Dr. Cammen noted there is a policy that states only one Sea Grant College Program per state. Dr. Cammen noted Lake Champlain is currently preparing an application for Institutional status. This is the last potential program for College status.

#### **Transformative Partnership (P. Betzer, CEO, St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership)**

Dr. Stubblefield introduced Mr. Betzer and thanked him for coming. Mr. Betzer presented the transformation of a downtown industrial backwater into the largest marine research complex in the southeastern United States. It is a testimonial to a multi-decade series of effective partnerships. The critical collaborators included: 1) administrators from the University of South Florida; 2) business leaders and business groups in St. Petersburg; 3) the mayors and city councils of St. Petersburg; 4) interested private citizens; 5) state legislators; 6) federal legislators; and 7) a host of donors who built multiple endowments in support of marine research. Given the embryonic state of the marine operations that started in 1966, the daunting challenge was to actually convince prospective supporters that St. Petersburg's Bayboro Harbor could actually be transformed into a major asset. Mr. Betzer reported on how the Partnership propelled the marine sciences into prominence. Mr. Schmitten noted Mr. Betzer's enthusiasm is contagious and thanked him for his presentation.

#### **Discussion of day's topics and wrap-up (R. Schmitten, NSGAB)**

Mr. Schmitten reviewed the topics covered.

- The NSGAB appointment process was brought forth with outstanding issues. Issues included: naming current candidates and fixing the nomination process. Mr. Schmitten noted Dr. Cammen agreed to have meetings to discuss these issues, and he and Dr. Fortner will discuss the issue with Dr. Kathryn Sullivan during their Biennial Report briefing.
- The NSGAB has been driven by process for the last few years. Moving forward, the Board will be providing topical advice for programs. The Board has reached a status where they can be more thinkers than doers. NOAA's problem is getting results out and the Board can help. It's an exciting time for growth within Sea Grant.

- The Northern Mariana Islands approached Sea Grant with interest in becoming affiliated with Sea Grant. There lies a potential opportunity for Sea Grant.
- Focal areas and how they've changed. Mr. Schmitten indicated they will reform the focal groups. There will be a new role for the Board. There has been plenty of discussion, but no answer. This item needs more clarification and discussion.
- There is the concern with Sea Grants Reauthorization moving out of the Senate. There will be no House engagement until the bill comes from the Senate. Senator Schatz is very driven to continue to move the Reauthorization along.
- The 2014 Biennial Report to Congress was approved with changes.
- Mr. Dale Baker was approved for Vice Chairman for one year.
- Dr. Cammen noted more information regarding focus teams will be available in March 2015. It will most likely include Board members with subcommittees. Mr. Schmitten noted the Board needs additional guidance on what they need to do.

Public meeting recessed until 9:00 am Monday, September 8, 2014

### **Monday, September 08, 2014**

#### **Roll Call:**

Richard Vortmann, Michael Orbach, Dale Baker, Richard West, William Stubblefield, Nancy Rabalais, Rosanne Fortner, Paulinus Chigbu, Rolland Schmitten, Harry Simmons, Dale Baker, LaDon Swann (*ex-officio*), Leon Cammen (*ex-officio*)

National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) attendees: Elizabeth Rohring (Designated Federal Officer), Joshua Brown, Jon Eigen, Nikola Garber, Sami Grimes, Chris Hayes.

Other attendees:

Jennifer Maggio- National Sea Grant Office, Contractor, 2020 Company, LLC.

Kathryn MacDonald-National Sea Grant Office, Contractor, 2020 Company, LLC.

Tammy Newcomer Johnson, Sea Grant Knauss Fellow

Elizabeth Bevan, Sea Grant Knauss Fellow

#### **Focus Area Updates (Tammy Newcomer Johnson and Elizabeth Bevan, NSGO Knauss Fellows)**

*Topic: Focus Areas 2009-2013*

Ms. Bevan noted the 2013 Focus Team Reports contain information on progress toward the strategic plan, impacts, gaps and emerging issues. The presentation will focus mostly on gaps and emerging themes and those that are most important to the growth of the Sea Grant.

*Topic: Focus Area Cross-Cutting Gaps 2009-2013, Research to Application*

Mrs. Newcomer reported gaps represent critical areas of need where Sea Grant can make a significant national contribution towards achieving the Strategic Plan. Each focus team reviewed the impacts for their focus area from 2012 and identified gaps where communities could benefit

the most from Sea Grant's efforts. There were a few points of commonality, cross-cutting gaps of a similar nature across all four focus areas that are going to be collectively discussed initially before delving into the gaps specific to each focus area.

In addition to the gaps and themes identified in 2012, there is the chronic challenge of transitioning the cutting edge research to outreach and education. There was recently a call from Craig McLean, Acting OAR Administrator on NOAA science that has been transitioned from research to real world application. Several examples were pulled from PIER and were sent to Mr. McLean. He was so impressed with them that he sent his assistant to talk to us about it. We are currently developing one-pagers based on these transitions in the focus areas.

*Topic: NSGO Activities-- Moving the Sea Grant Network Forward*

#### Hazard Resilient Coastal Communities:

Ms. Bevan noted there are new collaborations and partnerships on disaster planning and response within NOAA and other federal and non-federal agencies. The NSGO is exploring partnerships within NOAA, such as the Climate Program Office. Other partnerships outside of NOAA include the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are also being explored.

HUD is looking to complete a \$1M funding partnership through the Governors Association. It's a perfect opportunity for Sea Grant to help direct how the money is spent. Sea Grant has the connection to the targeted, most vulnerable communities where they are looking to impact. The Sea Grant Climate Network has a new webinar series beginning on September 30th and will continue monthly, showcasing different projects in different areas. They will highlight the great climate projects programs are doing around the world.

#### Sustainable Coastal Development (SCD):

Ms. Bevin noted multiple offices are involved in the Sentinel Site Cooperative Program. Sea Grant is also working with NOAA's Natural Infrastructure Program and supporting the Coastal Development Network which is a cross network activity. For example, the Fisheries Extension Network has hosted a webinar on climate change and coastal tourism. The Sustainable Coastal Development Network will be planning a meeting together in two months, right before the Restore America's Estuaries Conference. Also, the National Working Waterfronts network will kick off the Biennial Symposium in 2015.

#### Healthy Coastal Ecosystems (HCE):

Mrs. Newcomer Johnson noted the Aquatic Nuisance Species program has been active in the Great Lakes Biotic Symposium. Another gap is emerging contaminants. The Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Product Management group has been very active in terms of developing relations with the American Veterinary Medical Association to deal with emerging contaminants with medicine and livestock. They are surveying pet owners and trying to spread the the word to many networks. Sea Grant has funded over a half of a million dollars of research in this area.

#### Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (SFA):

Mrs. Newcomer Johnson noted the Fisheries Extension Network is well organized. They've had a pretty successful webinar series and have served as an umbrella for several smaller communities of practice. They have been the sounding board for national priorities for NOAA, such as aquaculture policy and the bait and tackle survey. There have been positive comments on the NMFS-Sea Grant Exchange Program.

#### Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development (ELWD):

Mrs. Newcomer Johnson announced this is a new and upcoming focus area. There is an active Sea Grant Educators network. There was an inventory of citizen science through the Sea Grant network.

#### *Topic: Next Steps*

Mr. Schmitten congratulated Mrs. Newcomer Johnson and Ms. Bevan on their presentation. Mr. Schmitten noted the work that Sea Grant does is valuable not only to the programs, but to the rest of the network and nation. Mr. Schmitten asked if they can send the events and surveys that were mentioned in the presentation to the Board. Mrs. Newcomer Johnson will send them to Mrs. Rohring to forward on.

Dr. Orbach asked, as we shift from old to new focus areas, what are the challenges? There was a conversation about how effective teams have or have not been. Are there any thoughts on transitioning? Ms. Bevan noted she feels like focus teams are effective, but stove piped, which can lead to gaps. She feels teams can be useful, but there needs to be more collaboration.

Dr. Stubblefield asked Mrs. Newcomer Johnson and Ms. Bevin if they see the focus teams as being useful for expanding networking through NOAA. Ms. Bevan replied that she has seen the activities of the network and how they've picked up the activities. She can't speak to how the focus areas have raised Sea Grant's visibility, but she does know the networks have been trying really hard to raise visibility and to make a more effective message.

Mr. Baker asked how the gaps were determined. Mrs. Newcomer Johnson replied, they were identified from the focus team reports from the 2012 Focus Area Impacts. Dr. Rabalais noted the ELWD focus area needs to include the extension network as well as the education network. Dr. Orbach noted there was a good emphasis on HUD and funding. If we are looking onward and upward, this is a strategic planning effort. There are lots of other funding opportunities that do what we do, or want to do. That is a good example, and we need to look at those more than increased funding.

#### **National Strategic Initiative (NSI) Priorities (L. Cammen, NSGO)**

Dr. Cammen asked the Board to vote on at least five National Strategic Initiatives (NSI) from the list that was distributed to the Board (attached). He will also ask the Sea Grant Directors to do the same. Dr. Cammen is hoping that by the end of the week, to have a small set of NSI's that he can provide to the network for further development. When the Sea Grant network gets together next spring, there will be a write up of the top five. Dr. Cammen asked everyone to review their list, and he will compile the top 5 for everyone to vote on.

*Topic: NSI Priorities*

Dr. Cammen noted every Sea Grant Program receives \$30K for climate change. The program picks the community to work with or some sort of capacity building. Programs were matched about 45% of what they put into their social science projects.

In the FY16 budget, aquaculture will most likely be included as it is congressionally mandated. The NSGO has an option of funding more aquaculture. If Sea Grant has level funding, there will be \$3M available. Next spring the NSGO will pick one or two of these topics for the FY16 budget, which will put the Sea Grant Network a year ahead, so programs know what is coming.

The Board discussed the importance of the topics listed and how much of an impact Sea Grant could make on these issues. Admiral West noted he went to DC last month to visit the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and other agencies and the topic that was positively received was coastal resilience. That is what is on the mind of the current administration.

An additional topic discussed by the Board was that of wind energy and offshore windmills. Mayor Simmons asked if anyone has spoken to the Bureau of Ocean Energy and Management on wind development. Dr. Brown replied, yes on wind and other forms of energy. There is no formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), but Sea Grant has engaged in funding and some members of NSGO staff are on their working groups.

Dr. Cammen noted he will present the top five as part of his presentation to kick off the SGA discussion the following day. What the NSGO usually does when considering proposals and review panels, at this point, we rank the projects and let everyone review. Dr. Cammen said the NSGO would take the top five topics and have people volunteer to write this up by next spring and write a two-pager describing the focus Sea Grant would be looking at, how they expect it to work and why this is something the Sea Grant Network should be doing.

Dr. Mace asked if the impacts will be timely and aligned with Sea Grant. Dr. Cammen replied, yes they will be formalized. Dr. Orbach asked the next steps. Dr. Cammen noted by the end of the week, the Sea Grant Network will have identified a set of topics. The NSGO will then ask for volunteers. The criterion for getting on the team is you have an interest in that particular area. The NSGO will leave it up to the teams to self-select leadership. One person from the NSGO will be a part of the team, but not the lead.

Dr. Cammen asked the Board to vote on 5 NSI's they felt were most important. The following 5 NSI's were voted as most important: Coastal Community Resilience: Preparing for a Changing Future (11 votes); Emerging Contaminants (7 votes); Water Resources (6 votes); Seafood Safety and Traceability (6 votes); and Offshore Energy (6 votes).

They will be given until February 1, 2015 to sort out all of these things we've been discussing: how to make it work, how to make it competitive, etc. Next, as part of the Spring SGA meeting and Board meeting, there will be a basic discussion with more details and a working group and coming to a decision on what to recommend.

## **Advancing Social Science in Sea Grant (C. Hayes, NSGO; P. Grifman, USC Sea Grant)**

### *Topic: Intro*

Mr. Hayes noted the Sea Grant Network spent a lot of time talking about social science two years ago, and the social science community of practice (CoP) produced a business plan. This is an update on the accomplishments and successes of the CoP.

### *Topic: SGW 2012: Social Science Recommendations*

Mr. Hayes reported the Social Science National Strategic investment will continue in FY14 and FY15. There is a one-pager to show where Sea Grant is investing by focus areas and discipline. Mr. Hayes noted MIT Sea Grant and Madeline Hall-Arber have begun the process to develop the social science directory. They are looking for reviewers and to put out Request for Proposals (RFPs).

Mr. Hayes reported he was appointed as the NSGO social sciences lead. He will be passing the responsibility to Mrs. Rohring and taking the Knauss Fellowship responsibilities. Mr. Hayes noted there is a one-pager in the Biennial report, as well as posters that really focus on telling the story of Sea Grant social science research.

Mr. Hayes noted it was recommended that there be RFPs focused solely on social science. A couple of regions have taken a regional approach and have focused exclusively on social science research. Most programs, if not all, include a social science component.

The CoP will be offering their first social science webinar on October 1, 2014, modeled after the Great Lakes Climate Change workshop developed in cooperation between Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant and the NSGO. There will be one webinar per month throughout December.

Phyllis Grifman of University of Southern California Sea Grant presented several programs showing the efforts of the CoP. These efforts included the *Wisconsin Sea Grant-Eat Wisconsin Fish*; *Northeast Sea Grant College Consortium-Support for Economic Analysis of Trade-offs in Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP) for the US Northeast Region*; *California Sea Grant-North Coast Fishing Communities Project*; *West Coast Sea Grant Social Science Initiative-Successful Adaptation: and the East and West Coast Regions-Identifying and Understanding Space Use Conflicts on the Outer Continental Shelf*

## **Additional Discussion (R. Schmitten, NSGAB)**

Mr. Schmitten noted there was extra time to carry over some additional topics from the previous day, particularly on Board responsibility. Dr. Cammen reported the concept of the focus teams in a nut shell would become sub committees of the Board and as such the advice coming out of the focus team. Mr. Vortmann verified that Dr. Cammen is asking the Board to create a subcommittee that would come back to the Board with their recommendations. The Board would then as a whole come to a consensus to provide to Dr. Cammen.

Admiral West noted the Board spent some time on this because there were a lot of people involved in the focus teams and it became dormant. He likes the idea of getting more involved.

Admiral West feels the Board has to be careful in their involvement in the focus teams. If the Board is involved, they have to be co-chair. There were Board members on the teams last time, but some Board members didn't show up.

Dr. Orbach noted one of the problems is the Board hasn't had time to commit and now you want the Board to commit more time.

Dr. Rabalais noted she doesn't see this being much different except the focus issue. There are four of them and if there are four Board members who want to co-chair, they choose to spend more time. She doesn't see a problem with more work for everyone sitting around the table. It's their decision to make a commitment.

Dr. Orbach asked what particular FACA challenge this solution addresses. Dr. Cammen replied that if there is a committee providing advice to a federal agency, then it needs to go through their FACA, particularly if the committee includes federal staff and external representatives. Mrs. Rohring noted a FACA committee can provide advice to a federal agency. As long as it is a subcommittee of the Board, then we are not in violation of FACA. The National Advisory Board Charter says: NOAA may establish such subcommittees, task forces, and work groups consisting of Board members and/or outside experts as may be necessary. Chairs of subcommittees, task forces or work groups shall be selected by and serve at the discretion of the Board. All subcommittee work must be forwarded to the full Board for actual deliberation. Only the Board may advise NOAA.

### **Site Visit Schedule and Review (S. Grimes, NSGO)**

#### *Topic: Sea Grant Site Visit*

Mrs. Grimes referenced the site visit schedule on page 133-134 of the briefing book. There will be 34 visits by September of 2015.

#### *Topic: Standards of excellence; Site Visits*

Mrs. Grimes noted that the site visit process will include a finding on whether or not the program reached the standards of excellence. Before, the NSGO has three categories and subcategories, but they were not called the standards of excellence - they are the same categories, but the name has been changed to more accurately reflect the challenge to the programs.

#### *Topic: 2014-2017 Strategic Plan Alignment; Strategic Plan Changes: Performance Measures*

Mrs. Grimes noted a team was put together to help get a better understanding of terms and to make sure the network understands what is being requested.

#### *Topic: Performance Review Panel*

Mrs. Grimes reviewed the dates and panels. Admiral West suggested that everyone watch the site visit webinar, and it should be seen by all directors. Mrs. Grimes noted the presentation is on the NSGO website (<http://seagrants.noaa.gov/NetworkResources/EvaluationandReporting.aspx>).

### **Closing Remarks (R. Schmitten, NSGAB)**

Mr. Schmitten asked if there was anything else that needed discussion.

- Admiral West noted he would like more information on meetings with Dr. Richard Spinrad on Board membership. Mr. Schmitt concurred and mentioned he will report back to the Board on his and Dr. Fortner's meeting.

**Meeting adjourned**



*National Sea Grant Office Update*

*National Sea Grant Advisory Board*

*Leon Cammen, Director*

*September 7, 2014*



# Overview for Advisory Board

- News and Updates
- Budget
- Allocation Review
- Focus Teams – changes in concept



# Sea Grant Topical News

- PIER Search
- OMB Circular
- VA SG, PA SG
- N. Marianas



# Sea Grant-Related Personnel News

- NOAA Chief Scientist – Rick Spinrad
- OAR AA search open
- Departures from NSGO
  - Chelsea Berg (coverage by Chris and Kola)
  - Sami Grimes – Leadership Competencies Development Training over the next 18 months (coverage by Chris and possible incoming LCDPers)
  - HR / Contract timing
- NSGO Reorganization – considering team concept
  - program officers and program development



# Enhancing the Sea Grant – NOAA Working Relationship

- Historical
  - 1980's – the Decade of Zeroes
  - 1999 – NMFS Liaison
  - 2003 – NOS Liaison
  - OAR Lab Extension Specialists
  - NOAA Regional Teams
  - NMFS Lab Extension Specialist
- NOAA Sentinel Sites Extension Specialists
- SG-NMFS Exchange Program
- Collaboration discussions with NOAA Leadership



# FY 2014/2015 Budget

How we got here

- FY 2012 – \$62.2M
- FY 2013 – \$57.3M (after sequester)

	<b>FY 2014 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY 2015 Request</b>	<b>FY 2015 Senate</b>	<b>FY 2015 House</b>
<b>Base (incl. Resilience Research)</b>	\$61.8M	\$61.4M	\$62.8M	\$62.0M
<b>Aquaculture</b>	\$4.5M	\$2.0M	\$5.0M	\$2.0M
<b>Grand Challenge</b>	\$1.0M	---	---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$67.3M</b>	<b>\$63.4M</b>	<b>\$67.8M</b>	<b>\$64.0M</b>



# Funding Allocation Policy Highlights

- *Established need-based funding concept*
- *Initiated rebalancing of base funding*
- *Implemented program minimum base (\$1M)*
- *Established 40% as the target for competitive research and education*
- *Established a 75%/25% split between state and national programming*



# Funding Allocation Policy Highlights

## FY 2014 details

- Base Funding increased by 9%
- Merit funding increased by 20%
- Movement toward need-based funding – at least 39% of gap has been covered
- Merit Funding now over 9% of core (base + merit)
- Brought state programming to 79% of total – next increase goes primarily to national programming



# Sea Grant Funding Allocation

		(%'s are all of 100%)			
		AC 2	AC 3	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2014 and Beyond Operational Guidelines
<b>State</b>		<b>75.0%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>	<b>78.7%</b>	<b>75.0%</b>
	<i>Program Base Funding</i>	50.0%	61.5%	71.4%	65.0%
	<i>Regional Competitive Research</i>	15.0%	10.0%		
	<i>Merit Funding - Competitive</i>	10.0%	6.0%	7.3%	10.0%
<b>National</b>		<b>25.0%</b>	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>
	<i>Fellowships</i>			1.3%	
	<i>NSIs (includes Congress-Directed Investments)</i>			13.6%	
	<i>SBIR, Hollings Scholarships</i>			1.4%	
	<i>NSGO</i>			4.7%	
	<i>Advisory Board</i>			0.3%	



A photograph of a sandy beach with several seashells scattered across it. In the background, waves are crashing against dark rocks. The text "Focus Teams – Where Do We Go from Here?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Focus Teams – Where Do We Go  
from Here?



# Original 2008 Focus Team Needs Still Exist

- Experts who can see the big picture
- National leadership
- Ability to operate as a “National Program,” not just as a diverse collection of small programs

The NSGO doesn't have the expertise or the capacity to do this on its own.



# Review of Focus Teams - Internal

- Focus Teams retrospectively assessed network efforts in each focus area
- Focus Teams have benefited NSGO and Advisory Board; Less utility for the rest of the SG Network
- Lack of funds for projects or funds to meet in person hampered progress
- Focus Teams not well connected with the rest of the SG Network(s)



# Review of Focus Teams - PIE Assessment Report

## Findings:

- Four main Focus Team tasks important, but not being fully met
- Focus teams are large and geographically dispersed
- Most contributions driven by Fellows, Chairs, & Vice-Chairs

## Recommendation:

The NSGCP Director should find more efficient ways to accomplish each of the four tasks currently given to the large focus teams.

Examples of Teams that could perform these tasks could include:

- An external panel;
- Smaller, more narrowly directed Focus Teams;
- A NSGAB subcommittee; or
- NSGO staff (redirected from other efforts).



# Review of Focus Teams – Findings

## Done Well

1. Facilitate planning, implementation, synthesis, & reporting of SG activities/ accomplishments
  1. Annual reporting on progress
  2. Provide a mechanism to further solidify Sea Grant's local, regional, and national identity

## Needs Improvement

3. Identify new opportunities and directions for Sea Grant national and regional initiatives
4. Catalyze cooperative efforts among Sea Grant College Programs, the NSGO, NOAA, and other agencies and stakeholder organizations, including NGOs



# Proposal for Focus Teams v2.0 – Concentrate Effort on Advisory Role

1. Facilitate planning, implementation, synthesis, & reporting of SG activities/ accomplishments
2. Provide a mechanism to further solidify Sea Grant's local, regional, and national identity
3. Identify new opportunities and directions for Sea Grant national and regional initiatives
4. Catalyze cooperative efforts among Sea Grant College Programs, the NSGO, NOAA, and other agencies and stakeholder organizations, including NGOs



# Next steps – Focus Teams v2.0

## What will the new Focus Teams do?

- Of the original four roles, Focus Teams will concentrate only on the advisory role
- Evaluate ideas, taking into account current resources
- Help SGAB provide topical advice

## What will they not do?

- No operational responsibility
  - No funds to manage
  - No annual impact responsibility (NSGO, Fellows will do this)



## Next steps – Focus Teams v2.0

- SGAB Subcommittees and *ad hoc* working groups
- NSGO staff chairs, small and nimble rosters (8-9 active members)
  - Working groups as needed to pull in additional participants
- Focus teams function on behalf of the entire Sea Grant Network, not their individual programs or organizations
- Actions by the focus teams must be consistent with goals and strategies in the Sea Grant National Strategic Plan



## Next steps – Focus Teams v2.0

### What resources are needed?

- NSGO staff (4 chairs)
- Travel funds
- Knauss Fellows to support Focus Teams and connect them to SG Network(s)
- Advisory Board agreement to form subcommittees
- Dedicated volunteers



# 2014-2017 Focus Team Process

Goal: Approval at March 2015 SGA - Advisory Board meeting

## September 9-12

- Introduce the concept at SG Week

## September 15th to Oct 15

- Work with SG leadership to finalize concept

## October 15 to November 15

- Nominations From SG and beyond (Current members eligible)

## Nov 15 – Jan 15

- Finalize draft terms of reference / charter
- NSGO and SGA leaders vet nominations

## Jan 15 to Feb 15

- Prepare decision package for SGAB





A photograph of a sandy beach with several sea urchins scattered across it. The urchins are mostly light-colored (white or cream) with some darker (yellowish or brownish) ones. In the background, waves are breaking on a rocky shore. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

**Questions?**



AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—113th Cong., 2d Sess.**

**S. 2030**

To reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended to be proposed by \_\_\_\_\_

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:  
2

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Sea Grant  
5 College Program Amendments Act of 2014”.

6 **SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO THE NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM ACT.**  
7

8 Except as otherwise expressly provided, wherever in  
9 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
10 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision,  
11 the reference shall be considered to be made to a

1 section or other provision of the National Sea Grant Col-  
2 lege Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1121 et seq.).

3 **SEC. 3. SEA GRANT COLLEGES AND SEA GRANT INSTI-**  
4 **TUTES; ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS.**

5 Section 207 (33 U.S.C. 1126) is amended by striking  
6 subsection (e).

7 **SEC. 4. DEAN JOHN A. KNAUSS MARINE POLICY FELLOW-**  
8 **SHIP.**

9 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 208(b) (33 U.S.C.  
10 1127(b)) is amended by striking “may” and inserting  
11 “shall”.

12 (b) **PLACEMENTS IN CONGRESS.**—Section 208(b) (33  
13 U.S.C. 1127(b)), as amended by subsection (a) of this sec-  
14 tion, is further amended—

15 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “The Sec-  
16 retary” and inserting the following:

17 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary”; and

18 (2) in paragraph (1), as designated by para-  
19 graph (1), in the second sentence, by striking “A fel-  
20 lowship” and inserting the following:

21 “(2) **PLACEMENT PRIORITIES.**—

22 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In each year in which  
23 the Secretary awards a legislative fellowship  
24 under this subsection, when considering the

1 placement of fellows, the Secretary shall  
2 prioritize placement of fellows in the following:

3 “(i) Positions in offices of, or with  
4 members on, committees of Congress that  
5 have jurisdiction over the National Oceanic  
6 and Atmospheric Administration.

7 “(ii) Positions in offices of members  
8 of Congress that have a demonstrated in-  
9 terest in ocean, coastal, or Great Lakes re-  
10 sources.

11 “(B) **EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.**—In plac-  
12 ing fellows in offices described in subparagraph  
13 (A), the Secretary shall ensure, to the degree  
14 practicable, that placements are equitably dis-  
15 tributed among the political parties.

16 “(3) **DURATION.**—A fellowship”.

17 (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by  
18 subsection (b) shall apply with respect to the first calendar  
19 year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

20 (d) **SENSE OF CONGRESS; ENCOURAGEMENT OF CA-  
21 REER DEVELOPMENT.**—It is the sense of Congress that  
22 in recognition of the competitive nature of the fellowship  
23 under section 208(b) of the National Sea Grant College  
24 Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1127(b)), and of the exceptional  
25 qualifications of fellowship awardees, the Secretary of

1 Commerce, acting through the Under Secretary of Com-  
2 merce for Oceans and Atmosphere, should encourage par-  
3 ticipating Federal agencies to consider opportunities for  
4 fellowship awardees at the conclusion of their fellowship  
5 for workforce positions appropriate for their education and  
6 experience.

7 **SEC. 5. DONATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 204(c)(4)(E) (33 U.S.C.  
9 1123(c)(4)(E)) is amended to read as follows:

10 “(E) accept donations of money and, not-  
11 withstanding section 1342 of title 31, United  
12 States Code, of voluntary and uncompensated  
13 services;”.

14 (b) PRIORITIES.—The Secretary of Commerce, acting  
15 through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and  
16 Atmosphere, shall establish priorities for the use of dona-  
17 tions accepted under section 204(c)(4)(E) of the National  
18 Sea Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C.  
19 1123(c)(4)(E)), and shall consider among those priorities  
20 the possibility of expanding the Dean John A. Knauss Ma-  
21 rine Policy Fellowship’s placement of additional fellows in  
22 relevant legislative offices under section 208(b) of that Act  
23 (33 U.S.C. 1127(b)), in accordance with the recommenda-  
24 tions under subsection (c) of this section.



1 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
2 of enactment of this Act, the National Sea Grant Office,  
3 in consultation with the National Sea Grant Advisory  
4 Board and the Sea Grant Association, shall—

5 (1) recommend the optimal use of any dona-  
6 tions accepted under section 204(c)(4)(E) of the Na-  
7 tional Sea Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C.  
8 1123(c)(4)(E)); and

9 (2) report the recommendations under para-  
10 graph (1) to Congress.

11 (d) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be  
12 construed to limit or otherwise affect any other amounts  
13 available for marine policy fellowships under section  
14 208(b) of the National Sea Grant College Program Act  
15 (33 U.S.C. 1127(b)), including amounts accepted under  
16 section 204(c)(4)(F) of that Act (33 U.S.C. 1123(c)(4)(F)  
17 or appropriated under section 212 of that Act (33 U.S.C.  
18 1131).

19 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON COORDINATION OF OCEANS AND**  
20 **COASTAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.**

21 Section 9 of the National Sea Grant College Program  
22 Act Amendments of 2002 (33 U.S.C. 857–20) is repealed.

23 **SEC. 7. NATIONAL SEA GRANT ADVISORY BOARD REPORT.**

24 Section 209(b) (33 U.S.C. 1128(b)) is amended by  
25 amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

1           “(2) REPORT.—The Board shall report to the  
2           Congress every 3 years on the state of the national  
3           sea grant college program. The Board shall indicate  
4           in each such report the progress made toward meet-  
5           ing the priorities identified in the strategic plan in  
6           effect under section 204(c). The Secretary shall  
7           make available to the Board such information, per-  
8           sonnel, and administrative services and assistance as  
9           it may reasonably require to carry out its duties  
10          under this title.”.

11 **SEC. 8. PROGRAM ELEMENTS.**

12          Section 204(b) (33 U.S.C. 1123(b)) is amended by  
13          inserting “for research, education, extension, training,  
14          technology transfer, and public service” after “financial  
15          assistance”.

16 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17          (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 212(a) (33 U.S.C.  
18          1131(a)) is amended—

19                 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraphs  
20                 (A) through (F) and inserting the following:

21                         “(A) \$72,000,000 for fiscal year 2015;

22                         “(B) \$75,600,000 for fiscal year 2016;

23                         “(C) \$79,380,000 for fiscal year 2017;

24                         “(D) \$83,350,000 for fiscal year 2018;

25                         “(E) \$87,520,000 for fiscal year 2019; and

1                   “(F) \$91,900,000 for fiscal year 2020.”;

2                   and

3                   (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-  
4                   lows:

5                   “(2) PRIORITY ACTIVITIES.—In addition to the  
6                   amounts authorized under paragraph (1), there is  
7                   authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years  
8                   2015 through 2020 \$6,000,000 for competitive  
9                   grants for the following:

10                   “(A) University research on the biology,  
11                   prevention, and control of aquatic nonnative  
12                   species.

13                   “(B) University research on oyster dis-  
14                   eases, oyster restoration, and oyster-related  
15                   human health risks.

16                   “(C) University research on the biology,  
17                   prevention, and forecasting of harmful algal  
18                   blooms.

19                   “(D) University research, education, train-  
20                   ing, and extension services and activities fo-  
21                   cused on coastal resilience and U.S. working  
22                   waterfronts and other regional or national pri-  
23                   ority issues identified in the strategic plan  
24                   under section 204(c)(1).

1           “(E) University research on sustainable  
2           aquaculture techniques and technologies.

3           “(F) Fishery extension activities conducted  
4           by sea grant colleges or sea grant institutes to  
5           enhance, and not supplant, existing core pro-  
6           gram funding.”.

7           (b) LIMITATIONS.—Section 212(b)(1) (33 U.S.C.  
8 1131(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

9           “(1) ADMINISTRATION.—

10           “(A) IN GENERAL.—There may not be  
11           used for administration of programs under this  
12           title in a fiscal year more than 5.5 percent of  
13           the lesser of—

14                   “(i) the amount authorized to be ap-  
15                   propriated under this title for the fiscal  
16                   year; or

17                   “(ii) the amount appropriated under  
18                   this title for the fiscal year.

19           “(B) CRITICAL STAFFING REQUIRE-  
20           MENTS.—The Director shall use the authority  
21           under subchapter VI of chapter 33 of title 5,  
22           United States Code, to meet any critical staff-  
23           ing requirement while implementing the activi-  
24           ties authorized in this title. The costs associated  
25           with that exercise of authority shall not be

1           counted toward the cap under subparagraph  
2           (A).”.

3           (c) ALLOCATION OF FUNDING.—

4           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 204(d)(3) (33  
5           U.S.C. 1123(d)(3) is amended—

6                   (A) by striking “With respect to sea grant  
7                   colleges and sea grant institutes” and inserting  
8                   “With respect to sea grant colleges, sea grant  
9                   institutes, sea grant programs, and sea grant  
10                  projects,”; and

11                  (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
12                  “funding among sea grant colleges and sea  
13                  grant institutes” and inserting “funding among  
14                  sea grant colleges, sea grant institutes, sea  
15                  grant programs, and sea grant projects”.

16           (2) EXCESS AMOUNTS.—Section 212 (33  
17           U.S.C. 1131) is amended—

18                   (A) by striking subsection (c); and

19                   (B) by redesignating subsections (d) and  
20                  (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

# **SGA President's Report to the NSGAB**



**LaDon Swann  
Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium  
September 2014**

# Self-Reflection

**“When we know what we most fear,  
we know what we most care about.”**

**— Patti Digh**

**“It is necessary ... for a man to go away by himself ... to sit on a rock ... and ask, 'Who am I, where have I been, and where am I going?'”**

**— Carl Sandburg**







**Operational**

# Operational

- **Fiscal and Meeting Management**
  - Hired Devaney Cheramie
- **Governmental affairs transition**
  - Oldaker to Federal Science Partners
- **Updated By-laws to expand Program Mission Committee network liaisons**



# SGA Election

- **Sylvain De Guise – President**
- **James Hurley – President-Elect**
- **Charles Hopkinson – Secretary (1 yr)**
- **Nancy Targett – Treasurer (1 yr)**
- **Karl Havens – PMC Chair (2 yrs)**
- **Susan White – At Large (2 yrs)**
- **Robert Twilley – At large (1 yr)**
- **LaDon Swann – Past President**

# Program Mission Committee

- **PMC**
  - **Performance Measures Optimization**
  - **NSI prioritization**
- **2016-2017 NSI input**

# Communications



- SGA Logo
- Web site
- Facebook





**Strategic**

# Growth

**“If you want something new,  
then you have to do  
something different”**

**Coastal Community Resilience  
and all that it implies?**

# Total Compared with Base





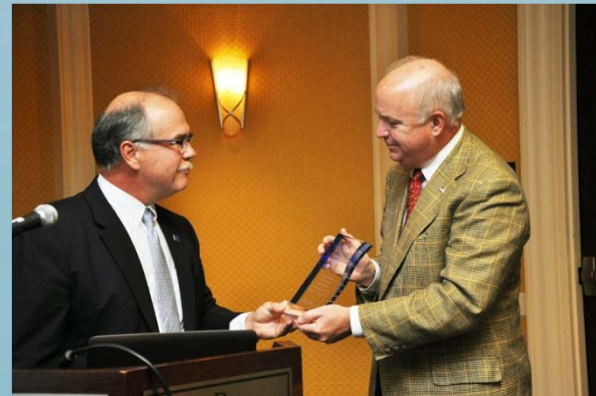
# Congressional and Agency Communications

- **Congressional briefings**
  - Spring 2013 and 2014
  - Fall 2013
- **Testimonies**
  - Oral
  - Written
- **Knauss Receptions**



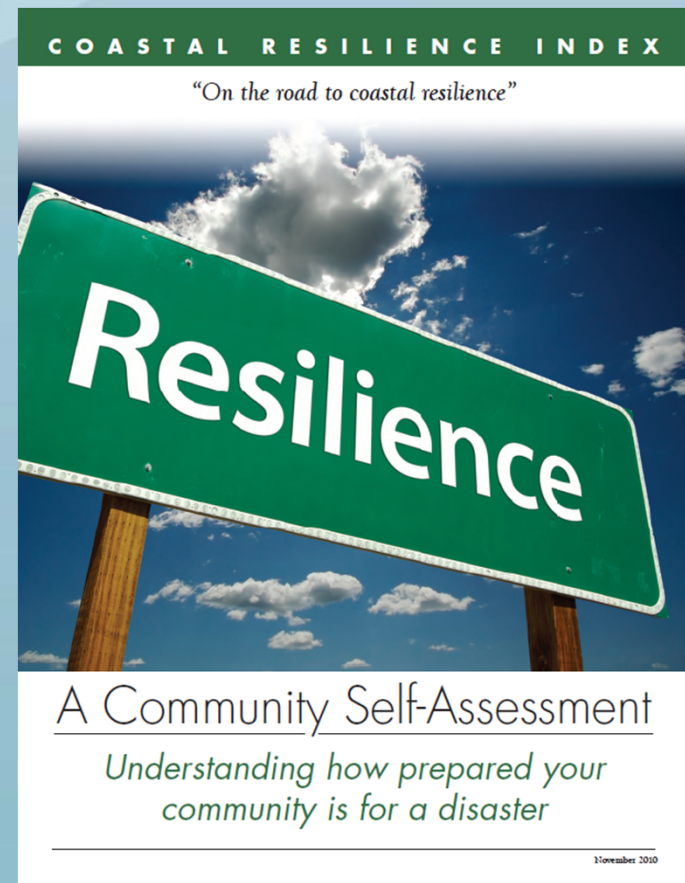
# Sea Grant Association Award

- Frank Wolf (2013, VA)
- Barbara Mikulski (2013, MD)
- Jo Bonner (2013 fall, AL)
- Roger Wicker (2014, MS)
- Sam Farr (2014, CA)



# Communications

- **SG messaging**
  - \$50K from SGA reserves to development a **Strategic Communication Plan: Coastal Resiliency**



# Messaging Outcomes

- **Ensure long-term federal funding**
- **Enhance internal/external national communication capability**
- **Solidify Sea Grant's value to NOAA**
- **Engage the support of national NGOs**
- **Ensure the DOC, OMB and White House understand Sea Grant's effectiveness in addressing coastal issues**

# NOAA Coastal Roundtable

- **NOS led**
  - **Sea Grant representation**
    - **NSGO and SGA**
  - **Monthly calls**
  - **First real step in implementing a strategy to respond to OMB's questions about integration of NOAA's Coastal Programs**



# Joint Efforts with the NSGAB and NSGO

- **Allocation 3.0**
  - Jonathan Pennock
  - Sylvain De Guise
- **NSGAB Biennial Report**
  - Dennis Nixon
  - Jeff Reuter
- **Program Implementation and Evaluation**
  - Jim Hurley
  - Jim Eckman
  - Sylvain De Guise

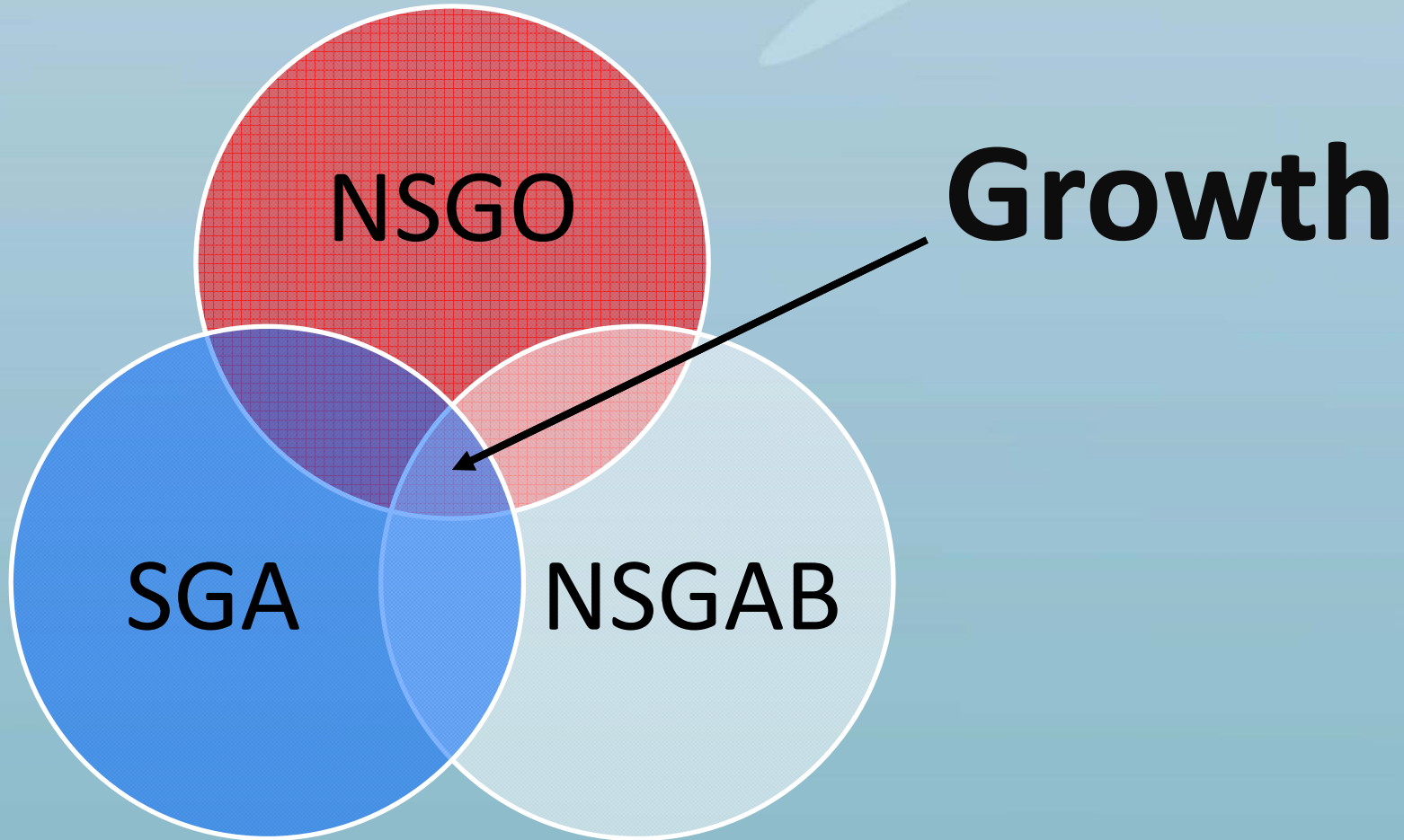
The background features a light blue gradient with several overlapping, semi-transparent, abstract shapes in various shades of blue, creating a layered, modern aesthetic.

# **Unfinished Business**

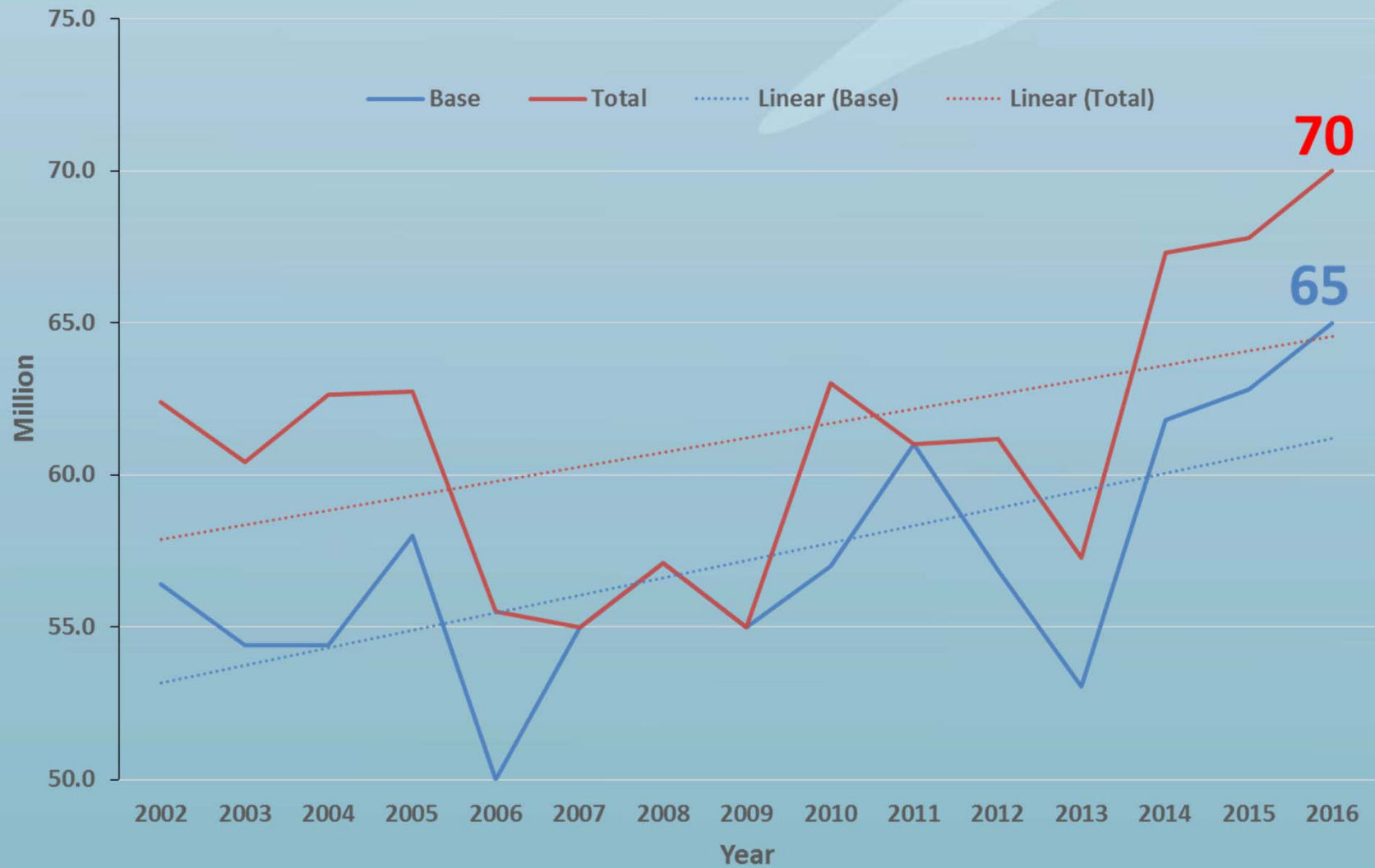
# Unfinished Business

- **Growth**
  - **\$15 of the \$20 million in Federal Growth**
  - **Strategic Communication Plan: Coastal Resiliency**
  - **To succeed SG should spend at least 50% of its effort on growth**

# When We are at Our Best



# A Good Year in 2016





# Unfinished Business

- **2014 Fall/Winter Congressional Briefing**
- **Transition Meeting between current and next Board**
- **NOAA visits**
  - Chief Scientist
  - Holly Bamford
  - Others

# Unfinished Business

- **2015-2019 Sea Grant Reauthorization**

- **2014 Effort to Reauthorize SG**

- Kanuss Fellowship
    - STEM
    - Authorized Levels
    - Administration costs

- **2015 Effort to Reauthorize SG**

- 2014 laid the groundwork for trying again in 2015
    - Should allow introduction and passage in Senate early enough for House to introduce and pass their version.



# New Business

- **Sea Grant's Golden Anniversary**
  - Sea Grant Association Historian
  - Planning committee
    - NSGAB
    - NSGO
    - SGA





# Ocean and Coastal Issues in Florida

## Florida Sea Grant Responds

Presentation to the National Sea Grant Advisory Board, Sept 2014

**Karl Havens**

*Director, Florida Sea Grant College Program  
Professor, University of Florida*



# Outline

- Introduction to Florida Sea Grant
- Research and Extension on Coastal Issues
- Emerging Issues for Florida and the Nation's Coast



# Introduction to Florida Sea Grant



# State-Wide Program Structure

SUS Board of  
Governors and  
FL Legislature

University  
of Florida

FSG admin. office,  
Director, Associate  
Directors, and 6  
Coastal Extension  
Specialists;  
plus broad faculty  
research expertise

Sea Grant  
Florida

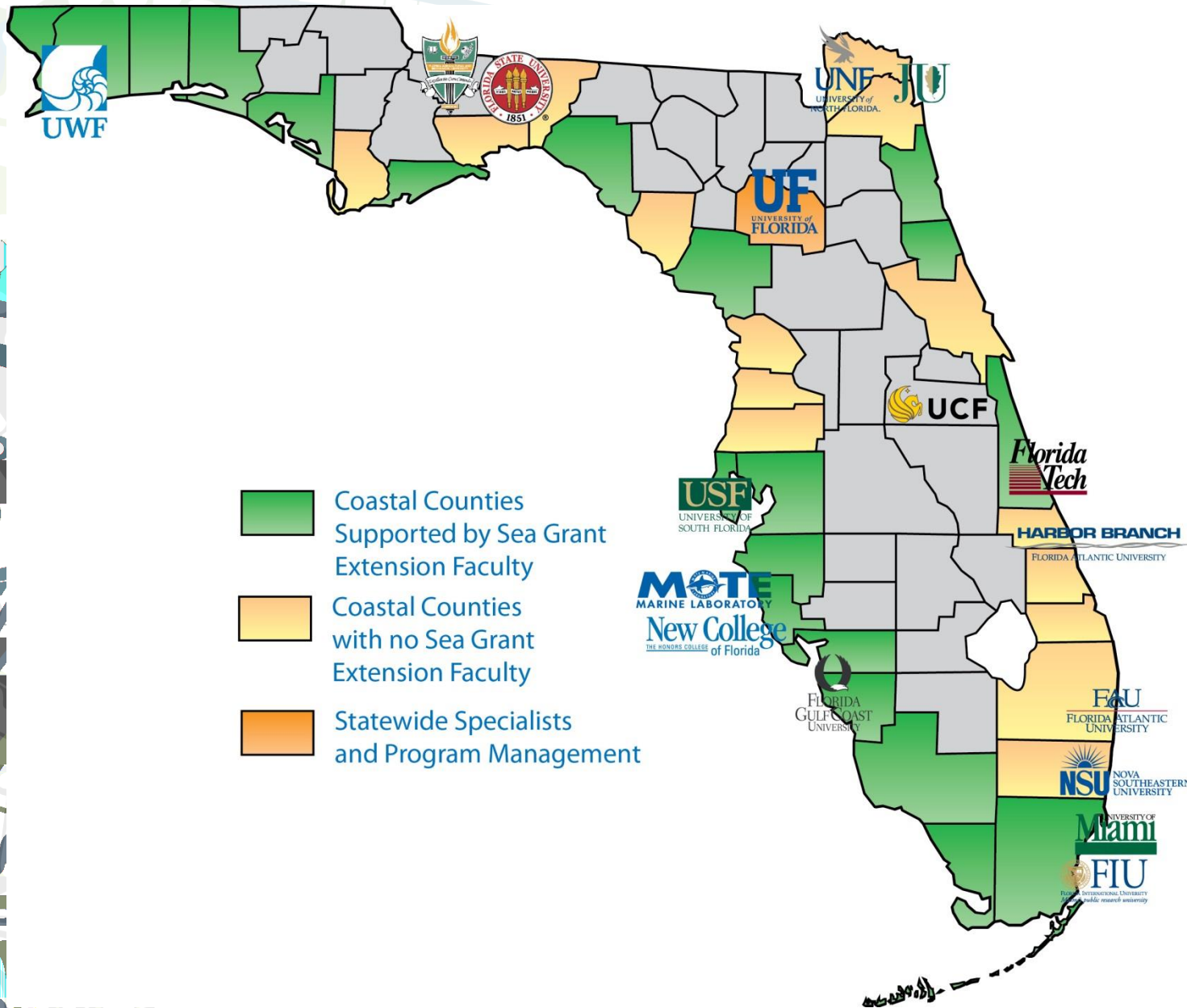
Florida  
Academic  
Institutions

Florida  
Coastal  
Counties

Over 800  
ocean  
and coastal  
research faculty

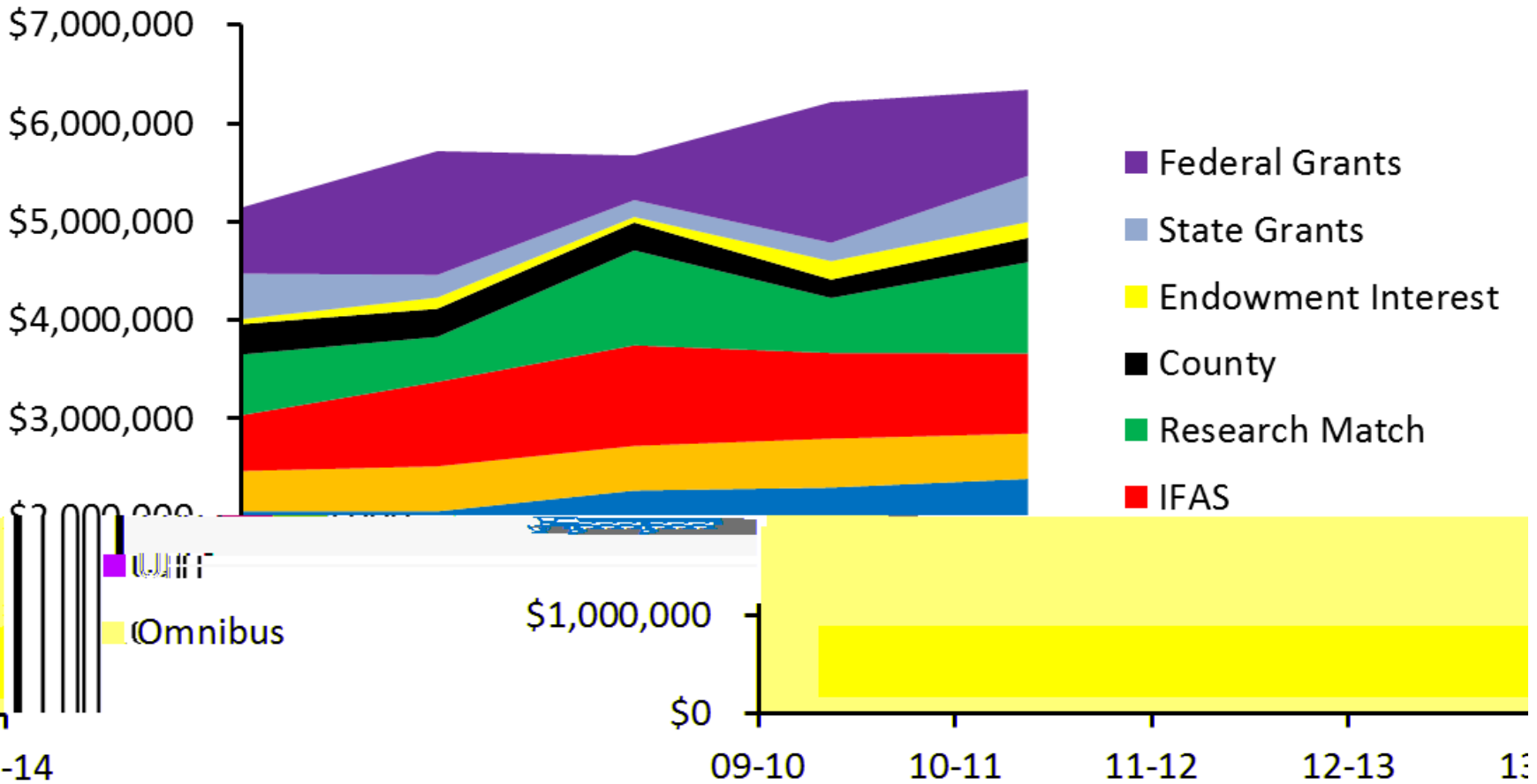
20 marine extension  
agents housed in  
county offices and  
cost-shared with  
counties



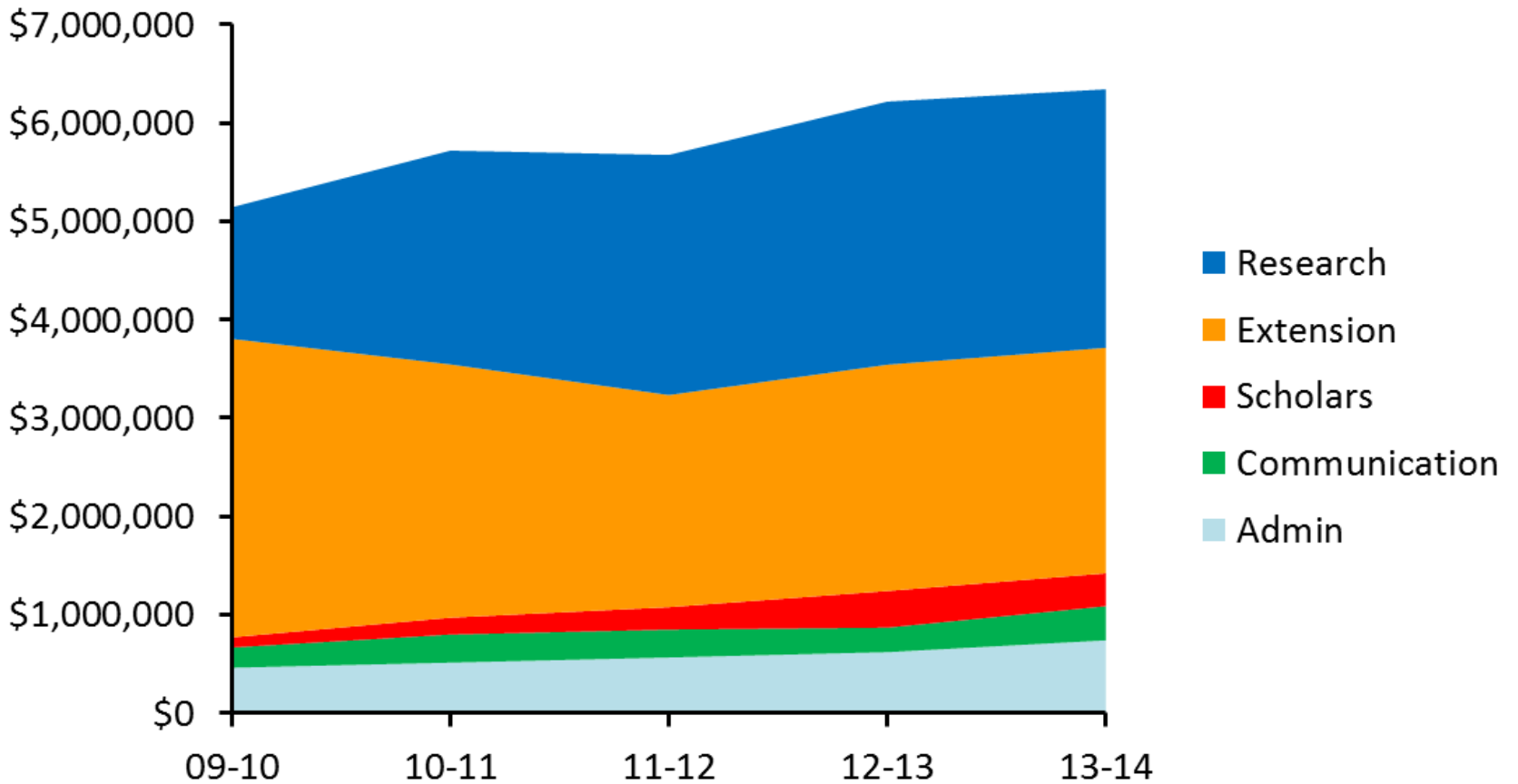




# Sources of Revenue



# Annual Expenditures







# Research and Extension on Coastal Issues

# (1) Outreach: Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative

- \$500M GoMRI oil spill research program
- Gulf of Mexico Sea Grant programs contracted to lead the GoMRI outreach program



**Sea Grant**

Texas • Louisiana • Florida  
Mississippi • Alabama





## (2) Habitat Restoration Training Program



# (3) The Regional Waterway Management System

## Regional Waterway Management System

A GIS-based framework for achieving municipal, county, and state goals of facilitating safe navigation and reducing impacts on aquatic habitats.

Begins with scientific data and results in the implementation of regional waterway management policy.

Methodology — unbiased, objective approach to waterway management — accepted by state of Florida.



Completed & State Rule Adopted



Completed / State Rule not yet Adopted

[just adopted in 2014]

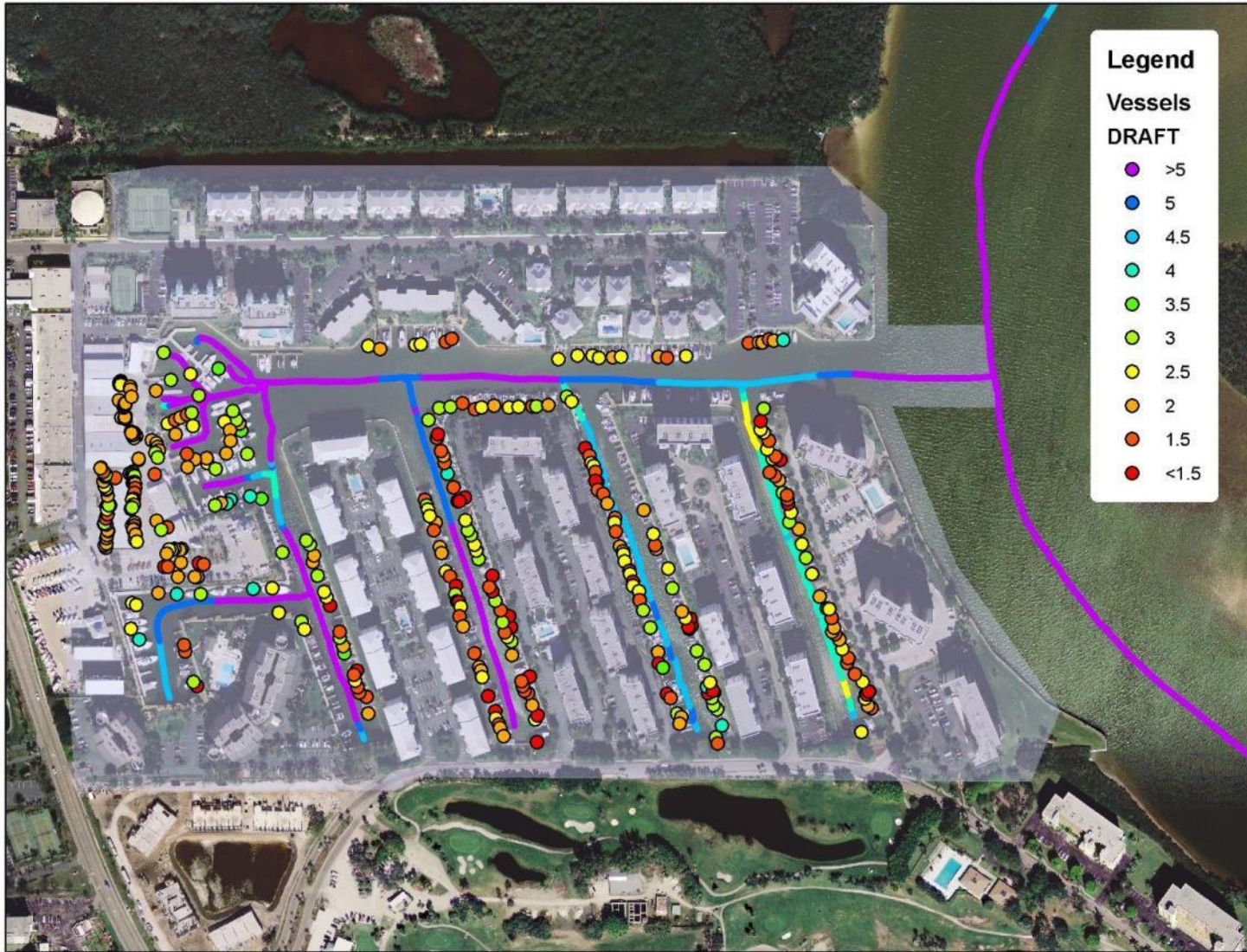






Photo Credit: USGS - Sirenia Project







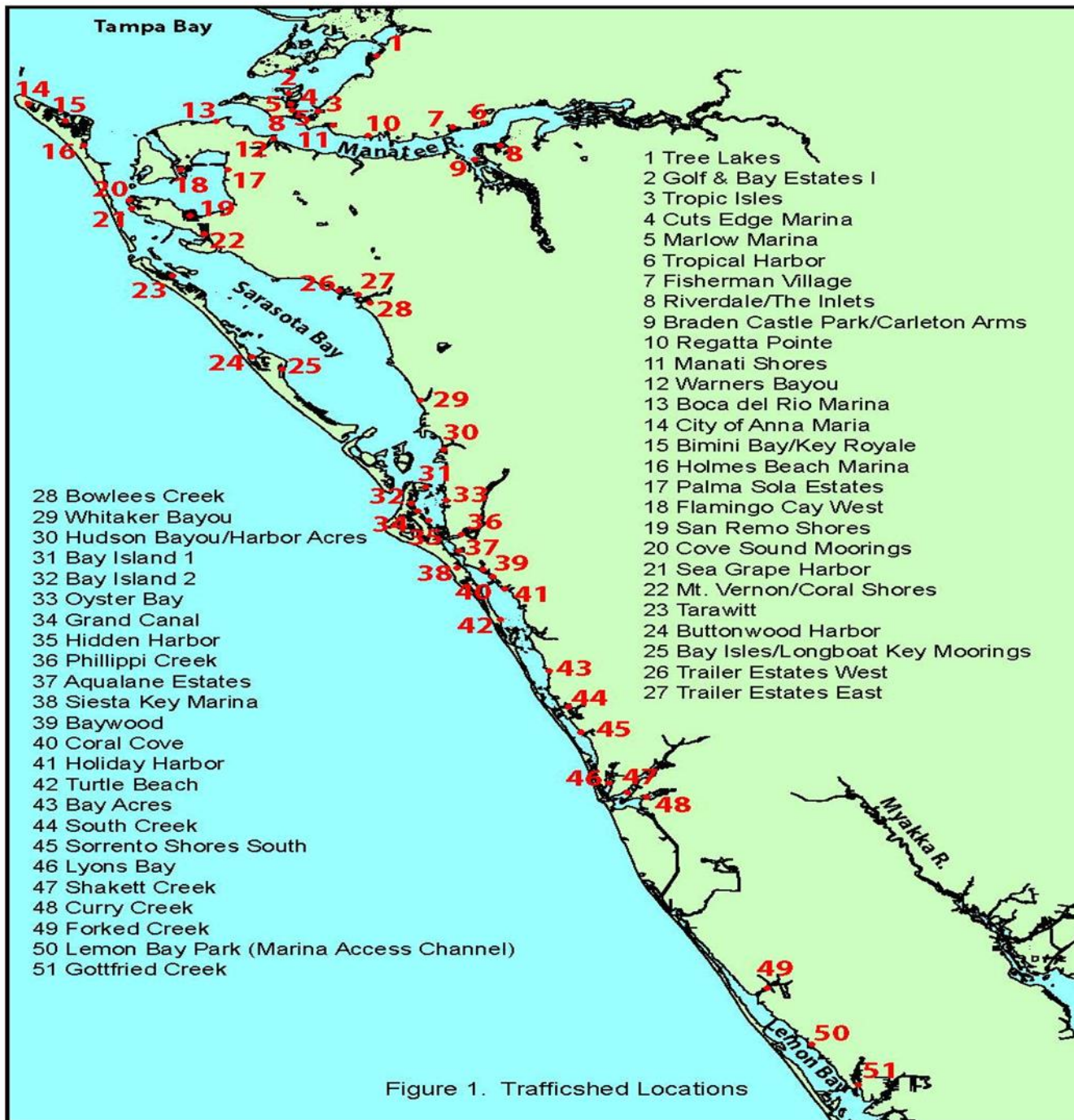


Figure 1. Trafficshed Locations

## Results and Benefits of the RWMS:

- Sea Grant provided the West Coast Inland Navigation District has GIS tool that keeps track of channel depths, boat locations and drafts, and priority needs for dredging
- Dredging permits now are covered under one single blanket permit that is protective of seagrass
- Savings of over \$1.5M tax dollars a year in just the two areas where the program was implemented prior to 2014



## (4) Enhancing survival in catch & release fishing

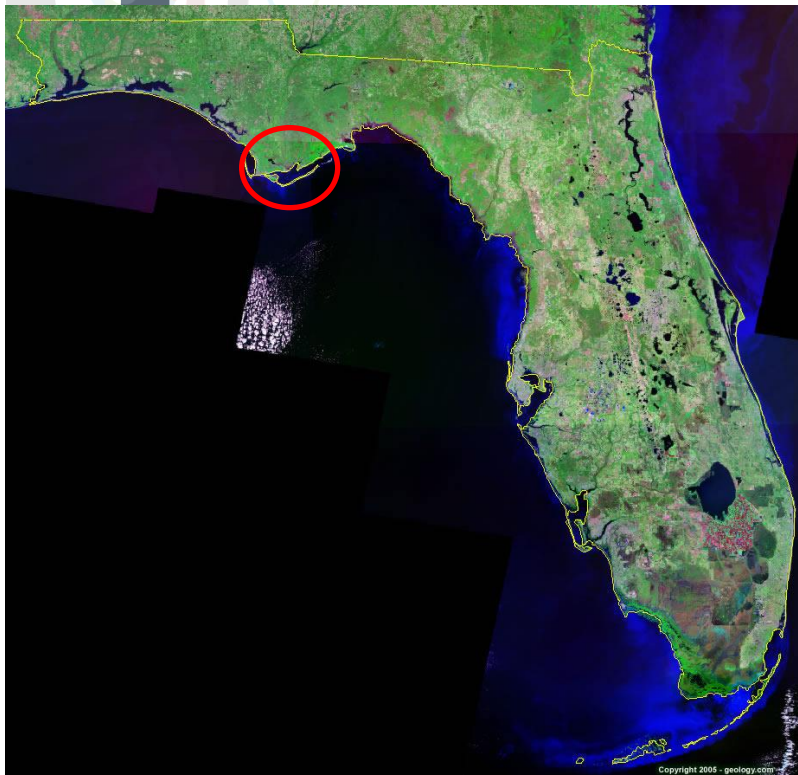
- Marine recreational fishing \$6B a year in FL
- Millions of fishing trips
- Much is 'catch and release'
- Fish caught from depth experience barotrauma
- Existing fishing regulation required venting, a method developed by FL Sea Grant in the 1990's
- Now FL Sea Grant has pilot tested other methods
- **The state has now amended its regulations**





# (5) Responding to a Disaster:

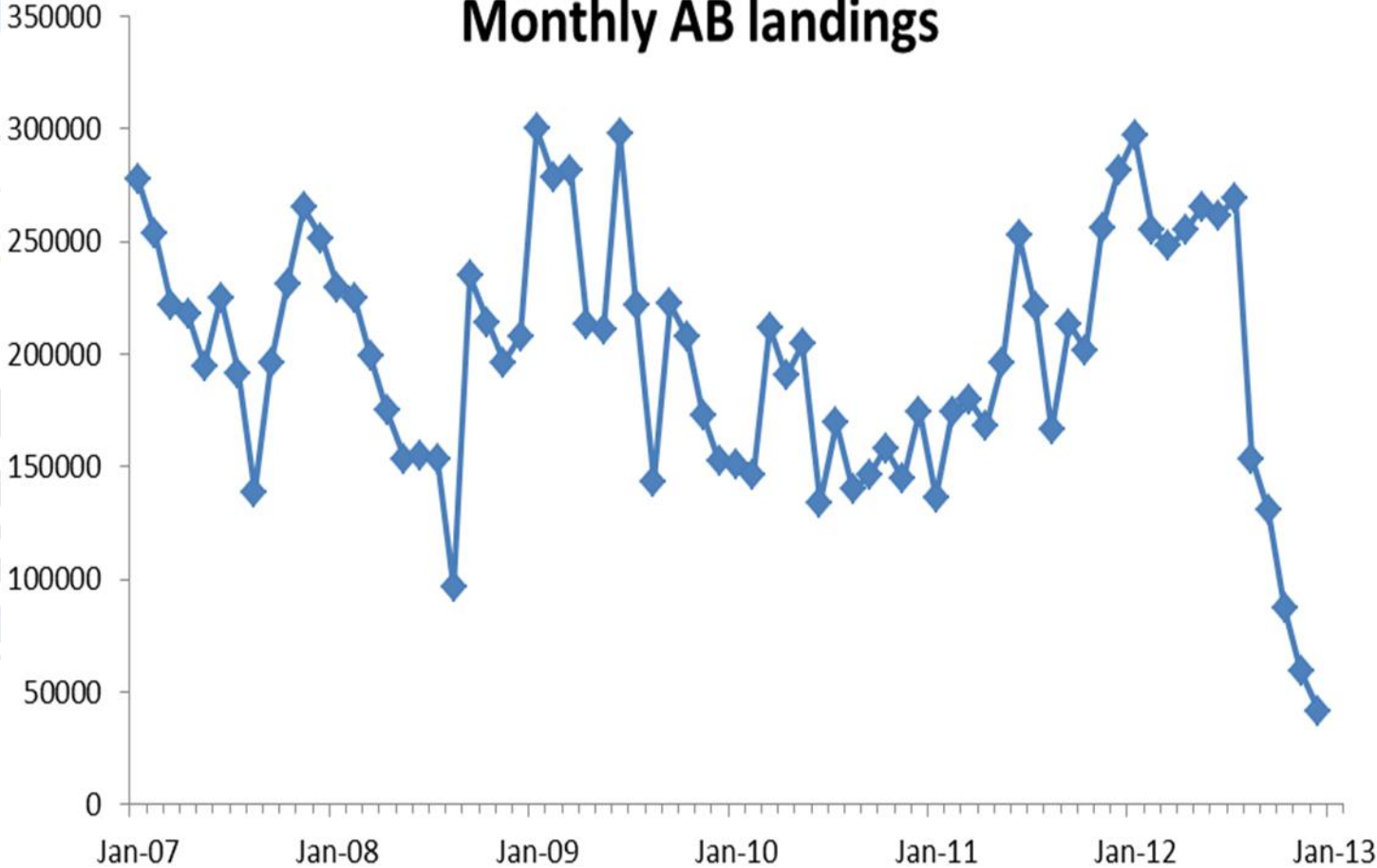
## Collapse of a historic oyster fishery







# Monthly AB landings

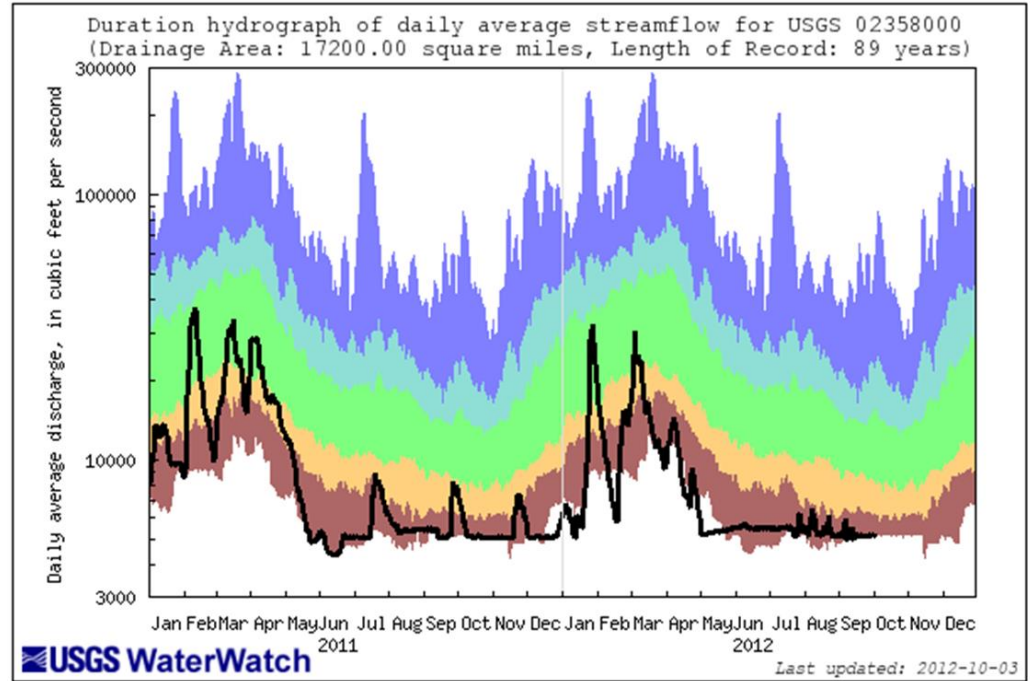
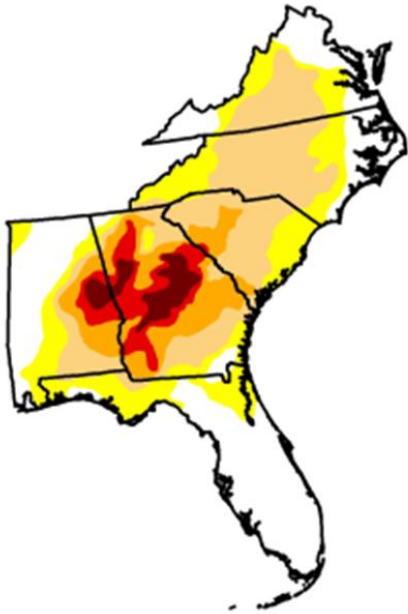


# Oyster Recovery Team

Florida Sea Grant led a team of university and agency scientists, oyster harvesters, oyster dealers, residents and NGOs to address the issue.

- Mine existing data to identify the cause
- Collect new data to support that effort
- Intensive outreach w/ industry & community
- Winter 2012 – ongoing through at least 2019
- Initial work with \$250K from UF; now grant funded



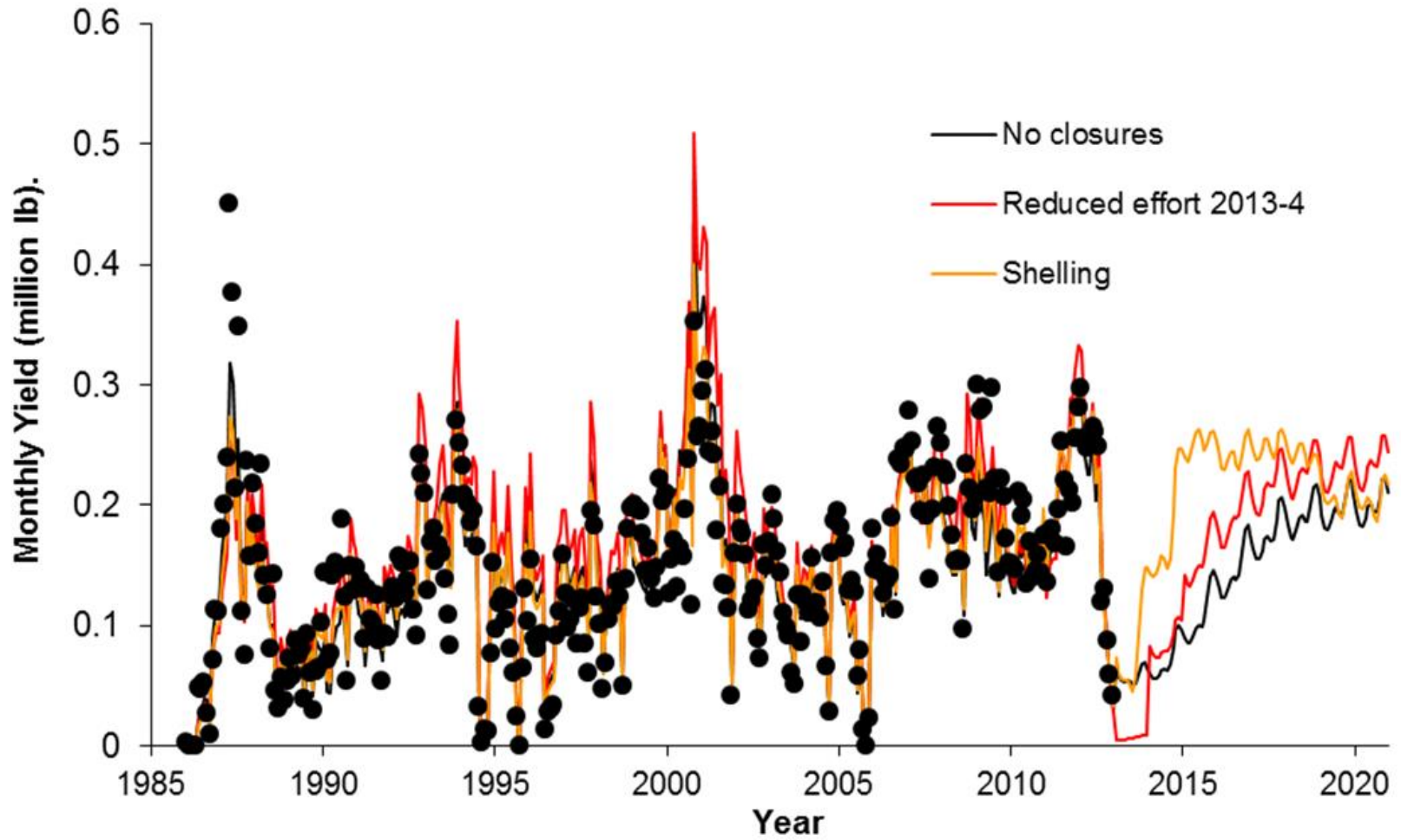


Released Thursday, November 29, 2012  
National Drought Mitigation Center,

Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	







# Outcomes

- Declaration of a fisheries disaster by NOAA
- Approximately **\$6M Congressional relief** money
- Large-scale reef restoration projects in 2016-20
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant \$5M to Florida FWC, UF and Florida Sea Grant. **Sea Grant lead PI on \$1.5M research project** to evaluate effects of salinity, substrate quality and harvest pressure on oyster health and production.



## (6) **Research Technology Transfer**

**Issue:** need for research projects that are ready for transfer to the private sector for commercial production or agency application

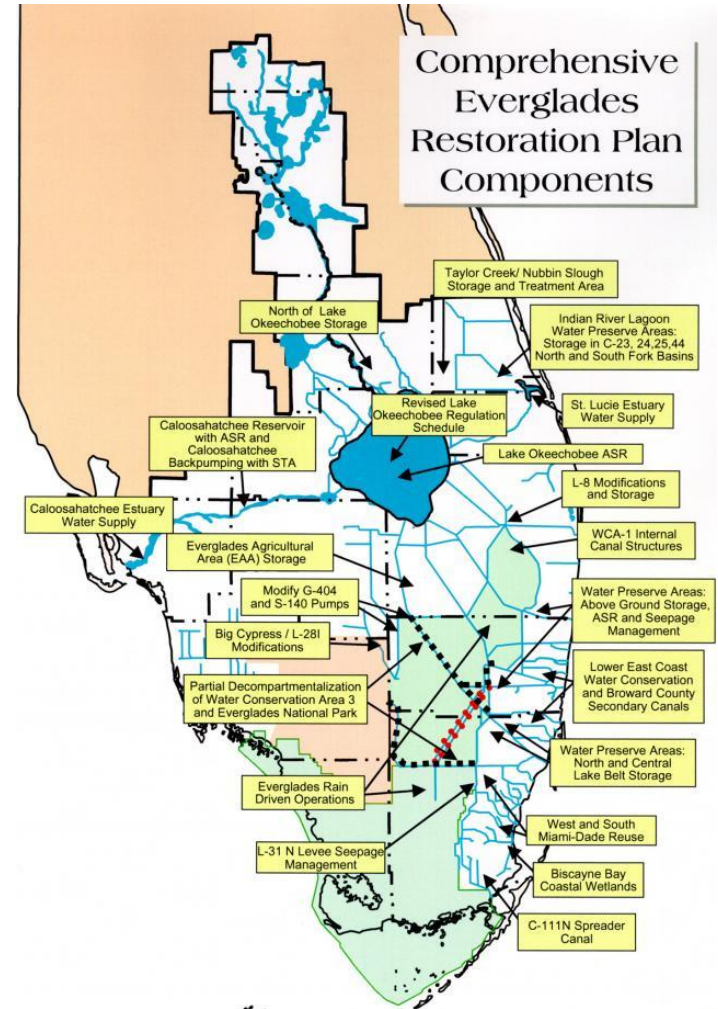
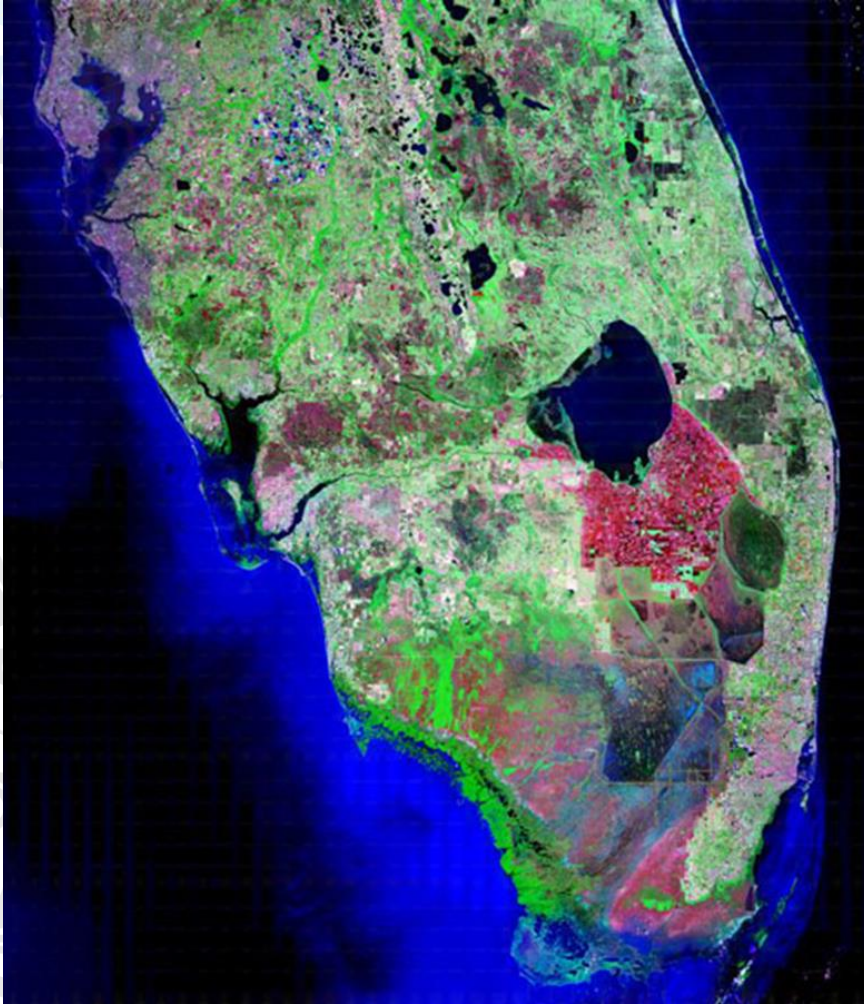
**Solution:** special category of research projects; evaluated by experts and selected by a panel of business leaders based potential for application

**Results of First Trial:** research in partnership with a commercial roofing company to produce a new product to strengthen old roofs against hurricane force winds

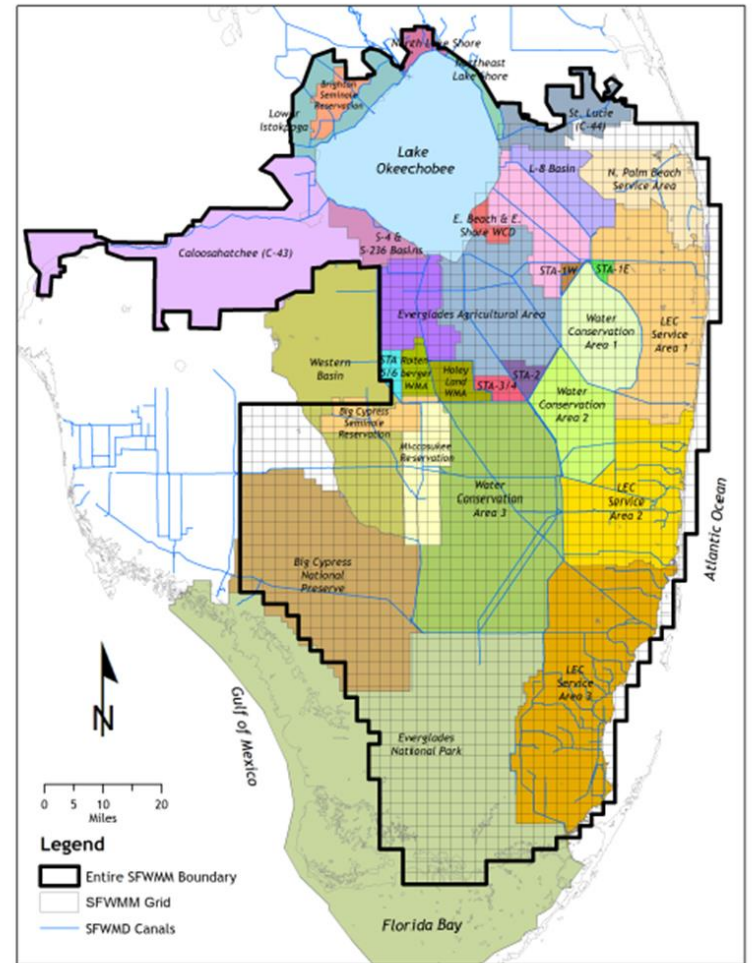
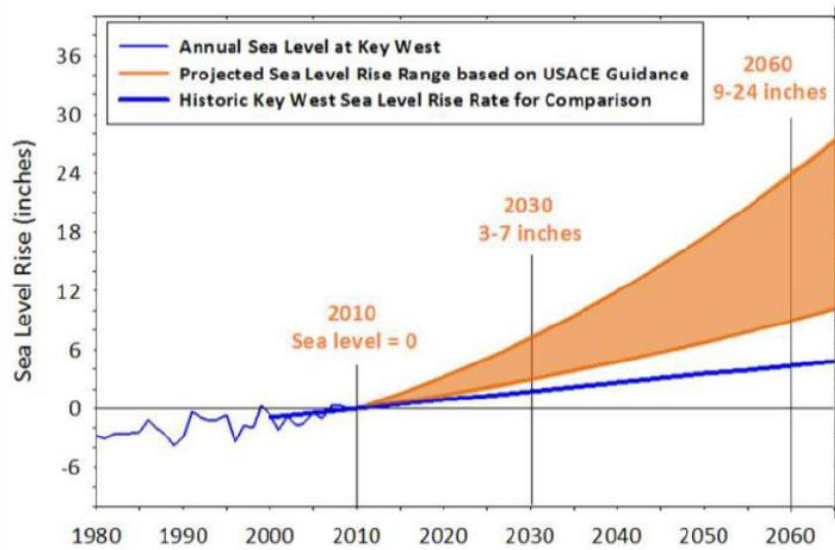
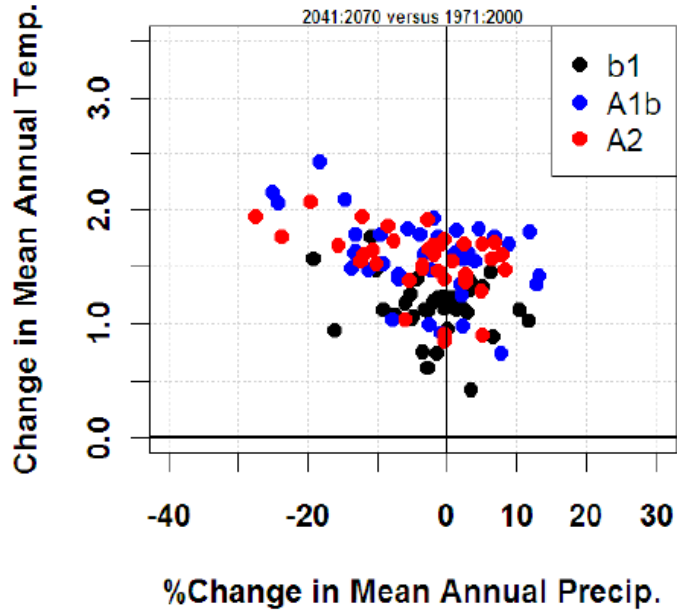




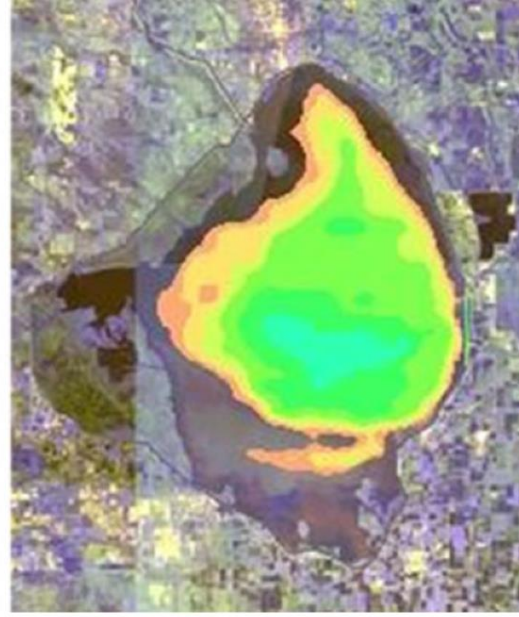
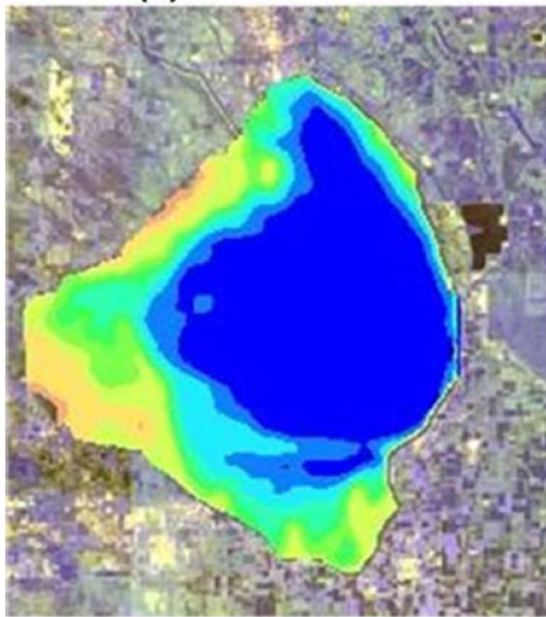
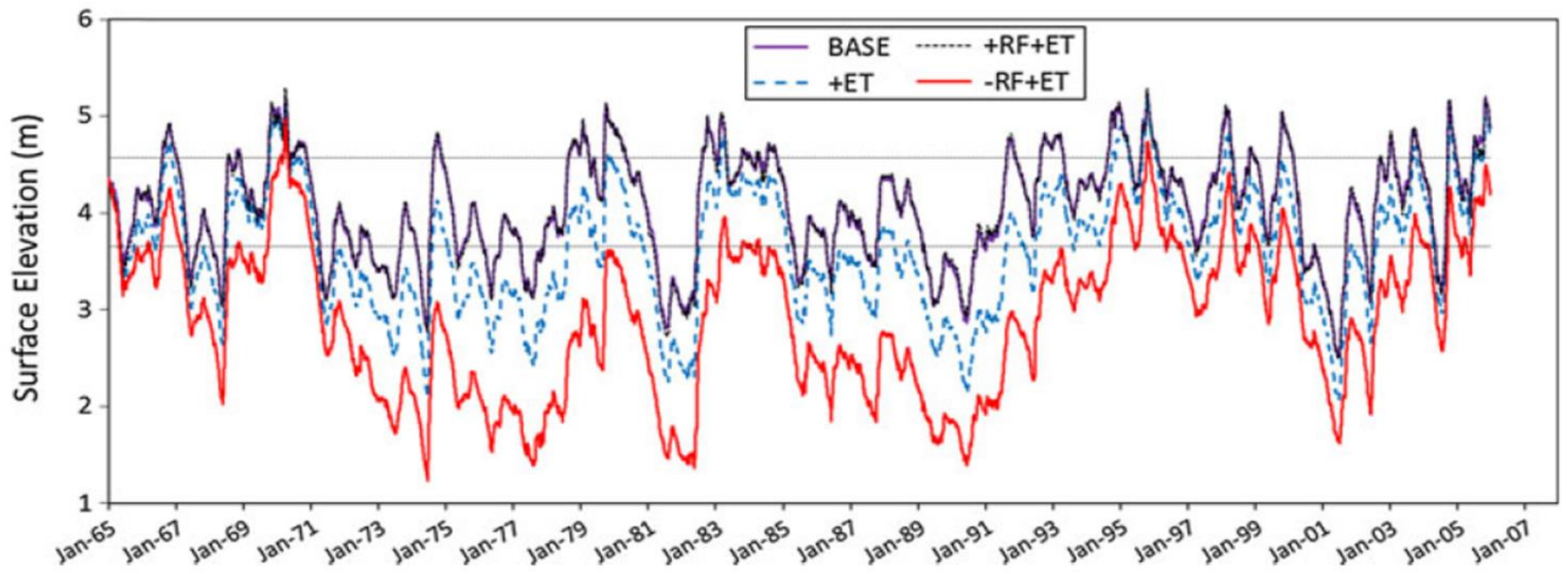
# (7) Everglades Restoration and Climate Change



# Everglades

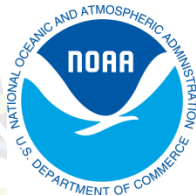






# Outcomes:

- Follow-up meetings with CERP leadership team in 2014 and 2015
- Restoration leaders seeking specific guidance from university scientists re. modifications to CERP in uncertain climate future
- Strong partnerships have been developed to address this issue







# Emerging Issues

Severe shortage of freshwater

Coastal hazards and climate change

Public health and climate change

Lack of adequate ocean governance

# Shortage of Freshwater

- Increased consumptive use
- Potential increase in future temperature and ET
- Potential for longer droughts in the future
- Sea level rise
- High risk for impacts to estuaries and their many ecosystem services
- **SG research can guide coastal resource & fisheries management; SG outreach can target water conservation and reuse**



# Vulnerable coastal populations

- Storm surge / sea level rise
- Coastal flooding
- Shortages of potable water
- Increased health issues related to heat stress
- Increased in water-borne diseases
- **SG has a history of working on these issues, but may need to increase expertise in some areas such as human health**



# Ocean Governance

- Increased use of coastal waters
- Conflicting uses
- Lack of pro-active planning
- **SG and its partners can play a role in facilitating forward-thinking planning and action on this issue**

## Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning

Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning can assist Florida's residents and visitors with balancing the many uses and activities associated with our coastal and ocean resources.

### How Will We Benefit?

We manage our coastal and marine resources in a piecemeal approach, considering one use, or sector, at a time. This is not an ideal approach. Five years from now, the best mix of uses in an area, with minimal conflicts, maximum efficiencies and conservation of resources for future generations.

For example, a plan for offshore energy exploration may not effectively consider other uses that compete for the same space, such as fisheries. In a similar vein, popular boating routes may overlap with sensitive habitats, such as seagrass and coral reefs. While coastal and marine spatial planning cannot replace all sector-by-sector management, it is meant to ensure that our planning reflects Florida's broader goals and objectives. As a result, conflicting, incompatible and inappropriate uses will be identified and remedied.

A goal of marine spatial planning is enhanced collaboration and communication among citizens, businesses and the entities that manage Florida's ocean and coastal resources. Indeed, the success of marine spatial planning depends on this happening. Greater cooperation will bolster the rigor and thoroughness of decision-making, and it will streamline permitting and regulatory processes. These outcomes will provide greater predictability and more confidence for investment decisions.

Document prepared by:  
Teresa L. Clark, Policy and Data  
Specialist  
Program Manager  
tclark@floridagrants.org (352) 393-3223  
FLORIDA OCEAN AND COASTAL  
PROGRAM  
floridagrants.org



One of Florida's coastal and marine spatial planning tools is the Florida Assessment and Protection Resource, listed online at <http://floridagrants.org>. The online mapping feature, pictured above, lets visitors an overlay of spatial data like marine life and boating routes used to drive resource protection cases. Source: Florida Sea Grant

### Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Is...

**Transparent.** Stakeholders and the public participate throughout the process.

**Integrated.** Clear, broad-based goals and objectives that serve to align federal, state, regional, and local entities are agreed upon at the start.


**Comprehensive.** The process evaluates the suite of current and emerging uses of our coasts and oceans, and determines where they should occur to maximize citizen use and regulatory goals.

**Ecosystem-based.** The process considers the ecosystem in its entirety when making use decisions, thus safeguarding the resiliency and sustainability of the environment.


**Place-based.** Use allocation decisions are designed for and implemented at specific locations.

**Adaptive.** Circumstances and societal goals change over time, as do knowledge and technology. To meet this challenge, spatial planning adapts as necessary.

SGP 115  
July 2010



**Oceans of Opportunity:  
Managing Future  
Uses of Florida's  
Ocean Spaces**



**June 2011**





Thank You

Florida Sea Grant College Program



# *The State of Sea Grant 2014: Impacts, Challenges and Opportunities*

Biennial Report to Congress  
by the National Sea Grant Advisory Board

Rolland Schmitten, Chair, National Sea Grant Advisory Board  
Dr. Rosanne Fortner, Chair of the Biennial Report Committee  
September 7, 2014





# State of Sea Grant 2014 Report



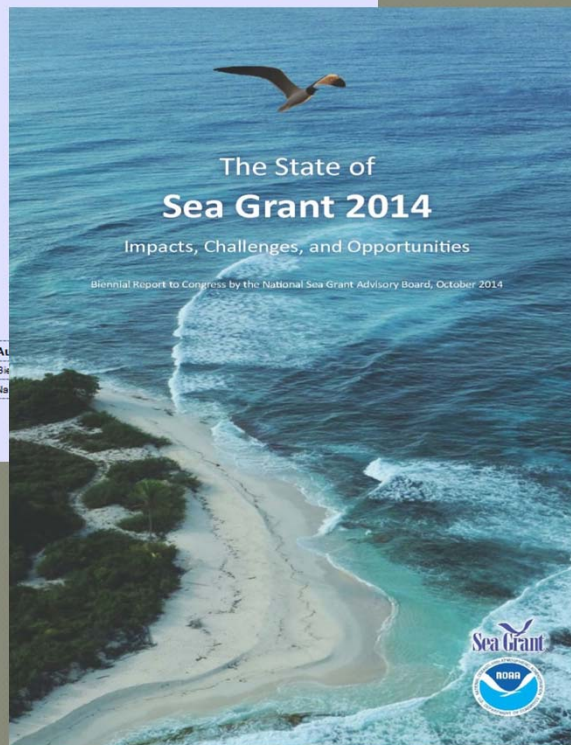
## THE STATE OF SEA GRANT 2010

Impacts, challenges and opportunities



## THE STATE OF SEA GRANT 2012

Impacts, Challenges, Opportunities



- Required by 2008 Sea Grant Act (P.L.110-394)
- Third biennial report

# National Sea Grant Advisory Board

- **National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2008** – “The Sea Grant Review Panel established by section 209 of the National Sea Grant College Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1128), as in effect before the date of the enactment of this Act, is **redesignated as the National Sea Grant Advisory Board.**”
- **Biennial Report** - The Board shall **report to Congress every two years** on the state of the National Sea Grant College Program. The Board shall indicate in each such report the progress made toward meeting the priorities identified in the strategic plan in effect under section 204(c).



# National Sea Grant Advisory Board



National Sea Grant Advisory Board Members

- **Dr. Paulinus Chigbu**, Director, NOAA Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center and Professor, University of Maryland
- **Dr. Rosanne Fortner**, Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University
- **Dr. Amber Mace**, Deputy Director, California Council on Science and Technology
- **Dr. Michael K. Orbach**, Professor of Marine Affairs, Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University
- **Dr. Nancy N. Rabalais, Past Chair**, Executive Director and Professor, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium
- **The Honorable Harry Simmons**, Mayor, Caswell Beach, North Carolina, President, American Shore and Beach Preservation Association
- **The Honorable Dr. William Stubblefield**, Rear Admiral, NOAA (Ret.) Director, Office of NOAA Corp Operations (Ret.)
- **Richard Vortmann**, President, National Steel and Shipbuilding Co (Ret.), Chair, Scripps Health
- **Leon Cammen**, Director, National Sea Grant College Program (*ex officio member*)
- **LaDon Swann**, Director, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant; President, Sea Grant Association (*ex officio member*)
- **Rolland A. Schmitt**, **Chair**, Former Director, NMFS (Ret.); former Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, NOAA
- **Rear Admiral Richard D. West, Vice-Chair**, U.S. Navy, Oceanographer of the Navy (Ret.)
- **Dale Baker**, Extension Leader, New York Sea Grant (Ret.)
- **Frank Beal**, Senior Executive, Metropolis Strategies
- **Senator Patty Birkholz**, Director, West Michigan Office of the Michigan League of Conservation Voters



# What is Sea Grant?



- **Sea Grant** – a federal-university partnership supporting NOAA's mission
  - National, regional and local priorities
  - Local and regional implementation



# Sea Grant's Mission

“Enhance the practical use and conservation of coastal, marine and Great Lakes resources to create a sustainable economy and environment”





# The Sea Grant Network





# Sea Grant's Niche

- **Conducts research on urgent coastal issues**
- **Provides trusted information to stakeholders**
- **Community-based and respected**



# Sea Grant and NOAA

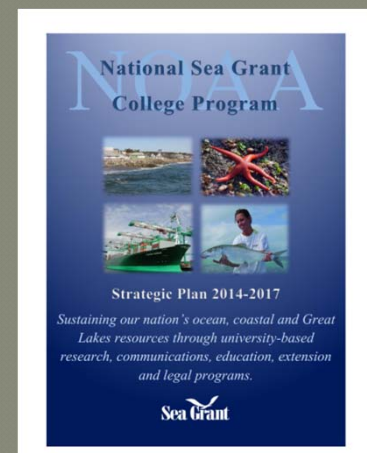
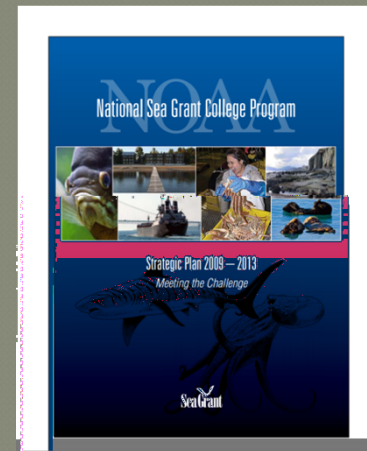


- Engagement with over **300 renowned universities** providing access to oceans, coasts, Great Lakes R&D assets
- Stable national infrastructure of **600 university employees, 3,000 scientists, coastal experts, educators and students**
- Support for **350-400 research projects** annually and **900 graduate students**
- Connects **4500+** partner organizations each year



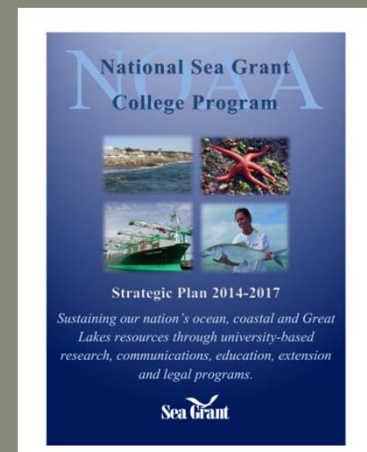
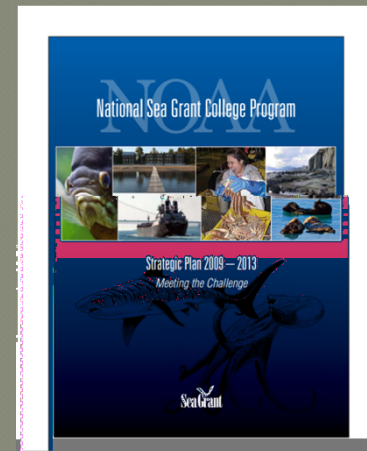
# Sea Grant Program Focus Areas

- **Strategic Plans**
  - Program goals must track to national goals
- **2009-2013 National Focus Areas**
  - Healthy Coastal Ecosystems
  - Sustainable Coastal Development
  - Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply
  - Hazard Resilience in Coastal Communities



# Sea Grant Program Focus Areas

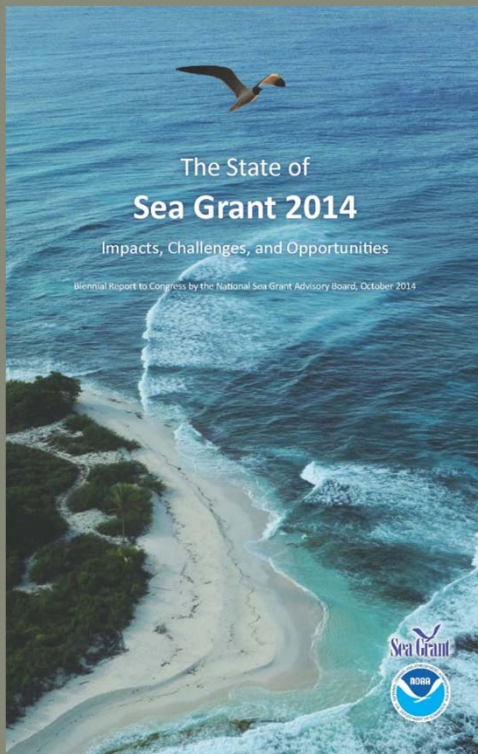
- **Strategic Plans**
  - Program goals must track to national goals
- **2014-2017 National Focus Areas**
  - Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development
  - Healthy Coastal Ecosystems
  - Resilient Communities and Economies
  - Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture





# State of Sea Grant 2014 Report

## Biennial Report Committee

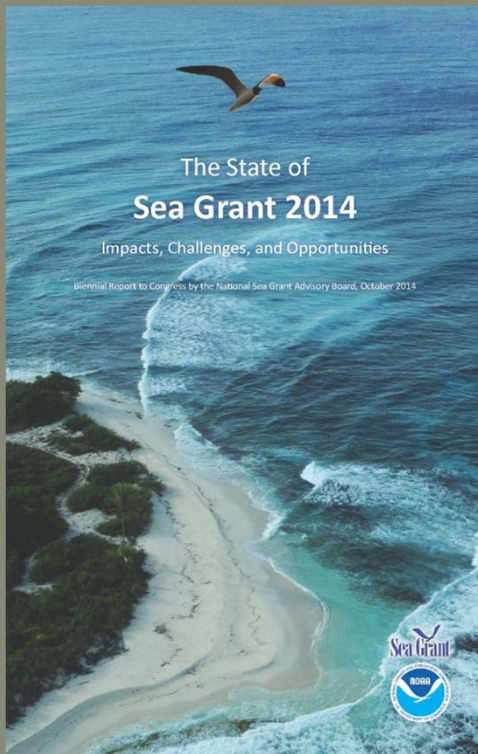


- Dr. Rosanne Fortner, Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University (Chair, Biennial Report Committee)
- Dale Baker, Extension Leader, New York Sea Grant (Ret.)
- Sen. Patty Birkholz, Director, West Michigan Office of the Michigan League of Conservation Voters
- Dr. Amber Mace, Deputy Director, California Council on Science and Technology
- Dennis Nixon, Director, Rhode Island Sea Grant
- Diana Payne, Education Coordinator, Connecticut Sea Grant
- Dr. Nancy Rabalais, Executive Director and Professor, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium
- Dr. Jeffrey Reutter, Director, Ohio Sea Grant
- Rolland Schmitt, Chair, National Sea Grant Advisory Board; Director, National Marine Fisheries Service (Ret.)
- Dr. Nikola Garber, Deputy Director, National Sea Grant College Program (*ex officio*)



# State of Sea Grant 2014 Report

## Findings

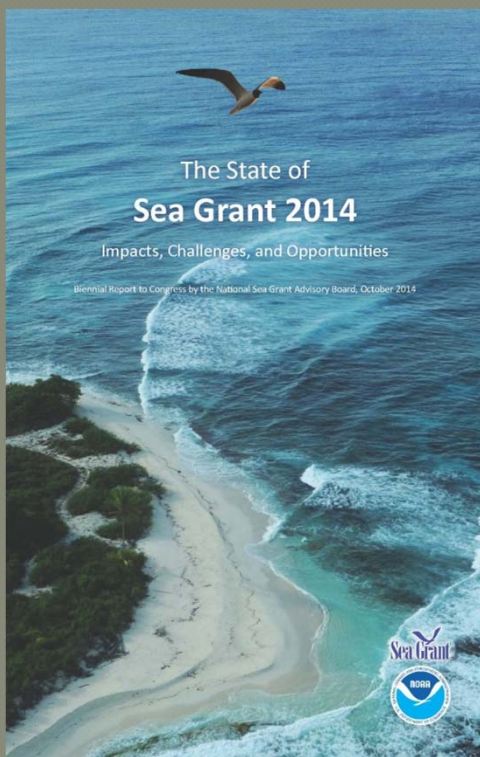


- The Advisory Board finds the NSGCP to be an effective and solid investment of public monies in responding to the needs of our coastal and Great Lakes communities.
- The Sea Grant Network completed a full cycle of the PIE process. All programs were found to meet or exceed expectations.
- Sea Grant has made great strides in addressing the allocation needs of the state programs through rebalancing of funding based on Board and SGA recommendations.



# ***State of Sea Grant 2014 Report***

## **Response to 2012 Recommendations**



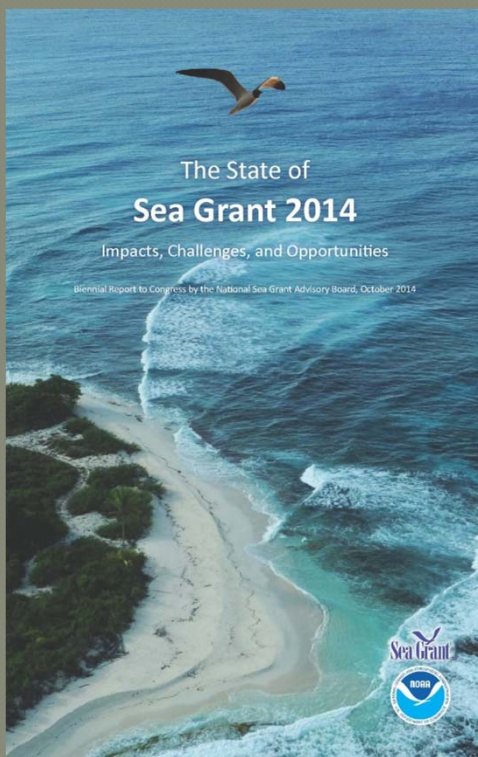
**1. Sea Grant should continue to focus on advancing national priorities and solving problems on a local and regional basis, while remaining sensitive to the needs of local communities.**

- The National Sea Grant College Program Strategic Plan for 2014-2017 outlines national priorities developed through local and regional stakeholder input with state Sea Grant programs. The Strategic Plan process, with the sharing of feedback on research outcomes, economic impacts and environmental changes in state programs, demonstrates positive and effective Sea Grant attention to this recommendation.



# **State of Sea Grant 2014 Report**

## **Response to 2012 Recommendations**



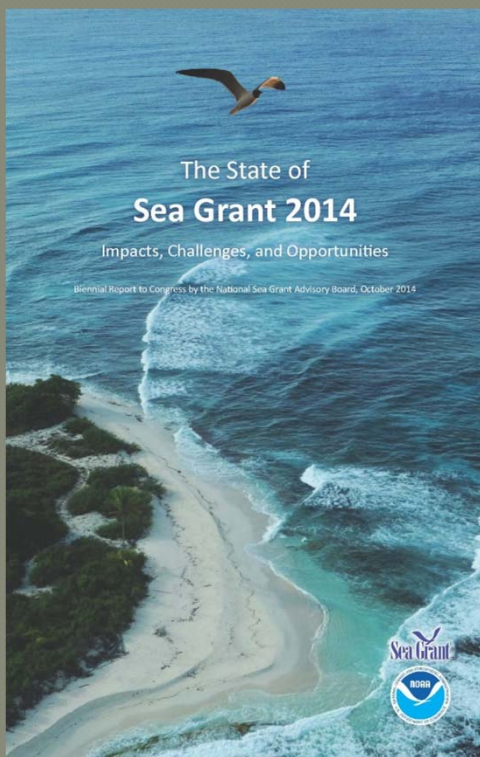
## **2. Sea Grant should continue to support tracking and reporting of the cumulative, measurable impacts of Sea Grant activities toward the achievement of national goals.**

- Sea Grant is committed to careful planning and evaluation at the state and national levels. The National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) has continued to refine the Planning, Implementation and Evaluation Resource (PIER) database to provide the Sea Grant network with support and guidance on effective impacts. The NSGO website has added a PIER public search capability for Sea Grant projects as well as an impacts and accomplishment search (Appendix A). This should increase the ease of use of PIER and its value for Sea Grant programs and the public. The 2014-2017 program measures and metrics have been refined to incorporate more fully the work of the network.



# ***State of Sea Grant 2014 Report***

## **Response to 2012 Recommendations**



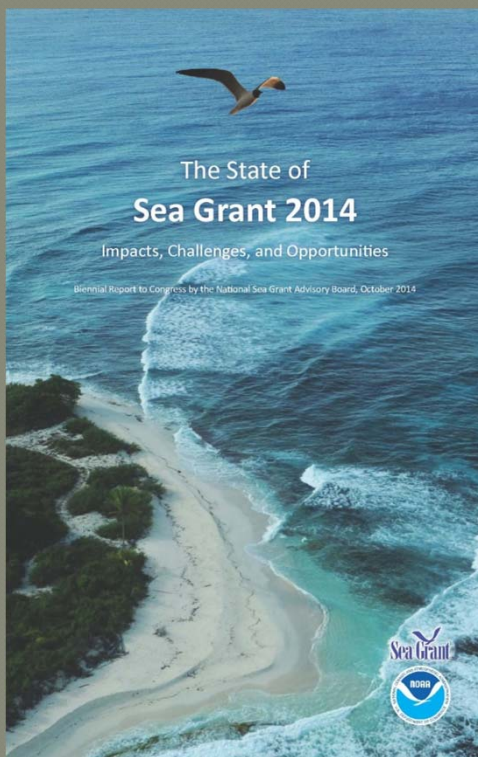
**3. Sea Grant should continue to emphasize partnerships and collaborative efforts within the Sea Grant network and with other federal, regional, state and local agencies and organizations.**

- **Partnerships are growing in number and impact. For example, Sea Grant partners with other NOAA line offices and programs to leverage existing knowledge and resources. Types of partnerships are explained in the PIER database. Within individual Sea Grant programs, partnerships with business, agencies, academia and other sponsors increase Sea Grant's scope of influence and leverage support for wider efforts.**



# ***State of Sea Grant 2014 Report***

## **Response to 2012 Recommendations**



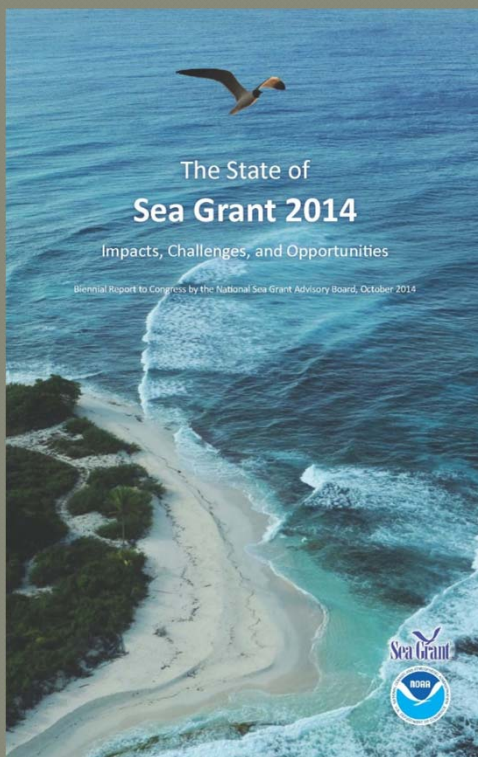
**4. The federal budget should allocate additional resources for Sea Grant to reverse the erosion of buying power and maintain a dynamic program.**

- **The federal budget is moving toward greater support for Sea Grant efforts. In FY 2014 Sea Grant received an increase of nearly \$5M in the Conference Appropriations Report. While these additional revenues do not yet recoup multi-year losses to inflation, they are certainly welcome recognition of the value of the services rendered by Sea Grant.**



# ***State of Sea Grant 2014 Report***

## **Response to 2012 Recommendations**



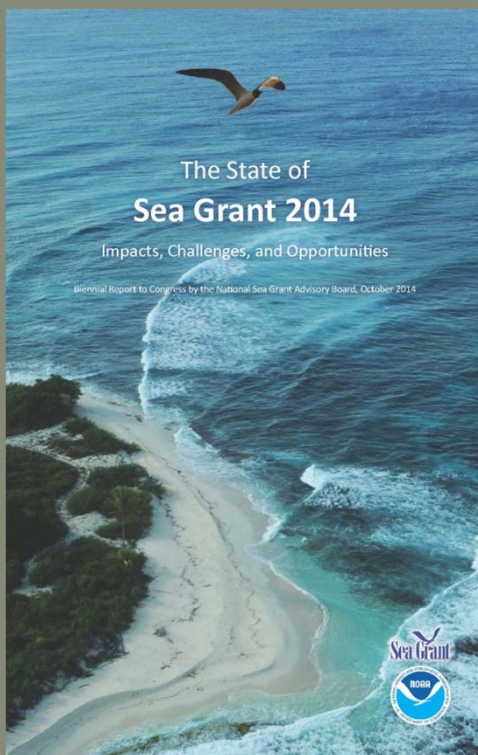
**5. The National Sea Grant Office should review the funding structure of Sea Grant, including the allocation and distribution of funds to state programs, following recommendations made in a 2011 Advisory Board report.**

- A third Advisory Board Allocation Committee was assigned to review funding distribution among the national office, individual programs, and the essential elements of research, education and outreach. Committee representatives from the Board, Sea Grant Association, and NSGO challenged many historic practices of Sea Grant funding. They provided balanced and specific recommendations and timing for future allocations. After receiving input from the SGA, the NSGO used the FY14 budget increments to begin implementation of allocations including a minimum level of base funding of \$1M for all programs



# State of Sea Grant 2014 Report

## Response to 2012 Recommendations



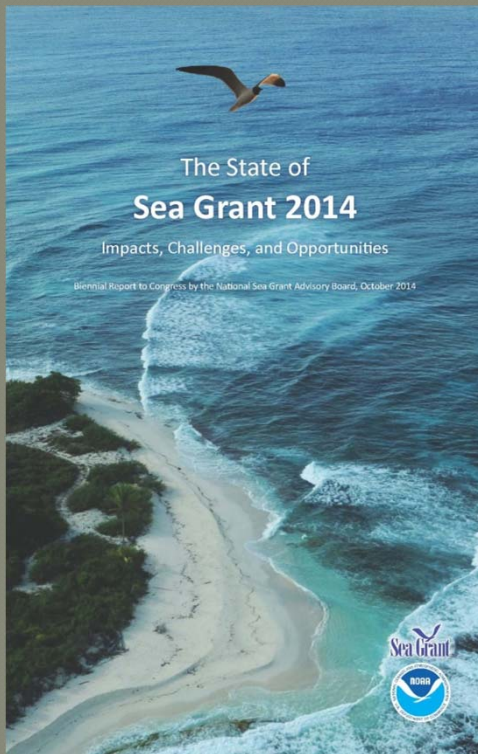
**6. NOAA should continue the integration of its coastal programs to maximize its capability to address the Nation's growing coastal challenges.**

- NOAA has made good progress in integrating coastal programs and improving cross-agency collaboration. For example, NOAA has realigned the National Ocean Service (NOS) budget structure and is merging the Coastal Services Center and the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. The agency also realigned and refocused the National Centers for Coastal and Ocean Service to better target research on agency coastal missions and priorities. These changes are enabling NOAA to make progress on NOS priorities (coastal resiliency coastal intelligence; and place-based conservation), which align well with Sea Grant and other NOAA coastal interests. These changes are improving delivery of services to NOAA partners and customers and creating opportunities for further coordination and collaboration across NOAA. Such integration will result in increased cooperation between Sea Grant and NOS coastal programs.



# State of Sea Grant 2014 Report

## Challenges

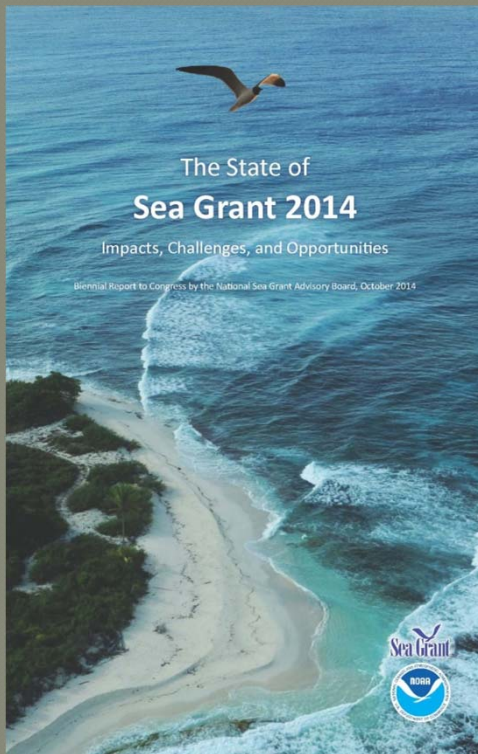


- While appreciative of the 0.5% administrative cap increase in the Senate committee reauthorization, the Board continues to support the removal of the cap
- After several years of level funding and declining purchasing power, the FY2014 budget brought an increase in base funding for several underfunded programs, while retaining existing funding for others. The Board is confident that continued increases will return Sea Grant to a level that strengthens its ability to meet the needs of our coastal communities.
- Federal consolidation of education programs, with budget cuts, threatens the integrity of the program's critical mission and its workforce development



# State of Sea Grant 2014 Report

## Sea Grant in Action



- Sea Grant's Response to Sandy
  - Coordination
  - Assessment
  - Technical Assistance & Outreach
  - New Research
- Climate Adaptation and Renewable Energy
- STEM Consolidation Response
- Sea Grant's Social Science Initiative
- Economic Impact Examples
- Partnerships



# *State of Sea Grant 2014 Report*

## Recommendations

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1. Sea Grant should continue to focus on advancing national priorities while solving problems on a local and regional basis. This national focus must continue to emphasize partnerships and collaborative efforts within the Sea Grant network and with other federal, regional, state and local agencies and organizations, without loss of sensitivity to community stakeholders' needs.
2. Sea Grant should continue to support tracking and reporting of the cumulative, measurable impacts of Sea Grant activities toward the achievement of national goals.
3. The continued viability of Sea Grant relies on adjustment of budget equity among programs, while maintaining program review and merit considerations. The Sea Grant network should embrace steps toward balancing the federal funding among programs, with a goal of assuring all programs a minimum base of funding.
4. Sea Grant should strengthen the focus area in Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development by demonstrating how Sea Grant K-12 and informal STEM education programs and targeted graduate Fellowships are mission critical, respond to national priorities, and result in evidence-based accomplishments and impacts.

# ***State of Sea Grant 2014 Report***

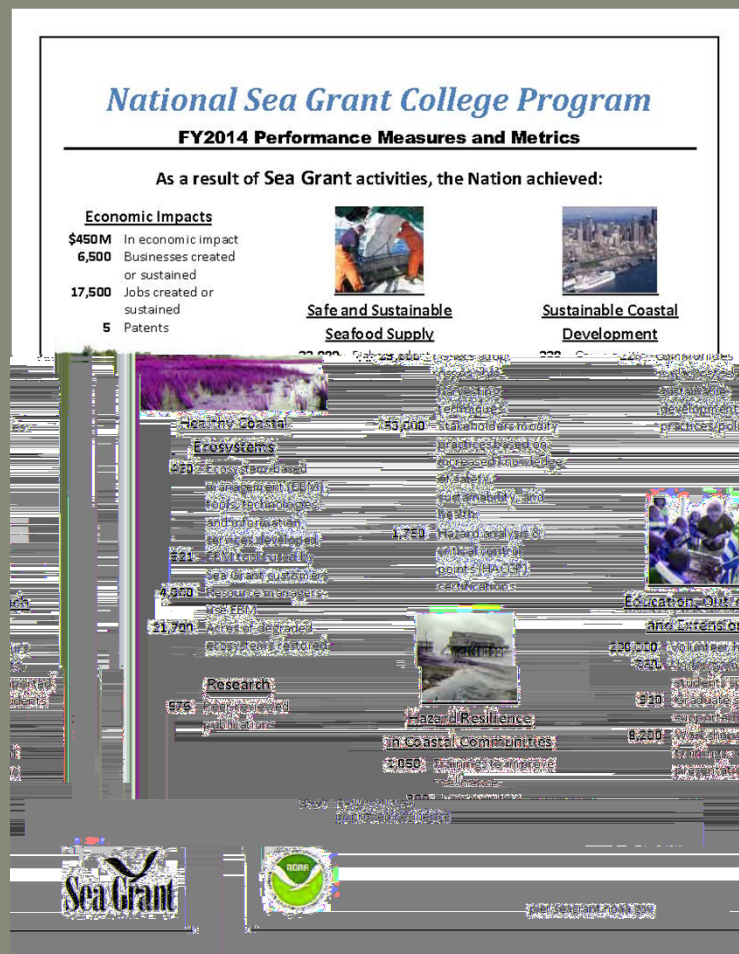
## **Emerging Opportunities**

- **Healthy Coastal Ecosystems**
  - Emerging Contaminants
  - Aquatic Invasive Species
  - Restoration of Coastal Ecosystems
  - Water Resources
- **Resilient Communities and Economies**
  - Climate Change Adaptation and Coastal Resiliency
  - Tourism
  - Coastal Development
- **Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture**
  - Seafood Traceability
- **Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development**
  - Educational Research
  - Sea Grant Education Impacts
- **Cross Cutting Opportunities**
  - Social Science



# State of Sea Grant 2014 Report

## Performance Measures and Metrics



# ***State of Sea Grant 2014 Report***

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Questions?





**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration**

**NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM**  
1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

August 27, 2014

Mr. Rolland Schmitten  
Chair, National Sea Grant Advisory Board  
1315 East West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20871

Dear Mr. Schmitten,

Pennsylvania Sea Grant has given us notice that they intend to apply for designation as a Sea Grant College. They are eligible to do so because they have been successfully operating as a Sea Grant Institutional Program for at least three years. (This requirement is listed in the document "Program Policy for the Allocation of Funds, FY2003 and Beyond"). By law, Sea Grant College status is conferred by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary). According to the Sea Grant legislation (33 U.S.C. § 1128), the National Sea Grant Advisory Board (Board) shall advise the Secretary and the Director concerning the designation of Sea Grant Colleges and Sea Grant Institutes.

This is a formal request to the Board to convene a Task Group to conduct a review of the Pennsylvania Sea Grant Institutional Program. Current FACA regulations require that at least one Board member be on this Task Group. The Task Group will serve as a subcommittee of the Board, and present their findings to the Board so that they may provide a final recommendation.

The charge to this Task Group is to complete a review of the Pennsylvania Sea Grant Institutional Program's request for Sea Grant College Status with a final report submitted to the Board by February 1, 2015. This report will include a review of Pennsylvania Sea Grant's application for College Status and supporting documentation such as their strategic plan and recent performance evaluations, and the process will also include a site visit to Pennsylvania Sea Grant in October, 2014.

I would ask the Board to review the report of the Task Group and forward it to me with Board recommendations and comments by the spring advisory board meeting scheduled for March 2-3, 2015. Once approved by the full Board, I will forward the recommendation to the Secretary.

The criteria for the review to address are set forth in regulation at 15 CFR 918.3, and are:

**(1) Leadership.** Is the candidate an intellectual and practical leader in marine science, engineering, education, and advisory service in its state and region?



**(2) Organization.** Has the candidate created the necessary management organization to carry on a viable and productive Sea Grant Program, and does the candidate have backing of its administration at a sufficiently high level to fulfill its multidisciplinary and multifaceted mandate?

**(3) Relevance.** Is the candidate's program relevant to local, State, regional, or National opportunities and problems in the marine environment? Important factors in evaluating relevance are the presence of an emphasis on marine resources, and the extent to which capabilities have been developed to be responsive to that need.

**(4) Programmed team approach.** Does the candidate have a programmed team approach to solving marine problems, which includes relevant, high quality, multidisciplinary research with associated educational and advisory services capable of producing identifiable results?

**(5) Education and training.** Is education and training clearly relevant to National, regional, State and local needs in fields related to ocean, Great Lakes, and coastal resources? (Education may include pre-college, college, post-graduate, public and adult levels.)

**(6) Advisory services.** Does the candidate have a strong program through which information, techniques and research results from any reliable source, domestic or international, are communicated to, and utilized by, user communities? In addition to the educational and information dissemination role, does the advisory service program aid in the identification and communication of user communities' research and educational needs?

**(7) Relationships.** Does the candidate have close ties with Federal agencies, State agencies and administrations, local authorities, business and industry, and other educational institutions? Do these ties: (i) ensure the relevance of its programs, (ii) give assistance to the broadest possible audience, (iii) involve a broad pool of talent in providing assistance and (iv) assist others in developing research and management competence? (The extent and quality of an institution's relationships are critical factors in evaluating the institutional program)

**(8) Productivity.** Does the candidate have substantial strength in the three basic Sea Grant activities: research, education and training, and advisory services?

**(9) Support.** Does the candidate have the ability to obtain matching funds from non-Federal sources, such as state legislatures, university management, state agencies, business, and industry? A diversity of matching fund sources is encouraged as a sign of program vitality and the ability to meet the Sea Grant requirement that funds for the general programs be matched with at least one non-Federal dollar for every two Federal dollars.






UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Sea Grant College Program  
1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

MAR 11 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: Sea Grant Directors  
University Direct Reports

FROM: Ronald C. Baird 

SUBJECT: Policy for the Allocation of Funds, FY 2003  
and Beyond

The Sea Grant Act of 2002 contains language specific to the allocation of funds for the National Sea Grant College Program. In conformance with the Act, NOAA's National Sea Grant Office has established new guidelines for fund allocation. Those guidelines are encompassed in the attached policy document entitled, "**Policy for the Allocation of Funds, FY 2003 and Beyond.**" The new allocation policy is effective immediately and continues until superceded.

This policy was developed over the past year and a half beginning with the appointment of the allocation committee, a committee comprised of two members each from the Sea Grant Association, Sea Grant Review Panel and the National Sea Grant Office. During this time, the policy evolved based on considerable discussion with and input from the members of these three groups. In addition, the allocation of funds issue was discussed at length by Congress during the 2002 Sea Grant reauthorization hearings and these discussions were reflected in Sea Grant's 2002 legislation.

The intention of this new policy is to

- 1) encourage a high level of innovation, educational and scientific quality, and program impact;
- 2) bring the Sea Grant network to a consistent level of excellence nationwide in accordance with its legislative mandate and in support of NOAA's mission priorities;
- 3) provide a context for the distribution of funds so as to enable Sea Grant to exert national leadership to promote the wise use and conservation of coastal and marine resources.



My thanks and appreciation to members of the Sea Grant Association, the National Review Panel and the National Office for their collective contributions to the final product. I am confident that we have produced a transparent, practical and workable set of policy guidelines that will enhance our effectiveness as an organization.

Attachment

cc: L. Koch



**National Sea Grant College Program  
Policy for the Allocation of Funds, FY2003 and Beyond**

**I. Background**

The National Sea Grant College Program Act of 1966 provided little guidance for the distribution of Sea Grant funds. The Act gave the National Science Foundation, the agency assigned to administer the National Sea Grant College Program, broad latitude regarding the distribution of funds with only one requirement, that "no state should receive more than 15% of total appropriated funds." Absent legislative guidance, the NSF, and in later years NOAA, applied peer review and open competition principles to establish the present network of Sea Grant institutions and colleges. Grant allocations among the states, then, represent the evolution of a series of complex decisions spanning a 32-year period, which have resulted in the current distribution of funds among Sea Grant programs.

During the late 1990's, major management changes were introduced primarily in response to a 1994 NRC study of the program that called for a more decentralized organizational structure and greater focus on performance. The concept of "core funds," consisting of "base funds" plus a performance-based "merit funds" component, was established (National Sea Grant Office {NSGO} policy memorandum, "Allocations for FY 1998 and Beyond."). Base funds provide a stable level of support (minimum of \$800,000) around which individual programs can plan and develop. During the 4-year period 1998-2001, base funding levels were increased as appropriations increased. Merit funds reward local program performance based on rigorous evaluations every four years. Approximately 50% of the federal funds (excluding program enhancement awards and national strategic investments {NSIs}) allocated to program core funding must be allocated to peer reviewed, competitive research and to graduate/undergraduate education proposals. Competitions are open to all eligible institutions in a program's state. The 1998 Plan also established a system of national competitions open to all programs in which peer reviewed grants are awarded on a 2-3 year basis to the highest rated projects. All aforementioned changes - stable base funds, merit reviews, and national competitions - were added to the Sea Grant Act of 1998.

## II. Goals and Objectives

Consistent with the intent of Congress as set forth in the National Sea Grant Act of 1998 (33USC1121), the NSGO policy memorandum entitled "Allocations for FY 1998 and Beyond," the report of the Sea Grant Allocation Committee of March, 2002, and the National Sea Grant College Act Amendments of 2002 (P. L. 107-299), the purpose of this section is to establish goals and objectives for the distribution of funds in the National Sea Grant College Program for FY 2003 and beyond.

These are articulated as follows:

### A. Goals:

- 1) To encourage a high level of innovation, educational and scientific quality, and program impact.
- 2) To bring the Sea Grant network to a consistent level of excellence nationwide in accordance with its legislative mandate and in support of NOAA's mission priorities.
- 3) To provide a context for the distribution of funds so as to enable Sea Grant to exert national leadership to promote the wise use and conservation of coastal and marine resources.

### B. Objectives:

- 1) To provide a flexible, equitable and open allocation plan in support of program goals.
- 2) To provide a stable, national infrastructure of university based programs that can effectively and efficiently promote NOAA Sea Grant's mission subject to regular review and continued satisfactory performance.
- 3) To provide a rationale and procedures for the distribution of funds in Sea Grant that promote performance, healthy competition and partnerships.
- 4) To provide a mechanism for the establishment of new programs in eligible states not currently being served.



### **III. Operational Elements**

#### Introduction:

The purpose of this section is to articulate the priorities and operational elements for the distribution of funds in the National Sea Grant College Program for FY 2003 and beyond. As such, these elements represent NSGO policy for the distribution of funds in Sea Grant to become effective upon passage of the FY2003 appropriation bill and continue indefinitely until superceded or revised. These policy elements follow from the goals and objectives set forth in Section II of this document and the references cited therein, particularly Congressional guidelines and the Sea Grant Allocation Committee Report of 2002.

#### Legislative background:

The National Sea Grant Act of 1998 (33 USC 1121) provides guidance for the distribution of funds authorized under the Act by encouraging a stable base of funding, merit review, new program development, and promotion of competition. The National Sea Grant College Program Act Amendments of 2002 (P. L. 107-299) states that in any fiscal year where appropriations exceed amounts appropriated for the fiscal year 2003, the excess amounts be distributed to any combination of the following:

- "(1) sea grant programs, according to their rating under section 204(d) (3) (A);
- "(2) national strategic investments authorized under section 204(b) (4);
- "(3) a college, university, institution, association or alliance for activities that are necessary for it to be designated a sea grant college or institute;
- "(4) a sea grant college or sea grant institute designated after the date of enactment of the National Sea Grant College Program Act Amendments of 2002 but not yet evaluated under section 204(d) (3) (A)."

#### Plan elements:

For purposes of this policy, funds appropriated for Sea Grant in FY 2003 are \$62.41 million. For appropriated amounts in excess of FY 2003 levels in future years, the excess of funds available will be distributed on the basis of merit and/or competition. The allocation plan contains four elements: Program Core Distributions, National Competitions, New Program Provisions, and Special Provisions.

A) Program Core Distributions: Core distributions are funds granted to individual Sea Grant institutional programs and generally consist of three funding components: base, merit and specific program development awards. The base component represents NOAA's investment in local infrastructure and directly addresses stability of funding required by the Sea Grant Act. Base funding is awarded with the expectation of continued long term support as long as performance so warrants. Programs may otherwise invest core funds so as to maintain a balanced program in accordance with the Sea Grant Act and NOAA mission objectives.

1. Base funding is a target amount determined early in a fiscal year for NOAA omnibus proposal submissions. The base funding year for calculating a program's base funding amount is equal to the FY 2003 level, which supercedes FY 1995 as the base year. A program's base funding level, then, is the FY 2003 amount plus any subsequent additions. It is expected that as an operating guideline, not less than 45% or more than 65% (ca. 50%), of base plus merit funding (federal portion) will be distributed for research and education projects awarded by an open, peer-review competitive process in accordance with current Sea Grant policy for such competitions. Funds originating from program enhancement awards and National Strategic Investments are excluded from this operating guideline.
2. Program base minimum is a fixed amount based on an assessment of infrastructural resources needed by a Sea Grant Program, consistent with total resources appropriated, in order to operate an effective, balanced program of research, education and outreach. The 1998 Plan acknowledges that need, the Sea Grant Act calls for encouraging new programs and strengthening the network and the recent Allocation Committee Report considered this question. Based on these considerations and the recommendations in the recent Allocation Committee's report, and subject to regular review and satisfactory performance, a Program minimum amount is set for Sea Grant College and Institutional Programs at \$1.2 million in federal funds. The amount is based on FY 2002 cost estimates and appropriations. With matching funds, a minimum investment, then, of \$1.8 million in infrastructure is provided for a Sea Grant College. This equates to the FY 2002 median level of base funding for all programs. Such an amount allows, at steady state, for approximately 8 modest sized research projects per year, 4-5 extension specialists and a budget for management, education and communications functions. Furthermore, there is maintained a capacity base from which



to generate additional resources and compete in national competitions.

Sea Grant College or Institutional Programs, whose base funding levels are less than the \$1.2 million minimum, qualify for base minimum adjustments. The Director, NSGO, may from time to time, designate funds for base minimum distributions. Programs eligible for the distribution will receive adjustments in that year based on their merit grades. Merit grades are those received from final performance evaluations. Programs remain eligible until the base funding reaches the base minimum amount.

(NOTE: The program minimum defined here is not to be construed as an adequate or sufficient resource base in relation to a state's issues, opportunities or capabilities. Given budget realities, it represents a compromise between providing an enabling infrastructure across eligible states and more substantially funding fewer programs.)

3. Merit funds are amounts determined according to performance in merit based reviews among Sea Grant Colleges and Institutions. The amounts distributed arise from merit grade categories assigned in performance evaluations and the total dollars available for distribution and as specified in current performance review policy. A program's merit-based distribution may vary from year to year due to the rolling four-year schedule of merit ratings. Consequently, the merit funds received by a program in a given year may change (or disappear) as a function of the evaluation process. It is expected that the overall merit funding pool will minimally be maintained at the FY 2002 level.
4. Program Development Awards are grants made as a result of peer reviewed, national competitions open only to Sea Grant colleges and institutions and are for the purpose of enhancing specific programmatic activities (e. g., community development, fisheries extension, regional activities), not individual investigators. These funds are designated as part of a program's core funds for a finite time period (generally 4-5 yrs.) and are subject to the terms and conditions specified in the competition.

B. National Competitions: The Sea Grant Act states that

the Director shall allocate funding among Sea Grant colleges and institutions so as to promote healthy competition among such institutions (Sec.1123(d)(3)B(i)). Allocations to individual programs may be made under this provision on the basis of open peer reviewed competition to eligible entities as defined by law. The circumstances and duration of such awards are to be determined by the goals and criteria governing that particular competition. Such competitions would normally be open to proposals from all programs, but competitions may also be restricted to regional projects in certain instances.

National competitions are subject to the rules and policies in effect for RFP announcement, proposal submission and peer review for Sea Grant awards. Funding for such competitions may arise from Sea Grant appropriations and/or other federal sources distributed by the NSGO in accordance with provisions of the Sea Grant Act.

National competitions may originate from a number of funding sources, primarily, from Congress, NOAA and/or other agencies and Sea Grant Act appropriations.

C) New Program Provisions: The Sea Grant Act contains the specific objective in the statement of purpose "to extend and strengthen the National Sea Grant Program." In order to extend the program so as to serve all eligible states as defined in the Act, the following elements provide for the funding of new programs in accordance with the guidelines developed in previous sections of this plan.

The Director, NSGO, may provide new funds from Sea Grant Act appropriations for investments in projects and Coherent Area Programs in eligible states in which no program has yet attained institutional status. Once a program has attained full institutional status, it no longer qualifies for distributions under the new program provision. Such programs may then qualify for base minimum distributions.

All proposals submitted under the New Program Provision will be subject to Sea Grant review and merit criteria. Proposals for changes in status for new programs are subject to relevant merit based criteria and procedures. Changes in status may change a program's eligibility for distributions under this plan. However, such changes in and of themselves constitute no obligation on the part of NOAA for additional funding or other exceptions from the guidelines set forth herein.

D) Special Provisions: There are special case



distributions that are provided for under the Act or represent situations requiring clarification. These include pass through grants, special grants, and unobligated funds.

1. Pass through grants/and contracts are funds awarded by the NSGO to Sea Grant Programs arising from federal funds not appropriated specifically for the support of the Sea Grant Act. Provisions of the Sea Grant Act provide this authority. Such funds are subject to the terms and conditions of the originating agency and to current policies of the National Sea Grant College Program. Pass-through funds do not require non-federal matching funds unless specified by the originating agency.
2. National infrastructure support grants are awards made under the provision of the Sea Grant Act and are generally made at the discretion of the Director, NSGO for rapid response to emerging issues or for proposals to enhance network capability. Such grants without matching funds may not exceed 1% of the total appropriated funds in that year. Proposals for special grants are subject to normal review processes in accordance with NSGO guidelines.
3. Unobligated funds are those arising from previous years' deobligations. These are returns that originate from a variety of sources and normally are less than 1% of current appropriations. Such funds become available for distribution for Sea Grant and may be used at the discretion of the Director, NSGO to augment one or more funding elements. These funds are available for distribution only in the year they occur (i.e., on a one time basis) and unless otherwise excepted, are subject to the 1/3 matching requirement of Section 1124 of the Sea Grant Act.

E) Other Considerations: This allocation plan is based on the assumption of long term program growth. However, assumptions of constant or growing funding may not be realized in a given year for a variety of reasons or appropriations bills may impose specific uses to new or existing funds. The following guidelines establish a general protocol for such situations:

1. In the event of decreases in funding levels from whatever source (e.g., appropriations, rescissions, mandates) the first priority is the maintenance of network integrity and therefore the maintenance of base funding levels.
2. In the event of significant increases in non-specific appropriations, primary consideration will be given to four areas (not listed in priority order); program base minimum adjustments, new program development, merit pool increases and base increases for all programs through competition up to the amount of the FY 2003 appropriation.
3. Increases in core funding in FY 2003 and beyond, may arise from several mechanisms:
  - a) The Director, NSGO, may from time to time both increase the merit pool and/or enhance the overall base funding allocation by one time merit based distributions up to the FY 2003 appropriation.
  - b) Program development awards from competitions to enhance programmatic activities either generally or in specific areas will be added to a program's funding base for the duration of that award (usually 4-5 years).
4. Decreases in a program's core funding may also arise from:
  - a) Reduction in merit distribution as a consequence of changes in performance grades.
  - b) Reductions in base grant awards stemming from unsatisfactory performance or for cause in relation to current Agency and Federal regulations and guidelines.
  - c) Reductions as a result of significant reductions in appropriations.
5. It is NSGO policy to establish and fund only one institutional or college program in a state as defined in the Sea Grant Act, except for those Programs that attained institutional status prior to FY 2002. Once institutional status is attained in a state, that program assumes the duties and responsibilities of a Sea Grant Program for that state.



#### **IV. New Program Policy**

It is NSGO policy to accommodate the establishment and growth of new Sea Grant programs in the remaining states and territories that are eligible for Sea Grant College designation. The purpose here is to provide guidance on procedures and designation of resources for new programs in order to facilitate the orderly development of new Sea Grant programs.

Sequential Steps to Sea Grant College Status - Establishing Sea Grant College Program status is a sequential process that occurs over a period of time, typically a decade or more. To achieve Sea Grant College status, three steps must occur: Coherent Area Program, Institutional Program and Sea Grant College Program. These steps are described more fully as follows:

General - Eligibility, qualifications and responsibilities for Sea Grant Programs are set forth in the Sea Grant Act and the Federal Register (V44:244). A Sea Grant Program is a university-based program usually administered by one institutional entity within a coastal or Great Lakes state.

Any eligible institution in the remaining states and territories that are eligible for Sea Grant College designation may apply to NOAA's National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) for a project grant. A project grant is simply a proposal from an eligible institution to initiate a Sea Grant programmatic activity for a given time period. This is generally the first step in seeking Sea Grant Program status.

Institutional entities may subsequently petition the NSGO for changes in program status in sequential order as defined below.

A) Coherent Area Program - The NSGO may request proposals from eligible institutions for the purpose of establishing Coherent Area Programs. An institutional entity may apply to the NSGO to become a Coherent Area Program in order to conduct Sea Grant activities limited in geographic area and/or scope. Grants are made to Coherent Area Programs with the expectation of renewal if the quality and relevance of the program is maintained. The NSGO will only accept Coherent Area Program proposals from eligible entities in states without existing Sea Grant Institutions or Colleges. All Coherent Area Program proposals are subject to Sea Grant review procedures and must be satisfactorily evaluated against Sea Grant project evaluation criteria. An institution must be designated a Coherent Area Program for at least two to three years before being eligible to apply for Sea Grant institutional status.

B) Institutional Program - The NSGO may competitively award Sea Grant Institutional Program status to one or a consortium of eligible entities having Coherent Area Programs. Criteria to be met are similar to that for a Sea Grant College and all eligible institutions may apply. Proposals for Institutional Program status will be referred to the Director of the NSGO, who will convene a panel of experts for the purpose of reviewing proposals against institutional program review criteria as defined in the Federal Register (V42:70). The experts' panel will make a recommendation to the Director regarding Institutional Program designation. The Director will make the final decision on Institutional Program designation. The NSGO will designate only one Institutional Program per state.

C) Sea Grant College - This is Sea Grant's highest program category. Sea Grant Colleges have broad responsibilities for state, regional and national activities and engage all of the institutions of higher learning in a state. Only Institutional Programs are eligible, after an appropriate period of time (at least two to three years) to become Sea Grant Colleges. Designation is made on the basis of merit and a determination by the Secretary of Commerce that such a designation meets the qualification criteria as set forth in the Federal Register (CFR, 1997 Ch. IX: Part 918).

New Program Implementation Plan - Beginning in FY 2003, the NSGO will announce a process for eligible institutional entities to submit Coherent Area Program and Institutional Program proposals. Since the remaining states and territories eligible for Sea Grant College designation are limited in number, the NSGO plans to make this opportunity available primarily with new funds.



## V. Distribution of Funds

This section addresses the issue of the distribution of funds to the specific categories. The Sea Grant Act is definitive in fixing responsibility for the distribution of funds with the Secretary of Commerce and Director, NSGO. Funds are to be distributed in support of the purposes of the Act, but the Act provides considerable latitude within the merit and competition framework on the distribution of funds to various categories. Section II of this document provides specific goals and objectives for the distribution of funds. Based on those precepts articulated in Section II, the following guidelines will apply to the distribution of funds to categories. Note these are general guidelines and circumstance and/or future appropriations bill language may require exceptions for these guidelines. The guidelines are as follows:

A) Allocation policy will be reviewed by the NSGO in the year preceding the last year of a reauthorization sequence. For instance, these guidelines would be reviewed in FY 2007. Both the National Review Panel and Sea Grant Colleges and Institutions would be given the opportunity to participate in such a review.

B) Funding amounts up to the FY 2003 appropriated amount may be used in any category including base funding.

C) Sea Grant appropriations in excess of the FY 2003 amounts may only be allocated to programs through merit or competitive mechanisms and not to base funding, with the exception of new Sea Grant Colleges or Institutions.

D) Designation of appropriated funds within these guidelines will be made by the Director, NSGO as soon as possible after an appropriation bill is passed for the fiscal year.

**(10) Continuity of high performance.** Does the candidate demonstrate the ability to continue the pursuit of excellence and sustain the following? (i)high performance in marine research, education, training, and advisory services; (ii)leadership in marine activities including coordinated planning and cooperative work with local, state, regional, and Federal agencies, other Sea Grant programs, and non-Sea Grant universities; (iii)effective management framework and application of institutional resources to the achievement of Sea Grant objectives; (iv)long-term plans for research, education, training, and advisory services consistent with Sea Grant goals and objectives; (v)furtherance of the Sea Grant concept and the full development of its potential within the institution and the state; (vi)adequate and stable matching financial support for the program from non-Federal sources; and (vii)effective system to control the quality of its Sea Grant programs.

Jonathan Eigen will act as the National Sea Grant Office liaison to the Task Group and be a member of the site visit team. When a Chair has been chosen, please ask him/her to call Jonathan to discuss next steps and determine needs for staff support to the Panel.

With best regards,



Leon M. Cammen  
Director  
National Sea Grant College Program

Attachment: Policy for the Allocation of Funds, FY 2003 and Beyond

cc: E. Rohring  
J. Eigen



## ABSTRACT – The Critical Role of Partnerships in the Creation of St. Petersburg’s Major Marine Research Center

The transformation of a downtown industrial backwater into the largest marine research complex in the southeastern United States is a testimonial to a multi-decadal series of effective partnerships. The critical collaborators included: 1) administrators from the University of South Florida; 2) business leaders and business groups in St. Petersburg; 3) the mayors and city councils of St. Petersburg; 4) interested private citizens; 5) state legislators; 6) federal legislators and; 7) a host of donors who built multiple endowments in support of marine research. Given the embryonic state of the marine operations that started in 1966, the daunting challenge was to actually convince prospective supporters that St. Petersburg’s Bayboro Harbor, occasionally referred to as the “arm pit of the city”, could actually be transformed into a major asset.

The presentation will consider the evolution of St. Petersburg’s marine research complex and the particular ways that Partnerships propelled the marine sciences into prominence.

# Focus Area Updates

*Report to the  
National Sea Grant Advisory Board*  
Sea Grant Week Meeting  
September 8, 2014



**Elizabeth  
Bevan**



**Tammy  
Newcomer Johnson**

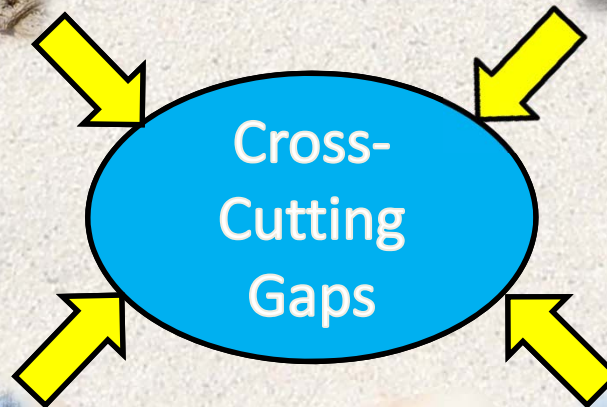


# *Focus Areas* *2009-2013*





# *Focus Area Cross-Cutting Gaps 2009-2013*





## *Focus Area Cross-Cutting Gaps 2009-2013*

### Cross-Cutting Gaps

- Education
- Climate Change
- Social Science
- Partnerships

### Focus-Specific Gaps

- SCD
  - Working with under-served communities
- HRCC
  - Restoration of natural ecosystems and resources
- HCE
  - Pre/post restoration monitoring
  - Detection & analysis of invasive species
  - Research on harmful algal blooms (HABs)
  - Baseline habitat research
- SSSS
  - Catch shares
  - Hatchery production issues
  - Ecosystems based management & ecosystems evaluation
  - Coastal marine spatial planning

### Emerging Themes

- SCD
  - Integrating green infrastructure
  - Fostering policy & regulatory changes
  - Successful partnerships
- HRCC
  - Regional collaborations
  - Hurricane sandy
  - Beach hazards risk communication
- HCE
  - Blue carbon
  - Water resources
  - Integrating natural & social sciences
  - Sustainability outreach & education
- SSSS
  - The graying of the fleet
  - Environmental & pollutant monitoring



# Research to Application

**NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Sea Grant**

### Healthy Coastal Ecosystems

The United States manages millions of square miles of coastal territories that contain diverse and productive ecosystems. These ecosystems span from the tropics to the Arctic and support a variety of recreational, commercial and subsistence activities. More than four million acres of coral reefs serve as vital economic and biodiversity hotspots in the Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico and Pacific. More than 88,569 square miles of coastal wetlands provide nurseries for more than half of our country's commercial fish and shellfish. For 75 percent of all our migratory birds and 80 percent of our coastal mammals, miles of beaches and bluffs, sea grass beds, and our coasts popular places to live and visit. The ecosystems that surround our coasts, by their surrounding watersheds, are the foundation of our coastal communities.

**About Sea Grant**  
For more than 40 years, the National Sea Grant College program has worked to create

### Research to Application

- Advancing Restoration...**
  - New, cost-effective tissue growers meet demand for
  - New market for nutrient culture-based nutrient bio-fertilizers
  - New organic liquid seaweed-based fertilizers
- Improving Shellfish Aquaculture...**
  - Cross breeding program improves farmed oyster yields
  - First ever kelp silage developed to feed abalone stocks during shortages
  - High-performance, superior-quality oyster seed discovery for Alaska
  - 1.2 Billion "spat" on the shell raised for Chesapeake Restoration
- Innovative Marketing Strategies...**
  - Seafood wholesalers now tracking product to place a premium on responsibly caught fish and emphasizing underutilized species
  - New crabcake value-added product line succeeded in keeping processor in business by helping it compete against cheaper imports
- Tools to Fight Disease...**
  - Two new faster tests for the deadly virus, Hemorrhagic Septicemia, ensure a healthier Great Lakes Catch
  - Pathogenic Vibrio research leads to development of monitoring programs and detection methods to protect human health and preserve shellfish businesses

**NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Sea Grant**

### Sustainable Coastal Development

Coastal communities in the United States provide vital economic, social and recreational opportunities for millions of Americans. By 2010, the population of coastal watersheds increased by 45%. This population increase has resulted in greater vulnerability of coastal communities and environments to natural and technological hazards. To accommodate more people and activity while balancing demands on coastal resources, our nation must develop innovative policies, institutional capacities and management approaches to increase community resilience. Sea Grant supports cutting-edge research and engagement capabilities on a variety of coastal issues. When transitioned to community applications, these products encourage vibrant coastal communities and economies that can effectively adapt and respond to their ecosystems.

**About Sea Grant**  
For more than 40 years, the National Sea Grant College program has worked to create and maintain a healthy coastal environment and economy. The Sea Grant network includes more than 30 programs based at top universities in every coastal and Great Lakes state, Puerto Rico, and Guam. The Sea Grant model, captured in the National Sea Grant College Act of 2008, integrates research, outreach, and education for science with real world impacts. To share and explain new research discoveries, engage citizens in decision-making processes and empower stakeholders to address national, state and local issues as they emerge, Sea Grant reaches out through programs of education, extension and communication. Specialists in each of these areas translate research into usable information and products for many audiences, ensuring that scientific information is delivered to those who need it, and in ways that are relevant.

**Research to Application**

- Tools to Map and Model...**
  - Sea Level Rise
  - Coastal Inundation
- Scientific Data and Economic Analyses to Help...**
  - Manage Habitat and Resources
  - Investigate Infrastructure Corrosion
  - Recreational and Commercial Fisheries
- Sustainable Policy Models to Reform...**
  - Local Ordinances
  - Sustainable Facilities
- Outreach Efforts to Create...**
  - Online Interactive Stormwater Management Tool
  - Volunteer Training and Programs
  - Technology to Enhance Citizen Science
  - Guidance Manuals

**SCIENCE SERVING AMERICA'S COASTS**  
NOAA National Sea Grant College Program  
1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910  
seagrant.noaa.gov  
(301) 734-1088

**NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Sea Grant**

### Hazard Resilience in Coastal Communities

Sea level rise, the increased number and intensity of coastal storms, the ongoing threat of oil spills, and other natural and human hazards are putting more people and property at risk along the nation's coasts, with major implications for human safety and the economic and environmental health of coastal areas. Sea Grant supports integrated research, training, and technical assistance capabilities, to help residents of coastal communities understand these risks and learn what they can do to reduce their vulnerability. By transitioning the products of these events do occur. By transitioning the products of these events do occur. By transitioning the products of these events do occur.

**About Sea Grant**  
For more than 40 years, the National Sea Grant College program has worked to create

### Research to Application

- Tools to Map and Model...**
  - Community Development and Infrastructure
  - Waterfront and Waterways
  - Water Quality and Nutrient Loading
  - Coastal Inundation
- Scientific Data and Economic Analyses to Help...**
  - Develop Technology used in Citizen Science
  - Improve Safety Services
- Best Management Practices, Regulations, and Mitigation Plans...**
  - Adaptation Plans
  - Wetland Damage Prevention Plans
  - Stormwater Management Plans
  - Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Outreach Efforts to Create...**
  - Guidance Manuals
  - Workshops
  - Training
  - Climate Change Capacity Building
  - Curricula
  - Research Toolboxes

**NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Sea Grant**

### Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply

The nation has witnessed the decline of many of its major fisheries while seafood consumption has increased and continues to be encouraged because of its health benefits. To fill the gap between seafood demand and domestic harvests, the United States imports 86 percent of what is consumed leading to a seafood trade deficit of over \$10 billion per year. With global wild fisheries harvests at a plateau of around 185 metric tons, some 50 seafood species are now produced from aquaculture. There are no projected increases in wild capture fisheries, but global aquaculture is predicted to increase by 33 percent over the next decade. These projections create opportunities for an expanded U.S. aquaculture industry and for innovative marketing strategies and value-added products for the nation's wild fisheries industry.

**About Sea Grant**  
For more than 40 years, the National Sea Grant College program has worked to create and maintain a healthy coastal environment and economy. The Sea Grant network includes more than 30 programs based at top universities in every coastal and Great Lakes state, Puerto Rico, and Guam. The Sea Grant model, captured in the National Sea Grant College Act of 2008, integrates research, outreach, and education for science with real world impacts. To share and explain new research discoveries, engage citizens in decision-making processes and empower stakeholders to address national, state and local issues as they emerge, Sea Grant reaches out through programs of education, extension and communication. Specialists in each of these areas translate research into usable information and products for many audiences, ensuring that scientific information is delivered to those who need it, and in ways that are relevant.

**Research to Application**

- Creative ways to Harness Coral & Seaweed Aquaculture...**
  - New cultured coral wholesale business supports coral conservation
  - Exploring new market potential for nutrient trading credits supported through seaweed culture-based nutrient bio-extraction research
  - New organic liquid seaweed-based lawn fertilizer commercial enterprise
- Improving Shellfish Aquaculture...**
  - Cross breeding program improves farmed oyster yields
  - First ever kelp silage developed to feed abalone stocks during shortages
  - High-performance, superior-quality oyster seed discovery for Alaska
  - 1.2 Billion "spat" on the shell raised for Chesapeake Restoration
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  - Seafood wholesalers now tracking product to place a premium on responsibly caught fish and emphasizing underutilized species
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  - Two new faster tests for the deadly virus, Hemorrhagic Septicemia, ensure a healthier Great Lakes Catch
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# NSGO Activities – Moving the Sea Grant Network Forward

- Hazard Resilient Coastal Communities
  - New Strategic Partnerships
    - Within NOAA
    - Other Federal Agencies
    - Non-Federal Partners



Enhanced building codes allowed one house to remain standing on Bolivar Peninsula, TX after Hurricane Ike. Photo Credit: NOAA



# NSGO Activities – Moving the Sea Grant Network Forward

- Sustainable Coastal Development
  - NOAA Sentinel Site Cooperative Program
  - NOAA's Natural Infrastructure Strategy
  - Support Existing Networks
    - SCD Network
    - Climate Network



Credit: Gene Clark, Wisconsin Sea Grant



# NSGO Activities – Moving the Sea

Valdez, Alaska. Credit: Alaska Sea Grant

## Grant Network Forward

- Healthy Coastal Ecosystem
  - Aquatic Nuisance Species
  - Emerging Contaminants (e.g., PPCPs)
  - NOAA Ocean Acidification Program



Valdez, Alaska. Credit: Alaska Sea Grant



# NSGO Activities – Moving the Sea Grant Network Forward

- Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture
  - Support existing networks:
    - Fisheries Extension Network; Sustainable Marine Fisheries CoP; Marine Aquaculture CoP
  - Enhance NMFS partnership
    - Barotrauma
    - NMFS-SG Exchange Program
    - Feedback for NMFS issues:
      - Recreational Fisheries Policy
      - Aquaculture Policy
      - Bait and Tackle Survey
    - Aquaculture



Credit: Mike Sullivan, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography (SkIO)



# NSGO Activities – Moving the Sea Grant Network Forward

Valdez, Alaska. Credit: Alaska Sea Grant

- Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development
  - Sea Grant Education Network
  - Citizen Science



Credit: New Hampshire Sea Grant



## Next Steps...

- Strategic Initiatives to move the Network forward!



# NSI Priorities

- What are the current FY 2014/2015 NSIs?
  - Aquaculture (\$4.4M)
  - Climate Change Core Capacity Building (\$1.0M)
  - Social Science (\$1.5M)
  - Grand Challenge (\$1.0M)
- How much will be available in FY 2016?
  - From \$2.5 to \$3.5M, assuming level funding
- Task: Select a few topics for further development so that next spring we can pick 1-2 for FY 2016



The background of the slide is a photograph of a sandy beach. In the foreground, several seashells of various colors (white, yellow, brown, and grey) are scattered across the sand. In the background, waves are breaking on a rocky shore under a clear sky.

# Advancing Social Science in Sea Grant

Sea Grant Week 2014  
Clearwater Beach, Florida

Chris Hayes, NSGO  
Phyllis Grifman, USC Sea Grant



# SGW 2012: Social Science Recommendations

## National Sea Grant Office

- Continue Social Science National Strategic Investment
- Develop social science directory
- Appoint NSGO social science lead
- Show value of funded social science research

## Sea Grant Programs

- Social science RFPs (including regional)
- Partner with social science departments
- PD or seed funding for early-career social scientists
- Develop and support social science learning networks
- Utilize social science trainings (CSC and GLSSN)
- Highlight social science activities across Program



# Applying Sea Grant Social Science Research

Wisconsin Sea Grant  
Eat Wisconsin Fish  
Jane Harrison, Ph.D. and Kathleen Kline



## Research

- Information needed on Wisconsinites' seafood preferences, knowledge, and buying patterns
- Surveys and focus groups with grocery store customers
  - The terms "Local," "Healthy," and "Delicious" resonated with customers
  - The fact that more than 90% of seafood is imported got customers' attention

## Application

- Research used to craft Eat WI Fish outreach materials and support WI fish farmers and fishers
- Increased demand for WI fish where outreach materials have been used





# Applying Sea Grant Social Science Research

Northeast Sea Grant College Consortium

## DECISION-SUPPORT FOR THE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF TRADE-OFFS IN COASTAL AND MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING (CMSP) FOR THE US NORTHEAST REGION

P. Hoagland (WHOI), D. Jin (WHOI), T.M. Dalton (URI), M. Davis (Tufts), G. Herrera (Bowdoin), H.L. Kite-Powell (WHOI), B. Wikgren (NEAq)

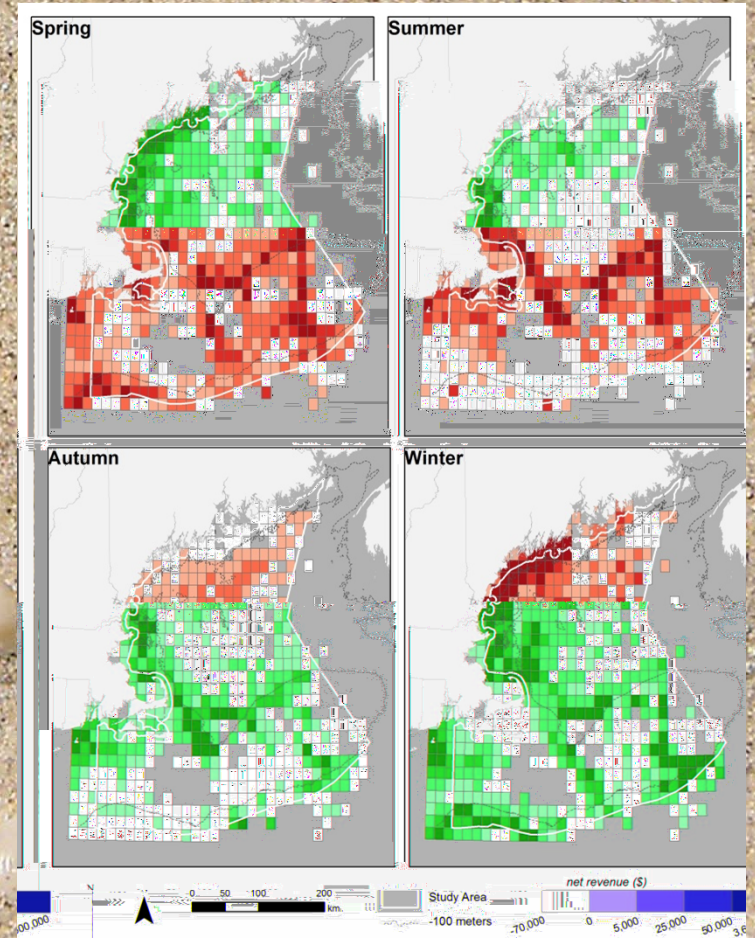
### Research

- Decision support for coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP)
- Econometric analysis of commercial fisheries data on net revenues of exvessel landings
- Commercial fisheries data are stable at the scale of 10' squares, making this level of resolution appropriate for CMSP

### Application

- Northeast Regional Planning Board; Stakeholders
- What are the appropriate temporal and spatial scales for data to be used for CMSP?

Jin D, Hoagland P, Wikgren B. 2013. An empirical analysis of the economic value of ocean space associated with commercial fishing. *Mar Pol'y* 42:74-84.





# Applying Sea Grant Social Science Research

California Sea Grant

## North Coast Fishing Communities Project

PIs: C. Pomeroy (CA SG) and C. Thomson (NMFS SWFSC)

### Need

- Required assessment of management impacts on fishing communities
- Development of strategies for adapting to changing conditions

### Methods

- Archival research
- Ethnography

### Findings/Outputs

- Historically grounded fishing community and regional profiles
  - Key features and relationships
  - Trends and associated drivers
  - Opportunities and challenges

### Applications

- Focused, community-supported research to inform MPA process
- Working waterfront repair and revitalization
- Research on potential space-use conflicts with offshore marine renewable energy

Fishery  
Participants

*Community*

Other  
Community  
Members,  
Institutions

Physical  
Infra-  
structure

Receiving,  
Processing,  
Distribution

Support  
Businesses



# Applying Sea Grant Social Science Research

## West Coast Sea Grant Social Science Initiative Successful Adaptation:

### Identifying Effective Process and Outcome Characteristics and Practice-Relevant Metrics

Pamela Matson (PI, Stanford), Susanne C. Moser (co-PI, Susanne Moser Research & Consulting and Stanford University), Amy Snover (Washington co-PI, University of Washington) and Hannah Gosnell (Oregon co-PI, Oregon State University)

#### Research:

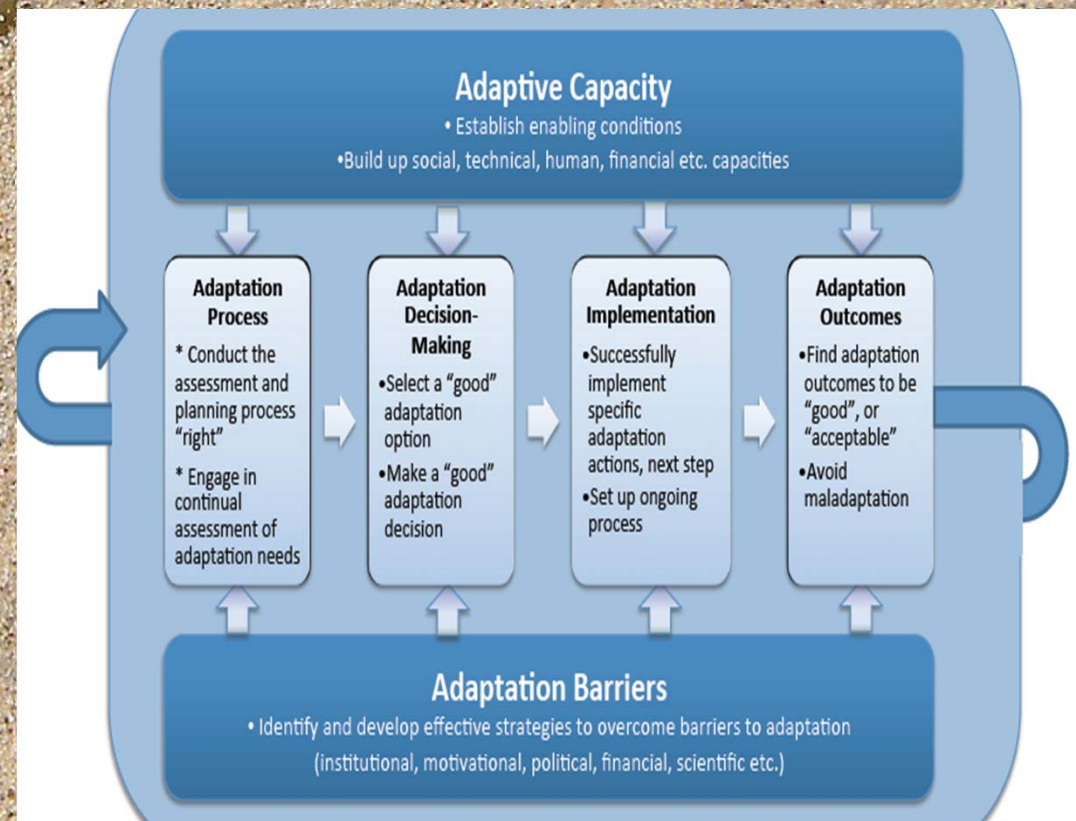
Develop framework and indicators for successful adaptation to climate change: 1) outcomes (2) processes, 3) governance and social mechanisms.

- Science/practitioner workshops/interviews to derive scientifically-grounded, practice-relevant framework indicators and metrics of success

#### Application:

Climate change adaptation guidance for SLR; extendable to other geographies/other climate hazards

- **Outcomes: pragmatic—clear goals and baselines, including evaluation and management of uncertainty**



Susi Moser CA Adaptation Forum, Aug 19, 2014







# National Sea Grant College Program

## FY2013 Performance Measures and Metrics

As a result of *Sea Grant* activities, the Nation achieved...

### Economic Impacts

- \$450M** In Economic Impact
- 6,500** Businesses Created or Sustained
- 17,500** Jobs Created or Sustained
- 5** Patents



### Healthy Coastal

#### Ecosystems

- 460** Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) Tools, Technologies, and Information Services Developed
- 520** EBM Tools Used by Sea Grant customers
- 4,000** Resource managers use EBM
- 21,700** Acres of degraded ecosystems restored

#### Research

- 576** Peer-Reviewed Publications



### Safe and Sustainable

#### Seafood Supply

- 23,000** Fishers adopt responsible harvesting techniques
- 53,000** Stakeholders modify practices based on increased knowledge of safety, sustainability, and health.
- 1,750** Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Points (HACCP) certifications



### Hazard Resilience

#### in Coastal Communities

- 1,050** Trainings to improve Resilience
- 300** Communities improved Resilience



### Sustainable Coastal

#### Development

- 220** Communities implemented sustainable development practices/policies



### Education, Outreach and Extension

- 290,000** Volunteer Hours
- 760** Undergraduate students supported
- 910** Graduate students supported
- 8,200** Workshops, Trainings, and Presentations





[pier.seagrant.noaa.gov](http://pier.seagrant.noaa.gov)





# Site Visit Schedule and Review

Samuel Grimes - National Sea Grant Office

September 8, 2014

National Sea Grant Advisory Board Meeting



# Sea Grant Site Visits

- Site Visit Schedule:
  - found on page 133-134 of your Briefing Book
- Hosted Site Visit Webinars
  - Changes from the previous site visit cycle



# Sea Grant *Standards of Excellence*

- Program Management & Organization
  - Organization
  - Programmed team approach
  - Support
- Stakeholder Engagement
  - Relevance
  - Extension/Advisory Service
  - Education & Training
- Collaborative Network Activities
  - Relationships
  - Collaboration



# Site Visits

- OAR – Looking at how they review Programs and Cooperative Institutes
  - NSGO needed to ensure the site review process conforms to FACA
    - Worked with FACA lawyers
    - Made a few changes in Manual
      - clarifying that the site visit report is not a consensus viewpoint.



A photograph of a sandy beach with several sea urchins scattered across the surface. The urchins are mostly light-colored (white or cream) with some darker (orange or brown) ones. In the background, waves are breaking on a rocky shore under a clear sky.

Site Visit Questions/Concerns?

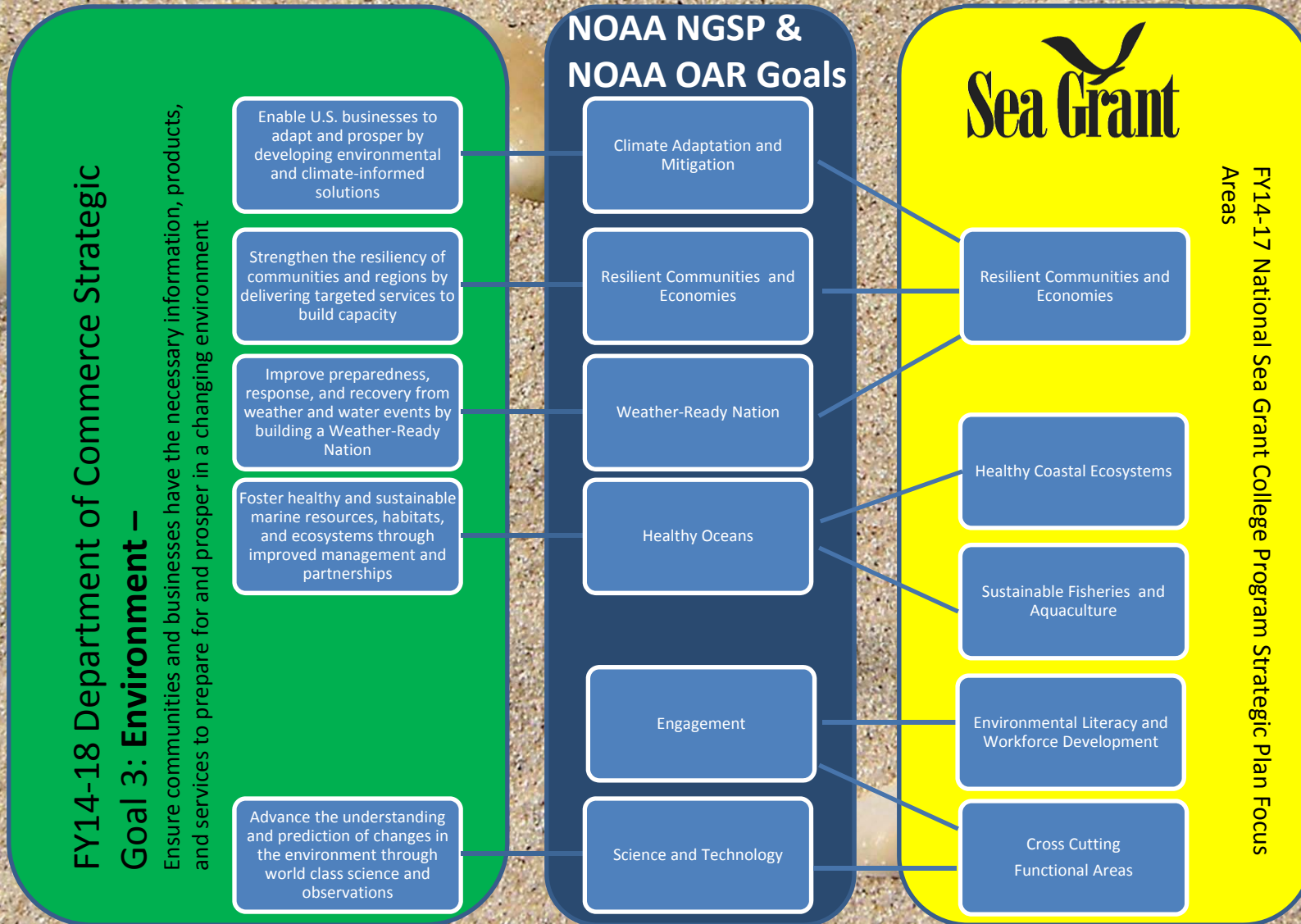


A photograph of a sandy beach with several seashells scattered across it. In the background, waves are crashing against dark rocks. The text "Other Planning and Evaluation Updates" is overlaid in the center of the image.

# Other Planning and Evaluation Updates



# 2014-2017 Strategic Plan Alignment





# Strategic Plan Changes: PMs

Number of ecosystem-based **approaches** used to manage land, water and living resources in coastal areas as a result of Sea Grant activities



Number of **resource managers** who use ecosystem-based approaches in the management of land, water, and living resources as a result of Sea Grant activities.

Number of Sea Grant facilitated **curricula** adopted by formal and informal educators.



Number of Sea Grant **products** that are used to advance environmental literacy and workforce development.

Economic (market and non-market; jobs and businesses created or retained) **benefits** derived from Sea Grant activities



*Economic (market and non-market; jobs and businesses created or sustained) **impacts** derived from Sea Grant activities.*

- HCE (1) to Cross-Cutting
  - Number of Sea Grant tools, technologies and information services that are used by our partners/customers to improve ecosystem-based management
- Considered Metric
  - Number of peer-reviewed publications produced by the Sea Grant Network.
- Removed
  - Number of seafood consumers who modify their purchases using knowledge gained in fisheries sustainability, seafood safety and the health benefits of seafood as a result of Sea Grant activities
  - Number of citations for all peer-reviewed publications from the last four years.



# Performance Review Panel

- What is the Performance Review Panel (PRP)?
  - Review of a Sea Grant Program's productivity and impact in relation to the Program's strategic plan
- Last Performance Review Panel (October 2012) – reviewing *progress* towards 2010-2013 plan
- Next PRP (October 2015) – reviewing program impact relative to their 2010-2013 plan



# Pending Changes to the PRP Process

- Limit the number of impacts the PRP reviews from each program – responding to the volume of material reviewed by the PRP
- Improve Program Summary Report guidance – Responding to the request from Sea Grant Directors



# Performance Review Panel

- Dates
  - October 5-9, 2015
  - October 19-23, 2015
    - Please mark your calendars
- Panels are:
  - Healthy Coastal Ecosystems (HCE)
  - Hazard Resiliency in Coastal Communities (HRCC)
  - Sustainable Coastal Development (SCD)
  - Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply (SSSS)
  - Ocean/Environmental Literacy



A photograph of a sandy beach with several sea urchins scattered across the surface. The urchins are mostly light-colored (white or cream) with some darker (orange or brown) ones. In the background, waves are breaking on a rocky shore under a clear sky.

# Questions/Concerns/Discussion



# 2014-2015 Sea Grant Site Review Schedule

Program	Site Visit Dates	Chair	Co-Chair	Sea Grant Director
North Carolina	Sept 16-17, 2014	Elizabeth Ban	Rollie Schmitt	Sylvain De Guise
Oregon	Sept 23-24, 2014	Joshua Brown	Amber Mace	Brian Miller
Maine	Oct 7-8, 2014	Chris Hayes	Dick Vortmann	Jeff Gunderson
MIT (Mass.)	Oct 15-16, 2014	Mike Liffmann	Nancy Rabalais	Gordon Grau
Pennsylvania	Oct 27-29, 2014	Jon Eigen	Dick West	Jon Pennock
Michigan	Oct 28-29, 2014	Mike Liffmann	Harry Simmons	Chrys Chryssostomidis
Rhode Island	Nov 5-6, 2014	Sami Grimes	Bill Stubblefield	Paula Cullenberg
Ohio	Nov 13-14, 2014	Jon Eigen	Patty Birkholz	Pete Rowe
Hawaii	Dec 3-4, 2014	Mike Liffmann	Frank Beal	Shelby Walker
Maryland	Jan 21-22, 2015	Dorn Carlson	Rosanne Fortner	Karl Havens
Minnesota	Jan 27-28, 2015	Jon Eigen	Bill Stubblefield	Robert Twilley
Florida	February 3-4, 2015	Gene Kim	Dick West	Jim Hurley
Guam	February 3-4, 2015	Mike Liffmann	Rollie Schmitt	Troy Hartley
Law Center	February 10-11, 2015	Joshua Brown	Harry Simmons	Jeff Reutter
Puerto Rico	Feb 18-19, 2015	Kola Garber	Mike Orbach	LaDon Swann
Alaska	March 25-26, 2015	Mike Liffmann	Rosanne Fortner	Rick DeVoe
New York	March 31 - April 1, 2015	Jon Eigen	Dick Vortmann	Linda Duguay
Mississippi-Alabama	April 1-2, 2015	Gene Kim	Paulinus Chigbu	Paul Anderson
Connecticut	April 8-9, 2015	Sami Grimes	Frank Beal	Bob Light
WHOI	April 14-15, 2015	Mike Liffmann	Nancy Rabalais	Ruperto Chaparro
Wisconsin	April 21-22, 2015	Dorn Carlson	Patty Birkholz	Susan White
Illinois-Indiana	April 29-30, 2015	Jon Eigen	Mike Orbach	William Wise
New Hampshire	May 6-7, 2015	Chris Hayes	Dale Baker	Nancy Targett
Washington	May 12-13, 2015	Joshua Brown	Rosanne Fortner	Judith McDowell
New Jersey	May 13-14, 2015	Dorn Carlson	Dick Vortmann	Chuck Hopkinson
USC	June 10-11, 2015	Joshua Brown	Rollie Schmitt	Dennis Nixon
Lake Champlain	June 10-11, 2015	Kola Garber	Dick West	Brian Miller
Louisiana	June 16-17, 2015	Gene Kim	Amber Mace	Sylvain De Guise

Delaware	June 17-18, 2015	Dorn Carlson	Nancy Rabalais	Jim Diana
Georgia	July 14-15, 2015	Mike Liffmann	Dale Baker	Fredrika Moser
California	July 21-22, 2015	Joshua Brown	Dick West	LaDon Swann
Texas	July 21-22, 2015	Gene Kim	Rollie Schmitten	Penny Dalton
South Carolina	Sept 1-2, 2015	Elizabeth Ban	Paulinus Chigbu	Jim Eckman
Virginia	Sept 22-23, 2015	Dorn Carlson	Mike Orbach	Pam Plotkin