

Sea Grant MONTHLY

November/December 2023

Take a Look at Sea Grant's Best from 2023



As the year winds down, we're taking a look back at the Best of Sea Grant from 2023! From educational resources to new research to community-centered outreach, check out highlights of the amazing work from Sea Grant's 34 grant-based programs and partners.

[See the Best of Sea Grant campaign](#)

Sea Grant Continues Support for U.S. Aquaculture with FY 2023 Investments

In fiscal year 2023, Sea Grant invested \$14 million in federal funding to support several new initiatives, including the Aquaculture Economics and Markets Collaborative, Aquaculture Technologies and Education Awards, and Aquaculture Supplemental Awards, in addition to previously announced initiatives. Read about how these initiatives address a variety of challenges in the industry and demonstrate a continued commitment to supporting sustainable aquaculture.



[Read about FY 2023 aquaculture investments](#)

Funding Opportunity: FY 2024 National Aquaculture Initiative

Sea Grant recently released its notice of funding opportunity for the fiscal year 2024 National Aquaculture Initiative. Sea Grant seeks research proposals to address barriers to aquaculture production in marine and freshwater environments for seaweeds, shellfish, finfish and more. Letters of Intent are due January 17, 2024, and full applications are due April 3, 2024.

[Learn more about the opportunity and see the recorded webinar](#)



Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Funds Research to Address PFAS Knowledge Gaps

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant announced \$400,000 in funding for four new research projects focused on social and policy issues related to PFAS in the Great Lakes region. PFAS, found in nonstick cookware and stain-resistant clothing, are “forever chemicals” that don’t break down in the environment. The new research will examine how to communicate risks to the public and actions they should take. This work is supported by [the National Sea Grant Office](#).

[Read about the funded projects](#)

Recognizing Native American Heritage Month

Sea Grant recognizes the importance of traditional ecological knowledge in being good stewards of the planet and sustaining communities. In honor of Native American Heritage Month, learn how Louisiana Sea Grant and the Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe worked together to combine scientific research and traditional ecological knowledge to support the Tribe's efforts to preserve their fishing community, petition for federal recognition, and plan for climate change.

[See the video recap](#)





Recordings Available for Sea Grant Marine Debris Symposium

Sea Grant hosted a Marine Debris Symposium on November 1st, 2nd, 8th and 9th, 2023 where researchers, community members and other partners shared information about the 29 projects awarded across the 2022 Marine Debris Challenge and Community Action Coalition competitions funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. Watch the recordings to learn about Sea Grant's work in marine debris.

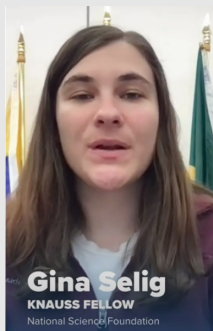
[See videos from the Marine Debris Symposium](#)

Power at Sea Prize Funding Opportunity

The American-Made Power at Sea Prize seeks new, innovative, and feasible marine energy concepts that can fulfill Powering the Blue Economy initiatives—including supporting offshore industries, science, and security activities, and meeting the energy and water needs of coastal and rural island communities. The two-phase, \$1.7 million prize is open to new and existing participants in marine energy. The Power at Sea Prize was established by the U.S. Department of Energy's Water Power Technologies Office in collaboration with NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program and other partners. The submission deadline for the concept phase is July 26, 2024.



[Read about the opportunity](#)



On the Knauss Blog: Gina Selig's Journey to Antarctica

2023 Knauss Fellow Gina Selig, with the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs, discusses her work with the Antarctic Treaties Commission and her upcoming trip to Antarctica.

[See the video on the Knauss Blog](#)

Sea Grant Extension Assembly Presents its 2023 Career Award

At its recent biennial meeting in San Diego, California, the Sea Grant Extension Assembly awarded its William Q. Wick Award for Visionary Career Leadership. The 2023 Wick Award awardee was Dr. Jim Fawcett, Director of Extension, and Marine Transportation and Seaport Specialist at University of Southern (USC) California Sea Grant. For over three decades, Dr. Fawcett has been a leader in the Sea Grant Extension Network, and has not only shown what it means to be a neutral broker of information via his programming, but has taught or co-taught many Sea Grant extension, education, and communication specialists how to serve in that capacity.



[Read more about Dr. Fawcett and all the nominees for the 2023 Wick Award](#)



Dr. Pamela Plotkin Retires as Texas Sea Grant Director

[Dr. Pamela Plotkin](#) will be retiring as Texas Sea Grant Director at the end of December. Since 2011, Dr. Plotkin actively engaged in representing Texas Sea Grant, be it distributing 7,000+ copies of the Homeowner's Handbook after Hurricane Harvey or dishing out Texas shrimp at a NOAA Fish Fry in Washington, D.C. Under her leadership, the program celebrated its 50th anniversary with a remarkable exhibit at the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum. Dr. Plotkin is a former Sea Grant Knauss Fellow and noted researcher in the field of sea turtle ecology and conservation.

Become a Member of Sea Grant's Advisory Board

The National Sea Grant College Program is required by law to solicit nominations at least once a year for membership on the National Sea Grant Advisory Board. Our current needs include expertise in federal, state and/or local government, fisheries management, water resource management, social and behavioral sciences, climate, weather and/or meteorology, engineering, and risk management. We are also looking for regional expertise in the Great Lakes, insular Pacific and U.S. Caribbean and continue to have a gap in private sector representation.

A resume or curriculum vitae is required for all applications. A cover letter highlighting specific areas of expertise relevant to the Advisory Board is helpful but not required. **Nominations and applications for membership to the Advisory Board should be sent to Susan Holmes via email: oar.sg-feedback@noaa.gov.**

While nominations are always accepted, to be considered for current openings, please submit your nomination no later than January 31, 2024.

In Pictures: Sea Grant at CERF 2023



Sea Grant participated in the 2023 Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation Biennial Conference, which took place in Portland, Oregon in November. See [the video recap](#), which includes the Food for Thought & Student Application Tips & Tricks workshops, two sessions focused on community engagement and workforce development and an exhibit booth to connect with students and partners.

Funding and Career Opportunities

[Sea Grant Career Opportunities](#) Sea Grant has several job openings across the country, including Digital Science Communications Specialist with California Sea Grant, Seafood Extension Specialist with Georgia Sea Grant, Extension Educator (Great Lakes Sea Grant and GLERL Liaison) with Michigan Sea Grant, and Communications Director with North Carolina Sea Grant.

[FY 2024 National Aquaculture Initiative](#) Proposals are sought that will support broad, non-proprietary research to address issues and/or barriers to aquaculture production; make that information available to aquaculture businesses; and preferably include participation and involvement of Sea Grant extension personnel and industry stakeholders. Letters of Intent due January 17, 2024.

[NMFS-Sea Grant Fellowship](#) The application period for the 2024 NMFS-Sea Grant Joint Fellowship Program is now open. Ph.D students in fields related to Population and Ecosystem Dynamics and Marine Resource Economics should explore the information about the fellowship as soon as possible and talk to their local Sea Grant program (or the National Sea Grant Office) at least one month prior to the January 25, 2024 deadline.

[NOAA Coastal Management & Digital Coast Fellowships](#) Any U.S. citizen who will complete a master's or other advanced degree at an accredited U.S. university between August 1, 2022, and July 31, 2024, is eligible to apply for the Coastal Management and Digital Coast Fellowships. Application packages must be submitted to the Sea Grant program office in the state where you earned your degree by January 26, 2024.

[National Sea Grant Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Marine Debris Challenge Competition](#) Sea Grant anticipates approximately \$16,000,000 in FY 2024 and 2025 federal funds will be available to support innovative, transformational research to application projects that will address the prevention and/or removal of marine debris. Applicants must submit proposals in partnership with a relevant Sea Grant program. Letters of Intent due January 31, 2024.

[Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship](#) The application period for the 2025 Sea Grant Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship is now open. Graduate students interested in marine, coastal, and Great Lakes science and policy should explore the information about the fellowship as soon as possible and talk to their local Sea Grant program (or the National Sea Grant Office) at least one month prior to the February 15, 2024 deadline.

Opportunities and Updates from Partners

[Community of Practice for Coastal Inundation](#) To advance coastal flooding science, knowledge, and solutions, a new national network is being developed by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, National Sea Grant Office, and the American Society of Adaptation Professionals. The [Community of Practice for Coastal Inundation](#) will facilitate peer-to-peer learning, information exchange, and collaborative engagement. Everyone working to address coastal flooding in the nation's states and territories is encouraged to attend this meeting and [join](#) the effort. Participants are invited to the virtual kick-off meeting on January 30, 2024 from 2:00-4:00 pm ET ([please register here](#)).



**Coastal Inundation
Community of Practice**

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
ADAPTATION PROFESSIONALS



Sea Grant

[2023 National Coastal Resilience Fund Recipients](#) NOAA and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation are pleased to announce the grant recipients for the 2023 National Coastal Resilience Fund. The initiative advances regionally identified priorities and innovative approaches and will invest \$144 million in 109 projects designed to strengthen the natural infrastructure that protects coastal communities and enhances fish and wildlife habitat in 31 states and territories.

[NOAA Small Business Innovation Research \(SBIR\) Program](#) issued its FY 2024 Phase I Notice of Funding Opportunity. NOAA Phase I SBIR awards provide up to \$175,000 to fund a six month period of performance for conducting feasibility and proof of concept research. NOAA encourages proposals from qualified small businesses for highly innovative technologies with strong commercial potential that fit within NOAA's mission areas. Small businesses may submit the required full application by December 20, 2023.

[NOAA Adaptation Sciences Program](#) is excited to share a new FY 2024 funding opportunity to enable evidence-building, evaluation and learning approaches to support adaptation to a changing climate and developing a social science research agenda to support adaptation and resilience. Letters of intent are due by December 26, 2023.

[Schmidt Ocean Institute](#) is soliciting Expressions of Interest for collaborative, multidisciplinary research at any time and for any location and year identified as an area of operation for R/V Falkor (too). EOIs and full proposals are accepted on a rolling basis and are reviewed twice per year. Submissions for expressions of interest are open for 2025 until December 31, 2023.

[Fifth National Climate Assessment Webinar Series](#) The U.S. Global Change Research Program is hosting a series of webinars dedicated to [the Fifth U.S. National Climate Assessment](#). Please join us to learn more about each chapter, ask your questions, and hear directly from the chapter authors.

[Applications Open for William M. Lapenta NOAA Student Internship Program](#) The Lapenta Internship is open to students who have just completed their sophomore year through advanced doctoral degrees. The program provides a stipend of \$6,000 per year, travel to/from the host site and housing. This internship program enables NOAA's National Weather Service, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Ocean Service and Office of Marine and Aviation Operations to develop the skills needed in their future workforce. Deadline for applications is January 3, 2024.

[Applications Open for NOAA Office of Education 2023 Undergraduate Scholarships](#) Applications are open for both NOAA's Ernest F. Hollings and José E. Serrano EPP/MSI undergraduate scholarships. Program awards provide academic assistance and paid internships with NOAA. The application portal for both closes on January 31, 2024.

[NOAA Ocean Exploration's annual "Explorer-in-Training" internship program](#) is accepting applications. This year, we are offering 2 to 10-week-long paid internships in online ocean exploration communication, underwater cultural heritage, eDNA and 'omics, and ocean mapping. This opportunity is open to current and recent undergraduate and graduate students. Applications are due January 31, 2024.

[The Inclusive NOAA Fisheries Internship Program](#) helps to build a diverse and inclusive workforce of scientists and managers. It is a 10-week paid undergraduate internship for U.S. citizens in an NOAA or partner institution marine research lab or marine resources program office. The application deadline is February 10, 2024.

[FEMA Climate Resilience Funding](#) FEMA is making \$1.8 billion available for two grant programs designed to help communities increase their resilience to the impacts of climate change, including increasingly frequent and extreme weather events. The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) annual grant program is making \$1 billion available for projects that protect people and infrastructure from natural hazards and the effects of climate change. The Flood Mitigation Assistance program is making \$800 million available for projects that mitigate flood risks facing homes and communities across the nation. Applications must be submitted by February 29, 2024.

[NOAA Ocean Acidification Program](#) in partnership with the Global Ocean Monitoring and Observing Program is soliciting proposals to optimize sampling strategies that improve carbonate chemistry observing systems co-developed with an observing data product end user that can inform real-time data delivery and forecasting of ocean acidification relevant parameters. Full applications must be received by March 17, 2024.

[Power at Sea Prize Funding Opportunity](#) The American-Made Power at Sea Prize seeks new, innovative, and feasible marine energy concepts that can fulfill Powering the Blue Economy initiatives—including supporting offshore industries, science, and security activities, and meeting the energy and water needs of coastal and rural island communities. The submission deadline for the concept phase is July 26, 2024.

[Nature-based Solutions Funding Database](#) The National Wildlife Federation recently created an interactive database for communities interested in pursuing federal funding and/or technical assistance for nature-based solutions. Use filters to search for nature-based solutions funding and technical assistance resources that fit your needs.

However and whenever you celebrate, happy holidays from Sea Grant!



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