WISCONSIN SEA GRANT

Sea Grant

February 2018

Wisconsin Sea Grant is one of 33 Sea Grant college programs and is based at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

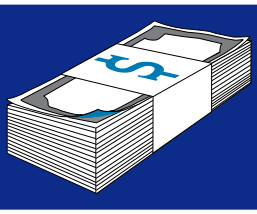
Aquaculturists at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (UWSP-NADF) raise salmon in recirculating tank systems to provide consumers with a locally grown seafood product. Credit: UWSP-NADF

Wisconsin Sea Grant helps launch innovative salmon-raising business

Wisconsin Sea Grant support for an academic aquaculture facility helped launch a new $20 million aquaponics business, which will provide a sustainable, local source of 160,000 pounds of salmon annually and 30,000 heads of lettuce each day. The aquaponics business is expected to employ up to 50 people.

seagrant.wisc.edu

$20.6 M
Economic benefit



12,000
K-12 students reached

90
Jobs created or sustained

Metrics reported to National Sea Grant Office in June 2017 for work completed February 2016 to January 2017

RESEARCH EXTENSION EDUCATION

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Students experience therapeutic benefits through underwater photography

At-risk students particpate in a project that blends science, art and healing through underwater photography. Credit: Northwest Passage

Northwest Passage, a residential mental health treatment center for youth, partnered with Wisconsin Sea Grant to develop the world's first therapeutic underwater photography program. Youth struggling with mental illness significantly improved self-image, resilience and self-efficacy through this program by creating stunning and widely-shared photographs, in addition to gaining a rich scientific understanding of Lake Superior's watershed ecosystems. In 2016, more than 50 participating youth produced more than 32,000 underwater photographs.

go.wisc.edu/9om1t6

"People who see the pictures are amazed by the underwater world... Then they see the stories of these kids, and they are double amazed at the hope these kids are finding in the natural world. They begin to care for our waters, and also for our most at-risk children. "
- Toben Lafrancois, aquatic scientist at Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin

Expanding Consumer Interest in Local Seafood

Wisconsin Sea Grant undertook an initiative termed "Eat Wisconsin Fish" (eatwisconsinfish.org) to expand consumer interest in locally caught or grown fish and connect fishermen and aquaculturists with retailers, restaurant owners and operators, chefs and culinary schools. The "Eat Wisconsin Fish" initiative has resulted in an increase in sales of state fish at the level of $106,000 annually.

Understanding Lake Michigan's Challenges

Non-native quagga mussels have fundamentally altered Lake Michigan, disrupting how nutrients cycle and starving some species in the food web. Wisconsin Sea Grant supported the development of a mathematical model of the mussels' impact and management agencies are using it to determine appropriate rates of nutrient input into the lake.

Protecting Lakefront Property Values

Coastal erosion, particularly bluff failure, is a hazard to communities and landowners on Great Lakes shores, significantly affecting property values of waterfront parcels. Wisconsin Sea Grant-funded researchers developed a model that can predict the timing of bluff failure along the Great Lakes shoreline, helping protect people and property.