

# 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.

**\$57 million**

in economic benefit and services, providing more than double return on the federal investment

**575**

jobs created or sustained

**435,000**

coastal residents, boaters, fishermen, shellfish growers, small business owners, natural resource managers, coastal planners and K–12 students reached

**72,000**

volunteer hours valued at **\$2.2 million**

**700**

partners from government, academic, industry and nongovernmental sectors

**171**

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

\*Numbers are for 2015–2018 unless otherwise specified



# 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 in reduced gear losses and boat repairs thanks to WSG-facilitated voluntary towboat lanes in 2018.
- ♦ **1,100** fishermen trained in marine safety, rescue, first aid, weather and marine technology.

## SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

- ♦ An estimated **170,000** albatrosses and other seabirds saved in the 18 years 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

- ♦ Over **\$5 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. A pilot project is underway to grow sablefish on a commercial scale.

## RESPONDING TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- ♦ A report shared localized sea level rise projections for **171** locations in Washington. In sea level rise 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.
- ♦ Nearly **58,500** trap hours, contributing to the early detection of invasive European green crab in Puget Sound.

"THE PORT [OF FRIDAY HARBOR] REALLY APPRECIATES SEA GRANT SPENDING TIME ON OUR DOCKS EACH SEASON AND EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR BOATERS AND MARINAS IN PUGET SOUND!"  
Tami Hayes, Harbormaster, Port of Friday Harbor, Friday Harbor, WA

## EDUCATING FUTURE OCEAN LEADERS

- ♦ **230** university students and fellows supported through research grants and five fellowship programs.
- ♦ **36,000** K-12 students engaged in beach walks, school events, festivals and informal education programs.

"...THIS CAMP IS A PERFECT COMBINATION OF KID FUN AND REAL SCIENCE. IN SHORT — THE BEST CAMP EVER!"

Parent, NOAA Science Camp

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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