

# Louisiana Sea Grant Program 2012 NSGO Review

Gene W. Kim

# LASG Management

## Management staff (Name, position, FTE)

- Charles Wilson, Executive Director (1.0 FTE)
- David Nieland, Associate Executive Director (1.0 FTE)
- Kelly Robertson, Business Manager (1.0 FTE)
- Katie Lea, Assistant to the Executive Director (1.0 FTE)
- Rex Caffey, Director of Marine Extension (1.0 FTE)
- Roy Kron, Outreach/Communications Director (1.0 FTE)
- Dianne Lindstedt, Marine Education Coordinator (1.0 FTE)
- Jim Wilkins, Law and Policy Program Director (1.0 FTE)

Size of program – Medium

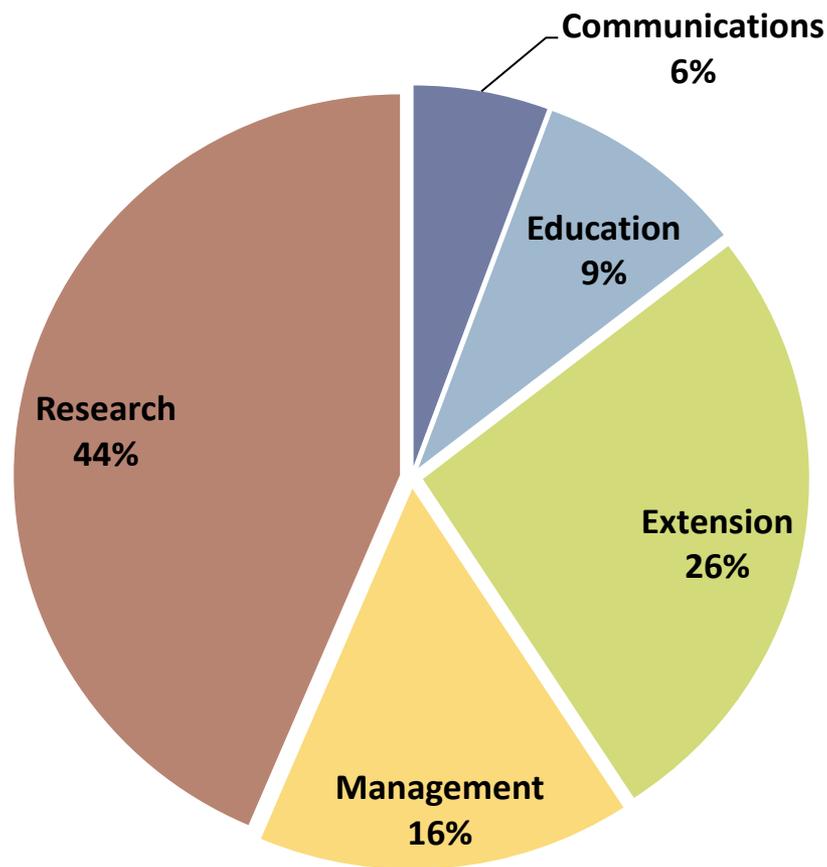
# LASG Management

- Total FTEs on staff (information in Annual report metrics)

Functional Area	# of individuals	# of FTEs supported by SG	# of FTEs supported by match/leverage
Mgt/Admin	11.00	1.17	9.83
Comm.	6.00	0.48	5.52
Ext.	14.00	2.17	11.83
Education	1.00	0.25	0.75
Research	59.00	14.32	2.76

# LASG 2010 Core Budget (Fed + Match) towards each Functional Area 2010

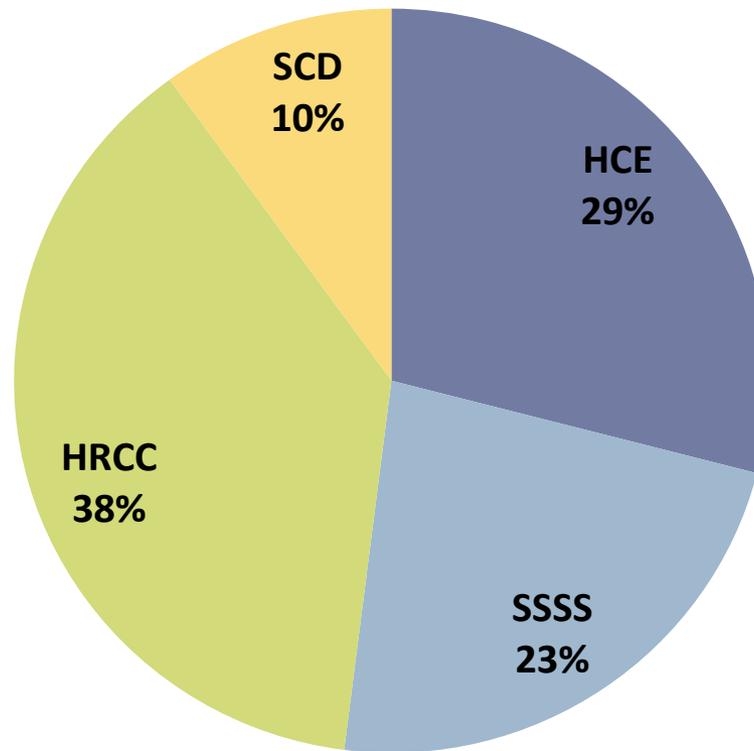
## Effort by Functional Area



# LASG 2010 Budget towards each Focus Area

(Fed + Match + Pass-Through + Managed Leveraged Funds)

**Effort by Focus Area**



# Significant LASG Changes (since Jan. 2011)

- New Director of marine Extension: Rex Caffey
- Area Agent for St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes: Twyla Herrington
- Algae Specialist at oyster hatchery: Lisa Bourassa
- CMSP Research Associate: Victoria Bell
- Sustainability Specialist: Lauren Land

# LASG Program RFP Process

- RFP priorities from the goals and objectives in the LASGP Strategic Plan 2009-2013
- Two-step competitive process for project selection:
- Request for Statements of Interest :
  - Widely circulated to known researchers and academic institutions in Louisiana
  - Lists the LASG priorities and administrative guidance
  - Screened by a panel of experts (including in-state users) on the basis of applicability and responsiveness to Strategic Plan
- Full Proposal:
  - Authors of the highest-ranked preliminary proposals are invited to submit expanded proposals, which are widely circulated for scientific peer review.
  - Strenuous efforts are made to secure at least three reviews for each proposal
  - Reviewed by a technical review panel of experts (including in-state users) .
  - Generally, nine to 11 projects are selected for funding

# LASG RFP Process for 2012-2013 Projects – Research Metrics

<b>Core Proposals</b>	<b># of Proposals</b>	<b># of institutions</b>	<b># of home institutions</b>
Pre-proposals submitted	45	7	18
Full proposals submitted	17	4	5
Proposals Funded	7	3	3

# LASG Contribution to National Performance Measures and Metrics

Focus Area	Metric/Performance Measure	Actual
HRCC	Number of Louisiana coastal communities provided with information/trained in local hazard resiliency, and hazard mitigation tools, techniques, and best practices	25 (target = 15)
SSSS	Number of fishermen, resource managers and seafood businesses (harvesters, aquaculturists, processors and recreational fishermen) who adopt and implement responsible harvesting and processing techniques and practices	892 (target = 200)
SCD	Economic benefits derived from sustainable coastal policies and practices in Louisiana as a result of Sea Grant activities	\$500,000 (target = \$8,000,000)
HCE	Number of acres of degraded wetlands restored in Louisiana as a result of Sea Grant activities.	525 (target 500)

# LASG Impacts

- Two TAA petitions for Gulf shrimp approved in 2010
- Shrimpers from five Gulf states eligible for up to \$12K each
- All four Gulf programs were tapped for delivery of the TAA program, yet LASG that received the largest work load.
  - Of the 3300 shrimp harvesters approved, 2300 resided in Louisiana.
  - From 10/10 to 4/11, LASG worked with LSU AgCenter to coordinate 55 day-long meetings at 17 locations throughout the LA coast.
- 2,300 LA shrimp harvesters improved business operations via 27.6K credit hours of technical assistance training and \$9.2 million in federal trade assistance.
  - LASG Focus Area: Coastal Communities and Economies



# LASG Impacts

- Marsh Maneuvers is a memorable educational experience for high school students and has influenced the educational and career decisions of alumni
- The goal of the camp is to raise student awareness and appreciation for Louisiana's coastal environment
- For the past 25 years, Marsh Maneuvers provides:
  - Opportunity to visit the coastal environment, learn about its natural resources, appreciate its cultural significance and realize how the coast affects their lives no matter where they live
  - Four-week camps for high school students selected from 4H programs
- Pre and post camp test results show that students do accomplish this goal
  - Last summer, post test scores improved by 17%, overall
  - Several alumni employed by state and federal agencies and private environmental companies
  - > five students currently pursuing marine degrees; two will continue into graduate school
  - One alumna with her MS in Marine Science recently hired as a LASG Marine Extension Agent
- LASG Focus Area: Marine and Aquatic Science Literacy



# LASG Impacts

## Louisiana Sea Grant assists Floating Islands Environmental Solutions, Inc. (FIES), Baton Rouge, LA

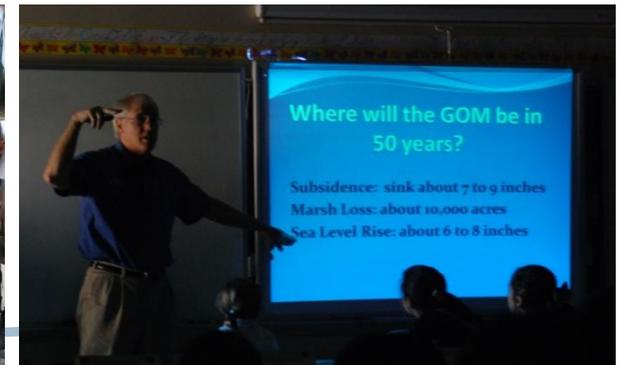
- Patent for a floating matrix composed of recycle plastic drinking bottles; hoped to help stabilize marsh and island areas
- LASG provided expertise on surface water treatments, regulatory issues, additional markets (e.g., hydroponic plant pollution mitigation)
  - Sea Grant and LSU AgCenter helped evaluate nutrient removal capacity of these floating islands containing wetlands plants and rhizomes.
- As a result, the company has grown and now employs 8 full-time employees, with plans to expand
- Has contracts in most of the southern states and has deployed product at Disney World and the Chicago Zoo



# LASG Impacts

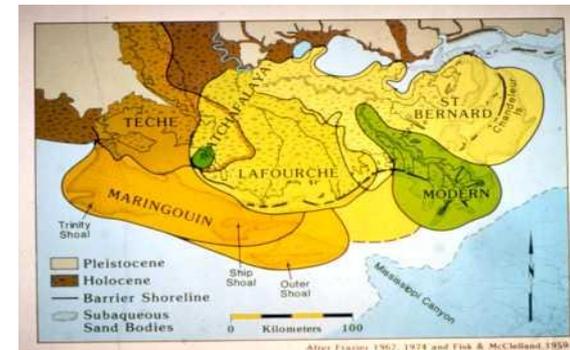
## Climate Change

- *“Climate Planning - Community of Practice”*
  - *Sea Grant legal has partnered with GoM Sea Grant Programs and NOAA to develop visualization tools, resiliency indices, proactive engagement and planning in 10 coastal communities*
- *“Coastal Benchmark Curricula”*
  - *Marine extension has partnered with coastal high schools to set elevation benchmarks. This activity provides the basis for a curricula that instills awareness of elevation, subsidence and sea-level rise.*
  - *More than 750 students at 26 schools were reached in 2011*
- LASG Focus Area: Hazard Resilient Coastal Communities



# LASG 2010 Research Accomplishments

- 14 • **Working with CWPPRA and OCPR, LASG marine extension economists developed applied economic assessments to improve ROI of > \$1 billion in coastal restoration program spending**
- Coastal erosion widely documented in Louisiana
  - 25-35<sup>2</sup> miles of marsh lost annually
  - Most coastal restoration predicated on economics, yet socioeconomic assessments are lacking
- Extension economists of LASG and the LSU AgCenter worked closely with state and federal restoration programs since the late 1990s.
- Initial assessments examined various factors that drive project selection under the CWPPRA program.
  - Previous criteria variable over time, including traditional economic metrics and political criteria.
  - More recently (2008-2011), LASG has been working with OCPR to develop an economic decision-support model to optimize the allocation of Louisiana's funding for coastal restoration.
- LASG Focus Area: Healthy Coastal Ecosystems



# LASG 2010 Research Accomplishments

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- **LASG developed a novel method for assessing damages in the wake of major hurricanes that provided the economic justification for > \$250 million in fisheries recovery programs benefiting more than 2,000 Louisiana fishing businesses**
- Louisiana's marine fishing sector relies on its proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, yet in the last five years, four major hurricanes have made landfall on the state's coastline.
- State and federal agencies have relied on Sea Grant extension economists for rapid, credible assessments of revenue losses and infrastructure damages after disasters
  - Objective, university-based assessment justifies fisheries recovery funds
- Resource economists with LASG and the LSU AgCenter developed a new, improved technique for estimating economic impacts of hurricanes to fisheries revenue and infrastructure
  - Since 2005, four applications of this method documented ~ \$1 billion in damages.
- LASG Focus Area: Coastal Communities and Economies



# Sources (unless otherwise noted)

- Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation Resources (PIER)  
<https://pier.seagrant.noaa.gov>
- Personal Communication with Program