

From: Small, Brian (bcsmall@uidaho.edu)
To: [Aquaculture2018 - ARS](#)
Subject: USDA Priorities for Aquaculture
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Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Caird and Gene:

I'd like to thank the NPL's for organizing the listening sessions, although I do not feel they were very effective in generating a discussion of priorities. I know that agencies are cutting cost by no longer holding in-person meetings, but with no discussion or clear understanding of USDA capabilities or recent achievements, all that is being generated is a list of individual's current needs. I recommend, in-person discussions to drive good science that positively impacts the industry. ARS fills a unique niche in its ability to conduct long-term research, but this requires more strategy than the online sessions can generate.

Areas I feel are industry priorities are as follows:

1. Microbial ecology (systems, culture organisms, and feeds)
2. New production technology (culture systems and genetic modification)
3. Feeds and nutrition
4. Disease solutions
5. Improved germplasm and industry transfer
6. Coordinated, collaborative research (within ARS and between ARS, industry and university partners)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Sincerely,
Brian Small

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