



NOAA
FISHERIES

Office of
Aquaculture



NOAA Aquaculture Draft 5-Year Strategic Plan (2023-2028)



NOAA's Mission: science, service and stewardship

1. To understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean and coasts;
2. To share that knowledge and information with others; and
3. To conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.

Purpose and Context

This plan is designed to help align work conducted across the NOAA Aquaculture Program, set priorities to achieve our mission, and support NOAA's vision of healthy and resilient ecosystems, communities, and economies.

To meet these needs, this plan includes the following key components:

- Vision and Mission to guide our work;
- Core Values, to illustrate who we are as a program and the philosophy behind how we operate;
- Four overarching goals which, along with objectives, outline our highest priorities over the next five years to advance sustainable aquaculture development.



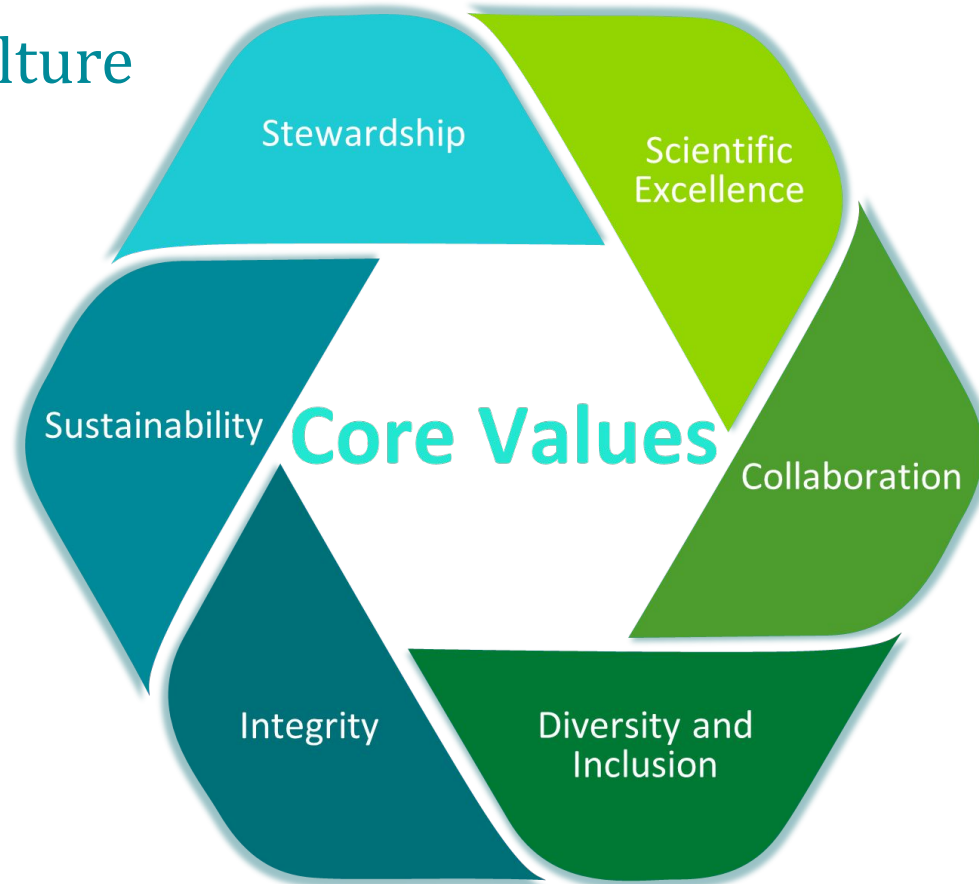
Vision and Mission

Vision: A thriving, resilient, and inclusive U.S. aquaculture sector that supports jobs, expands access to nutritious domestic seafood, and reinforces healthy coastal and ocean ecosystems in a changing environment.

Mission: To provide science, services, and policies that create conditions for opportunity and growth of sustainable U.S. aquaculture.



NOAA Aquaculture Program Core Values



GOAL 1: MANAGE SUSTAINABLY AND EFFICIENTLY



Improve the regulatory system for sustainable coastal and marine aquaculture through collaboration with partners

Objectives

- Support a clear, efficient, and appropriate regulatory framework for offshore aquaculture
- Explore pathways for authorizing small scale or time-limited activities
- Work with states and federal agencies to advance existing directives for sustainable aquaculture
- Support planning projects, like Aquaculture Opportunity Areas
- Encourage use of best available science, information, and tools for management

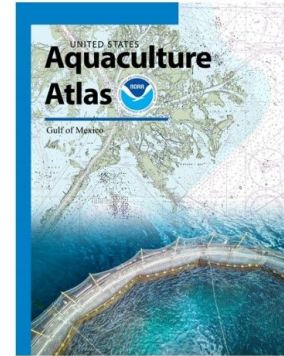
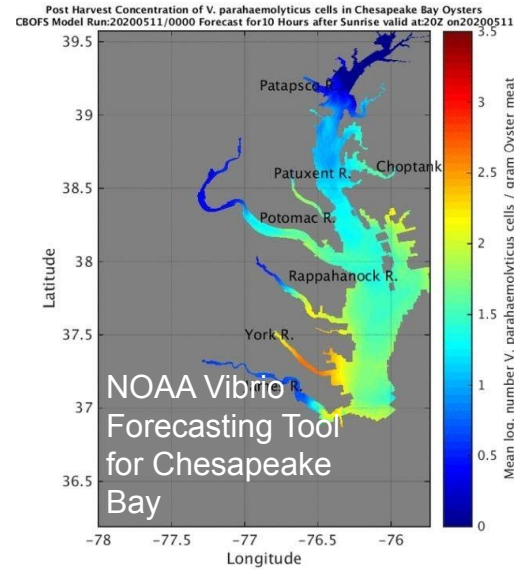


GOAL 2: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Use world-class science expertise to meet management and industry needs for a thriving seafood production sector and share this knowledge broadly

Objectives:

- Provide sound, science-based products to support regulatory and management decision-making.
- Conduct coordinated, applied scientific research to support industry development.
- Strengthen, expand, and diversify aquaculture data collection to support industry management and development.



GOAL 3: EDUCATE AND EXCHANGE INFORMATION

Build awareness and support for coastal and marine aquaculture through two-way communication with diverse stakeholders and partners

Objectives

- Improve public perception and social license for aquaculture
- Use new and existing collaborative relationships to incorporate stakeholder needs into decision-making
- Advance aquaculture literacy by developing and sharing materials with stakeholders
- Introduce diverse audiences to aquaculture by incorporating new outreach strategies



GOAL 4: SUPPORT ECONOMIC VIABILITY AND GROWTH

Facilitate a robust aquaculture industry that thrives as a key component of a resilient seafood sector

Objectives

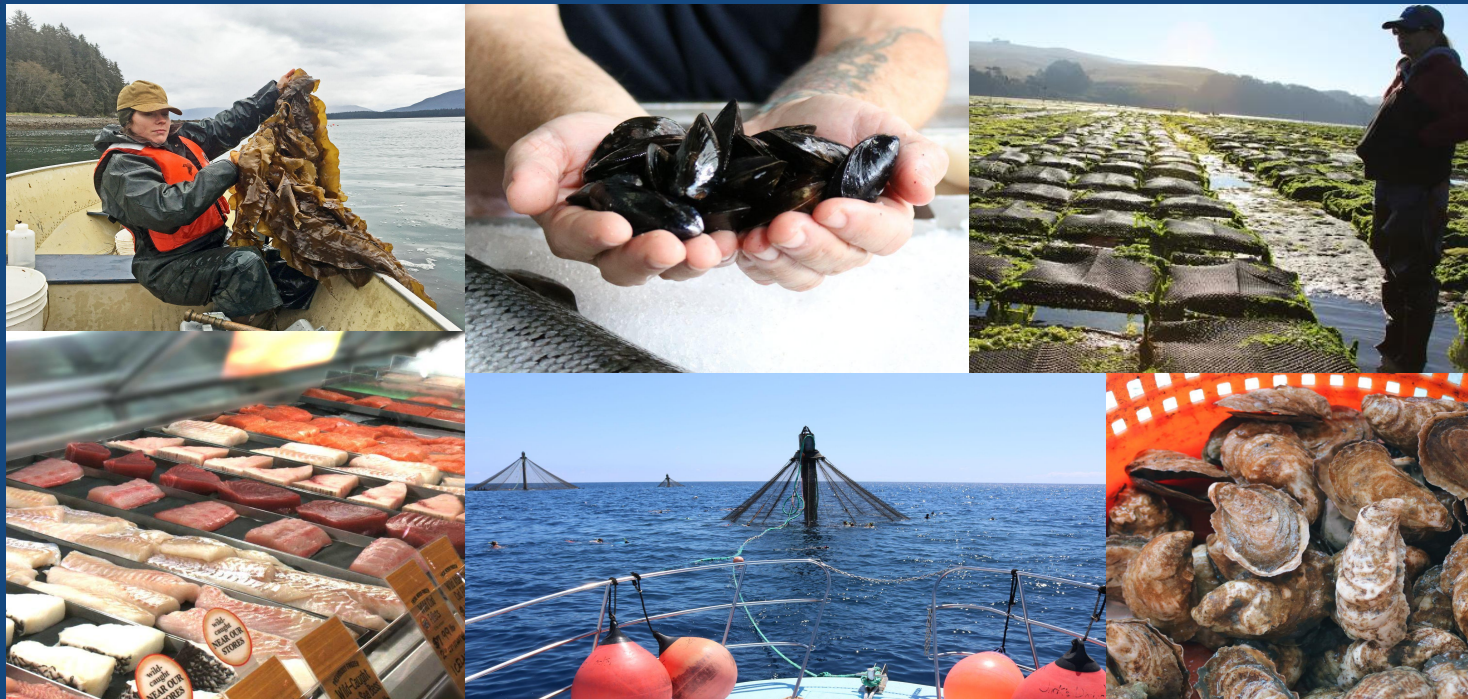
- Support workforce development, with a commitment to diversity, inclusion, and accessibility, based on local needs, interests, and capacities.
- Enhance access to funding and insurance programs, extension and grants for R&D.
- Serve as a model for attracting, hiring and retaining talented and diverse employees
- Explore innovative approaches for fostering growth of early stage aquaculture companies and technologies



Seeking Feedback

- Do these goals and objectives align with your priorities?
- Are there additional priorities we should integrate into the plan?
- What should we consider as we plan to implement these goals?





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