

**Alaska Mariculture Task Force
Summary of Advisory Committee Recommendations**

01/06/2018 - includes re-numbered elements

Advisory Committee	#	Other Info	Name of Recommendation	Summary	AC Priority	Elements	Priority in Plan	Timeline (Years)	Responsible Entity
Regulatory Issues	1	ADFG	new legislation to allow shellfish enhancement	restoration, rehabilitation & enhancement are not currently legal	1	1, 4	1	1	Legislature, ADFG
Regulatory Issues	2	ADFG	amend reg to allow importation of seed	amend 5 AAC 41.070 to allow importation of seed from Alaska broodstock; currently allowed for only oyster & W. scallop	2	1	2	2	BOF, ADFG
Regulatory Issues	3-A	ADFG	adopt reg clarifying possible exceptions to genetics policy	sterile stock & species that do not reproduce do not need to be subject to genetics policy	2	1, 4	2	2	ADFG
Regulatory Issues	3-B	ADFG	adopt reg to require timeline for genetic stock structure data	when a lack of data for a species exists, require a timeline for data collection in order to reduce precautionary restrictions	2	3, 4	2	2	ADFG
Regulatory Issues	4	ADFG	amend statute & reg to remove "initial"	stock acquisition is limited to only initial needs, however, hatcheries may need more than just initial stocks	3	4	3	3	Legislature, ADFG
Regulatory Issues	5	ADFG	avoid excessive details in applications	adhere to actual language in statute/reg for info requests in applications	1	4	1	1	ADFG
Regulatory Issues	6-A	DNR	amend reg to allow reduced initial lease fees	allow for deferring portion of fee, or graduated increase, until farm is under full production	1	4	1	TBD	DNR
Regulatory Issues	6-B	DNR	reduce bond amounts with training/experience (low risk)	consider farmers with demonstrated training or experience for reduced bond amount	2	4	2	TBD	DNR
Regulatory Issues	6-C	DNR	adopt industry best practices	increases new farmer success (reduces risk of failure)	3	2, 4	3	TBD	Industry, DNR
Regulatory Issues	7-A	DNR	new legislation to create bond pool	pool could reduce individual bond requirements while maintaining DNR ability to clean-up abandoned sites	2	4	1	TBD	Legislature, DNR
Regulatory Issues	7-B	DNR	obtain legal authority for agreements between farmers for clean-up	DNR could offer bond & abandoned gear to other farmers for clean-up services	2	4	1	TBD	Legislature, DNR
Regulatory Issues	8	DNR	new legislation to create insurance coverage	commercial liability & workers comp insurance is expensive; potentially address thru legislation	2	4	2	TBD	Legislature, DCCED, DNR
Regulatory Issues	9	DNR	amend commercial use requirement	amend reg to allow shorter/longer term for commercial use requirements, depending upon species	1	4	1	TBD	DNR
Regulatory Issues	10	DNR	amend reg to allow reduced lease fees	allow for reduced lease fee for area not under full production (anchors, scope, etc)	2	4	1	TBD	DNR
Regulatory Issues	11	DNR	limit lease fee increases	do not allow lease fees to increase during the effective period of the lease, which leads to uncertainty in operational expenses	1	4	1	TBD	DNR
Regulatory Issues	12	DEC	allow data to be visible	data collected for water sampling & PSP is important for other farmers (either nearby or new start-ups) to access; need to support DEC's completion of web access to this data	1	4, 6	1	1	DEC
Regulatory Issues	13-A	DEC	support certification of new labs & testing methods	enables efficiencies in transportation, test results & fee reductions	1	5	2	TBD	DEC
Regulatory Issues	13-B	DEC	support research into depuration & certification of process	enables continued sales if PSP levels/events increase	2	3	3	TBD	Industry, DEC
Regulatory Issues	14	All	new legislation to designate board or group to represent industry (ASGA?)	need organized industry group to interact with regulatory agencies	2	2	1	1	Legislature
Regulatory Issues	15	All	direct regulatory agencies to adopt advocacy approach to mariculture industry	for benefit of the state, regulators should seek to enable responsible industry growth	1	4, 6	1	1	Governor, Commissioners

Regulatory Issues	16	All	utilize industry best practices to reduce regulatory hurdles	amend agency regs to allow flexibility to reduce regulatory hurdles when best practices are demonstrated	3	4	1	TBD	All
Regulatory Issues	NEW	DNR	build tribal & local outreach into application process	build tribal & local outreach during farm lease application process; intended to avoid conflict and increase rate of success for new farm apps		4, 6	2	TBD	Industry, DNR
Public Ed & Marketing	1	Public Ed	provide public outreach	provide public outreach to multiple audiences to help assure realistic & positive views of mariculture & support mariculture development in AK		6			
Public Ed & Marketing	2	Public Ed	provide sources of practical & factual information	all stakeholders require practical & factual information upon which to form opinions; lack of information create vacuums which fill with misinformation or fear		6, 7			
Public Ed & Marketing		Public Ed	coordination of advocacy & info	existing entities perform parts of each function; how do we see it performed in the future?		2, 6			
Public Ed & Marketing	2	Public Ed	identify priority groups & develop effective communication with each	effective communication may be written material, presentations, meetings, ongoing coordination with groups or individuals		6			
Public Ed & Marketing	3	Public Ed	identify authority & responsibility for implementation of comp plan	crucial step for the MTF; also important to identify capacity of each		2			
Public Ed & Marketing	4	Public Ed	provide central clearing-house for mariculture info	web-based information related to mariculture in Alaska, including comp plan implementation		2, 6			
Public Ed & Marketing	5	Public Ed	recognize & counter opposition to mariculture & aquaculture	issues include potential for environmental damage, genetics, conflicting users, market competition, aesthetics		6			
Public Ed & Marketing	6	Public Ed	expand formal education in mariculture	expand capacity of University, ANSEP to educate/train for all levels of workers (including researchers, hatchery, business, etc)		6, 7, 8			
Public Ed & Marketing		Marketing	consider future contribution mechanism to ASMI funding	existing seafood industry funds portion of ASMI thru industry taxes; other revenue sources are state & federal funds		9			
Public Ed & Marketing		Marketing	revise ASMI strategic plan & tag line to include mariculture products & messaging	may need to consider shifting focus away from "wild" messaging to something more inclusive (Alaska Grown, Alaska Pure, etc.)		5, 9			
Public Ed & Marketing		Marketing	con't to build collaboration between ASMI & Alaska Grown	build synergy with a larger group of Alaska Food Producers; Alaska Grown is already accessible to aquatic farmers		5, 9			
Public Ed & Marketing		Marketing	increase awareness of mariculture products	this may help marketing of Alaska seafood products by offering wider range of products to customers		6, 9			
Public Ed & Marketing		Marketing	include general education about mariculture at every level of marketing	similar to inclusion of sustainability in wild seafood marketing		6, 9			
Public Ed & Marketing	NEW	Public Ed	build tribal & local outreach into application process	build tribal & local outreach during farm lease application process; intended to avoid conflict and increase rate of success for new farm apps		4, 6			
Investment & Infrastructure	1	Infrastructure	GIS map tool	provides initial siting info to potential investors/regulators, while highlighting future research gaps	near-term	3, 5, 6			
Investment & Infrastructure	2	Infrastructure	seafood processor outreach	inform existing owners of seafood plants of potentials for diversification	mid-term	5, 6, 9			
Investment & Infrastructure	1	Investment	amend Mar Rev Loan Fund to include hatcheries	allows support for hatcheries during industry's developmental phase; also need con't effort to align industry needs with private & public funding opportunities	near-term	1, 4, 5			
Investment & Infrastructure	2	Investment	new legislation to allow shellfish enhancement	provides a regulatory framework to allow shellfish enhancement & restoration	near-term	1, 4			

Investment & Infrastructure	3	Investment	list of funding sources for mariculture development	develop single website outlining & linking to applicable funding sources	near-term	5			
Investment & Infrastructure	4	Investment	promote cooperative investment structures	coops offer members many benefits (efficiencies, shared risk, common facilities, seed, markets, etc) & are an model used in both seafood & agriculture	long-term	1, 5			
Investment & Infrastructure	5	Investment	new or increased revolving loan funds	with increased participants, demand for the state's existing RLF may quickly surpass capital	near-term	1, 5			
Investment & Infrastructure	6	Investment	business development training program	financial training targeting development of business plans for new entrants to successfully apply for loans	mid-term	8			
Investment & Infrastructure	7	Investment	facilitate strategic partnerships	leverage assets by developing strategic partnerships: gov (local, state, fed), Native, industry, etc	near-term	1, 2, 5, 7			
Investment & Infrastructure	8	Investment	State of AK commitment to support mariculture & comp plan	gain commitment from State to support comp plan & define state role (Gov letter, Leg. Resolution, etc)	near-term	2, 4, intro			
Investment & Infrastructure	9	Investment	support con't learning thru visits to other regions of world	information sharing between existing industry & potential investors is important to efficient growth of industry	mid-term	GP#6			
Investment & Infrastructure	10	Investment	fact sheet for investors	new investors need info (growth rates, PSP, etc) to develop business plans & assess opportunities; may be included in map tool	long-term	5, 6			
Investment & Infrastructure	NEW	Investment	encourage NOAA to hire Aquaculture Coordinator in Alaska Region	new investors need info (growth rates, PSP, etc) to develop business plans & assess opportunities; may be included in map tool	near-term	5, 6			
Workforce Development	1		encourage hire of Alaska Sea Grant Mariculture Specialist	previous position held, but not re-filled after a retirement		3, 5, 6, 8	1	1	UAF/Alaska Sea Grant
Workforce Development	2		Develop & circulate mariculture skill-building resources	offer professional development to growers, available remotely & in-person		7, 8	1	1	Alaska Sea Grant
Workforce Development	3		offer intensive, hands-on bootcamp	provides "Introduction to Shellfish/Seaweed Farming" for new farmers or farm employees		7, 8	1	2	ASG, tribes, industry collaboration
Workforce Development	4		develop a mariculture apprenticeship/mentorship program	build on progress to date with informal, flexible program		7, 8	2	3	ASG, tribes, industry
Workforce Development	5		participate in industry career awareness activities	include in high school programs		7, 8	2	2	industry, ASG
Workforce Development	6		evaluate & track participant progress	include mariculture workforce impacts in economic & employment analyses		6, 7, 8	3	2	ASG
R & D & Environmental Info		AMCC diagram	create Alaska Mariculture Coordinating Council	see diagram & description in R&D AC recommendations	near-term	1			
R & D & Environmental Info		AMCC diagram	create Mariculture Research Center (MRC) at University of Alaska	see diagram & description in R&D AC recommendations	near-term	3			
R & D & Environmental Info		AMCC diagram	hire/appt Director of MRC	see diagram & description in R&D AC recommendations	near-term	3			
R & D & Environmental Info		AMCC diagram	create MRC Advisory Body	see diagram & description in R&D AC recommendations	near-term	3			
R & D & Environmental Info		AMCC diagram	hire Alaska Sea Grant Mariculture Specialist	see diagram & description in R&D AC recommendations	near-term	3 & 5-9			
R & D & Environmental Info		AMCC diagram	host annual R&D Forum	see diagram & description in R&D AC recommendations	near-term	3			
R & D & Environmental Info			list of near-term priorities	see full list in R&D AC recommendations	near-term	3			
R & D & Environmental Info			list of intermediate priorities	see full list in R&D AC recommendations	mid-term	3			

R & D & Environmental Info		list of long-term priorities	see full list in R&D AC recommendations	long-term	3			
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