



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**National Marine Fisheries Service**  
Alaska Fisheries Science Center  
7600 Sand Point Way N.E.  
Seattle, Washington 98115-6349

Dear (Insert Grower's name),

I hope this letter finds you well.

Enclosed is the "2024 Alaska Mariculture Benchmark Survey" booklet and a United States Postal Service return shipping label. The primary purpose of this survey is to provide growers and the public with an Alaskan Mariculture Benchmarking Report, similar to the 2023 Maine Seaweed Benchmarking Report (link to report: <https://maineaqua.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Maine-Seaweed-Benchmarking-Report.pdf>) and region-specific economic data to the Aquaculture Opportunity Area initiative. The Alaskan Mariculture Benchmarking Report will contain detailed financial metrics, such as breakeven prices and quantities, breakdowns of operational and startup costs, and average market prices by species.

We are requesting your participation in this survey to improve the scope and accuracy of the financial information that will be presented in the upcoming Alaskan Mariculture Benchmarking Report. Please complete each section of the survey, where applicable, to the best of your ability. We understand that the requested information is private and confidential. We are taking every measure to ensure that the information collected from this survey will remain **completely anonymous** and only aggregated information will be shared publicly.

Please return the completed survey using the United States Postal Service Priority Mail envelope that the survey was delivered in and the provided return shipping label. Attach the return shipping label on top of the current label that is on the Priority Mail envelope, re-seal the envelope, and drop it off at your local United States Postal Service office. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Russel Dame at [russel.a.dame@noaa.gov](mailto:russel.a.dame@noaa.gov). Thank you for your time and participation!

Sincerely,  
Russel "Rusty" Dame

