

Can Aquaculture be Restoration?

JD Blackwell

JD@38northoysters.com

240-298-1295

38° North Oyster

- JD currently sits on seven commissions/panels
- Owns & Operates Cage Gear Oyster Leases
- Shipping oysters since 2014
- Raised & Shipped more than 4 million market sized oysters
- Raised & Shipped more than 20 million seed to other farmers
- Employees more than nine full time-year round people

Dollars

(Cage Gear Leases)

Harris Creek: Phase 1

- Assuming ~\$10 million were spent in the water*
- Currently has 18 million oysters*
- Currently has 12 million oysters measured at restoration efforts-year 3*

If \$10 Million was spent on an Oyster Aquaculture Startup

- At \$50,000 per acre (\$40K in gear, \$10K in seed); \$10 Million would give start to a 200 acre cage gear lease
- 200,000 oysters per acre per year starting at year one (triploid) or year two(diploid)
- Annual output of 40 million oysters with a standing population of 80 million oysters at various sizes would result. (160K Bushels, \$20 million)

*Based on the best data I could find; please inquire to discuss data sources

Scale

(Bottom Leases)

Maryland Public Fishery

- TFLs ~5,000; Oyster surcharge ~1,100 (people who harvest oysters)*
- Oyster Harvest Year 2000—2016 has ranged between ~25K and 450K bushels of oysters/year*

Assuming 1,100 MD TFL Holders engage in Oyster Aquaculture Operations

- MD TFL Holders each had a 10 acres of successful bottom lease operation
- MD TFL Holders each harvested 3 acres per year
- If each acre outputted 200,000 oysters per cycle (800 Bushels, \$40K)
- The output per TFL per year would be 600,000 oysters (2,400 Bushels, \$120K)

This would result in

- 11,000 acres in use and with active oyster reefs
- Annual output of 660 million oysters with a standing population of ~2 billion oysters at various sizes (2.64 million Bushels, \$132 million)

*Based on the best data I could find; please inquire to discuss data sources

Additional Thoughts

- Cage Gear Leases are a Condo Complex (three dimensional-reef like structures) providing nursery services that are in excess of what a flat (early life) oyster reef can provide
- Aquaculture can provide diversity in location, time and strains of oysters to hedge against episodic events.

Please feel free to contact me:

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C: 240-298-1295