

University of Minnesota Sea Grant College Program

Superior Science For You
2010-2012

■ Communications

There are many ways to keep up with Minnesota Sea Grant, including:



- *The Seiche* newsletter (online and in print)
- *The Sea Grant Files* radio show (KUMD, WTIP, online)

You'll also see Minnesota Sea Grant's work in magazine articles, newspaper stories, TV interviews, and at events.

www.seagrant.umn.edu

Minnesota Sea Grant College Program

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Photographs by Chris J. Benson



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.



■ Who We Are

The University of Minnesota Sea Grant College Program is one of 32 similar science-based programs that are part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Minnesota has a Sea Grant program because of the state's Lake Superior coastline.

In partnership with universities, federal and state agencies, the public, nonprofits, and industry, Minnesota Sea Grant addresses complex problems associated with Minnesota's coastal areas such as sustainability, water quality, and climate change. The program works to create innovative solutions to these problems through cutting-edge research, outreach and education.

We are a University of Minnesota system-wide program, based at UMD, dedicated to environmental stewardship, long-term economic development, and responsible use of Minnesota's waterways and coastal regions.



■ What We Do

Minnesota Sea Grant funds university-based research at the forefront of aquatic science. Every two years, we hold competitions for research projects to be funded with money we receive through NOAA, which is matched by the University. We focus our research program to improve understanding, use, and management of Great Lakes resources, particularly those related to Lake Superior and Minnesota's inland waters. The scientists we fund are expected to conduct sound, relevant research, incorporate graduate student training into their projects, and be willing to help transfer their results to appropriate audiences.

Minnesota Sea Grant's dedicated extension and communications staff convey community, agency, and business needs to university scientists and in turn, provide research results to resource users, managers, decision-makers, and the public. Results-oriented information is disseminated through workshops, conferences, presentations, the award-winning *Seiche* newsletter, Web pages, publications, the news media, as well as public policy discussions and forums.



■ Our Vision

We envision citizens using science-based understanding of the environment to address issues concerning Lake Superior and Minnesota's aquatic resources and related economies.

■ Our Mission

Minnesota Sea Grant's mission is to facilitate interaction among the public and scientists to enhance communities, the environment, and economies along Lake Superior and Minnesota's inland waters by identifying information needs, fostering research, and communicating results. More succinctly stated – *Superior Science for You.*

■ Our Strategy

We concentrate on research, outreach, and education in four focus areas:

- Healthy Coastal Ecosystems
- Sustainable Coastal Development
- Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply
- Coastal Community Resilience

Our strategy includes a nimble response to emerging issues within our focus areas as well as bold goals that are achievable through research and outreach. Maintaining our rapport with academia and a broad array of stakeholders is core to our continued success.

■ New Research Projects

In 2010, Minnesota Sea Grant selected four research projects for funding. The award (\$753,257) is provided by NOAA and the University of Minnesota. Two-year projects beginning in 2010 include:

Do Vertically Migrating Animals Fertilize the Deep Chlorophyll Layer of Lake Superior?

Investigators: Stephanie Guildford, Tom Hrabik, and Donn Branstrator
- *University of Minnesota Duluth*

Sediment Analysis Shows How Humans Altered Lake Superior Over Time

Investigators: Euan Reavie, Amy Kireta, and Terry Brown
- *University of Minnesota Duluth*

Examining the Ability of Enterococci Bacteria to Live in Soils and Sands of the Great Lakes

Investigators: Gary Dunny, Michael Sadowsky, and Suzanne Grindle
- *University of Minnesota Twin Cities*

Examining How Land Use Influences Aquatic Conditions in the St. Louis River Estuary

Investigators: George Host and Janet Silbernagel
- *University of Minnesota Duluth and University of Wisconsin-Madison. This is our first jointly funded research project with the Wisconsin Sea Grant program.*

■ Outreach Projects

Minnesota Sea Grant's 14 staff, and student employees and interns are dedicated to increasing scientific understanding, supporting an informed citizenry, and facilitating integrated management decisions about coastal resources and economies. The program's outreach efforts include:

International Symposium on Genetic Biocontrol of Invasive Fish

Following the June 2010 symposium, experts are crafting reports about the potential and risks of managing invasive finfish with genetic biocontrol techniques.

Contact: Jeff Gunderson

View From the Lake: Expanded Outreach Through K12 Curricula, the Web, and Sustainability Programming

A \$26,700 grant enables Sea Grant to repackage lessons delivered aboard a research vessel during the popular View From the Lake cruises.

Contact: Jesse Schomberg

Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence (COSEE) Great Lakes Teachers will apply to spend a week learning to integrate Great Lakes science into their curricula on an EPA research vessel.
Contact: Cindy Hagley

Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!™

With roots in Minnesota Sea Grant, this national campaign helps communities and boaters prevent the spread of harmful aquatic invasive species.

Contact: Doug Jensen

Great Lakes Ballast Water Collaborative Minnesota Sea Grant helps to organize, facilitate, and report on discussions that are influencing ballast water research, policies, and management in the U.S. and Canada.

Contact: Dale Bergeron

Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) Providing science-based information to community leaders helps protect resources such as water quality through better land use planning.

Contact: John Bilotta

