The Maine Sea Grant College Program at the University of Maine, sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the State of Maine, is part of a network of 32 NOAA Sea Grant programs throughout the coastal and Great Lakes states.
Maine Sea Grant supports scientific research that is relevant to the issues and needs of coastal communities in Maine and the northern Gulf of Maine region. Research in our program is accomplished in three ways, which are often connected: (1) competitive research grants from both Maine research funds and national solicitations; (2) program development grants to investigators in the state and region; and (3) research activities of the Marine Extension Team.

Maine Sea Grant seeks to improve marine-related educational opportunities for K-16 teachers and students by offering professional development workshops for teachers, developing curriculum materials aligned with state and national standards, and creating informal education programs. Sea Grant supports graduate and undergraduate internships, undergraduate scholarships, and graduate research stipends. We also recruit applicants for three annual NOAA graduate fellowship programs: the Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship, the Coastal Management Fellowship, and the Graduate Fellowships in Fishery Population Dynamics and Marine Resource Economics.

A diverse Policy Advisory Committee informs program direction and strategic planning.

Research

Maine Sea Grant is based at the University of Maine. Administrative and support staff work out of the campus office in Orono.

Education

Robin Alden
Penobscot East Resource Center

Dick Clime
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.

Mark Des Meules
Viles Arboretum

Paul Dest
Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve

Paul Dobbins
Ocean Approved LLC

Judy East
Washington Co. Council of Governments

Michael Eckardt
University of Maine

Don Hudson
Chewonki Foundation

Peter Jumars
University of Maine

Alvion Kimball
Orland House B & B

John Kocik
NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center

Kathleen Leyden
Maine Coastal Program

Glen Marquis
Ocean Renewable Power Company

Linda Mercer
Department of Marine Resources

Pamela Parker
Department of Environmental Protection

Kristan Porter
F/V Whitney and Ashley

Jon Prichard
Cooperative Extension

Cathy Ramsdell
Friends of Casco Bay/Casco Baykeeper

Dwayne Shaw
Downeast Salmon Federation

Graham Shimmield
Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences

Lois Snowe-Mello
Marine Resources Committee

Susan Swanton
Maine Marine Trades Association

Steve Von Vogt
Maine Composites Alliance

Windol Weaver
Marine Resources Committee

Philip Yund
University of New England
The Marine Extension Team (MET) is a collaboration between Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Team members are based along the coast in communities from Wells to Eastport. MET members, who often work together, serve as a link between stakeholders and the research and policy that affects their communities.

Kristen Grant, Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, Wells
Kristen helps communities plan for a resilient future, focusing on such issues as growth management, workforce housing, coastal access, working waterfronts, and coastal hazards. She manages the Southern Maine Beach Profile Monitoring Program.

Dana Morse, Darling Marine Center, Walpole
Dana works with shellfish growers, scientists, educators and others around the state to enhance production of farmed shellfish and seaweed. He is involved in a variety of education, research, and technology transfer programs with the fishing industry.

Keri Lindberg, Cooperative Extension Knox-Lincoln County, Waldoboro
Keri coordinates, with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Maine Healthy Beaches Program, training and supporting beach staff and volunteers who monitor Maine’s coastal beaches to protect human health and clean up sources of pollution.

Esperanza Stancioff, Cooperative Extension Knox-Lincoln County, Waldoboro
As climate change educator with Sea Grant and Cooperative Extension, Esperanza provides outreach through Maine Climate News, the Signs of the Seasons Volunteer Monitoring Program, and applied research in climate change adaptation.

Sherman Hoyt, Cooperative Extension Knox-Lincoln County, Waldoboro
Sherman works with the fishing industry on collaborative resource management. He is expanding regional clam management approaches pioneered in the Georges River to eastern Maine, and serves on the board of the Midcoast Maine Fishing Heritage Alliance.

Ron Beard, Cooperative Extension Hancock County, Ellsworth
Ron works with citizens, local government and nonprofit organizations in creating preferred futures, provides organizational development assistance, and educates citizens about public issues and about how groups, organizations, and communities work.

Natalie Springuel, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor
Natalie’s focus on coastal community development includes helping to lead working waterfront and coastal access initiatives within and outside of Maine, developing sustainable tourism, and coordinating the Downeast Fisheries Trail.

Sarah Redmond, Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research, Franklin
Sarah is developing techniques and systems for growing native seaweeds, and works with Maine’s aquaculture industry to incorporate kelp, porphyra, and other marine macroalgae into shellfish growing operations.

Chris Bartlett, Marine Technology Center, Eastport
Chris works closely with coastal organizations, researchers, and resource managers on issues pertaining to commercial fishing, alternative energy, and finfish aquaculture. Chris often engages students in marine research and monitoring programs.
Research Awards 2012-2014

William Ambrose, Bates College
Spatial and temporal variation in the growth of the soft-shell clam along the coast of Maine
$150,000

Laura Lindenfeld, University of Maine
The Seafood Links Project: promoting sustainable seafood in Maine’s inland areas
$50,000

Neal Pettigrew, University of Maine
Study of general circulation and exchange between isolated regions in Casco Bay
$119,325

Richard Wahle, University of Maine
Maximizing the utility and impact of the American Lobster Settlement Index database
$126,415

Gayle Zydlewski, University of Maine
Fish distribution in relation to tidal hydropower in Downeast Maine
$73,204

Maine Sea Grant, contribution to Northeast Sea Grant Consortium regional social science projects
$57,000

Program Development Awards 2011-2012

Julia Beaty, University of Maine
Evaluating growth and maturation of Atlantic halibut in the Gulf of Maine

Laurie Connell, University of Maine
Developing a nearshore predictive tool for shellfish toxicity

Kristen Fletcher, Coastal States Organization
Coastal States Organization Annual Meeting

Charles Hess, University of Maine
Ensuring the safety of Maine’s edible seaweeds

George Kidder, MDI Biological Laboratory
Biodegradable transplant grids for efficient eelgrass restoration

Jessica Muhlin, Maine Maritime Academy
Northeast Algal Society Annual Meeting

Felipe Paredes, University of Maine
Mitigating invasive ascidian impacts on Maine’s shellfish aquaculture industry

Brian Tarbox, Southern Maine Community College
Molecular genetics and habitat characterization of juvenile cod in Frenchman Bay

Sean Todd, College of the Atlantic
Improving spatial resolution of marine mammal behavioral observation data at Mount Desert Rock

Visit our website for a complete list and descriptions of funded projects.

Funding Opportunities

Maine Sea Grant issues a biennial request for research proposals and, funding permitting, reviews program development proposals for smaller projects every four months. In collaboration with our Policy Advisory Committee, we establish priorities and provide guidance to researchers in order to recruit proposals that address state and regional needs. Visit the funding section of our website for more information.

Maine Sea Grant Funding 2010-2012

NOAA funds plus non-federal match, three-year budget $6,068,698

- Research—42%
- Extension and Education—34%
- Administration—13%
- Communications—11%

$817,057
$638,596
$2,524,926
$2,088,119

www.seagrant.umaine.edu
207-581-1435

Photos: Front cover top-Jorge González; bottom-Kathlyn Tenga-González; Back cover-Jorge Gonzalez, all others provided by Maine Sea Grant