



RECIRCULATING AQUACULTURE SALMON NETWORK

Sustainable • Innovative

Congressional Support: To expand U.S. capacity in land-based salmon aquaculture we urge Congress to continue support for:

- The National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2020 (S.910 EAH), which has prioritized research on **sustainable** aquaculture techniques and technologies.

Americans Love Salmon

It is the most popular finfish eaten in the U.S., with Atlantic salmon accounting for 63% of total consumption.

The U.S. consumes
493,000 tons

of Atlantic salmon annually, almost triple the amount from 2004.

\$3.4 B

is the amount that Atlantic salmon imports contribute to the U.S. seafood trade deficit.

Land-Based Salmon Aquaculture Production in the United States

This technology, known as recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS), filters and reuses the water in fish tanks. Salmon RAS is an emerging industry nationwide, in which:



has already been invested or committed into land-based Atlantic salmon production in the U.S.



is an estimated investment in **Maryland** in the next 5 years to build an Atlantic salmon RAS facility.

Maryland-led Land-based Salmon Aquaculture Advancement

The Recirculating Aquaculture Salmon Network (RAS-N), funded by the National Sea Grant College Program, co-led by the University of Maryland Baltimore County and Maryland Sea Grant, and in collaboration with Maine and Wisconsin Sea Grants, supports the growing domestic Atlantic salmon production industry.

This national network of scientists, economists, educators, and industry experts are working together to advance land-based salmon aquaculture technology and create a clear, national action plan to meet economic, environmental, and community goals. In the first year of work this network has:

- Identified industry barriers and research needs for expanding successful land-based salmon aquaculture.
- Completed first steps in creating an economic model to predict RAS economic feasibility.
- Expanded our network to include several more domestic and international industry partners.
- Defined levels of public engagement and avenues for recruitment of skilled personnel.
- Drafted a policy paper "*Building Capacity of Land-based Atlantic Salmon Aquaculture in the United States.*"

Building Maryland Capacity in Land Based Aquaculture

Land-based farming is considered a more sustainable way to produce Atlantic salmon and is identified by Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch as a Best Choice (green). A land-based salmon aquaculture farm:

Reuses 90-99.9% of water. In Maryland, we will reuse over 99.9% of water.

Moves production close to markets, which lowers costs, reduces footprint, and provides product transparency.

Brings jobs and career opportunities to rural Maryland.

Reduces pollution discharge and recovers nutrients by controlling and treating fish waste.

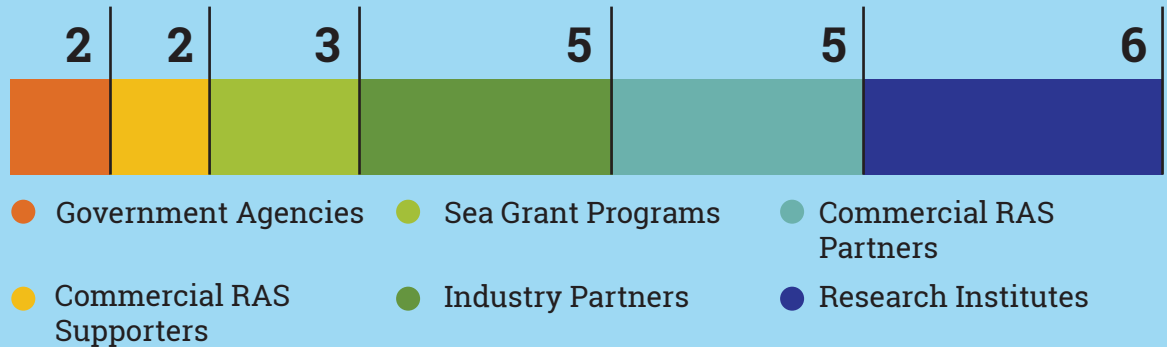
Creates opportunity to convert aquaculture waste to methane biogas, a renewable source of energy.

Grows fish in fully contained rearing systems, eliminating escapees and interactions with wild fish.

Controls water quality and environmental impact while improving fish health and welfare.

Recirculating Aquaculture Salmon Network

RAS-N is comprised of biologists, engineers, and experts in sustainable, land-based aquaculture systems, as well as experts in all aspects of salmon biology. This includes a range of organizations, from commercial RAS industry to government agencies.



For more information



Check out our website: www.ras-n.org/

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