



FELLOW NEWS

News for and about the NOAA Fellows

Former Coastal Management Fellows Help Choose New Fellows

The old adage “what goes around comes around” was proven once again through the Coastal Management Fellowship program. The fellowship was established in 1996 to groom the coastal management professionals of tomorrow and provide assistance to state coastal management programs.

A matching workshop is held each year to match postgraduate students with the state-proposed projects. This year two of the participating states were represented by former fellows. If your state’s coastal zone management (CZM) program needs help completing a project, a coastal fellow could be your answer. Would you like to learn more about applying for a NOAA coastal management fellow? See www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/fellows.html.

Fellows Look Ahead: 2013-2015

Our new fellows will tackle critical coastal issues.

In April, the NOAA Coastal Services Center 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 climate change adaptation, shoreline protection, and ocean planning.



Kelsey Ducklow, from Duke University and nominated by North Carolina Sea Grant, was matched with the California Coastal Commission to integrate climate change and adaptation planning into the commission’s planning and regulatory program.



Meg Gardner, from the University of New Hampshire and nominated by New Hampshire Sea Grant, was matched with the Oregon Coastal Management Program to create an improved data repository and framework for Oregon’s ocean shore permitting process that can be used to plan for erosion impacts, improve storm response, protect the public interest, and other purposes.



Kirsten Howard, from the University of Michigan and nominated by Michigan Sea Grant, was matched with the New Hampshire Coastal Program to establish a GIS-based decision-support framework to improve spatial planning for New Hampshire’s estuaries and use InVEST to inform priority restoration and management issues in the Great Bay Estuary.



Margot Mansfield, from the University of Maine and nominated by Maine Sea Grant, was matched with the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management to address competing marine resource use issues and promote beach and dune nourishment in Massachusetts as a viable and cost-effective climate change adaptation tool for shore protection.



Emily Norton, from the University of Hawaii and nominated by Hawaii Sea Grant, was matched with the Maine Coastal Program to provide a baseline characterization in the Gulf of Maine for developing Maine’s Ocean Resources Strategy and implementing Maine’s ocean planning efforts.



Liz Podowski, from the University of Oregon and nominated by Oregon Sea Grant, was matched with the New York Division of Coastal Resources to develop a guide and methodologies for the application of geospatial tools for use in New York’s offshore planning.

Guardians of the Coast: 2011-2013

We say farewell to six amazing coastal fellows.



Wes Bickford was involved in a variety of projects at the New Jersey Coastal Management Program. “Wes was able to bring a fresh perspective to many initiatives, helping our program explore ocean planning through the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Oceans and furthering our work to implement shoreline adaptation tools,” says mentor Dorina Frizzera. “Wes’ graduate work on wetlands greatly aided our monitoring of state coastal wetlands. Our program could not have been more pleased with Wes.”



Liz Durfee worked with the Michigan Coastal Management Program to develop metrics, tools, and plans that address competing uses in Michigan’s working waterfronts. “Liz’s quality research of more than ten different waterfront communities, and her involvement with the National Working Waterfront Network, raise awareness of tools and policies that encourage community waterfront planning in Michigan and the Great Lakes region,” says Emily Finnell, a mentor. “Her work has helped to identify opportunities to target resources and programs at both the state and local level that support Michigan coastal communities economically, environmentally, and socially.”



Sarah Latshaw, worked with the South Carolina Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management to identify vulnerabilities and mitigate coastal hazards. “Sarah contributed to our coastal management program far beyond the responsibilities of her fellowship,” says mentor Marian Page. “She frequently lent a hand to program activities and provided technical support. She improved our recycling efforts, recognized by the Charleston Green Business Challenge. Now hired to be our full-time coastal projects manager, Sarah lends her talents to our marine debris and coastal hazards mitigation efforts.”



Cinamon Moffett worked with the Oregon Coastal Management Program to address coastal climate change, restoration, and sustainability. “Cinamon has managed to make herself valuable to everyone she works with while also achieving fellowship goals,” says mentor Tanya Haddad. “She is extremely organized and great at following up and recognizing when more communication is needed. She excels, not just at listening to what planners need but turning those expressed needs into actionable items that we can all achieve. This skill has real value for planners.”



Hilary Papendick worked with the California Coastal Commission to improve analysis, coordination, and communication related to climate change planning and adaptation. “Hilary has taken on a leadership role for a wide range of climate change and sea level rise issues at the commission,” says mentor Susan Hansch. “With her calm and patient demeanor, she has been the glue keeping her colleagues and our multitude of partners up to speed on developments related to climate. We could not be happier with her.”



Zach Singer-Leavitt worked with the New York Department of State Division of Coastal Resources to develop an offshore spatial plan for managing competing uses. “Zach’s geospatial, statistical, and analytical skills allowed us to consider species distributions that our offshore study would have otherwise gone without. His easygoing demeanor and understated style was appreciated throughout the office,” says mentor Jeff Herter. “He also single-handedly upgraded the entire office’s geospatial software. Zach exemplifies what the fellowship provides to coastal programs.”