

Sea Pact doubles grant awardees

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The seafood sustainability organization Sea Pact will hand out grants to seven groups this year, more than twice its previous amount.

Sea Pact, which is funded by nine North American seafood suppliers, is adding four new projects to its funding list. These include the BC Shrimpers' Association, which is working to mitigate bycatch in British Columbia's shrimp trawl fishery; the Responsible Aquaculture Foundation, which is providing online training for fish farmers; SafetyNet Technologies, which is experimenting with devices to improve catch selectivity; and Blue Ocean Gear, which is developing 'smart traps' for crab and lobster.

Additionally, three previous recipients -- the University of North Texas, Maine's Downeast Institute, and Vancouver Aquarium researcher Shannon Balfry -- saw their grants extended.

"We are very excited to be able to double the number of grant awards this year, with the continued support of our three currently funded projects through one project extension and two full project funding renewals, as well as the addition of four new solution-focused projects being awarded funding for a total of seven concurrent Sea Pact supported projects," Rob Johnson of Sea Pact said.

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