

How Climate Change Affect Oysters' Lives

(By Adrian Ayala)

Introduction

Oysters are endangered by the many changes that have been happening in the waters. They need to be healthy and alive to help the environment stay clean. In this article I will be explaining the effects that global warming has on oysters and how you can help the oysters.

Why do we need Oysters?

Before I explain how global warming affects them, we must know why we need them in the harbour. Oysters' main purpose is to filter the water of algae because if there's too much algae it can reduce the oxygen in the water and can cause harm to fish. I know this because in the article called "Oyster Reef Habitat" it says that "because oysters feed by filtering algae from the water, they function as a natural filter and improve water that is overloaded with nutrients." Also, Oysters could prevent waves and floods. I know this because in the article "Oyster Reef Habitat" it says that "in some locations, oyster reefs can protect underwater vegetation and waterfront communities from waves, floods, and tides." So the major purpose of oysters would be that they keep the waters healthy and they prevent tides.

How does Global Warming affect Oysters?

For many years oysters have been challenged by climate change. This is because climate changes affect the water temperature which also affects many of the animals in the water. How Oysters are affected by climate change is by more storms destroying their habitat. I know this because in the article called "Climate change challenging Massachusetts oyster fishery" it says "The industry's main concerns are increasing sea levels and more frequent storms" Another challenge that oysters face would be the rising of temperatures which make diseases more frequent. I know this because according to the article "Climate change is challenging Massachusetts oyster fishery" it says that "With an increase in ocean temperatures, Lloyd worries that diseases such as MSX and Dermo — another parasite that infects oysters in their early stages, typically in their second year — will become more prevalent." Overall climate change is one of the major dangers in an oyster life.

What can you do to protect oysters?

Not all hope is lost. There are still ways to help protect oysters. Some ways to help them would be to recycle the shells of the oyster from restaurants. I know this because according to the article "You And Oysters Can Save The World" it says that "If your cooking capabilities are savvy enough to prepare oysters at home, a simple way to make an impact is to recycle the shells after your feast. The same way other food scraps can be composted, empty oyster shells can be used in restoration projects, as they provide a surface for young oysters to settle on and grow." Another way you can help the oysters would be to support an organization that helps restore oysters. For example, one organization that helps restore oysters is the "New York's Billion Oyster Project ." You can help them by donating to them.

Conclusion

In conclusion, oysters are needed to filter the ocean of algae. But oysters are affected by climate change by storms and diseases caused by the higher temperatures in the water. Ways you can help oyster would be to recycle oyster shells and support an organization that restores oysters.

Links

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/habitat-conservation/oyster-reef-habitat>

<https://www.gazettenet.com/Oysters-and-climate-change-30437343#:~:text=More%20frequent%20storms%20are%20the,loss%20of%20oysters%2C%20Lloyd%20said.>

<https://www.bustle.com/articles/129766-how-to-help-oysters-clean-oceans-rivers-and-save-the-world-one-mollusk-at-a>