



Fishery Resource Grant Program 2009

North Carolina Sea Grant

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Associate Director**



Program Funding

- Program funded by the North Carolina General Assembly
- Administered by North Carolina Sea Grant



Guiding Principle

- **People in the seafood and fishing industries often have the best ideas for improving and protecting fisheries but may lack the financial resources or scientific backgrounds to conduct experiments, collect data and analyze results.**



Priority Areas

- **Fishery equipment and gear**
- **Environmental pilot projects**
- **Aquaculture/Mariculture**
- **Seafood technology**



Priorities determined by the public,
user groups, state agencies and the
Grants Committee

Fishery Equipment and Gear

- Develop information for Fishery Management Plans
- Increase efficiency/economic return of fishing
- Improve existing gear and develop new, species-specific, environmentally friendly gear
- Evaluate gear impacts on sea turtles, dolphins, and birds
- Reduce bycatch
- Determine optimum spacing and density of various fishing gears
- Determine mechanisms for handling catch & release to increase survival
- Determine hook-and-release mortality for major recreational species
- Develop case studies regarding managing and/or mediating user conflicts

Environmental Pilot Projects

- Develop mechanisms to measure and reduce environmental impact of fishing
- Develop ways to monitor habitat alterations and their effect on fisheries
- Develop mechanisms to restore damaged habitat and create new habitat
- Determine effects of water quality on fisheries
- Determine impact of fishing and processing activities
- Determine the effectiveness of designated blue crab spawning sanctuaries
- Develop recycling and collection programs for used fishing gear

Aquaculture/Mariculture

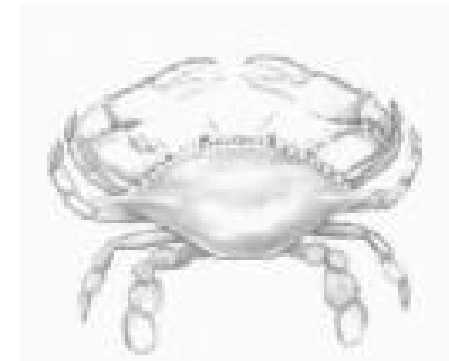
- Examine potential for culturing new species
- Demonstrate best husbandry practices
- Improve efficiency of growth, feeding and nutrition
- Improve markets and increase return from aquaculture investments
- Assess regulations and permit criteria impacting aquaculture
- Determine environmental impacts and economic benefits of aquaculture
- Assess potential of fin and shellfish culture to enhance wild populations
- Develop parameters for apprentice program for career aquaculturists

Seafood Technology

- Develop value-added products from commodity seafood
- Improve product quality, packaging and handling
- Develop models for total quality system management programs
- Develop solutions to public health concerns related to seafood safety
- Develop mechanisms for reducing effluents and impacts
- Develop alternative uses for processing by-products

The Application

- **Obtain application online:** <http://www.ncseagrants.org>
- **Obtain application at any Sea Grant office**
- **You will provide information on:**
 - Yourself / your business
 - The project
 - What is the problem?
 - What will your project do?
 - How will your project answer the problem?
 - A budget with justification
 - Application is 3 pages



Proposal Evaluation

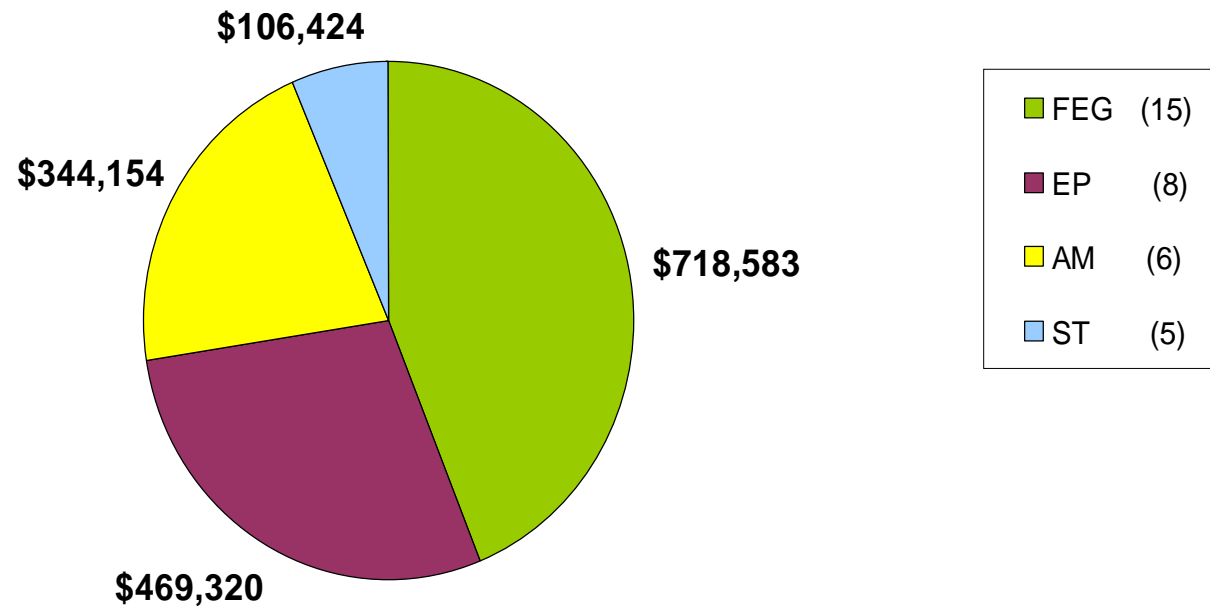
- External Referees – Technical Review
 - 1 Industry
 - 1 Sea Grant or Federal / State Agency
- Fishery Resource Program Grant Committee
 - 2 NC Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF)
 - 2 NC Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC)
 - 4 NC MFC Regional Advisory Council Members
 - 3 NC Sea Grant

The Award

- **Initial 25 %**
 - on approval
- **Second and Third 25 %**
 - on request, usually at end of quarter
 - progress reports are required
- **Final 25 %**
 - upon completion of project
 - submission and approval of Final Report

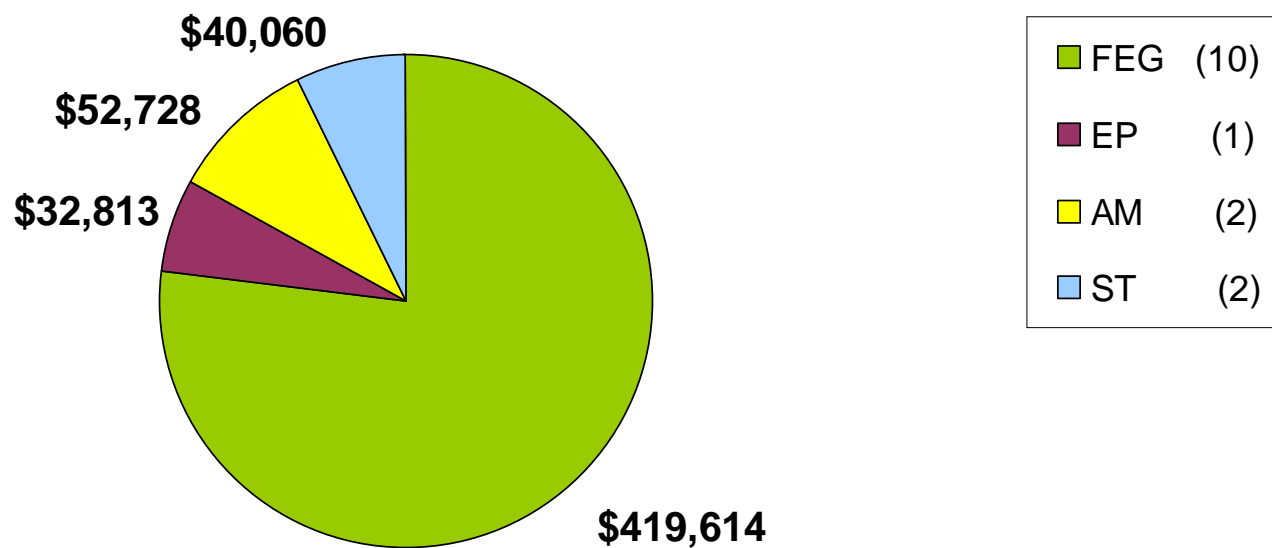


Proposals Submitted by Program Area



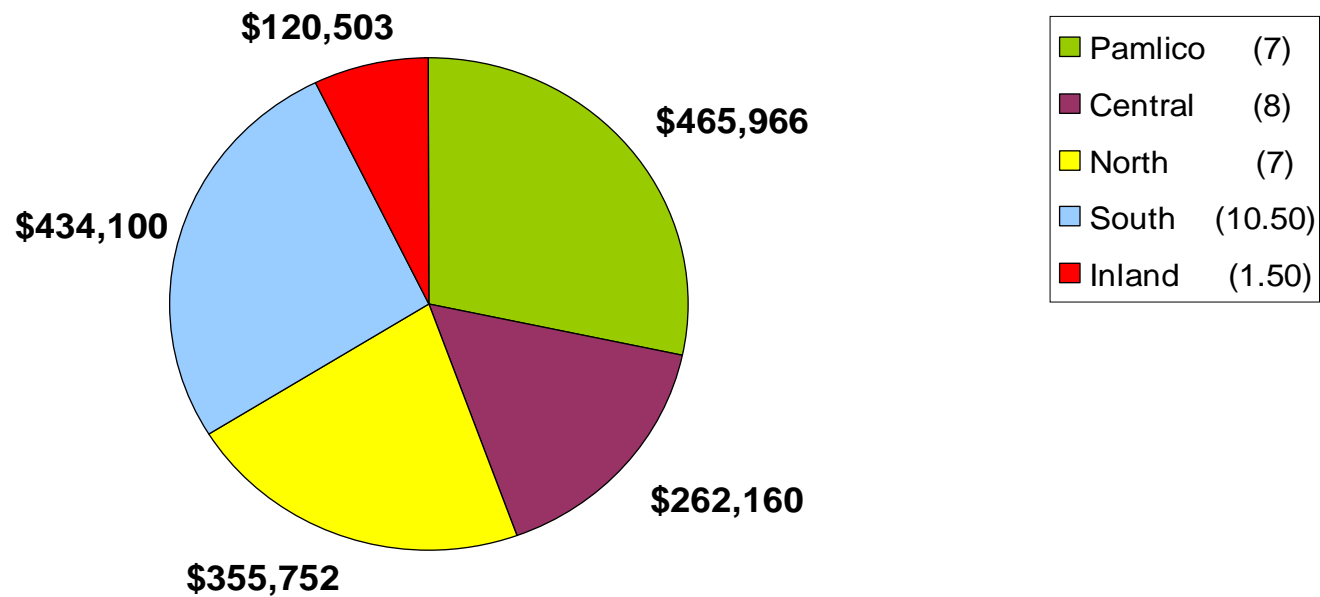
Total: \$ 1,638,481 N=34

Proposals Funded by Program Area



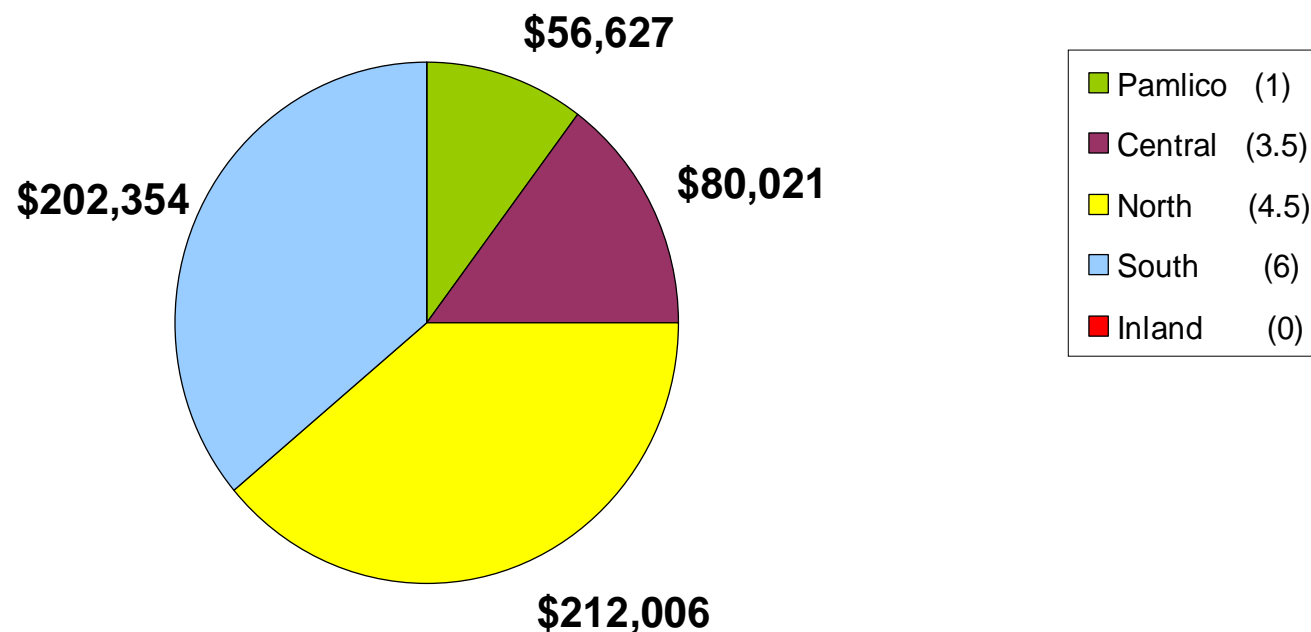
Total: \$ 545,215 N=15

Proposals Submitted by Region



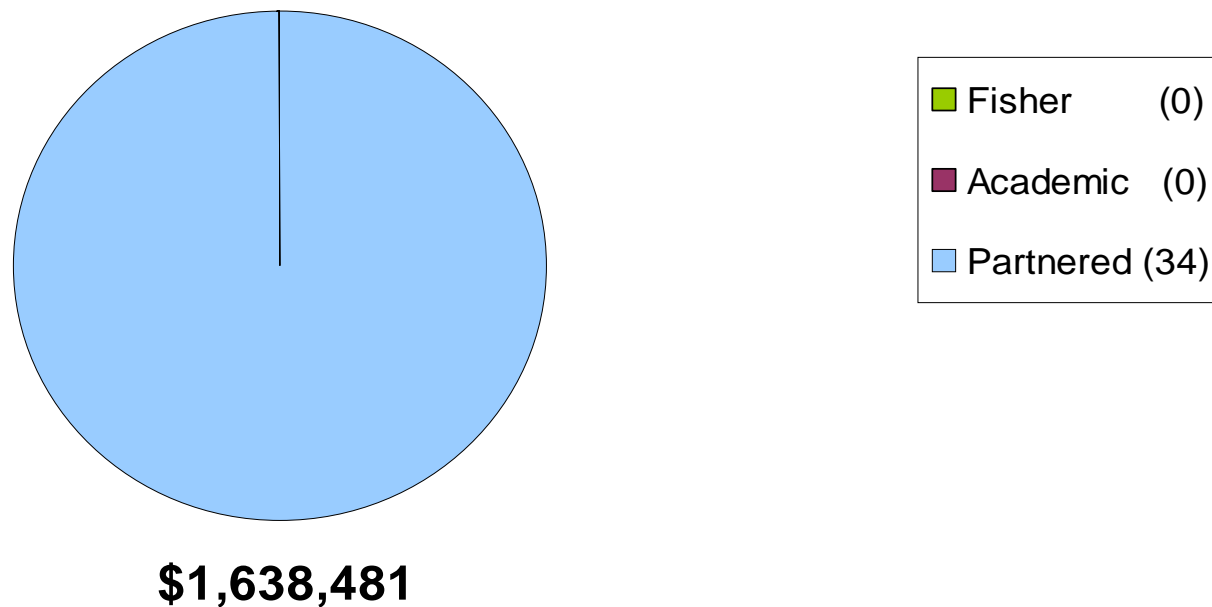
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Proposals Funded by Region



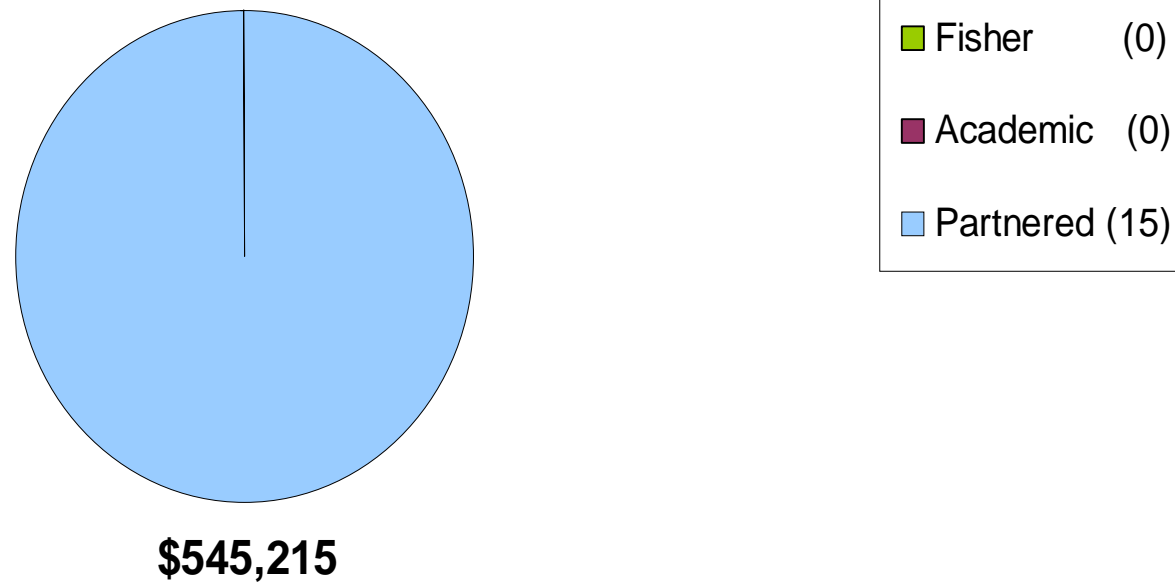
Total: \$ 545,215 N=15

Proposals Submitted by Investigator Category



Total: \$ 1,638,481 N=34

Proposals Funded by Investigator Category



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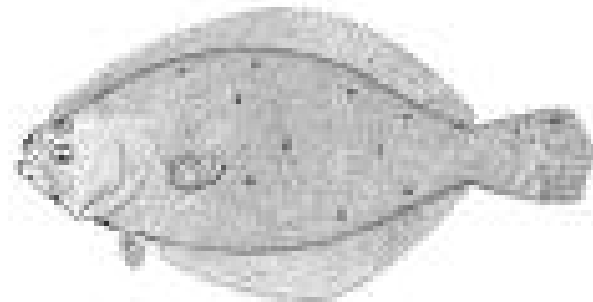
Post-Award Monitoring

- An extension agent is appointed as a monitor for each project
- Monitors check on progress during the research and assist with problem resolution
- Monitors help in report writing
- Monitors distribute information to interested parties



Sea Grant Coordination

- **Solicitation Workshops**
 - Inform public about program and how to apply
 - Assist fishermen turning ideas into proposals
- **Pair fishermen and researchers**
 - Credibility, data analysis, final reports
- **Monitor Project**
 - Assist research, monitor progress, solve problems
 - Deadlines, extensions, reports
- **Extend results**
 - DMF, MFC, other agencies
 - Fisheries Forum, Seminars
 - SG Communications – publications, news media, web



FRG Impacts

- **Fisheries Equipment and Gear**
 - Bay Scallop compounds
 - Bycatch characterization
 - Gill net fishing techniques
- **Aquaculture**
 - Hybrid Striped Bass, Southern Flounder and Black Sea Bass Culture
 - Oyster remote setting
- **Environmental Pilot Studies**
 - Trawling impacts
 - Bottlenose dolphin surveys
 - Historic oyster habitat
- **Seafood Technology**
 - Scallop medallions
 - Value-added products



Examples of Coverage

- *Coastwatch*
 - Assessing river herring population
 - Protecting bay scallop beds
 - Monitoring pilot whale / longline interactions
 - Tracking speckled trout



A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over a calm body of water. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and purple. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow that reflects on the water. In the middle ground, a small, dark island with silhouetted trees sits in the water. In the foreground, the dark, silhouetted structure of a wooden pier or dock is visible on the right side. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Questions ?