Connecticut Sea Grant Program 2011 NSGO Review

Program Officer - Sami J. Grimes

Program Management

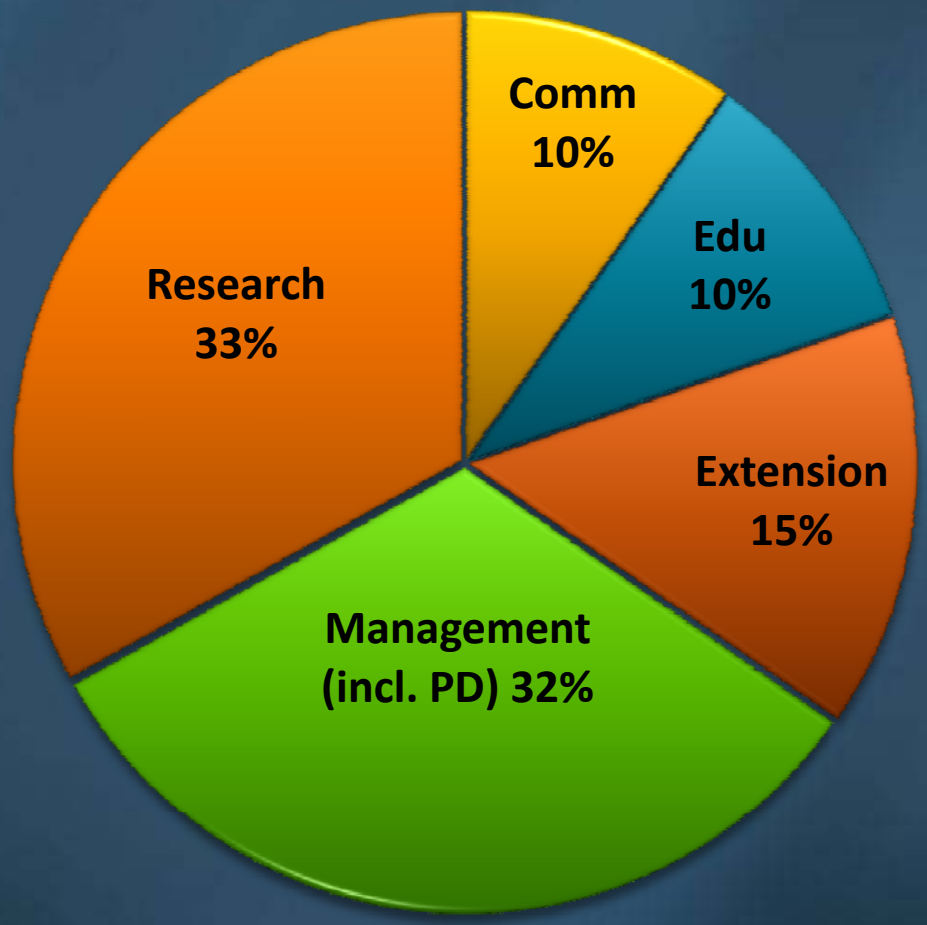
- Program Management Staff
  - Director, Sylvain De Guise (.85 FTE)
  - Associate Director & Extension Leader, Nancy Balcom (.5 FTE/.5FTE)
  - Communicator, Margaret Van Patten (1.0 FTE)
- Total FTEs on staff

Functional Area	# of individuals	# of FTEs supported by SG	# of FTEs supported by match/leverage
Mgt/Admin	5	1.56	1.94
Comm.	1	1	0
Ext.	11	1.03	2.92
Education	1	.56	.44
Research	44	4.2	5.88

- Small program

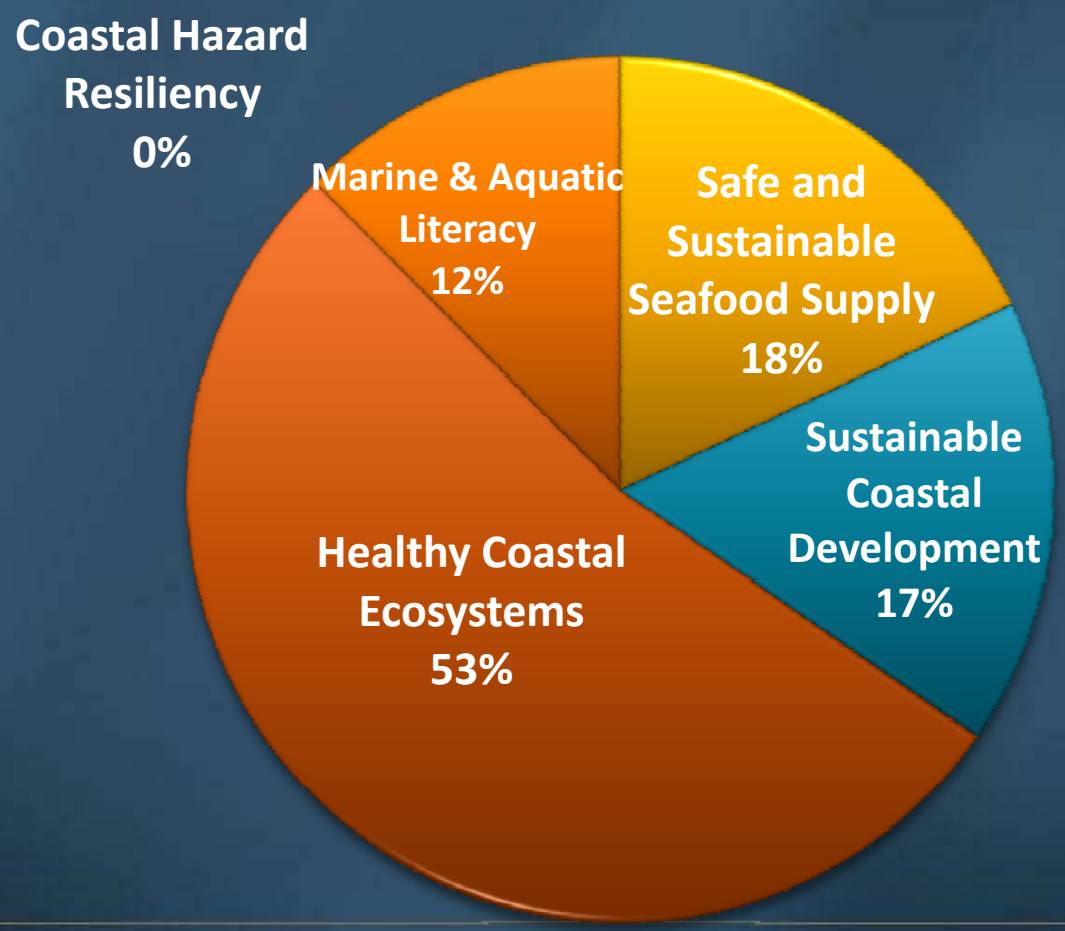
Program Budget towards each Functional Area

2010 & 11 Program Budget towards each Functional Area



Program Budget towards each Focus Area

2010-2013 Estimated Level of Effort by Focus Area



Significant Program Changes
(since Jan. 2010)

- CTSG received additional funding from UConn Vice-President of Research, based on performance among the centers reporting to him.
- The proportion of indirect costs returned to PIs and Departments (includes SG) doubled, giving the program more discretionary funds
- Funding will be used to cover the costs of tuition on grants as part of their research program

Program Requested Changes to 2010-2013 Program Plan

- None

State Program Performance Measures

State Program Plan Performance Measures		Targets
HCE	Number of Connecticut towns and land trusts using habitat based management plans to guide their restoration efforts by 2012.	4
SCD	Number of coastal communities who have adopted/implemented sustainable - economic and environmental - development practices and policies as a result of SG activities	6
SSSS	Number of prospective producers who successfully initiated an aquaculture business at least in part with technical assistance from CTSG	4
Lit.	Number of students reached through educators participating in professional development sessions.	12,000

Contribution to National Performance Measures and Metrics

- PM – Economic Benefit of nearly $60,000
- 67 jobs and 14 businesses were created or retained due to CT SG's efforts
- Total leveraged funds (influenced and managed by CT SG) = over $1.6M in 2009
- Last year, CTSG sponsored 49 workshops/ conferences with 1862 attendees and gave 64 presentations with 3082 attendees
- Developed 21 curricula

Program Impacts

- Two land trusts utilize a habitat-based management tool developed by CT Sea Grant to formulate long-term management plans for four coastal properties covering 119 acres
  - FOCUS AREA: HCE
    PERFORMANCE MEASURE/MEASURABLE OBJECTIVE: By 2012, with the help of CTSG tools and training, and in collaboration with partners, management plans will be developed for at least four high priority coastal sites in Connecticut.

Program Impacts

- Connecticut's largest city incorporates new stormwater management and low impact development techniques into its city plan
  - Bridgeport is first major Connecticut city to incorporate Low Impact Design practices into its standards
  - Training and assistance by CT NEMO / CT Sea Grant

- FOCUS AREA: SCD ; PERFORMANCE MEASURE/MEASURABLE OBJECTIVE: By 2013, decisions on stormwater management in 5 coastal communities will be informed by CTSG/NEMO resources and training; By 2011, decisions in adopting new plan, policies, and regulation that mandate the use of LID and other innovative stormwater practices in coastal communities will be informed by CTSG/NEMO resources and training.

Sea Grant

Program Impacts

- CT Sea Grant assistance, resources and training contribute to permitting of three new and two expanded shellfish aquaculture businesses
  - FOCUS AREA: SSSS
    PERFORMANCE MEASURE/MEASURABLE OBJECTIVE: By 2013, the annual value of aquaculture production in Connecticut will have increased by 25% compared to the 2007 level ($24.7M) with the help of CTSG programs and activities.

Program Impacts

- CT Sea Grant mentor teachers help 225 peers incorporate Long Island Sound content into existing curricula, to the benefit of at least 8,000 K-12 students
  - **FOCUS AREA/CROSS CUTTING THEME: Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Literacy**
    PERFORMANCE MEASURE/MEASURABLE OBJECTIVE: By 2013, CTSG-supported professional development opportunities for educators will have reached at least 500 educators, and through them at least 12,000 students, and 30% of school districts in Connecticut.

Program Impacts

- Sudden Vegetation Dieback

  - Sea Grant researchers detected two distinct morphospecies of the epiphytic fungus Fusarium.
    - The newly-discovered F. aesturinum may have an epiphytic/pathogenic relationship with smooth cordgrass while F. cf incarnatum is significantly less virulent.
    - These plant pathogens may interact and contribute to SVD, but do not appear to be the primary cause.

  - Sea Grant researchers investigating SVD are among the first to show an association between two morphospecies of the epiphytic fungus Fusarium (F. aesturinum, F. cf incarnatum) and the root-knot nematode (Meloidogyne spartinae) in a natural ecosystem.
    - more disease in the plants than either pathogen alone
    - Further, stress studies subjecting inoculated plants to drought showed that they were more susceptible to infection by Fusarium and that the combination could result in plant death

2009 Research Accomplishments

- Invasive red algal species: Grateloupia turuturu

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Warmer temperatures appear to favor G. turuturu, therefore if Long Island Sound continues its warming trend, G. turuturu could become more dominant, creating community-wide impacts.

- Horseshoe crab management
  - Develop standardized method for the collection of horseshoe crab spawning census data from New York to New Hampshire
  - CT Sea Grant-supported spawning surveys and genetic analyses provide information that is key to the successful management of horseshoe crabs in Long Island Sound.