

A Smart Investment in Massachusetts' Coastal Economy



Woods Hole Sea Grant is one of 34 Sea Grant college programs and is based at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Highlights from Woods Hole Sea Grant's work in 2020* are detailed below.

In 2020, a federal investment in Woods Hole Sea Grant of \$1.1 million resulted in:

\$3.5 Million

Economic Benefit

218%

Return on Investment

Coastal Erosion & Flooding
Site Assessments
\$220,980

Discounts on
Flood Insurance
\$361,131

Shellfish Propagation Program
\$2,965,152

1,965

Acres of coastal habitat protected, enhanced, or restored as a result of Sea Grant activities

People engaged in Sea Grant-supported informal P-12 education programs

39,822

17,000 +

Recreational harvesters who benefit from the shellfish propagation program.

* Metrics reported to National Sea Grant Office in June 2021 for work completed Feb. 2020 to Jan. 2021.

NOTABLE PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Developing and Testing a Near Real-time White Shark Forecast System

Researchers funded by WHSG from the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy and state Division of Marine Fisheries are developing and evaluating near real-time 'shark forecast' maps that can be disseminated by town and beach managers and via the AWSC 'Sharktivity' app to alert beachgoers when conditions indicate a high probability of white shark presence.



NOAA Live4Kids! Reaches Worldwide Audience During COVID-19

Woods Hole Sea Grant partnered with NOAA's Regional Collaboration Network to design an interactive webinar series in grades 2-8 to connect with scientists and learn about careers at NOAA. From Mar. 2020 to Jan, 2021, 54 webinars with 69 different presenters were attended live by 6,837 people, including 5,804 students and 357 educators.



Assisting Massachusetts Shellfish Growers During COVID-19 Pandemic

Recognizing the devastating impact of the COVID pandemic on the local aquaculture industry, Woods Hole Sea Grant purchased large oysters from 76 growers and worked with four processors to deliver 1,790 pints of frozen, shucked oysters to three food banks.



Partnering to Create Model Flood Insurance Bylaw

WHSG partnered with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) office as well as FEMA Region I to create a model bylaw for NFIP compliance to be applied statewide. The bylaw is now required to be adopted by the 341 communities Massachusetts that participate in the NFIP. WHSG continues to work with coastal communities to adopt the bylaw.