



*The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Aquaculture Grant Program Request for Proposals

**Cheyenne (September 16, 2009)** – The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is now requesting proposals for the 2008 Aquaculture Grant Program through the America Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 with funding from the USDA Commodity Credit Corporation.

In order to be considered an eligible Aquaculture Producer for the grant, applicants must fit the following criteria:

- During 2009, raises an eligible aquaculture species in a controlled environment, maintains such species for commercial use as part of a farming operation and has a risk in the production of such species.
- Produced an eligible aquaculture species during calendar year 2008.
- Has been determined by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture to have experienced a twenty-five percent price increase of feed costs in 2008.
- Certifies that funds received by the producer under the 2008 Aquaculture Grant Program will be used for costs associated with their current aquaculture operation.
- Properly registered their operation with the Wyoming Game and Fish as a Commercial Hatchery in the State of Wyoming
- State and federally owned hatcheries do not qualify.

This assistance is provided by the United States Department of Agriculture – Commodity Credit Cooperation (USDA-CCC) and is part of the \$50 million allocated for the 2008 Aquaculture Grant program (AGP). The program will provide cash payments to qualified producers that must be applied to the producer's aquaculture program.

Applications are due no later than October 15th, 2009. A conference call has been organized on September 21st, 2009 for interested parties to call in and ask questions concerning eligibility and application procedures.

For more information on the grant or the conference call, contact Slade Franklin at 307-777-6585.

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