

USDA LAMP Grant Forum on Local and Regional Seafood Systems



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The University of Maine is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot Nation, where issues of water and territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. Penobscot homeland is connected to the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations — the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Mi'kmaq — through kinship, alliances and diplomacy. The university also recognizes that the Penobscot Nation and the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations are distinct, sovereign, legal and political entities with their own powers of self-governance and self-determination.

Cover photo by Hannah Harrison and Phil Loring

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Project background

Since 2021 the Local Catch Network, based at the University of Maine, has partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide outreach, education, and technical assistance to help small-scale and BIPOC-led businesses and organizations apply for grants through the Local Agriculture Market Program (LAMP). Our team has invested over 350 hours in this work, leading to 14 funded proposals totaling \$5.6 million. Learning from this experience, we have become increasingly interested in partnering with grant recipients beyond the point of proposal submission to further increase the impact of their work. One way to do this is by creating spaces for grant recipients to showcase their work, build partnerships, and learn from each other. We see this as an opportunity to break down silos between projects and inspire new innovations and partnerships in the future. In this report, we describe the goals, structure, and impacts of a virtual forum for LAMP grant recipients and prospective applicants that we held in 2022. The forum targeted businesses and organizations that are working to integrate seafood into local and regional seafood systems, but the goals, structure, and design of the forum has the potential to be replicated by USDA and could be used as a guide for future forums in other sectors.

Goals of the forum

The purpose of the forum was fourfold:

- (1) To facilitate dialog among grant recipients and catalyze future collaboration;
- (2) To help future applicants envision “success” by learning from existing initiatives;
- (3) To create space for sharing sector specific challenges, opportunities, and/or ideas; and
- (4) To create space for prospective applicants to directly connect with USDA technical staff.

Structure & description

In April 2022, the [Local Catch Network](#) partnered with the Agricultural Marketing Services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to host a virtual forum to bring together stakeholders from across the seafood sector who are working to strengthen local and regional seafood systems. The forum was followed by an in-person listening session at the 4th Local Seafood Summit in Girdwood, Alaska in October 2022. The forum provided opportunities for past grantees and prospective applicants to connect with each other and share experiences related to four grant programs: (1) Farmers Market Promotion Program, (2) Local Food Promotion Program, (3) Regional Food Systems Partnerships Program, and (4) Value Added Producer Grant Program. The forum also provided an opportunity for current and prospective grantees to meet with USDA Grants Management Specialists.

The forum was structured as a half-day event (3-hour) using an online video conferencing platform (Zoom). We subdivided the event into six activities that addressed our aforementioned goals (Table 1). Two of the activities (speed talks and grant recipient panel discussion) were held in plenary session, while the others were organized as virtual breakout rooms.

Table 1. Goals and activities matrix.

Goals	Activities					
	Speed talks where grant recipients present their projects in one slide	Breakout sessions facilitated discussions <u>among grant recipients</u>	Grant recipient panel discussion	Small-group discussions <u>between grant recipients and prospective applicants</u>	Informational session with USDA grants manager(s)	Office Hours with ASM technical staff (pre-sign up required)
To facilitate dialog among grant recipients and catalyze future collaboration	Y	Y	Y			
To help future applicants envision “success” by learning from existing projects/grantees				Y	Y	Y
To create space for sharing sector specific challenges, opportunities, and/or ideas	Y	Y	Y	Y		
To create space for prospective applicants to directly connect with USDA technical staff					Y	Y

Results

A total of 122 people registered for the forum from 30 states and the District of Columbia. The majority of those who registered were from the seafood sector or non-profit organizations that partner with them. Of those who participated (n = 60), 43% responded to a post-forum survey (see Appendix 1 for a copy of the survey questions). We use data from this survey to report on the outcomes of the forum. Because the response rate was relatively high and respondents were diverse in terms of geographic distribution (Fig. 1) and sectors (government, non-profit, and industry) (Fig 2), we consider the data to be a reasonable representation of participants’ experience overall.

For those interested in watching the forum, a recording is available on the Local Catch Network [website](#). Due to logistical limitations, only the plenary sessions were recorded. A detailed agenda is also provided in Appendix 2.

We report results in four sections: (1) demographics, (2) Prior expectation and motivations for attending the forum, (3) satisfaction with the forum, and (4) impact of the forum.

Demographics

The forum attracted participation from people across the country, including the Great Lakes, Hawaii, and Midwest. The highest participation was by communities and businesses in New England and on the West Coast, reflecting the strong connection to fisheries in these regions.

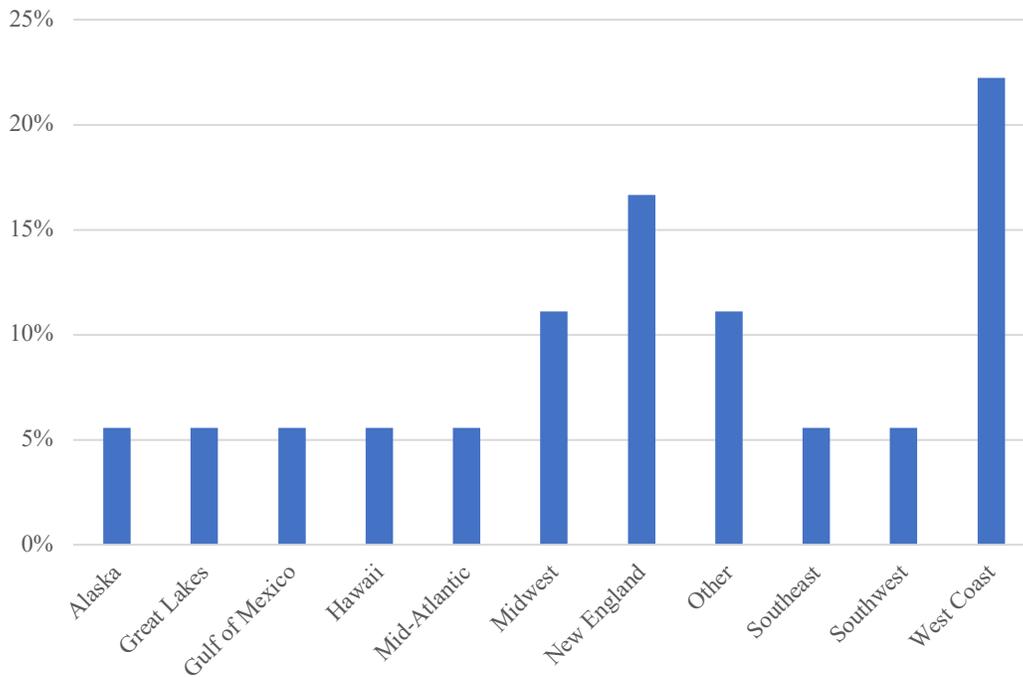


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of participants.

Nearly 70% of participants were from non-profit organizations (23%) or the seafood sector (45%). Most government participation was by USDA, but there was also participation by NOAA Fisheries.

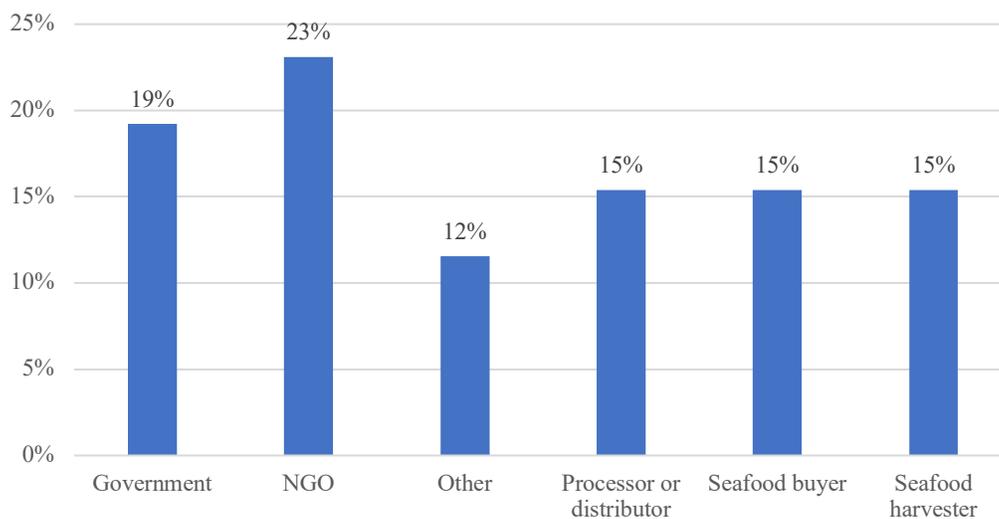


Figure 2. Participation by sector.

Half of the participants (50%) had at least 6 years of professional experience related to fisheries and seafood (Fig. 3). None of those who reported having less their 5 years of experience (39%) were from the seafood sector, suggesting that the forum attracted industry members who were relatively advanced in their careers. Intuitively this makes sense given the complexity of applying for LAMP grant funding.

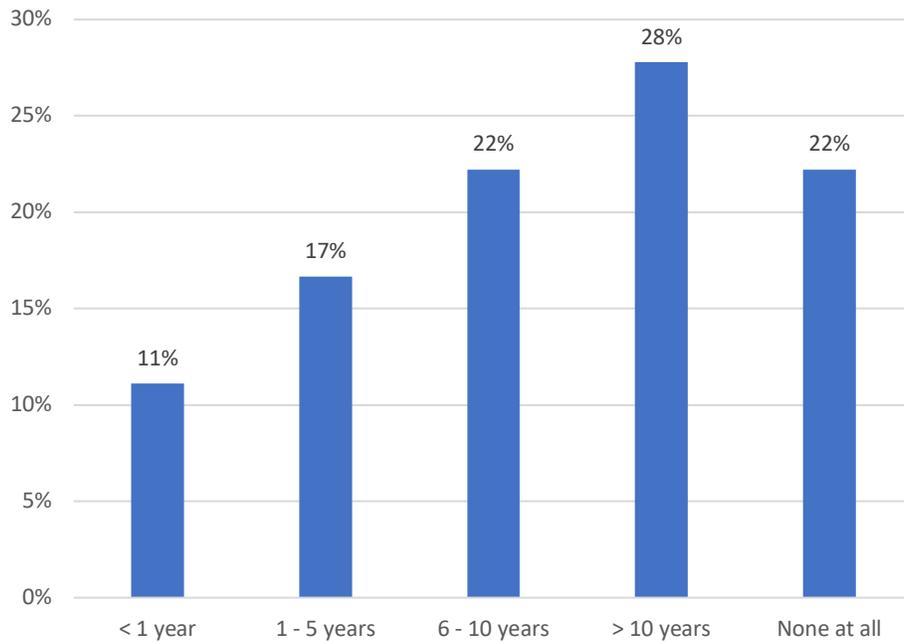


Figure 3. Years of experience.

Prior expectation and motivations for attending the forum

Relatively few people that attended the forum had previously applied for USDA LAMP grant funding, but most reported interest in doing so the future. Participants reported having the most experience applying to the Farmers Market Promotion Program (29%), while 0% of participants had previously applied for Value Added Producer Grants.

Have you or the organization you represent...	Response	Previously received funding		Plan to apply for funding	
		#	%	#	%
Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP)	No	12	71%	5	38%
	Yes	5	29%	8	62%
Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP)	No	12	75%	5	33%
	Yes	4	25%	10	67%
Regional Food Systems Partnership Grant (RFSP)	No	14	93%	5	42%
	Yes	1	7%	7	58%
Value Added Producers Grant (VAPG)	No	14	74%	5	45%
	Yes	0	0%	6	55%

The primary reason people attended the forum was to learn from (n = 15) and network with others (n = 14), while information sharing received the highest mean score overall (1.5).

Top three primary motivations for attending the forum	Mean	Number
Share information	1.5	11
Learn from others	2	15
Network with others	2.2	14
Apply for future grants	2.3	9
Increase visibility	3	3

Satisfaction with the forum

Participants expressed strong satisfaction with all elements of the event, though some expressed interest in it being longer (24%).

Satisfaction with the following activities	Satisfied	Neither	Dissatisfied
Pre-forum communications	16	1	0
Speed Talks with Grant Recipients	16	1	0
Breakout Session (Q&A: RFSP)	6	2	1
Breakout Session (Existing LAMP grant recipients)	12	2	0
Grant Recipient Panel Discussion	16	0	0
Breakout Sessions: Grant Recipients and Prospective Applicants (LFPP)	8	2	
Breakout Sessions: Grant Recipients and Prospective Applicants (FMPP)	9	2	
Breakout Sessions: Grant Recipients and Prospective Applicants (RFSP)	8	2	
Length of the forum	15	1	1
Balance between structured and unstructured time	15	1	1
Facilitation	17	0	0

Preferred length of time	N	%
Shorter (1 hour)	2	12%
Same	11	65%
Longer (+1 more day)	3	18%
Much longer (+2 more days)	1	6%

Impact of the forum

One important outcome of the forum was that it provided an opportunity for participants to network with each other, which was one of the top reasons that people attended. We found that 82% of participants report knowing <25% of the other people who attended the forum

beforehand and 0% had met >50%. By the end of the forum only 35% of participants reported knowing <25% of attendees (an increase of 47%) and 24% reported knowing >50%.

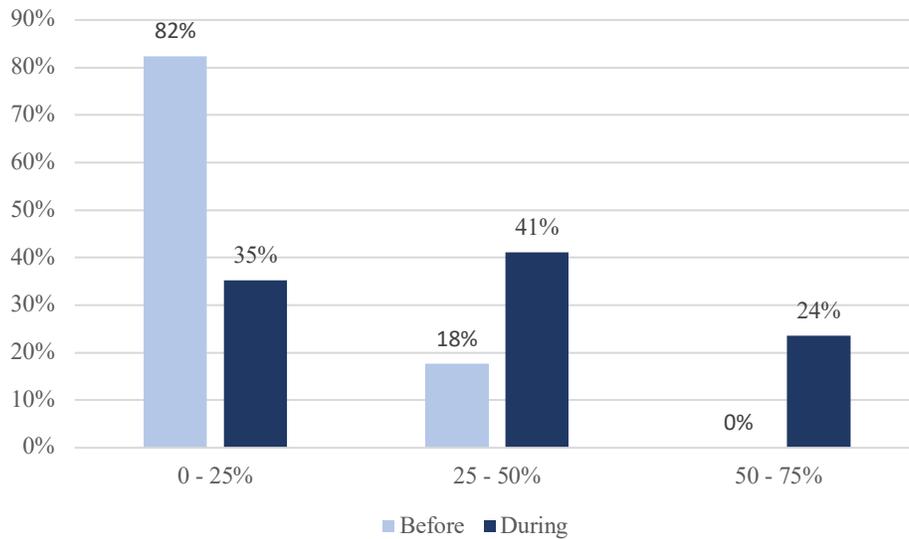


Figure 4. Percent of forum attendees who had met prior to the forum vs. during the form.

Data also suggest that people planned to keep in touch with other participants. The most common reason was to continue to exchange information.

Motivations for staying in touch with the people met at the forum	Mean	N
Continue to exchange information	1.5	17
Provide technical/logistical advice or expertise	1.8	8
Host collaborative event(s)	2.0	3
Sell seafood	2.0	1
Gain technical/logistical knowledge	2.1	8
Communicate information about local fisheries to a broader audience	2.3	6
Apply for future funding	2.6	5
Friendship(s)	3.0	1

The majority reporting that they would use information from the forum to support their businesses (71%). The time from ranged from immediate to long-term.

Plans to change your business based on the information you learned at the meeting	N	%
Might or might not	9	53%
Probably not	5	29%
Probably yes	2	12%
Definitely yes	1	6%

Expected timeframe for making changes to business	N	%
---	---	---

Immediately (less than 6 months)	2	20%
6 months – 1 year	4	40%
> 1 year	4	40%

Most participants indicated that they learned the same or more than they gave, suggesting that the benefits of the forum were broadly distributed (83%).

How much was learned at the forum?	N	%
I learned much more than I was able to share	4	24%
I learned more than I was able to share	6	35%
I provided the same amount of information as I gained	4	24%
I provided more information that I gained	2	12%
I provided much more information than I gained	1	6%

Participations also expressed interest in participating in similar events in the future (100%) and all but one person suggested that they would recommend it to others (94%).

Interest in participating in a similar meeting again in the future	N	%
Very Interested	9	53%
Interested	8	47%
Not Interested	0	0%

Would you recommend a similar forum to others in the fishing sector?	N	%
Yes	16	94%
Maybe	1	6%
No	0	0%

Finally, the overall satisfaction with the forum was high (100%).

Overall satisfaction with the forum	N	%
Very Satisfied	14	82%
Satisfied	3	18%
Not Satisfied	0	0%

Listening session at the Local Seafood Summit

Six months after the forum we convened a supplemental in-person listening session was held at the 4th Local Seafood Summit in Girdwood, Alaska. This 45-minute session provided an opportunity for USDA to hear from participants and to better understand how they can support the local fishing and seafood community. The session attracted >50 people and led to an excellent dialogue with USDA staff about existing programs and areas of need within the seafood sector. Details about this session will be summarized in the forthcoming summit proceedings.

Reflections & Recommendations

- We learned that there is strong demand for sector-specific networking opportunities among and between existing and future grant recipients as well as with USDA staff.
- Although in-person convenings may be preferable, the positive feedback and impact of the forum suggest that virtual gatherings can also be effective.
- Having USDA staff participate in these types of events helps make the grant funding process more accessible and demonstrates that USDA has a genuine interest in the sector.
- We strongly encourage USDA to co-host similar events like this in the future and would welcome the opportunity to support further engagement with the seafood sector.

Appendix 1. Forum Questionnaire

Start of Block: Please tell us a bit about you

Please check the box(es) that best describe your affiliation:

- Seafood harvester (wild capture) (1)
 - Seafood harvester (aquaculture) (2)
 - Seafood buyer, processor or distributor (3)
 - NGO (4)
 - Government (5)
 - Researcher (6)
 - Other (7) _____
-

Q2 In what region do you work?

- New England (1)
 - Mid-Atlantic (2)
 - Southeast (3)
 - Gulf of Mexico (4)
 - West Coast (5)
 - Great Lakes (6)
 - Hawaii (7)
 - Alaska (8)
 - Other (9) _____
-

Q10 How much experience do you have working in or with the seafood/fisheries sector?

- None at all (1)
 - < 1 year (2)
 - 1 - 5 years (3)
 - 6 - 10 years (4)
 - > 10 years (5)
-

Q4 Have you or the organization you represent previously received a LAMP grant from USDA?
What kind?

	Yes (1)	No (2)
Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional Food Systems Partnership Grant (RFSP) (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Value Added Producers Grant (VAPG) (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q9 Do you plan to apply for a LAMP grant in the future? What kind?

	Yes (1)	No (2)
Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional Food Systems Partnership Grant (RFSP) (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Value Added Producers Grant (VAPG) (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

End of Block: Please tell us a bit about you

Start of Block: Tell us about your involvement in and satisfaction with the forum

Q3 What role did you play in the forum?

- Invited presenter / panelist (1)
 - Session facilitator / note taker (2)
 - USDA staff (3)
 - All others (4)
-

Q11 Please rank your top THREE primary motivations for attending the forum (1-Top Motivation, 2-Second Motivation, 3- Third Motivation)

- _____ Network with other people involved in the local and regional seafood sector (1)
 - _____ Learn from others (2)
 - _____ Increase the visibility of your business or service (3)
 - _____ Share information or experiences (4)
 - _____ Plan to apply for future grant funding (5)
 - _____ Other (6)
-

Q12 Please rank your satisfaction with the following:

	Satisfied (1)	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied (2)	Dissatisfied (3)	N/A (4)
Pre-forum communication(s) (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Speed Talks with Grant Recipients (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breakout Sessions (Q&A: FMLFPP) (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breakout Session (Q&A: RFSP) (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breakout Session (Existing LAMP grant recipients) (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grant Recipient Panel Discussion (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breakout Sessions with Grant Recipients and Prospective Applicants (LFPP) (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breakout Sessions with Grant Recipients and Prospective Applicants (FMPP) (8)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Breakout Sessions with Grant Recipients and Prospective Applicants (RFSP) (9)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q13 Please rank your satisfaction with the following:

	Satisfied (1)	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied (2)	Dissatisfied (3)
Length of the forum (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Balance between structured and unstructured time (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitation (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q14 If you were to participate in a similar event, would you want it to be:

- Much longer (+ 2 or more days) (1)
- Longer (+ 1 more day) (2)
- Same (3)
- Shorter (1 hour) (4)

End of Block: Tell us about your involvement in and satisfaction with the forum

Start of Block: What did you gain from the forum

Q15 What proportion of the participants did you interact with during the forum?

- 75 - 100% (1)
 - 50 - 75% (2)
 - 25 - 50% (3)
 - 0 - 25% (4)
-

Q16 What proportion of the participants had you met prior to the forum?

- 75 - 100% (1)
 - 50 - 75% (2)
 - 25 - 50% (3)
 - 0 - 25% (4)
-

Q17 Did you mostly spend time with:

- People I already knew (1)
 - People I had never met before (2)
 - A mix of both (3)
-

Q18 Do you expect to stay in touch with the people you met (and/or heard from) at the forum?

- Yes, with many of them (1)
 - Yes, with a few of them (2)
 - No, I do not expect to stay in touch with anyone I met at the forum (3)
-

Q19 Please rank your top THREE primary motivations for staying in touch with the people you met at the forum. (1-Top Motivation, 2-Second Motivation, 3-Third Motivation)

- _____ Host collaborative event(s) (1)
 - _____ Continue to exchange information (2)
 - _____ Communicate information about local fisheries to a broader audience (3)
 - _____ Sell seafood (4)
 - _____ Provide technical/logistical advice or expertise (5)
 - _____ Gain technical/logistical knowledge (6)
 - _____ Apply for future funding (7)
 - _____ Friendship(s) (8)
 - _____ Other (9)
-

Q20 Do you plan to make changes to your business based on the information you learned at the meeting?

- Definitely not (1)
 - Probably not (2)
 - Might or might not (3)
 - Probably yes (4)
 - Definitely yes (5)
-

Q21 If you expect to make changes to your business, how soon do you expect to be able to make these changes?

- Immediately (less than 6 months) (1)
 - 6 months – 1 year (2)
 - > 1 year (3)
-

Q22 Which of the following statements applies to you most?

- I provided much more information than I gained (1)
 - I provided more information than I gained (2)
 - I provided the same amount of information as I gained (3)
 - I learned more than I was able to share (4)
 - I learned much more than I was able to share (5)
-

Q23 Check all of the boxes that apply to you:

- I plan to use the information I gained from the forum (1)
 - I plan to share the information I gained with others in the seafood sector (2)
 - I do not plan use or share the information (3)
-

Q24 What additional topics should be included in future meetings?

Q25 What additional resources and/or information would you like to see made available in the future?

Q26 Would you be interested in participating in a similar meeting again in the future?

- Very interested (1)
 - Interested (2)
 - Not interested or interested (3)
 - Not really interested (4)
 - Definitely not interested (5)
-

Q27 Would you recommend a similar forum to others in the fishing sector?

- Yes (1)
 - Maybe (2)
 - No (3)
-

Q28 Please rank your overall satisfaction with the forum.

- Very Satisfied (1)
- Satisfied (2)
- Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied (3)
- Dissatisfied (4)
- Very Dissatisfied (5)

End of Block: What did you gain from the forum

Appendix 2. Agenda

Agenda

2-2:10 PM ET | Welcome & Introduction to Forum

- **Facilitator:** Josh
- **Content:**
 - Welcome
 - Introduction to LCN and USDA
 - Overview of agenda/what to expect
 - Who's in the room
 - PSA: LCN summit <https://localcatch.org/seafood-summit/> + call for proposals (April 17)
 - Lead into speed talks
- **Tech:** Jon/Jordan- Put up/take down welcome slide, Let people into the room at 2pm ET, start recording

2:10-2:55 PM ET | Speed Talks with Grant Recipients

- **Facilitator:** Josh and Jordan, as needed
- **Content:** Grantees have 5-7 min to introduce themselves and provide a high-level overview of their grant projects
 - Questions to consider when sharing;
 - What is your project?
 - What is most important/exciting about the work you are doing?
 - What is the biggest challenge or "I wish I knew this before I started"?
 - What is one way people can support and/or be involved in your work?
- **Grantees by order:**
 - LFPP:
 - Kim Selkoe (Gethookedseafood.com; cfsb.info)
 - Gregory Naicase (greg@sbnmass.org)
 - Alan Lovewell (www.realgoodfish.com, I can also be emailed at alovewell@realgoodfish.com)
 - FMPP:
 - Samantha Garwin (email: sam@greenwave.org, the online training hub: <https://www.greenwave.org/hub>, the tool for connecting buyers and farmers: <https://www.greenwave.org/seaweed-source>)
 - Susan Dugas (suzdugas@gmail.com, eFacebook pages: Delcambre Seafood and Farmers Market, Delcambre Seafood and Farmers Market Health and Wellness, Louisiana Direct Seafood Shop (eCommerce site), Twin Parish Port District and Port of Delcambre, Instagram - @delcambrehealth, webpage - delcambremarket.org)
 - Andrea Tomlinson (@neyoungfishermensalliance of FB, neyoungfishermen@gmail.com, New England Young Fishermen's Alliance)
 - Thea (Thee-ya) Upham Thea Upham, (she/her) Farm Fresh RI- FMPP Grantee <thea@farmfreshri.org> <https://www.farmfreshri.org>
 - Ben Hyman
 - RFSP:
 - Natalie Sattler (RFSP/FMPP) Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association/Alaskans Own. RFSP grantee/FMPP. program.director@alfafish.org, alfafish.org, the alaskatrust.org, <https://alaskansown.com/>
 - Amy Hause (Rural Development Initiatives, RDI - ahause@rdiinc.org)
- **Tech:** Spotlight speakers and start setting up 3 breakout rooms (Room # 1: FMLFPP Q&A; Room #2: RFSP Q&A; Room #3: Grant Recipient Breakout). Set breakout room timer until 3:45pm ET.

2:55-3:00 PM ET | Transition into breakout rooms

- **Facilitator:** Jordan
- **Content:** Overview of breakout rooms
 - Breakout # 1&2. Q&A for prospective grant recipients
 - Breakout # 1. FMLFPP [Jeremy, Tyler, Teri & Sahir]
 - Breakout # 2. RFSP [Pamela & Elizabeth/Jon]
 - Breakout # 3. Facilitated conversation with existing grant recipients [Josh]
- **Tech:** Put up breakout room slide. Help people get into the correct breakout rooms, set a timer to bring everyone back by 3:45pm ET. Stop recording.

3:00-3:45 PM ET | Concurrent Breakout Sessions

ROOM #1: FMLFPP Q&A

- **Facilitator(s):** Sahir
- **USDA Staff:** Jeremy, Tyler, Teri
- **Content:** Give people a min to enter the room, provide an overview the structure of the break out (USDA intros, short presentation, Q&A with AMS staff), pass over to USDA staff for introductions, presentation and Q&A, close out session, **try to capture Q&A in notes document:**
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ptnw-8QQOQTWVBUMV1Xf8rET5iHpbplJwuFUGBNa7YQ/edit?usp=sharing>

ROOM #2: RFSP Q&A

- **Facilitator(s):** Elizabeth/ Jon
- **USDA Staff:** Pamela, Kristin/Samantha
- **Content:** Give people a min to enter the room, provide an overview the structure of the break out (USDA intros, short presentation, Q&A with AMS staff), pass over to USDA staff for introductions, presentation and Q&A, close out session, **try to capture Q&A in notes document:**
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ptnw-8QQOQTWVBUMV1Xf8rET5iHpbplJwuFUGBNa7YQ/edit?usp=sharing>

ROOM #3: Facilitated discussion among existing grant recipients

- **Facilitator(s):** Josh
- **Grantees:** TBD
- **Content:** Encourage dialog and knowledge exchange between grantees; create a space for sharing sector specific challenges, opportunities, and/or ideas related to past, current, and new projects

3:45-3:50 PM ET | Transition to main room (back in room by 3:50pm ET)

- **Tech:** Help bring everyone into the room. Start recording.

3:50 PM-4:20 PM ET | Grant Recipient Panel Discussion

- **Facilitator(s):** Josh
- **Grantees:** Suzanne Dugas; Natalie Sattler; Alan Lovewell; Amy Hause/Jacob Cravey
- **Content:** Panel discussion allowing grantees from each USDA program to respond to prompting questions.
- **Prompting Questions:**
 - *How have partnerships shaped/enabled your project?*
 - *What long-term change has come about (or do you anticipate) as a result of your project?*
 - [Be listening for key questions based on earlier discussion]
 - [Invite audience questions/comments]
- **Tech:** Jordan/Jon spotlight speakers and create breakout rooms
 - Room #1: LFPP; Room #2: FMPP; Room #3: RFSP

4:20-4:50 PM ET | Breakout Sessions with Grant Recipients and Prospective Applicants

ROOM #1: LFPP

- **Facilitator:** Sahir
- **Grantees:** Alan Lovewell
- **USDA Staff:** Jeremy, TBD
- **Content:** Provide an overview of the breakout session (open it up for additional discussion and Q&A with the grant panelists and other USDA grantees in the room)
- **Suggestions/trigger questions if attendees don't have any:**
 - Were there any resources that you found helpful throughout the application process?
 - Words of wisdom for prospective applicants
 - Tips for budget building, grant reporting, etc

ROOM #2: FMPP

- **Facilitator:** Jon
- **Grantees:** Suzanne Dugas & (Ben Hyman, maybe)
- **USDA Staff:** Tyler, Teri
- **Content:** (open it up for additional discussion and Q&A with the grant panelists and other USDA grantees in the room)
- **Suggestions/prompting questions if attendees don't have any:**
 - Were there any resources that you found helpful throughout the application process?
 - Words of wisdom for prospective applicants
 - Tips for budget building, grant reporting, etc

ROOM #3: RFSP

- **Facilitator(s):** Elizabeth
- **Grantees:** Natalie Sattler and Amy Hause/Jacob Cravey
- **USDA Staff:** Pamela, Kristin/Samantha
- **Content:** (open it up for additional discussion and Q&A with the grant panelists and other USDA grantees in the room)

- **Suggestions/prompting questions if attendees don't have any:**
 - Were there any resources that you found helpful throughout the application process?
 - Words of wisdom for prospective applicants
 - Tips for budget building, grant reporting, etc

4:50-5:00 PM ET | Closing

- **Facilitator(s):** Josh and Jordan
- **Survey:** https://umaine.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_exj1jftSTSF9sW
- **Content:** Thank USDA and grantees for their time. Provide follow up information;
 - Access USDA resource webpage with a recordings, grant writing tips, grant information: <https://localcatch.org/2022-usda-lamp-grant-resources/>
 - Additional Support
 - LCN is offering bi-weekly office hours to share resources, grant information, and offer networking time for open dialogue between prospective applicants. Sign up: <https://localcatch.org/webinars/>
 - **Office hours will be held from 2-3:30PM on**
 - **Friday, April 15th: USDA Architectural Services**
 - **Friday, 29th : Q&A with USDA FMLFPP Grants Management Specialist & Grant Writing Strategies**
 - **May 13th : TBD**
 - Weekly advisory calls- limited slots so please sign up for one call. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bxsl5c_-HbmOQonUOKLDrTbOvrqOE4PG_Na3hAJ9RJU/edit?usp=sharing
 - Application review: email info@localcatch.org with your proposal.
 - You can also sign up to be a reviewer for AMS grant programs - <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/peer-review> .
 - LCN summit: <https://localcatch.org/seafood-summit/>
 - Thank you...