Monitoring and regulation of marine aquaculture.

Fiche descriptive

Informations projet

MARAQUA

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Napier University
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Objectif

There is a current need for concerted action to develop Scientific Guidelines for Best Environmental Practice in relation to the regulation, control and monitoring, of marine aquaculture (including: shellfish and finfish culture, extensive and intensive systems; onshore and offshore practices, expansion of existing species and likely new species) in Europe. This can be achieved through study and analysis of current strategies and practices, in the context of social, economic and policy issues, and through the collaboration of all national participants with a broad representation of stakeholders including environmental regulatory authorities and aquaculture producers. This proposal addresses this need and specifically has the following objectives:

1. To prepare a critical review of:
- current and proposed licensing, regulatory and monitoring, guidelines and procedures with specific reference to changes since earlier reviews;
- effluent quantity and quality control (Including key parameters, such as chemotherapeutants and organic and inorganic nutrients, and environmental variables);
- monitoring strategies for the assessment of environmental impact which are being developed or have been implemented (including key parameters, such as chemotherapeutants and organic and inorganic nutrients, and environmental variables).

2. To analyse the scientific basis for approaches to minimise the impacts of marine fin and shellfish culture on the natural marine environment.

3. To evaluate licensing, regulatory and monitoring guidelines and procedures in the context of social, economic and policy issues.

4. To define Scientific Guidelines for Best Environmental Practice for harmonised regulatory, control and monitoring strategies which would be widely applicable, including the use of hydrodynamic models and benthic ecological models.

METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH TASKS

The evaluation and review of current practices relating to regulation, control and monitoring of marine aquaculture will be achieved through a process of literature review, consultation and networking, with experts, regulatory authorities and the marine aquaculture industry in EU member states, and a series of workshops. Communication between participants and other experts in this field throughout the EU will be promoted through the establishment of a register of experts and their expertise, a computerised network rising the Internet (e.g. an information page in WWW linking to a newsletter and bibliography), circulation of a newsletter, compilation of a computerised bibliography of relevant publications (making use of already existent electronic databases; see below), publication of topic papers on specific issues by working groups and a series of European workshops (three over the two year period of the programme). Workshops will be used to present reviews of current practice, discuss and analyse current practice and provide a forum in which the scientific basis for Best Environmental Practice (BEP) can be established.
Régime de financement

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