

NOAA Sea Grant awards \$11 million to advance U.S. aquaculture through research



NOAA Sea Grant announces 22 aquaculture research projects totaling \$11 million in federal funds. The projects were selected through Sea Grant's 2018 national aquaculture research initiative.

The projects awarded will address specific priorities of the 2018 Sea Grant National Aquaculture Research Initiative including, supporting the development of emerging systems or technologies that will advance aquaculture in the U.S., developing and implementing actionable methods of communicating accurate, science based information about the benefits and risks of U.S. marine aquaculture to the public; and increasing the resiliency of aquaculture systems to natural hazards and changing conditions.

The projects will be conducted over a three year period and include a 50 percent match by non-federal partners. One hundred proposals were submitted requesting a total in \$48 million in federal grant funds.

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Photo (Maria Haws) : Researchers funded by Hawai'i Sea Grant are developing culture methods for the native marine fish species Pacific Threadfin, aka Moi (*Polydactylus sexfilis*), to overcome one of the highest permitting barriers to starting farms. This project complements research to be done by this team on aquaculture of other native Hawaiian species under a recently awarded NOAA Saltonstall-Kennedy grant.

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