



**NOAA
FISHERIES**
Alaska Region



NCCOS
NATIONAL CENTERS FOR COASTAL OCEAN SCIENCE

NOAA Fisheries Aquaculture Opportunity Areas Request for Information

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AK RFI Listening Sessions, 2023

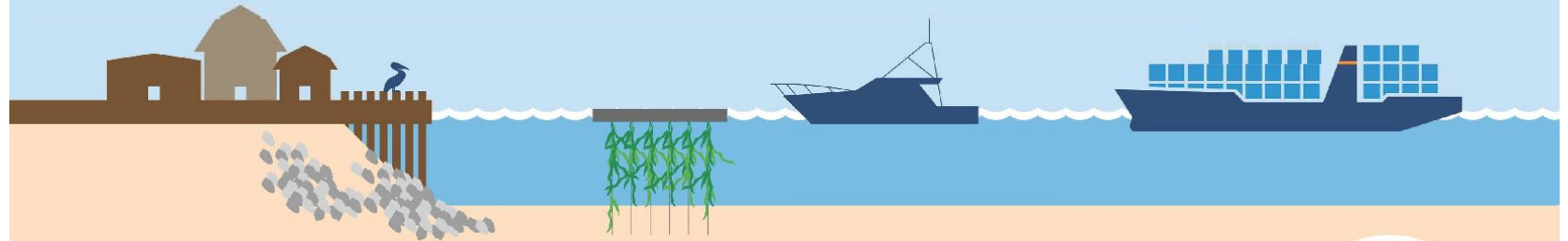


What is an Aquaculture Opportunity Area?

AOAs will expand economic opportunities in coastal and rural areas, and increase our nation's seafood security.

AOAs use the best available science to find appropriate spaces for sustainable aquaculture.

AOAs minimize interactions with other users, such as shipping, fishing, subsistence activities, and the military.

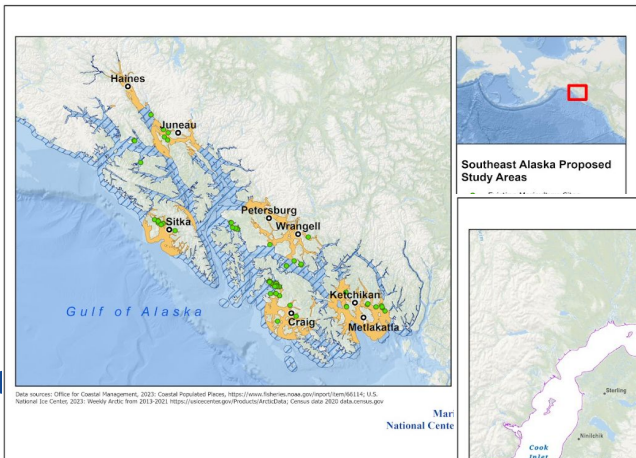


Aquaculture Opportunity Areas show high potential for commercial aquaculture. A science and community-based approach to identifying these areas helps minimize interference with other enterprises, account for current fishing patterns, subsistence and cultural activities, and protect the ecosystem.

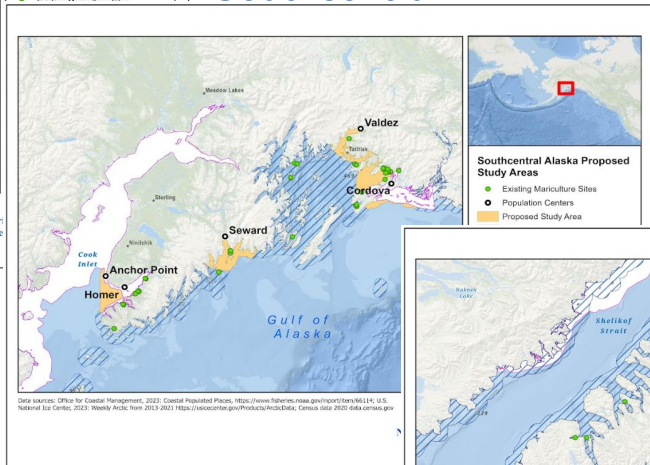


Step 2 - Identify Study Areas

Southeast



Southcentral

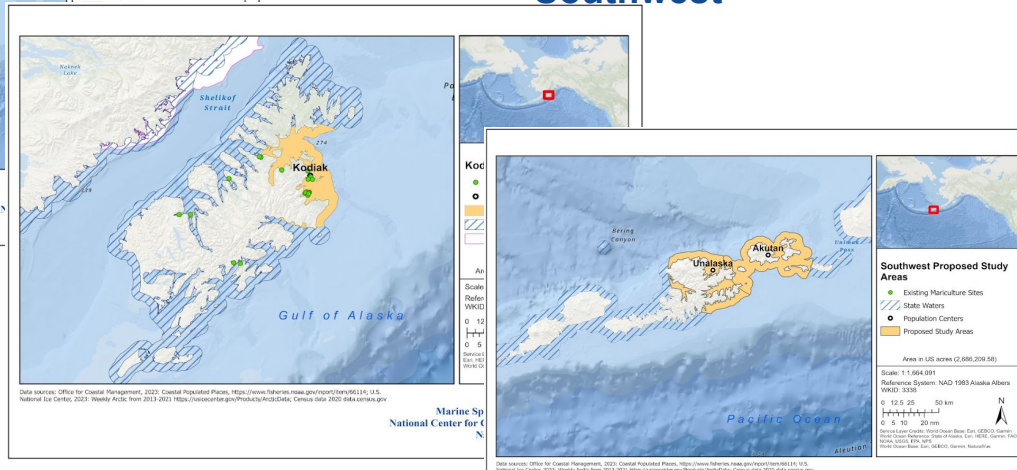


Draft Study Area Maps in RFI

- See [NCCOS AOA RFI webpage](#) for more information



Southwest



Learn More About Request for Information



- [Federal Register Notice](#) published Oct 19th
- Open for 60 days through **Dec 18th**
- NOAA Fisheries [website](#) identifies how to provide electronic, written, and oral comments and provides overview maps of study areas.
- NCCOS [website](#) provides all of the study areas maps including at community levels
- Listening Session coming up:
 - **Dec 11th 2-4pm AST**
 - [Webinar Registration Link](#)

