

May 2023

Our thoughts are with our Guam Sea Grant colleagues and the communities across the western Pacific impacted by Typhoon Mawar.

Whatever Happened with the Great Red Snapper Count?



A few years ago, the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant-supported Great Red Snapper Count [found three times more red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico](#) than previous estimates. Now, a new StoryMap from Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium answers questions about how this population assessment is being used, just in time for the 2023 Gulf of Mexico red snapper fishing season. The product addresses the timeline for using the data, its relation to updating catch limits and future assessments.

[View the StoryMap](#)

Congress directed NOAA to support independent studies on red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic waters of the Southern U.S. to enhance the agency's ability to manage the highly prized species. Sea Grant's federal-university partnership model was utilized to competitively select external, university-based research teams that include robust stakeholder engagement strategies as well as interdisciplinary and multi-method research strategies. The NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service is also an active partner in this collaborative effort and a primary user of the results generated from both projects.

NOAA Publishes Aquaculture Programmatic Environmental Assessment

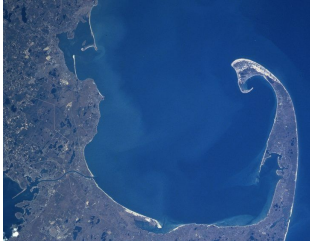
NOAA Sea Grant and NOAA Fisheries Office of Aquaculture are pleased to announce the publication of an agency-wide Programmatic Environmental Assessment that analyzes the potential impacts on the natural and human environment from aquaculture research and development projects funded by federal financial assistance awards. This Programmatic Environmental Assessment furthers NOAA's compliance with mandates from the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

[Learn more about the Programmatic Environmental Assessment](#)



WHOI Sea Grant to Map Potential Path of Proposed Wastewater Release in Cape Cod Bay

Cape Cod Bay is home to a diverse marine environment and variety of local businesses, yet little is known about the water transport pathways in and around it. Thanks to Sea Grant rapid response funding, Woods



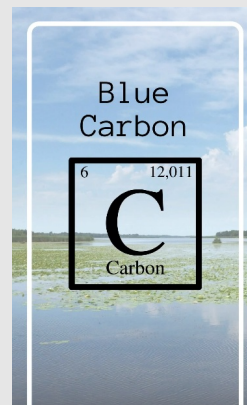
Hole Oceanographic Institution Sea Grant will study circulation in the Bay to understand the potential path of wastewater proposed for release. This information could also help inform future situations involving search and rescue, oil spill response, harmful algal blooms, among others.

[Read about the upcoming research](#)

Celebrate American Wetlands Month by Learning about Blue Carbon

May is American Wetlands Month, and Sea Grant recognizes these essential and biodiverse ecosystems. Marshes perform important roles for environments all along the U.S. coastline, like capturing carbon. Blue carbon refers to carbon that is stored in coastal and marine ecosystems. Sea Grant studies how these systems affect the dynamics of greenhouse gases contributing to climate change. The findings of Sea Grant-supported researchers help resource managers and other decision-makers make informed choices about conservation and restoration.

[See Sea Grant's work in blue carbon in this Instagram Reel](#)



Get Prepared for Hurricane Season

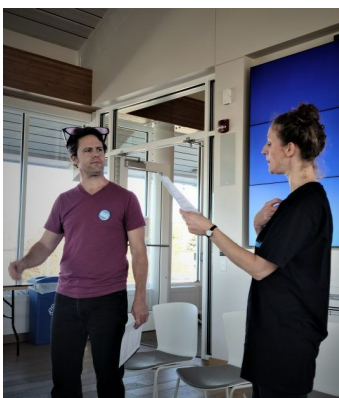
June 1 marks the first day of the 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Season, and the best time to prepare for a hurricane is BEFORE a hurricane. Check out these hurricane safety tips and resources to make sure you're prepared:

- [NOAA National Hurricane Preparedness](#)
- [Sea Grant Resident's and Homeowner's Handbooks](#)

Remember Safety on the Water this Summer

Many boat owners are likely starting to brush off their boat covers and get ready for another active boating season. Be sure to brush up on your boating safety knowledge before getting out on the water this season! See safe boating tips from [Texas Sea Grant](#) and from [Maryland Sea Grant](#).

Planning a trip to the beach? Be "[Wave Safe](#)", learn about rip currents and read the latest on forecasting research from [North Carolina Sea Grant](#).



Wisconsin Sea Grant Uses Storytelling to Teach About Marine Debris

"Me and Debry," a half-hour, whimsical, audience-participation play about litter (or marine debris) in the Great Lakes, was developed by Wisconsin Sea Grant as part of a two-year project funded by Sea Grant and the NOAA Marine Debris Program. The play harnesses the power of storytelling to engage, educate and inspire performing artists and community members to be committed stewards of their Great Lakes watershed. This month, the play had its school premiere in Racine, Wisconsin.

[See the behind the scenes of "Me and Debry"](#)

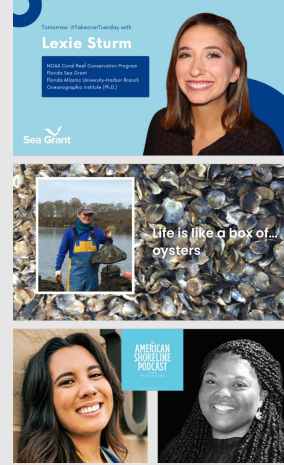
Catch up with 2023 Knauss Fellows

Lexie Sturm, Knauss Fellow with the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, shares how she applies skills she developed in the academic world to the science policy arena in her fellowship.

[See her Takeover Tuesday posts](#)

Kaitlyn Theberge, Seafood Resources Knauss Fellow with the National Sea Grant Office, offers four life lessons from oysters that she learned while working on an oyster farm. [Read on the Knauss Blog](#)

Caitlin Manley, a Knauss Fellow with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Jessica Eason, a Knauss Fellow with NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, share their journeys on the American Shoreline Podcast. [Listen to the episode](#)



In Pictures: May 2023

This month, Oregon Sea Grant taught fishermen in Astoria and Warrenton how to treat injuries at sea (photos by Chris Peterson of Action Works Photography), and Florida Sea Grant worked with student artists to [complete two exterior murals](#).



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility Spotlight

Committees touch nearly every facet in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research enterprise. However, the role of gatekeeping through committee work has received little attention in Earth and space sciences. A recent publication, supported by Sea Grant authors, proposes a novel concept called, “regenerative gatekeeping” to challenge institutional inertia, and cultivate belonging, accessibility, justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion in committee work. The authors share how rethinking committee work can activate distributed mechanisms needed to promote change. [Continue reading](#)

Funding and Career Opportunities

[Sea Grant Career Opportunities](#) Sea Grant has several job openings across the country, such as Marine Educator and Public Program Coordinator with Georgia Sea Grant, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Specialist with Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Great Lakes Tourism Specialist with New York Sea Grant, and Program Support Assistant with New Hampshire Sea Grant.

[Social and Economic Impacts of PFAS in the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain Regions](#) With support from the National Sea Grant Office, the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program has \$400,000 to invest in promising research projects relevant to social and economic impacts of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) exposure, mitigation, and remediation in the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain regions. Letters of intent should be emailed to iisg@purdue.edu by **July 3, 2023**. [More information is available here.](#)

Connections and Partner Updates

[NOAA Ocean Acidification Program Webinar Series](#) Join the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program for their

next session of Sharing Ocean Acidification Resources for Communicators and Educators webinar series. On **June 14, 2023** at 1 pm ET learn about community sampling for ocean acidification in south central Alaska with Willow Hetrick from Chugach Regional Resources Commission. [Register at this link.](#)

[EPA Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program](#) The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program's Request for Applications has extended the application to **June 30, 2023**. The competition will select multiple Grantmakers around the nation to reduce barriers to the federal grants application process communities face and increase the efficiency of the awards process for environmental justice grants. [Learn more about the opportunity here.](#)

[NOAA Aquaculture Opportunity Areas Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Summaries Published](#) NOAA Fisheries has released Aquaculture Opportunity Area public scoping summaries for [Southern California](#) and the [Gulf of Mexico](#). The Public Scoping Summaries offer a broad overview of the submissions received during the public scoping periods and provide an overview of the content and themes within those submissions.

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