



FLORIDA *Aquaculture* ASSOCIATION

Advancing environmentally sound technology and high quality products for today's aquatic farmer.

FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER

	PRESIDENT'S		
	MESSAGE		



On September 9th and 10th Hurricane Irma hit Florida. Aquatic producers from the Keys to the northern state line were impacted by this large storm. Power outages and damage to hatchery buildings and pond coverings were the most severe on the north and east side of the path of the storm's eye. Our shellfish farmers in Southwest Florida were most adversely affected with the large amount of rainfall and freshwater from rivers into the bay. South and Central Florida fish farmers and aquatic plant producers had wide spread power loss and tree debris everywhere. At this time growers and processors are still cleaning up and evaluating their losses and damages. If you have private or Federal insurance be sure to document your losses and file a claim early.

FAA's Annual Membership Meeting will be held on November 3rd, at the new UF/IFAS Nature Coast Biological Station located at 552 1st Street, in Cedar Key. The FAA Annual Membership Meeting will start at 10:00 am followed by a tour at 11:30 of the new Nature Coast Biological Station's facility and an overview of its mission. This will be followed by a luncheon and a shore-based and water tour to view oysters being farmed in Cedar Key. Ballots for the elections of three Directors seats along with a RSVP for the lunch and meeting were recently mailed to all active members. If you have not yet returned the ballot please mail or fax your ballot/RSVP immediately. The general membership meeting is held only once a year giving all members the opportunity to participate in your Association's affairs. Mark your calendar and make your plans now to join us on November 3rd.

The Division of Aquaculture is currently doing its annual update of the Florida Aquaculture Plan for 2017-18. Serina Rocco with the Division has been traveling

around the State to meet with various commodity representatives to determine what is important to be included in the Plan for their commodity. The Plan will soon be printed and distributed to Legislators and other policy decision makers in the State government to inform them of our industry's needs and be a guide by the ARC for which projects they consider and approve for possible funding by the State.

At the upcoming FAA Annual Membership and Board meeting I will be stepping down as President of FAA. I appreciate the confidence from the FAA Board of Directors had in me to serve 15 years as your President. In my early span as President we had some major issues arise that would have adversely affected the aquaculture industry including the elimination of the Division of Aquaculture. With the assistance of a supportive Board of Directors, Committees and members-at-large we successfully tackled these problems on an almost continuous basis to protect our industry. For a number of years it seems like there was at least one major issue after another that was threatening the existence of our diverse industry. I am happy to say that during the last few years as your President the threats to our industry are somewhat less frequent and severe. Allowing me to be President of FAA is one of the highlights of my life. I have formed many relationships and friendships that will last a lifetime. Again, thanks for everyone's support. Remember that FAA is here to represent you.

At any time that we can be of assistance or if you would like to become more active in your Association, please contact me or the Association Office.

Sincerely,

Marty Fanner



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David Boozer • Adm. Assistant

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Lobbyist - Joe Spratt, (863) 517-0235

Coming Events

November 3, 2017; FAA Annual Membership Meeting & Tour, Cedar Key

Support FAA's Scholarship and Aquaculture Education Assistance Funds

Individuals and firms may make contributions to the Scholarship Fund and/or the Pioneers of FL Aquaculture Education Fund to provide financial assistance to students and Florida schools with aquaculture curriculum.

Enclosed is my check, payable to FAA. Please indicate which program to designate your contribution to.

_____ Dan Lenoard **Scholarship Program:**
\$ _____

FAA Pioneers of FL Aquaculture Education Fund

_____ Frank Hoff: \$ _____

_____ Jim Norris: \$ _____

_____ Gene Evans: \$ _____

Send this form with your contribution to: FAA,
P.O. Box 1519, Winter Haven, FL 33882

What's on Your Bumper?

Thousands of dollars have been raised from the sale of the Aquaculture license plate to benefit aquaculture education, research and development programs. Don't forget— the Florida Aquaculture Association receives funding from the Florida Aquaculture license plate to carry out important educational programs. Learn more about it at: http://www.hboi.edu/aqua/aqua_home.html.



Notice of FAA Annual Board & Membership Meeting



UF/IFAS Nature Coast Biological Station
552 1st Street * Cedar Key, FL

November 3, 2017

Schedule of Events

- 10:00 AM – FAA Board and Membership Meeting
Election of Officers and Committee Reports
- 11:30 – Tour of Nature Coast Biological Station with Director Mike Allen
- 12:15 PM – Lunch – Location TBD
- 1:30 Shore and water Oyster Cultivation Tour



Shellfish Workshop Re-scheduled for November 7, 2017

Workshop: Red Tide Stinks! Industry Strategies for Dealing with Harmful Algal Blooms.

Florida Sea Grant and the Gulf Shellfish Institute are organizing a workshop for the Florida shellfish aquaculture industry, to be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 in Bradenton, Florida. This workshop aims to bring together managers, industry stakeholders, scientists and federal and state specialists in order to foster communication and enhance commercial shellfish production in Florida. The overall goal is to enhance the ability of industry members to operate businesses during periods of red tide, and to provide a forum for discussing current challenges and potentially new strategies for harvesting shellfish in areas susceptible to harmful algal blooms. This will be a full 1-day workshop that will include presentations from regulators, scientists and industry members, and culminate in a round table discussion/open forum at the end of the day, followed by an evening reception.

Registration is limited to 60 participants; interested parties can register here:
<https://swflshellfishindustryworkshop.eventbrite.com>

For workshop details please contact Angela Collins (abcollins@ufl.edu). PH: 941-722-4524 x1826

NAA goes to Washington

The National Aquaculture Association (NAA) Board of Directors and Ron Johnson, Administrator for the U.S. Trout Farmers Association and Bob Rheault, Executive Director for the East Coast Shellfish Growers Association “Walked the Hill” on September 12th visiting with 12 Representatives and 16 Senators whose committee assignments impact U.S. aquaculture. They spoke as “One Industry, One Voice,” from 10 issue summaries and distributed copies as appropriate. The issues were:

- Aquaculture Depredation Order and US Fish Farming
- Creating the Opportunity to Farm in Federal Waters
- FMCSA Rules must be Delayed for Long Haul Livestock Trucking
- Impact of National Regulations on US Aquaculture
- Include Live Fish in the Livestock Definition
- NOAA Aquaculture Research
- Renewing the Lacey Act
- USDA Aquaculture Research
- USDA Aquatic Animal Health
- Wildlife Depredation



In addition, the NAA Board visited with Secretarial level appointees for the departments of Commerce and Interior and senior staff with the US Department of Agriculture (National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Agricultural Research Service) to discuss regulations, policy and programs. The Commerce meeting focusing on offshore aquaculture in federal waters and the Interior meeting focusing on the lack of an Aquaculture Depredation Order. Both meetings hold the promise of being productive to benefit US aquaculture.

A letter was hand-delivered to Secretary of Agriculture Perdue’s office requesting that the definition for livestock being used by the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration include all live fish not just food fish for the purposes of the FMCSA rules for long haul drivers. And we have asked that Secretary of Interior Zinke use the discretion that he can exercise to forego public comment on an Environmental Assessment that supports the Aquaculture Depredation Order. Saving the 4 to 6 weeks in public comment, may allow the US Fish and Wildlife Service to issue bird depredation permits for this winter in a timely manner.

The House and Senator members visited were decided by matching constituent Board members and key committees (Agriculture, Appropriations, Commerce, Natural Resource and Transportation) to insure there was a personal connection to effectively communicate the importance of these issues.

Support the NAA in this effort by reaching out to your Representative and Senators. Calling local House of Senate Offices is effective and with fall and winter approaching, invite your elected officials to visit your farm and learn what aquaculture is all about first hand.

Contact the NAA Office at 850-216-2400 or naa@thenaa.net with questions or information about the Walk on the Hill.

By: Paul W. Zajicek, Executive Director, National Aquaculture Association

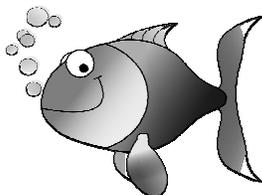
Atlantic Sapphire building \$350 million land-based salmon farm in Miami/Homestead

By Cliff White; SeafoodSource

Atlantic Sapphire USA, a subsidiary of Norwegian farmed salmon firm Atlantic Sapphire A/S, has started construction on a massive land-based aquaculture facility in Miami, FL.

Atlantic Sapphire CEO and Founder Johan Andreassen confirmed that the company has acquired all approvals necessary to begin the first phase of the project, which will cost around USD 100 million. Andreassen said he expects the facility will be capable of producing around 10,000 metric tons of rough-weight salmon, or 22 million pounds annually, by the time the phase-one build-out is complete, expected by the end of 2019 or beginning of 2020.

"Behind that, we'll launch phase two and three, and over the next six to seven years, we expect to grow up to 90,000 tons of salmon annually," Andreassen said. "We have secured sufficient land to build it out completely." The second and third phases will run the project's cost to between \$350 million and \$400 million, he said.



The Miami facility is being equipped with technology developed by Atlantic Sapphire's Danish subsidiary, Langsand Laks, including a closed-containment, recirculating aquaculture system that Andreassen said is extremely energy- and water-efficient.

"Our rule of thumb is that we'll get about 1,000 tons of production per acre," he said. "To put it in perspective, that would mean you could put the entire U.S. consumption of salmon into 500 acres." The system is "by far the most efficient way of producing salmon" via aquaculture, Andreassen added.

Atlantic Sapphire USA's production is destined primarily for the U.S. market "Through that relationship, Atlantic Sapphire will have access to all pockets of the U.S. marketplace, serving everything from the largest retailers in the country to smaller local foodservice distributors," he said.

Currently, Platina Seafood sells salmon produced by Langsand Laks in higher-end food retailers across the U.S., including at Dean & DeLuca. Andreassen said he's similarly

aiming for the high-end U.S. market with the salmon produced in Atlantic Sapphire USA's Miami facility.

"The U.S. market is primarily served by fresh fish that is being flown in from Europe or Chile, so you have a huge logistic cost and a lot of carbon footprint right now," he said. "Our system will eliminate that, as there's a huge economy of scale that comes along with an operations as large as ours. Once we scale up, we will be able to get our costs down quite significantly, and that's also necessary because of the really high capital expense it has taken to get this operation up and running. So our plan is that there will be a big cost savings and a very short lead-time, as well as an increased shelf life for our salmon." The U.S. market is ripe for growth in salmon sales, Andreassen said.

"While the U.S. market is already a big market for salmon, I would say it's still very underdeveloped," he said. "The consumption per capita is much lower than in Europe. I come from Germany, which has no fish culture and still has twice the salmon consumption as the U.S. does. I believe through market development, we have potential to double the consumption of salmon in the U.S. over next 10 to 15 years. It's a market that has a lot of consumers that can afford to buy a protein like salmon. "

Bill proposes removing "intrastate" species from Endangered Species Act

Utah Republican U.S. Sens. Mike Lee and Orrin Hatch introduced a bill that would remove Endangered Species Act protections from species that are found exclusively within the borders of one state, just as a contentious legal fight over the Utah prairie dog pushes its way toward the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Native Species Protection Act would allow states to manage those species found within their borders, with both senators arguing that ESA regulations have hurt economies without providing adequate protections.

The proposal follows a similar bill the two senators first sponsored in 2015. It proposes that "intrastate" species only found within a single state's boundaries are not considered interstate commerce and therefore not subject to regulation under the ESA.

"The Native Species Protection Act is a commonsense reform that would limit the damage caused by federal mismanagement of protected species while empowering state and local officials to pursue sensible conservation plans with their communities," Lee said in a written statement. The Endangered Species Management Self-Determination Act, which would allow states to opt out of ESA rules, is also making its way to House and Senate committees this year. The Listing Reform Act, which would require the government to consider the economic costs before listing a species under the ESA, is sitting with the House Natural Resources Committee.



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