

Texas Sea Grant is one of 33 Sea Grant college programs and is based at Texas A&M University.

## Texas Sea Grant fuel-saving technology improves shrimp fleet sustainability, saving \$2.86 million in 2016



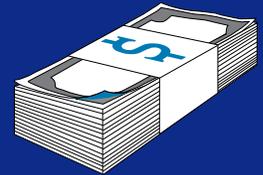
Texas Sea Grant extension agent helps shrimp fishermen install a fuel-efficient turtle excluder device to their trawl gear. Credit: Texas Sea Grant

In 2016, Texas Sea Grant helped 369 vessels in the Texas shrimp trawling fleet install fuel-efficient trawl gear, saving 1.1 million gallons of fuel valued at \$1.76 million. During the same period, 58 vessels in three Texas ports utilized cambered trawl doors, saving 736,000 gallons of fuel valued at \$1.10 million. Since 2008, Texas Sea Grant has worked with cooperating shrimpers in the Gulf of Mexico and southeastern U.S. waters to test the effectiveness of this fuel-saving trawl gear and minimize any reduction in harvest production. The statewide fuel savings since 2008 have been estimated at 21.7 million gallons of fuel valued at more than \$57.4 million.

[texasseagrant.org](http://texasseagrant.org)

**\$3.2 M**

Economic benefit



**26,000**

K-12 Students reached

**200**

Seafood professionals trained to adopt safe and sustainable harvest practices



Metrics reported to National Sea Grant Office in June 2017 for work completed Feb 2016 to Jan 2017



RESEARCH

EXTENSION

EDUCATION

## After Hurricane Harvey, Texas Sea Grant helps prepare for the future



Texas Sea Grant coordinated a rapid response to help fishermen retrieve their damaged vessels after Hurricane Harvey. Credit: Texas Sea Grant

In response to Hurricane Harvey, Texas Sea Grant mobilized to help state and federal agencies at emergency shelters, established a recovery resources webpage, shared life-saving information via social media and worked with coastal communities to address their immediate needs for assistance. Texas Sea Grant committed to helping Texans recover, rebuild and prepare for the future as part of the Governor’s Commission to Rebuild Texas. Through a new partnership with Texas Target Communities, Texas Sea Grant launched the Texas A&M Community Resilience Collaborative (CRC), a research- and extension-based program to provide planning assistance to coastal communities that suffered impacts from Hurricane Harvey, particularly those that are low-capacity, low-resource and underrepresented.

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[texasseagrant.org/whatwedo/#research](http://texasseagrant.org/whatwedo/#research)

**“Sea Grant professors have worked tirelessly to help the southern U.S. shrimp industry meet sustainability requirements and become competitive through the adaptation of new trawl gear that allows the same amount of work to be done, but with much less fuel.”**

- Patrick F. Riley, General Manager of Western Seafood Company

### Helping Shrimp Fishermen Comply with Regulations



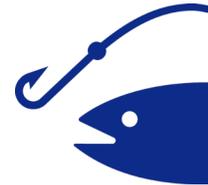
In 2016, Texas Sea Grant provided training to 507 shrimp vessel captains and crew on the correct installation and use of federally-mandated turtle excluder devices (TEDs) and reviewed gear adjustments to ensure compliance with federal regulations and avoid fines. By demonstrating compliance with TED regulations, fisherman also gain access to new markets and consumers.

### Master Naturalist Volunteers Improve STEM Literacy



Texas Sea Grant’s Master Naturalist Program trains volunteers in the knowledge and tools needed to assist with the management of natural resources within their communities. In 2016, 75 newly certified Master Naturalists joined 512 active volunteers and contributed a total of 83,000 hours, the equivalent of 40 full-time employees valued at over \$2 million.

### Keeping Dangerous Fishing Line Out of Coastal Ecosystems



In 2016, the Texas Sea Grant-coordinated Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program prevented 514 pounds of used monofilament fishing line from entering coastal and freshwater ecosystems. When not disposed of properly, used fishing line can be harmful to boat motors and can endanger wildlife. The program has collected 2,705 pounds of used fishing line since 2004.