

# DNR Aquatic Farm Regulation Project Update

*Aquatic Farm Leases for Commercial Shellfish or Sea Plant  
Farms on the State-owned and Managed  
Tide and/or Submerged Lands*

ALASKA SHELLFISH GROWERS  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 25, 2013  
KETCHIKAN, AK

Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Mining, Land & Water  
Southcentral Regional Land Management Office



# Regulation Project Overview

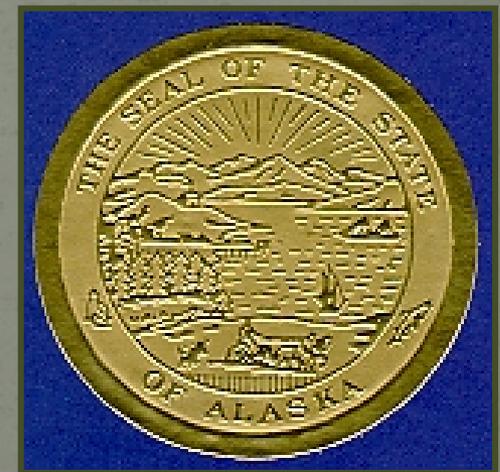
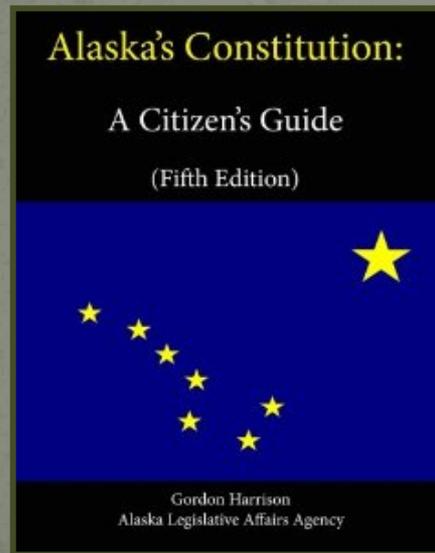
- The goal is to review existing regulations in effort to streamline the leasing process and clarify, focus, and centralize core leasing regulations
- Core leasing requirements will be developed and apply to all leases, regardless of type
- Specific Aquatic Farm Program regulations will remain intact
  - Interagency Application
  - Public Notice, and Decision Process
  - Development Plan describing Farming Activities
  - Annual Reports

# Authority for Aquatic Farm Leases

Aquatic Farm Leases are issued under Alaska Statutes

- 38.05.070-.075 and
- 38.05.083

and described under Title 11, Chapter 63 of the Alaska Administrative Code (11 AAC 63)



# Key Leasing Components

- Site Utilization
  - No speculation with publicly owned resources
  - Size of the farm must be commensurate with the operation
  - Active commercial farming consistent with definition contained in AS 16.40.199
- Development Plan
  - Must be thorough, complete and informative
  - What, when, where, how
  - Becomes part of the lease agreement
- Annual Reports
  - Tell us what you had planned to do, what you actually did, what events or activities changed your plan (good and/or bad), and what you plan to do next year.
  - Shared between DNR and ADFG



# Administrative Order No. 266

## Objectives

- Minimize the cost, time, and burden to the affected public of complying with State regulations and encouraging State agencies to work with all stakeholders to meet the objectives of the Alaska Statutes;
- Reduce the administrative cost and burden;
- Ensure that State regulations are consistent with Alaska Statutes and limited to carrying out the statutory purpose;
- Further the State's interest in preserving our State's rights in adopting regulations to implement federal programs and to receive federal funds

# Scoping

- In response to AO 266, DNR will be seeking input from industry members, aquatic farmers, and the public.
- Comment Period from March 1 to April 30, 2014
- A series of scoping meetings will be held during this time period in Juneau, Anchorage, and Homer
- Public comment also accepted through DNR's Aquatic Farm website



# What DNR needs from you

- Identify existing regulations you believe are inconsistent with statutes, propose alternatives
- Discussion about DNR's proposed 'three legged stool' as a lease management tool; ways to effectively implement
- Measurement standards to evaluate the 'commercial success' of an aquatic farm



# QUESTIONS ?



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