

The Prohibited Species Donation Program

SeaShare

Summary for NPFMC, October 2013

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History

SeaShare is a 501c3 non-profit organization, formed specifically to utilize Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) and other underutilized seafood resources for hunger-relief.

Key milestones:

- Aug 1993 - The first Experimental Fisheries Permit (EFP) authorized the retention of PSC salmon in federal waters off Alaska.
- Aug 1995 - NMFS issued a regulatory amendment for a permanent salmon PSC retention program in the BSAI and GOA. Our permits are renewed every 3 years (attachment 1 and 2).
- Aug 1998 - Added retention of halibut (shore side processors only)
- July 2011 - Expanded our permit to include boats and processors in GOA

Originally: 4 shore plants,
8 catcher processors
1 Mother ship
13 processors

+ 44 catcher boats

Currently: 15 shore plants
30 catcher processors
3 Mother ships
48 processors

+ 122 catcher boats

Results

20 year total:	2,974,579.00	Pounds
Salmon	2,668,077.00	0.89696
Halibut	306,502.00	0.10304

The Process

Retention: The retention of PSC is voluntary. After the first EPF, NOAA general counsel determined that processors could not be required to donate to charities. Participants decide whether to retain or discard PSC. Any halibut that can be sorted at sea should be returned to the ocean. Some of the factors affecting retention include:

- Quality of fish hauled in
- Freezing capacity
- Available personnel

All participants are donating time and effort to retain, clean, freeze, transport, and unload our fish. And all have demonstrated the ability to provide not only wholesome, but excellent quality product. Each plant has different capabilities and limitations, so there isn't a one-size-fits-all set of instructions. SeaShare meets with participants to discuss quality standards, and specific methods for processing retained salmon into useable products for hungry Americans. At a minimum, our participants follow the guidelines on attachment #3.

Local Storage: Frozen H&G fish are offloaded or transferred into SeaShare's cold storage inventory. Originally, all PSC was received in Dutch Harbor. We now receive PSC in 23 locations in 8 ports: Dutch Harbor, Akutan, Kodiak, Sand Point, King Cove, Seattle, Tacoma, and Bellingham. Processors and Cold storage partners donate the storage and provide records to maintain chain of custody.

Southbound transportation: SeaShare recruits freight carriers to bring our products down to Seattle for short-term storage before re-processing. We have used both barge and containerized service.

Inspect / Trim / Steak / Re-pack: Re-processing is a key component of turning donated fish into family-sized, food bank friendly products. For years we have found generous partners in Seattle who provide this valuable service at a greatly reduced rate.

Distribution to food banks: For 20 years SeaShare has relied on Feeding America's network of 200+ regional food banks to distribute our donations across the country. Feeding America's affiliates have passed the stringent safe-handling and record-keeping requirements to ensure that our seafood donations are distributed fairly and safely.

SeaShare releases the available loads to Feeding America. The national food bank network offers those donations online to all affiliates, by the truckload. In many cases, the receiving agency agrees to reimburse SeaShare for at least a portion of the unavoidable costs to make PSC available for hunger-relief.

Downstream Costs

Fishermen and processors deliver frozen, H&G fish to SeaShare's inventory at 0 cost. It's very generous, but that is just the beginning. SeaShare has developed an extensive network of downstream partners to finish the "donation" of PSC. All fish are inspected, trimmed, steaked, and then packed into family size portions that can be distributed by food banks. Pallets of frozen steaks are then stored until we have identified food banks to receive them. SeaShare receives no compensation from NMFS, or other government support; and works with local and regional grantors to support all of the costs associated with the PSDP.

SeaShare combines donations and discounted services to keep all costs to a minimum. Some of the factors that affect our cost are:

- Incoming quality
- Timing / availability of Southbound freight
- Local consolidation and trucking

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- Availability of production time
- Packaging costs

Local, Alaska Distribution, 2011-2013

With an expanded permit in 2011, our Gulf of Alaska participants generated both salmon and halibut in Kodiak. SeaShare was able to successfully distribute 8000 pounds on Kodiak Island.

Local and regional donors asked if we could expand distribution of PSC to other communities in Alaska. SeaShare met with Bean's Café, the Food Bank of Alaska, the Rasmuson Foundation, WACDA, and others to increase our operational capacity in Alaska.

In 2012, 100% of the PSC that SeaShare reclaimed from the BSAI and GOA went to food banks in Alaska, a total of 123,474 pounds (SeaShare also donated another 100,000+ pounds of non-PSC seafood products in Alaska in 2012). Receiving locations include:

- ✓ Dutch Harbor
- ✓ Anchorage
- ✓ Kodiak
- ✓ Juneau
- ✓ St. Paul
- ✓ Kotzebue
- ✓ Fairbanks

Future Goals

Alaska Processing and Alaska Distribution. We would like to keep all fish in Alaska, and avoid the round trip to Seattle for inspection and processing. The costs to process in Alaska are higher, and there are fewer processing donors to share the burden.

What portion of PSC is Donated?

SeaShare tracks donated salmon and halibut by pounds. The receiving locations do not have the ability to open boxes and count fish, but they can confirm weights. The volumes we report are finished pounds (Incoming pounds sometimes include fish that are not fit for consumption, for a variety of reasons).

In order to determine what % of PSC is utilized, from the volumes that SeaShare reports, someone would need to estimate recovery levels, the % of chinook vs. chum, and the average fish size in pounds.

Example:

100,000 pounds of finished steaks, @ 60% recovery = 166,667 pounds RWE.

If 10% of donated salmon is chinook, then 16,667 pounds are chinook

If the average weight of each chinook is 10 pounds, then 1667 PSC chinook were donated.*

THIS IS JUST AN EXAMPLE OF THE CALCULATION USING ROUND NUMBERS

PSDP donation partners include:

NMFS
Members of the Pacific Seafood Processors Association
Members of the At-Sea Processors Association
United Catcher Boats
Midwater Trawlers Association
Alaska Groundfish Data Bank
WACDA
Rasmuson Foundation
Conoco Phillips
NANA Regional Corp.
Wells Fargo Bank
Feeding America
Food Bank of Alaska
Bean's Café
Kodiak Food Bank
Brother Francis Shelter
Coastal Transportation
AML/Lynden
Horizon Lines
Offshore Systems Inc
Kloosterboer DHbr
Harbor Cold Storage
Bellingham Cold Storage
NorthStar Cold Storage
Seafreeze / Lineage
City Ice / Lineage
Independent Packers