



WORLD OCEAN COUNCIL

The International Business Alliance for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

Michael Triantafyllou
MIT Sea Grant Director
(via Dr. Konstantine Rountos, Director of Research and Development)

Dear Mr Triantafyllou,

We are writing in support of the NOAA National Aquaculture Initiative research proposal titled, "OFFSHORE MARINE TESTING OF AN ECONOMICAL SUBMERSIBLE CAGE SYSTEM FOR AQUACULTURE" submitted by Manna Fish Farms.

This research will address one of the fundamental barriers to the U.S. offshore aquaculture industry, i.e. cages that are economically cost-effective for the fish farming industry. The research will test the durability of the StormSafe submersible cage system, which has been successfully used in the extreme conditions of Lake Huron, in the notoriously challenging waters of New England.

Testing of this technology is important as this equipment is significantly less expensive than the current technology on the market. The successful demonstration of this technology could be a HUGE boost for the entire U.S. offshore aquaculture industry, and Manna Fish Farms is excited to test it in collaboration with scientists and engineers at MIT.

Manna Fish Farms, Inc. is a women-owned U.S. aquaculture company that was established in 2013. The company is a member of the World Ocean Council, the international business leadership alliance for 'Corporate Ocean Responsibility'.

Manna Fish Farms is paving the way for offshore aquaculture development in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region by taking a leadership role in breaking barriers to support offshore marine aquaculture in the region and by assembling a team of research collaborators comprising experts from the various academic institutions and other East Coast aquaculture firms.

Integration and partnerships between academia and industry are vital to advancing offshore aquaculture. This particular research proposal is vital for advancing sustainable and cost-effective development of offshore marine aquaculture in the US and we hope that it will be funded.

Sincerely,

Founding President and CEO
World Ocean Council