USC Sea Grant // New RFP Coming Soon, Summer Marine Lab!

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January 2017



# **2017 Request for Proposals**

Our 2017 Request for Proposals will be released in **early February**. We encourage projects from researchers in the natural sciences, social sciences, and engineering that align with our "Urban Ocean" research program.

Learn more...



# **Drone Video: King & Low Tides**

Check out new drone footage showing a dramatic comparison of low and king tides in Dana Point this month.

See video...

### **High School Summer Marine Lab**

#### **Past Issues**



Catalina Island. The weeklong program is free for high school students!
Students conduct their own research, build ROVs, kayak, snorkel, explore MPAs, and more. Learn more...



# **Blog: Fish ^ Food for Thought**

Classroom aquaculture and aquaponics programs provide valuable experience for students in nine Los Angeles area schools. With wet, scaly fingers from tagging fish and dirty palms from planting seedlings, students are out of their seats and learning new skills. Read more...



# **Blog: Urban Tides Beach Walk**

Capturing king tides after a storm offers a unique view of the beach and how sand and water shift. See this sights at Torrance Beach from our January Urban Tides beach walk. Read more...



# Blog: Connecting Communities to Science

2016 Knauss Fellow Yareli Sanchez shares her experiences and lessons learned during her year in D.C. Read more...

# 2018 Knauss Fellowship

**Past Issues** 

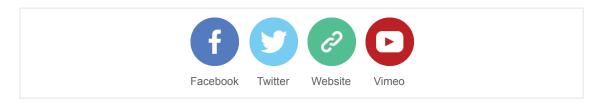


the Knauss Marine Policy
Fellowship. This is a one year paid
fellowship in a legislative or executive
host office in Washington D.C.
Applications must be submitted through
the sponsoring state Sea Grant office.
Contact Phyllis Grifman
(grifman@usc.edu) with questions and
applications. Learn more...

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USC Sea Grant // Funding Opportunities, Final SLR Modeling Results

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February 2017



# **2017 Request for Proposals**

Our 2017 Request for Proposals is available! We encourage projects from researchers in the natural sciences, social sciences, and engineering that align with our "Urban Ocean" research program. **Deadline to submit pre-proposals is March 23.** Learn more...



### AdaptLA: Modeling Meets Planning

We hosted a recent workshop to release the final modeling results from the Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS) for Los Angeles County. Results show potential hazards from coastal storm flooding, shoreline change, and cliff retreat.

Learn more / access results...

**Past Issues** 



# AdaptLA: Coastal Impacts Planning Final Report

An Executive Summary and technical report is now available for our multi-year AdaptLA program sharing results from coastal impacts planning for the Los Angeles region. Learn more...



# **High School Summer Marine Lab**

Applications are **due March 10** for our Summer Marine Lab Experience on Catalina Island. The weeklong program is free for high school students! Students conduct their own research, build ROVs, kayak, snorkel, explore MPAs, and more. Learn more...



# **Aquaculture Funding Opportunity**

Sea Grant welcomes proposals for two competitive opportunities to advance aquaculture research, address barriers to aquaculture, and expand aquaculture production. Up to \$15 million is available! Read more...

# Research to Application: Purple Kelp Eaters

Research results from a recent urchin barren and kelp forest project in Santa Monica Bay have been applied to benefit habitat restoration and coastal commerce. Read more...

### **Past Issues**





# In the Media: Scientists Using Virtual Reality

The technology is helping to make the effects of climate change more personal, explains Nick Sadrpour, USC Sea Grant's Science, Research & Policy Specialist. Read more...



# Citizen Science Symposium March 4

Join us this Saturday at the Aquarium of the Pacific! We will be leading a bioblitz and sharing communication tips that help to raise visibility and sustain positive engagement for citizen science projects. Learn more/register...

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USC Sea Grant // At Risk: The Future of Sea Grant

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March 2017

# **Sea Grant Faces Program Elimination**

The President has proposed a **\$30 million cut to Sea Grant's funding** for the remainder of fiscal year 2017, and that could lead to **immediate elimination** of the Sea Grant Program.

Additionally, the proposed fiscal year 2018 federal budget cuts all funding for Sea Grant, terminating the program.

Congress must negotiate and approve a continuing resolution for 2017 funding by the <u>end of April</u>, and a final 2018 budget by September.

Please email your Senators and Representatives in Congress and express support for continued funding for Sea Grant for:

- 1. Fiscal Year 2017 Continuing Resolution
- 2. Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Appropriations

Email templates may be found here. THANK YOU!

Our program reached more than 59,000 urban residents

### **Past Issues**



### **VIEW FLYER**

At USC Sea Grant we have made huge strides in protecting public health through water quality research that insures safe beach recreation for millions of residents and tourists, and sustainable planning in coastal communities. Our urban ocean focus serves millions of residents in California and provides a model for other urban coastal environments.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has expressed support for the Sea Grant Program, and see value in the work we do!

### A letter from Linda Duguay, Director of USC Sea Grant:

There is a potentially dire situation for the USC Sea Grant program unfolding in Washington, D.C. On Tuesday, March 28, the President sent Congress a request for drastic cuts to many government programs related to everything from the environment to health and human services and education – in order to immediately free-up funds to increase defense spending.

One of the programs that is slated to be cut, by \$30 million this year, is Sea Grant. That wipes out the remaining budget of the program and it would terminate the program the day such a budget cut became effective. If Congress approved of the cuts we could be gone in a matter of months.

This would immediately stop us from providing assistance for coastal hazard planning and from reaching tens of thousands of urban students with STEM education initiatives. It would immediately stop funding for numerous research projects addressing critical issues affecting California's economy and environment, and immediately stop our ability to have huge benefits for the state of California as summarized in this <u>one-pager</u>. Many people would likely lose their jobs. The same would happen in the other 32 Sea Grant programs around the nation.

**Past Issues** 

millions of residents and tourists, and sustainable planning in coastal communities. Our urban ocean focus serves millions of residents in California and provides a model for other urban coastal environments.

Sea Grant has a greater <u>return on investment</u> of federal funds than any other government program we are aware of, and we are unique in using federal dollars, leveraged with private, local and state dollars, to <u>address</u> <u>the issues</u> identified as most important by our coastal constituents.

I want you to know that there is strong bipartisan support for Sea Grant in Congress, and there has been for 50 years. And I continue to be optimistic that this immediate budget cut cannot happen to Sea Grant because of our strong bipartisan Congressional support.

If you value the program, you can help. The President only makes requests – it is Congress that takes actions when it comes to the budget. The strong bipartisan support of Sea Grant by members of Congress has not changed. Yet there are many programs now on the chopping block or facing draconian cuts in this fiscal year. If members of Congress receive a huge number of supportive emails from people who deeply value a particular program, it will make a large difference in regard to the outcome.

If you decide to reach out to members of Congress about Sea Grant, we suggest some sample language to be used in your email, <u>here</u>. It contains specific language that members and staff will recognize, pertaining to this proposed cut or elimination of the program.

Note that hard copy letters take months to arrive in Congressional offices, but emails are taken immediately. Some offices have online forms to provide comments.

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**Past Issues** 

USC Sea Grant // Funding Update, New Aquaponics Curricula

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April 2017

### **Federal Funding Update**

Thank you for contacting your Senators and Members of Congress, writing editorials and blogs, and posting on social media in support of Sea Grant!

The positive outreach to maintain funding has been heard and has resulted in many Members of Congress and Senators stating their support for Sea Grant. Senator Feinstein cosponsored a bipartisan Senate resolution supporting funding for the Sea Grant Program and 95 Members of Congress (19 from California) have signed onto letters supporting funding for NOAA and Sea Grant.

We will find out in the next week or so if Sea Grant will receive funding for the rest of this fiscal year. Then, there are key budget negotiations and votes in the fall to determine our fate for fiscal year 2018. We will likely need to ask for public support again, stay tuned! We deeply appreciate the outpouring of support and look forward to continuing our work on behalf of California residents.

### **New Aquaponics Lesson Plans**

We have developed two new lesson plans as part of the Food for Thought

### **Past Issues**



<u>Siphon</u>, are geared for middle and high school students. Learn more about the program and view additional resources here...



### **Student Coastal Science Awards**

We were honored to award two students with the Outstanding Coastal Science Award at this years California State Science Fair. Read the blog...



Our program reached more than 59,000 urban residents in 2014 - 2015

### **VIEW FLYER**

We have made huge strides in protecting public health through water quality research that insures safe beach recreation for millions of residents and tourists, and sustainable planning in coastal communities. Our urban ocean focus serves millions of residents in California, reaches tens of thousands of urban students with STEM education initiatives, and provides a model for other urban coastal environments

USC Sea Grant // Funding Update, New research

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May 2017

### Sea Grant At Risk - Urgent Support is Needed

A Letter from Linda Duguay, Director of USC Sea Grant:

On May 23, 2017, the final version of the President's budget was released, and as expected, the funding for Sea Grant is eliminated, along with funding for the National Estuarine Research Reserves, the Coastal Zone Management Program and many other programs that provide critical services to the US coastal economy and environment.

We appreciate that many of you have helped before and ask that where possible, you again contact your local member of Congress with a call or email voicing support for full funding of the National Sea Grant College program in FY 2018. We have provided a template letter that can be sent to representatives on our <u>website</u>.

Sea Grant has very strong bipartisan support in Congress; however with so many programs having a zero budget, we cannot take anything for granted and need to continue to talk to the decision-makers about the critical nature of this program to students, universities, communities, coastal businesses and our environment.

We deeply appreciate your support, Thank You!

Read the full letter from Dr. Duguay and download a letter template to send to Congress, here.

### **Past Issues**



### **New Research on Toxic Algae**

Previously undocumented in estuaries and lagoons, a large number of potentially toxic species of cyanobacteria and algae have been found at more than 50 locations along the coast of Southern California.

Learn more...



# Capture the Future of our Urban Ocean

Tune in June 1 at 11:30 AM PST for a webinar on our <u>Urban Tides</u>

<u>Community Science Initiative</u>. This webinar is hosted by the CA

Waterboards' Water Quality Monitoring

Collaboration Network. Join us here...



# Our program reached more than 59,000 urban residents in 2014 - 2015

### **VIEW FLYER**

We have made huge strides in protecting public health through water quality research that insures safe beach recreation for millions of residents and tourists, and sustainable planning in coastal communities. Our urban ocean focus serves millions of residents in California, reaches tens of thousands of urban students with STEM education initiatives, and

**Past Issues** 

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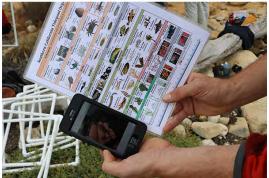
USC Sea Grant // Bioblitz, MPA Fishing Guides

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June 2017





### Join us June 30 for a Bioblitz!

Join us for our 2nd annual tidepool bioblitz Friday, June 30 at Pelican Cove MPA in Palos Verdes! This is part of a statewide effort to get as many sightings of plants and animals living along the California Coast as possible over a 2 week period (June 23-July 2). Sharing your observations will help researchers to better understand and protect marine life in California.

Get details for June 30 <u>HERE</u>, and see photos from last year <u>here</u>.

# **New! MPA Fishing Guides**

Recreational fishermen have a new tool to help navigate and enjoy fishing in Los Angeles. The "Guide to Fishing in

#### **Past Issues**



These small guides include maps, boundaries, and regulations for the MPAs in Los Angeles County and were produced by the Los Angeles MPA Collaborative, co-chaired by USC Sea Grant. Learn more...



# Research to Application: Self-cleaning Aquaculture Tanks

USC Sea Grant funded research shows improved survival for marine finfish raised in aquaculture tanks using new self-cleaning technology. Based on this study successfully adapting and testing the self-cleaning tanks against traditional tanks, this new technology is now being used by the aquaculture industry. Learn more...



### **Urban Tides Webinar**

Capture the Future of our Urban Ocean! Watch this new webinar about Urban Tides and learn how you can take photos and contribute to this citizen science effort documenting the impact of rising seas. View webinar...

### **High School Summer Marine Lab**

Our Summer Marine Lab Experience on Catalina Island starts July 6!

**Past Issues** 



MPAs, and more during the weeklong program. Stay tuned! We will be posting daily updates, photos and videos here. See photos from last year and learn more here...

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USC Sea Grant // Summer Marine Science Lab, Lagoon Restoration

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July 2017



# Joy of Discovery: Marine Science Lab Inspires Students

The Summer Marine Science Lab has a lasting impact on high school students, enabling them to learn about science and themselves. Read blog & see photos...



# Summer Marine Science Lab on Catalina Island

In their own words, students and counselors share their experiences over the course of the weeklong lab: working with local researchers, conducting their own research projects, building their own ROVs, snorkeling, kayaking, and exploring the island. Read blog & see photos...

#### **Past Issues**



What did we find during the 2nd annual bioblitz at Pelican Cove MPA? 500+ photo observations and 63 species! This was part of a statewide effort to get as many sightings of plants and animals living along the California Coast as possible within a two week period. Read the blog & see photos...



# Research to Application: Urban Lagoon Restoration

USC Sea Grant funded research determined factors influencing fish movement through a large culvert; results are informing restoration plans for the 18-acre Colorado Lagoon.

Learn more...



# **Coastal Resilience Workshop**

We hosted a recent workshop to release the final modeling results from the Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS) for Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. Results show potential hazards from coastal storm flooding, shoreline change, and cliff retreat. Learn more / view results...

# In the Media: Flooding the Wetlands

USC Sea Grant's Science, Research & Policy Specialist, Nick Sadrpour, comments on the complex ramifications

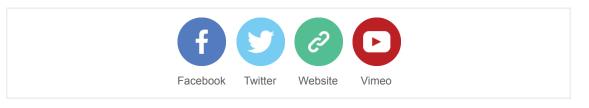
**Past Issues** 



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USC Sea Grant // Amazing Photos from Hawaii to Alaska Research Cruise

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August 2017

# From Hawaii to Alaska: Scientists and Educators Team up for Cruise

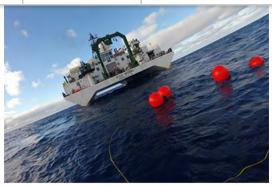
Through tropical waters, gale-force winds, and a unique view of the solar eclipse, an international team led by Dr. Will Berelson from USC and Dr. Jess Adkins from CalTech, is studying how ocean acidification impacts the ocean carbon cycle.

USC Sea Grant and the USC Wrigley Institute are teaming up with the cruise to develop educational toolkits. The ship left Honolulu a month ago and arrives in Seward, Alaska today!

The team is sampling sites from subtropical gyres to sub-polar waters, conducting experiments on sediment and water from different ocean depths.

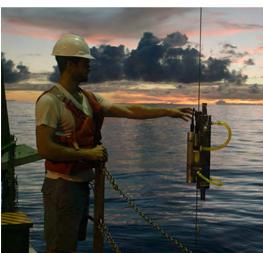
Two cinematographers are also on the cruise, helping to bring this science and

**Past Issues** 





Photos by: Jacki Moonves @jackimoo.dp







#### **Past Issues**



Linda Chilton led activities during USC's Careers in STEM Summer Series for local students. The series included presentations from USC and industry experts across 15 STEM fields. Learn more...



# USC Sea Grant is a Resource for Classrooms!

As students head back to school this week, don't forget to check out our educational resources for classroom and informal learning. We have guides on seafood, toolkits for invasive species, lesson plans on sea level rise, lesson plans on microbes, and ocean science curricula for an array of marine science topics. Learn more...



# Summer Marine Science Lab on Catalina Island

In case you missed it, or are already missing summer, take another look at the wonderful photos and stories from students during the marine science lab: conducting their own research projects, building their own ROVs, snorkeling, kayaking, and exploring the island.

Read blog 1 & blog 2

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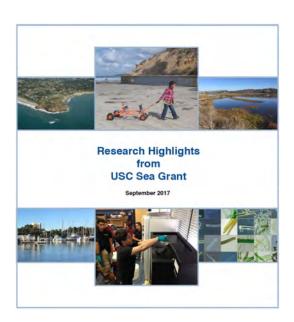
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USC Sea Grant // Research Highlights

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September 2017



### 2017 Research Updates

We are pleased to share highlights from our research projects! This new PDF details key outcomes and results from 11 projects funded by USC Sea Grant. Results from these projects are immediately applicable to key management and policy discussions on water quality, wetland restoration, sand berm design, beach nourishment, sustainable aquaculture, and more. A few projects are detailed below. Read more...

# Research: Sediment Flow around Headlands

This project modeled waves, currents, and sediment patterns around Point Dume in Malibu, California to better understand the movement of sand and

#### **Past Issues**





# Research: First Database of Los Angeles Biofilters

This study compiled a database of the locations of existing biofilters in Los Angeles, their linkage to the ocean, their effects on surrounding plant and animal ecology, and an analysis of the ecosystem services. Key outcomes...



# Research: Economic Value of Moorage Marinas

This research determined the economic value of moorage marinas, and marinarelated activities, is \$4.6 billion annually in Southern California. Key outcomes...

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**Past Issues** 

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USC Sea Grant // Living Shorelines & King Tides

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October 2017





# **Living Shorelines**

USC Sea Grant participated in a series of workshops to advance local dialogue around using living shorelines to increase community resilience to coastal hazards. The Living Shorelines and Resilience in Southern California workshops were coordinated by the Greater San Diego Resilient Coastlines Project. Find presentations and resources (here).

### **King Tides are Coming to SoCal**

We will see extreme high tides, called king tides, on Nov 3-7; Dec 1-6; and Jan 1-4. Stay tuned for an updated tide chart with high tide times and scheduled Urban Tides beach walks.

#### **Past Issues**



Learn more about the Urban Tides Community Science Initiative (here). See photos from last year's king tides (here); and drone footage of king tides in Dana Point (here), Malibu (here), and San Diego (here).



### The Future of Food

The 'Food for Thought' Aquaponics
Program, led by USC Sea Grant and
the Wrigley Institute, was selected by
the Los Angeles Food Policy Council
as one of the top three 'most inspiring
and innovative projects' at the Future of
Food event on October 24. The event
raised awareness and vision for a
culture shift towards sustainable food.
Learn more about the program (here).

### 2017 Research Updates

We are pleased to share highlights from our research projects! This new PDF details key outcomes and results from 11 projects funded by USC Sea Grant. Results from these projects are immediately applicable to key management and policy discussions on water quality, wetland restoration, sand

**Past Issues** 

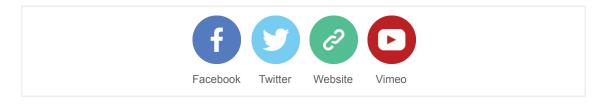


more. View PDF

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USC Sea Grant // 4 Climate Outreach Lessons & King Tides Walk

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November 2017



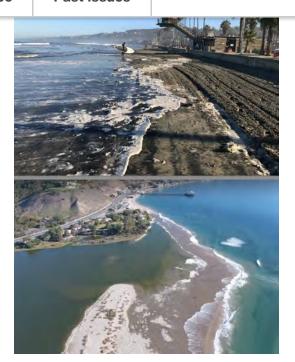
# New Paper! The Stakes are Rising: Lessons from our Climate Outreach Program

USC Sea Grant has developed a robust stakeholder engagement process to help communities plan for the impacts of climate change along urbanized coastlines. In 2016, we analyzed our climate change adaptation outreach program to gain insights about its effectiveness. We are pleased to share lessons learned in a new paper published in the Cities and the Environment Journal.

Check out our blog highlighting four primary lessons (<u>here</u>) and the full paper (<u>here</u>).

**Grab your Camera: King tides are** 

**Past Issues** 



We will see extreme high tides, called king tides, Dec 1-6 & 30-31 and Jan 1-4. The flooding we see today gives us a glimpse of sea level rise in the future.

Grab your camera and participate in <u>Urban Tides!</u> Scientists need photos of flooding and erosion from king tides and winter storms. Use this <u>tide chart</u> to find high tide times in your area.

Learn more about the Urban Tides Community Science Initiative (here). See photos from last year's king tides (here); and drone footage of king tides in Dana Point (here), Malibu (here), and San Diego (here).



# Dec 4: Join us in Newport Beach for an Urban Tides Beach Walk

Join us for a beach walk Monday,
December 4 in Newport Beach! We'll
take photos of the king tides, chat
about sea level rise and the benefits of
natural shorelines, and view maps with
new projections for flooding hazards.
Wear your walking shoes and meet at
the 26th Street Parking Lot. Time:
8-9:30 AM. Address: 128 26th Street,
Newport Beach, CA, 92663. Contact
Linda Chilton for more information
(Ichilton@usc.edu). Learn more here.

Follow-up: Summer High School Marine Lab Student Inspires Peers

### **Past Issues**



coast and waterways clean? One high school student. Read more here.



# USC Sea Grant Awarded Aquaculture Grant

The National Sea Grant College
Program has awarded USC Sea Grant
and partners a new grant to develop a
series of videos and educational
content as part of a multi-channel
communications strategy to address
public misperceptions about marine
aquaculture. Read more here.



# Ancient Lessons in Coastal Management

USC Sea Grant was part of a recent panel discussion hosted by the Aquarium of the Pacific to highlight methods used in Hawaii (ahupua'a) and Japan (sato-umi) for centuries to integrate land and water management on their coastlines. The public forum explored lessons that they have for contemporary coastal management. View video of panel discussion (start at time 2:35:45). A white paper of techniques and case studies is planned for 2018.

**Past Issues** 



open for NMFS-Sea Grant fellowships in (1) population and ecosystem dynamics and (2) marine resource economics. Applications are due to USC Sea Grant by January 26, 2018. Read more...



### **NOAA** Day

We led an educator workshop and hosted a table at the annual NOAA Day at the Aquarium of the Pacific. Listen as Linda Chilton explains the aquatic invasive species that are degrading aquatic habitats and altering food chains and what actions we can take to prevent their proliferation. See video...

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**Past Issues** 

USC Sea Grant // Fellowship, King Tides Walk, 2017 Highlights

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December 2017



# Dec 31: Join us in Newport Beach for an Urban Tides Beach Walk

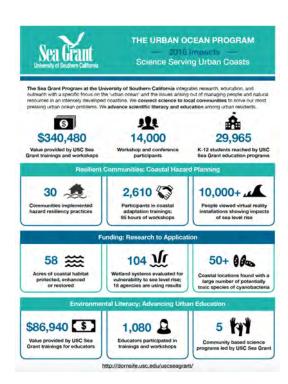
King tides are here December 30 - January 4. Head to the beach and take photos for <u>Urban Tides</u>. Join us for a sunrise beach walk Sunday, December 31 in Newport Beach! We'll take photos of the king tides, chat about sea level rise and the benefits of natural shorelines, and view maps with new projections for flooding hazards. Wear your walking shoes and meet at Discovery Cube's Ocean Quest: 600 E. Bay Avenue, Newport Beach, 92661. Time: 7-8:30 AM. Contact Linda Chilton for more information (Ichilton@usc.edu). Learn more here.

# **Apply Now!**

#### **Past Issues**



The Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship provides a unique educational experience to graduate students who have an interest in ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources and in the national policy decisions affecting those resources. Learn more...



### Follow-up: 2016 Key Achievements

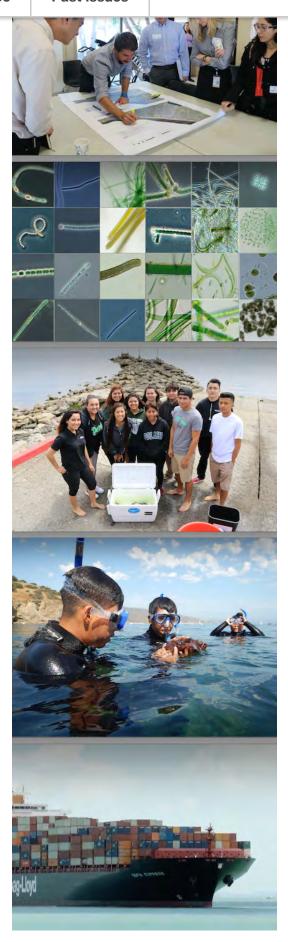
We are pleased to share a new flyer that highlights our impacts in 2016. Key work included advancements in coastal hazard resilience, education initiatives, and research applied to solve some of our most pressing urban ocean issues. View flyer

### USC Sea Grant - Top 5 of 2017

We are grateful for our team of partners and collaborators who worked along side us all year long. Below, we highlight five projects that made an impact in 2017 -

- 1. Regional AdaptLA helped communities plan for coastal hazards including sea level rise. Products & resources -
  - <u>Results:</u> Final Coastal Hazard Modeling Results for Southern

### **Past Issues**



for the Los Angeles Region

 <u>Paper:</u> Lessons from our Climate Outreach Program

# 2. Research Highlights

(PDF) details key outcomes and results from 11 projects funded by USC Sea Grant.

# 3. Fish Food for Thought

(<u>Blog</u>) details new education initiatives in aquaculture and aquaponics.

# 4. The Joy of Discovery

(Blog) captures adventures of the High School Summer Science Marine Science Lab on Catalina Island.

### 5. Blue Whales and Blue Skies

(Video) highlights a collaborative approach to reduce the speed of ships, cut pollution and protect whales in the Santa Barbara Channel. USC Sea Grant helped lead negotiations in this process on the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary's Marine Shipping Working Group mentioned in the video.

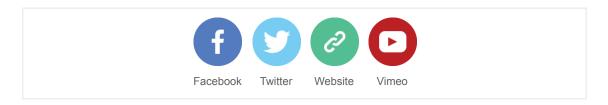
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