

# NEW HAMPSHIRE SEA GRANT

## Impacts and Accomplishments

New Hampshire Sea Grant's research and extension efforts in four main focus areas have led to numerous impacts and accomplishments in the Granite State.

### Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture

- In 2015, NHSG fisheries and aquaculture efforts supported \$4.86 million in economic benefits and the creation/retention of 21 businesses.
- NHSG has supported the creation of new direct fisheries markets on the Seacoast, and in 2015 more than 2,500 people were engaged in CSFs, farm-to-market venues, and other seafood opportunities that are traceable back to the boat. That year, 25 N.H. fishermen reported increased profits because of consumer access to alternative markets for seafood.
- NHSG assisted in the establishment of 42 aquaculture operations on the Seacoast, providing consumers with a local source of steelhead trout, oysters, blue mussels and sugar kelp.
- NHSG supported researchers who developed a genomic approach to identifying cod stock structure for improved management of the species. Staff members worked closely with fishermen to design a raised gill-net to avoid at-risk species like cod and target more abundant species.

### Healthy Coastal Ecosystems

- Since 2011, NHSG has funded five research projects that help improve understanding of pathogen presence in shellfish and the potential health risks to consumers. One project has led to the development of a patent-pending assay to rapidly detect pathogens in shellfish.
- The NHSG-led Coastal Research Volunteers helped nine N.H. scientists to increase the magnitude and frequency of data collection in their research and monitoring, thus saving \$218,868 for local coastal research.
- In 2015, NHSG led more than 1,200 students and adults in planting beachgrass and goldenrod to restore sand dunes in five N.H. and Massachusetts communities and increase their coastal resilience to storms.
- NHSG partnered with lobstermen and fishermen to remove 189 tons of marine debris, including lobster traps and other derelict fishing gear, from N.H.'s beaches, Great Bay and the Isles of Shoals.

### Fast Facts: 2011-2015

**\$20.26 million**

Economic benefits derived from NHSG activities

**\$7.75 million**

Invested by NHSG in research to address N.H. coastal and estuarine issues

**\$3.76 million**

Matched funds for coastal and estuarine research in N.H.

**56,406**

Hours volunteered by UNH Marine Docents and Coastal Research Volunteers

**36,571**

Pre-K – 12 students engaged in NHSG-supported informal marine education

**321**

Jobs created/retained due to NHSG-supported activities

**181**

NHSG-supported students awarded undergraduate and graduate degrees

**140**

Businesses created/retained due to NHSG-supported activities

**35**

NHSG student scholars who chose jobs related to their degree within two years of graduating





## Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development

- The NHSG-trained Marine Docents provided more than \$95,000 in economic benefit to three N.H. marine education centers through programming expertise in 2015.
- NHSG educators led efforts to increase engagement in STEM education in N.H. and contributed to the governor's STEM Task Force.
- Marine Docents taught boat-based marine education programs to 110 at-risk high school students visiting N.H. from Washington, D.C. to help them learn about the ocean and explore career options within the marine sciences.
- Marine Docents led volunteer and education efforts to teach 3,000 attendees at the N.H. Fish and Lobster Festival about marine science topics and local seafood.



## Resilient Communities and Economies

- Since 2010, more than 450 N.H. community leaders and stakeholders learned about preparing for severe weather and a changing climate in coastal areas by participating in workshops and summits designed and delivered by NHSG and its partners.
- NHSG collaborated with the N.H. Coastal Adaptation Workgroup to address the needs of coastal communities in N.H. who want to improve their climate adaptation. The workgroup has secured over \$6.3 million in grants to help meet these local needs.
- NHSG partnered with agriculture specialists to train professional landscapers in the coastal region on water quality-friendly techniques that reduce the likelihood of polluted runoff. Since 2015, these trainings have attracted more than 100 registrants, most of whom planned to promote or apply what they learned in their own businesses.
- NHSG worked with coastal communities to educate property owners on practices they can use to prevent polluted runoff from entering coastal bays and rivers from their properties.



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