

# Maine Technology Asset Fund Project Summary

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**AWARDEE:** University of Maine Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research, Franklin

**MTAF PROJECT TITLE:** Building Capacity and Excellence in Maine's Marine Aquaculture R&D Infrastructure

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$2,619,807

**MATCH:** \$2,879,932

**PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Nicholas Brown, Director of Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research

**COLLABORATORS:** Ocean Farm Technologies, Maine Coast Sea Vegetables, Ocean Approved LLC, USDA/ARS

# CCAR



*"Great Bay Aquaculture of Maine is the only cod farming company in the US. We provide high quality farm raised cod to the Northeast domestic market and hope to expand our markets to the rest of the U.S. soon. The MTAf funding has helped fund important infrastructure at the CCAR and the presence of these world class facilities is one the of the main reasons that we built our farm and farm support here and will continue to do business in Maine".*

*Morey Levovitz, Owner Great Bay Aquaculture*

## PROJECT SUMMARY:

The CCAR MTAf grant will help the University of Maine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR) to facilitate growth of a diverse and sustainable aquaculture industry in Maine by funding critical infrastructure improvements at the facilities in Franklin, Maine:

1) Two large outdoor tanks will be enclosed with an insulated, energy efficient, temperature controlled building. The resulting facility will be tremendously valuable to Maine's aquaculture industry and will serve a multitude of purposes. As "live test tanks" they could be used for developing equipment to be used in offshore aquaculture installations. They will also be ideal for holding large pelagic broodstock fish such as bluefin tuna, an over-fished species resident in the Gulf of Maine with enormous potential for US aquaculture.

2) A dedicated cod broodstock facility will be built to allow CCAR, in collaboration with cod farmers such as Great Bay Aquaculture of Maine and the adjoining USDA ARS National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center to develop the national cod breeding program. This program is essential to the long-term viability and sustainability of Maine's cod farming industry.

3) Seaweed seeding facilities have been built to allow biosecure culture of algae using advanced techniques. These seaweeds can be farmed alone or in conjunction with other species, such as salmon or cod, in an environmentally sustainable way in a process known as "Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture". Demand for these products is increasing from consumers who are opting for foods that are both nutritious and considered safe and eco-friendly.

For more information:  
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