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April 3, 2014

Eric Olson, Chairman  
North Pacific Fisheries Management council  
605 W 4<sup>th</sup> Av., Suite 305  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

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

Chairman Olson,

Please accept this annual report regarding SeaShare's participation in the donation of bycaught salmon and halibut in the BSAI and GOA trawl fisheries.

Background:

SeaShare worked with fishermen, processors, and NMFS to establish the Prohibited Species Donation Program. The pilot program began in 1993. Since then, we've reclaimed over 3.2 million pounds of fish that would have been thrown overboard. SeaShare remains the only organization authorized by NMFS to retain and distribute PSC fish for hunger-relief.

Participants:

NMFS amended our permit three times in the last year, authorizing more boats and processors to participate. We've also qualified additional food banks and feeding centers in remote communities, effectively expanding the distribution network in Alaska. The current list of participants includes:

- ❖ 122 Fishing boats
- ❖ 18 At-Sea processors
- ❖ 15 Shore Plants
- ❖ 8 Receiving agencies in Alaska
- ❖ Feeding America's national network of food banks
- ❖ 20 + other companies (cold storage, freight, packaging, etc.)
- ❖ 11 Financial donors (corporations and foundations)

SeaShare continues to look for other agencies in Alaska (with affordable freight options) to receive and distribute donated seafood. We are working with the Rasmuson Foundation to include seafood in their statewide efforts to promote food security by using sustainable, local food resources.

## Distribution

SeaShare donated 282,000 pounds of seafood in Alaska last year. Over 1 million meals.



Jun 2013 - USCG carried 13,000 pounds of halibut to Kotzebue

170,000 pounds generated from the Prohibited Species Donation Program were distributed in Alaska. That's a 38% increase from the previous year. Locations that received our seafood include:

Anchorage	Juneau	Kodiak	Cordova
Fairbanks	Unalaska	Kotzebue	Galena

## Downstream costs

Those locations in Alaska received PSC salmon and halibut at 0 cost to the agencies. Generous financial donors in Alaska supported the average cost of \$.47 per pound to process, store, and ship PSC donations. SeaShare also worked with Feeding America food banks outside Alaska to distribute another 225,000 pounds of PSC. Those food banks provided the additional financial support needed to utilize all of the available fish. In all, we spent over \$180,000 last year on the Prohibited Species Donation Program (not including overhead).

Our goal will always be to distribute donated fish as locally, and as efficiently, as possible. We've made progress over the last three years, expanding the network of qualified food banks and feeding centers in more communities. SeaShare is also researching opportunities to expand the storage of frozen seafood in remote villages. The largest obstacle remains the limitations of shipping and storage outside the major population centers.



Sept 3013 - Fairbanks received their first truckload of PSC salmon

SeaShare does not advocate for bycatch. Neither do our PSC partners. All boats are encouraged to throw back any salmon or halibut that might survive. We do recognize the value that PSC fish have, and our donors go to great lengths to retain them for hunger-relief.

This program has been an important source of protein to food banks for over 20 years. SeaShare works for our donors, combining and coordinating their generosity to achieve maximum benefit for hungry Americans. Please contact us if you have questions about the program, or ideas for improving it. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Harmon". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jim Harmon,  
Executive Director

cc: SeaShare board of directors  
Attachment: List of PSDP donors



PSDP donation partners include:

NMFS

Alaska Groundfish Data Bank

Alaska Seafood Cooperative & Member companies

AML/Lynden

At-Sea Processors Association & Member companies

Bean's Café

Bellingham Cold Storage

Brother Francis Shelter

Carlile Transportation

City Ice / Lineage

Coastal Transportation

Conoco Phillips

E&E Foods

Fairbanks Community Food Bank

Feeding America

Food Bank of Alaska

Glory Hole, Juneau

Harbor Cold Storage

Horizon Lines

Independent Packers

Kloosterboer DHbr

Kodiak Food Bank

Midwater Trawlers Association

NANA Regional Corp.

NorthStar Cold Storage

Offshore Systems Inc

Pacific Seafood Processors Association & Member companies

Qawalangin Tribe

Rasmuson Foundation

Seafreeze / Lineage

Unalaska School District

United Catcher Boats

United States Coast Guard

Wells Fargo Bank

Western Alaska Community Development Association & Member companies