

SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

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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