SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Kirsten Ramey
CDFW Marine Region Aquaculture Coordinator
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OVERVIEW

• Why do we need Best Management Practices (BMPs)?

• What are the goals and considerations for developing BMPs?

• What are the core elements that should be included?
NEED FOR BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

1. Minimize pollution and/or environmental impacts
2. Guidance for sustainable shellfish production while safeguarding the environment
3. Adaptive management within acceptable bounds
4. Multiple uses of state waters
GOAL AND CONSIDERATIONS

• GOAL: Limit the risk of undesirable ecology effects to an acceptable level while allowing for sustainable shellfish production

• CONSIDERATIONS:
  • What specific ecological impacts are we guarding against?
  • What is an acceptable level of impact? What is the end result we are trying to achieve?
  • Should the standard set objectives that are not achievable with current practice and technology?
  • BMPs versus Performance Standards
    • “Do things this way” versus achieve the following environmental objective
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES – CORE ELEMENTS (CATEGORIES)

• Site selection and access
• Materials, operations, and maintenance
  • Robust designs
  • Operational discipline
• Maintenance of environmental quality
  • Habitat
  • Water quality
  • Species
• Disease prevention and management
  • Biosecurity