



Ethical and Stewardship Considerations in Aquaculture

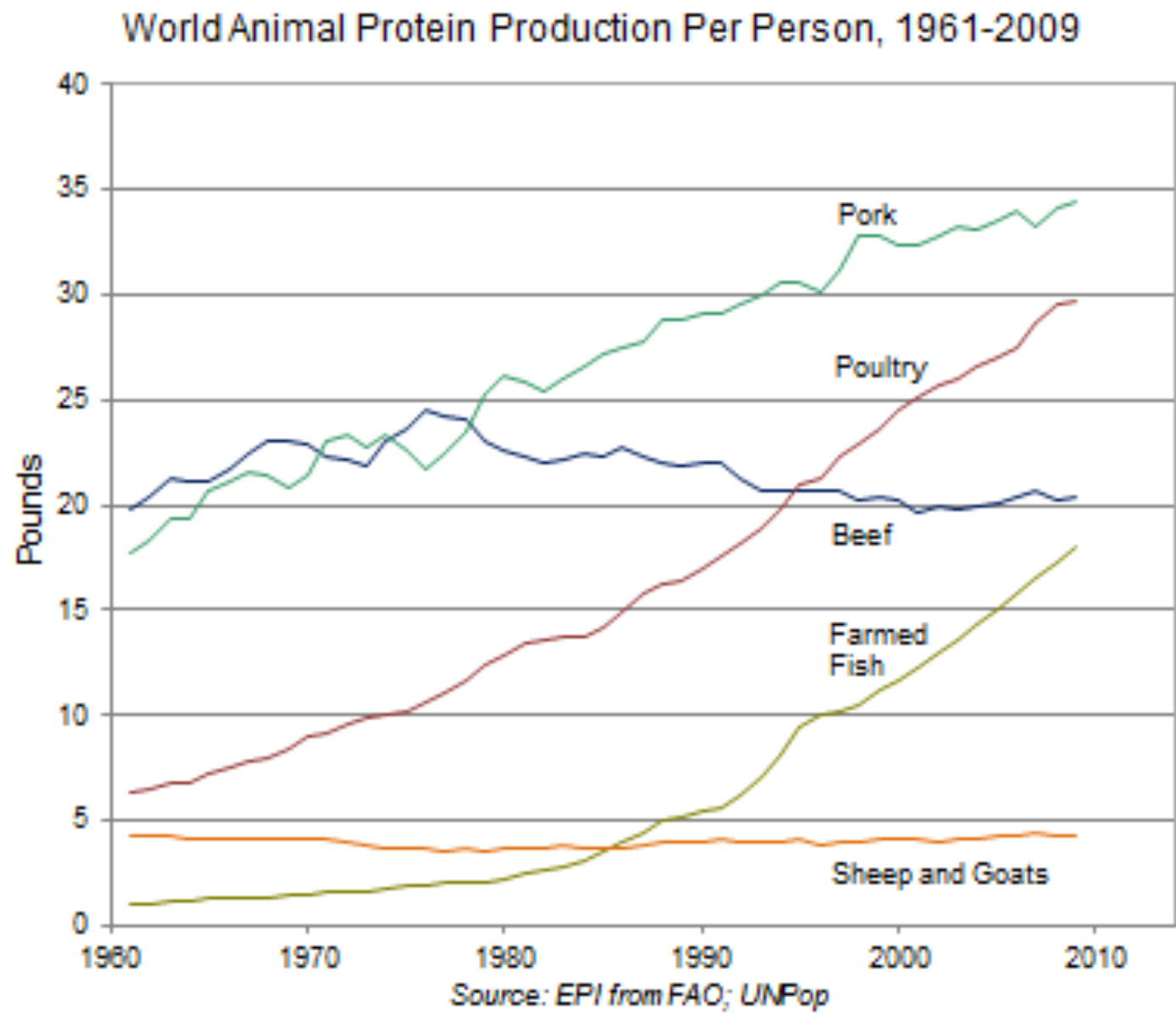


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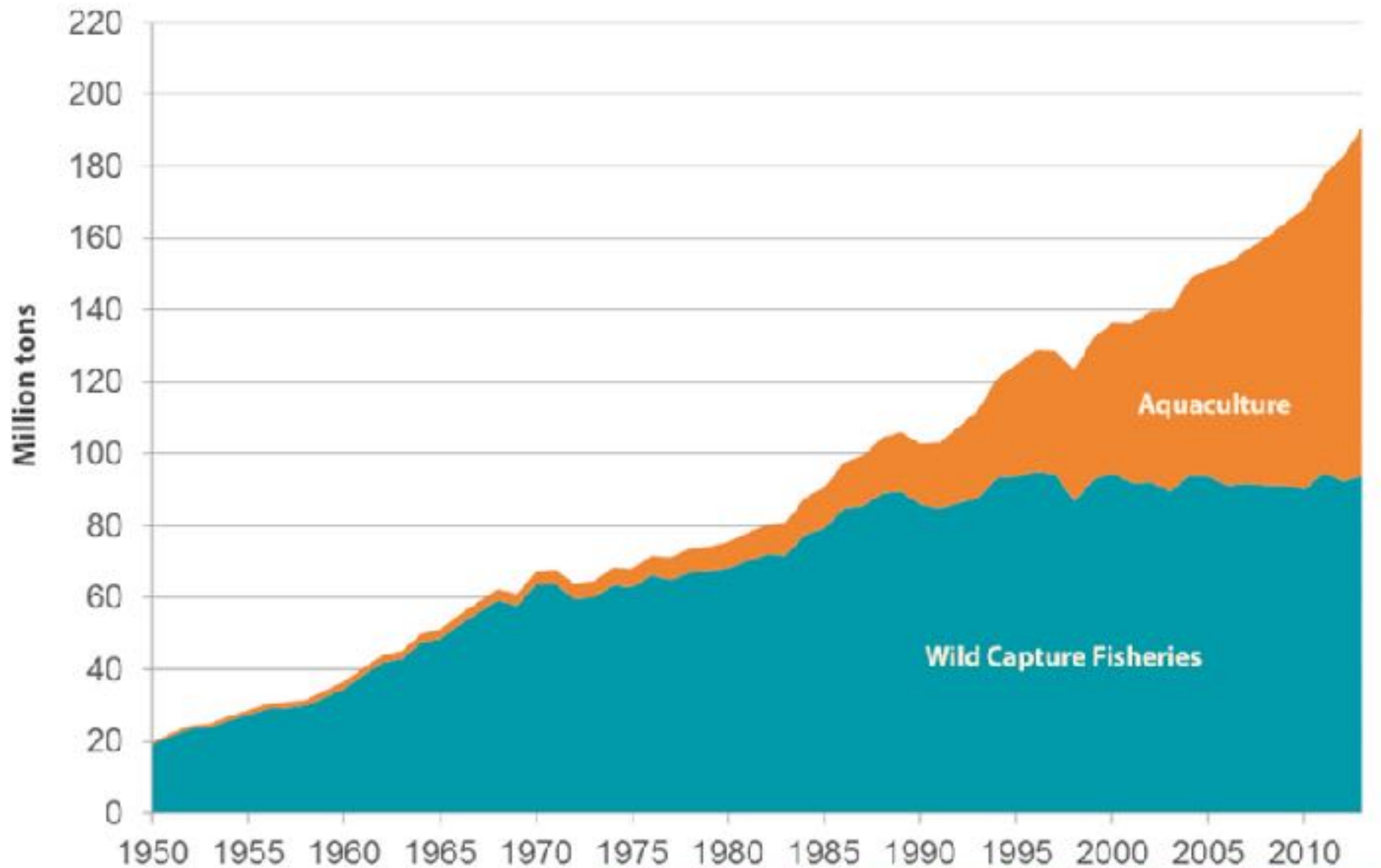
“The Earth is the Lords” Ps 24





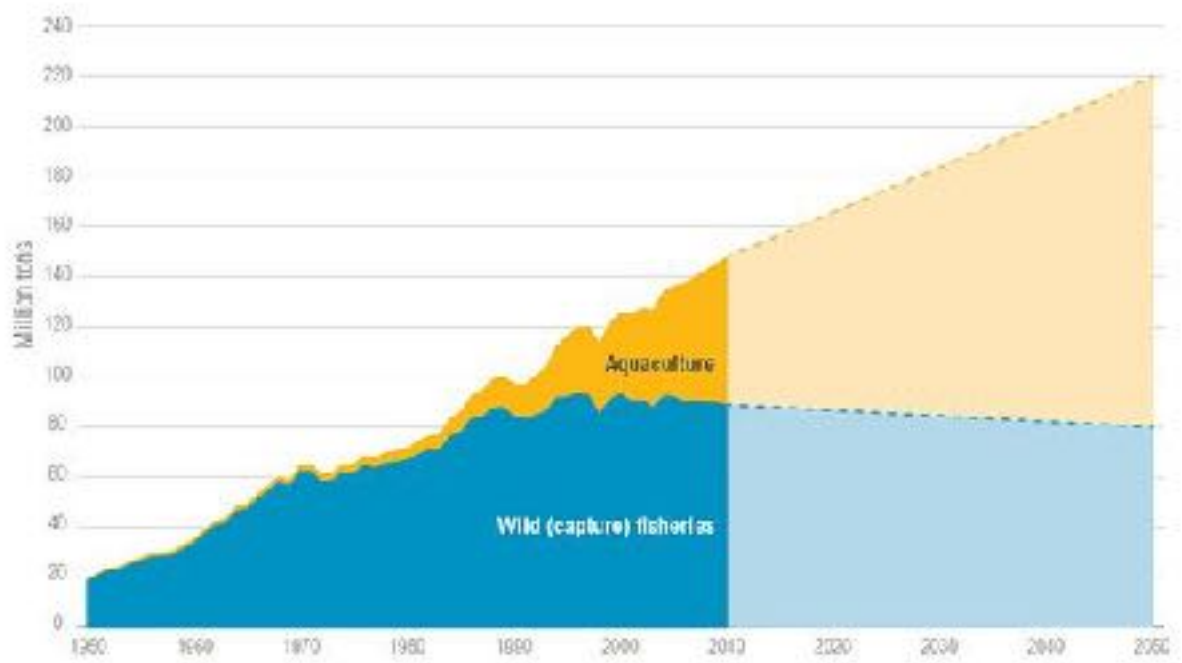
Earth Policy Institute - www.earth-policy.org

Global Seafood Production



Statistics taken from the UN FAO's FishStat database for 1950-2013.

Aquaculture Is Expanding to Meet World Fish Demand



The Global Fish Farming Industry Is Booming

World fisheries and aquaculture production (in million tonnes)



Data 1950–2010: FAO, 2014, "FishStatL" Rome: FAO. Projections 2011–2050: Calculated at WRI, assumes 10 percent reduction in wild 2010 and 2050, and linear growth of aquaculture production at an additional 2 million tons per year between 2010 and 2050.

wri.org/publication/improving-aquaculture for full paper.





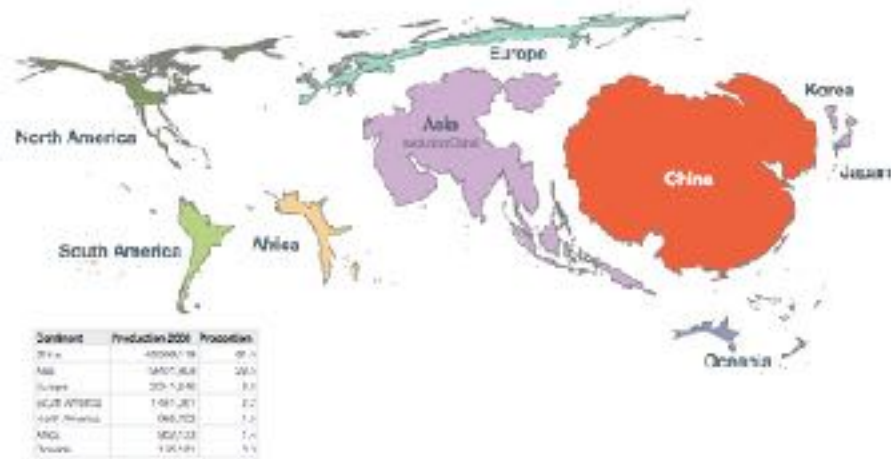
What is Aquaculture? (vs. Terraculture)



Culture of Animals, Plants, Bacteria... in/with Water
Examples: Finfish (Fresh or Marine); Reptiles,
Molluscs, Crustaceans; Microalgae; Macroalgae
(seaweed); Plants (wetlands...); Bacteria...



Who/where grows it now?
(China: 50+%) (US: \$1B <1%)
Trade: US Imports ~\$20B
Who needs it (now/future)?



World and US Aquaculture Production



Source: FAO 2005

Figure 1.1: World aquaculture production by continent in 2008 (China based on export). Land areas are adjusted proportionally to reflect production volumes.

Source: MSU 2005



Ethical/Stewardship Issues in Aquaculture

Rich vs. Poor (tilapia vs. carnivorous)
Creation Care (Environmental Ethics – water)
Economics (energy/resources)
Human/Animal Health
Genetic Issues (Bio-resources)

Gen 1:26 ... dominion... over the fish...

Gen. 2:15 ... shmar and abad...

Matt. 25:40 ...for the least of these...

Rev 22: ... river of water of life... (city/fruitful/heal/th)





Rich vs. Poor

Aquaculture **can** have FCRs of 1-2 (0.3-5)
 Compare to Chicken 2-3; Pork 3-4; Beef 6-20
 Rich desire "high trophic level"
 e.g. salmonids (carnivorous);
 sturgeon/caviar
 Feed World: Low trophic level
 Efficient production
 Very cheap: tilapia, catfish, carp...
 ...to the least of these...





Creation Care (Environmental Ethics – water)

Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS)
Recycle water: efficient water use (90-100%)

High capital costs

Energy costs: e.g. pumps

Energy efficient: e.g. LHO

Multi-raceways (18x = 94% recirc)

Possibly improved environmental impacts

... *shmar and abad*... Gen 2:15

Efficient production ->

Natural stocks can recover





Economics

Rich vs. Poor (tilapia vs. carnivorous)

Efficiency: Water; Energy; P; N; C

Externalities (accounted?)

High Protein Food

High Value Products (tilapia/skin... health)

Ecological Services (e.g. P/N/C efficiency/conversion/
sequestration)

... least of these...

(use talents given you)



Key Market/Environment/Technology Issues in Aquaculture



Lower Trophic Levels
More Plant Based Feeds
Waste Management
Disease Management
Local/Global Advantages
Stewardship
Social Issues



Human/Animal Health

IACUC Protocols (Animal Care)
Better control in RAS/Ponds
Safer food (less metals, etc.)
“Natural?”
Ethical Treatment of Animals





Genetic Modification in Fish

AquAdvantage Salmon (J. Buchanan et al.)

Atlantic/Chinook/Pout 11x growth rate (y1)

“Frankenfish?”

Possible competition (less efficient swimmer)

Triploid females (sterile 98.9%)

FDA: “highly unlikely... environment”

“as safe as... conventional”

(US 2010-15; Canada 2016)



NC Species/Work



Trophic Levels:

Lower: Algae, Macroalgae, Oysters, Tilapia

Higher: Salmonids; Bass (Sturgeon)





MOUNTAINS

PIEDMONT

COASTAL



Lower Trophic Levels
More Plant Based Feeds
Waste Management



Marine Aquaculture Research Center (MARC)

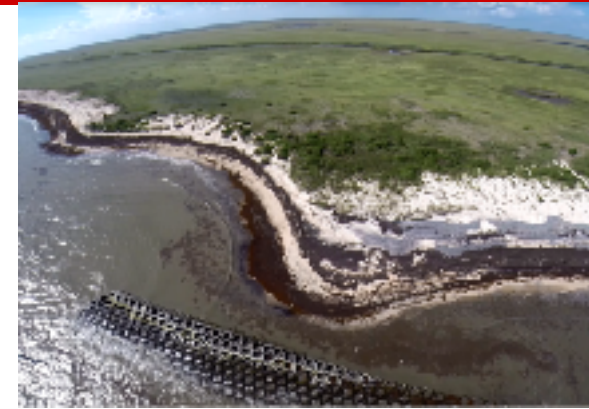
- Advantages
 - Unique access to coast/salinity capabilities
 - Custom built; independent systems
 - Under our control
 - Good backup power/water
 - Neighbors with Marshallberg Farm (sturgeon)
- Disadvantages
 - Rural/access to visitors (3h Raleigh; 30min Morehead)
 - No dorms/minimal offices/meeting rooms
- Unique Features
 - Solar/Wind; Marine; Waste Treatment; 7 species

Marine Aquaculture Research Center (MARC)





Summary



Fish efficient at growing: FCR can be <1
Work to be done: Trophic; Resources; Efficiency;
Economics; Social; International



Engineering for Production
Engineering for Sustainability
Engineering for Growth, Ethically



Grow the successes; invent new winners
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Hungry to Grow





Research/Discovery (MARC/FishBarn) Collaborators (LaPaz)



Water Quality: Biofiltration, Constr. Wetlands, Resource Use

- Q1: How to approach zero discharge (animal/plant/algae)?
- Q2: How to add/extract value from “waste”?
- Q3: How to produce aquaculture and protect coast/water?

Larval/Reproductive Techniques: Sturgeon

- Q1: How to use ultrasound to ID egg quality (“smart” caviar)?
- Q2: How to allow/enhance reproduction for long-lived finfish (Sturgeon, Black Drum, Porgy/Bream...)?
- Q3: Larval diets for large finfish? (w Peter Ferket, Harry...)

Harvest/Postharvest (Food safety)

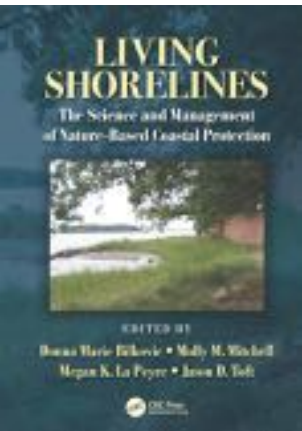
- Q1: How to produce safer foods? (w D. Green)
- Q2: How to market/engineering/packaging?
- Q3: Culture microorganisms (bioproc/bioreactors)?
(w Ben Reading et al.; Jon Bell)





Research Goals

PhD: D. Smith, M. Greensword, S. Oladi (LSU)
 NCSU RA: Ryan Kelly, Marine Aquaculture Rsch Ctr (MARC)
 (Hybrid Striped Bass, Sturgeon, Marine Species, Oysters)
 PhD: Melody Thomas (Water Quality/Constr Wetlands and
 Gators); Matt Campbell (Coastal Aqua/Protection)
 MS: Alex Geddie (Sust. Development/Sust Aqua)
 Senior Design: Kelly, Alexi, Ben, Andrew, Natalie
 Aquaculture and Ecosystem Services: CO₂/N sequestration



Grant\$: Multistate (funded/approved): Vehicles/Water
 SBIR: NSF/NOAA (Coastal bioeng. tech.)
 SeaGrant (Water/Aquaculture; Process...);
 NIFA: Macroalgae w Cheng, Dubbs et al.

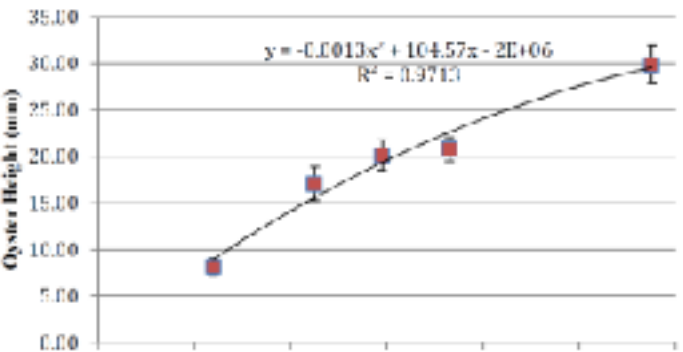


Pubs (16-17): Living Shorelines Chapter; Vehicles pubs: plant
 harvest/water quality; oyster pubs (Melody...); Coastal
 (Matt...); Alligators (C. Malveaux); Sturgeon, finfish upcoming

Conserve AND Grow
Long-Line and Boom Systems; Bioengineered Oyster Reefs



Artificial Cultch



Research Goals (Sustainably)

Grow NC Industry → 2016 → 2020 → 2025



“Large” value: (\$50M → \$100M+)

Trout → \$9M → \$10M → 15M (\$21-50M+, WQ)

HSB → \$11M → \$15M+ (\$50M, Market/Growth)

Catfish → \$5M → (\$17-20M+, Proc; Value)

Tilapia → \$3M, Extension/Expansion

“Special/small” value: (\$1M → \$90M?)

Oysters \$350K → \$1M+ → \$5M+ (\$20M)

Sturgeon \$800K → \$1M+ → \$5M+ (\$50M)**

Crayfish → \$40K → \$200K → \$1M+ (\$10M)

Alligators → \$0 → something → \$1M+ (\$10M)

Plants/Algae/Macroalgae \$small → \$1M+



Extension



Learn Industry, Serve Industry
Grow Industry
Currently ~\$58M



Goal: >\$100M by early 2020s
Enhance Sustainability/Responsibility
BOTH/AND

Production AND Eco/Env

“Have your fish and eat them too”





Summary



Work to be done
Engineering for Production
Engineering for Sustainability
Engineering for Growth

by 2020's

Grow the successes; invent new winners





Hungry to Grow

