Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Established by Governor Walker's Administrative Order #280

Directive: "to 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"

AGENDA

March 14, 2017, 1:00pm-4:00pm
DCCED Commissioner's Conference Room, 333 W Willoughby 9th Floor, Juneau, AK
Teleconference info: 1-800-315-6338 access code: 29660

1) Roll Call
2) Review and approve agenda
3) Review and approve minutes: February 17, 2017
4) Public introductions & comments
5) Old business
   a. Updates from Advisory Committee (AC) Chairs
      i. Mike Stekoll – Research, Development & Environmental Info AC
      ii. Sam Rabung – Regulatory Issues AC
      iii. Angel Drobnica & Jeff Hetrick – Investment & Infrastructure AC
      iv. Paula Cullenberg – Workforce Development AC
      v. Heather McCarty – Public Education & Marketing AC
   b. Update on past presentations - none
   c. Update on ARPA-E – none
   d. Form to document MTF member time for in-kind match to NOAA grant
   e. Update on legislation
      i. HB 76 - Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund
      ii. HB 128 – Shellfish enhancement
6) New Business
   a. Communications - Upcoming presentation opportunities:
      i. SE Conference, Julie Decker, March 14 @ 3pm
      ii. Others?
   b. McDowell Group discussion:
      i. Report on progress to date
      ii. Outline of Phase 2
      iii. Other
   c. Discuss New Zealand Aquaculture Strategy:
      i. Phase I (see binder or link)
      ii. Phase II (see binder or link)
      iii. Phase II - 5-year Action Plan (see binder, link or attached)
   d. Updated outline of comprehensive planning process
7) Next Steps & homework assignments
8) Set next 3 meetings - date/time/place (April 26, May 25, ?)
9) Closing Comments

**Attachments:**
- MTF Minutes, February 17, 2017 - DRAFT
- Advisory Committee Agendas/Minutes/Notes (see MTF website)
- Matching Grant Fund Form
- CSHB 76 – Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund (see link or separate attachment)
- MTF Letter of support for HB 76 – FINAL
- HB 128 - Shellfish Enhancement Bill
- MTF Letter of support for HB 128 - FINAL
- Outline of Phase 2 by McDowell Group
- New Zealand Aquaculture Strategy:
  - Phase I
  - Phase II
  - Phase II – 5-year Action Plan
Alaska Mariculture Task Force (MTF) Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2017

Attendees
Mariculture Task Force members attending: Julie Decker, Angel Drobnica, Sam Rabung, Eric Wyatt, Jeff Hetrick, Paula Cullenberg, Kate Sullivan, Mike Stekoll, Heather McCarty, Chris Whitehead, Chris Hladick
Members of the Public: Tomi Marsh- Ocean’s Alaska, Tamsen Peeples- Blue Evolution, Kirsten Shelton-Walker and Susan Bell- McDowell Group, Charlotte Regula-Whitefield- Senator Murkowski’s office, Paul Fuhs- Alaska Longneck Farms, Bobby Hudson- Pacific Shellfish Institute, Eva Bornstein- Juneau Economic Development Council, Bill Hines- NOAA Fisheries, Barbara Blake- Office of Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott, Christy Collins and Adam Smith- Department of Natural Resources, Cynthia Pring-ham- Department of Fish and Game, Linda Mattson - Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Materials distributed to task force members included: Agenda for February 17 meeting, minutes from January 11 meeting; AC Chairs and McDowell Group Meeting minutes, advisory committee minutes, MTF Handout, Press Release, HB 76, Shellfish Enhancement bill, draft letters of support for draft bills, MTF Planning diagram

8:03am Chairman Chris Hladick called the meeting to order
Agenda was reviewed
No changes to agenda- agenda adopted

January 11 meeting minutes were reviewed
Minutes: no changes were made to the minutes. Julie Decker motioned to approve the minutes; Sam Rabung seconded. Minutes approved.

Public Introductions & Comment
Public comment- Paul Fuhs Alaska Longneck Farms spoke on the Department of Natural Resources requirements and logistical struggles that exist to market his product. He will work with Sam Raybung to provide further feedback on the regulations.

Charlotte Whitetail- Senator Murkowski’s office- joined and thanked the task force for holding the meeting

Special Presentations
Kirstin Shelton-Walker updated the task force on phase 2 and 3; they are doing industry profiles on industry species in Alaska and are conducting interviews with both industry and government contacts to see the opportunities and wins that exist in this area. They will also
do research on how to support the different industries that fall under the subject of mariculture. They will create an economic framework for how things could move forward with regards to mariculture that could be included in the final comprehensive plan that is submitted to Governor Walker. After the report, they will do a cost benefit analysis of the economic impact of the plan for phase three.

Heather McCarty asked Kirstin regarding the farms in the industry and including hatcheries in their research. They have included hatcheries. McDowell group is also looking for input on the subject of hatcheries versus enhancement.

McDowell group will get the MTF a timeline for dates for completion of industry interviews, and when they have finished looking at the investment strategies from both public and private industries, and once they have a finished rough draft of their plan.

Old Business:

Updates from Advisory Committee Chairs:

Sam Rabung- Regulatory Issues (meeting scheduled for Feb 28)
Jeff Hetrick & Angel Drobnica- the Investment & Infrastructure (met on Jan 20)
Paula Cullenberg- Workforce Development (met on Feb 8)
Heather McCarty- Public Education and Marketing (met on Feb 14)
Mike Stekoll- Research, Development & Environmental Information (have met twice since Jan 11, will get notes to Sam to include in the website)

Notes from AC updates
Regulatory Issues AC: Adam Smith from DNR assisted Sam in update and they are crafting recommendations to bring to the full MTF
Research, Development and Environmental Information AC: identified short, mid, and long term goals
  • Short term: focus on species and combining what they've already done within that context and see what needs to be done for each. Come up with some short term goals for research that needs to be done to support the industry and also research environmental factors that can affect shellfish.
  • Mid term: look farther out to potential species and looking to other places for their technology on how to import species to Alaska Long term: put together ideas for overarching research structure for mariculture in Alaska.
  • Sam Rabung posed the question to see if the AC supports baseline studies on indigenous stocks with regards to transporting grow out. They are researching the issue.
  • Paul Fuhs requested that the AC research to test better for Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP). Heather mentioned that there were several projects that were in the works to develop an in the field test kit. Chris expounded on the bio toxin testing in the Sitka lab and are in the process of working with the State and the FDA to offer the receptor binding assay method and have it utilized for commercial geoduck harvesting.
  • Chris will provide Mike a short summary of the work that they have been doing on PSP.
  • Kate: the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is in the final process of getting the HPLC method approved as well.

Investment and Infrastructure AC: will work with McDowell group to help identify a common format for gathering information and recommendation
Public Education and Marketing AC: discussion on ideas to include both marketing, public education, and product development information in the full comprehensive plan

- Jeff Hetrick will talk to Heather off line on marketing thoughts that he has that he would like to be addressed
- Barbara Blake met with Dan Cornelius with Intertribal Agriculture Council as well as Ross Racine and Zach Ducheneaux ED and Dir of the Intertribal Agriculture Council and suggested to the task force that they should start engaging with native aquaculture groups.
- Kate mentioned that if the task force is going to recommend doing business with the EU, that they must also consider the cost.
- Workforce Development AC: updated task force on the incentives for new people to get into the industry and the incentives for farmers to have new people train on their farms. They also discussed resources needed to facilitate workforce development.

Update on past presentations

- Sam Rabung will get the presentation that was put on by the Sitka Sound Science center regarding seaweeds and salmon hatchery infrastructure
- Paula Cullenberg was on a panel with Hunter Painter- Alutiiq Pride Hatchery and Karen from DNR in front of Chugach region summit.
- JEDC Innovation Summit- Tamsen and Julie presented; at the summit announced the Path to Prosperity award and the winner was Wild Alaska Kelp Company.

Update on ARPA-E (seaweed as biofuel)
Julie updated MTF on ARPA-E: the company that is researching ways to turn seaweed into biofuel. Pre-proposal deadline was Feb 14th. AFDF submitted a pre-proposal and they are waiting to see if they will be selected to submit a full proposal in the spring. AFDF sees their role as one of helping to coordinate and communicate to be sure that Alaska activity is integrated in the program. The goal of the grant is to increase the efficiency of growing and harvesting seaweed.

Updates on Shellfish Enhancement Bill- HB 128
Fish & Game are scheduled to attend the hearings

- Heather McCarty motioned to accept the letter as drafted with amendments understood in discussion; Sam Rabung seconded
- Discussion to amend the content of the letter
- Julie Decker moved to amend the letter by striking "in a similar fashion as the current management of salmon fishery enhancement and hatcheries" HM seconded amendment passed Main letter motion carried- letter as amended approved
- Motion to approve the letter as amended passed
- Jeff Hetrick requested that if the bill is passed to please have F&G work with the industry to input the regulations that would be drafted as a result

Updates on Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund bill- HB 76

- Members engaged in a discussion on working with the sponsor of the bill to amend it to make it mirror more of the salmon hatchery loan fund. Division of Economic
Development Director Britteny Cioni-Haywood joined the meeting to discuss DED's role in the bill

- Heather McCarty motioned to accept the letter as drafted with amendments understood in discussion; Julie Decker seconded
- Julie Decker motioned to amend the letter by striking "similar to how the salmon hatches have been able to apply for loan funds through the fisheries enhancement revolving loan fund" and add at the end of the paragraph "Additionally, the task force would like to work with your office to make changes to HB 76 to more fully meet the needs of this developing industry and to accommodate provisions included in the passage of HB 128. Heather McCarty seconded
- Sam suggested an amendment to the amendment to add the words "from the mariculture revolving loan fund to the end of the sentence that was struck"
- Amendment as amended passed
- Main letter motion carried- letter as amended approved

Both Sam Rabung and Commissioner Hladick will check to see if they can include their names in the letters of support.

New Business:
Communications-Upcoming presentation opportunities
- March 14th Southeast Conference presentation
- Julie will work with the United Fishermen of Alaska to garner support for the two bills

Updated outline of comprehensive planning process
- Heather McCarty suggested to add a line that goes from the McDowell group updating the task force to the final plan
- Sam Rabung suggested that the “McDowell completes phase three” and “the revise draft bubbles” be swapped (suggestion agreed with and accepted by the task force)
- September 1- McDowell group brings their report to MTF and it goes into the comprehensive plan along with the components from the MTF AC's which together will become the draft of the compressive plan.
- Heather McCarty noted that the parts of the comprehensive plan that the MTF going to be responsible for needs to be identified before September 1.
- Sam Rabung recommended that since the AC's portion is due April 1, that will inform what goes into phase 2 of the McDowell group study; and that will get us to a starting point of the draft that we will get back.
- Heather McCarty suggested to move the “MTF creates draft comprehensive plan” bubble to after the April 1 deadline.
- Julie Decker suggested to amend the comprehensive plan timeline after we receive the timeline from the McDowell group Commissioner Hladick- box coming out of April 1 McDowell begins phase 2 and MTF begins drafting comprehensive plan; MTF creates draft comprehensive plan
- Julie Decker recommended that two bubbles under April 1 should be added
  - McDowell creates outline of phase 2
  - MTF creates outline of draft comprehensive plan
- McDowell group will work with the AC's to be sure that the outline format is the same
• As the work of the public education task force will not be covered by the McDowell group, Heather McCarty will bring back an outline by April 1 to the MTF. Between April 1 and September 1 they will begin to flesh out the outline.
• AC deadlines are due April 15th so that they can be distributed to the task force members.
• McDowell group will have their outline to MTF by March meeting.
• Heather recommended that the comprehensive plan be kept on the agenda so that the MTF can tweak it at every meeting.

Form to document MTF Member time for in-kind match to NOAA grant
• Julie Decker will draft a form to keep track of MTF time, AC work, and time spent on homework.
• Linda will distribute to MTF members once Julie has the form.

Discussion regarding options for funding/resources to facilitate MTF
• Julie has spoken with NOAA and a couple other agencies on this subject.
• Charlotte Regula-Whitefield provided a small introduction to the MTF; they are hopeful that she could help identify federal programs that might help fund the MTF work.
• There is a potential USDA rural development grant that might be helpful. Julie is doing some additional research on this grant. We need approximately $50,000.
• Commissioner Hladick recommended drafting a budget to implement the strategic plan.

Discussion communication/work with Congressional Delegation
• Barbara Blake is checking to see if Murkowski and Sullivan will have receptions while they are in Alaska on break.
• Senator Murkowski is going to the Symphony of Seafood event.
• Eric Elam is the person on Senator Sullivan’s staff to contact regarding mariculture issues.
• Heather recommended to get in touch with Senator Sullivan's staff as he is on the fisheries committee. Barbara is coordinating meetings with the delegation and requested the task force members send her any topics to discuss with them.

Homework:
AC Chairs- send Sam Rabung any information that you have regarding meetings to post on the mariculture website.
MTF Members- sent Heather McCarty ideas on groups that the task force should present to.
Work on legislation with Rep. Ortiz's office and other members of the legislature to garner support.

Next meeting dates:
March 14, 2017 from 8am to 12pm
April 26, 2017 from 9am to 1pm
TENT: May 25, 2017 from 8am to 12pm

10:53am Meeting adjourned by Chairman Hladick.
Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation  
Matching Grant Funds - Documentation Form  
Mariculture Task Force Meetings

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The above signatures certify that these members of the Mariculture Task Force spent the hours listed above in either meetings or preparation time for meetings of this group and that these salaries were paid by non-federal funds.
RE: Support for HB 76 – Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund

Dear Representative Ortiz,

February 24, 2017

The Alaska Mariculture Task Force (Task Force) would like to express support for HB 76. The Task Force recognizes that HB 76 is part of a larger effort to develop mariculture in Alaska.

At the request of industry and communities, Governor Walker established the Task Force by Administrative Order #280. The Governor recognized that a developed mariculture industry will have economic, environmental, cultural, industrial and food security benefits to Alaskans. Members of the Task Force were appointed in May, 2016. The Governor’s directive to the Task Force is to provide recommendations for a comprehensive plan 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. The Task Force must complete its work by March 1, 2018.

The Task Force would like to highlight that we are using the following guiding principles in our work to develop the mariculture industry:

1) Mariculture is defined as enhancement of wild fisheries and aquatic farming of shellfish and aquatic plants. Mariculture does not include finfish farming, which is not allowed in Alaska.
2) The development of the mariculture industry will be compatible with Alaska’s reputation as a world leader in responsible and sustainable management of its seafood resources.
3) The development of the mariculture industry will be stakeholder-driven.
4) The development of the mariculture industry will coordinate and integrate with those entities conducting ocean monitoring in order to inform research and management of changing ocean conditions.

HB 76 plays an important role in the development of mariculture in Alaska. HB 76 allows for shellfish and seaweed hatcheries to apply for loan funds from the Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund. This will provide an important source of support for these new hatcheries. Additionally, the Task Force would like to work with your office to make changes to HB 76 to more fully meet the needs of this developing industry and to accommodate provisions included with the passage of HB 128.
The Task Force has identified shellfish and seaweed hatcheries as a critical piece of infrastructure that is necessary for the development of mariculture in Alaska. However, the financial support of these operations is difficult during the developmental stage of the industry when the industry is too small to financially support these operations entirely through seed sales. This type of support will help to break the chicken-or-egg stage of the industry and provide the support to help the industry to grow past this stage.

The Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund is an existing $5 million asset of the State of Alaska that was created to help develop the mariculture industry by providing loans to aquatic farmers. However, if farmers do not have a consistent source of seed to purchase, it is difficult for them to grow and expand their businesses, including accessing this loan fund. HB 76 will amend the Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund to more effectively and fully deploy this asset to develop the mariculture industry.

Thank you for sponsoring this important legislation. The Task Force supports HB 76 and appreciates your proactive role in introducing the legislation. If there are any questions, you may contact members of the Task Force.

Sincerely,

Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Cc:
Representative Stutes, Chair, House Fisheries Committee: Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov
Reid Harris, Staff, House Fisheries Committee: Reid.Harris@akleg.gov
A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED
"An Act relating to management of enhanced stocks of shellfish; authorizing certain nonprofit organizations to engage in shellfish enhancement projects; relating to application fees for salmon hatchery permits; and providing for an effective date."
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 16.05.730(c) is amended to read:
(c) The board may

(1) consider the need of enhancement projects authorized under AS 16.10.400 and contractors who operate state-owned enhancement projects under AS 16.10.480 to harvest and sell fish produced by the enhancement project that are not needed for brood stock to obtain funds for the purposes allowed under AS 16.10.450 or 16.10.480(d);

(2) consider the need of enhancement projects authorized under AS 16.12.010 to harvest and sell shellfish that are not needed for brood stock to obtain funds for the purposes allowed under AS 16.12.080;
(3) [THE BOARD MAY] exercise its authority under this title as it considers necessary to direct the department to provide a reasonable harvest of fish, in addition to the fish needed for brood stock, to an enhancement project to obtain funds for the enhancement project if the harvest is consistent with sustained yield of wild fish stocks; and

(4) [THE BOARD MAY] adopt a fishery management plan to provide fish to an enhancement project to obtain funds for the purposes allowed under AS 16.10.450₃ [OR] 16.10.480(d), or AS 16.12.080.

* Sec. 2. AS 16.10.400(b) is amended to read:

(b) The application for a permit under this section shall be on a form prescribed by the department and be accompanied by an application fee of $1,000 [$100]. The commissioner may waive the submission of an application for a permit to operate a hatchery under AS 16.10.480.

* Sec. 3. AS 16 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:


Sec. 16.12.010. Permits for shellfish enhancement projects. (a) Subject to the restrictions imposed by statute or regulation under this chapter, the commissioner may issue a permit to a nonprofit corporation organized under AS 10.20 for a shellfish enhancement project.

(b) Each applicant for a permit under this section shall apply in a format prescribed by the department and pay an application fee of $1,000.

(c) A permit issued under this section is nontransferable. If a permit holder sells or leases a facility for which a permit has been issued under this section, the new operator shall apply for a permit under this section.

(d) The commissioner shall consult with and solicit recommendations from federal and state agencies and technical experts in the relevant area regarding permit stipulations and issuance.

(e) The commissioner may not issue a permit under this section unless the commissioner determines that the action would result in substantial public benefits and would not jeopardize natural stocks.

Sec. 16.12.020. Hearings before permit issuance. (a) At least 30 days before
the issuance of a permit under AS 16.12.010, the department shall hold a public

(b) Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general
circulation once a week for three consecutive weeks, with completion of the notice at
least five days before the hearing.

(c) The department shall conduct the hearing. The applicant shall present a
plan for the proposed shellfish enhancement project describing relevant facts that may
be of interest to the department or to the public and the capacity of the facility. The
department shall give interested members of the public an opportunity to be heard.

(d) The department shall record and consider objections and recommendations
offered by the public at the hearing conducted under this section. The department shall
respond in writing, not later than 30 days after the hearing is held, to a specific
objection offered by a member of the public at the hearing.

Sec. 16.12.030. Conditions of a permit. The department shall require, in a
permit issued under this chapter, that the permit holder

(1) procure shellfish from the department or a source approved by the
department;

(2) place shellfish only in water of the state specifically designated in
the permit;

(3) not procure or place genetically modified shellfish into the water of
the state;

(4) not resell or transfer shellfish sold to a permit holder by the state or
by another party approved by the department;

(5) not release shellfish before approval of the department, and, for
purposes of pathological examination and approval, that the permit holder notify the
department at least 15 days before the date of the proposed release of shellfish;

(6) destroy diseased shellfish in a specific manner and place designated
by the department;

(7) harvest shellfish only at specific locations and under specific
conditions as designated by the department;

(8) make surplus shellfish available for sale first to the department and
then, after inspection and approval by the department, to other permit holders operating under this chapter;

(9) provide a copy of the sales transaction to the department if surplus shellfish are sold by a permit holder to another permit holder;

(10) release shellfish in an area where the shellfish will be available to traditional fisheries, subject to the provisions of this chapter and regulations adopted under this chapter.

Sec. 16.12.040. Alteration, suspension, or revocation of permit. (a) If a permit holder fails to comply with the conditions and terms of the permit issued under AS 16.12.010 within a reasonable period after notification by the department of noncompliance, the permit may be suspended or revoked, in the discretion of the commissioner.

(b) If the commissioner finds that the operation of the permitted activity is not in the best interests of the public, the commissioner may alter the conditions of the permit to mitigate the adverse effects of the operation or, if the adverse effects are irreversible and cannot be mitigated sufficiently, initiate a termination of the operation under the permit over a reasonable period under the circumstances, not to exceed four years. During the period that the operation is being terminated, the permit holder may harvest shellfish under the terms of the permit but may not release additional shellfish.

Sec. 16.12.050. Regulations relating to released shellfish. (a) Shellfish released into the natural water of the state by a permit holder under this chapter are available to the people for common use and are subject to regulation under applicable law in the same way as shellfish occurring in their natural state except when they are in a special location designated by the department for harvest by a permit holder.

(b) The Board of Fisheries may, after the issuance of a permit by the commissioner, amend by regulation adopted in accordance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), the terms of the permit relating to the source of brood stock, the harvest of shellfish by permit holders, and the specific locations designated by the department for harvest. The Board of Fisheries may not adopt a regulation or take an action regarding the issuance or denial of a permit required in this chapter.

Sec. 16.12.060. Department assistance and cooperation. (a) Before and after
permit issuance under AS 16.12.010, the department shall make reasonable efforts, within the limits of time and resources, to advise and assist applicants or permit holders, as appropriate, as to shellfish enhancement projects, including the planning, construction, and operation of facilities.

(b) Nothing in this section exempts an applicant or permit holder from compliance with this chapter or from compliance with the regulations or restrictions adopted under this chapter.

Sec. 16.12.070. Brood stock sources. (a) The department shall approve the source and number of shellfish taken for use as brood stock under AS 16.12.010 - 16.12.199.

(b) Where feasible, a permit holder shall first take shellfish from stocks native to the area in which the shellfish will be released.

Sec. 16.12.080. Sale of shellfish; use of proceeds; quality and price. (a) A permit holder that sells shellfish harvested from the natural water of the state, or sells shellfish to another permit holder under this chapter, shall use the funds only for reasonable operating costs, including debt retirement, expanding its facilities, shellfish enhancement projects, shellfish research, or to assist in meeting the department's costs of managing the affected fisheries for the area in which the shellfish release is located.

(b) A permit holder shall ensure that shellfish harvested and sold for human consumption are of comparable quality to shellfish harvested by commercial fisheries in the area and are sold at prices commensurate with the current market.

Sec. 16.12.090. Cost recovery fisheries. (a) A permit holder may harvest shellfish for a shellfish enhancement project in

(1) a special harvest area through agents or employees of or persons under contract with the permit holder as provided under a permit from the department or regulations of the Board of Fisheries; or

(2) a special harvest area through the common property fishery under this section.

(b) A permit holder may, by a majority vote of the membership of the permit holder's board, elect to harvest shellfish in a special harvest area established for an enhancement project through the common property fishery. At the request of the
permit holder and if the commissioner determines that there are no allocative issues involved, and after reasonable consultation with affected commercial fishermen, the commissioner may adopt regulations governing the harvest of shellfish in a special harvest area through a common property fishery. The regulations must specify the terms, conditions, and rules under which the common property fishery in the special harvest area shall be conducted, including requirements for holding inspections and reporting of harvests and sales of shellfish taken in the special harvest area. Following adoption of regulations by the department, before January 15 of each year, the permit holder's board of directors, by a majority vote of the board's membership, may determine whether the permit holder will operate under the regulations adopted under this subsection during the current calendar year and shall notify the department if the permit holder intends to operate under the regulations adopted under this subsection. The Board of Fisheries may adopt regulations under AS 16.05.251 regarding a fisheries management plan governing operations under this subsection in a special harvest area, including allocation plans. Participation in the fishery must be open to all interim-use permit and entry permit holders who hold permits to operate a type of gear that may be used in the fishing district in which the special harvest area is located if that type of gear is authorized by regulation to be used in the special harvest area. An interim-use permit holder or an entry permit holder who takes shellfish in a common property fishery in a special harvest area may sell the shellfish to a fish buyer or processor who is licensed to do business in the state.

(c) As a condition of participation in a common property shellfish fishery in a special harvest area under this section, a fisherman who participates in the fishery is subject to the payment of the assessment levied under (d) of this section on the projected value of the shellfish or on the pounds of shellfish harvested. The assessment is levied on the shellfish that the fisherman takes in the special harvest area and sells to a licensed buyer. The buyer of the shellfish must be licensed under AS 43.75, and the buyer shall collect the assessment on shellfish taken in a special harvest area at the time of purchase and remit the assessment to the Department of Revenue in accordance with regulations adopted by the Department of Revenue.

(d) The Department of Revenue may, by regulation, annually, by March 1 of
each year, set the assessment levied on shellfish taken in a special harvest area in consultation with the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, the permit holder, and representatives of affected commercial fishermen. The assessment shall provide sufficient revenue to cover debt service, reasonable operating expenses, reasonable maintenance expenses, and development or maintenance of a reserve fund up to 100 percent of annual operating costs of the permit holder's shellfish enhancement project. In setting the assessment, the department shall consider the estimated harvest of shellfish in the special harvest area, the projected price to be paid for shellfish in the region, the amount of the existing reserve held by the permit holder, and the amount by which the assessment collected in previous years exceeded or fell short of the amount anticipated to be collected. The assessment may not exceed 50 percent of the value of the shellfish. The department may levy the assessment as a percentage of the projected value of the shellfish harvested in the special harvest area or as a flat rate on each pound of shellfish harvested in the area, to the nearest whole cent.

(e) The Department of Revenue shall deposit the assessments collected under this section in the general fund. The legislature may appropriate the funds collected under this section to the permit holder who is carrying out an enhancement project, including the operation of a facility, in the special harvest area in which the assessment was levied. A permit holder shall use funds appropriated under this subsection for the purposes set out under AS 16.12.080(a). The legislature may also appropriate funds collected under this section to the Department of Revenue for costs incurred by the department under this section.

(f) A person who violates a regulation adopted under (b) of this section is guilty of a violation under AS 16.05.722 or a misdemeanor under AS 16.05.723. A person who violates a regulation adopted by the Department of Revenue under (c) of this section is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

(g) In this section,

(1) "special harvest area" means an area designated by the commissioner or the Board of Fisheries where shellfish may be harvested by permit holders under this chapter and by the common property fishery;
(2) "value" has the meaning given in AS 43.75.290.

Sec. 16.12.100. Inspection by the department. (a) A permit holder shall allow the department to inspect the permit holder's enhancement project facility at any time the enhancement project facility is in operation. The department shall conduct the inspection in a reasonable manner.

(b) The department shall bear the cost of an inspection performed under this section.

Sec. 16.12.110. Annual report. A person who holds a permit under this chapter shall submit an annual report not later than December 15 to the department. The report must be made on a form prescribed by the department and contain information pertaining to

(1) species;

(2) the brood stock source;

(3) the number, age, gender, and size of spawners;

(4) the number of eggs collected and juveniles produced; and

(5) the number, age, gender, and size of harvested shellfish attributable to releases by the permit holder.

Sec. 16.12.199. Definitions. In this chapter,

(1) "enhancement project" means a project to

(A) augment the yield and harvest of shellfish above naturally occurring levels by natural, artificial, or semi-artificial production systems;

(B) rehabilitate a shellfish stock by restoring it to its natural levels of productivity; or

(C) increase the area of productive natural shellfish habitat;

(2) "facility" means a hatchery or other facility for a shellfish enhancement project;

(3) "genetically modified shellfish" means shellfish whose genetic structure has been altered at the molecular level by recombinant DNA and RNA techniques, cell fusion, gene deletion or doubling, introduction of exogenous genetic material, alteration of the position of a gene, or other similar procedure using artificial processes;
(4) "hatchery" means a facility for the artificial propagation of stock, including rearing of shellfish and release of shellfish into the natural water of the state; (5) "shellfish" means a species of crustacean, mollusk, or other invertebrate, in any stage of its life cycle, that is indigenous to state water.

* Sec. 4. AS 16.43.400(a) is amended to read:

(a) In addition to entry permits, interim-use permits, and educational permits, the commission may issue special harvest area entry permits to

(1) holders of private, nonprofit hatchery permits issued by the Department of Fish and Game under AS 16.10.400 - 16.10.475 for salmon; or

(2) nonprofit organizations holding a permit under AS 16.12 for a shellfish enhancement project.

* Sec. 5. AS 16.43.430 is amended to read:

Sec. 16.43.430. Authorized gear. For the purposes of harvesting salmon or shellfish, a special harvest area entry permit holder may employ any fishing gear designated as legal gear in the applicable special harvest area by the Board of Fisheries.

* Sec. 6. AS 17.20.049(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) "farmed fish" means fish that is propagated, farmed, or cultivated in a facility that grows, farms, or cultivates the fish in captivity or under positive control but that is not a salmon hatchery that is owned by the state or that holds a salmon hatchery permit under AS 16.10.400 or a shellfish facility that is permitted under AS 16.12.010; in this paragraph, "positive control" has the meaning given in AS 16.40.199;

* Sec. 7. AS 43.20.012(a) is amended to read:

(a) The tax imposed by this chapter does not

(1) apply to an individual;

(2) apply to a fiduciary;

(3) for a tax year beginning after December 31, 2012, apply to an Alaska corporation that is a qualified small business and that meets the active business requirement in 26 U.S.C. 1202(e) as that subsection read on January 1, 2012; [OR]

(4) for a tax year beginning after June 30, 2007, apply to the income
received by a regional association qualified under AS 16.10.380 or nonprofit corporation holding a hatchery permit under AS 16.10.400 from the sale of salmon or salmon eggs under AS 16.10.450 or from a cost recovery fishery under AS 16.10.455;

or

(5) apply to income received by a nonprofit corporation holding a permit under AS 16.12.010 from the sale of shellfish under AS 16.12.080 or from a cost recovery fishery under AS 16.12.090.

* Sec. 8. AS 43.20.012(a), as repealed and reenacted by sec. 2, ch. 55, SLA 2013, is amended to read

(a) The tax imposed by this chapter does not apply to

(1) an individual;

(2) a fiduciary; [OR]

(3) the income received by a regional association qualified under AS 16.10.380 or nonprofit corporation holding a hatchery permit under AS 16.10.400 from the sale of salmon or salmon eggs under AS 16.10.450 or from a cost recovery fishery under AS 16.10.455; or

(4) the income received by a nonprofit corporation holding a permit under AS 16.12.010 from the sale of shellfish under AS 16.12.080 or from a cost recovery fishery under AS 16.12.090.

* Sec. 9. AS 43.76.390 is amended to read:

Sec. 43.76.390. Exemption. AS 43.76.350 - 43.76.399 do not apply to salmon or shellfish harvested under a special harvest area entry permit issued under AS 16.43.400.

* Sec. 10. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

APPLICABILITY. AS 16.10.400(b), as amended by sec. 2 of this Act, applies to salmon hatchery permits applied for on or after the effective date of sec. 2 of this Act.

* Sec. 11. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Department of Fish and Game may adopt regulations necessary to implement this Act. The regulations take effect under AS 44.62
(Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the law implemented by the regulation.

* Sec. 12. Section 11 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

* Sec. 13. Section 8 of this Act takes effect on the effective date of sec. 2, ch. 55, SLA 2013.
RE: Support for HB 128 – shellfish enhancement

Dear Representative Ortiz,

February 24, 2017

The Alaska Mariculture Task Force (Task Force) would like to express support for HB 128. The Task Force recognizes that HB 128 is part of a larger effort to develop mariculture in Alaska.

At the request of industry and communities, Governor Walker established the Task Force by Administrative Order #280. The Governor recognized that a developed mariculture industry will have economic, environmental, cultural, industrial and food security benefits to Alaskans. Members of the Task Force were appointed in May, 2016. The Governor’s directive to the Task Force is to provide recommendations for a comprehensive plan 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. The Task Force must complete its work by March 1, 2018.

The Task Force would like to highlight that we are using the following guiding principles in our work to develop the mariculture industry:

1) Mariculture is defined as enhancement of wild fisheries and aquatic farming of shellfish and aquatic plants. Mariculture does not include finfish farming, which is not allowed in Alaska.
2) The development of the mariculture industry will be compatible with Alaska’s reputation as a world leader in responsible and sustainable management of its seafood resources.
3) The development of the mariculture industry will be stakeholder-driven.
4) The development of the mariculture industry will coordinate and integrate with those entities conducting ocean monitoring in order to inform research and management of changing ocean conditions.

HB 128 plays an important role in the development of mariculture in Alaska. HB 128 creates a regulatory framework with which ADF&G can allow for and manage shellfish fishery enhancement, restoration and hatcheries. This would allow interested stakeholders to either continue or begin enhancement and/or restoration of species such as King crab, sea cucumber, geoduck, abalone, razor clams, or others. This framework (HB 128) is absolutely necessary to continue moving forward with the development of mariculture related to wild shellfish enhancement.
Thank you for sponsoring this important legislation. The Task Force supports HB 128 and appreciates your proactive role in introducing the legislation. If there are any questions, you may contact members of the Task Force.

Sincerely,

Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Cc:
Representative Stutes, Chair, House Fisheries Committee: Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov
Reid Harris, Staff, House Fisheries Committee: Reid.Harris@akleg.gov
Alaska Mariculture Initiative: Economic Analysis to Inform the Comprehensive Plan: Phase 2 Report Outline

Executive Summary
Introduction
(McDowell Group)

Purpose and Scope of Phase 2
Mariculture Defined
Methodology
Report Organization

Chapter 1. Alaska’s Mariculture Industry Today
(McDowell Group)

Shellfish (numbers of permits, operating farms, production volume and value, prices, trends, farming practices, current markets and market conditions)
Macroalgae (status of development efforts, production levels, farming practices, etc)
Enhancement Activity (overview of current research activity, plans, goals, budgets)
Integrated Operations (multi-species farm practices, vertical integration, etc.)

Summary Status of Alaska’s Mariculture Industry

Chapter 2. Alaska’s Mariculture Development Challenges and Opportunities
(McDowell Group and MTF Advisory Committees)

Barriers to Entry
Research Needs/Gaps
Regulatory Framework
Operating Costs/Logistics/Production Inputs
Access to Capital/Capital Requirements
Access to Markets and Market Development

Chapter 3. Investment Sources
(McDowell Group and MTF Advisory Committees)

Current Mariculture Financing Overview
Overview of Investment Strategies
Overview of Investment Opportunities
Sources of Capital (Private, Public, Public-Private Partnerships, Tribal, other)
Current State and Federal Funding Environment
Chapter 4. Economic Model for Development of Alaska’s Mariculture Industry

(McDowell Group)

**Farm Model Assumptions and Inputs**
- Development scenarios, 30-year horizon
- Pace of new farm development
- Scale of farming operations (small, mid-size, large)
- Critical variables and sources of uncertainty

**Farm Economic Impact Model Outputs**
- Farm-gate and wholesale production volumes and values
- Employment and labor income (direct and indirect)
- State lease fees and harvest tax revenues

**Farm Economic Impact Return on Capital Investment**

**Enhancement Model Assumptions and Inputs**
- Annual investment in research/enhancement activity
- Timing and scale of enhance common property harvests
- Critical variables and sources of uncertainty

**Enhancement Economic Impact Model Outputs**
- Ex-vessel and first wholesale value of enhanced common property harvests
- Direct and indirect economic impacts (labor income, taxes) of enhanced common property harvests

Chapter 5. Strategic Development Goals, Pathways, and Outcomes

(McDowell Group and MTF Advisory Committees)

**Economic Analysis of Potential Investment Strategies**
- Farm Investment
- Enhancement Investment

**Recommendations for Phase 3 Analysis**
Mariculture Task Force Comprehensive Planning Process Diagram

**Feb 2016**
- Mission & Directive in AO280
  - Governor appoints Task force

**June 2016**
- Mariculture Task Force Begins Meeting
  - Identify advisory committees
  - Develop long-term target/goal
  - Identify stakeholders
  - Appoint advisory committees
  - Native Corps CDQ Groups
  - NOAA rep?
  - Sea Grant?
  - Outside resources?
  - State Resources -- DCED/F&G
  - Industry Resources
  - Role of university?

**Sept 2016**
- Select Advisory Committees
  - 1. Regulatory Issues
  - 2. Infrastructure and Development
  - 3. Workforce Development
  - 4. Public Education and Marketing
  - 5. Research, Development and Environment

**Jan 2017**
- McDowell Group begins Phase 2 integrating MTF & ACS
  - MTF Presentations to Legislature
  - HB 76
  - HB 128
  - McDowell creates outline of phase 2
  - McDowell completes industry and species profiles

**April 17, 2017**
- Select Species and summaries completed including needs and recommendations
  - MTF continues work with McDowell
  - MTF Creates Outline of Comprehensive Plan

**Sept 1, 2017**
- Phase 2 Due
  - Secure additional Resources
  - McDowell creates draft comprehensive plan
  - Schedule workshops: ASSA, Etc.

**Jan 2018**
- Draft public report complete review process begins
  - Draft public report completed
  - Report released for public comment
  - McDowell completes phase 3 and briefing document
  - Revise draft

**March 1, 2018**
- Plan approved and submitted to the Governor

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Edited by Julie Decker, 3/08/17 (ljm)
MINISTER’S FOREWORD

Sustainable aquaculture growth is good for New Zealand

Our primary industries are the engine room of our economy. We need to enable primary industry growth underpinned by strong environmental performance. The Ministry for Primary Industries’ (MPI) vision for our primary sectors is “Growing and Protecting New Zealand”. Within an international market characterised by strong demand for safe and sustainable seafood products, the aquaculture sector has significant growth opportunities.

This growth has to be industry-led and the industry’s opportunities and aspirations are reflected in their own goal of growing annual sales to NZ$1 billion in value by 2025. The aquaculture industry has established a strategy to deliver that growth. The Government is committed to environmentally sustainable, primary sector-led strengthening of the economy and is committed to enabling the aquaculture industry to reach its goal.

The foundations for growth are already in place. Our aquaculture production is free of many of the issues facing international producers and our environmental and food safety credentials are second to none. New Zealand has good trading conditions and trade agreements with key and emerging markets. Within these markets, we can leverage off our clean green reputation; world-leading environmental, food safety, animal health and welfare standards; and biosecurity management to secure premiums and market share.

While the foundations for growth are strong, the sector faces particular challenges and has unique characteristics that distinguish it from other primary producers and necessitate a specific Government strategy and action plan. The bulk of aquaculture production comes from the use of public water space, which can only occur in a planning and allocation framework that balances and respects other uses of that space. For this reason, the steps necessary to establish aquaculture operations differ from many other primary producers.

Aquaculture is relatively young in New Zealand and has seen significant regulatory change in recent years. The success of the most recent reforms will need central Government support, particularly for local authorities which are looking for Government to assist with their critical role in managing sector growth. The true value of the recent regulatory reforms will only be realised through a co-ordinated plan of action across Government.

This strategy and action plan establishes a whole-of-government pathway to enable the aquaculture sector to grow, be it through the development of new farming space, better use of existing space or getting better value from existing production. Government will:

» implement the new aquaculture law and work with councils and the public to plan for sensible and sustainable future aquaculture growth in accordance with the Resource Management Act and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010;

» ensure the laws and frameworks governing the establishment and operation of marine and land-based aquaculture are effective and responsive, and enable industry investment;

» deliver on the Crown’s aquaculture settlement obligations to Māori and identify opportunities for improving Māori wellbeing through aquaculture development;

» build our knowledge of environmental effects and ensure a healthy aquatic environment;

» maintain and build our world-leading animal health and welfare, food safety, and biosecurity standards;

» encourage investment and adoption of innovation; and

» facilitate continued discussion between industry, government, Māori and the public as to how aquaculture should grow and be managed in New Zealand.

As the Minister responsible for aquaculture, I am excited about the pathway forward and to working with those with an interest in aquaculture to sustainably grow the sector towards its $1 billion goal and beyond.

Hon David Carter
Minister for Primary Industries

SETTING THE SCENE FOR GROWTH

Aquaculture has potential to grow as an export industry for New Zealand. As the global supply of seafood from wild fisheries is limited, aquaculture has the opportunity to meet this growing world demand through increased production. Aquaculture is the world’s fastest developing source of animal protein, growing by more than 60 percent over the past decade. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization reports that by 2025 over half of all seafood consumed globally will be farm produced. People around the world want to eat more seafood and New Zealand can supply a safe and sustainable product.

Whilst New Zealand cannot compete with low-end producers, we do have some distinct advantages to increase market share into higher-value/premium markets:

» Our aquaculture industry has a reputation for high environmental performance and a legislative framework that ensures this is maintained.

» We have world-leading food safety, animal health and animal welfare standards.

» International markets want to do business with us because their people demand safe food.

» Our relative geographic isolation and biosecurity measures mean we are free from diseases and pests commonly affecting aquaculture production elsewhere in the world.

» We have good water quality needed to grow a healthy and safe product.

» We have good trading conditions and proximity to key emerging Asian markets.

Supporting the Growth Pathway

This strategy and action plan sets out the Government’s intended actions and activities to support growth of the aquaculture industry over the next five years. This document includes:

» the context for government’s involvement in supporting aquaculture and commitment to enabling the industry achieve its $1 billion goal by 2025;

» how this strategy relates to other documents; including the aquaculture industry’s own strategy;

» a set of values and behaviours that guide how the government acts;

» the functions and roles where government can and should act;

» the different roles played by various government agencies;

» key government actions and activities to support sustainable growth; and

» markers for measuring progress and performance.
**Government’s Commitment**

Government supports well-planned and sustainable aquaculture growth in New Zealand and is committed to enabling industry to achieve its goal of $1 billion in annual sales by 2025.

**Core Values**

- **Industry-led growth:** Policy, regulatory and business environment settings are in place to enable the private sector to lead and grasp opportunities for economic growth.
- **Sustainable:** Aquaculture growth in New Zealand must be environmentally sustainable.
- **Well planned:** Aquaculture development takes place within regulatory frameworks that recognise the benefits of aquaculture growth and respect other uses and values of our waterways.
- **Partner with Māori:** Deliver on the Crown’s aquaculture settlement obligations and recognise Māori development objectives.
- **Internationally leading:** Maintain our position as a global leader in the management of environmentally sustainable aquaculture.

**How We Will Work**

- **Do what we do well:** Align government resources on those activities where government is best suited and most able to add value.
- **Enabling and partnering:** Work alongside stakeholders in areas of mutual interest to maximise the benefits from sustainable economic growth.
- **Results focused:** Ensure actions are outcome oriented and delivered in a meaningful timeframe.
- **Making informed decisions:** Decisions will be based on the best available and credible biological, economic, social and cultural information from a range of sources. Decisions will be risk and intelligence led.

**A coordinated response across government**

**Regulation**

- **MPI:** Primary Sector Policy, Principal Adviser on Aquaculture, Aquaculture Settlement, UAE, Animal Health, Biosecurity & Food Safety
- **MFE:** Natural Resource Management
- **MFAT:** International Resource Management & Trade

**Implementation**

- **DOC:** Coastal Resource Management
- **TPK:** Māori Wellbeing & Development
- **EPA:** Nationally Significant Projects & EEZ Consenting
- **Med:** Economic Development Policy
- **NZTE:** Investment & Markets
- **MFAT:** Trade Access & Connections
- **MSI:** Research & Innovation
- **Local government:** Regional & District Planning, Consenting, Infrastructure & Economic Development

**Growth**

Delivering on the objectives requires a whole-of-government approach. While MPI’s Aquaculture Unit is the principal adviser to the Government on aquaculture, other government agencies and local government have core roles and responsibilities that connect with the aquaculture sector.

These agencies work in three key areas: to ‘regulate’ aquaculture activities, to ‘implement’ regulatory and non-regulatory processes, and to enable sector ‘growth’. Whilst certain agencies lead on certain matters, other agencies contribute to each other’s core responsibilities. This strategy and action plan ensures greater coherence, co-ordination and prioritisation of activities across agencies.
The Government’s Aquaculture Strategy and Five-year Action Plan Map

**INDUSTRY STRATEGY**
- Promote environmental sustainability and integrity of aquaculture
- Secure and promote investment in aquaculture
- Promote Māori success in aquaculture
- Develop the market for New Zealand aquaculture products
- Maximise opportunities for innovation
- Strengthen the partnership with government and other stakeholders

**NATIONAL AQUACULTURE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN**
- A Healthy Aquatic Environment
  - Risk-based Ecological Guidance
  - Scientific Review
  - Maintain Ecosystem Health & Water Quality
  - Monitor and Document Environmental Performance
  - Biosecurity Management and Planning
- Quality Planning & Permitting
  - Regional Coastal Planning for Aquaculture
  - District Planning for Infrastructure
  - Best Practice Guidance
  - Administer UAE Processes
  - Planning Fund
  - Information to Support RMA Processes and Community Comfort
- Effective & Responsive Regulation
  - Land-Based Aquaculture Review and Reform of Overarching Legislation
  - Interface between Aquaculture and the Quota Management System (QMS)
- Support Māori Objectives
  - Deliver the Crown’s Aquaculture Settlement Obligation
  - Māori Objectives Understood
  - Actively Consider Māori Objectives Across the Aquaculture Programme
  - Services to Support Māori Objectives
- Increase Market Revenues
  - Investment Planning
  - Market Development Projects
  - Market and Trade Access
  - Information to Support Our Story
  - Demonstrate Sustainability
- Increase Value through Research and Innovation
  - New Species Strategy
  - Co-ordination, Collaboration and Prioritisation of Research
  - Support Innovation
  - Facilitate Field Trials and Research
  - Incorporate Climate Change Research
- Sound Governance
  - Better Linkages
  - Support Ministers
  - Maintain the Course

**MPI STRATEGY 2030**
- Maxime export opportunities and improve sector productivity
- Increase sustainable resource use and protect from biological risk

**BY 2025 THE NEW ZEALAND AQUACULTURE SECTOR WILL HAVE SALES OF $1 BILLION PER ANNUM**

**TOWARDS $1 BILLION – FACILITATING THE GROWTH OF A SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY**

**GROWING AND PROTECTING NEW ZEALAND**

**April 2012**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>ACTIONS and ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>DEPARTMENT Lead</th>
<th>TIMELINE</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (we will know we have succeeded when)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Healthy Aquatic Environment</td>
<td>Provide risk-based guidance to support ecological impact assessments.</td>
<td>MPI, DOC</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>» RMA decisions informed by a national risk assessment of ecological effects</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Establish a national aquaculture working group to review science for important applications and planning initiatives.</td>
<td>MPI, MSI</td>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>» Councils in relevant regions have developed an integrated approach to aquaculture that maintains healthy aquatic ecosystems by 2016</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Through the implementation of national policy statements¹, facilitate integrated management to support healthy aquatic ecosystems and maintain water quality in aquaculture growing areas.</td>
<td>DOC, MPI, MFE</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>» Water quality in core aquaculture growing areas maintained or improved</td>
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<td>Establish a process to monitor and review environmental performance.</td>
<td>MPI, DOC, MFE</td>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>» Industry biosecurity plans in place by 2014</td>
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<td>Establish biosecurity plans for key growing regions.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>» New Zealand’s environmental performance as an aquaculture producer assessed as world leading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Planning &amp; Permitting</td>
<td>Work with regional councils to ensure planning to identify opportunities for aquaculture growth, including through identifying new growing areas in appropriate places and provisions to enable better use of existing space.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>» 80% of regional coastal plans include aquaculture provisions in accordance with the policies in the NZCPS by 2016</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Partner with industry to develop regional growth scenarios to inform planning and prioritisation.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>» 4000 ha of new aquaculture space developed by 2016</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Work with district councils to ensure district planning enables aquaculture growth.</td>
<td>MPI, MFE</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>» District plans provide for essential infrastructure in key growth regions</td>
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<td>Develop best practice guidance for consent processing, consent conditions, information requirements and changes of use to promote national consistency.</td>
<td>MPI, DOC, MFE</td>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>» 95% of consents and UAE texts within statutory timeframes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Efficiently administer undue adverse effects on fishing test processes (UAES) and other permitting processes.</td>
<td>MPI, EPA</td>
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<td>Establish and administer the ‘Planning Fund’ to assist councils’ plans for aquaculture growth.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
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<td>Collate and improve information on the ecological, cultural and social costs and benefits of aquaculture to support decisions and community comfort.</td>
<td>MPI, DOC, MFE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effective and Responsive Regulation</td>
<td>Develop options to improve the management of land-based aquaculture.</td>
<td>MPI, DOC</td>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>» Ministers are advised on options to review land-based aquaculture in 2013</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Complete outstanding components of marine aquaculture reforms transferred to RMA Phase II reforms.</td>
<td>MFE, DOC, MPI</td>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>» Reviews of relevant legislation and policies are informed by, and recognise the implications for, aquaculture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ensure aquaculture is considered in future reviews of relevant legislation and policy governing the sector (e.g. EEZ, biosecurity, animal welfare).</td>
<td>ALL departments</td>
<td></td>
<td>» Ministers are advised on future management frameworks for ranching and enhancement activities by 2014</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Review the interface between aquaculture and the QMS framework to enable appropriate enhancement and ranching activities.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Māori Objectives¹</td>
<td>Deliver the Crown’s aquaculture settlement obligation.</td>
<td>MPI, DOC</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>» Aquaculture settlement achieved within statutory timeframes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assist Māori in developing aquaculture objectives as part of iwi fisheries plans, forum fisheries plans, or other processes.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Recognise specific Māori interests across the aquaculture work programme.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide ongoing support for Māori development in aquaculture.</td>
<td>MPI, TPK, NZTE</td>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>» Iwi fish plans include Māori aquaculture objectives as appropriate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increase Market Revenues</td>
<td>Develop an aquaculture investment plan to support growth.</td>
<td>NZTE, MFAT</td>
<td>2014/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fund market co-ordination role within Aquaculture New Zealand.</td>
<td>NZTE</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure where appropriate that government funding for market support includes aquaculture within scope.</td>
<td>NZTE, MFAT</td>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Review and document trade barriers in key markets for seafood products.</td>
<td>NZTE, MPI, MFE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Within trade negotiations, work to improve trade conditions for seafood products.</td>
<td>NZTE, MPI, MFE</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Within markets, provide intelligence and market access support.</td>
<td>NZTE, MFAT</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maintain and review animal health, biosecurity and food safety management to gain and/or maintain trade access.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Support efforts to demonstrate and market the sustainability of New Zealand aquaculture production, including through third-party certification of aquaculture.</td>
<td>NZTE, MPI, MFAT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase Value through Research and Innovation</td>
<td>Develop and implement a strategy for new aquaculture species.</td>
<td>NZTE, MPI, MSI</td>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>» An agreed plan is in place to implement a new species strategy by 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establish a fit-for-purpose approach to improve prioritisation, co-ordination and alignment of aquaculture research with industry priorities.</td>
<td>MSI, MPI</td>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>» An agreed medium-term research plan is developed for aquaculture by 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure government innovation funding includes aquaculture within scope.</td>
<td>MSI, NZTE</td>
<td></td>
<td>» Climate change implications considered across the aquaculture work programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identify opportunities to enable research and field trials in a timely manner.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Investigate the impacts of climate change and measures to adapt and respond.</td>
<td>MPI, MSI</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Establish appropriate governance groups to support implementation of this strategy, such as the ‘Aquaculture Forum’.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td></td>
<td>» Stakeholders actively engaged in identifying opportunities and risk for aquaculture and the future management of the industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound Governance</td>
<td>Complete annual reviews of the strategy and action plan.</td>
<td>MPI</td>
<td></td>
<td>» Performance objectives for the other six objectives achieved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Each action and activity will have a work plan developed elaborating on how the action will be delivered and the roles of particular agencies.
³ Actions aligned with other objectives in this strategy will also contribute to this specific objective given the core role of Māori in the aquaculture sector.

Core action | Implementation/business as usual | No activity