



OceansAlaska
MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

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OCEANSALASKA

OceansAlaska, a world-class marine science center, is the concept and vision of Alaska educators, scientists, fishermen and business leaders who formed this 501 C-3 non-profit corporation in 1992. The focus of this venture is education, marine research, economic development and the display of Alaska marine species. This mega-project will be an economic engine for Alaska that will jump-start the fledgling shellfish industry and help stabilize the economy of Alaska coastal communities.

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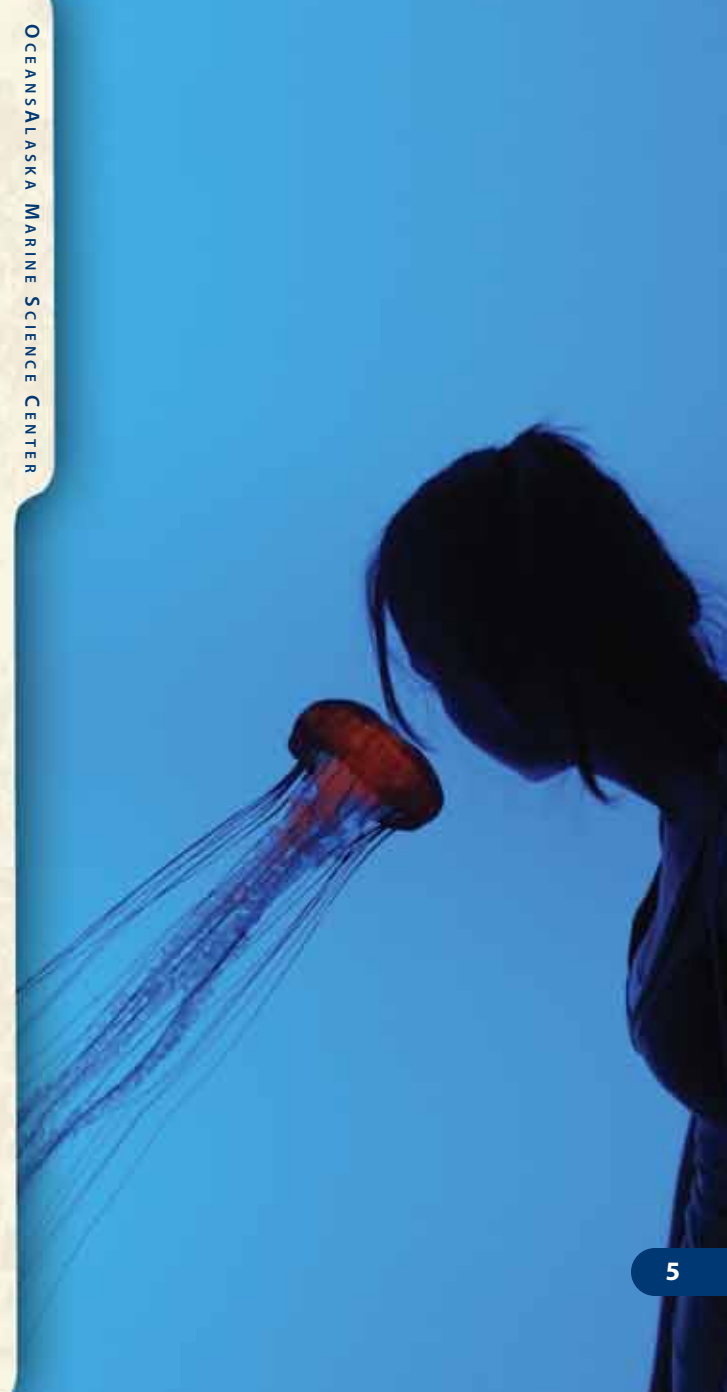
EDUCATION

OceansAlaska will provide marine science education from a local and global perspective.

Collaboration: Cooperation with regional school districts, universities, state and federal agencies is an essential part of OceansAlaska function as a marine science center. Laboratory space, ancillary support buildings and research docking facilities ensure stronger alliances in scientific study and data collection.



Vision: During the summer months, OceansAlaska will present educational activities oriented to the visitor experience. During the remainder of the year, programs and activities will be focused on Alaska schools and communities. University level research will be conducted on a year-round basis using the resources of the marine science center. OceansAlaska will have an innovative hands-on approach to education with curriculum for every grade level and opportunities to interact with the various marine species in the facility. Classes will be encouraged to take field trips to the center and put into practice what they have learned in the classroom. Lab time will round out this experience.



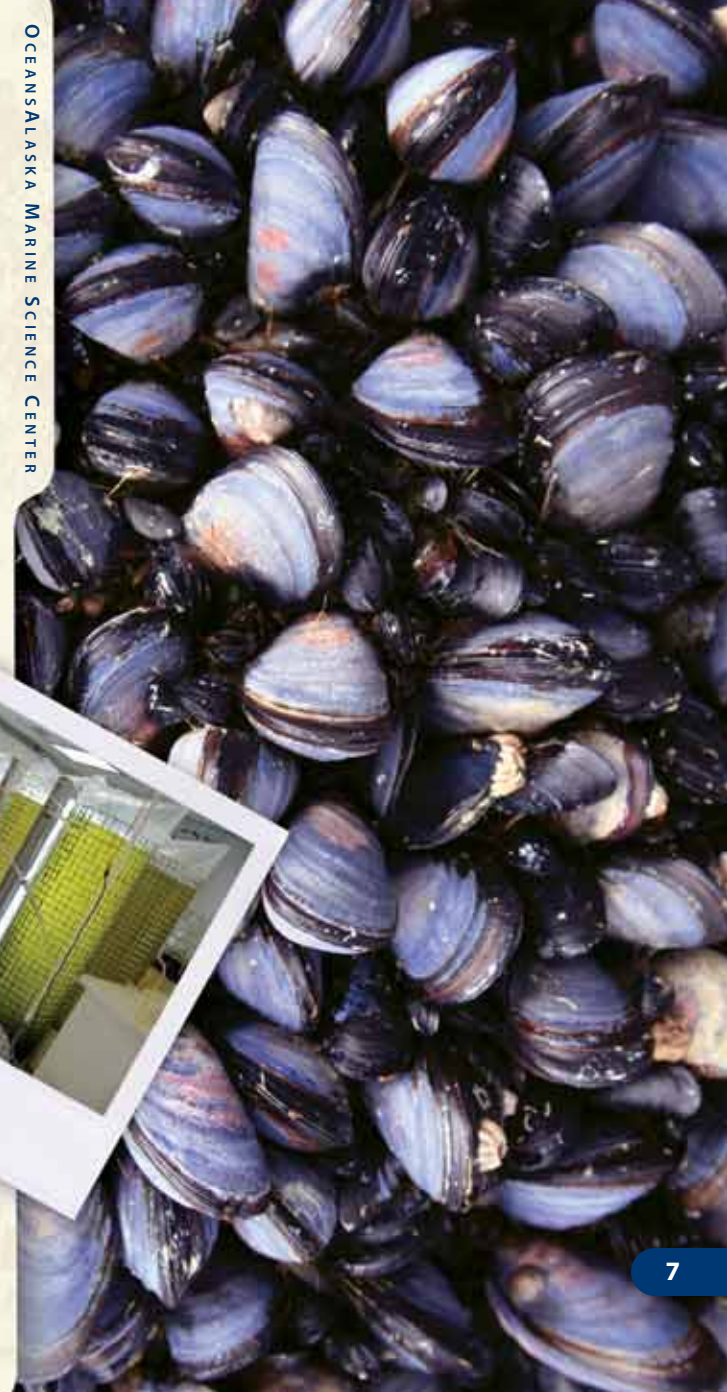


ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OceansAlaska in concert with the university system is qualified and positioned to provide the research, development, demonstration and training programs necessary to propel the growth of Alaska's coastal shellfish industry including oysters, clams, geoduck, scallop, abalone, kelp and other aquatic farm products. This enables Alaska's industry to expand with the growing global demand for this resource. U. S. Sen. Ted Stevens recently asked a profound and enlightening question. "What is to prevent other nations, especially China, from taking our ideas and duplicating them for their own purposes?" Alaska is one of the last places on earth with thousands of miles of pollution-free coastline and ideal conditions for growing shellfish of all kinds with easy access to the world's markets.

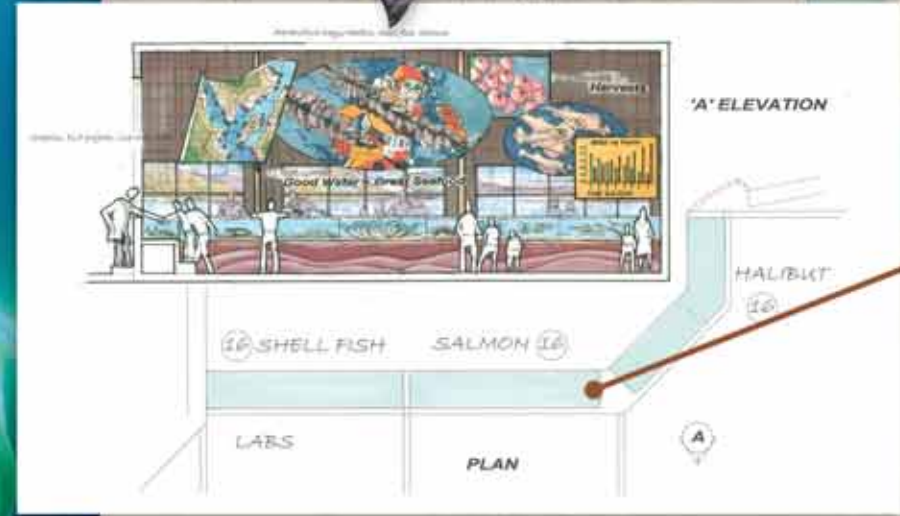
OceansAlaska envisions a program in which students who have an interest in this industry can take courses at the university while establishing their own spat and product line at our facility. Upon graduation the students with OceansAlaska assistance will have identified and secured their lease site. They will have shellfish ready to be placed at their own locations and they will be well on their way to a successful business.

OceansAlaska is not aware of many industries that have the potential to be self-supporting, non-polluting and drive economic growth at this level.



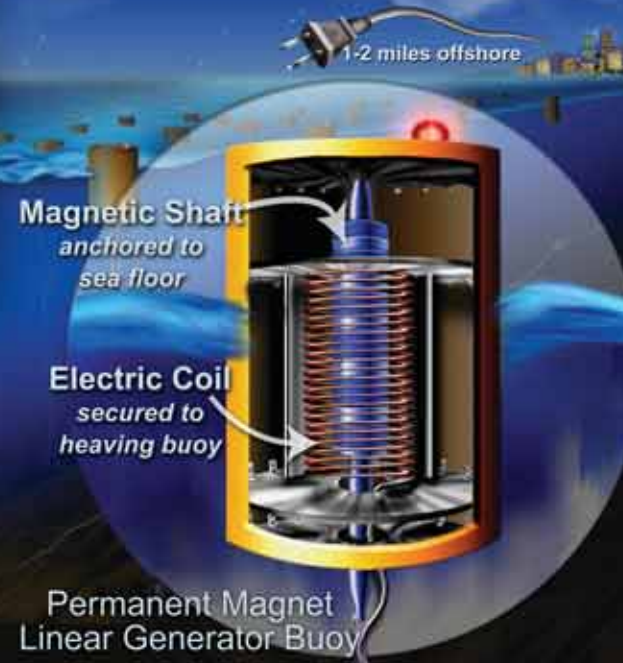
MARINE RESEARCH

Applied research at OceansAlaska focuses on Alaskan species, emerging fisheries, new technologies and economic opportunities. Research on the care and management of Alaskan marine species will promote healthy coastal ecosystems and enhance biodiversity for long-term productivity. Alaska's salmon fishery was the first U.S. fishery to earn the sustainability eco-label from the International Marine Stewardship Council. OceansAlaska research will support Alaska's commitment to sustainable fisheries.



ENERGY RESEARCH

OceansAlaska will explore and support the latest alternative energy resources as it relates to the coastal environment. Micro-hydro, tidal, wave, solar and wind, in addition to renewable energy credits and marketable carbon offsets, are among the many possibilities.



TONGASS TRAIL EXPERIENCE

The Tongass Trail is a meandering elevated trail that doubles as the entrance to the marine science center. The path traverses the rugged and heavily forested rain forest where the guest may encounter native wildlife such as nesting bald eagles, black bear and Sitka black tail deer. Along the trail are interpretive graphic displays and vista overlooks that expose George Inlet and a productive salmon stream.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

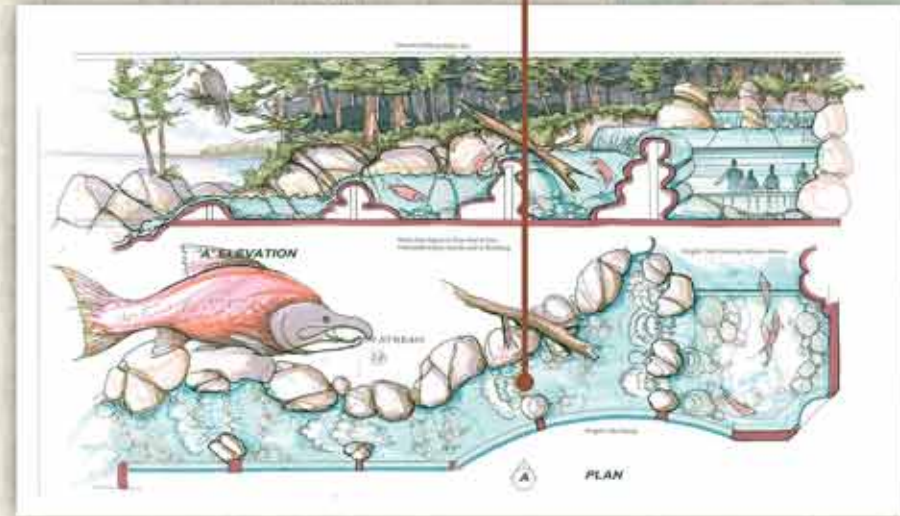
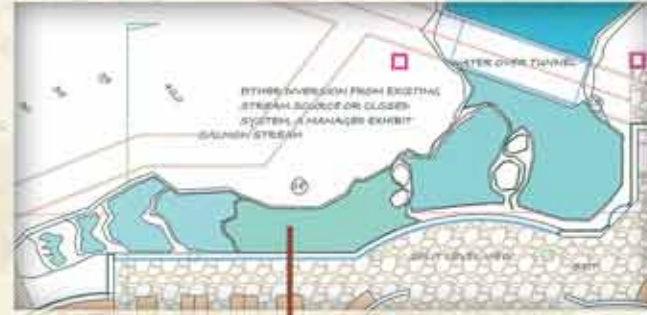
OceansAlaska is creating facilities for marine research and demonstration projects.



SALMON STREAM

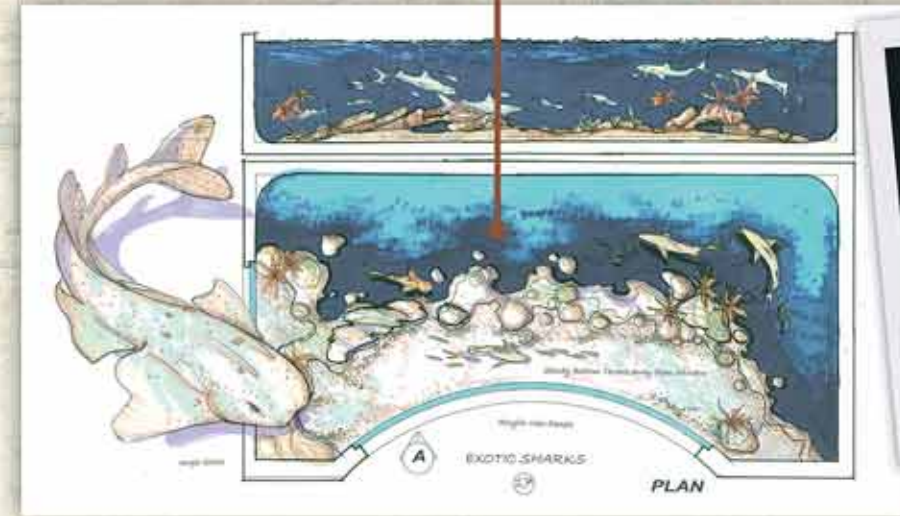
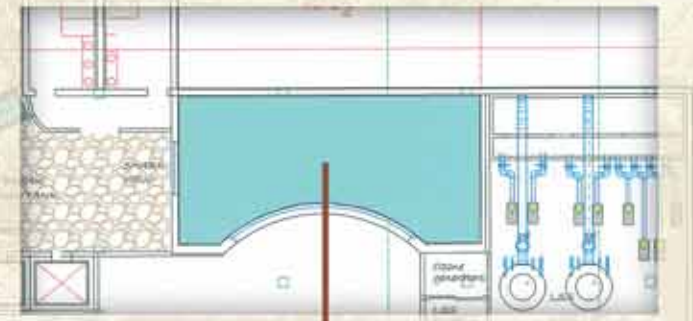


A living salmon stream meanders along the Tongass Trail and presents the complete habitat required for this species to complete their life cycle, including spawning, development before their transition to the ocean and the return migration. The guest will be able to experience this first hand through interpretive exhibits and a clear immersion tunnel that goes through the center of the stream.



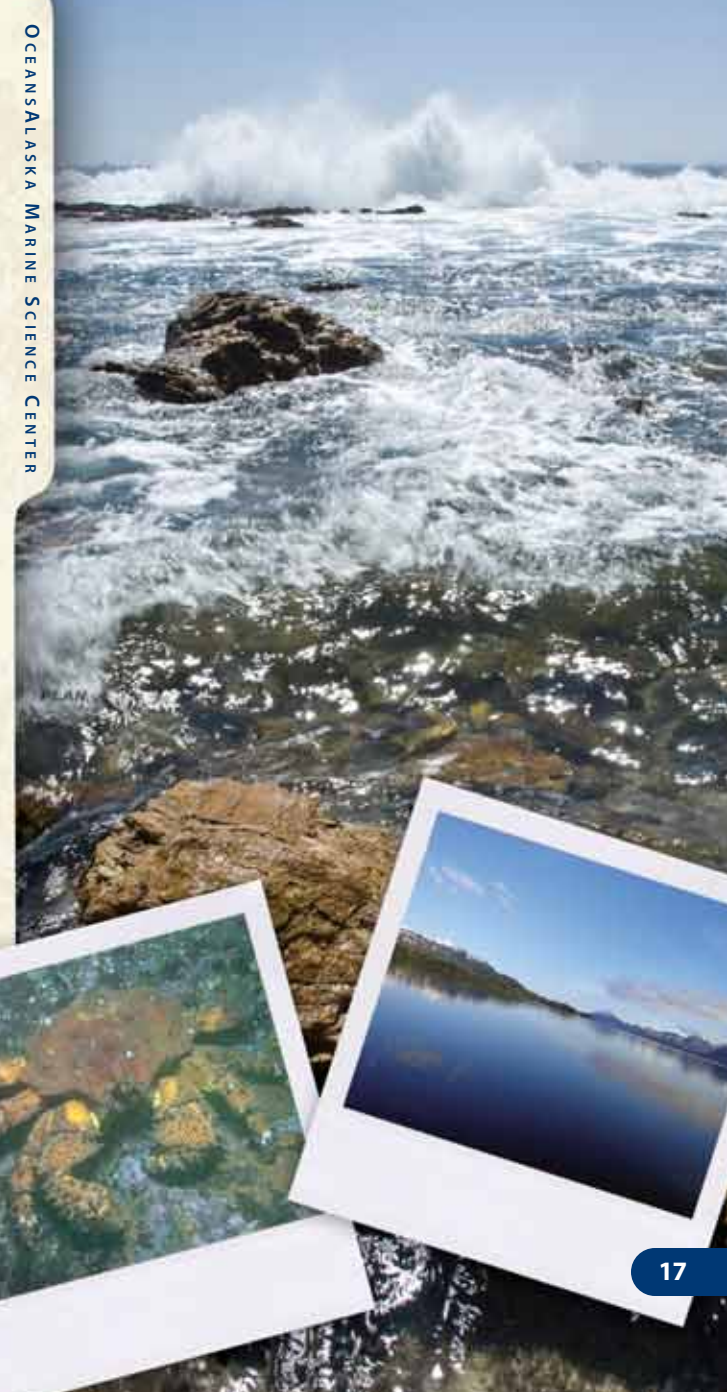
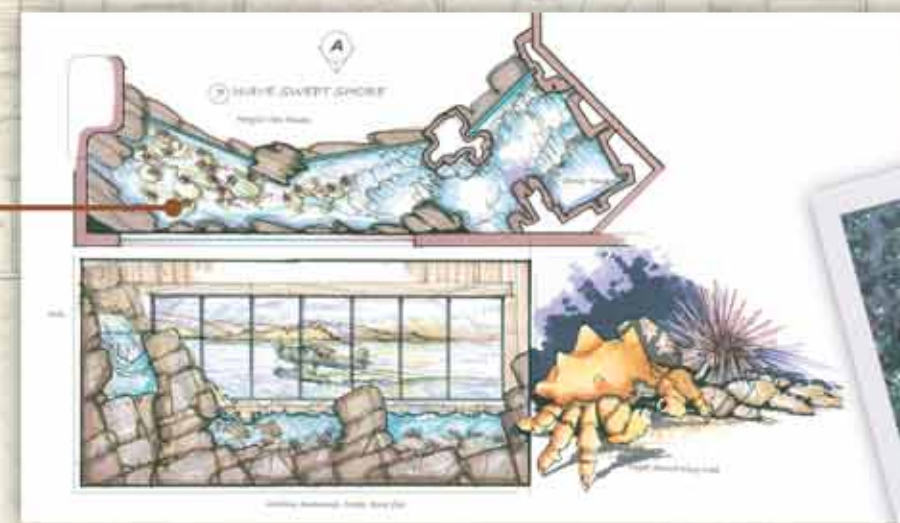
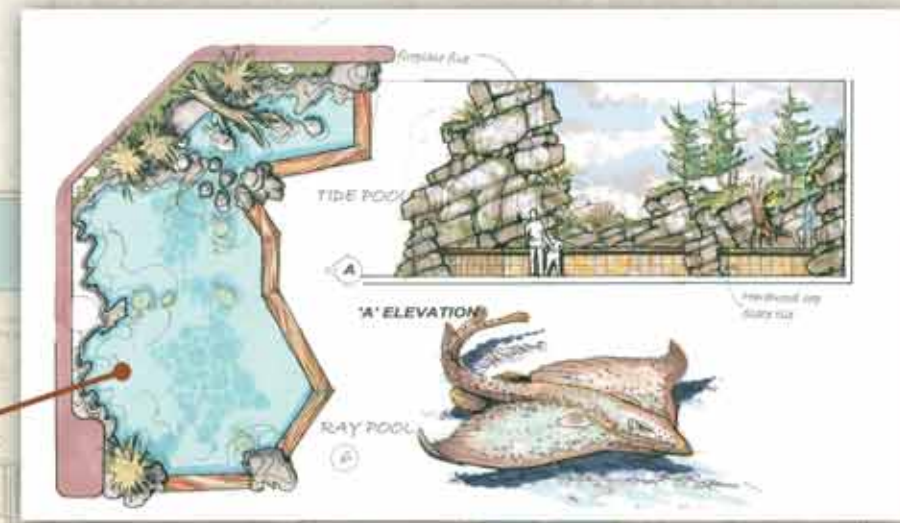
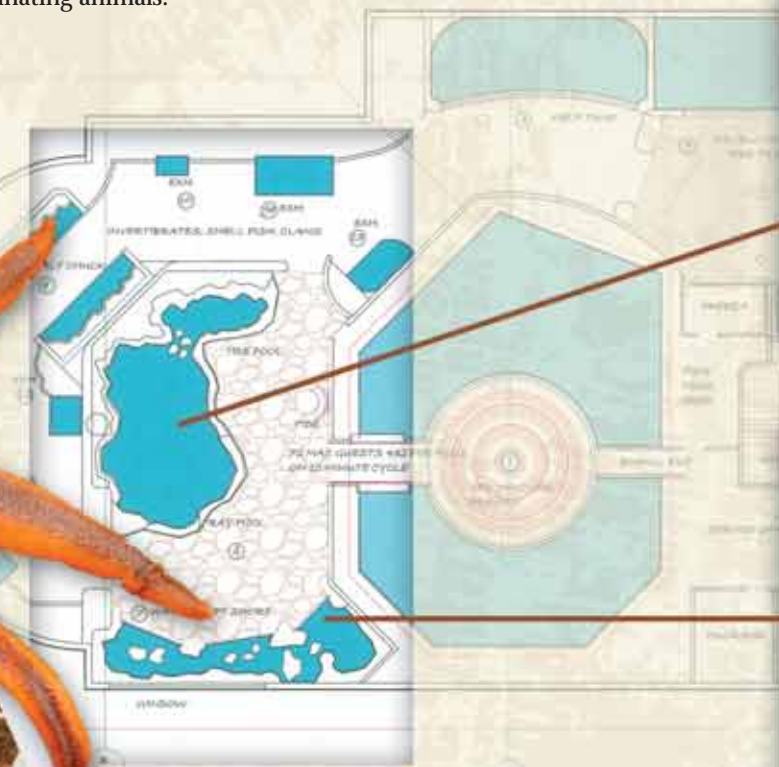
SHARK ENCOUNTER

Future plans call for the creation of a specialized shark exhibit. Although the tropics are known for their sharks, the coastal waters of Alaska possess their own unique species of sharks that have adapted to cold water. This display will feature a variety of fish including salmon sharks, rays and skates.



RAY BAY • TIDAL TOUCH POOL • TIDAL SURGE

This is a multi-level natural intertidal habitat, which depicts a wave swept shore and tide pool for guests to explore. Waves crash on a rocky shore, exposing living rock with abundant marine algae and invertebrate that are compatible with human touch. A lower pool features a shallow sandy bottom with small rays and skates where the visitor is encouraged to touch and feed these fascinating animals.

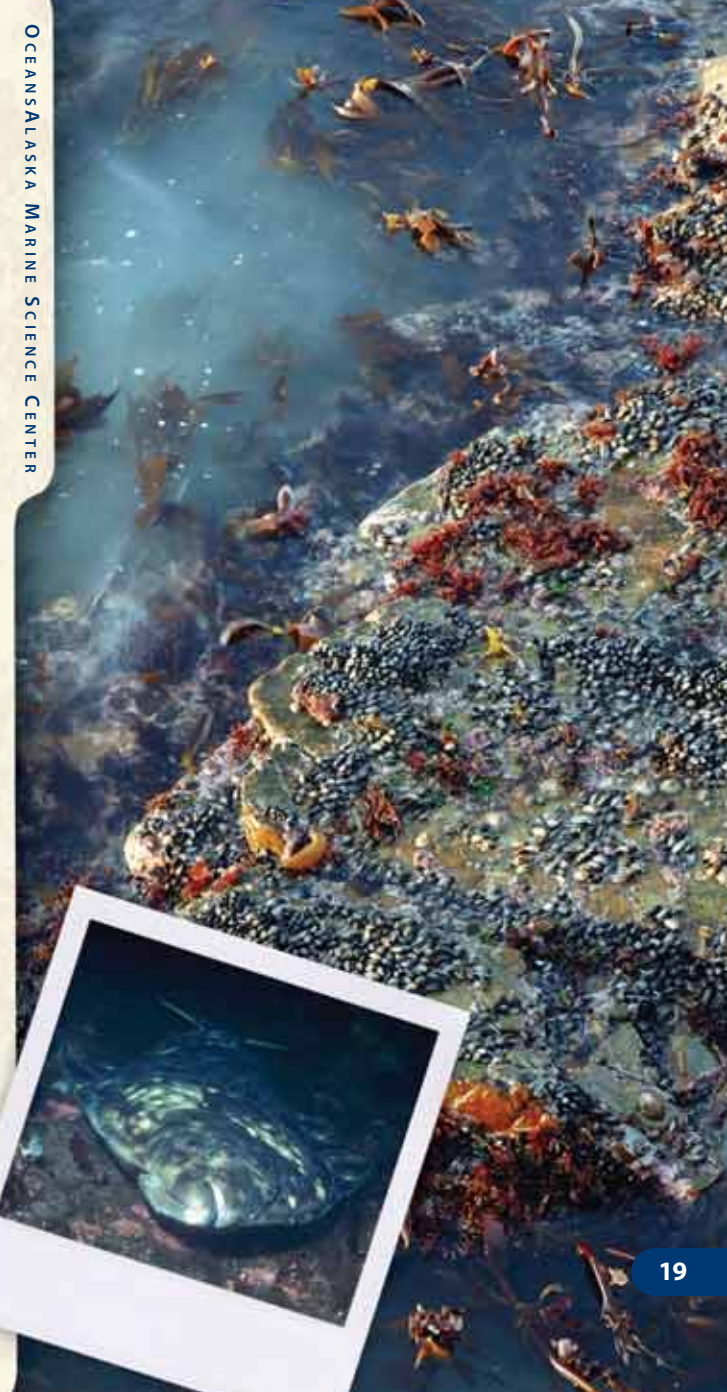
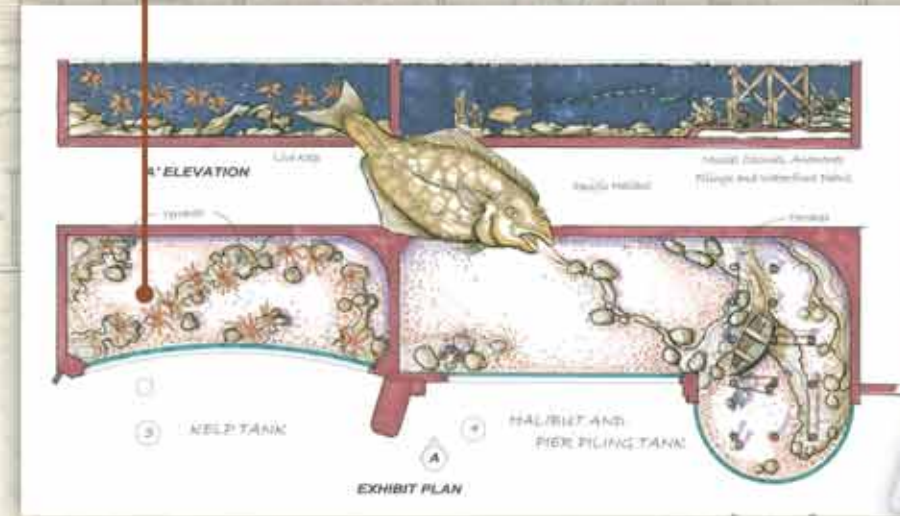
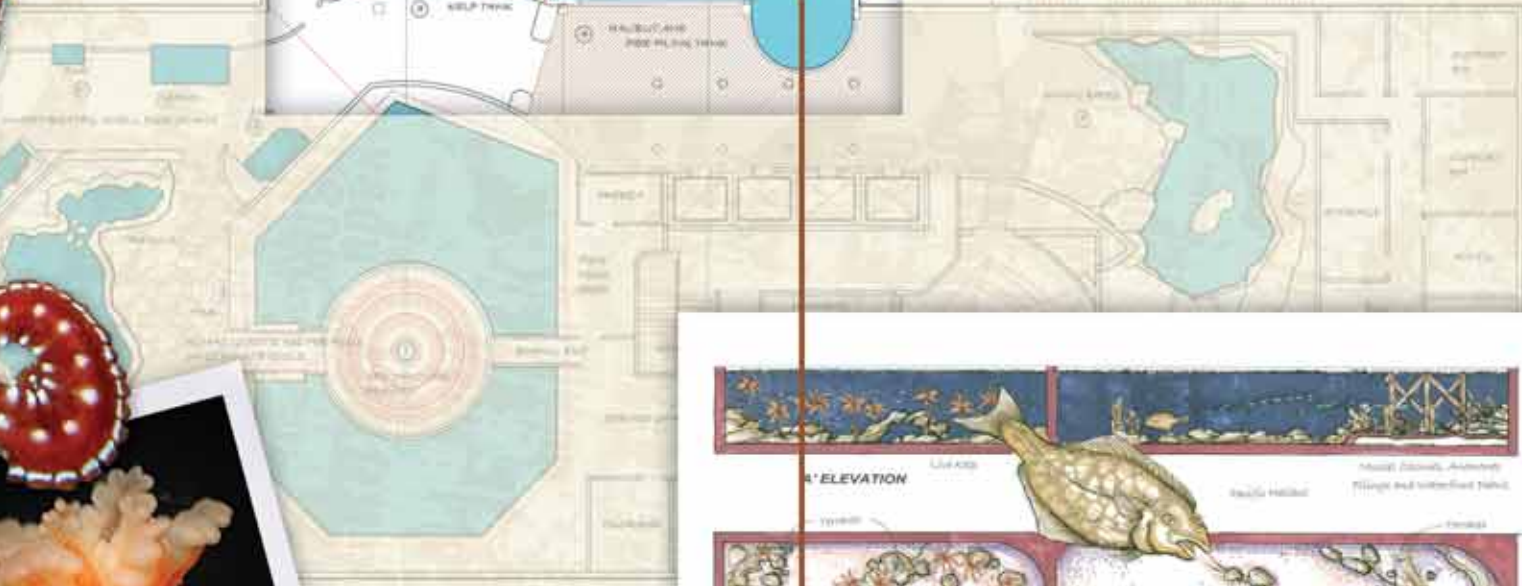
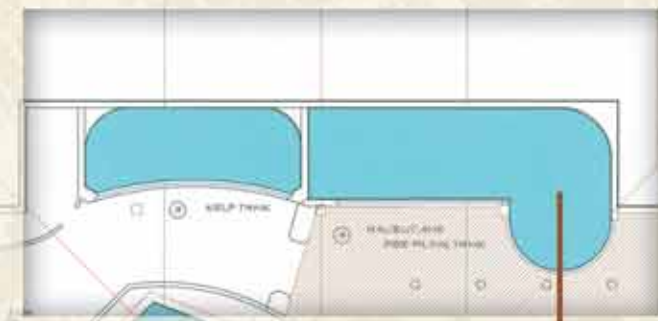


KELP FOREST

This exhibit displays the natural kelp beds that are abundant in Alaska waters. Surging tidal action demonstrates the natural kelp movement required to keep one of nature's fastest growing plants healthy.

PIER PILING

This exhibit displays the natural kelp beds that are abundant in Alaskan waters. Surging tidal action demonstrates the natural kelp movement. The pier piling and wharf environment presents a unique man made habitat unknown to most visitors. This community is home to numerous small fish and invertebrate species. One section of the display drops off, revealing a sandy bottom commonly inhabited by flat fish and in particular the giant pacific halibut.



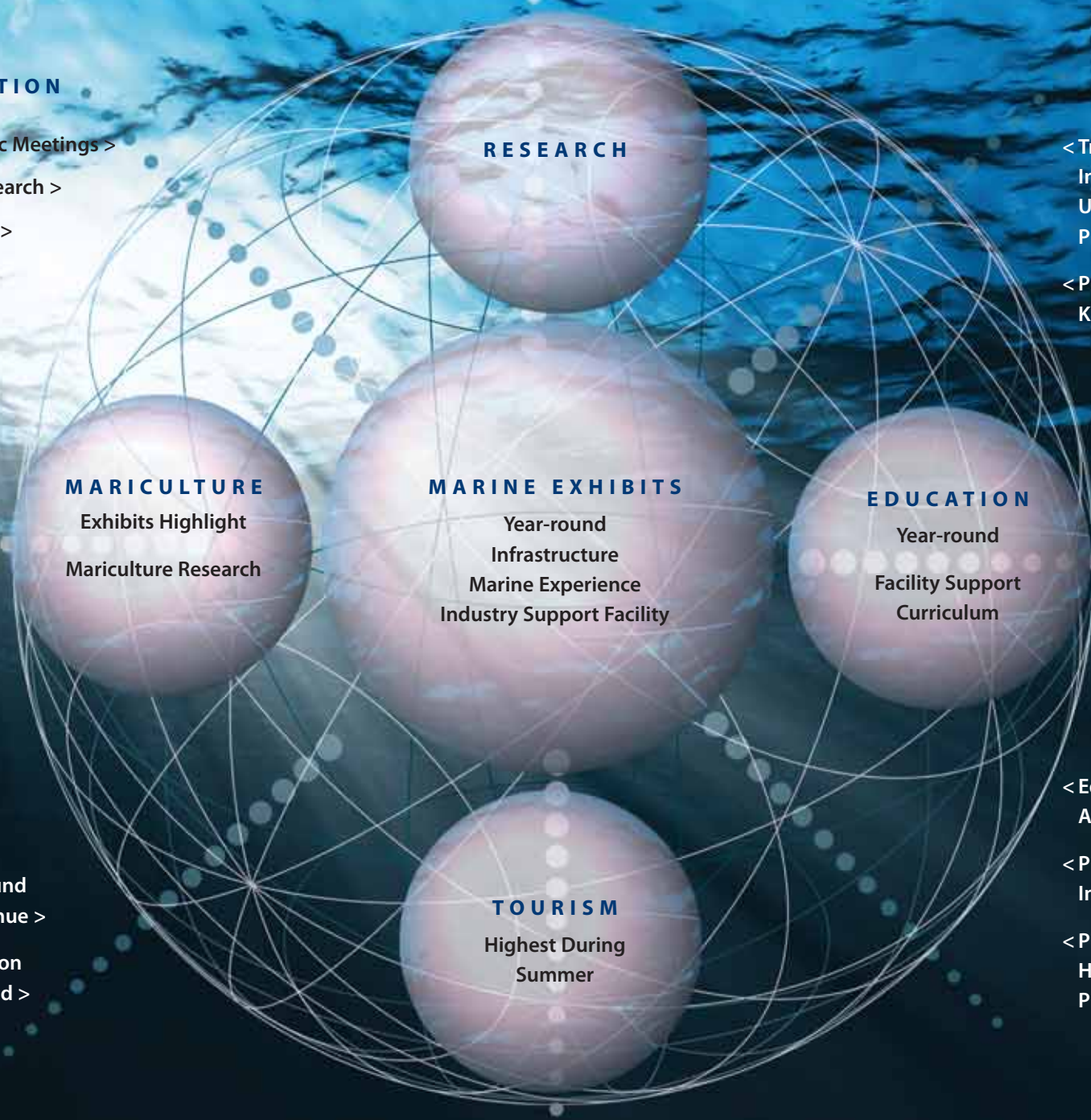
HOW THE PROJECT TIES TOGETHER



ORGANIZATION

- Facility for Public Meetings >
- Mariculture Research >
- Facility Support >
- Curriculum >

- Provide Year-round Operating Revenue >
- Keep Organization Financially Sound >



RESEARCH

MARICULTURE
Exhibits Highlight
Mariculture Research

MARINE EXHIBITS
Year-round Infrastructure
Marine Experience
Industry Support Facility

EDUCATION
Year-round
Facility Support
Curriculum

TOURISM
Highest During Summer

- < Training Center for Industry/Growers Utilizing Best Practices
- < Provide Location or Knowledge Transfer

- < Education - Public Awareness
- < Provide Accurate Information
- < Provide Exhibits Highlighting Best Practices





THE PROJECT

The State of Alaska has provided funds and 28 acres of scenic, undeveloped waterfront property 9 miles south of Ketchikan. Funding also has been received from Alaska's congressional delegation, in particular U. S. Sen. Ted Stevens, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, City of Ketchikan and the cruise line industry. This support facilitated the development of feasibility studies, engineering, surveys, architectural and site design to bring OceansAlaska to the point of ground breaking.

The OceansAlaska marine science center sits on 2 acres of the 28 acres of rain forest. This will provide for future growth. Deep ocean access with high water quality will allow the unparalleled ability to display difficult marine species seldom showcased to the public.

OceansAlaska can be accessed via motor vehicle, boat or float plane.

