

Regional Aquaculture Extension Specialist Project

RAES

Chris Weeks
NCRAC Annual Program Planning Meeting
February 2013



RAES TEAM

Chris Weeks – PI Michigan State University

Advisory

Joseph Morris /David Allen Pattillo, Iowa State University

Ronald Kinnunen, Michigan Sea Grant

William Lynch (IAC Liaison), Ohio State University

Kwamena Quagraine (Extension Liaison), Purdue University

RAES Background

- Weeks takes PI in 2008
- Objectives :
 - 1) Provide leadership for the aquaculture industry in the NCR
 - 2) Enhance information transfer

RAES Background

- 2009-11
 - Lifted up by NCRAC for open proposal \$150,000 (3/4 time)
- 2011-13
 - Lifted up by NCRAC \$196,000 (Full time)
- 2013-14
 - Lifted up for consideration for funding 1-yr (await NCRAC Board decision this meeting)

Current objectives

1. Continue NCR support through ongoing activities
2. Develop and implement strategies for sustainable aquaculture in the NCR
3. Develop and strengthen partnerships
4. Coordinate efforts for seeking non-NCRAC support
5. Assess NCRAC research and extension activities in terms of impacts on the NCR aquaculture industry

Objective 1. Continued NCR support through established channels

- Monitor and update the NCRAC website *State Importation and Transportation Requirements for Cultured Aquatic Animals* (receives 500+ views per month)
- Actively post updated pertinent information from across sources to the industry via NCR Fish Culture List Serve
- Encourage active participation by the NCR aquaculture community in regulatory rule making processes. Examples include posting for, and industry solicitation for Federal Register comments in regards to Lacey Act and the National Aquaculture Research and Development Strategic Plan

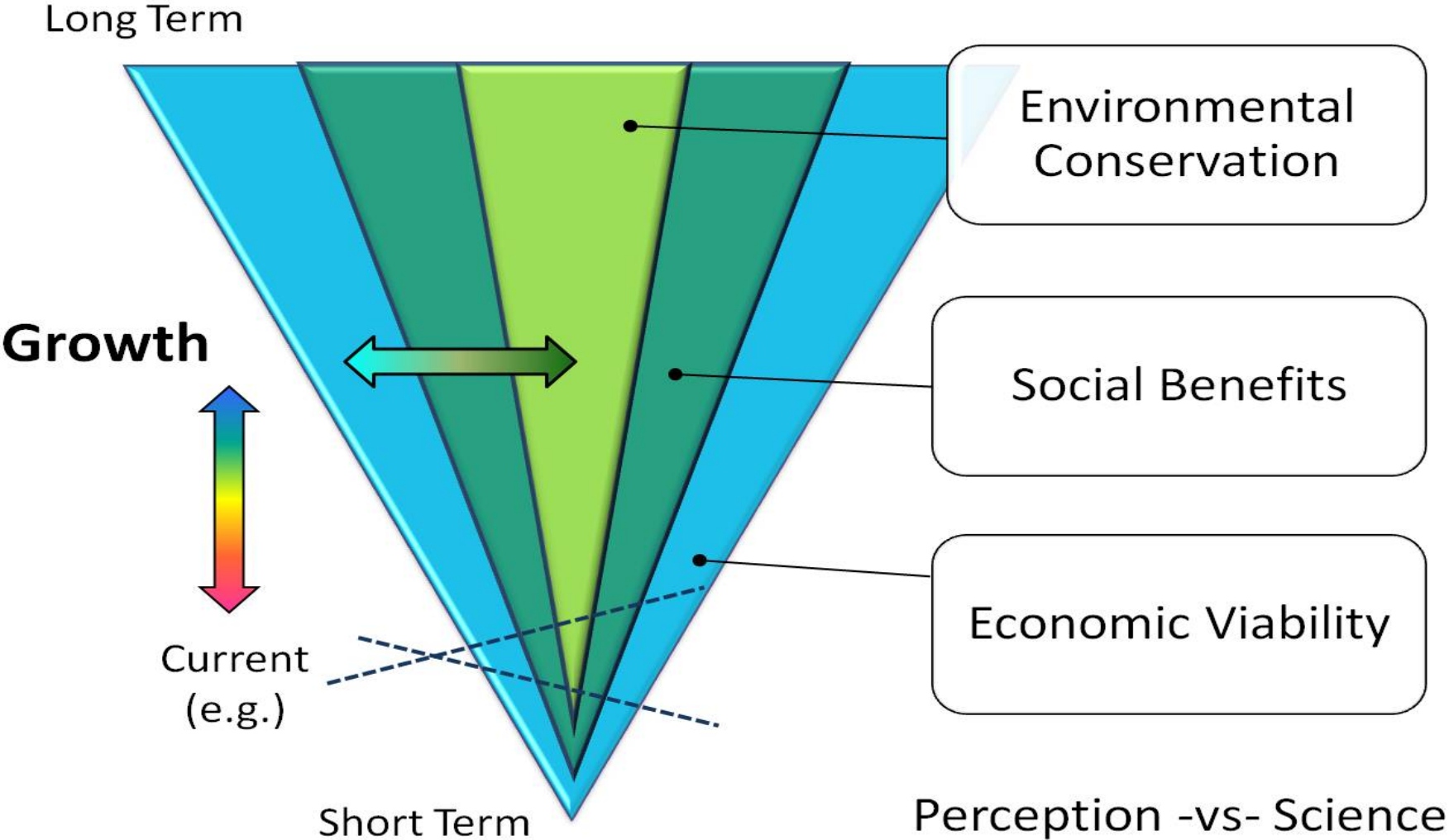
Objective 1. Continued NCR support through established channels

- Attend and support state association meetings and workshops in the region, site visits, phone and email inquiries
- Member of the USDA sponsored eXtension Freshwater Aquaculture Group and serves as an “ask the expert” role on regional issues
- **Work with regulators and industry personnel across the region to try to minimize disruption of commerce due to Aquatic Invasive Species**

Objective 2. Develop and implement strategies to sustainability.

- February - March 2012, RAES workshop-style discussion on sustainable aquaculture during 3 state association meetings in MO, MI, KY (tri-state with OH, IN)
- Exercise designed to provide an example of how to establish sustainable goals and objectives on a farm by farm basis
- Paper *Sustainable Aquaculture in the NCR - a Review of Perceptions and Recommendations from the Aquaculture Community* - will be available free online at Journal of Extension (Purdue)

Sustainable Aquaculture



Objective 3. Develop and strengthen partnerships.

- RAES serving on various committees and panels
- Membership - National Aquaculture Association
- Projects with Michigan and Indiana Soybean Associations and Soy Aquaculture Alliance
- Meetings and collaboration with Northern Ontario Aquaculture Association
- Michigan Sea Grant Integrated Assessment
- Originz, LLC agribusiness development consulting firm

Michigan Permits

Originz, LLC



Objective 4. Coordinate efforts for seeking non-NCRAC support.

2012

- Awarded \$267,000 Integrated Assessment project - Michigan Sea Grant

Expansion of Michigan's Existing Commercial Aquaculture Activities into a Major Sustainable Seafood Production Industry

Objective 4. Coordinate efforts for seeking non-NCRAC support.

2013???

- Other state e.g. strategic plan similar to MI 2012??
- Regional industry development project ??



AGRICULTURE ECONOMICS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES--*Basics*

- *Application Deadline* – May 22, 2013 (5:00 p.m. ET)
- *Total Program Funds* – Approximately \$19 million
- *Proposed Budget Requests* –
 - Standard Grants must not exceed \$500,000 total (including indirect costs) for project periods of up to 5 years.
 - Conference and Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) Grants must adhere to the guidelines.
 - Requests exceeding the budgetary guidelines will *not* be reviewed
- *Letter of Intent*– Is NOT required for this Program
- *Other*
 - 2011 funding rate ~30%
 - Average award ~\$300k
- Proposals planned to be reviewed September, 2013



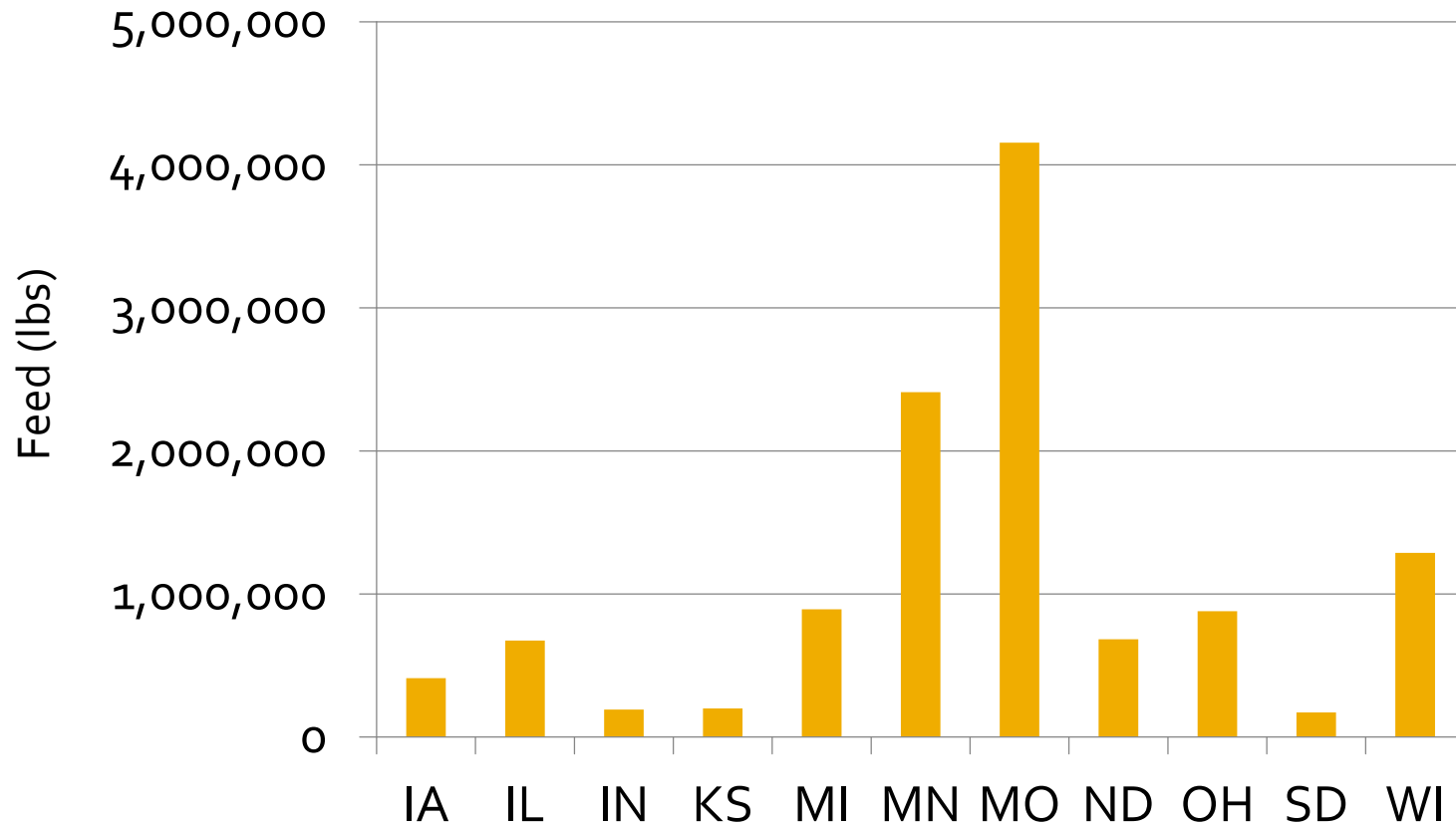
AGRICULTURE ECONOMICS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

- Supports projects that sustain and enhance agricultural and related activities in rural areas, protect the environment, enhance quality of life and alleviate poverty
- Topical issues include:
 - interactions between agriculture, environment and communities in rural areas
 - demographic changes and impacts
 - consumer preferences or behavior
 - decision making under uncertainty
 - market structure and performance
 - policy design and impact
 - agriculture's impact on the environment
- Domestic and international partnerships are encouraged

Objective 5. Assess NCRAC research and extension activities in terms of impacts on the NCR aquaculture industry.

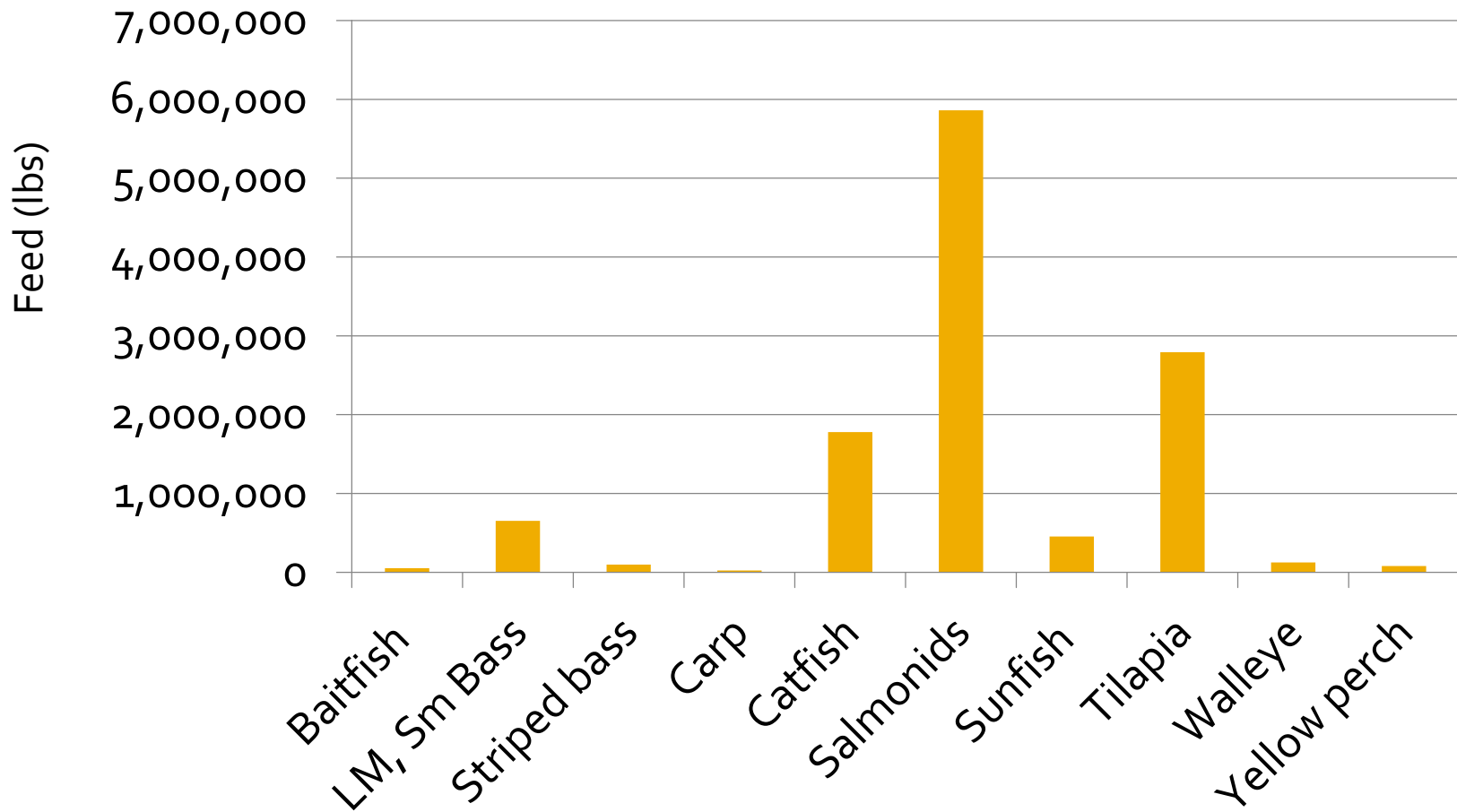
- Report - project deliverables in NCRAC project protocols
- Assessment of impacts from NCRAC projects appears to be a difficult task even though project outlines and reports have a written section for impacts.
 - State versus regional efforts
 - Short versus long term
 - Example, improved genetic strains availability to industry
- Measures of performance???
- Census data is very important

2012 Feed Usage Survey



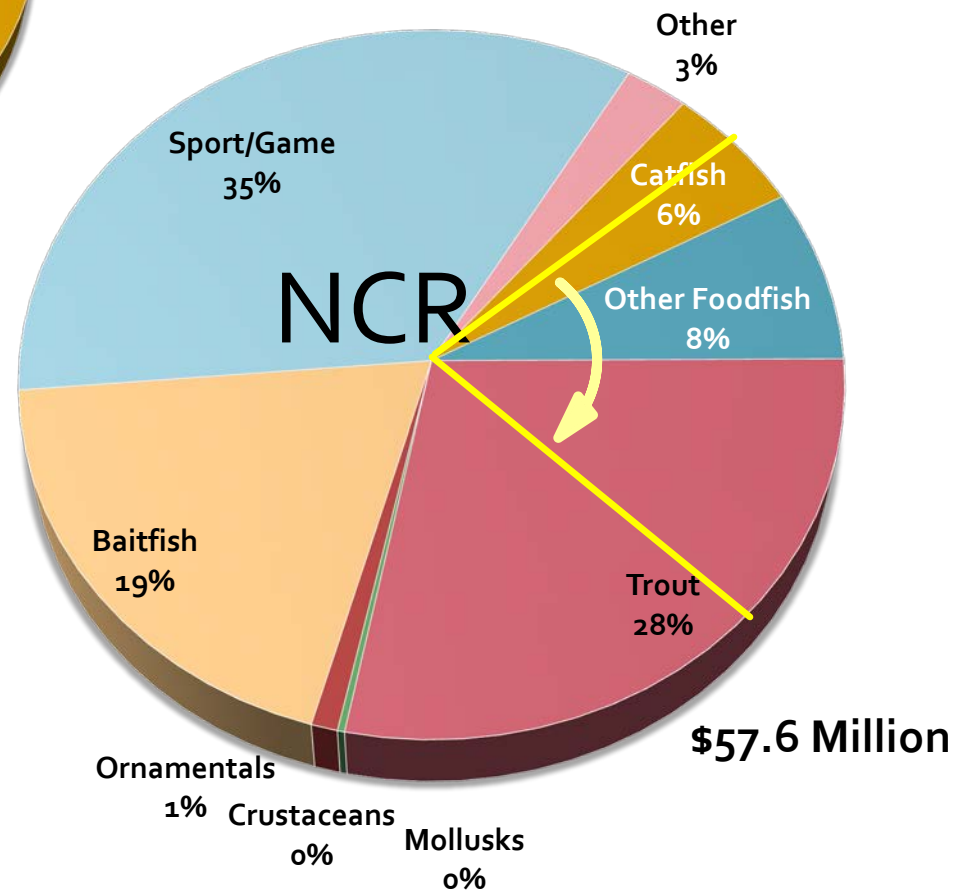
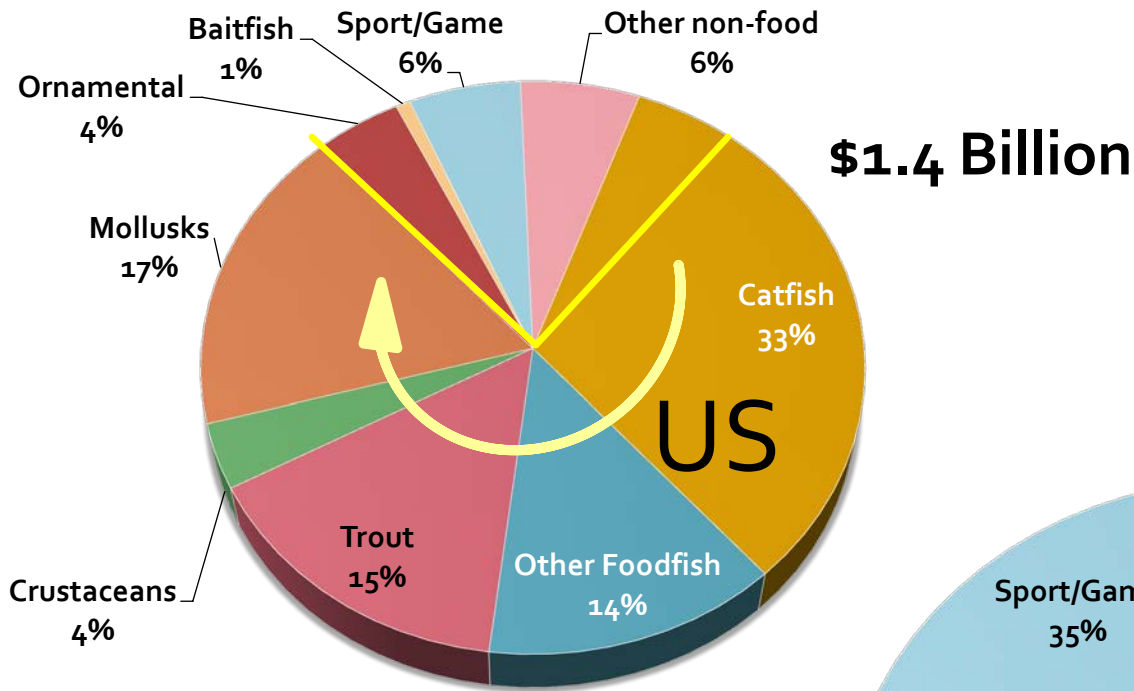
Includes, commercial, state and federal hatcheries

2012 Feed Usage Survey



Includes, commercial, state and federal hatcheries

2007 Production Value by Species



Source: 2007 USDA Census of Agriculture
Includes State, Federal and Tribal Hatcheries

RAES Presentations

- **AIS impacts on Regional Aquaculture – the Need for Effective but Fair Regulations and a Proactive Industry.** Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference, La Crosse, Wisconsin, October 2012
- **Aquaculture Sustainability in the North Central Region.** Missouri Aquaculture Association, Michigan Aquaculture Association, Tri-State Aquaculture Conference/Workshop.
- **Health Maintenance in Aquaculture.** Purdue Veterinary Medicine Conference, August 2012.

RAES Presentations

- **Global Aquaculture Where is it Going and Why – Should I Really be Buying More Seafood?** Purdue Veterinary Medicine Conference, Purdue University, August 2012
- **Aquaculture Trends from Around the World to my Back Yard.** Keynote speech, Ohio Aquaculture Association, February 2013

Upcoming Presentations

- **Are Regulations the Biggest Obstacle to a Growing Aquaculture Industry in The North Central Region US?** Aquaculture 2013. Nashville, Tennessee February 22-25, 2013
- **U.S. Aquaculture: the Past, Today and the Future.** 2013 NIAA Annual Conference Aquaculture/Aquatic Livestock Committee, April 15-18, 2013, Louisville, KY

Committees

- Support for NCRAC Base Extension
- Great Lakes Panel for Aquatic Nuisance Species
- USDA and NOAA Review Panels
- Aquaculture in Michigan (AIM)
- NSF Food Division Advisory Council industry representative to the program's Regulatory/Seafood sector
- USDA sponsored eXtension Freshwater Aquaculture Group -
Ask the Expert

Current Focus

- To form a partnership with a goal of submitting a grant proposal for obtaining additional regional and/or NCR state project support
- **Work with regulators and industry personnel across the region to try to minimize disruption of commerce due to Aquatic Invasive Species**

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Questions or comments ?