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May 9, 2019

Simon Kinneen, Chairman
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
605 W 4th Av., Suite 305
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

RE: Annual report – Prohibited Species Donation Program (PSDP)

Chairman Kinneen,

Thank you for the opportunity to present this update to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. SeaShare has worked with fishermen, processors, and other stakeholders for 25 years to retain and donate valuable protein that would otherwise be discarded. Food banks in Alaska, and across the lower 48 states all benefit from this program. Hunger-relief efforts are increasingly focused on waste reduction across the food chain, and the Prohibited Species Donation Program exemplifies that effort.

SeaShare remains the only organization authorized to retain Prohibited Species Catch from the BSAI and GOA for hunger-relief. The list of vessels and plants changes slightly every year, but the overall participation remains consistent.

1. Current Participants

The National Marine Fisheries Service amended our permits in January to include the following participants:

- 136 Catcher Boats
- 11 Shoreside processors
- 38 At-Sea Processors
- 2 re-processors in Puget Sound (to inspect, trim, steak and re-pack)

2. 2018 PSC Donation Volumes from BSAI and GOA

	355,085	pounds of PSC salmon
+	<u>41,950</u>	pounds of PSC halibut
=	397,035	total pounds

3. Distribution of PSC Donations

59,700 pounds were distributed in Alaska: Anchorage, Kodiak, Juneau, Kotzebue, Nome
337,335 pounds were distributed in other states: WA, CA, OR, MO, CT.



4. Other Donations in Alaska

SeaShare works to distribute donations as locally as possible. However, Intrastate freight options for PSC fish from Kodiak and Dutch Harbor remain limited. In order to reach more communities across the state, we access other, Non-PSC fish; then we recruit freight partners to send those donations to coastal communities and population centers. Some of the recent efforts include:

- Canned Salmon sent to the Food Bank of Alaska via AML.
- Breaded Alaska pollock portions sent to Bean's Café and the Children's Lunchbox via Tote.
- Breaded Alaska pollock portions sent to our freezer in Dillingham via AML.
- Breaded Alaska pollock portions sent to our new freezer in Bethel via Lynden Air Freight.
- Ling Cod steaks sent from Kodiak to Chignik via regional Air Taxi.
- Halibut and salmon sent to Nome and Kotzebue via USCG.
- Halibut and salmon donated to USCG food Pantry, Kodiak (during Gov't shutdown).
- Alaska Pollock fillets donated in Kodiak
- Sablefish steaks donated in Kodiak.
- Breaded Alaska pollock portions sent to Southeast Alaska Food Bank in Juneau.

All seafood donated in Alaska was at 0 cost to the receiving agencies.



Fish headed from Dillingham to Togiak

The regional hubs help us reach smaller communities across western Alaska. We have developed partnerships with seafood companies, tribal corps, and freight carriers to create new distribution networks in Nome, Kotzebue, Bristol Bay, and the Yukon – Koskokwim Region.

Kodiak remains a key donation hub as well. The processors there are committed to helping feed people locally, and helping other communities throughout the year.

5. Current Financial partners for Alaska

SeaShare receives no funding from government agencies. We rely on a small base of financial donors to support all of our programs. Results from the Prohibited Species Donation Program would not be possible without the fundraisers, gifts, and grants from these partners who help cover our expenses:

- Pacific Seafood Processors Association (PSPA)
- At-Sea Processors Association (APA)
- Rasmuson Foundation
- Conoco Phillips
- Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC)
- Norton Sound Economic Development Association (NSEDCA)
- Central Bering Sea Fishermens Association (CBSFA)
- Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association (YDFDA)
- Wells Fargo Alaska
- Bethel Community Services Foundation
- Fishing boats and fleets
- Industry leaders

6. Freezers for Alaska food banks

Most communities in rural Alaska rely on air freight to receive fresh and frozen food. The lack of storage options for frozen food is also a limitation. SeaShare's board directs funds from the *Terry Shaff Memorial Fund* to improve distribution networks for frozen food donations in key hubs across Alaska. We have now installed new freezers in:

- St. Paul
- Dillingham
- Bethel



Lion's Club Food Bank, Bethel AK, Apr. 2019

Summary

The Prohibited Species Donation Program has worked for 25 years, reducing waste while providing nutritious seafood to families served by food banks. It has also been a catalyst for other valuable donations across Alaska. SeaShare thanks all of the individuals, companies, and organizations who support us. We will continue to combine their generosity to achieve maximum benefit for everyone. Please let us know if you have recommendations to improve the program, or if you have ideas for additional collaboration.

Sincerely,

Jim Harmon
Executive Director

cc: SeaShare board of directors

ADF&G

NMFS

CDQ partners

Conoco Phillips

Rasmuson Foundation