



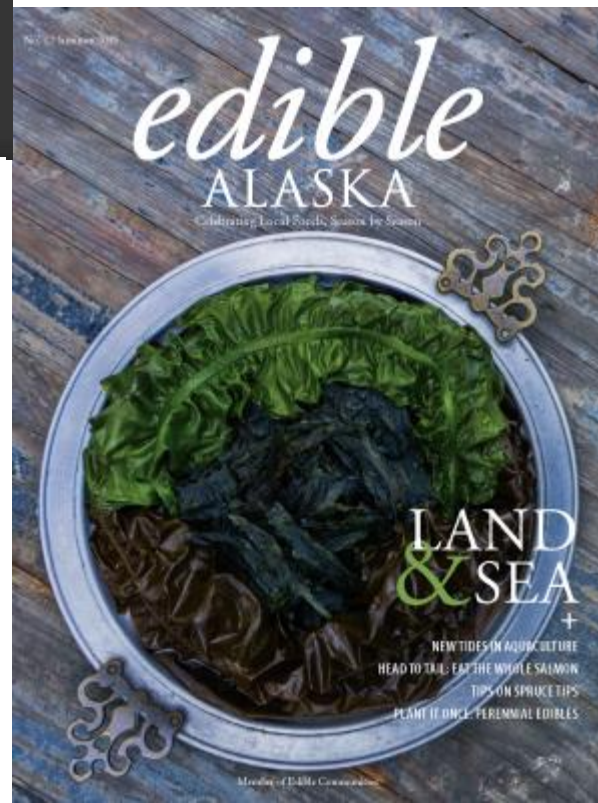
MADE IN ALASKA

MARICULTURE

Mariculture Task Force Updates & Other Activities

Presented to:
SWAMC
March 6, 2020

Presented by:
Julie Decker, AFDF & MTF



AFDF
Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation, Inc.



MADE IN ALASKA

MARICULTURE

ALASKA DIVISION of
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ALASKA
GROWING TO OPPORTUNITY

ALASKA
DEPARTMENT of
COMMERCE,
COMMUNITY,
AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Today's Presentation:

- Review history of MTF
- Action Plan, including state legislation
- Recent activities
- USDA project in SW AK

AFDE

**What is mariculture?
In Alaska, mariculture is NOT...**



Finfish Farming

Finfish farming is prohibited by Alaska Statute 16.40.210.

Mariculture is... enhancement, restoration and farming of shellfish and seaweeds.



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Governor Walker established the Alaska Mariculture Task Force (MTF) by Administrative Order #280 in 2016 & extended it by AO #297 in 2018.

Function: The Alaska Mariculture Task Force will provide recommendations to develop a viable and sustainable mariculture industry producing shellfish and aquatic plants for the long-term benefit of Alaska's economy, environment, and communities.

Governor Dunleavy maintained the Task Force, which is now working closely with the Governor's ***Alaska Development Team*** towards TF priorities.



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MARICULTURE

Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Mariculture Task Force (11 members):

- Jim Andersen, Alaska Dept. of Commerce
- Julie Decker, AFDF
- Ed Douville, Shaan Seet
- Ginny Eckert, Alaska Sea Grant
- Angel Drobnica, Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Assoc.
- Jeff Hetrick, Alutiiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery
- Heather McCarty, Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Sam Rabung, ADFG
- Mike Stekoll, UAF/UAS
- Kate Sullivan, SARDFA
- Eric Wyatt, Blue Starr Oyster Company





Task Force Collaborative Planning Process



PACIFIC
SHELLFISH
INSTITUTE

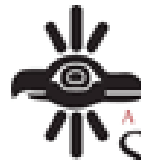


arpa·e
CHANGING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

Blue Evolution
BACK TO THE SOURCE



ALASKA CHAMBER



SEALASKA



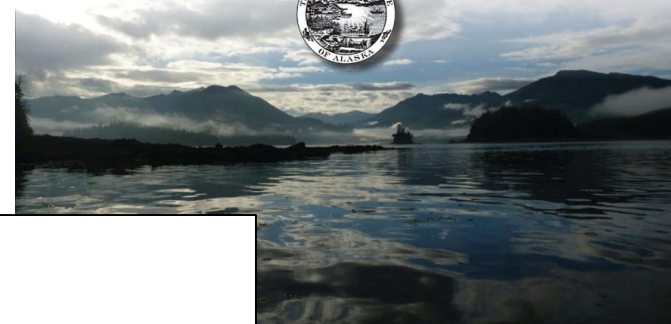
The Nature
Conservancy
Alaska



Comprehensive planning included iterative economic analysis



Alaska Shellfish Farm Size Feasibility Study



Economic Analysis to Inform the Alaska Mariculture Initiative: Phase 1 Case Studies

Prepared for
Alaska Fisheries
Development
Foundation

March 2015



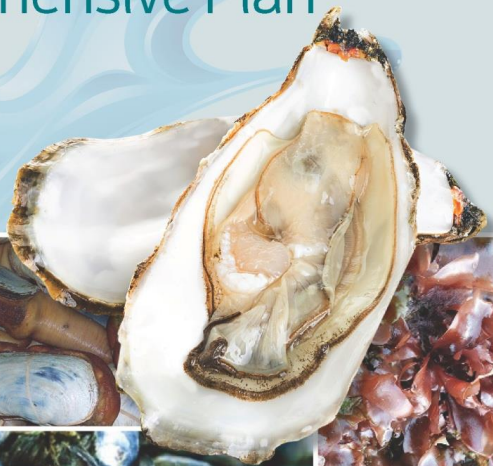
In association with
Pacific Shellfish Institute
Maine Shellfish Research and Development

August 2017

Alaska Mariculture Initiative Economic Analysis to Inform a Comprehensive Plan

PHASE II

Prepared for
Alaska Mariculture
Task Force



Prepared by
**McDowell
GROUP**

ALASKA MARICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

*Goal:
Grow a \$100 million
mariculture industry
in 20 years.*



*Brief & complete versions available.
Also available at: www.afdf.org*

STATE OF ALASKA
MARCH 23, 2018



Five-Year Action Plan

Working Draft Approved as of 2019-12-13

Hot off the press!

Preface: *This Five-Year Action Plan is a working document and is expected to be updated as dynamic changes occur. This version was approved by the Alaska Mariculture Task Force (Task Force) on December 13, 2019. The Action Plan outlines the necessary next steps for developing the mariculture industry. Given the sunset date of the Task Force on June 30, 2021, the Task Force also identified the priority actions below during that period:*

Immediate Priority Actions = 6 months

- EVOS mariculture proposal and other funding sources
- Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund – increase the corpus of the Fund
- Legislation (HB 41, HB 116, ASMI, ecotourism)
- ADNR regulatory/policy-related changes (e.g. reduce application backlog, application and process improvements, adjustments to application fee structure)
- Strategy to support funding for ADEC lab testing fees

Near Term Priority Actions = 18 months

- Creation of Alaska Mariculture Development Council
- Plan for regional hatchery production to meet demand

Additional Priority Recommendations from the Comprehensive Plan (2018)

- Establish a Mariculture Research Center
- Re-establish the Mariculture Specialist position within Alaska Sea Grant

KEY:

**Priority recommendations from comprehensive plan*

Yellow highlight denotes near-term priority actions (next 6-18 months)

Red text denotes actions in progress with Alaska agency staff – re-affirm with State Admin

Green denotes completed actions

Mariculture Legislative Issues

- HB 41 (sponsors = Rep. Ortiz & Senator Stevens)
 - Allows for shellfish enhancement
- HB 116 (sponsor = Rep. Story)
 - Allows simpler process for 10-year lease renewal
- Ecotourism
 - Allows ecotourism & public education at aquatic farms
- ASMI amendment
 - Allows ASMI to market aquatic farm products
- Budget (add DNR staff, PSP testing, ADFG aqua coordinator)

New Food Products



Kelp Beer from Kodiak!

Blue Evolution™
BACK TO THE SOURCE





ALASKA SYMPHONY of SEAFOOD®

Grand Prize Winner



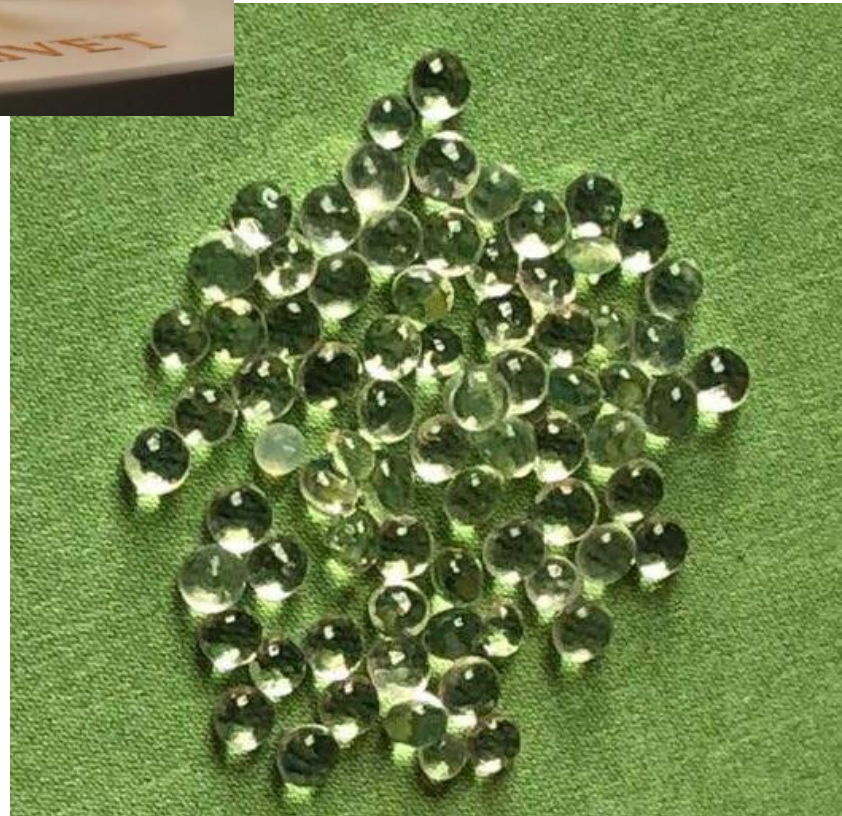
Also, winner of Retail category & Juneau People's Choice



OCEANIUM
Accelerating the Blue Economy

kelp THE WORLD™

Seaweed as Bio-Plastic



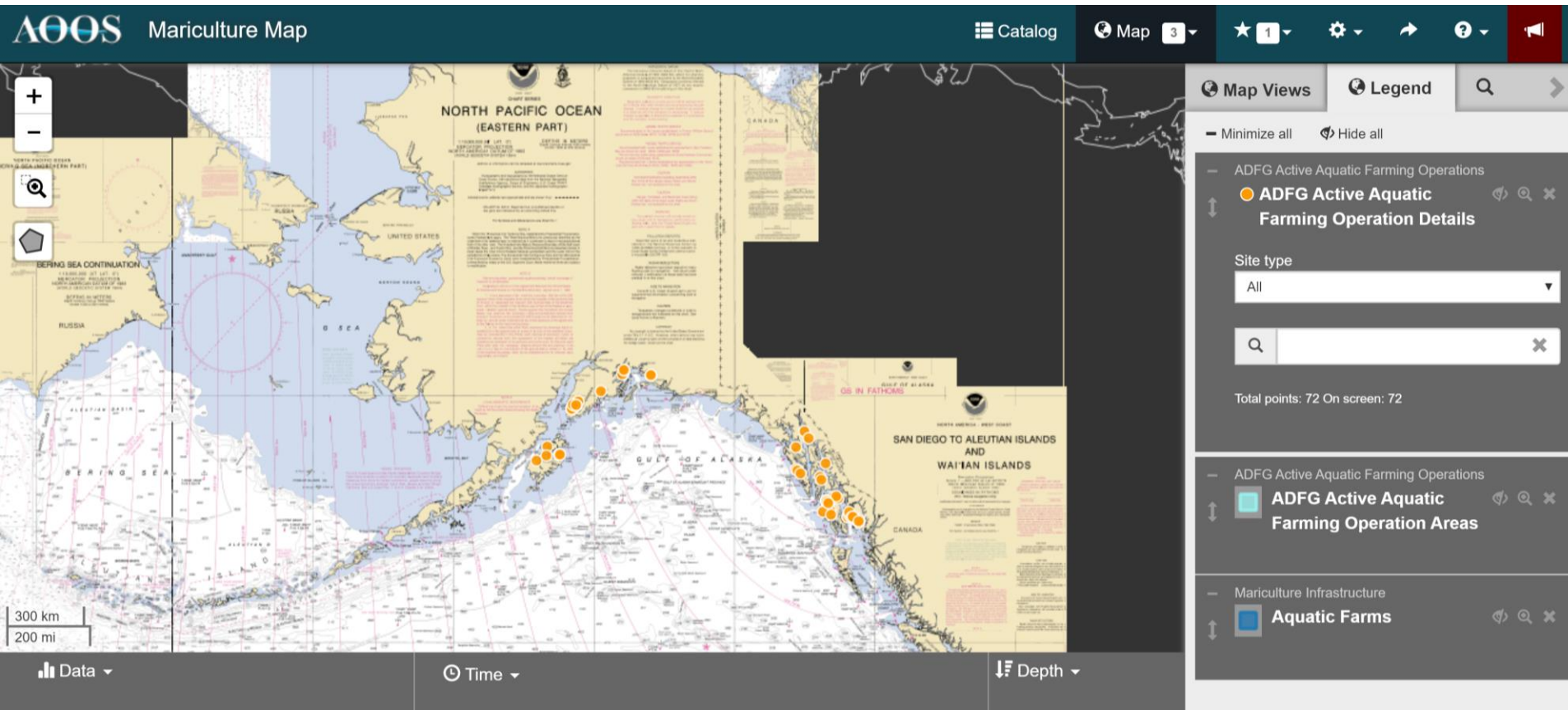
Seaweed Farm Training Workshop

Kodiak, Ketchikan & Sitka
February, 2020; more workshops in 2021
130 applicants for 48 positions



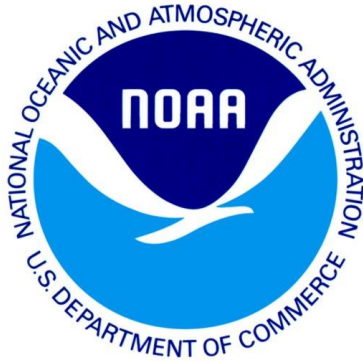
Mariculture Map v1.0

<https://mariculture.portal.aoots.org/>



- *Project Partners: APICDA, Axiom Data Science, Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS), the Nature Conservancy, University of Maine, Maine Shellfish R&D, NOAA, AFDF.*
- *Phase 2 = version 2.0, to be completed August 31, 2020.*

Mariculture: New Personnel



Adding two new mariculture positions in Alaska in policy & macroalgae research

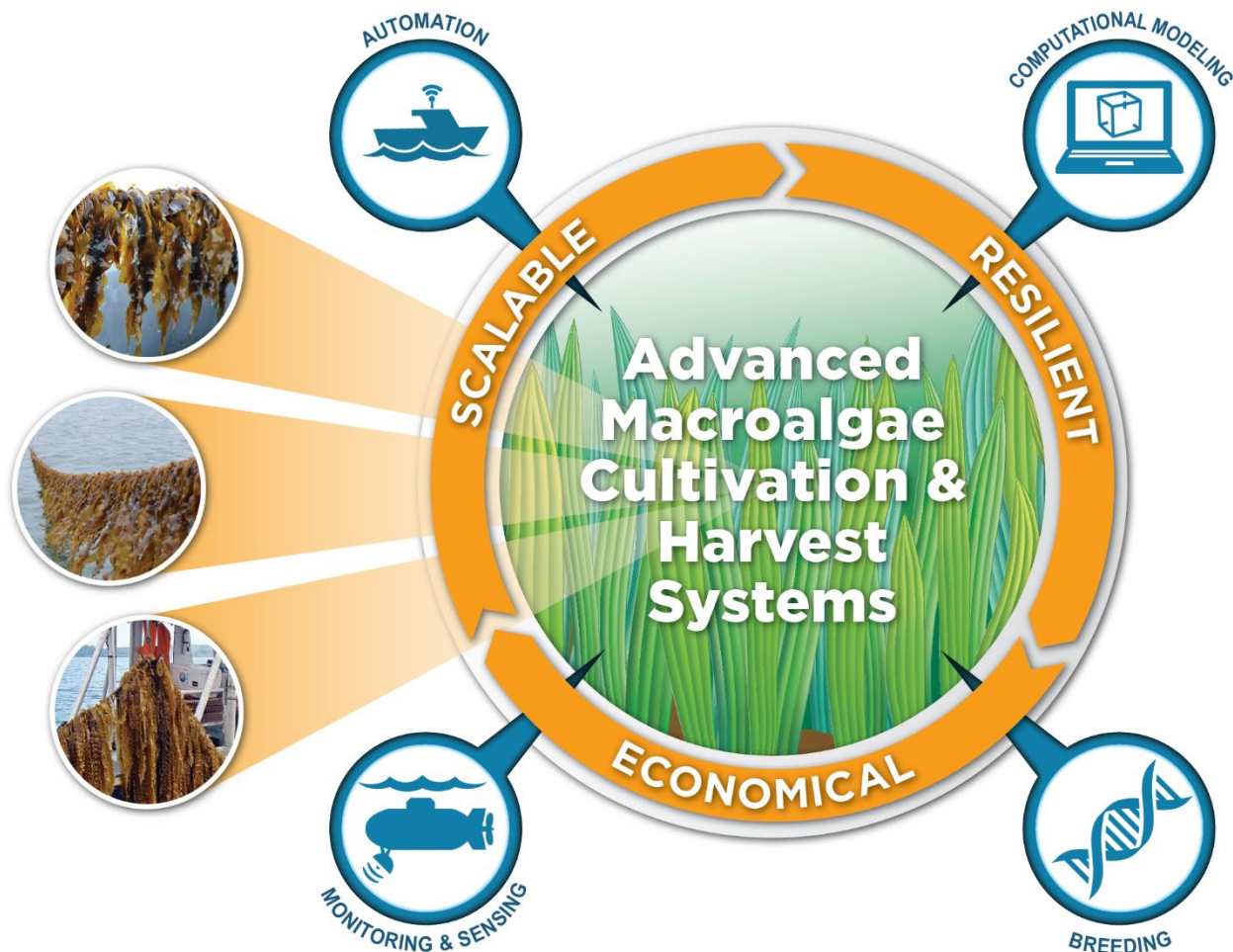
Adding a mariculture research position in Juneau, emphasis in macroalgae



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska



Demo farm and vessels in Kodiak



Macroalgae Biomass:

No Land

No Freshwater

No Fertilizer

MARINER creates new biomass production opportunities for the vast ocean resources of the United States.

Photos copyright (top to bottom):
Daria Barbour/National Geographic; The Island Institute; Bren Smith/Huffington Post

ARPA-E 2020: *UAF Team receives \$2.5 M to focus on growing and harvesting seaweed efficiently & cost-effectively.*

New USDA-funded project: Spawning Mariculture Businesses in SW Alaska

- Goal: Grow new mariculture businesses in SW AK
- Project timeline: Oct. 1, 2019 – Dec. 30, 2020
- Partners: AFDF, SWAMC, APICDA
- Funders: USDA-RD, SWAMC & APICDA
- Contractor: Tamsen Peeples
- Outreach & technical assistance provided in SW Alaska communities



Committed to the future of rural communities.



Spawning Mariculture Businesses in SW Alaska

Activity 1) Outreach and Public Education in SW AK communities

Informational public presentations will be held in at least three communities to discuss the local opportunities for local farm and business development.

Activity 2) Site Plans - Developing Technical Knowledge to Build and Operate Farms

At least 6 prospective new farmers will be selected from those who have participated in activity 1; will receive info & support in the development of a site plan for a new farm (appropriate species, processes, gear, and engineering requirements to develop farms).

Activity 3) Business Plans - Create Template & Apply to Individual Farms

A template business plan will be used to support 6 prospective farmers who participated in activities 1 & 2.

Activity 4) Prepare New Aquatic Farm Lease Applications to ADNDR

Using products from activities 1-3, support prospective farmers to prepare mariculture site lease applications to ADNDR.



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Spawning Mariculture Businesses in SW Alaska

Deliverables (minimum):

- 3 community outreach meetings
- 30 individuals who receive info regarding mariculture farming and its potential opportunities & benefits
- 6 individual complete site plans
- 6 individual complete business plans
- 3 new mariculture farm applications submitted to ADNR



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Spawning Mariculture Businesses in SW Alaska

If you live in SW AK and you or your community are interested in receiving technical assistance for mariculture development, please contact AFDF:

Tamsen Peeples

tamsen.peeples@gmail.com

Julie Decker

jdecker@afdf.org



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