



**New York Sea Grant (NYSG)** is a collaborative program of the State University of New York, Cornell University, and NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

With 3,400 miles of coastlines, New York is the only U.S. state bordering both the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean. More than 85% of NY's population lives in a coastal region.



NYSG provides research, education, and extension services enhancing coastal community economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and citizen awareness of NY's marine and Great Lakes resources.

**New York Sea Grant**  
379 Roberts Hall  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
[www.nyseagrant.org](http://www.nyseagrant.org)

**NYSG Focus Area for this project:**  
**Sustainable NY Fisheries, Aquaculture and Seafood Businesses**  
Written by  
**NYSG Aquaculture Specialist**  
Barry Udelson  
631-824-4934  
[bu25@cornell.edu](mailto:bu25@cornell.edu)  
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## **Navigating Marine Aquaculture Permitting with Workshop & Guide**

**New York Sea Grant helps participants with the process of acquiring marine aquaculture permits and learning how to submit a well-developed application.**

**M**arine aquaculture permits are required in New York to culture various species for consumption or restoration purposes. Applicants can find it challenging to provide the details required for the permit application and to navigate the restrictions and requirements that exist for different species and purposes. Individuals and organizations routinely request guidance from New York Sea Grant on how to acquire permits for shellfish and seaweed aquaculture. Even though the permit applications list all the information required, the process can still be overwhelming to someone applying for the first time.



Underwater view of an oyster reef restoration project that has been improving water quality and providing habitat for numerous species including juvenile black sea bass. Photo: Barry Udelson/New York Sea Grant

New York Sea Grant and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation held a 90-minute session at the Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund Workshop to provide assistance to eleven participants interested in applying for a marine aquaculture permit. The presentation is being adapted into a resource that will be posted at [nyseagrant.org/aquaculture](http://nyseagrant.org/aquaculture). Six post-workshop evaluations were received with four indicating the participants would use the information obtained to develop projects and apply for aquaculture permits. One person reported learning that they would not be able to acquire a permit based on their design plans at that time.

This collaborative effort between New York Sea Grant and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Shellfish Management Unit led to a guide to help anyone interested in applying for a marine aquaculture permit. This guidance may reduce the permit application challenges for those looking to establish aquaculture farms or projects that will improve water quality and restore habitat. If permit proposals are submitted with better detail, it could reduce the amount of time DEC staff spend reviewing permits.

### **Project Partners:**

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Marine Resources, Shellfish Management Unit
- Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund