

April 2022

*Happy Citizen Science Month!*

## Trawl to Trash Program Builds Community Partnerships



Georgia Sea Grant and South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium, with support from the National Sea Grant College Program, are recruiting commercial shrimpers to sew bags made of recycled shrimp nets that can be used to collect marine debris. Georgia Sea Grant's Trawl to Trash program allows shrimpers to receive additional income during the offseason while building local awareness and support for marine debris cleanup efforts. The bags are distributed to the public through educational programs and community science efforts. Volunteers then remove marine debris from barrier islands and salt marshes along the Georgia coast while tracking what they collect using the Marine Debris Tracker App.

[Read more about Trawl to Trash](#)



### Virginia Sea Grant Graduate Fellow Examines Oyster Growth with Help of Community

While studying local oyster growth, Annie Schatz formed a strong community of local stakeholders who are not only interested in the findings of her project but also contributing to richer, unexpected results. "My volunteers found a really intricate pattern with their oysters, and definitely something I wouldn't have seen with just my own growth results," Schatz said. Together, they investigated how Virginia oysters will respond to a changing climate.

[Learn more from Virginia Sea Grant](#)

**Join the Sea Grant Great Lakes BioBlitz**

The Sea Grant Great Lakes BioBlitz is an opportunity for people in the Great Lakes region—Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Ontario, Canada—to collectively observe and compare and share the biodiversity they find in their communities. Teachers, educators, students, families and those interested in expanding upon their environmental literacy are welcome to participate now through May 22, 2022.

[Register for the BioBlitz](#)



## Hawai'i Sea Grant Community Effort Monitors King Tides and Effects

Across the Pacific Islands, Hawai'i Sea Grant partners with community members to monitor the occurrence and effects of King Tides, providing crucial information to researchers and managers working on climate issues. Locals provide photos of King Tide events that can be later used to support research and policy.

[Learn more in this video](#)

Check out more #SeaGrantCommSci efforts on social media!



## Oregon Sea Grant to Welcome Karina Nielsen as new Director

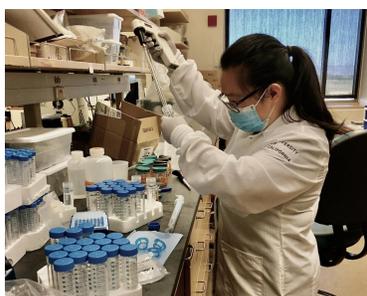
Oregon Sea Grant announced that Dr. Karina Nielsen will become Director of Oregon Sea Grant starting June 1, 2022. Dr. Nielsen has a doctorate in zoology from Oregon State University and is the head of San Francisco State University's Estuary and Ocean Science Center. She replaces Shelby Walker, who took a position with the National Science Foundation in September.

[Learn more about Karina Nielsen](#)

## Wisconsin Sea Grant Recounts Historic Shipwreck Discovery and Preservation

A longtime Wisconsin Sea Grant collaborator and maritime archeologist with the Wisconsin Historical Society recently discovered a 1,200-year-old dugout canoe, the oldest intact shipwreck ever found in Wisconsin. The canoe was made by ancestors of the Ho-Chunk people of Wisconsin. Now, in consultation with Wisconsin's Indigenous leaders, it's undergoing preservation and study in preparation for public display.

[Read about the canoe's recovery process](#)



## USC Sea Grant-Funded Study Shares New Findings on Microplastics and Pathogens

A current USC Sea Grant-funded project recently released new findings that land pathogens can be transported to the oceans by microplastics. These pathogens can potentially infect humans and animals, causing illnesses when consumed.

[See the findings](#)

## Knauss Fellowship Alumna Describes Mentor-Supported Journey to Ph.D.

A key tenet of the Knauss Fellowship is mentorship, and for Shae Green, a 2021 Knauss Fellow, mentorship was integral to her journey. In an article from NOAA's Climate Program Office, read about how this young woman from the Bronx overcame her fears, expanded the boundaries of her world with the help of mentors, and uses mentorship and outreach to make a difference at NOAA.

[Read about Shae Green](#)



## Minnesota Sea Grant Shares Lake Superior Rainbow Smelt Consumption Advisory

Smelting is a favorite springtime activity on Lake Superior but Minnesota Sea Grant wants the public to be aware of a consumption advisory. In advance of the 2022 Lake Superior Rainbow Smelt run, Minnesota Sea Grant shared that the suggested intake for smelt is one meal per month. The limit is due to recent studies that found a chemical once used in water and stain repellent products in lake waters.

[See more on Minnesota Sea Grant's work with local partners](#)

## Seeking Undergraduates for Community Engaged Internship Experiences

The Community Engaged Internship for undergraduate students recruits, retains and engages diverse students in place-based research, extension, education and/or communication that respects and integrates local ways of knowing. On-the-ground learning experiences include an 8-10-week internship over the summer months, mentorship by Sea Grant professionals and developmental activities with a cohort of peers.

[View the opportunities](#)



## Sea Grant Seeks National Input on 2024-2027 Strategic Plan

The National Sea Grant College Program is currently developing its strategic plan for 2024-27. Provide your input on Sea Grant's focus areas, goals and plan overall through the virtual comment card and during the final broad-focus listening session, which will take place on **May 4, 2022**. The webinar is open to anyone who is interested in attending.

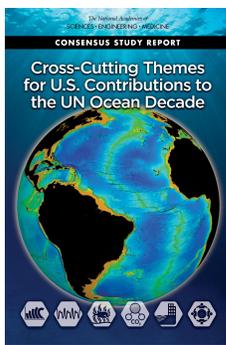
[Register for the webinar and complete the virtual comment card](#)

## Funding and Career Opportunities

[Sea Grant Career Opportunities](#) Sea Grant has several job openings across the country, such as Research Associate with California Sea Grant, Administrative & Communications Assistant with Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, and Living Marine Resources Specialist with South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium.

[Sea Grant American Lobster Research Program](#) Applications are sought from research teams for collaborative projects to address priority issues involving applied research and/or technological questions impacting the American lobster fishery. Applications must be submitted by **May 24, 2022**.

## Connections and Partner Updates



### [Cross-Cutting Themes for U.S. Contributions to the UN Ocean Decade](#)

The recently published report on [Cross-Cutting Themes for U.S. Contributions to the UN Ocean Decade](#) was produced by the U.S. National Committee for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, at the request of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and sponsored by NASA. The report identifies emerging concepts from the [Ocean-Shots](#) that will galvanize action and inspire transformative, cross-disciplinary, and multi-generational participation in the UN Ocean Decade. Two foundational themes address the conduct of the science—*An Inclusive and Equitable Ocean* calls for the involvement of a diverse and representative ocean community, and *An Ocean of Data* recognizes the shift toward open access for data that is collected. Four topical themes—*The Ocean Revealed*, *The Restored and Sustainable Ocean*, *Ocean Solutions for Climate Resilience*, and *Healthy Urban Seas*—represent

promising areas for new research investments that are consistent both with the [UN Ocean Decade Outcomes](#) and [U.S. ocean priorities](#). Stay tuned for a public presentation and discussion on the cross-cutting themes, and subsequent activities to advance associated ocean decade research. Visit [the Ocean Decade U.S. website](#) for announcements on opportunities and events and to subscribe to the newsletter.

[Request for Applications for \\$68M in Grant Funding to Support Environmental Finance Centers](#) EPA announced a Request for Applications for \$68 million in federal funding through the Environmental Finance Center Grant Program. EPA encourages non-profit organizations, universities, and other eligible entities to apply. Selected technical assistance providers will help communities develop and submit project proposals and will support a range of projects focused on solid waste, clean air, toxic substances, drinking water, wastewater and stormwater. Applications are due by June 17, 2022. [Register for an informational webinar](#) on **May 3, 2022**.

[Department of the Interior Soliciting Nominations for Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee](#) The Department of the Interior is requesting nominations for Tribal member representatives for the new Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee. The names of each nominated member and alternate must be submitted to the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs via e-mail to [oiea@ios.doi.gov](mailto:oiea@ios.doi.gov) in an official letter from the Tribe by Monday, **May 9, 2022**. [More details here](#).

[FEMA Updates State and Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guides](#) FEMA released updates to the State and Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guides. FEMA routinely updates the policies to improve and better support stakeholders in meeting federal requirements. [Register in advance](#) for a webinar on updates to the state mitigation planning policy on **May 10, 2022**. [Register in advance](#) for a webinar on updates to the local mitigation planning policy on **May 12, 2022**

[Environmental Defense Fund and Sustainable Ocean Alliance Leadership for Climate-Resilient Fisheries Fellowship](#) Proposals are being sought from qualified applicants, including early-career professionals and individuals from underrepresented groups, to participate in the new Leadership for Climate-Resilient Fisheries Fellowship. Participants will receive up to \$15,000 in grant funding, leadership and technical training, and 1:1 mentorship in furtherance of projects that benefit U.S. fisheries and promote their ecological, socioeconomic, and community resilience to climate change. Applications are due by **May 22, 2022**. [More details here](#).

[NOAA Digital Coast Training: Seven Best Practices for Risk Communication](#) Help your community prepare for and respond to weather and climate hazards in this interactive webinar on risk communication. Whether beginning a new effort or trying to keep people motivated to better prepare for future hazards, applying risk communication principles will lead to more effective results. [Register for the training](#), which will take place on **June 7, 2022**.

Sign up to receive updates from Sea Grant

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

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