

Minnesota Sea Grant Program 2011 NSGO Review

Terry Smith



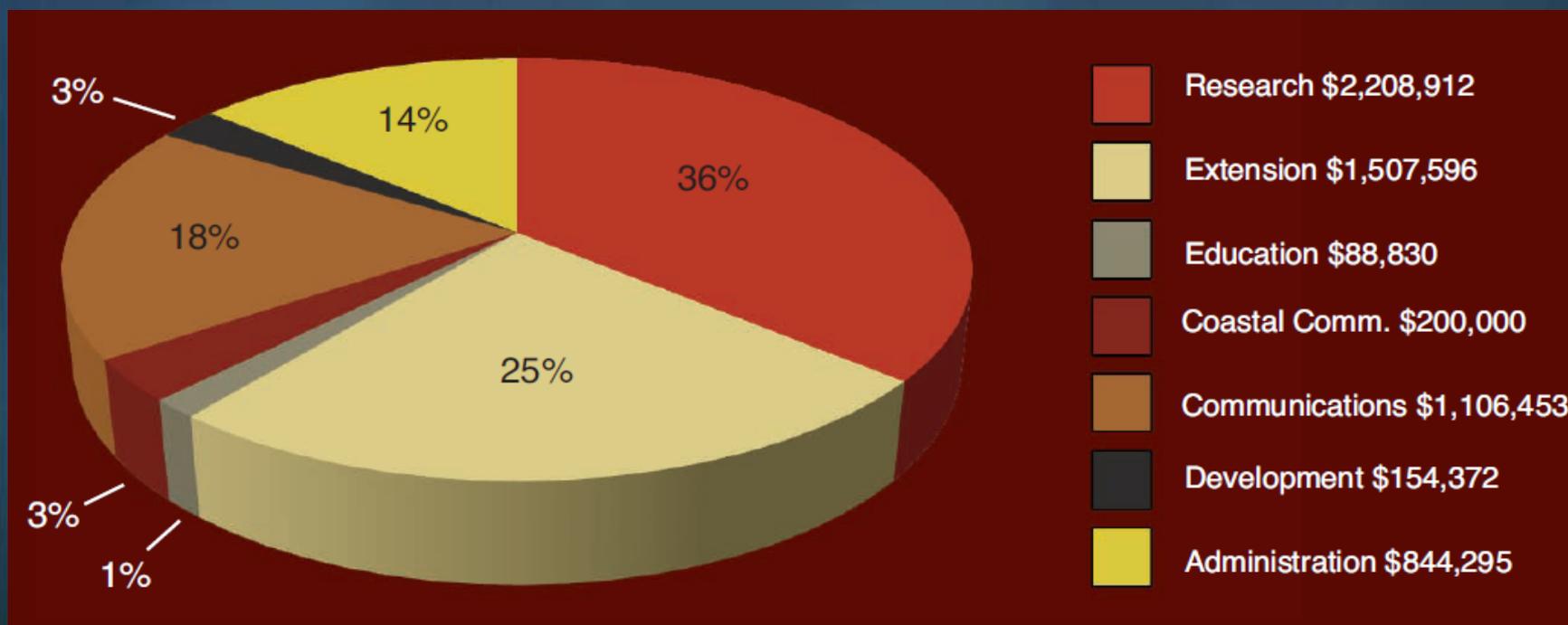
Program Management

- Management Team
 - Jeff Gunderson, Director
 - Valerie Brady, Research Coordinator
 - Jesse Schomberg, Program Leader
 - Sharon Moen, Interim Communications Coordinator
 - Connie Post, Fiscal Officer
- Total FTEs = 14.32

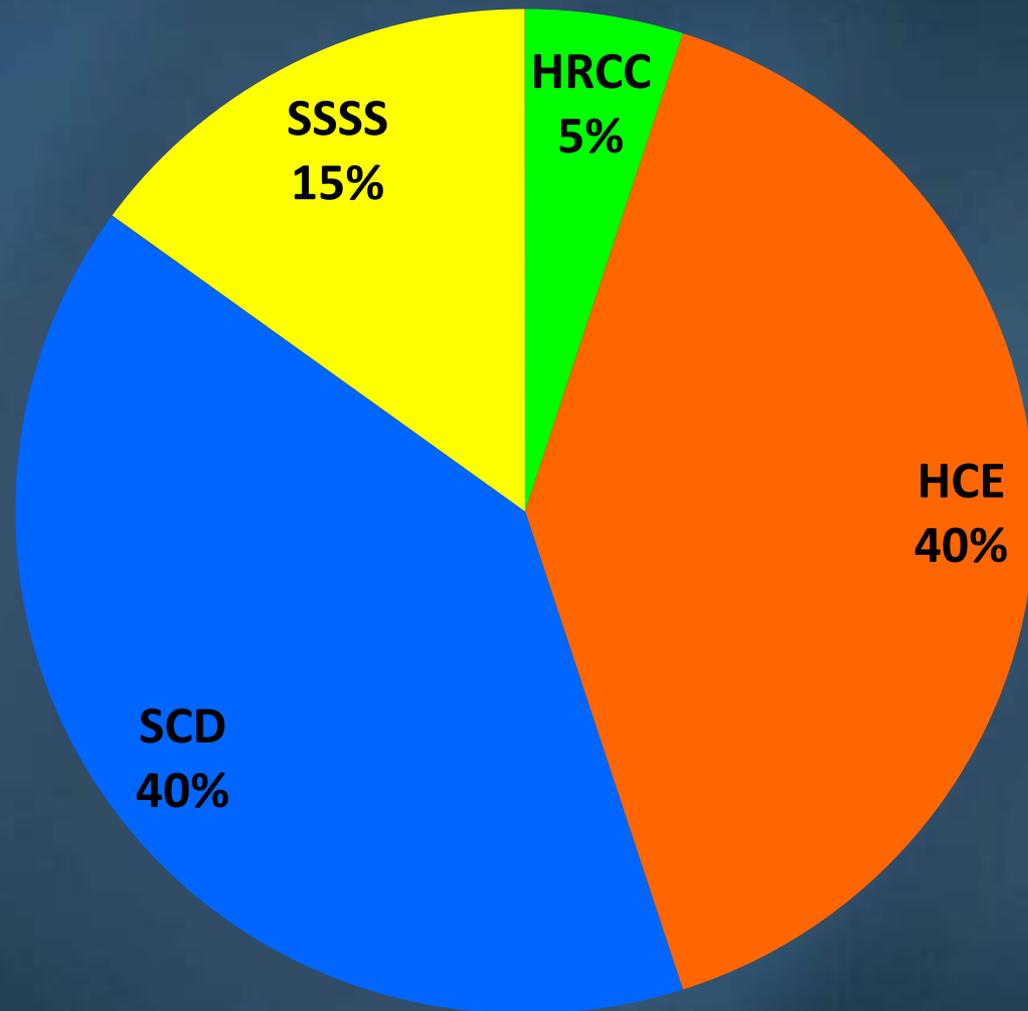
Functional Area	# of individuals	# of FTEs supported by SG	# of FTEs supported by match/leverage
Mgt/Admin	6	0.90	3.31
Comm.	8	3.99	0.42
Ext.	7	2.42	2.62
Education	1	0.12	
Research	11	0.54	

- Small Program

Program Budget - Functional Area



Program Budget - Focus Area



Significant Program Changes (since January 2010)

- Jeff Gunderson became director in December 2009.
- Marte Kitson was hired as an Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist on a grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative through the National Park Service.
- Communications Coordinator, Nancy Hoene, left the program. Sharon Moen, Science Writer, is serving as Interim Communications Coordinator.

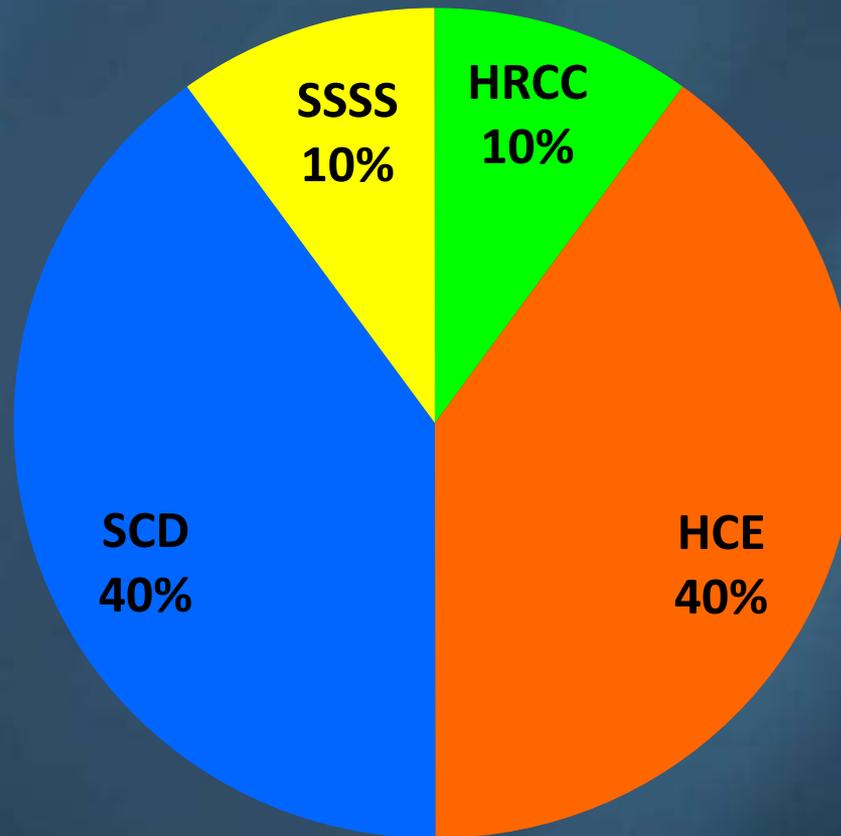


Program Requested Changes to 2010 – 2013 Program Plan

- Adjustment to fisheries activities - feeling the crunch of level funding.
- When Jeff Gunderson moved from an extension position to Director, the program reallocated fisheries extension money to support more research.
- Adjustment to aquaculture activities. Although UM Extension is considering MN Sea Grant's partnership request to continue supporting an aquaculture position that has been vacant, no commitments have yet been made. Therefore, the program does not have the extension capacity to complete all of their planned projects (fisheries and aquaculture).
- Significant Great Lake Restoration Initiative grants have subtly changed the focus of the program's AIS program. Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers will increase and Habitatittude efforts will decrease.
- MNSG received a GLRI grant to work on beach safety and information which will increase HRCC efforts.



Program Budget towards each Focus Area – proposed change



Contribution to National Performance Measures and Metrics

- Leveraged Funds managed by MNSG – \$215,522
- Leveraged Funds influenced by MNSG – \$611,089
- Volunteer hours – 384
- Total K-12 students reached – 12,509
- Attendees at MNSG meetings, workshops and conferences – 14,041
- Public or professional presentations – 90
- Attendees at public or professional presentations – 7,533
- Resource managers using ecosystem-based approaches – 65
- MN Sea Grant taught nearly 17,000 people how not to spread aquatic invasive species.

Program Impacts

Ballast Water Collaborative and Maritime Task Force

MNSG convened the Ballast Water Collaborative, bringing together industry, academia, and government to help the U.S. Coast Guard and private industry establish standards and adopt best practices. This effort changed how the Great Lakes stakeholders communicate and relate to each other in addressing international issues. MNSG also worked with the Great Lakes Maritime Task Force in an effort that changed how the U.S. Coast Guard reports outbreaks of VHSv (viral hemorrhagic septicemia). The impact is far-reaching in establishing ballast water best practices.

Program Impacts

AIS Outreach Effects Boater Behavior

MNSG assessed the effectiveness of aquatic invasive species (AIS) outreach influencing boater behavior in five states by conducting boater surveys. Results showed that recreational boaters took greater levels of action to prevent the spread of AIS in Minnesota (90%) and Vermont (82%), where AIS educational messages are widely distributed, than in Ohio (45%), California (40%), and Kansas (30%). This study supports the opinion that AIS outreach is effective in motivating boaters to act. Results of this study are being used to improve AIS outreach, management, and policy.

Program Impacts

A View from the Lake

The View From the Lake program took 13 science cruises (3 hrs each) on Lake Superior providing outreach to 210 participants. A maximum of 25 people boarded each cruise. Sustainability was this year's topic, engendering sustainability practices among participants, with 71% of participants planning to take actions at home; 56% planning to take action in their community; and ... of those who participated in previous years... 45% reporting that they actually took the actions and made changes.

2009 Research Accomplishments

Insight into Lake Superior's Pelagic Food Web

MNSG researchers published results that explain how predator-prey relationships influence the whereabouts of *Mysis*, ciscoes, and trout in the deep waters of Lake Superior. Their findings about the diel vertical migration of these species are informing further studies about how vertical movement facilitates nutrient transport in this ultra-oligotrophic lake.

2009 Research Accomplishments

Genetic Influence on Reintroduction Success

MNSG researchers used genetic testing to explore the survival and reproduction rates of slimy sculpin (*Cottus cognatus*) translocated into six southern Minnesota streams. The tests determine if sculpin survival reflects new habitat types. Researchers reintroduced sculpin at six stream sites in the fall and sampled surviving adults the following spring and their offspring the next fall. Initial analyses indicated that stocked fish had low survival (or recapture probability) and that relatively few individuals produced offspring in their initial spawning opportunity.

2009 Research Accomplishments

Forecasting Shifts in Water Quality

MNSG researchers created a model for forecasting water quality based on landscape variables, and identified which variables most influence the model using mapping information to accurately predict water quality conditions in 18 North Shore streams. Results are useful to city planners, county zoning committees, resource managers, and citizens in making good decisions about land use.