The mission of Southeast Conference is to undertake and support activities that promote strong economies, healthy communities, and a quality environment in Southeast Alaska.
OceansAlaska
Leading the Way

The New Economic Engine
For Coastal Alaska

By
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Project Manager

September 20, 2006
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Economic Development: Coastal Alaska
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Economic Development: Jobs

- Oyster farmer
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Economic Development: Private business

- Alaska Oyster Farm
Mariculture Industry
Alaska’s Potential

- Conservatively estimate growth from $7 million to $50 million
- Create 400 -600 year around, economically sustainable jobs in Coastal Alaska
- Establish a world class research and development facility in Southeast Alaska.
Mariculture Industry
Potential for Growth

- Wild harvest value
- Farm harvest value
- Total harvest value
Mariculture Industry
Species

- Geoduck
- Sea cucumbers
- Clams
- Mussels
- Kelp (macrophytes)
- Oysters
- Sea urchin
- Scallops
- Abalone
- Algae
Geoduck

Harvested Geoducks
# Mariculture Industry Growth Potential

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New Zealand</th>
<th>British Columbia</th>
<th>Alaska</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farms</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tonnes</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>9,300</td>
<td>480</td>
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<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>$96,000,000</td>
<td>$23,000,000</td>
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<td>Jobs</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>$ per job</td>
<td>$61,000</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
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New Zealand Mussels
A Success Story

1988 harvest value - $12M US
2002 harvest value - $96M US
Mariculture Industry
Growth Potential

Conservatively estimate growth from $7 million to $50 million in 20 years

- **Farm shellfish**
  - Annual ex- farm value: $20,000,000
  - Annual jobs: (est) 400 FTE

- **Wild Harvest**
  - Annual ex – vessel: $15,000,000
  - Annual jobs: (est) 200 FTE
Current state of the industry
1996 - 2004 production data
Organized as Tongass Coast Aquarium in 1992
Name changed to OceansAlaska: 2006
501(c )(3) non profit organization
Mission: Support sustainable use of the marine environment.
Method: exhibit–research–education
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28 Acre Site Acquired
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Economic Development: New jobs

- Direct job creation = 111 new jobs
  - Exhibit facility 34
  - Local area impact 68
  - Education 4
  - Mariculture research 5

- Indirect jobs = 415 new jobs
  - Educational Program (est) 15
  - Mariculture in 20 years (est) 400
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Economic Development

- Exhibit and Display:
  - Business plan completed 2005
  - Conceptual facility design completed 2006

- Educational Program

- Research: mariculture focus
  - Business Plan: completed 2006
  - “Tipping the Balance”
Mariculture Industry Constraints

- Restrictive regulatory climate
- High cost of doing business in rural Alaska
- Lack of investment capital
- Limited government support in research and development and training
Mariculture Industry
Keys to Industry Success

- Public funded research & development
- Common vision and goals: industry & gov’t
- Industry cooperation & collaboration
- Use of wild harvest, enhanced and intensive culture methods
Assemble a team: Industry, community, government and university sectors

Be a focal point to systematically address constraints and barriers.

Create a facility to focus on research, development, demonstration & training projects to assist industry
Mariculture Research Center:
- Provides the facility and corporate structure
- Industry provides the direction and focus
- Public support for building the Mariculture industry
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Leading the Way
An indepth report is available
- On the web: tongasscoastaquarium.org
- CD
- Printed copy

Give me your business card and I send you a CD or send you a printed copy.

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