

State	Shellfish Initiative	Year Implemented (if relevant)	Agency Responsible	Notes
Washington	In 2015, the Oregon Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2209 which established the state's policy to: 1) Enhance and expand cultivated shellfish production; 2) Conserve, protect and restore wild populations of native shellfish; and 3) Improve water quality and the health of aquatic and marine habitats	On-going, but started fully engaging with stakeholders in 2015	The Joint Interim Task Force on Oregon Shellfish	It is the intent of the Oregon Shellfish Task Force that its recommendations be used to develop an Oregon Shellfish Initiative that will focus valuable resources on critical actions and immediate priorities, as well as help guide future policy choices and long-term management decisions
California	<p>Not so much an initiative as it is a "working group" that was created after various workshops and stakeholder meetings</p> <p>Permanent working group structure and function that continues to improve the process for specific [aquaculture, restoration, harvesting] projects moving ahead."</p>	2013 - Present	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association (PCSGA)	Workshop sessions with the goal of improving the efficiency, cost effectiveness, and open collaboration of the agencies in their review of both commercial aquaculture and restoration projects in California."
Connecticut	<p>Public scoping session held from 2013-2015 with citizens, shellfisherman, regulators, community groups, and scientists</p> <p>Vision Plan will be released in three parts: 1) Overview and Recommendations, Context, and Implementation Plan</p>	<p>Shellfish Vision Plan, Part 1: Overview and Recommendations (Executive Summary) released on October 2016</p> <p><i>Time Frame:</i> Short term outcomes range from 2016-2018</p> <p>Long Term Outcomes range from 2016-2023</p>	Connecticut Sea Grant	<p>I think we can adopt a similar organizational framework as we develop MSI. Connecticut has outlined their: purpose, vision, goals, principles, short term and long term outcomes, specified the parts of their expected final product, and set up a steering committee, task force, and aquaculture advisory council</p> <p>They also hired a facilitator from a consulting group to assist with the scoping process</p>

What have Shellfish Initiatives accomplished?

NOAA (2011):

Goal: increase populations of bivalve shellfish in coastal waters through commercial production and conservation activities.

Accomplishments: oyster restoration monitoring and assessment handbook, research on offshore mussel cultivation, shellfish permitting fact sheet to provide a common reference for federal agency staff working on permitting of commercial shellfish aquaculture and assisting other states to start a Shellfish Initiative.

Washington (2011):

Goal: support the long term goal of enhancing shellfish resources in coastal waters.

Accomplishments: water quality improvements to support recreational, tribal ceremonial, subsistence, commercial and nontribal commercial harvest (2400 acres cleaned and re-opened), a new state shellfish restoration hatchery, cutting-edge science to monitor ocean acidification, a comprehensive state strategy for addressing ocean acidification and an assessment of the state aquaculture permitting process. Phase 2 (updated plan) Initiative released in Jan 2016

Lessons learned: bring all stakeholders to table (including interagency); use governor's office as way to lend credibility/drive progress (even if no staff or funding); biggest challenge was overcoming personality conflicts among leaders/agencies and making noticeable progress on permitting; positive opportunity for good press for industry; improved relationships among stakeholders; political will and momentum is more important than funding.

phase 1:

http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/aquaculture/wa_shellfishinitiative_20111209.pdf

phase 2:

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/ShellfishWorkPlan.pdf>

California (2013):

Goal: The California Shellfish Initiative will build upon successful collaborations from other states, lessons from the recent marine planning processes and an innovative Humboldt Bay community planning project now underway. The Initiative intends to improve regional planning and permitting efficiencies for shellfish aquaculture while creating strong performance standards to:

- Provide an open process for community leaders to engage in coastal resource planning
- Enhance shellfish production and habitat restoration by developing a more comprehensive, efficient, and economical permit process with increased agency coordination
- Ensure clean and healthy estuaries to protect existing shellfish beds and access to additional acreage to shellfish farming and restoration

Accomplishments: position paper

<http://pcsga.org/shellfish-initiative/>

Connecticut (2014):

Goal: develop state's first vision plan to protect and grow the state's shellfish sectors, and to increase public awareness about Connecticut's shellfish heritage.

Hosted by UConn. Still developing/revising recommendations/plan, was open to public comment until July 2016. Timeline of initiative development available here: <http://shellfish.uconn.edu/news-2/> & <http://shellfish.uconn.edu/>