

Behold: Aquaculture Funding Opportunity

If there was an end to foolishness and damage that men's actions cause, both now and later life would be a lot less interesting, maybe.

Each year, and sometimes more often than that, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) so-called Marine Aquaculture Program announces a call for requests for proposals (RFP) for aquaculture ideas. Similar calls are issued by other NOAA agencies working through the Seagrant and small business innovation research (SBIR) programs. Same shows, different rooms.

Without getting too much into the niceties of just what a federal 'Program' sometimes is beyond an employment center for career science bureaucrats, itself an oxymoron, one has to wonder just what NOAA does for the country with its aquaculture money. If they have the mission of fostering marine aquaculture in U.S. coastal waters, where are they?

This isn't a search for UFOs. Multi Aquaculture has brooded, grown out, harvested and sold its first crop of striped bass in offshore cages. Somehow the names Promised Land and the Frontier begin to commingle out there are the edge, exposed, and, we have found, very much alone. So much for the success of a NOAA program.

When NOAA issues its call for proposals, it always says that it will wait to see if money is budgeted and then make selections as to which projects get funded. That seems somewhat logical, except that tangible results are lacking. NOAA issues its proposals year after year. Multi Aquaculture has applied a couple times. To fill out an application accurately and thoroughly takes weeks of effort. We were asking for a little financial help getting the only truly marine aquaculture project in U.S. coastal waters out there and successful.

No money. Not interested. Doesn't foster the National Ocean Policy goals. But isn't a goal to foster marine aquaculture? No, first there must be other fostering: getting federal and state programs cooperating, mapping, planning, studies on how it can be done. For what?

For what Multi Aquaculture is risking its capital and occasionally its lives and always its sleep to already be doing? What the hell????

So, Multi Aquaculture now issues its own Funding Opportunity Notice:

Millions of Dollars Available to Foster Marine Aquaculture in U.S. Waters

Yes we are tired of waiting for the federal government to Act rather than build circles of funnel cakes filled with money so that the bureaucrats will have consultancy money available when they retire, having justified their jobs rather than getting the job done.

The millions we will offer will underwrite any bona fide effort build and operate Commercial Offshore Aquaculture in U.S. waters. The money will be available to private companies, universities and government agencies, nonprofit organizations, foreign and domestic entities, anyone who will use the money to build and operate a marine aquaculture facility in U.S. coastal waters.

The money will be made available because this is about FOOD, and NATIONAL SECURITY and the HEALTH OF FUTURE GENERATIONS. Instead of the market providing white bread tilapia for next to nothing from Asian sewers that once were pristine rivers, we want a buildout of real cage culture facilities in the open ocean. We will keep the \$10 billion in the U.S. that is now going to support the tilapia-in-a-toilet industries of the Far East.

We want others to join us in overcoming the challenges of insanely crafted regulations that forbid fish from crapping in the ocean, from being in the ocean at all, from looking at regional fish and saying that genetic contamination can result from the escape of a fish spawned from fish that migrate up and down the coast.

We want other Frontier Hungry people to look in the eye of hurricanes, nor-easters, drunk boaters traveling at high speed, miscreant draggers, myopic environmentalists, diluted natural food marketers, chemical food additive corporations, and consumers who believe that cheapness is value and freshwater fish are marine animals.

We will have millions of dollars to help you succeed. So submit your proposals by the program deadline. Each proposal must be in .pdf format, providing all information, documentation of the feed to be used down to the molecular level, a complete history of previous participation in marine aquaculture, health records and citizenship papers of all employees, species to be raised, complete documentation of the composition of the crap that comes out of their bodies and quantities, statistical dispersion patterns in the waters of the proposed project, sources of genetic material every 100 miles north and south east and west for the entire East Coast, genetic markers chosen to determine the exact spot where the eggs came from, and a history of previous activity at the project site going back to the Wisconsinan Ice Age.

We will fund everyone who qualifies. There will be millions of dollars available

Just as soon as we get the money.

