



Cluster Information	
Goal:	To create private-public partnerships as a catalyst for job creation and business growth in Southeast Alaska.
Co-chairs:	Julie Decker, Development Director, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation John Sund, Mariculture Advocate

Previous Meetings		
Date:	Attendees:	Purpose:
2/12/13	Anthony Lindoff, Bart Watson, Cynthia Pring-Ham, Daniel Green, Debbie Hart, Don Martin, Greg Fisk, Geron Bruce, Jeff Weltzin, John Sund, Julie Decker, Karen Hardigg, Kyle Moselle, Liz Cabrera, Mali Abrahamson, Patricia Phillips, Phil Doherty, Russell Dick, Aaron Ferguson	CWG Meeting at Innovation Summit
1/29/13	Anthony Lindoff, Bart Watson, Cynthia Pring-Ham, John Sund, Julie Decker, Phil Doherty, Brian Holst, Marie Franklin, Aaron Ferguson	Monthly teleconference
12/20/12	Cynthia Pring-Ham, Debbie Hart, Jeff Weltzin, Jim Seeland, John Sund, Julie Decker, Patricia Phillips, Phil Doherty, Stefanie Moreland, Brian Holst, Marie Franklin, Aaron Ferguson	Monthly teleconference
11/20/12	Cynthia Pring-Ham, Debbie Hart, Jeff Weltzin, Jim Seeland, John Sund, Jon Martin, Julie Decker, Karen Hardigg, Kathy Hansen, Keith Criddle, Keith Perkins, Kris Norosz, Patricia Phillips, Tom Fletcher, Brian Holst, Zach Wilkinson, Aaron Ferguson	Monthly teleconference
11/8/12	Cynthia Pring-Ham, John Sund, Rodger Painter, Ray RaLonde, Tom Henderson, Tom Fletcher, Aaron Ferguson, other attendees of the Shellfish Technology Workshop and Alaska Shellfish Growers Association meeting	Initiative 10: Support the Regional Mariculture Industry

Discussion Notes

Round table discussion:

- Co-chair John Sund introduced the agenda for the full Cluster meeting:
 - Determine where the Cluster is going
 - Determine which initiatives the Cluster members have passion for
- As John sees it, the goals of the Cluster are to:
 - Protect what exists
 - Create more value for products
 - Increase value for transfer economies
 - Create new products
- Co-chair Julie Decker asserted that the idea of shared value is something that the Cluster should think about as it considers how best to spur economic development
- Liz Cabrera said that the Cluster should figure out how to be innovative in acting to increase market share and consumption of ocean products
- Bart Watson said that the Cluster actually needs to figure out how to meet the demand for ocean products, not how to increase consumption; he also said that the Cluster needs to figure out how to maintain the pristine environment that SE AK has
- Jeff Weltzin said that seed security is for the mariculture industry is key
- Geron Bruce agreed with Jeff and said that the industry should jump on the opportunity to sell seed down south
- John Sund indicated that the “ma and pa” model of mariculture business hasn’t worked in SE AK
- Anthony Lindoff made the following points about the mariculture industry based on his experience at Haa Aaní:
 - The industry is lacking mechanization
 - Haa Aaní has the ability to push out 500,000 seeds
 - Access to capital is an impediment for the industry
 - There are no mentors or model farms for new entrants to the industry
 - Haa Aaní has a 3-5 year exit strategy
 - Haa Aaní will employ apprentices
- Russell Dick indicated that Haa Aaní supports Oceans Alaska and that corporate scale mariculture farms are coming to SE AK because of the acidification of oceans further south
- Phil Doherty indicated that the State of AK no longer covers the cost of testing for mariculture farms
- Bart Watson wondered if a nonprofit model might be appropriate for the mariculture industry
- Patricia Phillips said that it could be helpful if there was a concierge service to help people

interested in joining the mariculture industry navigate regulations; she also said that the industry needs more grants for infrastructure

- Russell Dick said that it would help if the State Mariculture Revolving Loan Program was open to organizations like OceansAlaska
- Anthony Lindoff indicated that it would be good if there was a fulltime executive director of ASGA
- John Sund wrapped up the discussion about mariculture and introduced a new topic in salmon enhancement; he proposed hosting a 2-3 day symposium in the Fall of 2013 to discuss what the next 40 years look like for the salmon enhancement industry
- Greg Fisk said that the Cluster needs to elevate the idea of constant innovation for the industry
- Julie Decker indicated that she wants the Cluster to support UAS' FSMI

Next Steps

- The date of the next Ocean Products Cluster Working Group is TBD.

Resources

- The University's *Fisheries, Seafood & Maritime Initiative* has evolved into the creation of an **Alaska Maritime Industry Workforce Development Plan**. Toward that goal, industry has been working with the University to create surveys regarding what the industry workforce development needs are. These surveys can be accessed at the following website:
<http://www.alaska.edu/fsmi/needs-assessment/>
Please fill out the survey appropriate with your sector of the industry. Also, feel free to pass it along to others who may be interested in participating.
If you are interested in providing more in-depth information regarding your sector's needs, you may contact Michelle Masley (mmasley@alaska.edu) at the University to set up an interview as well.
- Bill recently introduced by Senator Stedman that places a bounty on legally harvested sea otters: <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/28/Bills/SB0060A.PDF>
- Article about bill introduced by Senator Stedman:
<http://www.adn.com/2013/02/21/2797134/alaska-state-senator-proposes.html>