

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaskan Shellfish Growers Association****Federal Tax ID: 92-0144641****Project Title:****Project Type: Planning and Research**

# Alaskan Shellfish Growers Association - Shellfish Industry Technical Assistance Grants

**State Funding Requested: \$170,000****House District: Southeast Region (1-5)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Provide timely technical assistance grants to shellfish industry to support projects designed to increase in-state production of shellfish.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$170,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$170,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Alaska oyster farmers received only 40% of the spat needed during 2011. The Alaskan Shellfish Growers Association estimates the economic impact on shellfish growers at nearly \$1.8 million and the future outlook is very troubling. The Alaska shellfish farming industry needs to quickly and efficiently tap expert advice to develop effective strategies for improving in-state production of our products.

Projects under consideration for the first-ever technical assistance include:

- 1) Bringing a hatchery expert to conduct algae production workshops, focusing on the three to four facilities in the state producing algae (Seward, Homer and Ketchikan.)
- 2) Mussel growing workshops in Homer and Ketchikan with a mussel expert from Maine and Puget Sound.
- 3) A mussel grower's training program in Kake, including Marine Advisory Program workshops that will include shellfish apprentices from Yakutat, Angoon and Klawock. The association is networking with Haa Ani on the project to leverage private sector resources.

The Association's board of directors will choose the highest priority projects to fund with the amount appropriated.

**Project Timeline:**

Work will begin immediately upon receipt of funds, and should be complete by June 30, 2013.

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

No ongoing expenses.

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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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>
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