

NORTH CAROLINA SEA GRANT



February 2018

North Carolina Sea Grant is one of 33 Sea Grant college programs and is a statewide program based at North Carolina State University.



North Carolina is a key state for the national hybrid striped bass industry. Credit: Ken Taylor

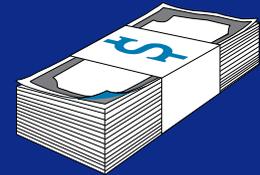
North Carolina Sea Grant improves finfish and shellfish aquaculture operations

Over 90 percent of the U.S. hybrid striped bass industry, valued at \$50 million, relies on broodstock lines developed by North Carolina Sea Grant-funded research. New studies identified techniques to spur female striped bass to high spawning rates without using hormones, thus optimizing commercial-scale production of this popular species. Also in 2016, Sea Grant extension projects with shellfish growers resulted in 6 new businesses and 23 jobs, with an economic impact of about \$450,000.

ncseagrants.org

\$8.4 M

Economic benefit



17,000

K-12 students reached

1.2 M

Acres of coastal habitat protected, enhanced or restored



Metrics reported to National Sea Grant Office in June 2017 for work completed February 2016 to January 2017



RESEARCH

EXTENSION

EDUCATION

Sea Grant research, tools improve oyster restoration in North Carolina



A new substrate encourages oysters to settle.
Credit: Sandbar Oyster Company

North Carolina Sea Grant is a key partner in statewide oyster initiatives. In 2016, Sea Grant’s impacts included development of a GIS-based tool to guide site selection for oyster-reef habitat improvements. This tool links biological, physical and socioeconomic information to help governments and community agencies maximize the cost-efficiency and value of future efforts. Additionally, Sea Grant’s collaborative fisheries research brought together a scientist and a fisherman to form Sandbar Oyster Company, a successful business focused on oyster restoration and aquaculture.

ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/oysters

“What started as general conversations evolved into deeper discussions and debate, and ultimately to a greater understanding of, and trust in, each other’s knowledge of North Carolina oysters and our particular skills within the team.”

- Niels Lindquist, scientist at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Institute of Marine Science, on the spark to create Sandbar Oyster Company with fisherman David Cessna

Minigrants Leverage 13.8 to 1 Return in Funding



Minigrants from North Carolina Sea Grant support research, training and outreach programs across state and private research institutes. In 2016, 20 minigrants were awarded to academic institutions, a state agency and an industry partner, totaling \$115,505. Minigrant investments leveraged \$1.6 million more in external grants to recipients for a return of 13.8 to 1.

Improving Climate Literacy for Middle-school Students



North Carolina Sea Grant-funded researchers developed a middle-school curriculum to improve climate literacy. The four-lessons in “Wildlife, Weather, Climate and Change” were built in collaboration with Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) using NOAA data sources. In 2016, researchers trained 50 North Carolina teachers to use the curriculum in their classrooms.

Communities Seek Sea Grant Expertise on Coastal Hazards



In 2016-17, North Carolina Sea Grant provided scientific information that helped at least five communities create policies and inform actions to manage unique shorelines and address erosion and other hazards. Community responses included a beach-fill project, a prohibition on beach bulldozing and a revised dune-protection ordinance.