

The Future of the Industry: Oysters Australia

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Oysters Australia:

PRIMARY ROLE:

To manage a program of research, development & extension (RD&E) for the benefit of the Australian oyster industry.

Also have a representative responsibility to address issues affecting the whole oyster industry.

Representation & advocacy work is usually undertaken in conjunction with state industry associations.



Oysters Australia RD&E Funds:

- NSW, SA & TAS all provide research & development (RD&E) contributions.
Total ~\$350,000 a year
- Oysters Australia have an agreement with the Fisheries Research Development Corporation (FRDC) that funds are matched by the Australian Government.
Total now ~\$700,000 a year
- Oysters Australia RD&E Committee assess priorities & review project applications.
- Work closely with FRDC, who contract the project



New Oysters Australia Strategic Plan

- Review the role of organisation
- Identify Research, Development & Extension (RD&E) priority projects

Strategic Plan development requires:

- Genuine engagement with growers
- Clear prioritisation (not long wish-lists)
- Line-of-sight from consultation → delivery

BlueShift Consulting engaged to drive this process.

- Isobel Sewell & Rob Bell



Current & Recent Projects (relevant to NSW)

Title	Cost	Who
Safeguarding our Sydney Rock oyster industry against Qx disease	\$200k	DPIRD
Optimising the investigation of unexplained oyster mortality (workshop)	\$17k	OA
Transdisciplinary investigation of mortality events of unknown aetiology in oysters farmed in the Hawkesbury River, and development of a national framework for investigation of oyster mortality events	\$505k	USyd
Multifactorial investigation of oyster mortality events in Port Stephens	\$316k	SafeFish
Integrating seagrass monitoring and nature positive frameworks for NSW oyster aquaculture	\$310k	Farmers
Assessment of the utility of genomics for Sydney Rock oyster breeding	\$620k	DPIRD
NSW Sydney Rock oyster breeding program technical review	\$50k	Cawthron
Building capability in food safety in Australian shellfish	\$316k	SafeFish
SafeFish	\$240k	SafeFish

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