

National Aquaculture Act

Agencies: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and U.S. Department of the Interior

Citation: [16 U.S.C. §§ 2801 et seq.](#)

Enacted as: the “National Aquaculture Act of 1980”, on September 26, 1980

Summary:

The [National Aquaculture Act \(Act\)](#) declared a National aquaculture policy and encouraged aquaculture activities in both the public and private sectors of the economy. The Act required the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior to establish the National Aquaculture Development Plan. In implementing the Plan, the Secretaries are to provide advisory, educational, and technical assistance, consult and cooperate with interested persons, encourage the implementation of aquacultural technology in the rehabilitation and enhancement of publicly owned fish and shellfish stocks, and promulgate regulations necessary to implement the plan.

The Act also established the Joint Committee on Aquaculture within the Office of Science and Technology Policy to increase the overall effectiveness and productivity of federal aquaculture research, transfer and assistance programs.

Source: <http://www.oceancommission.gov/documents/prelimreport/chapter22.pdf> and <http://www.fws.gov/laws/lawsdigest/NATAQUA.HTML>

Information last updated: September 20, 2012