

## NOAA DOCUMENT: 2008

### ENGAGEMENT OF SEA GRANT BY NOAA REGIONAL COLLABORATION TEAMS

**QUESTION:** How does engagement of Sea Grant vary among NOAA regions?

#### **PPI RESPONSE:**

##### **Alaska Regional Team:**

Alaska Sea Grant is an external partner and contributed to our Integrated Services Assessment. We have future plans to include them in additional activities particularly as they relate to outreach and education. **UPDATE:** Alaska Team Lead inquired at the 5 March 2008 O&C PATT call about adding Alaska Sea Grant to their regional team. The AK Sea Grant lead was added to the ARCTic team.

##### **Central Regional Team:**

A Sea Grant extension agent is stationed at NOAA/OAR National Severe Storms Laboratory, but is not a member of the team to date. We are working together on our joint Gulf of Mexico region/Central region project.

##### **Great Lakes Regional Team:**

A Sea Grant director (elected by the 7 Great Lakes Sea Grant directors) is a formal member of the team.

##### **Gulf of Mexico Regional Team:**

Sea Grant is a critical partner for the Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaboration team. We are engaged with them on education opportunities, as well as the Gulf Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Project. Sea Grant regional leaders regularly attend regional team meetings.

##### **North Atlantic Regional Team:**

NART considers Sea Grant one of many important stakeholders in its region. Sea Grant representatives were invited to the NOAA-in-the-Mid-Atlantic meeting - a subregion of NART - held in October of 2007. In addition, a Sea Grant representative has agreed to be part of the steering committee for Mid-Atlantic regional collaboration. NART hopes all Sea Grant programs in its region participate in stakeholder meetings the Team anticipates holding in 2008. **UPDATE:** At the face-to-face team meeting in April 2008, NART agreed to add a Sea Grant representative, chosen by the Sea Grant directors in the region, to the team and invite them to meetings.

##### **Pacific Islands Regional Team:**

The Sea Grant College Program and other extramural NOAA partners are engaged in NOAA regional collaboration in the Pacific in terms of awareness, project-level collaboration, and mutually beneficial partnerships. However, neither Sea Grant nor our extramural NOAA partners are directly involved in a formal relationship with either the Pacific Regional Team or the Pacific Region Executive Board (PREB). That being said, Sea Grant is regularly involved in discussions on regional approaches to marine managed areas as well as the bigger picture of environmental literacy. Most recently, Sea Grant was involved with the Pacific Regional Team and the PREB in

a congressional briefing on NOAA programs recently hosted by the NOAA Pacific Services Center. Sea Grant also continues to be a partner in the regional Pacific Risk Management 'Ohana (PRiMO), a Pacific regional body of risk management providers, partners, clients and stakeholders. The more formal involvement of Sea Grant and other state/extramural partners has been a part of past discussions with the PREB and Regional Team.

**South East Caribbean Regional Team (SECART):**

Sea Grant and other NOAA extramural partners are engaged in NOAA regional collaboration in the Southeast and Caribbean from the standpoint of both awareness and some project-level collaboration. For example, there is close collaboration among Sea Grant and SECART in the development and prioritization of the regional research needs of stakeholders. In fact, the SECART lead is a formal member of the advisory committee for the Sea Grant South Atlantic Regional Research Project. Sea Grant is a regular participant in related regional collaboration efforts in which SECART is also a strong partner such as the emerging South Atlantic Alliance and the on-going NOAA-in-the-Carolinas partnership. However, strictly from a SECART team perspective, none of these state partners are directly involved, as of yet, in what I would characterize as a sustained, clear, and formal relationship that invites them into regular SECART activities in ways that I believe they would describe as truly meaningful. This is an outstanding need, but one which I have communicated to these partners as a strong intention for this 2nd year of regional collaboration development.

**Western Regional Team:**

NOAA West as a team has not had much interaction with Sea Grant at this point. However, last week we did in invite the 4 west coast directors to become part of the team. They are meeting in DC this week and they will discuss how this will be done. **UPDATE:** As of Feb. 26, 2008, Sea Grant directors of the western coastal states have selected a leader and a back-up person to attend meetings as members of the NOAA West team.