

# WASHINGTON SEA GRANT

## BY THE NUMBERS\*

One of 34 Sea Grant programs across the nation funded through NOAA, Washington Sea Grant helps people and marine life thrive by providing research, technical expertise and education supporting the responsible use and conservation of ocean and coastal ecosystems.

Nearly **\$55** million  
in economic benefits and services

More than **430** jobs created or sustained

More than **480,000** coastal residents, boaters, fishermen, shellfish growers, small business owners, natural resource managers, coastal planners and K-12 students reached

More than **80,000** volunteer hours valued at **\$2.6 million**

**194** undergraduate and graduate students and fellows supported

**157** communities implemented sustainable development practices and policies

"THANK YOU AGAIN FOR PROVIDING US THE BASIS FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE WATERFRONT PLANNING FOR COASTAL RESILIENCY, THIS HAS HELPED SET US ON A TRAJECTORY AS A CITY TAKING THE TOPIC (OF SEA LEVEL RISE) SERIOUSLY."

Marty Stump, Deputy Director, Planning & Development, Metro Parks Tacoma, Tacoma, Washington





# WASHINGTON SEA GRANT RESEARCH AND OUTREACH MILESTONES

## PROTECTING LIVES AND PROPERTY

- ♦ **15** lives saved attributed to lessons learned through Safety at Sea training workshops
- ♦ **\$1.7 million** saved annually in reduced gear losses and boat pairs thanks to WSG-facilitated voluntary towboat lanes
- ♦ **746** fishermen trained in marine safety, rescue, first aid, weather and marine technology

## SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

- ♦ More than **170,000** albatrosses and other seabirds saved since streamer lines were adopted in Alaska's \$300 million longline fisheries
- ♦ Washington's shellfish industry leads the U.S. in annual farmed bivalve sales of **\$150 million**, which directly benefits from WSG research and technical assistance. When **95 percent** of shellfish died on some farms, SoundToxins data identified shellfish-killing algal species concurrent with the mortalities, leading to further investigation of these species as a possible cause
- ♦ Over **125** guests, including representatives from **13** Pacific Northwest tribal nations, gathered in Oahu in 2020 for a cross-Pacific regional collaborative effort led by WSG to advance sustainable Indigenous Aquaculture practices, including traditional fish ponds and clam gardens

## BUILDING COASTAL BUSINESSES AND SUSTAINING JOBS

- ♦ More than **\$5.3 million** in funding secured with WSG assistance for pumpout services and marina operations and maintenance
- ♦ Sablefish aquaculture research produced over **8,000** market-size fish weighing more than 40,000 pounds and valued at **\$150,000** as an initial step to introducing sablefish aquaculture into the **\$17 million** international sablefish export market

## RESPONDING TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- ♦ A Sea Level Rise Report shared localized sea level rise projections for 171 locations in Washington. In workshops around Puget Sound, over **70 percent** of attendees reported using the projections in planning and policy-making
- ♦ Over **40 million** gallons of sewage diverted to shoreside pumpout stations by boaters

## EDUCATING FUTURE OCEAN LEADERS

- ♦ More than **22,000** K-12 students engaged in beach walks, school events, festivals and informal education programs
- ♦ **194** university students and fellows supported through research grants and five fellowship programs

\*Numbers are for 2017-2020 unless otherwise specified

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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