

## **Shellfish Aquaculture Governance, Site Selection and Permitting**

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Shellfish production is a growing U.S. aquaculture sector that occupies large areas of the public trust. As such, applications for aquaculture activities must be properly vetted by federal, state, and in some cases, local officials to understand if and how aquaculture can be sited in the context of other uses of the coastal zone. Further, environmental managers are charged with considering potential effects on protected species and habitats. A growing number of map viewers containing human use and environmental data layers are available to aid prospective farmers with site selection and permitting, and there is also interest in providing such tools for public use.