



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**

## Alaska Regional Office

Collaborating with the State of Alaska over the coming years, NOAA will work to sustainably advance invertebrates (shellfish, sea cucumber), and seaweed farming in state waters.

Finfish aquaculture will not be considered during the identification of AOAs in Alaska because it is prohibited by state law.

NOAA provides science-based tools and strategies to help communities thoughtfully consider how and where to sustainably develop aquaculture that complements wild-caught fisheries, working waterfronts, and resilient communities.

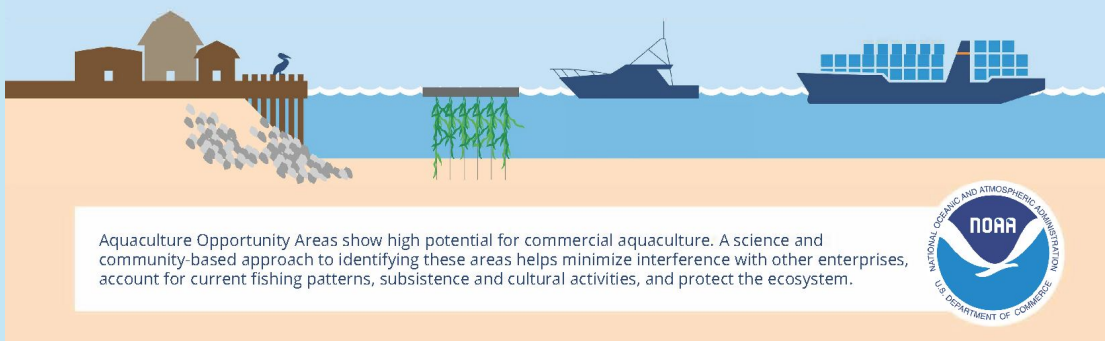
# Aquaculture Opportunity Areas: Request for Information Coming Soon

## 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.



## We Want to Hear from the Public

NOAA is beginning the process to identify Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOAs) in Alaska state waters, in partnership with the State of Alaska. We are preparing a Request for Information (RFI) that invites the public to provide information on the identification of study areas, data, and analyses relevant to identifying AOAs in Alaska state waters. This includes areas that should or shouldn't be considered, subsistence harvest locations, culturally important or sacred sites, and other data. This RFI is anticipated to be published in mid October and will be open for 60 days.

For more information on the AOA identification process in Alaska, visit the link via the QR code below.

## Tips for Providing Comments

### *Tips for Submitting Effective Comments:*

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/prod-regulations-faq/pdf/Tips-For-Submitting-Effective-Comments.pdf>

