



ALASKA
MARICULTURE

ALASKA MARICULTURE CLUSTER

CATALYZING ALASKA'S MARICULTURE INDUSTRY





529 Applicants > 60 Finalists > 21 Awardees

Project Period: Oct 2022 > Sept 2026 / May 2027



GOAL— \$100M Industry and 550 jobs in 10 years

\$325M and 1,800 jobs in 20 years

AMC THEORY OF CHANGE

Reduce industry cost structure

Establish supply chains

Grow industry equitably and with durability

Create new markets and expand demand for Alaska products



AMC GRANT COMPONENTS & FUNDING

1.	Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 10,331,532	16%
2.	Governance, Coordination & Outreach	\$3,552,709	6%
3.	Workforce Development	\$ 10,467,145	16%
4.	Research & Development	\$9,521,501	15%
5.	Market Development	\$1,207,500	2%
6.	Green Energy	\$681,413	1%
7.	Equipment & Technology	\$26,284,856	41%
8.	Grant Administration	\$2,533,000	4%

Total Funding \$64,579,655

Federal Share \$48,997,829

Non - Federal Matching Share \$15,581,826

Beneath the Surface of the AMC Grant

**25 Subaward
Entities**

65+ Contracts

30+ RFPs (\$22 M)

100+ Amendments





Alaska Kelp Meets Midwest Agriculture At TFI Agronomy Conference & Expo

September 25, 2026

In August, three Alaska Mariculture Cluster (AMC) delegates traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana, for The Fertilizer Institute's (TFI) 2026 Agronomy Conference & Expo to explore ...



Sea Grant Publishes New Alaska Oyster Growers Manual

September 24, 2026

This post taken from Alaska Sea Grant blog Alaska Sea Grant has released the new Alaska Oyster Growers Manual, which is funded by the ...



Spruce Root Offers Virtual Business Basics For Mariculture Workshop Series

September 23, 2026

Spruce Root is offering a Virtual Business Basics for Mariculture Workshop Series, an online series presented by Quentin Fong of Alaska Sea Grant. By ...



Mariculture Apprentices Learn On The Job

September 14, 2026

This post taken from Alaska Sea Grant blog by Tom Moran Mariculture is growing in Alaska, and the workforce needs to grow with it. ...



Marine Safety Workshop For Shellfish & Seaweed Farmers

September 3, 2026

With funding support from the AMC, several organizations including the Alaska Mariculture Alliance, Alaska Sea Grant and Pacific Shellfish Institute have collaborated to bring ...



AMC Monthly Update: August 2026

August 31, 2026

August 2026 brought continued momentum across the Alaska Mariculture Cluster, with new market development efforts, international industry engagement, measurable gains in kelp production, ...



Immersed In Alaska Mariculture: Inside The Juneau Familiarization Experience

July 14, 2026

This June, the Alaska Mariculture Cluster (AMC) hosted a group of food and lifestyle storytellers to Juneau for an immersive familiarization trip designed to ...



AMC Monthly Update: May And June 2026

June 30, 2026

In 2026, the Alaska Mariculture Cluster (AMC) continues its work to strengthen the mariculture industry in Alaska. Each of the grant's component projects ...



Tracking Alaska's Mariculture Industry Growth: Spring 2026 Memo

June 29, 2026

The Alaska Mariculture Cluster (AMC) contracted with McKinley Research Group and the Pacific Shellfish Institute to provide AMC and the broader mariculture industry with ...



Three-Ribbed Kelp Collective Sampling Project

August 5, 2026

Southeast Conference (SEC) and the Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA) are inviting Alaska seaweed farmers to participate in a pilot project to grow, harvest, and ...



AMC Monthly Update: July 2026

July 31, 2026

In 2026, the Alaska Mariculture Cluster (AMC) continues its work to strengthen the mariculture industry in Alaska. Each of the grant's component projects ...



Tracking Alaska Mariculture Industry Growth: 2026 Survey For Farms And Hatcheries

July 22, 2026

Statistics about the Alaska mariculture industry are limited and often not up to date, which makes it difficult to answer seemingly basic questions such ...



Learning Trip Report: WWF & SEC Visit Korea

August 12, 2026

From May 10-15, 2026, Southeast Conference (SEC) participated in the South Korea Seaweed Industry Learning Trip, an immersive study tour organized by WWF-US in ...



Immersed In Alaska Mariculture: Inside The Ketchikan & Prince Of Wales Familiarization Experience

August 10, 2026

There are few better ways to experience Alaska mariculture than by visiting a working farm, watching the cultivation process, touching and tasting the harvest, ...



New Media Library & Alaska Mariculture Websites Now Live

August 5, 2026

As part of the AMC Marketing Program, the Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA) and Southeast Conference (SEC) are pleased to announce the launch of two ...



Seamark Offers Consulting Services For Mariculture Businesses

June 26, 2026

With funding awarded from the Alaska Mariculture Cluster (AMC) through a competitive RFP, Seamark Holdings LLC (Seamark), an Alaskan management consulting firm founded by ...



Kelp Agricultural Product Development Program Responds To Market Demands

June 18, 2026

In 2025, biostimulants expanded rapidly as a market for Alaska seaweed, and the Alaska Mariculture Cluster (AMC) is responding by funding the development, testing, ...



New Seaweed Tissue Analysis Database Now Accepting Feedback

June 3, 2026

Researchers funded through the Alaska Mariculture Cluster's (AMC) Seaweed Tissue Analysis Program have launched a new database to make findings more accessible. The program ...

60 News Posts in 2023 - 2025

42 News Posts in 2026



**PACIFIC
KELP CO.**

Empowering Farmers with Alaskan Solutions

John Smet, Co-Founder
Pacific Kelp Company
Ketchikan, Alaska





What are Biostimulants: A New Category

Biostimulants are substances that enhance plant growth, nutrient efficiency, stress tolerance, crop quality and soil health, but they are not fertilizers or pesticides.

Fertilizers	Biostimulants	Pesticides / Herbicides
Add nutrients directly	Activate plant biology and defense mechanisms	Kill pests & weeds
Replace what soil lacks	Improve nutrient use efficiency	Reactive — treat problems
Can over-apply & pollute	Enhance stress resilience	Residue concerns rising
Regulatory scrutiny growing	Regenerate soil health	Increasingly restricted

Global biostimulant market: \$3.8B in 2023

Seaweed products represent ~40% of the global biostimulant market



Field trials and Market Opportunities

Turfgrass

+15% germination, +21% root mass, +19% shoot mass
Faster establishment, stronger grass gives lawns and golf courses a direct benefit

Wine Grapes

+9.7% tannins, +3.5% sugars, +12.4% malic acid
Tool to improve fruit quality during drought and virus stress

Nursery Propagation

+11% rooting success, 27% less shrink
Natural rooting hormone replacement for expensive synthetic product

Greenhouse Vegetables

+23% tomato size, +45% onion bulb size, +82% potato yield
Matched or beat competitor products, giving current users a reason to switch

UAS APPLIED FISHERIES PROGRAM UPDATE

Southeast Conference Annual
Meeting

Fall 2026

ANGELA BOWERS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR-APPLIED FISHERIES

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST SITKA



APPLIED FISHERIES PROGRAM

Program degrees

Associate's of Applied Science

- Applied Fisheries

Certificates

- Aquaculture or Fisheries Management

Occupational Endorsements

- Fisheries Management
- Alaskan Aquaculture *
- Alaskan Mariculture *
- Scientific Diving *

Hands-on learning gets results

MARICULTURE

University of Alaska Southeast



PROGRAM DEVELOPMENTS

Program

Year long in-person certificate in Aquaculture Fall 2027

Courses

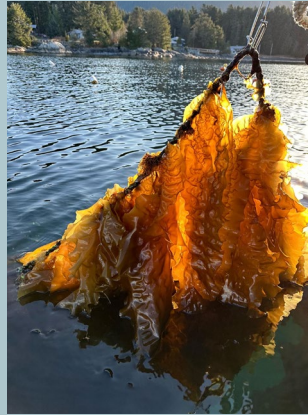
Shellfish Hatchery and Farming Techniques, Mariculture business and marketing, and a mariculture marine safety course

Facility expansion

- Acquisition of Oceans Alaska floating mariculture facility!
- New commercial farm site

MARICULTURE

University of Alaska Southeast



Quentin Fong

Seafood Marketing Specialist, Kodiak

(907) 486-1516

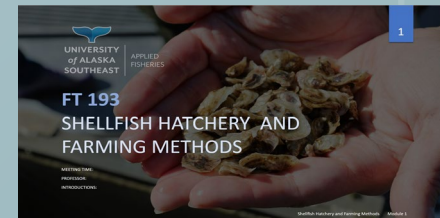
Quentin Fong

Focus

- Food markets and marketing management
- Business management and planning
- Trade and the environment
- Aquaculture and fisheries economics



Mariculture Marine Safety



FLOATING FACILITY OPPORTUNITIES

Training

Semester intensives

shellfish spawning, larvae culture, nursery operations, microalgae culture, kelp nursery techniques, new species development, hatchery systems, plumbing, internships, maritime skills...

Research

lab/bench space rentals
Industry relevant research
grant funding opportunities

Tourism

sustainable aquaculture education
farm tours
shuck shack
organized cruise ship tours

MARICULTURE

University of Alaska Southeast



Student Spotlight

- Suzie O'Neill
 - UAS student in 2022
 - Since worked at NOAA fisheries, currently working for Ecotrust in Oregon, now mariculture liason and SSP Regional Mariculture Calalyst
- Jessica Killeen
 - UAS student in 2024
 - Seaquester, barnacle foods, UAF kelp hatchery, kelp lab, and mariculture lab, and currently a graduate student and SeaGrant Mariculture Cluster fellow working on abalone feasibility
- Isidra Trejo
 - UAS student in 2025
 - Cal-Poly Humboldt, Hog Island Oyster Co, SEATOR lab, Blue Starr Oysters



2026 Mariculture Cohort



INDUSTRY PARTNERS





Angie Bowers
Assistant Professor
University of Alaska Southeast
Sitka Campus
abowers4@alaska.edu

MARICULTURE

University of Alaska Southeast



Thank you!



Alaska Aquaculture Semester



UAS Applied Fisheries



A person wearing a dark jacket and a dark apron is holding a metal tray filled with shellfish on ice. The tray contains several oysters, some with lemon wedges. The background is a blurred forest of evergreen trees.

ALASKA'S PREMIUM

Seagrove

SHELLFISH
& SEAWEED

Upgraded Operations for a Stronger Supply

Seagrove's wet storage system holds oysters in continuously circulating, ADEC-certified growing water.

- Reduced post-harvest stress
- Lower mortality during shipping
- Improved shelf life
- Higher quality upon arrival



Precision Grading at Scale

Increasing overall
speed, consistency,
and quality control

SED GRADERS



Seagrove



Traceability and Shipping

With BlueTrace technology, every lot is tracked from farm to customer.

- Harvest Tags
- Receiving and holding records
- Inventory tracking
- Shipping documentation
- Dealer tags
- Invoicing

Seagrove's custom-designed grading and processing line ensures every oyster is:

- Washed
- Individually inspected
- Accurately sized
- Electronically counted

Funding and Capital

Equipment Grants and the Revolving Loan Fund

Market Expansion

Seagrove is expanding it's reach by connecting with chefs and distributors across the nation





Built to Scale

Processing, traceability, shipping,
and sales infrastructure working
together

Alaska Oysters, National Reach

Thank You Seagrove

ALASKA'S PREMIUM
SHELLFISH & SEAWEED

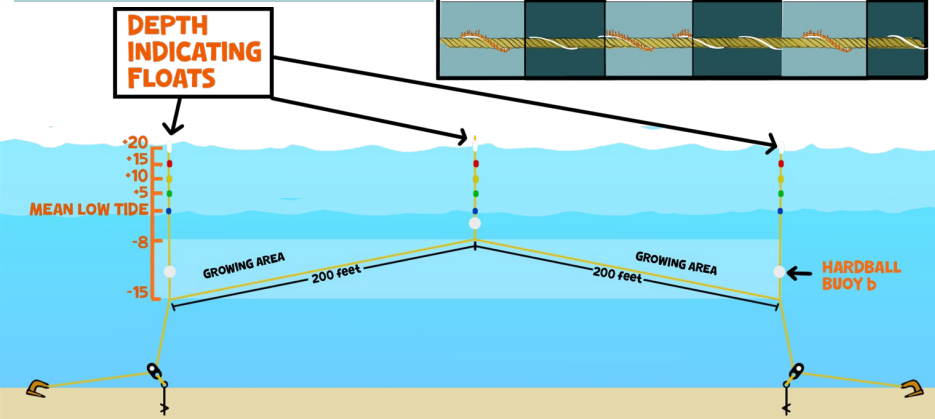
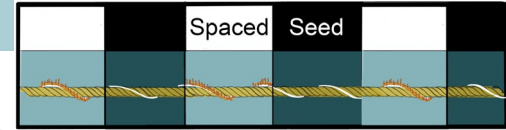
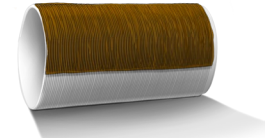
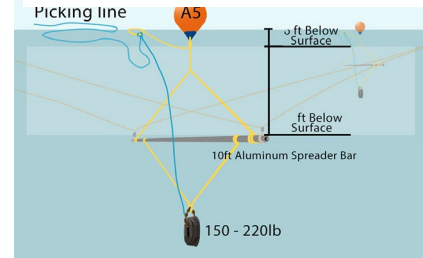
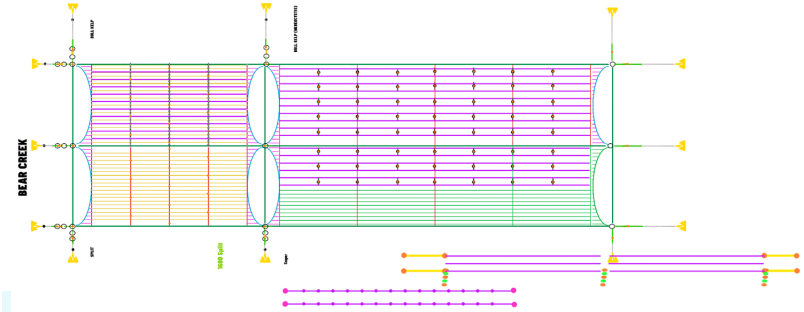
To get in touch and
learn more:



A split-level photograph. The top half shows a grey boat on a body of water under a cloudy sky. A person is visible on the boat's deck. The bottom half shows an underwater view of seaweed with large, flat, brownish-green leaves and thin, yellowish-brown stalks. The water is slightly murky. The text "SEC Supported Mariculture Innovation" is overlaid in white on the underwater portion.

SEC Supported Mariculture Innovation

Joint Innovation Bull Kelp Project



Big Bull Kelp Creates Big Opportunity



Bio stimulants

Blue Dot
Kitchen



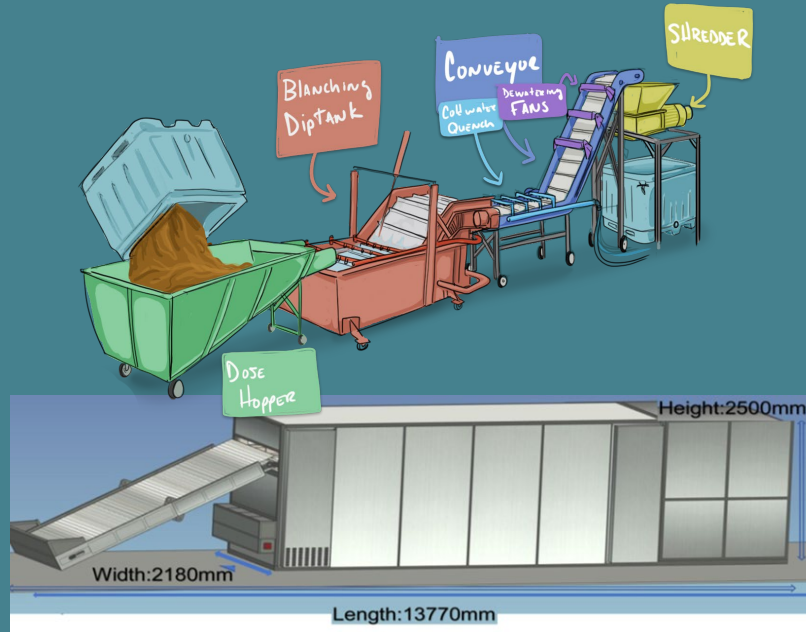
MARICULTURE INNOVATION CENTER

Founded by Mariculture Farmers, processors, Scientists and entrepreneurs, the MIC seeks to address industry barriers through industry collaboration and direct manifestation.

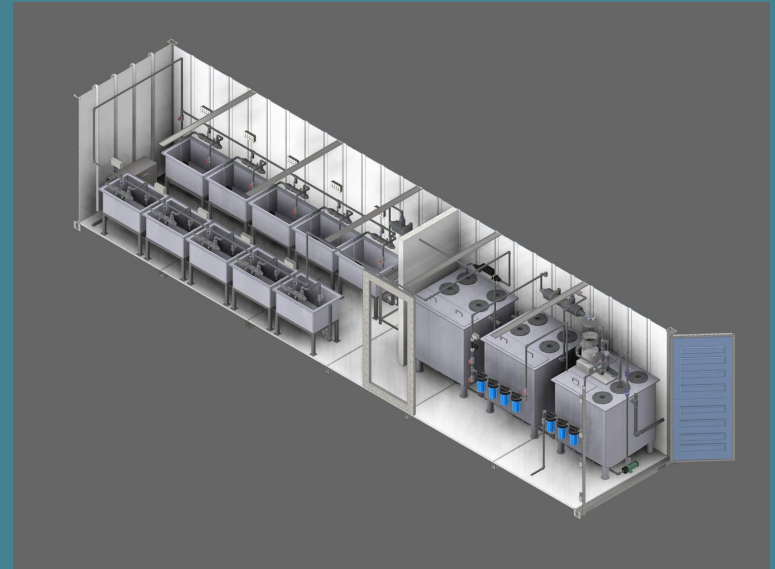


SEC EQUIPMENT FUNDING

Kelp Processing and Drying



Container Hatchery



ALASKAN MARICULTURE SHOWCASE

THE SUSTAINABLE WORLD OF TOMORROW AT
THE THE GOLDBELT AANI CRUISE TERMINAL

- Dockside processing
infrastructure partnerships
- Hatchery technology
- Primary Processing
- Product Development
- Tourism/Marketing
Initiatives





Lexa Meyer
Regional Mariculture
Catalyst
Kelp and Oyster Farmer
Kodiak, Alaska





Board Members:

Janissa Johnson,
Chair

Amy Peterson,
Vice-Chair

Marya Halvosen,
Secretary/Treasurer

Rita Stevens

Kerry Ivory

Vickie Novak

www.kodiakleadershipinstitute.org

Lexameyer.kali@gmail.com



The Forum

Building Capacity of our
communities and tribes
Growing Local Voices
Encouraging community-based
ownership of local resources
Connecting resources through
planning and work sessions



Alutiiq Grown

Soil Farms
Hydroponic Farms
Mariculture



Advocacy

Get out the Vote!
Fisheries
Mariculture
Education



ASCP
Alaska South Coast Partnership



ALASKA FISHERIES
Development Foundation, Inc.

Deckhand Dumplings

Expanding horizons in Value Added
Mariculture Products

Lexa@alaskaoceanfarms.com

ALASKA
MARICULTURE
CLUSTER



Completed:

- Recipe Refinement
- Food Safety HACCP and CGMP
- Public Blind Taste Testing
- Nutritional Testing and USDA Product Label (in progress)



Next Steps:

- Packaging and Case Size
- Consumer Desire and Price Point
- Symphony of Seafood
- Into Retail and Restaurant Locations





ALASKA
MARICULTURE

THANK YOU

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