



# Shellfish

## RESTORATION CLAMOR

APRIL 2007

### SHELLFISH RESTORATION NETWORK

Native shellfish play vital ecological roles in many estuaries, but are imperiled in many estuaries by habitat loss, over fishing, and pollution. Through a Shellfish Restoration Network, The Nature Conservancy and its partners are working to improve the design and implementation of restoration projects that help to illustrate the ecosystem services that shellfish provide. Through this network, we also hope to demonstrate the elements necessary to expand restoration and conservation to ecosystem scales.

### GLOBAL MARINE INITIATIVE'S VISION

"The Nature Conservancy and partners working together in polar, temperate and tropical seas worldwide to conserve marine biodiversity effectively across seascapes and landscapes through transformative strategies and integrated planning and action."

### TO JOIN THE NETWORK, CONTACT:

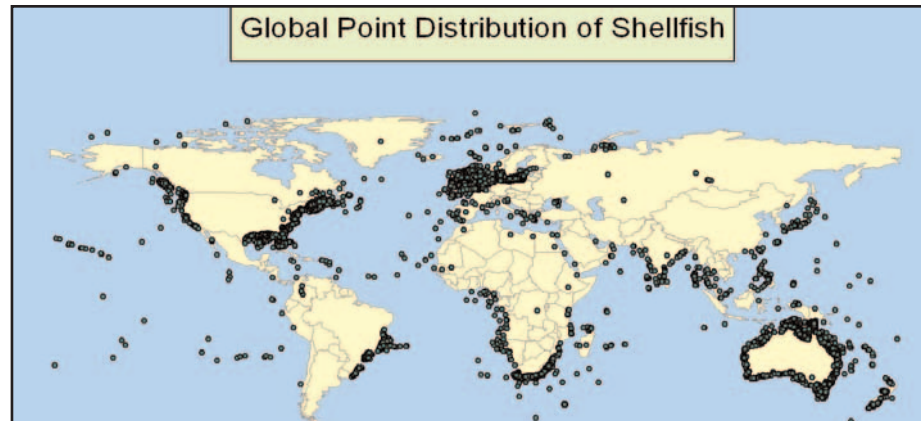
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For more information about The Nature Conservancy's Global Marine Initiative, visit: [www.nature.org/marine](http://www.nature.org/marine)

*The Nature Conservancy*   
SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH

# Bivalve Shellfish at Risk: A Global Assessment



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The Nature Conservancy, with support from The Kabcenell Foundation, has initiated a global assessment of key bivalve shellfish. This assessment, modeled after a global coral reefs assessment in the 1990s, will synthesize information on the distribution, condition and threats to shellfish that provide critical habitat for other species and valuable ecosystem services such as water filtration and sediment stabilization.

Phase I of this project, construction of a global database of distribution data for key bivalves such as oysters, mussels and clams, is underway. Dr. Jeffrey Vincent has been assembling the global GIS database, with input from a team of experts in North America, South America and Australia. Data have been obtained from

a variety of sources, including extensive records provided by the International Ocean Biogeographic Information System (IOBIS). Additional data are being sought for Europe, Asia and Africa. To contribute data, please contact Jeff at: [jevincen@earthlink.net](mailto:jevincen@earthlink.net)

Phase II of the Shellfish at Risk project will begin in mid-2007, with a condition and threats assessment for key shellfish taxa and populations contained in the global database. During the second phase, we will be expanding this partnership so that the database and publications have broad input and outreach. For additional information or to contribute to the ongoing assessment, please contact Mike Beck at: [mbeck@tnc.org](mailto:mbeck@tnc.org) or Rob Brumbaugh at: [rbrumbaugh@tnc.org](mailto:rbrumbaugh@tnc.org)

## looking ahead

### August 13-15, 2007

2nd West Coast Native Oyster Restoration Workshop.  
Shelton, Washington

For more information, contact Kerry Griffin:  
[Kerry.Griffin@noaa.gov](mailto:Kerry.Griffin@noaa.gov)

### November 4-8, 2007

ERF 2007 - Estuarine Research Federation biennial conference.

*Early Registration Deadline - September 21*

*Deadline for Abstracts - May 23*

<http://www.erf.org/erf2007/>

### New toolkit for Ecosystem-Based Management:

The Nature Conservancy and partners at NOAA, Sea Around Us Project, University of Queensland, and the EBM Tools Network announce the release of *Advancing Ecosystem-Based Management: A Decision Support Toolkit for Marine Managers* at [www.marineebm.org](http://www.marineebm.org). This web-based toolkit provides guidance for managers and practitioners in using marine regional assessments to account for multiple objectives in fishery production, coastal hazard mitigation, and biodiversity conservation.