

Alaska Seafood: An Economic Engine Based on Renewable Resource

The U. S. commercial seafood industry has operated in Alaska for over a century. Since Alaska achieved statehood 50 years ago, the fisheries resources have been managed for sustainability. The commitment to science-based management is the foundation of an industry worth \$5.8 billion to Alaska in terms of direct and induced economic output.

The Alaska seafood industry has repositioned itself in today's competitive global marketplace. The 2007 commercial seafood harvest was 2.49 million metric tons, with a first wholesale value of \$3.6 billion --- 12.5% over the previous year.

The Alaska seafood industry

- is Alaska's largest private sector employer, directly employing 54,000 people, and generating indirect employment.
- generates public sector benefits: more than \$84 million in tax revenue for Alaska's state and local government coffers
- is based on abundant, sustainably managed seafood stocks
- product "portfolio" includes five species of wild Pacific salmon, Alaska pollock, other whitefish varieties including pollock, Pacific halibut, sablefish, and Pacific cod; shellfish varieties including shrimp, Alaska crab, and scallops.
- supports science-based management and participates in making decisions through a public process.

For more information on wild Alaska Seafood, including recipes visit www.alaskaseafood.org.

The Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) is a public agency funded by the Alaska seafood industry, the State of Alaska and the federal government. ASMI promotes Alaska seafood throughout the U.S. and in 16 countries across the globe. Its mission is to raise the value of the harvest. It provides promotional materials to the trade, and offers education and training to the seafood industry in food safety and quality assurance practices.