The Economic Value of ALASKA’S SEAFOOD

Alaska’s annual wild seafood harvest of 5 to 6 billion pounds produces significant economic benefits for Alaska communities, businesses and thousands of Alaskans.

The seafood industry directly employed 58,700 people in 2018 – more than any other private sector industry in Alaska – and created an additional 10,900 secondary jobs.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACTS
2017-2018 Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Workers</th>
<th>FTE Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southcentral</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>7,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol Bay</td>
<td>13,500</td>
<td>5,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSAI</td>
<td>13,700</td>
<td>10,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodiak</td>
<td>6,100</td>
<td>5,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>10,700</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ECONOMICS OF ALASKA’S SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

$5.6 billion Total annual economic activity created by the seafood industry in Alaska (2017-2018 average).

$172 million Total annual state, municipal, and federal taxes, fees, and self-assessments paid by commercial fishermen and seafood processors to operate in Alaska in 2018.

$2.1 billion Annual labor income generated by the seafood industry in Alaska (2017-2018 average).

58,700 Number of workers directly employed in Alaska’s seafood industry (2017-2018 average).

In 2017-2018:

Alaska’s commercial fisheries employed 29,400 fishermen on average, including 16,319 Alaska residents.

Ex-vessel value amounted to $2 billion on average.

Seafood processing accounted for 70% of manufacturing employment, making it the largest manufacturing sector in Alaska.

Processing companies employed nearly 26,000 workers, including 7,300 Alaska residents (2018).

Processors produced $4.7 billion worth of seafood products (first wholesale value).
The U.S. is the largest single market for Alaska seafood. However, a wide diversity of markets is key to seafood value and resiliency. Alaska seafood is exported directly to more than 97 countries, accounting for over $3 billion in sales, or two thirds of total value, each year. Thus, foreign market development and fair and open trade policies are critical to Alaska’s seafood industry.

**FACTORS AFFECTING VALUE**

- Wild fish stock fluctuations and ecosystem health
- Trade policies (market access and tariffs)
- Alaska volumes and competing global supply (Alaska produces 2% of global seafood supply)
- Exchange rates and strength of the U.S. dollar
- Marketing (creating demand for Alaska products)
- Input costs
- Production innovation and efficiency

**IMPACTS, INVESTMENT AND GENERATING LONG-TERM VALUE**

Alaska’s wild, sustainable commercial fisheries have produced over 181 billion pounds since statehood. This is worth an estimated $187 billion in 2018 dollars.

Maintaining or increasing value requires significant industry investment in marketing, product development, and infrastructure in Alaska, as well as in the management system that is the foundation of our long-term health. Managing sustainable, productive fisheries requires a commitment to and investment in data collection, research, and in-season management, which comes at a cost. It is essential that the state of Alaska and the seafood industry continue to partner to maximize the socio-economic benefits of Alaska seafood; even a 5% decline in commercial seafood value equates to $285 million less in instate economic activity.