ASGA meeting
November 9, 2012

Tom Henderson, mariculture director
tomhenderson@oceansalaska.org
907 225-7900
Supporting mariculture through research, education and training
What’s new since last year’s meeting?
1st Project: build a Mariculture Research Facility-barge and lab completed.
OceansAlaska

Arrived on site in March 2012
October 2011 ASGA meeting: #1 problem facing Alaska oyster growers…lack of seed.

OA 2012 goal: the 5-2-5 plan
- 5 million seed to 5 mm.
- Results were somewhat less.

Started hatchery design and purchasing in November
Technical Design Parameters:

- 10 upwell/downwell tanks, for 1.5 M oyster seed per production lot
- 5 gpm flow to each: minimum of 50 gpm needed, max lift about 20 ft.
- Minimum water temperature of 21°C
  - Incoming water at 6°C, average for February
- Feed production for 1.5 M oysters at 5mm requires 48 KW tubes, 160 L each (8’ by 12” diameter)
- Must fit within the 24 ft by 60 ft lab area
Oceans Alaska
Hatchery Costs

- **Equipment**
  - Pumps: $900 each
  - Starters: $1200 each
  - Tanks & Pasteurizer: $31,000
  - Plumbing: $28,000
  - Electrical: not yet determined
  - Heatpumps: $14,500 each
  - Heat Exchangers (2): $22,000 + $5000
  - Lab, incl. 2 autoclaves: $10,000
  - Misc. (shop equipment): $13,000
- **TOTAL ABOUT $130,000**
Geoducks
Geoducks
Geoducks
Geoducks
Geoducks
Permitted Farms: 25

Permitted Acreage: 122 acres

Planting @ 2 ducks/sq. ft = current potential demand at 10 Mil seed.

Some 1.5 to 2 lb. ducks now on farms but due to low sales numbers = no public sales reports.
OceansAlaska
What’s in the Future?

FUNDING REQUEST fy 2013/14

OceansAlaska Marine Science Center Mariculture Development
Phase 2- Seed Production Scale up
**Requests and justification**

As part of OceansAlaska Marine Science Center’s goal to reduce the constraints inhibiting the growth of the Mariculture industry in Alaska and the Pacific Coast of North America, OceansAlaska would like to request support in building a new center. This new facility would have the capacity to produce 50 million oyster seed, 3 million geoduck seed, and the microalgae needed to feed them, as well as space for developing techniques and training opportunities for culturing oyster, geoduck and other promising species.
Seed Sales: How will OA get past the price problem to at least break even?

- Current seed producers say they do not make money on seed sales, but wish to hold down seed prices so small growers can afford the seed. This is detrimental to independent hatchery operators.

- OA may be hard pressed to meet the price of seed produced at Taylor or Coast.

- Pre-season contracts? 25% deposits? More? Something will be needed to guarantee sales once seed is available.
Future of mariculture in SE Alaska?

- Huge coast line
- Large number of protects bodies of water
- Low population = few NIMBYs

Potential to rival the 2011 commercial salmon fishery valued at $230 million to the fishermen.

- 5 million geoducks $150 mil
- 11 million dozen oysters $80 mil
Email:  tomhenderson@oceansalaska.org

Website:  OceansAlaska.org

For updated pictures etc.:  google “Facebook OceansAlaska”
  ▪  http://www.facebook.com/pages/OceansAlaska/297177653640733