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Governance Body Members

Gregg Renkes, Chenega
Richard Peterson, CCTHITA
Tom Panamaroff, Koniag
Liza Mack, Southwest Tribal Seat
Thea Thomas, AMA
Jason Lessard, AMA
Heather McCarty, AMA
Markos Scheer, AMA
Cassidi Cameron, KPEDD
Kristin Smith, PWSEDD
Wanetta Ayers, SWAMC
Robert Venables, SEC
Julie Decker, Seafood Industry



(Scan for Meeting Packet)



Governance Body Meeting Agenda

January 14, 2026, 10:00 AM (Alaska Time)

Koniag

3800 Centerpoint Drive #700
Anchorage, AK 99503

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call & Introductions
3. Safety Moment
4. Approval of Agenda
5. [Approval of Minutes](#), October 22, 2025, Governance Body Meeting

Old Business | N/A

New Business

6. Regional Liaisons Update | 5 Minutes Each | Written reports for October, November, and December 2025 are linked below.
 - o 1. [Kenai](#); 2. [PWS](#); 3. [Southeast](#); 4. [SW \(Aleutians\)](#); 5. [SW \(Kodiak\)](#)
7. Review of RFPs Closed & Awarded Since Last Meeting
 - [Mariculture Equipment Round #3](#) – Closed November 14, 2025
 - [Joint Innovation Projects Round #3](#) – Closed December 12, 2025
8. Project Updates | 15 Minutes on Goals & Metrics
 1. Revolving Loan Fund (SEC, Spruce Root)
 2. Governance, Coordination and Outreach (EDDs & AMA)
 3. Workforce Development (UAA, UAF, UAS)
 4. Research and Development (ADFG, AFDF)
 5. Market Development (SEC)
 - a. Katie Goldberg, Tastemaker Comms, and Kate Consenstein, Rising Tide Communications, [AMC Marketing Program](#)
 6. Green Energy (AFDF)
 7. Equipment and Technology (SEC, DEC)
 - a. Jeff Hetrick, CRRC
 - b. Nitzan Unger, Hatch Blue, [AK Mariculture Insights Platform](#)
 - c. Michael Marty-Rivera and Sergey Nuzhdin, Kelp Ark, [Kelp Seed Quality Program](#)
 8. Grant Administration (SEC)
 - a. Noah Enelow, Ecotrust, [Grant Evaluation](#)

Break for Lunch | Approximately 12:30 PM

Other Topics

9. Review of RFPs Issued & Upcoming
 - [Succession Planning](#) – Closing January 23, 2026
 - [Project Management & Grant Administration Consulting](#) – Rolling Basis
10. Upcoming Events
11. Public Comment
12. Next Governance Body meeting tentatively set for April 8, 2026 in Juneau
13. Good of the Order
14. Adjourn

**ALASKA MARICULTURE CLUSTER (AMC) GOVERNANCE BODY MEETING
SUMMARY FOR GOVERNANCE BODY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026**

1. Call to Order

The AMC Governance Body meeting was called to order at 10:35 am on January 14, 2026, by Robert Venables.

2. Roll Call & Introductions

Members Present:

Jason Lessard (AMA), Ralph Wolfe (CCTHITA), Markos Scheer (AMA), Robert Venables (SEC), Thea Thomas (AMA), Heather McCarty (AMA), Kristin Smith (PWSEDD), Cassidi Cameron (KPEDD), Wanetta Ayers (SWAMC), Tom Panamaroff (Koniag Corp.), Marya Halvorsen (Koniag Corp.), Liza Mack (Aleut Corp.).

Non-Governance Body Members Present (In Person):

Dan Lesh (SEC), Charlie Herrington (SEC), Abigail Bromberger (SEC), Nick Mangini (SWAMC), Sean Den Adel (PWS Liaison), Molly Dischner (AMA), Lindsay Hammer (PWSEDD), Briana Murphy (Kenai Liaison)

Non-Governance Body Members Present (Virtual):

Haley Terpenney (SEC), Caitlyn Cascade (SEC), Stephane Granato (SEC), Karli Tyance Hassell (CCTHITA), Noah Meyer (CCTHITA), Maranda Hamme (Southeast Liaison), Ana Velasquez (CCTHITA), Melissa Good (Alaska Sea Grant, UAF), Lexa Meyer (Kodiak Liaison), Emma Luck (AMA), Missy Good (UAF), Amanda Glazier (PWSC), Sara Ebersole (UAS), Shanoy Anderson (Qawalangin Tribe), Kenadi Smith (Ecotrust), Noah Enelow (Ecotrust), Calvin George (Aleutians Liaison), Kristy Clement (AFDF), Alex Huller (AFDF), Katie Goldberg (Tastemaker Comms), Kate Consenstein (Rising Tide Communications), Karlotta Rieve (Hatch Blue), Chandler Kelp (UAF), Kristen Gruenthal (ADFG), Jeff Hetrick (CRRC), Michael Marty-Rivera (KelpArk), Sergey Nuzhdin (KelpArk)

Wanetta Ayers introduced Liza Mack, Director of Community Programs with Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association, who is joining the Governance Body.

Tom Panamaroff introduced Marya Halvorsen, Government & Regional Affairs Manager of Koniag Corporation, who will be transitioning into Tom's role on the Governance Body.

3. Safety Moment

Tom gave an overview of the Koniag Office.

4. Approval of Agenda

Robert Venables asked if there were any amendments or changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the January 2026 meeting agenda was approved without objection.

5. Approval of Minutes, October 22, 2025

The October 2025 meeting minutes were approved without objection.

Old Business

None

New Business

6. Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA) & Regional Mariculture Liaisons Updates

Kenai Peninsula: Briana Murphy, CRRC

- Briana's highlight was her ongoing work with entities on farm applications. She also noted her appreciation for Cassidi's tenacious support for regional equipment projects, which helps ensure they advance collaboratively. A private investment has also been made for a kelp dryer in Kenai. Note: Cassidi had also reported on this topic in previous Governance Body meetings.
- Nick asked about dryer capacity. Briana says better assessment will be done in April to determine.
- Briana says it's infrared dryer with different configurations and a dehydrator element. The type of input (whole or shredded kelp for example) will determine the configuration.

Prince William Sound: Sean Den Adel, Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC)

- Sean's highlight was his work supporting the region's newest kelp farming business, which is owned by a NVE tribal member. He has been assisting them with equipment, industry knowledge, and grant applications. In 2025, investments from Cascadia Seaweed and Blue Dot Kitchen were particularly impactful. Additional support from Sea Grant and AMC for forklift training was another significant highlight. Sean expressed excitement for the continued collaboration with NVE, PWSEDD, PWSSC, and other local entities heading into 2026.

Southeast Alaska: Maranda Hamme, Ecotrust

- Maranda's highlight was her progress on outreach tracking, which is approximately 75% complete. She has also helped organize trainings on farming methods, and the event planned for February 2026 has already received 50 applications, underscoring the strong demand for this type of work in the region. Maranda is working with farmers who hold existing leases to ensure they are aware of available opportunities such as mentorships and internships. She is also helping map lease areas and farm leases with potential user conflicts in mind, such as crabbing activity. She continues to pursue connections with organizations that have not yet been engaged, working to get on agendas and meet with board members.

Southwest Alaska (Aleutians): Calvin George, Qawalangin Tribe

- Calvin noted that fishermen are not engaging in/responding to online surveys asking them about their likelihood to change their fishing vessels into mariculture vessels. However, when they answered online, they were against the idea because it seems to them like losing their family legacy, but when they speak about it in person, they are much more open to the idea.

Southwest Alaska (Kodiak): Lexa Myer, Kodiak Archipelago Leadership Institute (KALI)

- Lexa's highlight was the rural forum, which had representation from nearly every tribe. Discussions focused primarily on oyster farming and shellfish subsistence. The community expressed significant concern about access to harmful algal bloom (HAB) testing and other safety resources. Lexa is building relationships and making inroads with communities outside the region, such as Sitka, to support coordination. Several entities applied for AMA MIGP, and several applications were submitted for JIP #3. The region continues to face challenges with permit issues at the federal agency level. Lexa expressed appreciation to AMA for facilitating a connection with Senator Sullivan's office.
- A building to house mariculture equipment for the KP3 project is moving forward, hopefully supported by a grant from the Rasmussen Foundation.

7. Review of RFPs/RFQs closed and awarded since last meeting

Mariculture Equipment Round #3 – Closed November 14, 2025

- Update covered in Dan Lesh's update within Component #7: Equipment & Technology

Joint Innovation Projects Round #3 – Closed December 12, 2025

- Update covered in Alex Huller's update within Component #4: Research & Development

8. Project Updates (15 minutes on goals, metrics)

Component #1. Revolving Loan Fund

SEC, Spruce Root

- Robert reported that progress has been painfully slow. The new lending institution is Northrim Bank, and Spruce Root's lending focus is on rural areas. Two loans have been issued so far—one large and one small. A few applications are pending that may qualify for AMA's MIGP, though applicants will need to move quickly. Robert expressed that he is encouraged by the direction. Spruce Root recently hired Andrew Jylkka as a business advisor, which is expected to increase capacity for technical assistance. The RLF webpage on the AMC website directs users directly to the lending institutions: Spruce Root, Northrim, and future partners to be added.

Component #2. Governance, Coordination & Outreach

AMA, KPEDD, PWSEDD, SEC, SWAMC, Governance Body

Tom Panamaroff: Governance Body Member, Koniag Corporation

- Tom reported that Koniag is doing everything possible to support the Sun'aq Tribe. They received \$500k from the Rasmussen Foundation and are continuing to seek additional funding to complete the KP3 building construction. Key priorities include obtaining an attorney's opinion regarding equipment and securing a building to house it, with projected costs ranging from \$750k to \$2M depending on the scope of the facility. Tom is also assisting with KEDC's business plan, with funding coming from the AMC's Feasibility Study program as well as the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development program with Jared Reynolds.

SWAMC: Wanetta Ayers, Executive Director

- Wanetta called on SWAMC's Mariculture Director, Nick Managini, for the update. Nick reported that he participated in a mariculture panel at the Pacific Marine Expo, which received coverage in National Fishermen magazine. He also participated in an Alaska Municipal League meeting. Nick expressed excitement about Calvin joining the team and about expanding outreach regionally and further west, an area that has been challenging to reach. He noted particular enthusiasm for the KP3 project. Additionally, the cooperative is expecting its stamp of incorporation imminently. KP3 project leaders also presented to the Kodiak Assembly and are actively spreading awareness and building support for the project.

KPEDD: Cassidi Cameron, Executive Director

- KPEDD's Equipment Round 2 is en route to Alaska and is expected to arrive within a couple of months. Cassidi reported that she is developing mariculture-related field trips so that attendees can gain firsthand experience with mariculture and APMI. She is also working with the Homer Chamber to participate in Harbor Fest and exploring potential participation in Salmon Fest. Additionally, she is working with tourism companies to create stopover tours for cruise ships scheduled to arrive in Homer for the summer; Premiere Tours and KSMA are collaborating on a 3–4 hour tour at KSMA and Broken Oar.
- Wanetta mentioned that the National Renewable Energy lab has a successful tourism model that they could check out as an example for their tourism idea.

PWSEDD: Kristin Smith, Executive Director

- Kristin reported that the dryer has arrived and is currently in town. GreenWave will be providing assistance in February to help scope out the setup process. The air handler unit has been ordered and is expected to ship in March. Space has been arranged to lease with Silver Bay Seafood for April and May 2026, prior to their fish processing season. The facility is ideal given its shoreside access for loading. The team is awaiting decisions on additional equipment. A recent success was a workshop that helped align stakeholders around forming a cooperative, facilitated by GreenWave contractor Barbara Wyckoff.
- Lindsay Hammer noted that recent work has been heavily focused on building logistics, and she expressed gratitude for the support received. The team has one harvest planned for trial runs and to fill some initial orders, with the intention of processing a Cascadia wet kelp order first before setting up drying operations.

Markos Scheer: Governance Body Member, Alaska Mariculture Alliance

- Markos noted that he has a processing line with belts, grinders, and other equipment that will no longer be in use, and he offered it to others who could make use of it.
- He also expressed a strong interest in developing assets and video content that document the grant's successes at the end of the program, with the goal of attracting future funding and highlighting the industry's achievements.

SEC: Robert Venables, Executive Director & Dan Lesh, Deputy Director

- Charlie Herrington, SEC's Project Manager, shared that the team is looking to model the Cost Modeling exercises facilitated by GreenWave in Kodiak and Cordova, with the goal of making them available statewide for seaweed and shellfish farmers, as well as processors.
- Budget amendments are also underway, including a barge relocation, and there has been significant ongoing work with EDA.
- The group extended best wishes to Tom as he transitions into retirement.

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA): Ralph Wolfe, Director of Indigenous Stewardship Programs; Noah Meyer, Indigenous Stewardship Programs

- CCTHITA is working diligently on the upcoming Sea Grant training event in Juneau.

AMA Update: Jason Lessard, Executive Director

- Jason highlights Alaska Sea Grant with adding support for an extra Liaison Program to add an additional liaison.
- Jason introduced Marketing Program contractors. Covered below.
- 27 applications for MIGP 3, \$1.5M to be awarded, potentially some more due to underspending on admin. Total request was \$1.7+M.
- Transition out of AMC period is a concern. Board is having a February retreat in Juneau. Want to continue work their doing and need to find funding. Event coming up in Juneau focused on legislature, Rising Tide Communications is helping plan. Another event will be during MCA2026.
- AMA contracted with Ocean Strategies for some crisis comms planning support. They have a lot of experience already in Washington state with mariculture crisis comms. Plan will be evergreen and help AMA respond to future events if they arise, particularly with shellfish.
- The Alaska Food Policy Council is partnering on food value chain coordination. Meeting on quarterly basis. These conversations are about moving food in and out and around the state. Jason happy to share more information.

Kristy Clement: Governance Body Member, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation

- AFDf's updates covered in Component #4 Research & Development.

Greg Renkes: Governance Body Member, Chenega Corporation & **Julie Decker:** Governance Body Member, Pacific Seafood Processors Association

- Not present.

Component #3. Workforce Development

UAF, UAS, UAA-PWSC, SEC

Hands-on Farm Training Program: SEC

- Stephane Granato, SEC: We do not have a formal announcement yet, but we can share that three (3) projects are awarded. One is with AMA, One w/ Kodiak Ocean Growers, One w/ OceansAlaska.
- Jason Lessard, AMA: As part of our award, we will work with PSI on some shellfish training and there will be video work to document the training for online use.

University of Alaska Fairbanks / Alaska Sea Grant:

- Melissa Good, UAF / Alaska Sea Grant: Had an additional harmful algal bloom training, hearing a need for more, continuing to develop online training. Planning for MCOA, Missy is leading a workshop on seaweed processing and hatchery needs. Going to have a SCUBA training and certification for farmers. Involved with AMSEA on safety training, doing internal review, going to do a Train the Trainers in Sitka. Seaweed processing and handling workshop, likely in the summer. Supporting UAS student internships and apprenticeships, currently accepting host applications for summer apprentices (deadline Jan 31st), soon will be opening applications for apprentices, apprenticeships will run May 1 – Aug 30. Collaborating on multiple publications (Seaweed Food Safety Guidance), partnered with GreenWave on Kelp Nursery Manual (digital version is out), Oyster Farming Manual is being finalized by communications team. Fellow is going to take over the Kelp Farm Operations manual to edit and finalize it. Working on a farmer video series, next one coming out in about a month, has been posting short interviews on AMRTC page. Multiple fellows focused on mariculture right now, expects more mariculture fellows moving forward. UAF Center ICE mariculture challenge launched.
- [Presentation slides available here.](#)
- Robert asked how we can see more impact (hear from people who completed the training), and Missy said there is a webinar coming up and will work on putting something together to reflect that more.

University of Alaska Southeast:

- Sara Ebersole, UAS: Alaska Aquaculture Semester with Angie was successful last semester, as was Quentin Fong's mariculture business/marketing class. The semester had many guest speakers, including Michelle Morris, Lexa Meyer, Marnie Chapman. Students also went to Whalefest and visited Juneau to see UAF and NOAA labs, as well as Barnacle Foods facility, ADFG, and Sea Quester farms. Internship presentations demonstrated successful internships across the board (Merrick Shellfish, SSSC, Blue Starr Oysters, UAS lab. Hired a new Mariculture Education Coordinator, Brenna Haakinson. Currently recruiting for Aquaculture Semester for Fall 2026.

University of Alaska Anchorage / Prince William Sound College:

- Amanda Glazier, PWSC: had to leave meeting.
- [Presentation slides are available here.](#)

Component #4. Research and Development

AFDF, ADFG, SEC

Joint Innovations Projects (JIP) Program: Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF)

- Alex Huller, AFDF: A number of JIP round 2 projects are concluded, the rest are scheduled to conclude by the end of this year. JIP round 3: received 17 proposals, will award up to 50k per project, issued 5 NOI to Award, and considered issuing another 2-3 projects. Working to conduct a comprehensive review of final project reports. Developing metrics with Jordan Hawkswell to do this.
- [Presentation slides are available here.](#) Page 3

De-Risking Mariculture Investments Program: AFDF

- Alex Huller, AFDF: Objective 1 literature review continues. Working on synthesis of digital elevation models. Objective 2 preliminary input from advisory board on ideal sites has been received. They will be at Mariculture Conference of Alaska with more information.
- [Presentation slides are available here.](#) Page 6

Mariculture Conference of Alaska (MCOA): AFDF, UAF

- Melissa Good (UAF/Sea Grant): Planning is going very well. Initial agenda should be coming soon. As of now, Monday (March 9th) is AOA meeting and Tastemaker event. Tuesday morning will be workshops (seaweed processing, oyster tasting, salmon hatchery/kelp farm interactions), with room for more. [Keynote speakers:](#) Julie Qiu and Vincent Doumeizel. Tuesday evening will be trade show and presentations, Wednesday will be presentations and reception, Thursday will be AMA meeting.
- Dan mentioned that we are looking at moving the funds for MCOA from #4 R&D to #3 Workforce Development.

- [Presentation slides are available here.](#) Page 7

Seaweed Tissue Analysis: AFDF

- Alex Huller, AFDF: Results expected in one month. 2024 AK Seaweed Tissue Analysis Final report is mostly complete. 2025 farmed and wild samples are being processed. For the 2025 Results Reporting, the farmer data has been cleaned and is being shared with farmers, trying to figure out how to share with other groups.
- [Presentation slides are available here.](#) Page 2

Seaweed Population Genetics Program: Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADFG)

- Kristen Gruenthal, ADFG: Sequencing for kelp species, which will give more detailed information. Will be presenting initial broad-scale analyses at MCOA. In the lab, currently cleaning 3000 sugar kelp samples and 1000 bull/ribbon kelp samples, soon will begin DNA extraction. Increasing staff capacity to be able to sequence all of these samples.

Kelp Agricultural Product Development & Testing: SEC

- Progress continues, reports are uploaded to the AMC website's [Kelp Agriculture Product Development & Testing program webpage.](#)

Component #5. Market Development

SEC

AMC Marketing Program: AMA, SEC

- Katie Goldberg with Tastemaker Comms (TMC) presented an update about the Marketing Program and upcoming activations and collaborations to date. She was joined by Kate Consenstein with Rising Tide Communications (RTC), who presented branding and photography assets created so far. Slides attached here.
- Kate w/ RTC discussed how existing mariculture logos tend to be visually busy and explained that the team took the opposite approach—aiming for a modern, clean aesthetic to stand out in the marketplace. The logos are designed to complement farmers' own branding in packaging. She shared updates on photoshoots conducted in Ketchikan (farm setting) and Anchorage (lifestyle and restaurant setting), with additional field documentation of kelp products and farms planned for spring to align with the harvest season. Every oyster farm in the state was invited to participate in the Anchorage photoshoot, and seven farms contributed. A guide to how the industry can use these assets is forthcoming, as is a media library.
- Ralph Wolfe says he's not thrilled that the logo doesn't highlight Alaska. Kate responds that logos give sense of quality and high value of the products. The logos rarely exist in a vacuum, and the provenance of Alaska will be conveyed alongside the logos. Wanetta shared that design by committee is not good and that, based on her previous experience, incorporating on the state's outline into the design is problematic. She's sympathetic to the notion of appealing to us because "we" identify with it, but she appreciates the creative team's perspective and thinks we should be forgiving. Ralph clarified that he didn't say anything about a map, rather that he just wanted to voice his concerns about the lack of tangible "Alaska" included.
- Markos said that the words will likely be "married to the visual", meaning that they won't stand alone and lose the Alaska branding. Jason emphasized that these logos are not meant to replace anyone's current branding and that a lot of work went into their design.
- Dan informed the group that these logos are final and approved.
- Katie w/ TMC highlighted press coverage [40+ articles, 20M+ impressions, driving sales already] and upcoming events and tradeshows: January – Seattle for AK Oyster Presentation, March – MCA2026 in Anchorage, March – SENA in Boston. Jason mentioned that there are more familiarization trips coming up.
- Briana asked how they do farm outreach for shows to ensure that farmers are represented equitably and Katie clarified that they reach out to all farmers and then have a rotating system to ensure opportunity is shared equally.
- Heather asked if Kate worked with the advisory panel from industry when creating the panels. Kate responded yes.
- [Presentation slides are available here.](#)

Component #6. Green Energy

AFDF

Green Energy in Mariculture Program: AFDE, UAF

- Chandler reported that all data has been collected and analysis is currently underway. The team is working on an electric propulsion analysis in collaboration with Raincoast Data.
- [Presentation slides are available here.](#)
- Markos noted that he is in the final stages of a seaweed solar drying project ([IIP #17](#)) and expressed interest in connecting with Chandler to share results. He reported that the project is currently working through approximately 20,000 lbs of sugar kelp.

Component #7. Equipment & Technology

DEC, SEC

Mariculture Equipment Program: SEC

- Dan Lesh, SEC: There were delays with Round #3 scoring committee due to snow, holidays, personal reasons. We are excited about projects. The committee is regrouping next week. The big picture program update is [included in the meeting packet.](#)

Kelp Seed Quality Improvement Program: SEC

- Michael Marty-Rivera & Sergey Nuzhdin, Kelp Ark: Michael and Sergey presented on their seed quality project goals and objectives. Working primarily in 4 regions (PWS, Kenai, Kodiak, SE). % collected for each species: almost 100% done with winged kelp (because it's harder to find); about 30% done with sugar kelp; about 25% done with bull kelp (easier to find). % sporophyte isolated for each species is relatively identical to % collected. These will go into the gametophyte bank. Also working on bulking up biomass at the UAF lab in Juneau, established a collaboration with ADFG Gene Lab to sequence gametophytes from the collection.
- [Presentation slides are available here.](#)
- Markos: one of the biggest costs to reduce is producing seed, and gametophyte-based seeding has a lot of potential to help with that. They also provide a lot of genetic continuity in case of climate harm.
- Nick: you'll often see a hatchery failure in the middle of the seeding process, but with seed banking you can overcome the 50-50 obstacle.
- Briana: if you're collecting specimens from each region, is there an effort to keep them within the 50-50 rule?
- Sergey: we expect the 50-50 rule to continue, but we will have enough materials from each of the regions, so we can remain compliant with the 50-50 rule.

Feasibility Studies: SEC

- Progress continues, reports are uploaded to the AMC website's [Feasibility Studies program webpage.](#)

Other Mariculture Species: SEC

- Progress continues, reports are uploaded to the AMC website's [Other Species program webpage.](#)
- Jeff Hetrick of Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC): Jeff presented about two Other Species projects: Cockles and Razor Clams.
- [Cockles presentation slides are available here.](#) [Razor clams presentation slides are available here.](#) Project goals and objectives are detailed in the attached slides.
- Jeff reported that cockle seeds are grown up to 12mm in the hatchery, noting that cockles outperform oysters, which typically struggle to exceed 4mm. Cockles are notably mobile and self-cleaning. As shellfish, they alternate growth between meat and shell. In August 2025, the 14-month-old cockles showed strong growth, and 50mm cockles are expected by the end of 2026, indicating a two-year growth cycle with promising market applications. Jeff expressed his commitment to continuing this project beyond AMC funding, citing strong belief in its potential.

Alaska Mariculture Insights Platform: SEC, Hatch Blue

- Karlotta gave an update about the Alaska Mariculture Insights Platform, which now includes new insights from field trips to Cordova and Juneau in 2025. The platform and articles about mariculture in Alaska continue to be featured in The Fish Site, now up to 16 articles on [the Alaska series](#). The permit dashboard has also been updated with the latest information. Looking ahead, Hatch Blue will conduct a final field trip in 2027 to further update the platform, return to previously visited farms and facilities, and produce short videos and other products documenting the grant's accomplishments and the industry's outlook.
- [Presentation slides are available here](#).

Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) Testing Method Development: Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

- Not present. Update at April 2026 meeting.

Component #8. Grant Administration

Grant Administration: SEC

- Dan presented the spending projections and explained that the average quarterly processing target is approximately \$4 million, though current processing is around \$2 million. He discussed the Quarterly Projected Spending (excluding the RLF) and noted that as SEC begins reimbursing for equipment, the spending rate will increase. He clarified that all funds are allocated—except for Mariculture Equipment III and the Succession Planning RFP—even if not yet spent. Dan also noted that the team is focused on storytelling and final reporting for U.S. EDA, building the foundation for final grant communications, which will be important for future investors.
- Markos said there could be some value in a promotional spin on the report, especially as we go looking for more funding.

Grant Evaluation: Ecotrust

- Webinar of work-to-date completed in November. The content from that webinar is posted on the new Grant Evaluation page on the AMC website. Planning focus groups in PWS, Kenai, Southeast to be finished by March. 2024-2025 evaluation report will cover all AMC activities during the calendar year and complete by MCOA.
- [Presentation slides are available here](#).

Other Topics

9. Review of RFPs & Contracts

Mariculture Equipment Rounds #3 RFP – Closing October 13, 2025*

- Dan Lesh, SEC: We're excited to see the new projects funded, which will help us achieve a bigger scale of investments. In September 2025, SEC extended the Equipment Round #3 deadline to November 14, 2025.

10. Upcoming Events

SEC Mid-Session Summit – Juneau, AK – February 10-12, 2026 (SEC hosting)

Aquaculture America – Las Vegas, NV – February 16-19, 2026 (many AMC presentations)

Mariculture Conference of Alaska – Anchorage, AK – March 10-12 (AMC funded event)

Seafood Expo North America – Boston, MA – March 15-17 (AMC Marketing Program attending)

11. Public Comment

- None

12. Next Governance Body

The next Governance Body meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, 2026, in Juneau.

The following meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, July 29, 2026, and will be hosted in Anchorage.

13. Good of the order

14. Adjourn

Thanked Tom for his services and work for the last few years, and for his support of the community at large.

Meeting adjourned at 3:13 PM.