



Alaska Mariculture Task Force Update

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MADE IN ALASKA
MARICULTURE

ALASKA DIVISION of
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ALASKA
NORTH TO OPPORTUNITY

ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE,
COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



AFDF

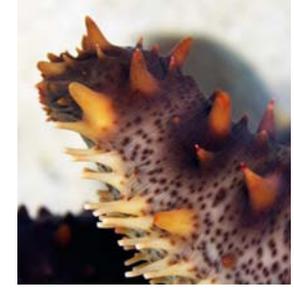
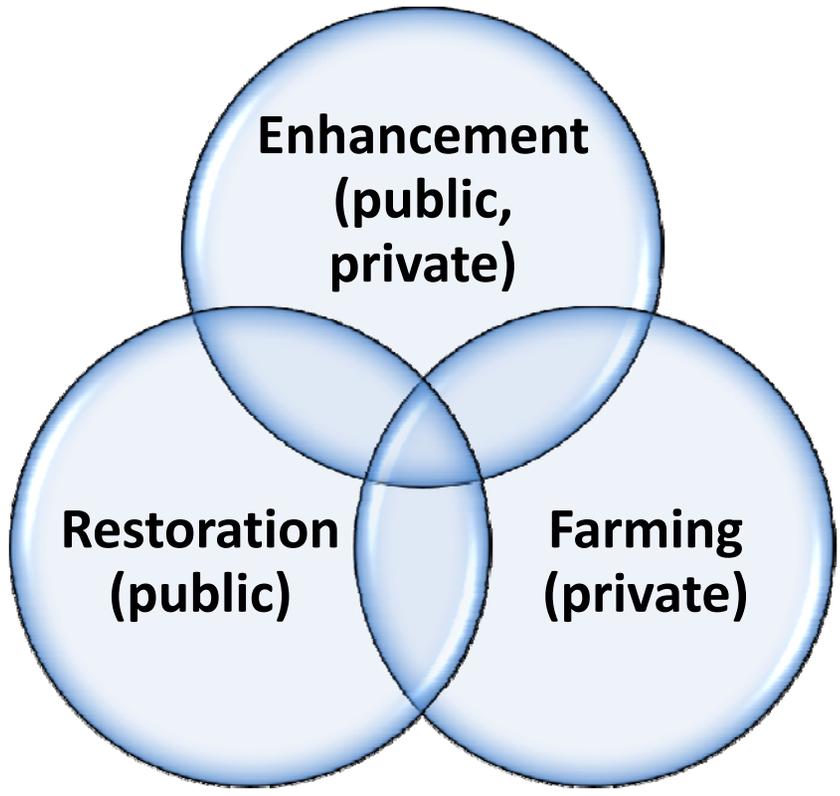
Alaska Mariculture Task Force

- Feb. 26, 2016 - Gov. Walker established the Alaska Mariculture Taskforce (AMTF) by [Administrative Order #280](#)
- **Direction** - *“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.”*
- **Mariculture is defined as** enhancement of wild fisheries & aquatic farming of shellfish & aquatic plants. Mariculture does not include finfish farming, which is not legal in Alaska.



What does mariculture mean in Alaska?

MARICULTURE \neq FINFISH FARMING



Mariculture species in Alaska = (local shellfish + invertebrates + aquatic plants) + Pacific oysters



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Benefits for Alaskans

- (1) **economic** - providing jobs and commerce in coastal communities;
- (2) **environmental** - improving the local ecosystem in various ways, such as habitat improvement, carbon removal, or countering ocean acidification;
- (3) **cultural** - compatible with traditions, cultures, and skills in rural communities;
- (4) **industrial** - complements and expands our existing renewable seafood industry, which is Alaska's largest private sector employer;
- (5) **food security** - increasing access to local foods for Alaskans.



Alaska Mariculture Task Force - *Guiding Principles*

The ***development of the mariculture industry will:***

- a) Be compatible with Alaska's reputation as a world leader in responsible and sustainable management of its seafood resources;
- b) Be stakeholder-driven;
- c) Coordinate and integrate with those entities conducting ocean monitoring in order to inform research & management of changing ocean conditions;
- d) Include analysis of successful models that may be applicable to Alaska.



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

11 Members

- Commissioner Chris Hladick, Chair, ADCCED
- Julie Decker, Vice Chair, AFDF
- Sam Rabung, ADF&G
- Michael Stekoll, macroalgae researcher, UAS
- Paula Cullenberg, Alaska Sea Grant Representative
- Jeff Hetrick, Aluutiq Pride Hatchery
- Eric Wyatt, Aquatic farmer, OceansAlaska Hatchery
- Angel Drobnica, APICDA
- Heather McCarty, AKCRRAB
- Kate Sullivan, SARDF
- Christopher Whitehead, Sitka Tribe



➔ Barbara Blake, liaison to Gov/Lt. Gov's Offices



Alaska Mariculture Task Force *Advisory Committees*

Five advisory committees, aligned with essential elements in AO

- ***Investment and Infrastructure*** (Chairs Hetrick & Drobnica)
- ***Regulatory Issues*** (Chair Rabung)
- ***Research, Development, and Environmental Information*** (Chair Stekoll)
- ***Public Education and Marketing*** (Chair McCarty)
- ***Workforce Development*** (Chair Cullenberg)



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Advisory Committees

Expectations of ACs:

Work cooperatively for the benefit of the entire State of Alaska

ACs will adhere to AO #280, including guiding principles and deadline (March 1, 2018)

Chairs have the responsibility of calling and organizing meetings

Membership in the ACs will be at the discretion of the Chairs

Communication between the ACs and the TF will flow through the Chairs

Purposes of ACs:

Each AC will assist the TF in addressing the essential element referred to in the AC name for purposes of integration and inclusion in the final comprehensive plan.

Each AC will provide a connection to stakeholders and act as a two-way flow of communication between stakeholders and the TF.



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Advisory Committees

Scope of Work – ACs and Chairs should use this as a general guide for their work:
Timeline – provide short-term or most urgent recommendations to the TF by Nov. 9, 2016, and full recommendations to the TF by March 1, 2017.

Conduct situational assessment relevant to each AC

- Identify & utilize existing resources (information/orgs/Phases 2 & 3 eco analysis)

- Identify opportunities or desired outcomes

- Identify problems

 - Identify current or historic problems, impediments, obstacles, or needs

 - Identify past efforts to address problems

 - Identify why past efforts have failed

 - Identify information needs

Identify solutions/strategies and new resources (info/orgs/\$)

Recommend implementation plan

- Identify who, what, when, where, how, funding & prioritization

- Think in phases: Phase 1 (1-10 yrs), Phase 2 (10-20 yrs), Phase 3 (20-30 yrs)

Recommend evaluation plan which tracks continued progress



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

Current status

- Next TF meeting – January 11th in Juneau
- Advisory Committees (ACs) are holding meetings
 - Chairs present summarize issues raised
- Soliciting stakeholder input – ASGA prez & tonight's reception
- Providing opportunity for experts to present
- Draft strategic plan, including timeline
- AFDF received EDA funding (work with TF & ACs, complete Phases 2 & 3 economic analysis, help draft comprehensive plan)



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

How to stay informed

Website:

Alaska Governor's Mariculture Task Force
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=amtf.main>

Listserve:

automatically receive public notices, etc.

Sign up at the website!



Alaska Mariculture Task Force - Overview, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

The screenshot shows the website for the Alaska Governor's Mariculture Task Force. The page is titled "Alaska Governor's Mariculture Task Force Overview" and is part of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website. The page includes a navigation menu with options for "Overview", "Task Force Members", "Task Force Meetings Information", "Advisory Committees", and "Reference Library". The "Overview" section contains a quote from Governor Walker and a description of the task force's mission. A photo of Pacific oysters is also visible. At the bottom, there is a "Sign Up To Receive Messages" form and a "Share" button.

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=amtf.main>[11/18/2016 6:59:53 AM]



Alaska Mariculture Task Force

How to stay informed

Also, reference documents at AFDF's website:

<http://www.afdf.org/projects/current-projects/alaska-mariculture-initiative/>

...or ask Julie Decker for a flash drive



Related Mariculture Activities

- Alaska Sea Grant seaweed pilot project
- Alaska Sea Grant updated website
- Stekoll's Sea Grant funded seaweed project
- Sea cucumber research in Ketchikan (spring/summer 2016)
- AKCRRAB
- ARPA-E Macroalgae as Fuel –
 - future presentation by Marc Von Keitz in Alaska
- AFDF presentations at SEC, UFA & Pacific Marine Expo (Seattle)
 - *A Farm for Every Fisherman?*
- Discussions with new interested investors



The Beginning of Seaweed in AK

Alaska Sea Grant Pilot Project

Partners:

Ocean Approved (ME)

Maine Shellfish Research & Development

Pacific Shellfish Institute (WA)

OceansAlaska (Ketchikan)

Alaska Shellfish Growers Association (10+ Alaska farmers)

Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation

Premium Oceanic

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zw4liPujXWo>

