

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Ketchikan Gateway Borough****Federal Tax ID: 92-0084626****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

# Ketchikan Gateway Borough - Mariculture Research Facility

**State Funding Requested: \$300,000****House District: 1 / A**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Project will fund construction of a Mariculture Research, Training and Development Facility in Ketchikan.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$300,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$300,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Project will fund construction of a Mariculture Research, Training and Development Facility in Ketchikan.

The Mariculture Research Training, and Development Facility is vital to the development of the shellfish industry, and is urgently needed for several reasons:

- 1.Urgent need for current geoduck farmers: they are currently three years away from losing their leases due to the lack of plantable seed. The Mariculture Facility will provide the growout facility to produce the plantable seed.
- 2.Research will facilitate expansion of the industry into other species besides oysters and geoducks.
- 3.Training of new farmers and people entering the industry will move forward with the facility.
- 4.Research is needed to develop a 'best practices' guides for Southeast Alaska farming.

The project is well-studied, has several benefits to the state, and is funding-ready.

- Land deeded by the State is secured, access roads and site pad are developed, and permitting is complete for Facility development.
- OceansAlaska, in concert with the shellfish industry and University of Alaska system, is qualified and positioned to provide

nursery development, applied research, vocational training, demonstration, and technology development & transfer necessary to propel the growth of Alaska's coastal shellfish industry. This will enable Alaska's industry to expand with the growing global demand for shellfish and marine products. The funding herein requested will provide the facility with the needed equipment to begin a geoduck nursery, oyster entry program, farm demonstration, training programs, as well as applied research on geoduck, oyster, and sea cucumber farming and enhancement projects.

- A geoduck nursery will enable the Seward Hatchery to transport seed at a smaller size, and reach a plantable size with faster nursery growth rates in Southeast Alaska. This creates higher quality and increased capacity for seed, and a more efficient system for planting geoduck on the farms.
- Infrastructure: Mariculture Research & Training Facility will be a 120'x40' concrete float with a 70'x24' building on it. This funding will provide geoduck and oyster nurseries, trays, hoists, sorters, research tanks, lab equipment and other necessary infrastructure for the development of the facility. This equipment is necessary to begin operations at the Facility. It is the same type of organization and infrastructure that has led other countries to vast expansion of mariculture opportunities.
- Private Sector Tools: Mariculture development can generate year-round job opportunities in coastal Alaska, and stimulate private sector jobs in transportation, processing, fuel, equipment supply & fabrication, and other industries. 70% of expenditures on farm sites are spent within 20-30 miles from site, greatly benefitting and stabilizing the economy of this region. The development, training and entry programs will integrate local and regional expertise and organizations in developing business acumen, capabilities, and opportunities.
- Investment in Future: Coastal Southeast Alaska is projected to continue to decrease in population without an expansion of new industries and year-round jobs. Mariculture can have a significant economic impact on coastal communities, creating a \$50M industry with estimated year-around private sector direct employment of 400. A shellfish nursery and facility in Ketchikan will vastly enhance the growth of this industry. These are very high paying jobs.
- Ketchikan Gateway Borough will provide OceansAlaska, a non-profit, with the funding for the equipment at the Mariculture Research, Training, and Development Facility.
- Growing the mariculture industry is a central priority in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough.

The Mariculture Industry holds immense promise for Southeast Alaska and the implementation of the Mariculture Research Training, and Development Facility is key to that industry.

### **Project Timeline:**

OceansAlaska Mariculture Research & Training Facility is estimated to be completed by May, 2011.

### **Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

OceansAlaska

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name:	Dan Bockhorst
Title:	Borough Manager
Address:	1900 First Avenue Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Phone Number:	(907)228-6625
Email:	danb@kgbak.us

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No

<i>For use by Co-chair Staff Only:</i>
10:24 AM 5/27/2011

# THE COMMUNITY OF KETCHIKAN

## FISCAL YEAR 2012 STATE FUNDING REQUEST



### PROJECT NAME

Mariculture Research , Training & Development Facility

### APPLICANT

Ketchikan Gateway Borough (*Community of Ketchikan Priority No. 6; Borough Priority No. 4*)

### FUNDING REQUEST

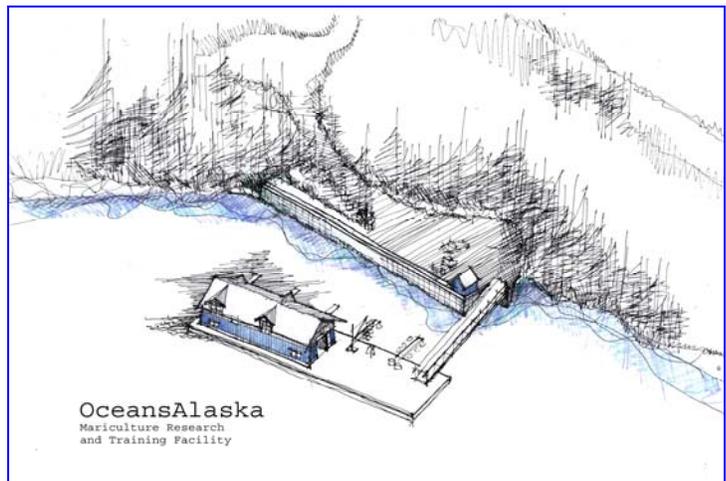
Request	\$300,000
Other Funding	\$0
Total Project	\$300,000

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