

Post-Katrina Projects

The Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium has been playing several roles in Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. The following is a list of MASGC post-Katrina projects that are related to recovery and resiliency.



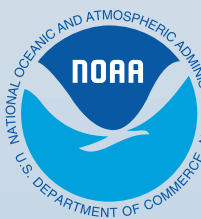
Boats rest in a yard in Ocean Springs, Miss., after Hurricane Katrina.



Progress on the new Biloxi-Ocean Springs bridge can be seen through the remains of Ocean Springs Seafood on Front Beach.

PROJECTS

- **Strategic plan for the Town of Dauphin Island.** Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant has funded a strategic planning process for the town of Dauphin Island, Ala. Mayor Jeffrey Collier is facilitating the strategic planning effort to develop a long-term planning and implementation schedule for the town.
- **Preserving working waterfronts.** MASGC outreach personnel helped facilitate the 2007 creation of the Alabama Working Waterfront Coalition. Sea Grant also is funding an economic inventory of water-dependent businesses in coastal Alabama.
- **Determining the level of Hurricane Katrina damage.** Dr. Ben Posadas, who works with MASGC outreach and economics research, conducted an economic assessment of Katrina's affects on the commercial harvesting sector, seafood processing and distribution sectors, for-hire charter boats, live bait boats and dealer houses, marinas and support facilities in Mississippi. Because Congress develops damage assistance programs for the Gulf region, an accurate assessment was needed to ensure that federal funds were both adequate and allocated to the appropriate sectors and recipients.
- **Gulf Coast Design and Development Studio.** The Auburn University School of Architecture is developing the Gulf Coast Design and Development Studio in Alabama. MASGC funding will aid the project, which focuses on strategic planning and reconstruction of the coastal zone after Hurricane Katrina.
- **Marine Resources Committee.** MASGC chaired the Marine Resources Committee of the post-Katrina Mississippi Rebuilding and Renewal Plan. The rebuilding and renewal plan is the blueprint for restoring marine resources to pre-Hurricane Camille levels. The plan led to oyster reef restoration funding by the congressional hurricane spending bill.
- **Flood insurance information.** MASGC outreach personnel wrote and published "Navigating The National Flood Insurance Program." The four-page fact sheet explains floodplains, flood insurance rate maps and flood insurance coverage.
- **Restoring data.** MASGC funded a \$15,000 grant to help a researcher at The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Research Lab replicate data lost in Katrina. The grant will fund collection and processing of spotted seatrout samples.
- **Marine Education Center restoration.** MASGC gave \$20,000 and educational materials to the J.L. Scott Marine Education Center, which had to be relocated to Ocean Springs, Miss., after it was destroyed at its Biloxi, Miss., location.
- **Asian Fisheries Technologist.** MASGC, Mississippi State University and the National Marine Fisheries Service funded the hiring of a Vietnamese-speaking fisheries technologist to help engage Vietnamese fishermen in industry issues.



MASGP-07-20

This publication was supported by the National Sea Grant College Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under NOAA Grant NA06OAR4170078 and the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium.