



Based at the University of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program is a partnership among the university, the National Sea Grant College Program, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the state of Rhode Island. Rhode Island Sea Grant is part of a network made up of 33 Sea Grant programs located in Great Lakes and coastal states, and U.S. territories.

VISION

Vibrant, healthy coastal communities, economies, and marine environments that are resilient in the face of change.

MISSION

Improve understanding and management of Rhode Island's coastal and marine ecosystems.

CORE VALUES

- Present unbiased interpretation of scientific, technical, policy, and legal research.
- Offer neutral fora that encourage debate, consensus-building, and problem solving.
- Foster stewardship of coastal and ocean resources.
- Nurture innovative solutions and share lessons learned.
- Improve capacity of coastal and ocean practitioners and environmental leaders.
- Be accountable to stakeholders.
- Listen to and engage diverse stakeholder communities.
- Build and sustain long-term partnerships.
- Train the next generation of resource management professionals.
- Leverage resources for improved effectiveness and efficiency.
- Invest in professional growth of staff as innovators and leaders.

AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH

Rhode Island Sea Grant works for all coastal constituencies in the state of Rhode Island, and strives to be all-inclusive. This includes working with stakeholders with competing interests, such as commercial and recreational fishing, in order to find common ground and working solutions. Rhode Island Sea Grant also seeks to include groups that may not have adequate representation, but who are important users of coastal resources. Rhode Island Sea Grant continually works to expand partnerships with diverse stakeholders that broaden the reach and effectiveness of its efforts and programs, and to best represent the State of Rhode Island.



AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH

Rhode Island Sea Grant calls upon the vast intellectual resources of the state’s academic, business, and NGO communities to innovate concepts and ideas for coastal resources management. It calls upon the on-the-ground knowledge and experience of local governments and citizens to harness and apply innovations in a practical way locally.

Using this innovative, integrated approach, in the 1980s Rhode Island Sea Grant pioneered an ecosystem-based approach to managing coastal resources—the Special Area Management Plan (SAMP). This innovative approach put scientists, extension specialists, municipal and state agencies, and local citizenry together to create a science-based approach to resource management. Using state-of-the-art research, the SAMP process facilitates practical application of best-available science into resources management at local scales. The result is locally-supported, state approved policies that manage coastal resources.

The SAMP process has become a preferred method of work for the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, the states’ coastal management agency. The most recently approved SAMP—The Ocean SAMP—helped streamline the permitting process for siting offshore renewable energy in Rhode Island. The Ocean SAMP paved the way for the development of the nation’s first offshore wind farm, which is now providing renewable energy to the states’ citizens.

SAMPs, improved aquaculture upwelling systems, probiotics that fight fish disease, models that identify at-risk-to-flooding municipal facilities, and trawl nets that exclude bycatch so fishermen can keep fishing, are but a few of the many innovations that help businesses, towns, and citizens of Rhode Island manage economic and environmental resources.

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

The integration of research—natural, social, and legal—into extension is a prime directive of the work Rhode Island Sea Grant undertakes. Such an approach mandates integration across Rhode Island Sea Grant project and programs. Legal and extension programs work hand-in-hand to bring best available knowledge into resources management. Research integrates with legal and extension programs so that stakeholder needs are reflected in the research conducted and that research outcomes are applicable to stakeholder needs. Communications is integrated through everything Rhode Island Sea Grant does to ensure that complex science is broken down into more comprehensible concepts that help people understand the problems and their possible solutions.



Research, extension, communications, and legal programs are not “stand alone” entities. They integrate across the entirety of Rhode Island Sea Grant, harnessing the power of science to improve resources management and quality of life in Rhode Island.

A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

The strength of Rhode Island Sea Grant stems from partnerships, which are essential to achieving the overall mission of the National Sea Grant College Program of “Science Serving America’s Coasts.” Inclusion, innovation, and integration coalesce through partnerships into a powerful force for action.

Rhode Island Sea Grant funds scientific, policy, legal, and technical research in areas where further knowledge is needed for improved management of coastal and ocean resources. It identifies essential research topics through consultation with partners, stakeholders, and experts. It ensures that researchers work closely with Sea Grant extension specialists so that best available science, technical and legal information informs business and government. This “full service partnership,” integrated approach between research and extension, extension and stakeholders, enables and requires collaboration across disciplines and interests and builds a strong network for future research endeavors. In this way Rhode Island Sea Grant better ensures that the science conducted fully serves our stakeholders.

Rhode Island Sea Grant’s long-term partners are aligned with Sea Grant’s mission—to improve understanding and management of Rhode Island’s coastal and ocean ecosystems. The major partnerships that sustain Rhode Island Sea Grant in accomplishing its mission are described below. Other essential partnerships include non-profit and private organizations, as well as state and federal agencies, that enable application of scientific findings.

While new partnership opportunities are continuously sought out, successful collaborations are not necessarily abandoned at project’s end. Some partnerships, such as those with the University of Rhode Island (URI) and the URI Coastal Resources Center span three decades and more. Others, such as those with Roger Williams University School of Law, URI Coastal Institute, and Northeast Sea Grant Consortium, started a dozen or so years ago. Fledgling partnerships with the URI Departments of Landscape Architecture and Ocean Engineering are only a few years old but show great promise for professional training and workforce development efforts well into the future.



Rhode Island Universities—Rhode Island Sea Grant works closely with all universities within the state, as well as with universities in adjacent states, to foster research on issues of importance to Rhode Island residents, resource users, and resource managers. Academic institutions provide the intellectual horsepower needed to conduct rigorous research, creating the foundation for innovative problem solving. From this research springs the tools and techniques used to manage and sustain coastal and ocean resources. Access to and engagement with the academic research community is the keystone to the Sea Grant model. The University of Rhode Island holds special status as the host institution for the Rhode Island Sea Grant program, providing physical as well as fiscal facilities within which to operate. Location at the URI Graduate School of Oceanography provides direct access to scientists of a globally recognized oceanographic university.

Roger Williams University School of Law—Rhode Island Sea Grant has the distinction of being the only Sea Grant program serving the New England region with dedicated capacity in legal and policy research and extension. In partnership with Roger Williams University School of Law and the Department of Marine Affairs at the University of Rhode Island, this unique program provides research and outreach regarding marine and coastal law and policy issues. The tools and techniques developed through research, in order to be successfully applied, must conform to the governance structures through which federal, state, and local municipalities work. Law and policy research finds a path for the application of innovative tools and techniques within existing governance structures, and helps to create new or change existing law and regulation that bars the application of innovations developed through research. The Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program provides critical legal research skills, and through engagement of law students in the process, helps build the next generation of legal professionals.

University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center—Rhode Island Sea Grant partners with the Coastal Resources Center (CRC), a leader in the development and implementation of coastal management programs in the U.S. and abroad. At its inception, the CRC helped design and implement Rhode Island’s coastal management program, and has since played a strong supportive role, providing unbiased scientific syntheses for application to coastal resources management. The CRC U.S. Team, serving as Sea Grant extension agents, work closely with scientists, Sea Grant Legal Program staff, municipal and state resource managers, and business and industry leaders, to integrate best available science and best management practices into the decision-making process. Interaction with CRCs international team brings a wealth of lessons learned, innovation, and creative thinking to bear on the issues confronting Rhode Island’s coastal management community.



University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute—Rhode Island Sea Grant partners with the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute to bring information about critical coastal and marine issues to a wider audience. The Coastal Institute works with a broad constituency of groups interested in biodiversity, water quality monitoring, and invasive species, for instance. This partnership allows both Sea Grant and Coastal Institute direct access to a greater diversity of constituents than either could reach through their respective programs and events alone. Collaboration for support of *41°N*, a biannual magazine, public events such as symposia, webinars, lectures, and field site visits, ensures that a broad diversity of constituencies is reached, and that target stakeholder audiences are more effectively provided the information they need to better understand issues and solutions.

University of Rhode Island Landscape Architecture and Ocean Engineering Departments—In partnership with the University of Rhode Island Landscape Architecture and Ocean Engineering Departments, Rhode Island Sea Grant harnesses the enthusiasm of undergraduates for creative problem solving. Working with scientists, Sea Grant extension specialists, and local stakeholders, students develop innovative ways to address problems and improve resiliency to threats such as rising sea level, increased storminess, and flooding. Students hone professional skills by working directly with future peers and clients, and stakeholders receive novel ideas to address critical issues facing local communities.

Northeast Sea Grant Consortium—The Northeast Sea Grant Consortium is a partnership of the seven Sea Grant programs extending from New York to Maine. This partnership fosters collaborative efforts around issues and problems that are best addressed at a regional scale, funding research projects that address issues of regional importance.

Rhode Island Sea Grant Senior Advisory Council—Rhode Island Sea Grant’s Senior Advisory Council consists of representatives of Rhode Island’s major stakeholder groups. The council assists Sea Grant in identifying and responding to stakeholder priorities related to coastal and ocean issues. The Senior Advisory Council helps shape the focus of Sea Grant’s research request for proposals (RFP), extension efforts, and strategic direction so that it is adaptive in its response to ever changing conditions and the needs of Rhode Island.

State and Municipal Partners—State agencies and municipalities are critical partners for moving best available scientific and technical information into practice for planning, decision-making, and implementation. Key state agency partners are the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, Rhode Island Department of Environmental



Management, and Rhode Island Statewide Planning. These agencies have direct primary responsibilities for resource management and planning, and therefore play a large role in shaping direction of Rhode Island Sea Grant efforts, as well as being primary recipients of outreach and extension efforts. Statewide Planning provides a direct link to municipalities through its statewide mandate, and Rhode Island Sea Grant engages with municipalities in a collaborative fashion with this state agency to develop pilot projects in certain towns for implementation of new tools and innovations. Functional tools and techniques then flow from the pilot project sites to other municipalities through regional planning organizations and in collaboration with Statewide Planning.

Regional and National Partners—Rhode Island Sea Grant engages at various scales to improve the effectiveness of the national Sea Grant program network to accomplish mission goals and objectives. Staff members engage in—often in leadership roles—national networks for coastal, fisheries and legal extension efforts, communications, and research. Rhode Island Sea Grant serves the northeast region with legal resources, and as coordinator of regional communications.

Rhode Island Sea Grant regularly engages with other NOAA offices, such as the National Weather Service and National Estuarine Research Reserves, and with multiple federal agencies through its active engagement in the Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC). Further engagement with Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Northeast Wind Resources Center, to name a few, occurs through close, working partnerships with the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, and through activities undertaken as part of the Northeast Sea Grant Consortium.

Engagement in these partnerships, and through one-on-one work with other agencies and offices, ensures that Rhode Island Sea Grant is leveraging resources from, and sharing knowledge and understanding with, others in the NOAA network, and beyond. The organizational network within which Sea Grant works—regionally, nationally, and internationally—ensures that best available knowledge is readily and rapidly shared. The end result is a depth of knowledge, and a practical set of tools for application to resources management, that is unparalleled in the United States.

During the time frame of this strategic planning period Rhode Island Sea Grant will continue to seek out and forge new partnerships that improve effectiveness, foster innovation, and further leverage resources. Furthermore, Rhode Island Sea Grant will



continue to enhance and expand existing relationships, as appropriate, to most fully accomplish mission goals and objectives at local, state, regional and national levels.

A RESPONSIVE APPROACH

Rhode Island Sea Grant sets out its programmatic framework in its strategic plan, then defines its course of action to achieve elements of the plan through its 4-year omnibus proposal. Resources management however, does not exist in a vacuum. Change happens and unforeseen events occur.

To this end, Rhode Island Sea Grant remains responsive to needs that could not be foreseen during the development of its' 4-year plan of work. Oil spills, hurricanes, or fish kills, to name a few, are events that could not be foreseen and planned for, but whose impacts Rhode Island Sea Grant helped mitigate by being responsive.

As an example, during the fall of 2016 Rhode Island experienced its first harmful algal bloom (HAB) in over 25 years. Because Rhode Island Sea Grant maintains a responsive approach to the needs of its stakeholders, it was able to facilitate an assessment of agency response to the event and its impact on the shellfish industry so all could agree to useful changes in response should such an event recur in the future. Part of the assessment process brought forth critical information needs, and Rhode Island Sea Grant provided funds for research to fill those critical needs. Responsiveness remains a key ingredient to Rhode Island Sea Grants' ability to serve its stakeholders in a meaningful and timely fashion.

STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Rhode Island Sea Grant will focus its efforts in four thematic areas that have been identified by the National Sea Grant College Program: 1) Healthy Coastal Ecosystems 2) Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture 3) Resilient Communities and Economies and 4) Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development. The pages that follow outline Rhode Island Sea Grant's strategic goals, objectives, outcomes, and milestones for each focus area for this 2018–2021 strategic planning period. National performance measures, reported on by all Sea Grant programs, are presented at the end of this document.

Development of strategic goals, objectives, outcomes and milestones was undertaken through an iterative process of meetings with stakeholders and staff. The Rhode Island Sea Grant Senior Advisory Council played a major role in defining the issues of importance. These issues were then augmented with further definition through meetings with other



stakeholder groups, as well as through one-on-one meetings with state agency, municipal, business, and non-profit organization staff.

Rhode Island Sea Grant staff, through a combination of day-long and shorter length meetings, discussed and debated the issues defined by stakeholders, and how they fit into ongoing and longer term programmatic efforts. These deliberations resulted in this strategic plan document, which lays out the direction of Rhode Island Sea Grant efforts for the 2018-2021 time frame. The Rhode Island Sea Grant 2018–2022 Omnibus Proposal serves as the “plan of work” by which we will move forward in accomplishing strategic goals and objectives. Rhode Island Sea Grant annually reviews its strategic plan to determine if amendment is needed to better address unforeseen issues and trends, and it reports annually on outcomes as noted for each focus area, and on performance measures as stated at the end of this document.

Current research projects funded by Rhode Island Sea Grant will have results and outcomes that become available during Year 1 and Year 2 of this strategic planning period. Rhode Island Sea Grant plans for this “time lag” across strategic and work plan time frames. Extension, communications, and legal programs will be poised, through the work plan defined in the 2018-2022 Omnibus Proposal, to engage with stakeholders to move best available science into practical application.



HEALTHY COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS

Human prosperity is intimately linked to the health of coastal ecosystems, which is directly linked to informed and enlightened resources management. Sea Grant works to integrate science into the decision-making process to improve management of finite coastal resources in coastal communities locally, regionally, and nationally. Many issues affecting coastal ecosystem health, ranging from coastal development, working waterfronts, and food security to sea level rise and renewable energy, need to be considered and addressed at the policy level to maintain essential ecosystem services such as fisheries habitat and adequate water quality.

During this strategic planning period, Rhode Island Sea Grant will help local communities, industry, and government develop sound plans of use for coastal and ocean-based resources through the application of spatial planning tools and techniques that are based on scientific research findings. Sea Grant will also improve and enhance the decision-making process by incorporating legal and policy research into its projects and programs.

GOALS

- Fund research in the natural and social sciences and legal and policy fields that is responsive and directly applicable to the coastal and ocean issues of Rhode Island.
- Preserve and enhance coastal ecosystems and the services they provide through ecosystem-based management practices.

OBJECTIVES

- Annually meet with stakeholders to identify critical issues for research, and issue bi-annual Research Request for Proposals that reflect identified stakeholder needs.
- Incorporate best available scientific, technical, and legal policy information into coastal and ocean resources management and decision-making processes.
- Develop and maintain ecosystem-based management tools for use in resource management and decision-making processes, based on Sea Grant-funded research and best available science.

OUTCOMES

- Key constituents are provided with new ecosystem-based management tools and trained in their implementation and application in resources management and policy and guidance development.



- New policies, guidance or regulations are developed, or existing ones modified with the intent of improved management, based on new research, best available information, and new tools and techniques.

MILESTONES

- Workshops, conferences, and symposia, such as the Coastal State Discussion Series, the Ronald C. Baird Sea Grant Science Symposium, and the Marine Law Symposium are convened to share lessons learned and present research findings in order to broaden awareness and understanding.
- An Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) outreach strategy that includes stakeholder meetings, an active web site, and other actions is developed to broaden public understand of how new research and updated best available information is informing coastal resource management decisions.
- Formal adoption of at least two Ocean SAMP chapters is completed.
- Baseline governance evaluation of the Shoreline SAMP initiative is completed and communicated to the public and decision-makers.
- Recommendations from the Shellfish Management Plan lead to creation of a state-wide, nationally aligned Rhode Island Shellfish Initiative, in partnership with NOAA's National Shellfish Initiative, the Rhode Island Governor's Office, and regional and state partners.



SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Fisheries and aquaculture provide critical food resources and are important to Rhode Island's social and economic fabric. Effective management is needed to ensure that fishery and aquaculture resources remain safe and sustainable and conflicts are managed effectively. Issues such as stock abundance, regulatory structure, marine diseases, and consumer safety greatly impact the economic, environmental, and social sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture. Research to better understand these issues can improve management decisions and industry practices.

During this strategic planning period, Rhode Island Sea Grant will help industry and consumers build vibrant, local markets for Rhode Island fishery and aquaculture products, and continue its commitment to provide training for safe seafood processing. Rhode Island Sea Grant will also work to promote sustainable, effective, ecosystem-based management of fisheries and aquaculture, including shellfish.

GOALS

- Rhode Island seafood consumers support local fisheries and aquaculture, utilizing locally abundant species as food.
- Rhode Island fisheries are sustainably managed and provide safe products to meet public demand.
- Coastal communities support their working waterfronts and plan for their long-term sustainability as important economic and social entities.

OBJECTIVES

- Support research of the economic, environmental, legal, and social issues surrounding emerging fishing industry sectors, including aquaculture, to provide a sound basis for future management and policy.
- Assess the social and economic uses of public waters for fisheries and aquaculture.
- Educate consumers about the nutritional value of seafood, and the economic and ecological benefits of buying locally abundant seafood products.
- Support seafood producers, processors, and handlers in effectively marketing safe and sustainable local seafood to Rhode Island consumers.
- Gain a better understanding of fishing and aquaculture stakeholder groups, including the recreational fishing industry in Rhode Island, so needs and uses can better be considered in resource management.



- Better understand the movement of underutilized species from dealer to consumer, and how best to utilize direct-to-market sales and other value-added marketing strategies.
- Initiate a formal Rhode Island Shellfish Initiative compatible with the NOAA National Shellfish Initiative.

OUTCOMES

- Prospective and new shellfish farmers and other aquaculturists are competent state permit applicants and engaged industry members.
- Key constituencies incorporate research findings into fisheries and aquaculture management.
- An enhanced in-person and online curriculum for training new and existing aquaculturists in all aspects of operating a 21st century shellfish farming operation is formalized for long-term implementation in Rhode Island.
- Social and economic assessments of the use of public waters for fisheries and aquaculture is conducted.
- The Rhode Island Shellfish Management Plan is updated to integrate shellfish-related Sea Grant research, and best available information, based on stakeholder input.
- Seafood producers, processors, and handlers are certified in the provision of safe seafood for human consumption.
- Seafood consumers and producers participate in markets for locally abundant and emerging sustainable seafood.

MILESTONES

- Market assessment of consumer needs and access to local seafood, including underserved communities, is conducted.
- A regular forum is developed for sharing learning opportunities among the public, state agencies, and researchers around management, policy, research activities, and emerging issues related to aquaculture in Rhode Island.
- Regional planning for direct-to-market opportunities for farmed and wild harvested seafood products, that creates a direct-to-market guide, is convened.
- HACCP curricula are assessed and appropriately modified to address newly emerging safety issues, with certification programs conducted annually.



- Creation of a “lessons learned” video and peer reviewed publication on the Shellfish Management Plan process for use by practitioners.
- An enhanced in-person and online curriculum for training new and existing aquaculturists in all aspects of operating a 21st century shellfish farming operation is formalized and accepted for long-term implementation in Rhode Island.



RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMIES

In order for coastal communities to be resilient, it is important that they are prepared to address and adapt to ever-changing economic, social, and environmental conditions unique to the coastal landscape.

During this strategic planning period, Rhode Island Sea Grant will help stakeholders, including state agencies, municipalities, and businesses increase their capacity to develop an effective decision-making process that promotes community adaptation and mitigation to anticipated changes.

GOALS

- Help local and state entities improve their resilience to impacts associated with coastal hazard mitigation.
- Preserve water-dependent uses in coastal communities.
- Assist the expansion of offshore wind energy development to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop tools and techniques that help mitigate impacts caused by, and improve adaptation to changes associated with, rising sea level, coastal erosion, and increased storminess.
- Provide technical and legal assistance to, and training for, local communities and state entities to apply tools and techniques for hazard mitigation.
- Explore innovative approaches to address the emerging issue of recycling end-of-life fiberglass boats so they can be removed from the waste stream in an environmentally sensitive fashion.
- Coastal communities develop and implement policies and guidance that preserve and enhance working waterfronts and their water-dependent uses.
- Provide national and international leadership in understanding environmental, economic, legal, social, and cultural impacts of renewable energy development in the marine environment.

OUTCOMES

- Practitioners and interested stakeholders receive guidance and lessons learned from development of the nation's first offshore wind farm.



- Communities, state agencies, and businesses benefit from the training, outreach, and application of adaptive tools and approaches that reduce and mitigate social, economic, and ecological impacts associated with storms, flooding, sea level rise, and other hazards.
- A white paper on the feasibility of recycling fiberglass boats is developed as a foundation for addressing the issue.

MILESTONES

- The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council uses STORMTOOLS and the Coastal Environmental Risk Index for decision-making in permitting and for use in municipal planning documents.
- Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan, and associated tools, are adopted, implemented and updated by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council.
- Municipal coastal resilience infrastructure resources, techniques, lessons learned and training are disseminated to decision makers.
- A webinar series of trainings for municipal decision makers is developed and delivered.
- Science-based data, tools, and best management practices are compiled for use in Hazard Mitigation Plans and Local Comprehensive Plans, vulnerability assessments and larger scale planning efforts.
- A conceptual design will be developed for assessing changes (i.e. physical, governance, and/or behavior) in community resilience.
- Indicators to measure the impacts on tourism and recreation from the Block Island wind turbines is developed, communicated, and applied to help inform future management.
- The Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan is implemented.
- Training programs on municipal resilience are developed and delivered to stakeholders.



ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Society is faced with new and difficult challenges as a result of rapidly changing environmental, social and economic conditions. These changes present both threats to existing practices and opportunities to develop an economy and workforce that is prepared for the future. Current and emerging state leaders, as well as the public at large, must have the tools to understand and develop effective plans for mitigating threats and taking advantage of opportunities. Environmental literacy is a foundational prerequisite for an effective response that prepares Rhode Island for the future.

During this strategic planning period, Rhode Island Sea Grant will provide context for, and accessibility to, best available scientific, legal, and policy research results for stakeholders and policy decisions, both in the private and public sectors. Rhode Island Sea Grant will also educate and provide opportunities for engagement for the next generation of coastal and ocean leaders.

GOALS

- Improve the abilities of current and emerging resources management professionals to integrate science into decision-making for ecosystem-based management.
- Engage people in better understanding research, law, and policy findings so they may apply them to improve natural, social, political, and economic systems.

OBJECTIVES

- Directly engage students in research, outreach, and extension activities to enhance their understanding of coastal and ocean resources management, science, law, and policy.
- Train professionals across a diversity of disciplines to understand, synthesize, and apply best available science and information to resolve coastal and ocean challenges.

OUTCOMES

- Law, graduate, and undergraduate students are trained in research, outreach, extension, communications, and education endeavors.
- Information about coastal and ocean resources, issues, science, policy, and law are communicated to the public and to professionals and leaders.

MILESTONES



- Provide access to research findings that raise awareness and promote discussion of coastal and ocean resources.
- Support graduate and undergraduate students in multiple disciplines that provide scientific, technical, outreach, and other support to Rhode Island Sea Grant extension, legal, and communications efforts.
- Support undergraduate design studios that link to and/or directly support Rhode Island Sea Grant extension efforts.



PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The following is a listing of the National Sea Grant College Program “Performance Measures.” Some performance measures, such as “Number of resource managers who use ecosystem-based approaches...” are tracked across multiple Focus Areas, while others, such as “Number of newly certified or recertified HACCP practitioners as a result of Sea Grant activities” are only tracked within the Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Focus Area. All Sea Grant programs report on these measures to capture a national snapshot of program effort, achievements, and accomplishments.

- Number of resource managers who use ecosystem-based approaches in the management of land, water, and living resources as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of acres of coastal habitat protected, enhanced, or restored as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of Sea Grant tools, technologies and information services that are used by partners/customers to improve ecosystem-based management
- Economic (market or non-market; jobs and businesses created or sustained) impacts derived from Sea Grant activities
- Number of peer-reviewed publications produced as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of fishermen, seafood processing and aquaculture industry personnel who modify their practices using knowledge gained in fisheries sustainability and seafood safety as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of Sea Grant tools, technologies and information services that are used by partners/customers to improve ecosystem-based management
- Economic (market or non-market; jobs and businesses created or sustained) impacts derived from Sea Grant activities
- Number of newly certified or recertified HACCP practitioners as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of peer-reviewed publications produced as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of communities that implement sustainable economic and environmental development practices and policies as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of communities that implemented hazard resiliency practices to prepare for, respond to or minimize coastal hazardous events as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Economic (market or non-market jobs and businesses created or sustained) impacts derived from Sea Grant activities



- Number of peer-reviewed publications produced as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of Sea Grant products that are used to advance environmental literacy and workforce development
- Number of people engaged in Sea Grant supported informal education programs
- Number of Sea Grant-supported graduates who become employed in a career related to their degree within two years of graduation
- Number of Sea Grant financially supported students and fellows and degrees (undergraduate, graduate) as a result of Sea Grant activities
- Number of Sea Grant sponsored and organized events, and the number of people attending them
- Number of public and professional presentations provided by Sea Grant activities, and the number of people attending them