

Oregon Coastal Mariculture Collaborative

WHO WE ARE

We're a collaborative of Oregon-based organizations, brought together by a shared focus on restorative mariculture on the Oregon coast with support from shared funders.

- Ecotrust
- Oregon Aquaculture Association (OAA)
- Oregon Kelp Alliance (ORKA)
- Oregon Sea Grant (ORSG)
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

WHAT WE ARE DOING

We are working together to better understand the potential for expansion of native and restorative marine shellfish, seaweeds, and aquatic plants in the mariculture sector on the Oregon Coast. This work entails engagement and outreach, conducting market and spatial assessments, learning from current and future interest groups, investigating and eliminating roadblocks to permitting, supporting pilot mariculture projects, and exploring financing.

WHY IS THIS WORK NEEDED?

Oregon has an underdeveloped mariculture sector relative to its potential and despite having the natural resources to support a thriving industry along its 362-mile coastline. After initial inquiries, interest by prospective producers is quickly dampened because no viable policy and permitting framework exists for seaweed and shellfish (except for oysters), as well as uncertainties regarding suitable locations, species, and methods.

HOW WE ARE WORKING TOGETHER

We meet virtually, with in-person meetings on a quarterly basis to align our efforts, share knowledge and networks, and brainstorm ideas to overcome challenges. We embrace a "learn while doing" approach in how we work, with a guiding principle to listen, learn, and cultivate connections between interested partners.



We are funded to do this work together from 2024 through the end of 2026. We are diving into outreach and engagement activities with the goal of organizing a community of practice.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are hoping to connect with Tribes, growers and potential growers, fishers, scientists, researchers, Indigenous stewards. If that's you, please consider filling out our contact form (est. 1-2 minutes to complete).



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