

### *"Back to Learning" Edition*

As the new school year begins, Sea Grant is heading "back to learning". This newsletter highlights the recent efforts of Sea Grant's educators to virtually engage with students and provides updates on Sea Grant fellows, in addition to our regular updates.

## Sea Grant Programs Continue to Share Online Learning Resources



This spring and summer, Sea Grant programs developed and enhanced online educational content for teachers, parents and students. From engaging webinars to interactive lesson plans, check out all of the available materials on Sea Grant's Education at Home page. Here you will find a variety of science-related activities organized by Sea Grant program, with notes on appropriate grade levels and topics covered. Keep in mind that the resources on each site can be used across states and regions.

[Check out the Education at Home page](#)



### Welcoming the 2020 Fisheries-Sea Grant Fellows

Sea Grant and the National Marine Fisheries Service (Fisheries) announced the selection of 10 new fellows for the joint fellowship programs in ecosystem dynamics and marine resource economics.

[Meet the new cohort](#)

### Hawai'i Sea Grant Students Share Their Research Virtually

Ambrose Loeak and David Aiseia, two students at the College of the

Marshall Islands, recently presented their research at a virtual conference for students in the National Science Foundation's Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation program. Their presentation titled "Pristine or Polluted?, Comparison of Tropical Nearshore Macroalgal Communities and Environmental Parameters at Majuro and Arno Atolls" was guided by Hawai'i Sea Grant extension agent Max Sudnovsky.

[View presentations from the conference](#)



## Oregon Sea Grant Develops Daily Challenge Activity Kits

Oregon Sea Grant is teaching kids to think like scientists, ask questions and pay attention to their surroundings with a new, daily challenge activity book. They distributed 800 activity books and bags with supplies through local libraries. The supplies include a magnifying glass, rubber ball, tape measure, tweezers, eye dropper and a paper microscope, and instructions come in English and Spanish. The seven daily challenges teach kids to think critically and to observe, make, draw and deconstruct things.

[Learn about this project](#)

## Former Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Scholar Featured in Local News

Vanessa Siggers, recipient of a Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium scholarship for a Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL) summer program, was recently featured as one of 11 'Wonder Kids' in an article from Mobile Bay Magazine. Vanessa earned a full scholarship to the Marine Science Course for high school students at DISL for outstanding performance at the statewide Alabama Science and Engineering Fair in 2017. The recent graduate now prepares to triple major at University of South Alabama starting this fall.

[Learn about Vanessa's experience with Sea Grant](#)  
[Read the feature from Mobile Bay](#)



## Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Releases Weather & Climate Toolkit for Educators

The new Weather and Climate Education Toolkit from Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant allows teachers and parents to find over 60 e-learning resources on the topics of weather, climate and climate change. Resources can be filtered by topic, grade level, location and learning mode, and they can be used as-is or adapted for virtual learning.

[See the toolkit](#)

## Knauss Fellows Share Fellowship Experiences, Advice in Blog Posts

On the Knauss Blog this month: Brittney Parker explains what life is like in a dual placement fellowship position, Rachel

Hager demonstrates the power of a poster in bringing her to the fellowship, and Brianna Shaughnessy relates five tips she gleaned from her experiences bartending that apply to being successful as a scientist.

[Read posts on the Knauss Blog](#)



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## Sea Grant Selects Projects for 2020 Support of Vision Implementation

The National Sea Grant Office recently selected projects through the "Support for Implementation of Network Visioning" internal competition. The selected projects will receive federal funding to implement specific actions in several of [Sea Grant's visioning plans](#). These projects were competitively selected from a very strong pool of proposals aimed at sharing best practices and implementing regional or topically focused projects across the Sea Grant Network.

[View projects selected for 2020](#)

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## Sea Grant Publishes New Research

Sea Grant researchers published a total of 120 new articles from February to July 2020! These articles mainly related to marine freshwater biology, environmental sciences, and ecology, and they were published in journals such as Science of the Total Environment, Frontiers in Marine Science and PLOS One. Stay tuned for more updates on Sea Grant research publications.

[See the bibliometric report](#)

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## Nature-Based Resources from Sea Grant Partners

Working in the area of nature-based solutions? Several partner organizations have recently developed resources you may find helpful.

In March, the National Wildlife Federation, in partnership with the Coastal States Organization, released [Softening Our Shorelines: Policy and Practice for Living Shorelines Along the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts](#). You'll see Sea Grant and resources various programs have developed mentioned within. A couple months later, the National Wildlife Federation released the report, [The Protective Value of Nature](#), summarizing the state of the science of the effectiveness of natural infrastructure in risk reduction related to weather and climate hazards.



FEMA recently released [Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions: A Guide for Local Communities](#) in advance of announcing its FY2020 funding opportunities for Hazard Mitigation Assistance.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers updates its [Engineering with Nature](#) website as new developments emerge, so that may be a resource you want to bookmark.

Last but not least, you may find a fact sheet issued by the Environmental and Energy Study Institute on [Federal Resources for Nature-Based Solutions to Climate Change](#) helpful in finding support for your projects.

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## Funding and Career Opportunities

[Sea Grant Career Opportunities](#) Sea Grant has several aquaculture and fisheries specialist openings across the country, with programs such as Wisconsin, Lake Champlain, Ohio, and Texas Sea Grant.

[Sea Grant Research to Application Award: Call for Nominees](#) The Sea Grant Association is soliciting nominations for its biennial Research to Application (RtoA) Award. The RtoA Award honors an individual research project or a body of research funded or implemented by a state Sea Grant program which has increased citizen's understanding and responsible use of the nation's ocean, coastal or Great Lakes resources, or has supported the informed personal, policy and management decisions of communities, or has led to the development of new products or tools with positive impacts related to a vibrant and resilient coastal economy or environment. Send Applications (as an attached pdf file) by COB September 4, 2020 to Tomas Hook, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, [thook@purdue.edu](mailto:thook@purdue.edu).

[Oregon Sea Grant Fellowships](#) The Oregon Sea Grant Scholars Program announced two upcoming funding opportunities for graduate fellowships in aquaculture and climate change policy. Applications are due by September 9, 2020.

[National Sea Grant Law Center 2020 Small Grants Competition](#) The National Sea Grant Law Center is accepting proposals for one-year projects to promote the growth and development of Sea Grant legal programming and build the capacity of individual Sea Grant programs to address legal issues in their states. Letters of Intent are due Friday, September 18, 2020. Full proposals will be due Friday, October 30, 2020. [The RFP is available to download here.](#)

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## Connections and Partner Updates

[NOAA Announces Regions for First Two Aquaculture Opportunity Areas Under Executive Order on Seafood](#) Efforts to improve seafood security and aquaculture opportunities in the United States are moving forward. NOAA Fisheries recently announced federal waters off southern California and in the Gulf of Mexico as the first two regions to host Aquaculture Opportunity Areas. The selection of these regions is the first step in a process designed to establish 10 AOAs nationwide by 2025.

[NOAA Publication of Community Resilience Education Theory of Change](#) NOAA's Environmental Literacy Program recently published the Community Resilience Education Theory of Change report, which outlines the conceptual framework for the ways in which community resilience education can lead to increased community engagement and civic action. The report is a rich resource that integrates research on environmental literacy, social learning, citizen science, civic engagement, youth empowerment, climate justice, equitable resilience, and more.

[NOAA Citizen Science Strategy](#) The draft NOAA Citizen Science Strategy is available for public comment. Directions for how interested people can submit comments are in [this federal register notice](#). The due date for comments is September 8.

[An Equitable and Resilient Water Future: Considerations for Climate Planning in the Great Lakes](#) Join the US Water Alliance, NOAA's Climate Program Office, and the Sea Grant program for this two-hour virtual event. Speakers include utilities and community-based organizations presenting on water, equity, and climate resilience in the Great Lakes region. The workshop will take place on September 17, 2020 from 1:00-3:00 pm ET. Workshop space is limited to 230 participants so please register early.

[NOAA Weather Program Office Notice of Funding](#) NOAA's Weather Program Office has released its FY21 Notice Of Funding Opportunity and is soliciting research toward improving weather, water, air quality, and earth-system modeling and observations, and **social, behavioral, and economic science applications**. Projects should focus on advancing science and technology from the research stage to transitionable outputs or prototype products that NOAA or external partners could further develop into practical applications and operations. Letters of Intent must be submitted by 5 pm ET on September 22, 2020.

[2020 Community Meeting on NOAA Satellites](#) NOAA is currently formulating plans for the satellite programs that will follow GOES-R, JPSS, and SWFO and be operational in 2030 and beyond. During this meeting, there will be an opportunity for stakeholders to share their thoughts and ideas on NOAA future satellite planning for the 2030-2050 time frame. The meeting will take place virtually September 29-October 2, 2020 and registration is required by September 24.

[NOAA Weather Program Office Virtual Partners Meeting](#) The NOAA Weather Program Office's Partners Meeting will bring together academia, other Federal agencies, Principle/Principal Investigators (PIs), other NOAA line offices, and the greater research enterprise and serve as an important platform to learn about and discuss WPOs priorities, dependencies, and initiatives for FY21-25. The meeting will be held on September 25, 2020.

[NOAA RESTORE Science Program Notice of Funding](#) This federal funding opportunity provides natural resource managers, researchers, and other stakeholders with the chance to compete for funding to plan a research project that informs a specific management decision impacting natural resources in the Gulf of Mexico. NOAA is making approximately \$2.5 million available through this competition to fund approximately 20 projects for 12 months each. Letters of Intent must be submitted by September 29, 2020.

[FEMA's Notice of Funding Opportunities for FMA and BRIC Grants](#) FEMA has posted the Fiscal Year 2020 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Notification of Funding Opportunities for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program and the new Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) pre-disaster mitigation grant programs. The application period opens on September 30, 2020.

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## Sea Grant wishes you a happy and safe Labor Day holiday!

Enjoy tasty oysters this Labor Day with [10 ways from Sea Grant](#)



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

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