

# 2023 ACTIVITY BRIEF

NATIONAL  
**Aquaculture**  
ASSOCIATION

The National Aquaculture Association continues to focus on One Strong Voice, One Strong Industry in all aspects of our work through speaking events, congressional outreach, federal agency engagement, and formal federal committee memberships.

## Advocacy in Action!



**29** ↑11%  
Congressional Meetings

**35** ↑40%  
Speaking Engagements



**9**  
Federal Agency Meetings

**32**  
Public Comment Letters



### Dear NAA Member,

Although the Farm Bill did not pass Congress this year, we remain laser focused working on federal priorities that will benefit your bottom line and advance U.S. aquaculture; creating an aquaculture advisory council within USDA, educating the Farm Service Agency about aquaculture production methods, achieving an aquaculture organic seal, increasing the funding for the five regional aquaculture centers, creating a waiver to the adjusted gross income limit, and creating the authority for USDA to issue bird depredation permits.

NAA staff hit the road to present current aquaculture issues and topics at 35 different industry and stakeholder meetings all around the country this year! Have an aquaculture event in 2024? Contact us asap to schedule a presentation or panel session! Please take a moment to login to our new webpage and share with friends. In 2024, we are planning to revive our social media presence and start promoting U.S. aquaculture to new and larger audiences than ever before. Thank you for continuing to support U.S. aquaculture and the Mission of this organization. We hope to see you at Aquaculture America 2024!

**Paul Zajicek**  
Executive Director

**Charlie Culpepper**  
Director of Membership  
Recruitment and Public Outreach

# 2023 NATIONAL Aquaculture ASSOCIATION

# ACTIVITY BRIEF

Grassroots Advocacy Moves the Needle for U.S. Aquaculture!

## Call to Action 2024!

*Meet with Farm Service Agency!*

While USDA has expanded aquaculture eligibility in recent years, local-level Farm Service Agency staff may not be familiar with aquaculture. NAA is working with national level USDA to improve training and we need your help!

- Learn about FSA financial and environmental programs; some might benefit your farm. Visit [offices.usda.gov](https://offices.usda.gov) to locate your FSA office.
- Invite your county FSA staff to your farm! Educate them about your production practices so they can help you when disaster strikes.
- Volunteer to be on a County or State Committee. Aquaculture representation is needed!

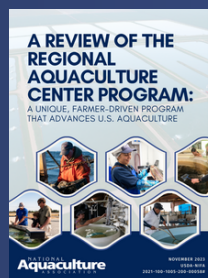
[www.nationalaquaculture.org](https://www.nationalaquaculture.org)

## Key Activities

### Farm Bill 2023

With the Farm Bill reauthorization pending, we continue to advocate for critical aquaculture bills: HR3542 Increased USDA research funding; HR4127 Adjusted Gross Income exemption for ELAP; HR 3951 Establish USDA Office of Aquaculture.

Visit our [Legislative Priorities](#) page to see current bills and read our Farm Bill Priorities booklet.



### USDA RAC Report

NAA completed a USDA funded grant which reviews the history of the USDA Regional Aquaculture Centers and provides recommendations for the future. Look for the full report in spring 2024!

### New Webpage and Member Portal

[NationalAquaculture.org](https://NationalAquaculture.org) launched August 1st! Check out the new site and create your member account today. Members can now login to access all NAA news and resources, setup a farm or supplier directory profile, and post events, jobs, coupons and more! Follow us on social and use [#usaquaculture](#) in all your posts for 2024!



### 2023 Membership Survey!

Your feedback is critical to ensuring the National Aquaculture Association is meeting the needs of the U.S. aquaculture community. Please take a few minutes to tell us what you think!

