EXPLORING THE SCIENCE AND POLICY OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVIDED BY SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE

Julie Rose, NOAA-Milford Lab

Wednesday, October 20th, 2021 12:15-1:30 Zoom link:
(https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86259942691?pwd=UWVKWmFqWUYvN1NjRaVnZCbFVmQT09)

Shellfish are known to provide a variety of ecosystem services, including increased water column clarity via filtration activities, nutrient reduction through consumption of particulates and nutrient assimilation into tissue and shell, enhancement of sediment denitrification and burial, and habitat provisioning to wild fish and invertebrates. Shellfish aquaculture can complement management and restoration activities to increase the overall benefits provided to coastal and estuarine ecosystems. Understanding the ecosystem services provided by aquaculture, and how farms interact with the local environment, may help to inform both regulatory decisions as well as the broader public discussion of shellfish farming in the United States. This seminar will discuss research quantifying nutrient reduction and habitat provisioning by shellfish aquaculture, as well as opportunities and challenges to applying these research findings to inform nutrient and habitat management in the coastal environment.