$300G grant awarded to study reviving oyster industry

BY KIRK MOORE • STAFF WRITER • OCTOBER 3, 2010

SANDY HOOK — A three-year, $300,000 federal Sea Grant will pay for an aquaculture extension agent to work with the reviving oyster industry in southern New Jersey, according to officials with the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium and Rutgers University’s Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory.

Peter Rowe of the consortium and associate lab director John Kraeuter said New Jersey lost its last oyster extension specialist three years ago. The next agent will produce practical advice on various aspects of raising oysters, and coordinate efforts between the industry, government and universities.

Almost 190 licensed aquaculturists and four commercial shellfish hatcheries are in New Jersey, and recent advances in shellfish culture “are building blocks for an integrated extension program in southern New Jersey,” sponsors say.

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