



## *Growing Alaska's sustainable ocean economy*

The **Alaska Ocean Cluster** promotes and grows Alaska's sustainable ocean economy by leveraging existing strengths while supporting innovation and emerging opportunities to diversify our economy. We are dedicated to realizing the full potential of the state's seafood, mariculture, transportation, renewable energy, tourism, and research industries.

### Background

The Bering Sea Fishermen's Association launched the Alaska Ocean Cluster in 2017 to enhance maritime growth and prosperity in coastal Alaska.

Modeled on successful ventures in Iceland, Norway, Ireland, and Canada, the cluster brings together a coalition of private, public, and academic stakeholders to support each other through cooperative research and a shared vision.

### Our Programs

#### **Blue Pipeline Venture Studio**

The venture studio, launched in 2021, will build and scale companies with innovative solutions to the common challenges facing Alaska's ocean industries, taking advantage of advances in artificial intelligence, machine learning, cloud computing, remote sensing, carbon sequestration and storage, and other emerging technologies.

#### **Cluster House**

A collaborative workspace dedicated to the ocean economy will be designed and built. The facility will cultivate creativity and problem solving while offering co-working spaces for both existing and new organizations.

#### **Research**

Our research focuses on identifying emerging sectors in Alaska's ocean economy, developing the state's maritime workforce capacity, and encouraging investment in the development and full utilization of Alaska's ocean resources.

#### **Mariculture**

We are engaging existing industry, conducting community outreach, developing job training programs, identifying technology providers, and exploring opportunities for regional collaboration to encourage the development of Alaska's growing mariculture industry.

#### **Full Utilization**

Our goal is to achieve 100% utilization of Alaska's seafood resources through modern processing techniques, supply chain innovation, and the development of new products, including biofuels and biopharmaceuticals.

### **What is the ocean economy?**

The ocean economy comprises all the economic activities that create wealth from the world's oceans and coasts.

Globally, it is conservatively estimated that the ocean economy will double to an estimated \$3 trillion by 2030.

Alaska produces 60% of US seafood and possesses well over half of the nation's coastline and potential ocean energy resources.

The state's ocean economy supports more than 70,000 jobs with wages of nearly \$2.0 billion across the seafood, shipping, tourism, and research sectors.