



FELLOW NEWS

News for and about the NOAA Fellows

Fellows Look Ahead: 2016–2018

Our new fellows will tackle critical coastal issues.

In April, the NOAA Office for Coastal Management matched NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship candidates with coastal zone programs in six U.S. states. Recipients of the two-year fellowships will carry out innovative projects addressing sediment management, climate adaptation planning, community resilience, shoreline armoring, and public access.



Alex Braud, from the College of Charleston and nominated by South Carolina Sea Grant, was matched with the San Francisco Bay Conservation and

Development Commission to expand the San Francisco Bay Regional Sediment Program beyond the pilot stage and into new parts of the Bay Area.



Joe Dwyer, from the University of Rhode Island and nominated by Rhode Island Sea Grant, was matched with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program to

compile a current and comprehensive public access inventory and develop mobile websites and apps to promote coastal heritage tourism and deep travel in Wisconsin.



Matt Gerlach, from the University of Rhode Island and nominated by Rhode Island Sea Grant, was matched with the Washington Coastal Management Program

to develop guidance and tools for improved implementation of shoreline armoring regulations in Puget Sound.



Monica Gregory, from Indiana University and nominated by Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, was matched with the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management

to engage North Carolina coastal communities in an assessment of their vulnerability to coastal hazards and disruptions, and their needs for support in improving their resilience.



Alex Kuttesch, from Virginia Commonwealth University and nominated by Virginia Sea Grant, was matched with the New York Coastal Management

Program to use cutting-edge technologies to develop innovative public communication tools and create wiki-style mapping capabilities and mobile apps for collecting user-generated information to support community and regional resilience planning, offshore planning, and storm event response and recovery.



Sumi Selvaraj, from the University of South Carolina and nominated by South Carolina Sea Grant, was matched with the California Coastal Commission to help prioritize the

California Coastal Commission's climate preparedness and adaptation planning efforts through policy analysis and development of regional maps, products, and other tools.

Guardians of the Coast: 2014–2016

We say farewell to five amazing coastal fellows.



Kelly Egan worked with the Florida Coastal Management Program to implement local action strategies, engage stakeholders, and initiate an outreach and education campaign with the Florida Coral Reef Conservation Program. The main project Kelly worked on was the Our Florida Reefs (ourfloridareefs.org) community planning process, identifying management strategies for Southeast Florida's coral reefs. Kelly also worked on creating a Coastal Construction Recommendation Guide binder for project sponsors, contractors, and agency personnel to aid them in protecting Southeast Florida's natural coral resources. In addition to her normal work, she coordinated with local agencies to update their web databases to incorporate recent and ongoing conservation efforts.



Kim Hernandez worked with Maryland's Chesapeake and Coastal Service to improve the integration of data and stakeholder feedback in decision-making and policy development, which included advancing regional ocean planning efforts in the Mid-Atlantic and developing the nation's first national marine sanctuary in the Chesapeake Bay.



Amanda Santoni worked with the Delaware Coastal Management Program to quantify the economic value of Delaware's tidal wetlands in order to effectively campaign for wetland protection and acquisition. She also created models of tidal wetland migration to inform state management strategies, and assisted with the 2015 Delaware Wetland Management Plan.



Evan Sherer worked with the New Jersey Coastal Management Program to develop the Living Shoreline Program. He developed a method for assessing large regions of shoreline to determine if they were in need of coastal restoration. The project involved mapping existing shoreline types, measuring shoreline change over an 80-year period, and modeling wave energy along the shoreline.



Ian Yue worked with the Connecticut Office of Long Island Sound Programs to develop a compensatory mitigation plan to offset adverse impacts of shoreline flood and erosion control structures on coastal resources. The plan outlined a methodology for implementing structural mitigation under both current and potential statutory authority, with an end goal of promoting a policy of no net increase in adverse impacts.