

QUARTERLY PROJECT REPORT

Q1. 30 June, 2025



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OVERVIEW

The Alaska oyster industry has solely relied on the Pacific oyster (*Magallana gigas*) for shellfish farming. The “Other Mariculture Species” project, being conducted by Blue Starr Oyster Co., is working to build resilience and diversity in the sector by assessing the feasibility of growing novel oyster species: Kumamoto oysters (*Magallana sikamea*), Virginica oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*), and Olympia oysters (*Ostrea lurida*). Blue Starr Oyster Co. is leveraging its long-standing shellfish cultivation expertise to evaluate the growth potential of these species in Southeast Alaska and report on the results of each species’ grow-out.



PROJECT UPDATE

The “Other Mariculture Species” project has had a strong start with the deployment of Kumamoto oyster seed and a control group of Pacific oyster seed into the Blue Starr Oyster Co. FLUPSY (oyster nursery) in Jinhi Bay. Throughout the first quarter of the project (April - June, 2025), the growth of the oyster seed has been tracked alongside major water quality parameters, including temperature and salinity.

The initial growth of the Kumamoto oysters has been positive and comparable to the growth of the Pacific oysters, which are known to grow well in the region. This supports the Kumamoto oyster’s potential as an economically viable species in the Alaskan oyster industry. The growth of the Kumamoto oysters will continue to be monitored over the next 15 months to track the growth rate of the “other” oyster species and compare their progress to the Pacific oyster.

Acquiring seed for the remaining oyster species has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances with seed suppliers. However, there is ongoing work to acquire them as soon as possible.

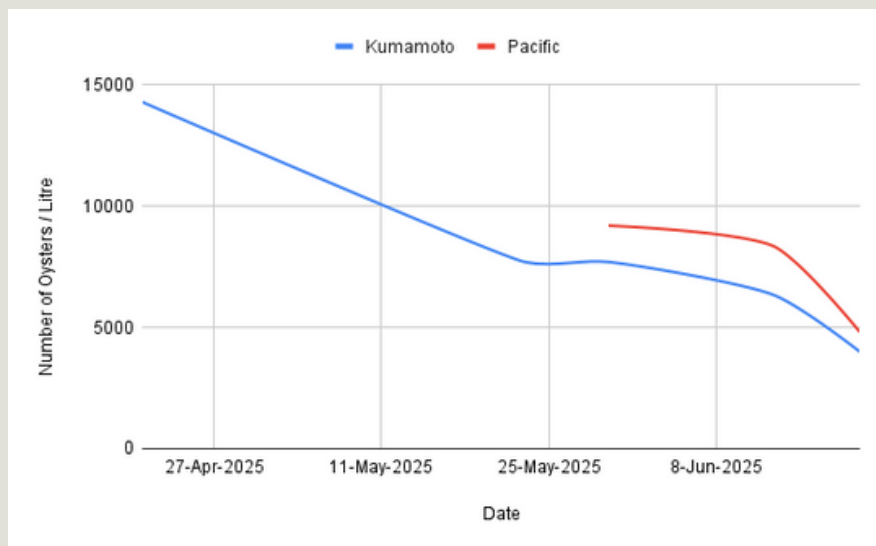
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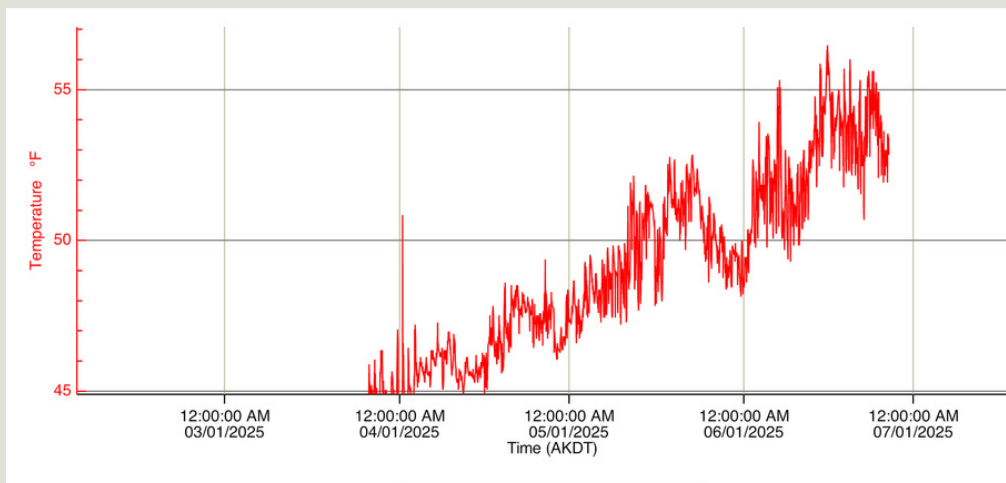
MILESTONES

- A cohort of 6 mm Kumamoto oyster seed was received and deployed into the FLUPSY on April 21st.
- A cohort of 6 mm Pacific oyster seed was deployed on May 30th to use as a control and comparison to the Kumamoto oyster growth.
- Initial measurements are showing successful growth of the Kumamoto oysters in the FLUPSY. *Shown below is the number of oysters in 1 litre, which has an inverse relationship with oyster size. i.e., The lower the number, the larger the oysters have grown.*

Number of Oysters in 1 litre volume. Kumamoto vs. Pacific Oyster



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Ocean Temperature (°F), Jinhi Bay, April - June, 2025

The chart above shows ocean temperature readings over the course of the first quarter. The temperatures have increased from 45°F to 56.5°F. Oysters grow best at 59°F.

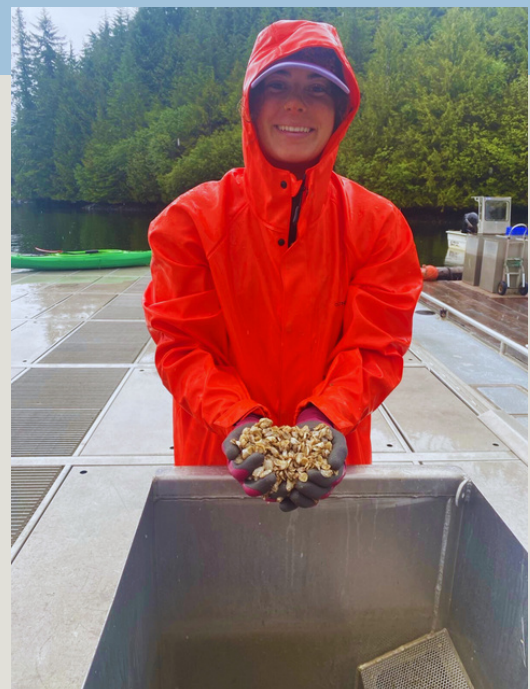
CHALLENGES

- Delays in receiving some oyster seed (Virginica) due to unforeseen seed supplier hatchery setbacks. The seed is anticipated to arrive in the coming weeks.
- Delays in receiving Olympia oyster seed due to regulatory hurdles, navigation of these hurdles is ongoing.

FINANCIALS

The project budget is currently on track for anticipated spending for the first quarter. Funds have been requested for personnel time, project supplies, and contractor time as per the budget.

Total Project Budget Approved	Amount currently requested	Amount remaining
\$80,200.00	\$9,297.43	\$70,902.66



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