

MCVL and SC Sea Grant – October 13, 2021 Public Meeting

SUMMARY:

South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium is facilitating a McClellanville town meeting on October 13th, at 6:00 pm, to discuss a future training program for commercial fisheries workforce development.

In partnership with the Town of McClellanville, the McClellanville Community Foundation, and the McClellanville Watermen Association, the Consortium was awarded a grant from the NOAA National Sea Grant College Program to examine the feasibility of such a training program. The purpose of the grant is to develop a training center blueprint that would address fisheries workforce training needs in the Southeast region of the U.S. The blueprint (a feasibility study/ business plan) will be the culminating product of a six-month study involving workshops and focus groups with South Carolina's commercial fishing sector and key representatives in McClellanville, as well as a learning exchange with an existing fisheries training center.

This project will explore critical questions necessary to advance a training center, addressing subjects such as: the justification of a training center, based on costs and benefits; the organizational structure of a training center; identifying fishing and aquaculture industries benefiting most from training programs (ex. shrimp trawling, oyster mariculture, soft-shell crab shedding, charter fishing, etc.); determining key technical skills to be addressed through training (ex. business management, engineering and technology, navigation, shellfish culture techniques); and investigating scientific, managerial, and legal considerations.

We invite interested community members to join us in discussing the concept of a fisheries and aquaculture training program, to help us understand if and how such a program would benefit McClellanville and the surrounding region. The meeting will be a hybrid in-person/virtual event. Community members can join virtually using the Zoom link below.

AGENDA:

Introduction to the Project (6:00-6:30)

Origins behind this grant, Objectives, activities, timeline
Questions

Overview of Fisheries Workforce Development (6:30-7:00)

Fisheries trends and workforce in the region
Training center models from around the country
Questions

Feasibility Study (7:00-7:15)

What it is, and what information is needed for it
Questions

Structured feedback (7:15-8:00) – Facilitator

Interactive activity to engage discussions and solicit feedback from community members
Next steps and closing

ZOOM Link:

Topic: McClellanville Town Meeting: Fisheries Training Center Time: Oct 13, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://scseagrant-org.zoom.us/j/85252613117?pwd=dEZtNkg3UnVEVmxHckR2bjN1d3Fkdz09>

Meeting ID: 852 5261 3117 Passcode: 930112

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