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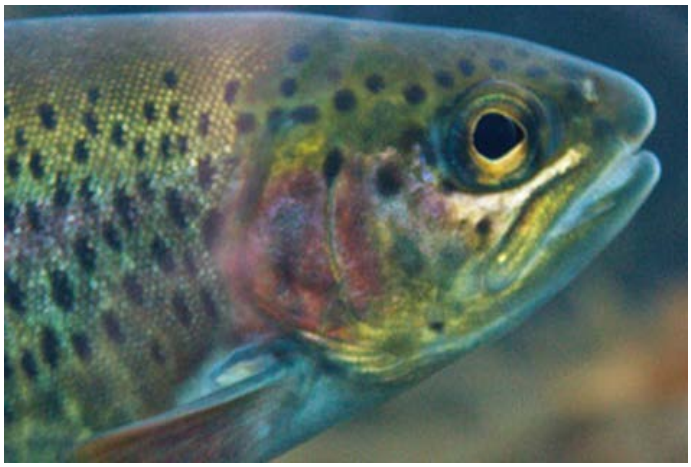
AQUACULTURE TODAY

- **Aquaculture is the cultivation of animals and plants in water, which could include oceans, rivers, and other water environments.**
- **Globally, aquaculture is "the world's fastest growing food producing sector" (United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2014).**
- **Fish and shellfish produced from aquaculture account for half of all seafood consumed by humans (FAO 2010).**
- **Fish from aquaculture are very similar in quality to fish from wild fisheries. They are safe to eat, highly nutritious and readily available.**
- **Aquaculture is also used for replenishment programs for species including salmon, red drum, striped bass, flounder, abalone, and white seabass.**
- **Aquaculture is important to the United States – Let's seize the opportunity to grow this valuable sector of agriculture.**



Sources: hswri.org, michfb.com

DOMESTIC AND LOCAL

AQUACULTURE IMPERATIVE

- **Because all the world's wild fisheries, including U.S. fisheries, are at or near capacity, meeting demand will require sustainable harvests from fisheries and increased production from aquaculture, either domestic or imported.**

- **In the short term, most of the increased U.S. supply is likely to be imported because we cannot increase supply from our fisheries and domestic aquaculture is relatively undeveloped.**

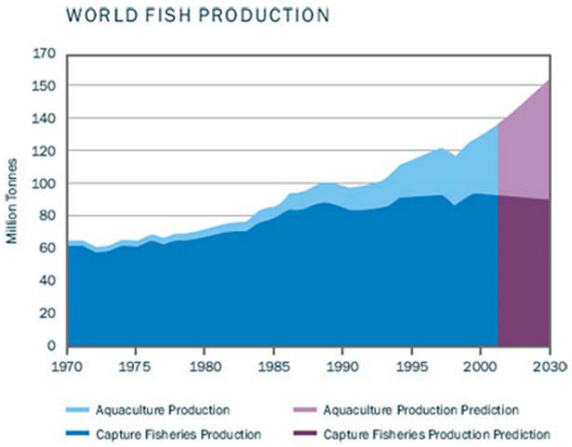
- **The U.S. has over 100,000 square kilometers (38,610 square miles) of federal waters that has suitable depth and currents to support offshore aquaculture farms (FAO 2013).**

- **In the U.S. 75,000 to 100,000 direct and indirect jobs can be created with every 1 million metric tons from commercial aquaculture (NOAA 2008).**

Sources: hswri.org, nmfs.noaa.gov

GLOBAL AQUACULTURE

FACTS



- **From 1992 to 2001, total seafood supply increased by 29.4 percent, while supply from wild capture fisheries increased by only 8.3 percent (FAO 2003). The difference (21.1 percent) came from aquaculture.**

- **Worldwide, in 2012 more than 58.3 million people were employed in the interrelated fishing and aquaculture industries (FAO 2004).**

Sources: hswri.org , FAO 2014, reasearch.noaa.gov

DOMESTIC AND LOCAL AQUACULTURE IMPERATIVE

- **Stewardship of the world's natural resources is everyone's responsibility, and it is the goal of the domestic aquaculture industry. Producers work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Program and Office of Aquaculture (NOAA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), and numerous state environmental agencies to ensure that they maintain water quality, native fish stocks, and environmental quality.**

- **Properly managed aquaculture can generate significant economic and social benefits with little or no environmental impact. Some impacts, such as increased reef habitat, can be highly beneficial.**

Sources: .hswri.org, thenaa.net, noaa.gov

CUSP

COALITION FOR U.S. SEAFOOD PRODUCTION

CONNECTING THE U.S. HEARTLAND

TO THE WORKING WATERFRONT

- **U.S. farmers are an essential partner in the prosperity of the U.S. aquaculture community, and are helping to revolutionize aquaculture globally. Farmers in America's Heartland provide consistent, healthy, and efficient sources of protein and energy that nourish the fish and shrimp that feed our families.**

- **U.S. soy has become a critical protein resource in aquafeeds. Research has given feed formulators the information needed to create diets with high soy and plant-based protein inclusions.**

- **U.S. corn, wheat, and sorghum production are important resources to meet the energy requirements of many of the fin fish and shrimp cultured in the United States.**

- **The future of U.S. aquaculture will also positively impact the value of U.S. agricultural products and presents a potentially significant market for U.S. farmers.**

Sources: soyaqua.org. soyaquaalliance.com, flicker.com

CUSP

COALITION FOR U.S. SEAFOOD PRODUCTION

THE NEED FOR SAFE, SECURE, SUPPLIES OF HEALTHY SEAFOOD CONTINUES TO GROW IN THE UNITED STATES

- **The 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) recommend a shift towards healthy eating patterns, which include a variety of protein foods including more seafood. The general population should eat a least 8 ounces of seafood per week with the aim to take in at least 250 mg per day of omega-3 fatty acids EPA and DHA, and women who are pregnant or breastfeeding should eat at least 8 ounces of seafood per week for omega-3 fatty acid DHA to improve infant health outcomes (USDA and Health and Human Services).**

- **91 percent of seafood consumed in the U.S. is imported.**

- **U.S. seafood imports total over $14 billion annually. Seafood is the largest food item contributing to the trade deficit.**

- **The United States is the world's largest importer of aquaculture products.**

Sources: hswri.org, thenaa.net

SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

THE U.S. AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY

- **We have an opportunity to build a domestic, sustainable aquaculture industry to help meet our domestic demand for nutritious seafood.**
- **We have the opportunity to utilize and to support innovative aquaculture technologies developed in the U.S.**
- **We have the opportunity to create jobs and revitalize U.S. working waterfronts.**
- **U.S. aquaculture has the opportunity to deliver returns to the U.S. Economy.**

Source:hswri.org, caaquaculture.edu