SEAWEED HUB - Production Systems Work Group Meeting #4
April 30, 2021; 10:30am Pacific/1:30pm Eastern

Summary

Started tackling work group Objective #1: "compiling a list of seaweed nurseries". Participants asked to consider scale, scope, audience and information needs. Key findings:

- Scale: all facilities regardless of size or setup, including commercial, research, and educational nurseries
- Audience(s): farmers, researchers, regulators, training programs, restoration community
- Include: facility contact info; type of facility (i.e. commercial, research, etc.); species; availability (volume & season); production methods; source of sori/strains and potential use restrictions/regulations; price?

Agenda

- Review meeting #3 outcomes
- Meeting #4 objectives
- Miro orientation
- Question #1: project scope & scale
- Question #2: target audience(s) & information needs
- Member survey: objectives for June meeting
- Round-the-room updates
- Adjourn

Participants

Meg Chadsey, Washington Sea Grant (WA)
Josh Reitsma, Woods Hole Sea Grant (MA)
Gregg Shiosaki, Culinary Instructor (ret.); Puget Sound Food Hub (WA)
John Lovett, Grower (MA)
Holly Turner-Moore, Grower/Educator, Bridgeport Regional Aquaculture High School (CT)
Bruce Brenner, Prospective Grower; Shellfish Farmer (WA)
Bailey Moritz, World Wildlife Fund (WA/ME)
Aaron Milstein, TroutLodge Inc. (WA)
Kendall Barbery, Greenwave (CT)
Diane Boratyn, Grower (tank culture) (WA)
Anoushka Concepcion, Connecticut Sea Grant (CT)

Meeting Notes

Participants selected 'Improve Seed Supply' as their top priority going forward. Specific objectives to be pursued are: 1) compiling a list of nursery facilities for growers; and 2) increasing nursery capacity.

Meeting #4 Objectives

Focus on "compiling a list of nursery facilities". What should this look like? Who will use it? What information do they need? Collectively tackle these questions; use Miro board to capture ideas.

Miro orientation:

From this point forward, we'll be using [Miro](#) boards for collaborative work during meetings. Josh provided an overview of basic Miro skills: navigating the board, using sticky notes, turning cursors on/off, etc. (reviewed in this [short video](#)).

Question #1: Scale & Scope:

Scale: What types of facilities should be included on our list (considerations: size, commercial/ private/research, etc.)? Scope: What kinds of information should be included on our list? How should it be grouped?

Work group member responses:

- Scale: any facility with the capacity to produce more than they need. Scope: species, production schedule; volume.
- Scale: commercial and/or research. Scope: region; species of seaweed and kelp; incubation methods; potential facility hydro systems.
- Scale: both public and private nurseries; include all areas in a body of water, since seaweed varies in type and area grown. See who wants to be involved.
- Scale: include all facilities to include. Scope: seaweed strain; origin (location); distribution (location); typical results (size, color, etc); processing characteristics (e.g., great as a food source, best for dried application); packaging details; storage (shelf life); availability (time of year); pricing
- Scale: any location that produces seed. Scope: facility type (private/research/comm); price; distance they supply to (some places will take custom sorus and grow it, others only have capacity to supply their region, which may also be influenced by regulations); species of seaweed(s); date by which they need to receive orders (if they are a place that takes orders)
- Scope: list of seedstock producers; availability; market suitability; type of seaweed and appropriateness for a given region, as well as limits on transplantation (i.e. transport across state lines?)

- Scale: facilities of all sizes should be considered; include educational, commercial, retail and research facilities.

<u>Group Discussion/Summary:</u>

- Scale: all facilities regardless of size or setup should be included
- Scope:
  - Type of facility (i.e. commercial, research, etc.); contact info, species, availability, location or source, incubation/start method
  - Price? (may be sensitive info). Survey nursery managers about cost, if for-profit (ie. below cost).

Question #2 Target audience and information needs

Who will use this list, and what kind of information might they need?

<u>Work group member responses:</u>

- Audience: Current and potential growers. Need to know: price; timeline for ordering and receiving; contact info; regional restrictions; yield range
- Audience: Researchers so they could see places to partner or collaborate with on studies. Need to know: size; species; method/gear used to grow; contact info
- Audience: K-12 schools who want to do a project using kelp seed
- Audience: (not specified). Need to know: What types of seaweed are being provided and at what stage. Does the facility offer seed string? Product for sale? How has that product been processed?
- Audience: Farmers. Need to know: species; incubation period; volume; pricing; start method
- Audience: Novel culture researcher. Need to know: Same as for farmers.
- Audience: Restoration organizations
- Audiences: Farmers. Permitting/regulation authorities. Researchers

<u>Group Discussion/Summary:</u>

- Audiences: Farmers, researchers, regulators, schools, restoration groups
- Information needs:
  - Potential restrictions
  - Processing of product or what it is suitable for
  - Volume
  - Permitting/Regulatory authorities
- What might our Nursery List look like?
  - Interactive regional map
  - Host on Seaweed Hub website

Survey: Objectives for Meeting #5

Continue developing Nursery List or repeat process with "increasing nursery capacity"? Voted unanimously to continue working on Nursery List.

Round the Room

- Kendall: GreenWave will be hosting a free four-part workshop series in June 2021 covering the process of kelp hatchery setup, seed string production, etc. Participation capped at 30 people. Target audience includes technicians/operators at shellfish hatcheries; farmers interested in producing seed; or other candidates considering starting a kelp hatchery facility. Will include participants from east and west coast and Alaska. Email kendall@greenwave.org if interested, or know of a person or organization who might benefit. Also, Greenwave has launched their beta Farm Planner Tool; email Kendall to sign up to beta test.
- Anoushka provided update on other work group activities (see meeting summaries on Seaweed Hub Work Group page)