

# **Commitment to our Oceans and Coasts**

Sea Grant Addresses Key Issues in Ocean Commission Report





### **Ocean Commission Report Released**

On April 20, 2004 the President's U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy released its extensive report with recommendations for coordinated and comprehensive ocean policies. The report represents the first full review of national ocean policy in over 30 years. It found that the world's oceans are in trouble and our ability to manage our coasts is inadequate even though the lives of all Americans are linked to and affect the ocean. It is time for a new approach to ocean management—an approach in which all organizations work together to manage coastal and ocean resources more effectively.



#### Sea Grant Serves the Nation

NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program has provided the nation with sound, university-based research, education, and outreach in coastal and Great Lakes states for over 30 years. These activities support the findings of the Ocean Commission.

As coastal areas become increasingly populated, coastal resources and environments are increasingly stressed. Sea Grant has a long-established commitment to conducting sound science for sound policy and to conveying this science to all users, from local fishermen on the docks to decision makers at the local, state and federal levels.



Dr. Jerry Schubel, chair of the National Sea Grant Review Panel and President and CEO of the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, CA states, "Of all the mechanisms available to the nation to engage scientists and advance scientific understanding on a regional basis, none can match Sea Grant. The network of 30 Sea Grant Programs engages more than 300 of the nation's leading universities and thousands of its leading researchers in addressing important coastal and living resources issues, both current and prospective. No program maintains a better match between the nation's coastal problems and opportunities, and the nation's best problem solvers."

#### **Ocean Commission Recommendations**



The Ocean Commission makes many recommendations, including:

- Increased capability in coastal and ecosystem-based management
- Increased funding for ocean and coastal research
- Enhanced capability in marine science literacy and education

The report also recognizes Sea Grant's strong role in serving both urgent and long-term national needs in ocean and coastal science research, education, and outreach.

Through NOAA's National Sea Grant Office and a network of 30 university-based Sea Grant Colleges, Sea Grant is there to meet the challenge with a stable national infrastructure, a strong link to the academic community for applied research, and \$107M in federal and leveraged funding.



"The relevance for a program such as California Sea Grant continues to grow. In a fastpaced world filled with surprising events each day there is, more than ever, a need for credible information. This is a central tenet of the California Sea Grant mission—to support research and education about our marine environment."

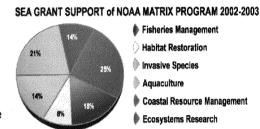
> Russell A. Moll, Director

## Sea Grant National Budget Background

Sea Grant conducts research, outreach and education to achieve a sustainable economy and environment and to encourage the responsible use of America's coastal, ocean and Great Lakes resources.

Total FY 04 federal budget \$61.968M
Total FY 03 federal budget \$60.018M
Total FY 03 budget (federal, match, pass-through) \$107M

Research in Sea Grant supports over 500 projects per year in the marine sciences—from aquaculture, biotechnology, coastal processes, and estuarine studies to fisheries, habitat restoration, ocean engineering, seafood technology and water quality. Total expenditures (federal, match, and pass-through funding) for research and graduate research assistants in FY03 were \$60.75M.



**Education** in Sea Grant includes efforts such as development of pre-college curricula, training of K-12 teachers in the marine sciences, fellowship opportunities for policy study in Washington, D.C. and for work with industry, and support for graduate research assistants (in addition to those mentioned above). Total Sea Grant expenditures (federal, match, and pass-through funding) for education in FY03 were \$5.95M.

**Outreach** in Sea Grant includes both the extension service and the communications activities of the individual Sea Grant programs. These activities facilitate the rapid transfer of scientific information in forms that can be readily understood by coastal clients and other users. Total Sea Grant expenditures (federal, match, and pass-through funding) for outreach in FY03 were \$31.28M.

## California Sea Grant Budget Background

The state of California has two Sea Grant programs: one at the private University of Southern California, and the other at the University of California (the smallest and the largest, respectively, of the 30 Sea Grant programs).

The following information pertains to California Sea Grant, based at the University of California. The average annual combined (federal and match) expenditures over the last eight years were:

Research \$3,888,000/year
 Education \$625,000/year
 Extension \$1,000,000/year
 Communications \$500,000/year

These funds support an average of 65 concurrent projects dedicated to solving coastal resource problems and enhancing marine science education and literacy in California.

For additional information, visit the program website at <a href="www.csgc.ucsd.edu">www.csgc.ucsd.edu</a>, or call California Sea Grant at 858-534-4440.