



September 24, 2013

Shawn Carey, Grants Program Officer
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Alaska Region
Ph: 907-586-7845
Shawn.Carey@noaa.gov

RE: Letter of Support for S-K Grant titled, *Alaska Mariculture Initiative*

Dear Mr. Carey,

I am writing to express my support for the Saltonstall Kennedy grant proposal from the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF) titled, ***Alaska Mariculture***. The Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF) is spearheading the ***Alaska Mariculture Initiative*** which will complete the following objectives: broaden the vision and constituency of the mariculture industry from shellfish farming to also include restoration and wild fishery enhancement, coordinate efforts to develop the mariculture industry, convene a strategic planning conference in Alaska, develop a strategic plan, and gain a commitment by all participating agencies and stakeholders regarding implementation of the plan

I am writing on behalf of Haa Aaní, LLC, which was established by Sealaska Corporation to focus specifically on rural economic development in Southeast Alaska. Over the past four (4) years, Haa Aaní, LLC and Sealaska have contributed significant capital and infrastructure to expand the mariculture industry in the region through partnerships. Our existing operations are in Yakutat, Angoon and Prince of Wales and a developing operation in Hoonah.

The mariculture industry has tremendous potential to provide new jobs in Alaska's coastal communities for farmers, fishermen, and those supporting the industry with research, seed supply, and infrastructure. Increased mariculture production is not only economically beneficial to these communities, but also ecologically beneficial to the marine habitat. Haa Aaní, LLC supports the ***Alaska Mariculture Initiative*** as a coordinated strategic planning effort with a sound methodology, clear objectives and a reasonable expectation that it will facilitate expansion of the mariculture industry, leading to increased jobs, increased seafood sales, economic growth, and a resilient industry

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Lindoff', is written over a white background.

Anthony Lindoff

Mariculture Program Manager, Haa Aaní, LLC

cc: Russell Dick, Haa Aaní, LLC

Julie Decker, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation