



2013 NOAA *Preserve America Initiative* Internal Funding Program Recipients

Fa'a-Samoa: The Samoan Way

\$11,950

*Project Lead: Gene Brighthouse, National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa,
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Pago Pago, AS
National Ocean Service*

With the recent expansion of the National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa (NMSAS) and the opening of the Tauese P.F. Sunia Ocean Center, American Samoa has become a focal point in the Pacific region to showcase ocean conservation. In American Samoa, ocean conservation is largely informed by *Fa'a-Samoa* or the Samoan way. NMSAS seeks to capture the lessons of *Fa'a-Samoa* in an educational film that can be shown on the Science on a Sphere (SOS®) in the Ocean Center. In 2010, a film crew came to American Samoa to shoot on location in villages, beaches, and other places of interest. In 2013, they will return to interview elders and prominent figures in American Samoan society. Funds will allow for post-production upon completion of filming, including color-correction, creation of graphics, voice-over production, soundtrack composition, compression and output for final delivery.

Preservation and Sharing of Nontraditional Observations of Climate made by Native Americans of the Northern Great Plains through an Interactive Exhibit and Website

\$10,500

*Project Lead: Kevin Gallo, Environmental Monitoring Branch, Center for Satellite Applications and Research, Sioux Falls, SD
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service*

This project will include the recovery and public dissemination of observations of weather and climate events (with appropriate tribal authorization) that have been made by the Native Americans of the Northern Great Plains region. A major emphasis of this project will include public outreach and education related to the nontraditional (i.e., non-instrumental) observations of climate (e.g., observations of physical features, plants, or animals) made by the Native Americans to record the observed weather and climate events within their environment. This study will utilize and expand upon tribal contacts established by the US Geological Survey and NOAA to develop an interactive exhibit that describes and displays nontraditional climate observations.

Graveyard of the Atlantic Exhibit: Shipwrecks and Reefs
An exhibit at the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island

\$12,000

Project Lead: Lauren Heesemann, Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Manteo, NC
National Ocean Service

The North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island currently displays a USS Monitor replica. The accompanying exhibit space contains displays and videos about the USS *Monitor* and the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary (MNMS). However, the USS Monitor is only one of thousands of sunken vessels located in the larger Graveyard of the Atlantic off the coast of North Carolina. The aquarium is currently undergoing renovation of a number of exhibits, and this project will accompany and enhance the renovations while highlighting shipwrecks found off the NC coast and the strong maritime heritage-based culture of the Outer Banks. Funds will be used to showcase information associated with the USS *Monitor*, data from the Battle of the Atlantic project and other collaborative cultural resource projects (UNC Coastal Studies Institute and East Carolina University), and work that has focused on shipwrecks as reefs (NOAA's National Center for Coastal Ocean Science). In addition, with the use of available innovative technologies, we will be able to interactively communicate more information in less space, packing a more powerful punch, with the ability to update exhibits regularly.

Restoration of NOAA Western Regional Center Shoreline

\$12,000

Project Lead: Polly Hicks, Habitat Restoration Division, NOAA Restoration Center, Seattle, WA
National Marine Fisheries Service

NOAA's Western Regional Center (WRC) along the waters of Lake Washington is the largest NOAA facility outside of Silver Spring. WRC's approximately 3,600 lineal feet of shoreline is also home to juvenile Chinook salmon, a threatened species managed by NOAA. Over the last century, Lake Washington's shoreline has been altered to the point that little healthy shoreline exists. Restoring WRC shoreline will provide a functioning ecological habitat and enhance the enjoyment that NOAA staff and the public receive from this campus with its art sculptures and open space. Our shoreline will be a place where private land owners can learn how they can restore their shorelines and where the public can learn about the connection between healthy habitats, salmon and human communities. This activity would be highlighted in public tours of the campus. Funds will be used to begin the shoreline restoration by developing two NOAA Restoration Work Day events where NOAA staff participate in restoring sections of the shoreline.

Storms of the Great Lakes – An Interactive Exhibit

\$12,000

Project Lead: Sarah Jamison, Eastern Region, Weather Forecast Office
Cleveland, OH
National Weather Service

The Great Lakes Science Center, positioned on the shore of Lake Erie, has provided interactive educational exhibits for children and adults in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, and more. With sufficient support from NOAA, the Great Lakes Science Center will install an interactive weather exhibit on their steamship *Mather* which would educate visitors on storms and their impacts on the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes Science Center, with input on content from NOAA's National Weather Service, will develop a storm simulator, accompanying informational panels describing historical storms on the Great Lakes and the Weather Services role then and today. The Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve in Michigan will provide support to the exhibit by providing content for a shipwreck display and help commemorate the centenary of the largest inland maritime disaster of November 1913.

Maine-Built Shipwrecks in the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Interactive Kiosk

\$5,000

*Project Lead: Matthew Lawrence, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Scituate, MA
National Ocean Service*

Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary and Maine's coastal communities have a deep historic maritime connection. Historical reports suggest that more than 60 Maine-built vessels sank in the sanctuary. Archaeological research has located and documented five vessels built in Maine shipyards. All five shipwrecks are now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This project will develop an interactive touchscreen kiosk loaded with vessel profiles, historical imagery, archaeological information, and underwater imagery of the shipwrecks. Maine Maritime Museum, the state's repository of maritime artifacts and stories (many of which pertain to Stellwagen Bank sanctuary's cultural heritage) will host the kiosk at its Bath campus, followed by the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport. The kiosk will travel to other Maine museums when that exhibit is completed. Furthermore, sanctuary staff will connect with Maine residents who are descendants of the sailors involved in these shipwrecks and document their family oral traditions, photographs, and related materials.

A Child's Sanctuary: Exploring the Maritime Heritage of Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

\$12,000

*Project Lead: Anne-Marie Runfola, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Scituate, MA
National Ocean Service*

A *Child's Sanctuary* (CS) events connect children and parents to their local sanctuary and get them excited about the ocean in their backyard. This project will interpret the sanctuary's maritime heritage at an expanded number of communities across New England through CS programming. With engaging activities such as mock shipwreck mapping, "fishing for facts" about plants and animals living on the wrecks, suiting up in dive gear, and hands on experiences with tools underwater archaeologists use, participants learn about the maritime heritage of Stellwagen Bank and the other National Marine Sanctuaries. Ambassadors are either cross-trained venue docents or specially recruited volunteers with connections to the host venues who encourage participants to get involved and take action locally. Funds will be used to refine currently conducted activities, develop an activity manual, and recruit and train Ambassadors to create stand-alone interpretation units at four venues. Each location will receive a "sanctuary treasure chest" event kit that Ambassadors will be trained to deploy as a regular activity.

Hurricane Hunters: A 20th Anniversary Commemoration and Tropical Cyclone Retrospective of Tampa Bay

\$12,000

*Project Lead: Ian Sears, Science and Engineering Branch, Aircraft Operations Center, Tampa, FL
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations*

The NOAA Aircraft Operations Center has conducted their Hurricane Hunter flights from MacDill AFB for the past 20 years. Both the historical records of storms that have impacted the local area as well as the digital and physical records collected by the Hurricane Hunters are perishable and vulnerable to being lost during a future catastrophic event such as flooding, fire, or theft. This project will digitize these records then develop multimedia access to both ensure their preservation, as well as providing educational exposure to residents and guests of the Tampa Bay region while visiting the University of South Florida (USF). In collaboration with USF and NWS Tampa Bay, a website will be developed to digitally preserve the history of the Hurricane Hunters and tropical cyclones in the Tampa Bay region. A display case featuring instrumentation, photographs, and other memorabilia will be included as part of the historical preservation.