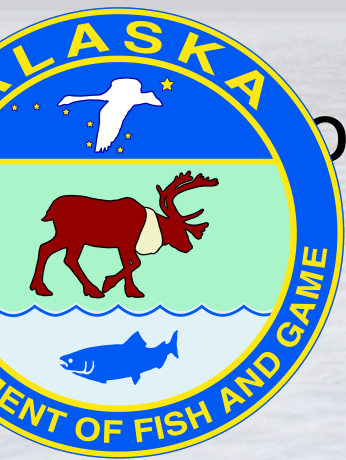


Department of Fish & Game- Division of Commercial Fisheries



Southeast Conference Mid-Session Summit
February 5, 2020

The Constitution of the State of Alaska

Article 8 – Natural Resources; § 4. Sustained Yield

Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.

The Alaska Statutes

Article 16. FISH AND GAME; Sec. 16.05.020. Functions of commissioner.

To manage, protect, maintain, improve, and extend the fish, game and aquatic plant resources of the state in the interest of the economy and the general well-being of the state.

Mission Statement

To protect, maintain, and improve the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state, and manage their uses and development in the best interest of the economy and the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.

Resources:

Mission: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=about.mission>

Constitutional Authority: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=about.statutes>

Division Measures: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=divisions.main



Division of Commercial Fisheries Overview

The Division of Commercial Fisheries manages commercial, subsistence, and personal use fisheries in the interest of the economy and general well being of the citizens of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle, and subject to allocations through public regulatory processes

The division is the largest within the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, employing ~275 full-time and ~375 seasonal or part-time staff and allocated an annual budget of \$68 million in FY2019

The division is highly diverse. The division manages commercial, subsistence, and personal use fisheries within the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska. Some commercial fisheries are subject to federal jurisdiction, are also managed by the division under authority delegated to it by the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. The division also permits and oversees the state's non-profit salmon hatchery and the aquatic shellfish farming programs and operates three scientific laboratories: a fish genetics laboratory, a fish pathology laboratory, and a laboratory for reading coded wire tags, otoliths, and determining the age of fish and operates several large research vessels.

Economic Value of Commercially Harvested Alaska Seafood

According to a 2019 McDowell Group presentation *Alaska Seafood Industry Update*:

Largest private sector employer in Alaska

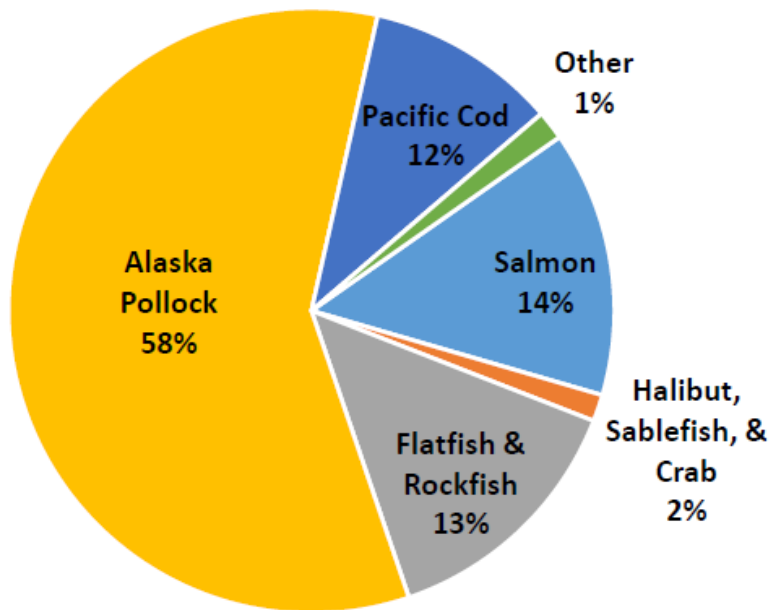
Directly employs almost 60,000 workers annually, more than any other industry in Alaska

Contributes \$172 million directly in taxes, fees, and self-assessments which help fund state, local and federal government
Alaska seafood contributes an annual average of \$5.6 billion in economic output to the Alaska economy

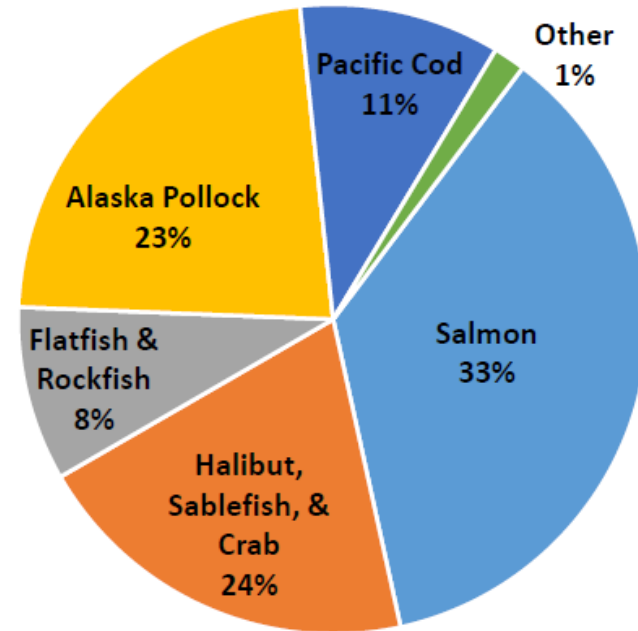
Alaska exports over 1 million metric tons of seafood each year, returning over \$3 billion of new money into the U.S. economy



2017-2018 Annual Average Ex-vessel Volume and Value by Species Group



Ex-vessel Volume
5.8 Billion Pounds

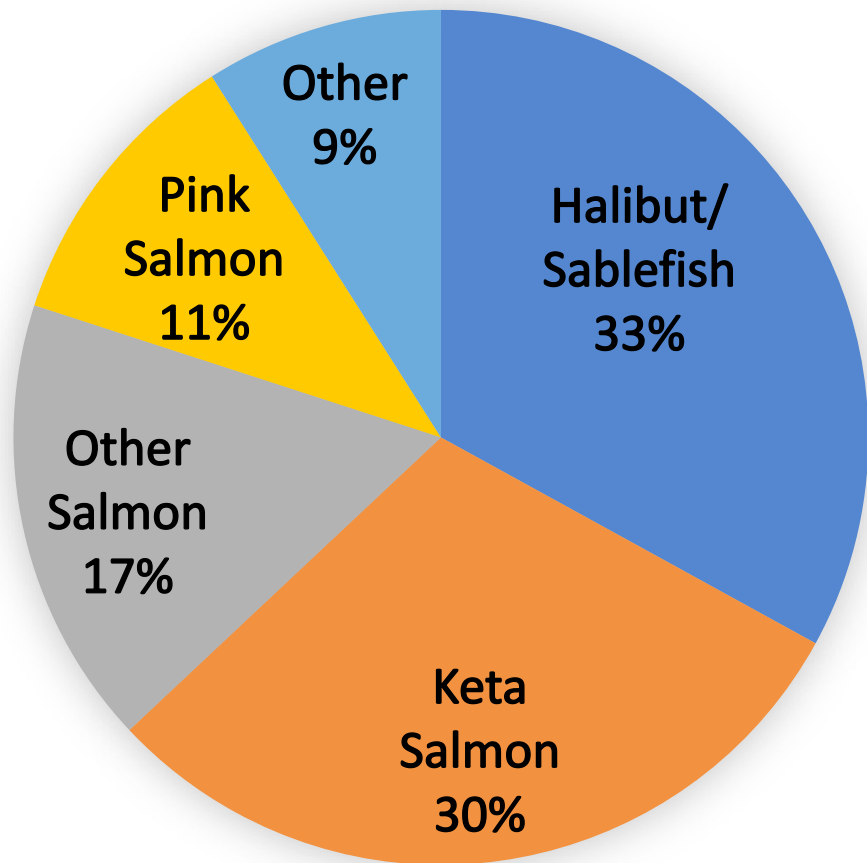


Ex-vessel Value
\$2.0 Billion

Source: NMFS and ADF&G; compiled by McDowell Group.
Some 2018 figures are preliminary.

Source: McDowell Group, Pacific Marine Expo Presentation, *Alaska Seafood Industry Update*, November 22, 2019

2017-2018 Annual Average Ex-vessel Volume and Value – Southeast Alaska



In 2017-18 the Southeast Alaska Region accounts for :

162 Million pounds of Seafood Harvested

Regional Ex-vessel Harvest Value \$251 million (13% of Alaska Total)

Regional Wholesale Harvest Value \$462 Million (10% of Alaska Total)

General Fund Revenue for Division of Commercial Fisheries

Revenue Sources 2018	Amount Retained Agencies (000)
Taxes	
Fisheries Business Tax ¹	\$
Fisheries Resources Landing Tax ¹	\$
Marine Motor Fuel Tax ^{1,2}	\$
Corporate Income Tax (FY2018) ³	\$
Agency Fees and Cost Recovery	

¹Department of Revenue, Tax Division, Annual Report 2018

²Assumed to be 50% of total Marine Motor Fuel Tax based on McDowell Group 2017 Economic Value of Alaska's Seafood Industry report

³Department of Revenue, Tax Division, Non-Petroleum Corporate Income Tax Collections by Sector, FY2016-FY2019

⁴Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, Conservation with Executive Director

⁵State of Alaska ALDER inquiry, November 11, 2016

Division of Commercial Fisheries Budget Overview – Funding

FY2020 Management Plan	
Funding	
Federal Receipts	10,178.0
General Fund Match	485.2
General Fund	37,528.7
General Fund Program Receipts	2,411.8
Interagency Receipts	1,016.8
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement	201.9
Fish & Game Fund	269.2
Capital Improvement Project Receipts	1,510.6
Statutory Designated Program Receipts	5,816.1
Test Fisheries Receipts	3,419.3
Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Receipts	5,126.3
Funding Totals	

Division of Commercial Fisheries Budget Overview – Expenditures

		FY 2020
		Management
Expenditures		
Personal Services		47
Travel		
Services		15
Southeast Region	13,770.0	13,400.0

FY2020 Budget Reductions – Southeast Region

FY2021 Governor Budget Reduction

Southeast Region Fisheries Management

Close Wrangell Office

Reduce Dive Fishery Stock Assessment

Southeast Region Fisheries Performance

Chinook salmon

- Poor productivity period for past 4 to 8 years
- 2019 – achieved 7 of 11 escapement goals, an improvement over 2017 and 2018
- Outlook is continued poor but improvements from 2019

Pink salmon

- Very poor runs in 2018 and 2019
- Outlook is continued poor

Sockeye salmon

- For 2019, generally poor runs to the south and strong runs to the north
- Outlook is below avg for Chilkat, Taku, and Stikine; above avg for Chilkoot; uncertain for remainder

Chum and coho salmon

- 2019 was far less than expected for hatchery fish and average for wild fish
- Outlook is less than 2019 for hatchery fish, above avg for Taku, and uncertain for other wild stocks

Southeast Region Fisheries Performance

Tanner Crab

- Near highest legal and mature biomass in past 20 years
- Outlook is continued high biomasses

Dungeness Crab

- 2019 3rd highest harvest on record and the highest valued season on record
- Outlook is above average harvests

Red King Crab

- Abundance below threshold for commercial fishery; PU fisheries allowed
- Outlook is less than average abundance

Golden King Crab

- Generally, very poor fishery performances (CPUE)
- Outlook is poor with 4 of 7 areas closed



Southeast Region Fisheries Performance

Sitka Sac Roe Herring

- No fishery in 2019 due to small, unmarketable sized fish
- Exceptionally large recruit class (age 3) entered spawn populations across SI in 2019
- Outlook is for large abundance but still mostly small fish

Craig Herring Spawn-on-Kelp

- Largest spawn deposition ever recorded in 2019, dominated by age 3 fish
- Outlook is for large abundance but still mostly small fish

Dive Fisheries

- Very good market for sea cucumbers and geoduck in 2019
- Almost 2 million pounds sea cucumber quota in 2019
- Outlook is good for 2020

Misc. Shellfish

- 2019 overall spot shrimp quota up from prior years but market was weaker
- Outlook for 2020 seems better than 2019 as shrimp stocks seem to be on the rise in some areas

Southeast Region Fisheries Performance

Sablefish

- 2019 harvest in pounds was very low
- Abundance was high due to many young, age 4 small fish
- Outlook is for improved harvest as average size increases

Demersal Shelf Rockfish

- Yelloweye biomass continues to decline despite management restrictions
- Outlook is poor with directed commercial, sport, and PU closures for 2020

Thank you
Questions?

