



Breakout Session: Workforce Development

Presenter: Angee Doerr, Oregon Sea Grant

Opportunities (list 2-4)

- ◆ WorkSource Oregon offers a Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) and an On the Job Training (OJT) program
- ◆ Northwest Oregon Works (one of nine workforce board in Oregon) can help develop Occupational Skills Training (OST), Youth Work Experience (WEX) opportunities
- ◆ Collaborations with local schools can introduce aquaculture as a career through K-12 programs



Photo Credit: Jason McKnight

Challenges (list 2-4)



Photo Credit: Pat Kight

- ◆ Small industry can make maintaining a certificate program (instructors, facilities, cost, demand) potentially challenging
- ◆ Need to connect Service Providers (WorkSource, Workforce Development Boards) with Industry Leaders (aquaculture groups not on their radar, websites)
- ◆ Industry can still be cost prohibitive even with effective training

Key Takeaways & Recommendations

Takeaways: (list 2-4)

- ◆ There are a lot more opportunities for workforce development funding and program development than many participants appreciated!
- ◆ Industry support will be necessary (and continual)
- ◆ Demand will drive opportunity, but opportunity may also drive demand

Recommendations: (list 2-4)

- ◆ Identification of core requirements, as well as existing opportunities to learn this skills at the High School / Community College / Vocational School level
- ◆ Build connections between Workforce Development Boards and key industry leaders in their regions



Questions?