Seaweed Farm Start-ups:  
Application for Training

The goal of this program is to provide tools and training for Alaskans to start seaweed farms. The program is targeted towards commercial fishermen, Alaska Natives, and fishing communities. The program will be completed in three sections: 1) online webinar, 2) in-person 2-day workshop, and 3) one-on-one mentoring for high-performing participants. Participants will be required to attend the webinar and one of the in-person workshops. If the participant does not live in one of the three communities in which the workshops will be held, the applicant will be responsible for paying all travel and lodging costs. Topics covered will include identification of seaweed species, lifecycles of seaweed, the hatchery process, site selection, use of Mariculture Map, farm gear and equipment, business plan development, farm loans available, state lease application process, gear deployment, seeding and harvesting techniques, quality handling, and safety considerations. Information and instruction will be provided by GreenWave, Alaska Sea Grant, ADNR, ADFG, Blue Evolution, OceansAlaska, AFDF and others. Materials and food during the workshops will be provided. While cost of the program is free for those who are selected for the program, participants will be expected to attend and complete work products in order to continue to each section. Space will be limited to ten participants per workshop, and six participants total for one-on-one mentoring.

Important dates

November 22, 2019 - Application announcement
December 20, 2019 - Application due
January 15, 2020 - Selected applicants notified
February 4, 2020 from 10am-noon AST - Introductory webinar
Workshop dates/locations:
   • February 13-14, 2019 - Kodiak Workshop (hosted by Blue Evolution & KSMSC)
   • February 17-18, 2019 - Ketchikan Workshop (hosted by OceansAlaska & ASG)
   • February 20-21, 2019 - Sitka Workshop (hosted by Alaska Longline Fishermen’s Assoc)

Applicant Information

Name: 
Address: 
Phone: 
Email address:
Applicant Interest

We would like to hear more about you and why you are a great candidate for this program. (200-words each)

- Why are you interested in starting a seaweed farm in Alaska?

- Are you familiar with the aquatic farm lease application through the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR)? If yes, have you applied for an aquatic farm lease? If so, please describe the farm site and status of application (date submitted, rejected, pending or approved).

- If you have not applied for a lease yet, have you thought about a potential location of a seaweed farm? If so, how far is it from the nearest town with seafood processing capacity?

- Have you thought about a 5-year plan for your potential farm (buyer, species grown, product forms, target harvest value, cost of gear, etc)? If yes, please describe.

- What would you like to get out of this program?

Previous Experience Working on the Water

We would like to learn more about your experience level, in order to best personalize our programming. (Y/N answers with explanation, 50-word max)

- Do you have experience working on the water and/or running a boat (i.e. commercial, charter or subsistence fishing, etc.)? If yes, please describe.

- Do you have experience working on the water and/or running a boat in the winter?

- Besides working on the water, what other skills and experience do you have that are applicable to seaweed farming?
• Do you own or have access to a boat to use to deploy seaweed farm gear in the fall, monitor throughout the winter, and harvest in the spring? If you answered yes, please provide a brief description.

• Please describe the general vessel safety measures you use and/or safety training or certifications you hold.

Optional
If you have more information that you would like us to consider, such as a resume, site map, farm design drawing, or project proposal, you may submit up to three attachments via email to rsmith@afdf.org.

Questions
If you have questions about this application, you can contact Riley Smith at rsmith@afdf.org. This application will be hosted at: www.afdf.org

Informational Links

Video: Alaska Kelp Farming – A New Sustainable Seafood Opportunity

Video: Maine Kelp Farming, Ocean Approved

Seaweed Farming in Alaska, by Alaska Sea Grant

Aquatic Farming Program, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources

Aquatic Farming Application, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources


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