

February 2021

## NOAA's Open House goes Virtual with Support from Woods Hole Sea Grant



This year, NOAA's Open House is going virtual with Woods Hole Sea Grant's NOAA Live! webinar series. Tune in to live tours of different NOAA facilities each week in March, meet the staff that bring NOAA's mission to life while and check out a few cool spots around campus. These free events are geared toward students in grades 2 through 8, and they're perfect for classrooms and families. Be sure to register in advance for the virtual tours as space is limited.

[Learn more about virtual NOAA Open House visits](http://www.noaa.gov/openhouse)

### New Funding Opportunity for American Lobster Research Program

A new funding opportunity to support research on how the American Lobster and its fishery are being impacted by environmental change in the Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, and southern New England is now available. The program seeks applications from research teams and encourages research partnerships between state agencies, academia, and/or industry stakeholders that address life-history parameters, distribution and abundance, species interactions, and/or bait alternatives.

[Read the funding announcement](#)



### #WhySeaGrant Highlights

On social media this month, we shared some of the important research, extension and education efforts undertaken across the Sea Grant network and the difference they make in local communities using the hashtag #WhySeaGrant. See some of the highlights:

- [Connecticut Sea Grant kayak eco-tours connect residents with](#)



[local aquaculture](#)

- [Delaware Sea Grant introduces students to career opportunities in green infrastructure](#)
- [Ohio Sea Grant's Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative makes progress on solutions for bloom impacts](#)

---

## Freedom Seekers Lessons Connect Underground Railroad to Great Lakes and Science

Freedom Seekers lessons, developed collaboratively by Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, and Wisconsin Sea Grant, offer students place-based learning about the Underground Railroad and its connection to the Great Lakes. The cross-curricular teaching opportunities for middle and high school students acknowledge the enslaved Africans who had to rely on environmental science principles in their quest for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.



[See the lessons](#)



---

## Hawai'i Sea Grant Hires Knauss Alumna for new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Position

To more effectively address the persistence of societal inequities due to systemic racism and colonialism, Hawai'i Sea Grant created a new, full-time senior leadership position and hired Dr. Beth Lenz to serve as its inaugural assistant director for diversity and community engagement. Dr. Lenz recently completed her Knauss Fellowship year in the Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee, and she looks forward to returning to Hawai'i and developing inclusive, fun, and creative strategies.

---

## Knauss Blog: Exploring Transitions from Academia to Policy

On the Knauss Blog this month, 2020 Florida Sea Grant fellow Bryan Keller connects his academic and professional experiences in fisheries science and fisheries management, while 2020 California Sea Grant fellow Kaitlyn Lowder describes lifelong lessons from professional development opportunities offered during her fellowship year.

[Read the blog](#)



---

## Funding and Career Opportunities

[Sea Grant Career Opportunities](#) Sea Grant has several job openings across the country, such as Communications Specialist with New York Sea Grant, Education Lead with Pennsylvania Sea Grant, and Associate Director with Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant.

[State Sea Grant Program Funding Opportunities](#) State Sea Grant Programs provide funding opportunities for a variety of topics within Sea Grant's strategic priorities. Programs are now opening requests for proposals. See [Sea Grant's state funding page](#) for more information and deadlines.

---

## Connections and Partner Updates

[NOAA Innovators Seminar with Swift Engineering](#) For the past two years, the National Sea Grant Office has been involved with a NOAA SBIR Awardee, Swift Engineering, in their development and testing of a remote, self-powered monitoring buoy. They presented their progress this month at a NOAA Innovators Seminar. A recording of the seminar is [available here](#).

[eeBLUE Aquaculture Literacy Mini-Grant Opportunity](#) NOAA and the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) are interested in forging lasting partnerships between environmental education providers, aquaculture industry experts, and NOAA to achieve greater impacts on several levels. This competitively-based funding opportunity aims to support such partnerships by funding the co-development of aquaculture education programs that are responsive to the goals of the Community of Practice for Aquaculture Literacy. There is an informational meeting on **March 5, 2021**, and applications are due **April 2, 2021**.

[Women, Science and the Road to Inclusive Leadership](#) The 2021 USC Wrigley Institute Delta Murphy Lecture will feature a conversation among three truly pathbreaking scientists who will discuss their unique experiences overcoming inequitable obstacles and address the critical importance of women and diverse voices, not just participating in, but leading the scientific enterprise. Registration is required. The webinar will take place at 12 p PT on **March 11, 2021**.

[Ecological Drought: Impacts on Coastal Ecosystems](#) Co-hosted by NOAA's National Integrated Drought Information System and the USGS National Climate Adaptation Science Center, this webinar will share recent research on drought impacts to coastal ecosystems and services. This webinar is the fourth in a four-part series that seeks to raise awareness of ecological drought, share actions that strengthen ecosystems resilience and mitigate the impacts of droughts, and discuss research and management needs for future drought planning and preparedness. Registration is required. The webinar will take place at 3 p ET on **March 17, 2021**.

[Wildlife Forever Fish Art Contest](#) The Fish Art Contest uses art, science and creative writing to foster connections to the outdoors and inspire the next generation of stewards. The contest is open to all youth in grades K-12 (ages 5-18). To compete, participants will submit an entry consisting of a completed entry form, an original illustration of a fish from the Official Fish List and a one-page creative writing submission (required for grades 4-12). The 2021 contest deadline is **March 31, 2021**.

seagrant.noaa.gov

STAY CONNECTED

