

The Pacific Aquaculture Caucus

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The Pacific Aquaculture Caucus (PAC) was created as a result of national aquaculture policy initiatives announced by the Department of Commerce and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in August 1999. These new government policies specifically encouraged the grass-roots of the aquaculture sector in the country's principal coastal regions to partnership DOC and NOAA in the development of an environmentally responsible industry to achieve their common objectives for increased national production of seafood to offset the imbalance in seafood trade, to increase the exportation of technical goods and aquaculture services, and to increase employment in coastal communities.

PAC is the only non-aligned forum based on the West Coast which can bring together the public and private aquaculture sectors and legislators to deal with the inequities which exist for aquaculture regulation and policies in the coastal States. Currently PAC has 69 registered members, of which about one-third represent government and state organizations, and university and Sea Grant institutions (Alaska, California, Oregon, and Washington). There are also 3 members who represent some of the regional Tribes.