



NEW YORK SEA GRANT STRUCTURE

New York Sea Grant has conducted a multi-faceted program of research, outreach, and education for New York's coastal resources for thirty years. NYSG is funded by the National Sea Grant College Program (part of NOAA and the U.S. Department of Commerce) and New York State. Within New York, NYSG is a joint program of Cornell University and the State University of New York. A Board of Governors establishes NYSG policy and oversees its

operations and budget. NYSG uses stakeholder advisory groups to obtain input and feedback on programmatic value and priorities. The programs main administrative offices are at Stony Brook University; extension administration is located at the Cornell University campus in Ithaca. Research proposals are solicited from campuses throughout NYS and beyond. The proposals are rigorously reviewed to select high quality research that

addresses the region's most pressing coastal issues and opportunities. Extension agents are all specialists in one or more technical fields related to coastal resources and are located near their audience at offices across the state. They work with these stakeholders to provide unbiased information about coastal matters. Thus, the organizational structure and operations of NYSG are designed to enhance its effectiveness.

"Bringing Science to the Shore," is New York Sea Grant's longstanding motto. This document is the summary of the current NYSG Strategic Plan.

The entire plan is available at www.seagrantsunysb.edu/pages/stratplan.htm.

Some objectives listed here have been combined or slightly modified from the original to fit this four-page format.



BRINGING SCIENCE TO THE SHORE

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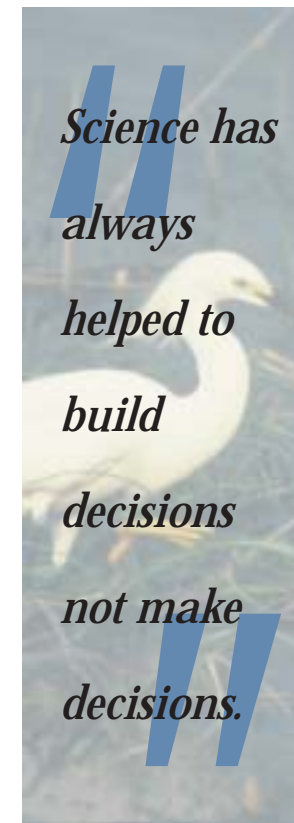
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—Hanna J. Cortner

BACKGROUND

New York is the only bi-coastal state in the National Sea Grant Program. About 85 percent of New York's population lives within a short distance of the State's 3400 miles of Great Lakes, estuarine and marine coastline. Prominent New York State coastal water bodies include the Hudson, St. Lawrence and Niagara Rivers, Lakes Ontario, Erie and Champlain, Long Island Sound and inland bays, New York Harbor and the Atlantic Ocean.

With so much of the State's economy and population located near the State's coastline, there is a strong need for New Yorkers to carefully manage the

interplay of people and environment in those areas. As a university-based program committed to objectivity and science rather than advocacy, New York Sea Grant (NYSG) is well-positioned to assist all levels of government and private entities in "Bringing Science to the Shore."

NYSG has carefully developed the following Vision, Mission and Value statements. NYSG has also set its course and goals in a Strategic Plan for 2000-2005. The Plan outlines specific ways in which NYSG's research and outreach will be applied to help provide science to inform coastal resource decision-makers.

VISION

To be a leader in formulating and funding scientific research and in disseminating science-based information for coastal decision-making and education, as well as a key collaborative force for wise management, economic development and conservation of New York's and the Nation's coastal assets.

MISSION

To address critical coastal issues through high quality research, outreach and education so that individual, community, business, academic and other NYSG stakeholders may contribute to decisions that better conserve, utilize and rehabilitate their coastal resources.

VALUES

- ▶ First quality scientific research to provide information for wise coastal resource decisions
- ▶ Activities to extend unbiased science and technology to New York's coastal users
- ▶ Input from stakeholders to maximize program applicability and usefulness

TO ACHIEVE THIS VISION

New York Sea Grant Will Continue To:

- ▶ Focus efforts on New York State's most critical coastal resource issues
- ▶ Conduct a competitive, high quality research program to objectively fill information gaps
- ▶ Disseminate the latest science-based information to all parties for resource decisions
- ▶ Increase its role as a liaison among coastal decision-makers
- ▶ Support a responsive, knowledgeable staff
- ▶ Educate the public and the next generation of coastal scientists

STRATEGIC PLAN TECHNICAL FOCUS

New York Sea Grant will support research, outreach, and education efforts to contribute to the following Issues, Goals and bulleted Objectives:

ECONOMIC LEADERSHIP ISSUES

GOAL 1

INCREASE THE VIABILITY OF COASTAL-DEPENDENT BUSINESSES

- ▶ Help water-dependent businesses improve their response to public policies and regulations
- ▶ Design and evaluate approaches to enhance coastal tourism and eco-tourism
- ▶ Identify and assess techniques or strategies to predict/mitigate environmental impacts of coastal businesses and activities
- ▶ Provide balanced seafood product information to consumers.
- ▶ Search for economically viable niches for aquaculture in New York State

GOAL 2

FACILITATE SUSTAINABLE USE OF ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT COASTAL FISHERIES

- ▶ Develop methods to assess the impact of ecosystem and policy changes on fishery sustainability
- ▶ Examine the effects of fishing activities on fisheries
- ▶ Identify factors involved in disease, physiology and behavior in fish and shellfish
- ▶ Increase understanding of socio-economic responses of communities to fishery changes
- ▶ Improve fish population and ecosystem process models

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES ISSUES

GOAL 1

ENABLE NEW YORKERS TO PARTICIPATE AS PARTNERS IN COASTAL ISSUES

- ▶ Help educators apply new technologies to employ Sea Grant information in K-12 classes
- ▶ Develop future professionals by supporting graduate and undergraduate scholars
- ▶ Develop innovative communications strategies and methods to foster an educated citizenry
- ▶ Help legislators understand resource management and its uncertainties

GOAL 2

DEVELOP NEW PARTNERSHIPS

- ▶ Initiate an urban outreach effort in New York City
- ▶ Provide information to help New York's Native Peoples manage their aquatic resources
- ▶ Respond to emerging coastal resource needs



COASTAL ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

GOAL 1

IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND SAFETY OF SEAFOOD PRODUCTS

- ▶ Coordinate efforts to optimize seafood safety control programs
- ▶ Develop innovative educational programs for seafood safety
- ▶ Develop new ways to identify seafood safety risks and methods to increase quality and safety

GOAL 2

PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO COASTAL HAZARDS AND PROCESSES

- ▶ Demonstrate new technologies to assess impacts of coastal hazards
- ▶ Develop techniques to predict, prevent or mitigate coastal hazards
- ▶ Assist coastal stakeholders with water level and erosion problems
- ▶ Develop models to predict effects of sedimentation and dredging in harbors and waterways

GOAL 3

ASSESS AND ENHANCE COASTAL WATER QUALITY

- ▶ Design and deliver non-point source pollution best management practices
- ▶ Develop models to predict point and non-point contaminant impacts
- ▶ Design innovative outreach programs to support lakewide management plans
- ▶ Develop techniques to evaluate water quality impacts of alternate resource uses
- ▶ Develop techniques to evaluate costs and effectiveness of water quality improvement strategies



GOAL 4

PROTECT OR ENHANCE COASTAL HABITATS

- ▶ Develop techniques for habitat assessment
- ▶ Develop and conduct educational programs on the value and methods for habitat improvement
- ▶ Develop techniques for managing critical coastal habitat, e.g., wetlands and essential fish habitat

GOAL 5

CONTROL THE SPREAD AND MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF NON-INDIGENOUS (NIS) AND AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES (ANS) IN NEW YORK'S COASTAL WATERS

- ▶ Develop techniques for and educate society about introduction, control and mitigation of ANS
- ▶ Examine the causes and dynamics of harmful algal blooms to develop mitigation strategies
- ▶ Determine how selected human activities can affect distribution and impacts of ANS

FUTURE USE OF NEW YORK SEA GRANT'S STRATEGIC PLAN

New York Sea Grant's detailed Strategic Plan (available at www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/pages/stratplan.htm) forms the basis for the two-year Implementation Plans that have or will be submitted to the National Sea Grant College Program for the periods 2000-2001, 2002-2003 and 2004-2005. The Goals and Objectives listed here will be used for NYSG research and outreach planning and to describe to New York's coastal decision makers the major focuses of its integrated program. The bulleted Objectives above and the components in the 2-year implementation plan provide the metrics for measuring the extent of NYSG's success.