

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT IS A DRAFT AND UPDATED ON AN ONGOING BASIS

❖ **Vision/Mission:** A thriving commercial fishing and aquaculture industry that is able to benefit from valuable markets and the sustainable stewardship of ocean and bay resources.

❖ **Key Issues:**

- Data and scientific information gaps in the basis for decisions about resource management
- Appropriate infrastructure that supports basic business operations for commercial fishing and aquaculture
- Severely limited investment in the industry (e.g. processing facilities, new entrants into the fishing industry, entrepreneurship) due to uncertainty in management of natural resources
- Lack of trust among processors, harvesters and regulators

❖ **Quick Wins:**

- Funding research on salmonids in Humboldt Bay to provide data requested by National Marine Fisheries Service, the CA Coastal Commission, CA Fish & Wildlife, and the Humboldt Bay Harbor Recreation & Conservation District.
- Understanding feasibility of processing facilities for gourmet seafood products (Strategy 2B)
- Research on how processors and harvesters could discuss industry markets and avoid anti-trust violations (Strategy 2C)
- Complete Fisherman’s Work Area (Strategy 3B)

Fisheries, Fish Processing & Aquaculture Industry Cluster Goal 1 – Evolve and apply best practices in fisheries and aquaculture management based on good science.

Strategy 1A: Increase availability of and funding to research projects specific to local fisheries and aquaculture.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Conduct seafood sciences research to address questions around resource management specific to Humboldt County fisheries and aquaculture			
Design and implement research projects cooperatively with industry			

Expand the Sea Grant program			
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Strategy 1B: Pro-actively address regulatory complexity and its cost to industry and the environment			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop mechanism to strategically catapult local issues into national debate			
Improve boat buy-back as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishermen agree in buy-back contracts not to re-enter any fishery for 10 years • Contracts require demolition or conversion of boats to not fishing use...or other preventive measures for the harbor district to deal with stripped down, abandoned fishing boats • Fund buy-back through over quota catch than on the future earnings of other fishermen 			
Figure out a system to retain full catch. System would provide incentives to the fishermen for icing, hauling and unloading non-quota catch, and allow all seafood caught to be utilized. Excess quota catch could be processed locally and sold with excess value going to research in local area, fund buy-back program locally, add to local food supplies for food bank, sell through international electronic auction on-line, etc.			
Strategy 1C: Develop marine and seafood science institute for research, public education and tourism on Humboldt Bay			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop marine and seafood research center like the ones in Astoria and Newport, OR, cooperatively including partners such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humboldt State University • UC Davis Extension, Sea Grant program • Tourism Industry • National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration • CA Fish & Game 			

Develop and execute community education programs that... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show the environmental, human factors that effect fisheries and aquaculture health • Are self-guided and located around the bay waterfront • Interpretive, historical 			
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Fisheries, Fish Processing & Aquaculture Industry Cluster Goal 2 – Add value to fish and aquaculture products before they leave Humboldt County.

Strategy 2A: Develop local products and marketing channels for reaching the CA, Nevada, Arizona and West Coast markets.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Feasibility of particular products and best practices in direct marketing			
Develop distribution channels into West Coast urban ethnic markets to take advantage of full catch retention			

Strategy 2B: Develop niche market products for gourmet and farmer’s market outlets locally and regionally

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Fresh seafood retail outlet in Humboldt County			
Study feasibility of developing facilities for producing gourmet seafood products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental facilities for canning, vacuum packing & smoking • Labeling, marketing and distribution assistance 			

Strategy 2C: Develop a local forum to build harvester and processor cohesion and ability to bring products to market when market is ripe

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Research OR legislation designed to bring harvesters and processors together and avoid anti-trust violations and CA Fish Marketing Act			

Fisheries, Fish Processing & Aquaculture Industry Cluster Goal 3 – Enhance and preserve infrastructure necessary to fishing and aquaculture.

Strategy 3A: Improve transportation in, out and around the County.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Improve Highways 101 and 299 for interstate truck access		Spec Ag-Ranching Spec Ag-Horticulture Dairy Manufacturing Arts & Culture Forest Products	
Improve airport to support air shipments with direct flights to major hubs (i.e. Los Angeles)		Spec Ag-Horticulture Dairy Manufacturing Arts & Culture Education & Research	
Coordinate trucking routes and space availability among fish processors	Fishing, Fish Processing & Aquaculture		

Strategy 3B: Improve port and bay facilities for fishing, fish processing and aquaculture industry usage & expansion

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Re-build Dock B in Eureka			
Develop fisherman’s work area with at least 10,000 square feet of work space and account for normal noise and smell from fish processing facilities in design of adjacent space, include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dock engineered and build to handle heavy equipment • Showers • 3 public hoists, minimum 5,000 pounds • Catch recording • Fish auction • Covered gear storage area 			

Certify and permit Humboldt Bay parcels for aquaculture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define questions needing addressing and data to be collected around eel grass, benthic invertebrates, sediment erosion/accumulation, salmonids • Fund research to answer concerns • Complete CEQA and NEPA • Certify parcels of Bay for aquaculture 			
Build modern, reliable ice house and cold storage with 24 hour access			
Strategy 3C: Achieve and maintain zoning essential to water-dependent businesses			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Change zoning on waterfront from Commercial Street to C Street to “water dependent industrial”.			
Maintain current zoning on waterfront from F Street to C Street			