

Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium 2011 NSGO Review

Gene W. Kim, Federal Program Officer



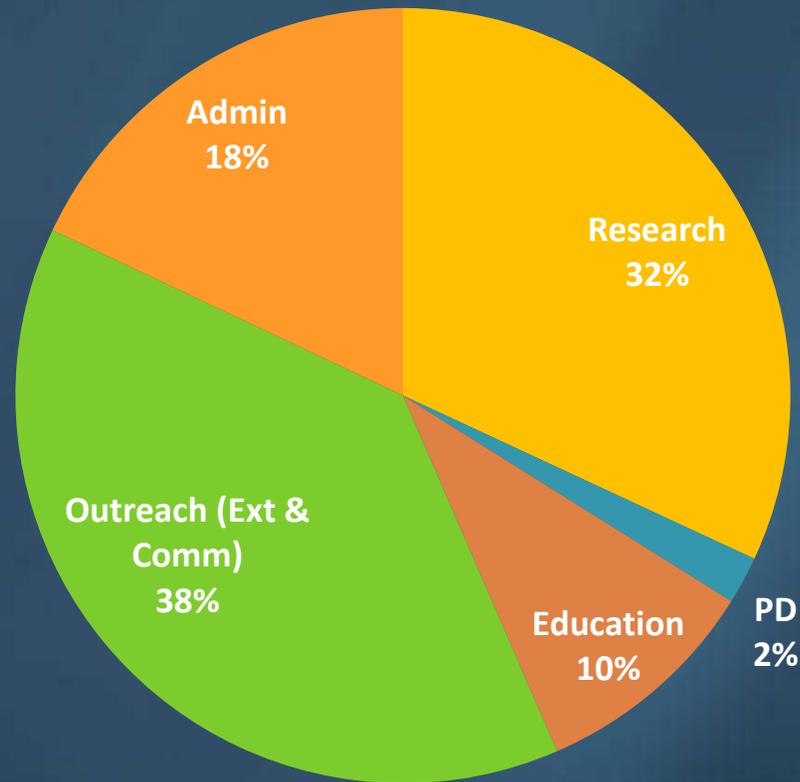
Program Management

- Director, LaDon Swann - 0.6 FTE
- Deputy Director, Steve Sempier - 0.5 FTE Deputy; 0.5 FTE GMRP
- Executive Support Associate, Kay Bruening - 1.0 FTE
- Research Coordinator, Loretta Leist - 1.0 FTE
- Fiscal Officer, Devaney Cheramie - 0.75 FTE
- Medium-sized Program

Functional Area	# of individuals	# of FTEs supported by SG	# of FTEs supported by match/leverage
Mgt/Admin	5	2.99	0.48
Comm.	2	2.00	0.00
Ext.	20	3.21	5.77
Education	12	1.66	1.73
Research	110	17.32	9.03

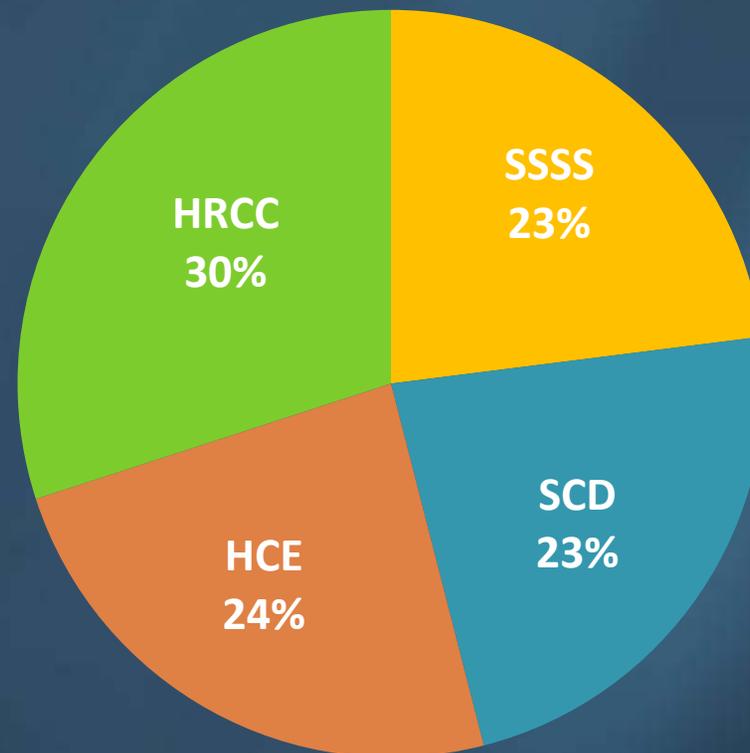
Program Budget towards each Functional Area

MASGC Core Omibus Federal and Match (FY 10-11)



Program Budget towards each Focus Area

Program Budget by Focus Area (2010-13)



Significant Program Changes (since Jan. 2010)

- Continued expansion of regional efforts
 - Staffing
 - Regional Research RFPs
 - Climate Community of Practice

Program Requested Changes to 2010-2013 Program Plan

- DWH – In current plan (HRCC)
- Aquaculture NSI



State Program Performance Measures

- **HCE:** No. of acres of degraded ecosystems restored as a result of SG activities. (Target 57 acres plus 30,000 linear ft of shoreline or stream bank)
- **SCD:** No. of coastal communities and businesses who have adopted/implemented sustainable - economic and environmental - development practices and policies (e.g., land-use planning, working waterfronts, energy efficiency, climate change planning, smart growth measures, green infrastructure) as a result of SG activities. (Target 7 communities and 11 businesses)
- **SSSS:** No. of fishermen, resource managers and seafood businesses (harvesters, aquaculturists, processors and recreational fishermen) who adopt and implement responsible harvesting and processing techniques and practices. (Target 4,008)
- **HRCC:** No. of coastal communities and citizens who adopt/implement hazard resiliency practices to prepare for and respond to/minimize coastal hazardous events. (15 communities and 55,145 citizens)



Contribution to National Performance Measures and Metrics

- Leveraged \$ (\$ influenced by SG) = \$1,777,579
- Volunteer Hours = 5849
- Sea Grant Supported MS/MA Students = 8
- Total Number of Curricula Developed = 43
- Public or Professional Presentations = 100

- **HCE:** Number of tools, technologies, and information services that are used by NOAA partners/ customers to improve EBM
 - National target = 150; MASGC 2010 = 4, 2011= 13

- **HRCC:** Number of coastal communities that have adopted or implemented hazard resiliency practices to prepare for and respond to/minimize coastal hazardous events
 - National target = 505; MASGC 2010 = 4, 2011= 23

- **HCE:** Number of coastal communities that have restored degraded ecosystems as a result of Sea Grant activities
 - National target = 165; MASGC 2010 = 3, 2011= 7



Program Impacts

- **Gulf of Mexico Research Plan guides regional research initiative and referenced as key document for regional research.**
 - Led by MASGC and intensively surveyed research needs in the GoMex, resulting in a joint RFP for \$1.4M and used by > 14 different groups for planning and RFPs.
 - **Objective:** By 2013, MASGC will partner with 20 federal, state and local programs to fund \$4M in extramural regional research priorities identified in the GoMex Research Plan to address hazard and climate resilience and water-quality issues.
- **HCE: Water quality improved in Mobile Bay due to volunteer Oyster Gardening Program**
 - Coastal citizens given training and information via workshops resulted in 51 oyster garden sites, involving 62 gardeners and 510 volunteer hours, producing 45,000 oysters, and totaling 2.2 acres of habitat per yr. for restoration and enhancement of degraded sites in Mobile Bay.
 - **Objective:** By 2012, the number of oyster gardeners in Alabama will increase from 30 to 45 and annual production will be 10,000 oysters.



Program Impacts

- **HRCC: Sea Grant helps coastal communities assess their resilience to future storm events.**
 - To assess risk and resilience to flooding, hurricanes, and other storm events, SG assisted 16 communities across the GoMex complete the Resiliency Index, which allowed two communities ID vulnerabilities to address in grant applications.
 - Strategy: Conduct research and communicate info on the use of natural features and new tech. can help prepare for and mitigate the impacts of hazardous events.
- **SSSS: Electronic Logbook Program provides fishery managers with effort data**
 - A vessel tracking system using dedicated GPS transponders developed and deployed on 74 selected vessels in the GoMex, allowing integration with observer data to monitor bycatch in the shrimping industry.
 - Objective: MS and AL Shrimpers save \$100,000 in costs during 2010-2013 via 1) use of fuel-saving gear, 2) better use of BRDs/TEDs, 3) efficient use of catch preservatives, and 4) increased knowledge / compliance with fishery regulations.



Program Impacts

- **SCD: Nature-tourism workshops result in implementation of sustainable practices.**
 - To address the increased interest of tourists in nature-based tourism, three “Business of Nature” workshops were held, with 21 nature-tour operators being trained about dolphin behavior and sustainable viewing practices. The operators who participated taught at least 16,000 tourists about these sustainable wildlife viewing practices and promoted stewardship of healthy ecosystems.
 - **Objective:** By 2013, at least 10 nature tour operators adopt sustainable viewing practices and promote stewardship of healthy ecosystems on the AL and MS Coast. Annually, in 2010-2013, >10,000 tourists to AL’s coast are educated by operators who participated in nature tourism workshops about the species and habitats of the northern GoMex and their role in providing clean air and water, safe food and storm resilience.

2009 Research Accomplishments

- **HCE: Hurricane and fire interactions inform management plans for prescribed burning**
 - Since 2008 Sea Grant researchers have worked with Grand Bay NERR partners to assess the interactive effect of fire and hurricane on marsh areas. These areas provide ecosystem services, and are more vulnerable to fire and hurricanes than previously thought. In particular, high marsh areas were most vulnerable and recovered slowly, due to hurricane wrack buildup. These findings will change prescribed burns on state lands to minimize these vulnerable habitats.
- **SSSS: SG research helps shrimp farmers improve survival following acclimation of post-larvae to low salinity ponds.**
 - When post-larval shrimp are moved from nursery to growout ponds, survival is highly variable. As a result of poor survival, feed can be wasted (along with profits), and water quality can be negatively impacted. Acclimation research has been transferred to shrimp growers to improve their production, resulting in a 10-20% increase in production (~\$84,000 savings in a growing season)

