

Research Summary

Policy Challenges and Opportunities in Aquaculture
October 2020



Research Project

Policy Challenges and Opportunities in Aquaculture

Investigators

[Max Melstrom](#), Loyola University Chicago

[Stuart Carlton](#), Purdue University,

[Trey Malone](#), Michigan State University

Overview

This research examines policy-related challenges and opportunities in Great Lakes aquaculture production. One important knowledge gap is the potential for regulatory barriers to constrain the development of aquaculture in the Great Lakes region. Regulatory barriers are potentially numerous, and could directly impact aquaculture production. Another potential barrier is availability of capital for start-up costs. Policies that provide capital such as low interest loans, subsidies, etc., may accelerate aquaculture production in the Great Lakes region. Policies can create barriers that make production more challenging and costly or they can be used to lower barriers and make production more feasible.

Background

One anticipated research need of aquaculture producers is to understand the effects of policy on the industry. The GLAC is funding research to conduct a detailed policy analysis of the Great Lakes aquaculture industry.

Objectives

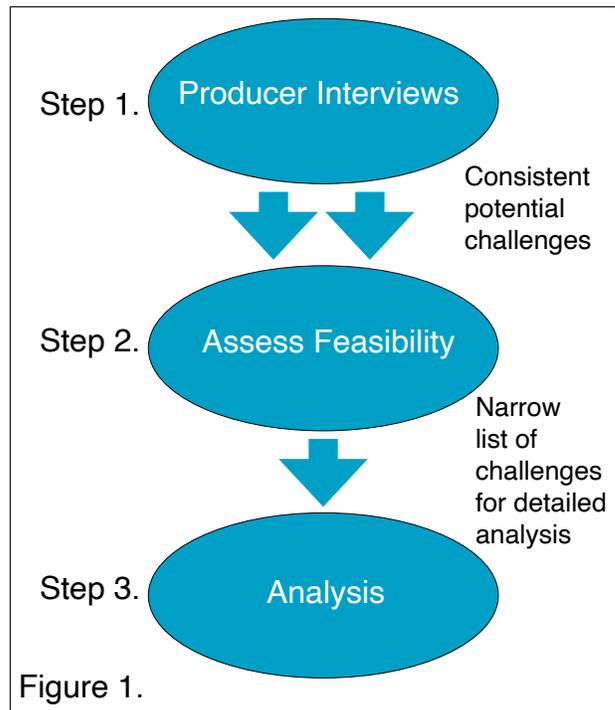
The objectives of this research are to:

- Identify potential policy-related challenges and opportunities.
- Provide and interpret information to rank policy options.

Methods

We will conduct interviews with aquaculture producers in the Great Lakes region that will be summarized and analyzed for consistent potential policy-related challenges.

The research team will then assess which policies are most likely to create challenges and/or opportunities (Figure 1). The lead investigator will then conduct a literature review and statistical analysis of these policies to gain a deeper understanding on how they might be improved to enhance aquaculture production in the Great Lakes region.



Anticipated Outcomes

We anticipate that this project will generate new information about which policies present the greatest challenges and opportunities for the aquaculture industry in the Great Lakes region. A final report and scholarly papers will be produced and results will be posted and shared through the GLAC website and other social media.

Research Summary

Policy Challenges and Opportunities in Aquaculture
October 2020



Great Lakes Aquaculture Collaborative

This research summary is from one of several projects supported as part of the Sea Grant Great Lakes Aquaculture Collaborative (GLAC). The GLAC is a three-year (2019-2022) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-funded project that seeks to create a regionwide group to foster relevant, science-based initiatives that support aquaculture industries in the Great Lakes region that are environmentally responsible, competitive, and sustainable.

GLAC Website

greatlakesseagrant.com/aquaculture

GLAC Project Team

GLAC is led by the Minnesota Sea Grant program in collaboration with the Sea Grant programs of Wisconsin, Illinois-Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New York.