

Nov. 28, 2025

Angel Drobnica, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
L29 Building, 4th Floor
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Annual Report – Prohibited Species Donation Program

Chairwoman Drobnica,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this update to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. The Prohibited Species Donation Program (PSDP) has now generated over 27 million servings of high protein seafood for Americans struggling with hunger.

Prevention is the most important step in reducing food waste due to bycatch. Donation is the next step when bycatch happens, and those who participate in this program appreciate the value that these fish can have for hungry families.

Alaska king salmon has 1476 Omega-3s DHA+EPA (mg) per 3 oz. cooked portion. Keta salmon has roughly half the Omega-3s, but both carry 22 grams of protein.

A 3 oz. portion of Alaska halibut has 19 grams of protein and is a significant source of vitamin D and other nutrients.

Food bank clients in Alaska and the Lower 48 benefit greatly from this program because protein makes up only 2% of all donations and seafood is in scarce supply. Those struggling to feed their families face the burden of not only getting enough to eat, but also accessing nutrient-rich foods that promote good health and help reduce the risk of chronic disease.

SeaShare's Role

SeaShare has worked with fishermen, processors, and other stakeholders for 31 years to retain and donate valuable protein that would otherwise be discarded, and remains the only organization authorized to retain Prohibited Species Catch from the BSAI and GOA and use those fish exclusively for hunger-relief.

To summarize our efforts, SeaShare:



1. Works closely with NMFS to manage the permits for both salmon and halibut and maintains the relevant records. The permits were most-recently renewed in June 2023.
2. Enlists boats and processors who are willing to retain, clean, and donate the fish. The list of vessels and plants changes slightly every year, but the overall participation remains consistent.
3. Coordinates the downstream services needed to turn those fish into packaged servings and distribute them to food banks and feeding centers.
4. Secures funding to support the costs that are not fully donated.

Retention and Quality Standards

The program is voluntary, allowing the processors to retain fish only if they are wholesome and usable, and when they have staff and line time to clean, freeze and pack the fish for donation. Shore plants can retain both salmon and halibut. At-sea processors can only retain salmon, as per IPHC recommendations. Salmon donations include both chum and king salmon. The boats and processors follow strict guidelines for quality, packing, and storage. At a minimum they agree to H&G, freeze, pack and record all fish for donation.

To better serve Alaskan communities, we have asked processors on a voluntary basis to try to steak or fillet small batches of king salmon and halibut prior to freezing. This step creates a once-frozen product that more closely aligns with Alaskan pallets and conveys a message of respect for the resource and the recipients. This processing is done by hand by volunteers at the plants. **SeaShare is committed to serving more Alaskans and increasing quality and our shore-based partners have also shown their willingness to help.**

To better serve those who are experiencing hunger, we have asked At-Sea Processors to preserve more donations and increase quality, when possible, within the regulatory requirements of the program.

Current Participants

- More than 100 Catcher Boats
- 12 Shoreside processors
- 32 At-Sea Processors
- 2 Motherships with 18 vessels
- 2 re-processors in Puget Sound (to inspect, trim, steak and re-pack)
- Multiple cold storage, freight, and logistics companies in AK and WA

PSC Donation Volumes from the BSAI and GOA

	<u>2024</u>	<u>since 1994</u>
Pounds of PSC salmon	104,440	6,078,349
Pounds of PSC halibut	11,326	689,569
Total pounds =	115,766	6,767,918



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2024 Distribution of PSC Donations

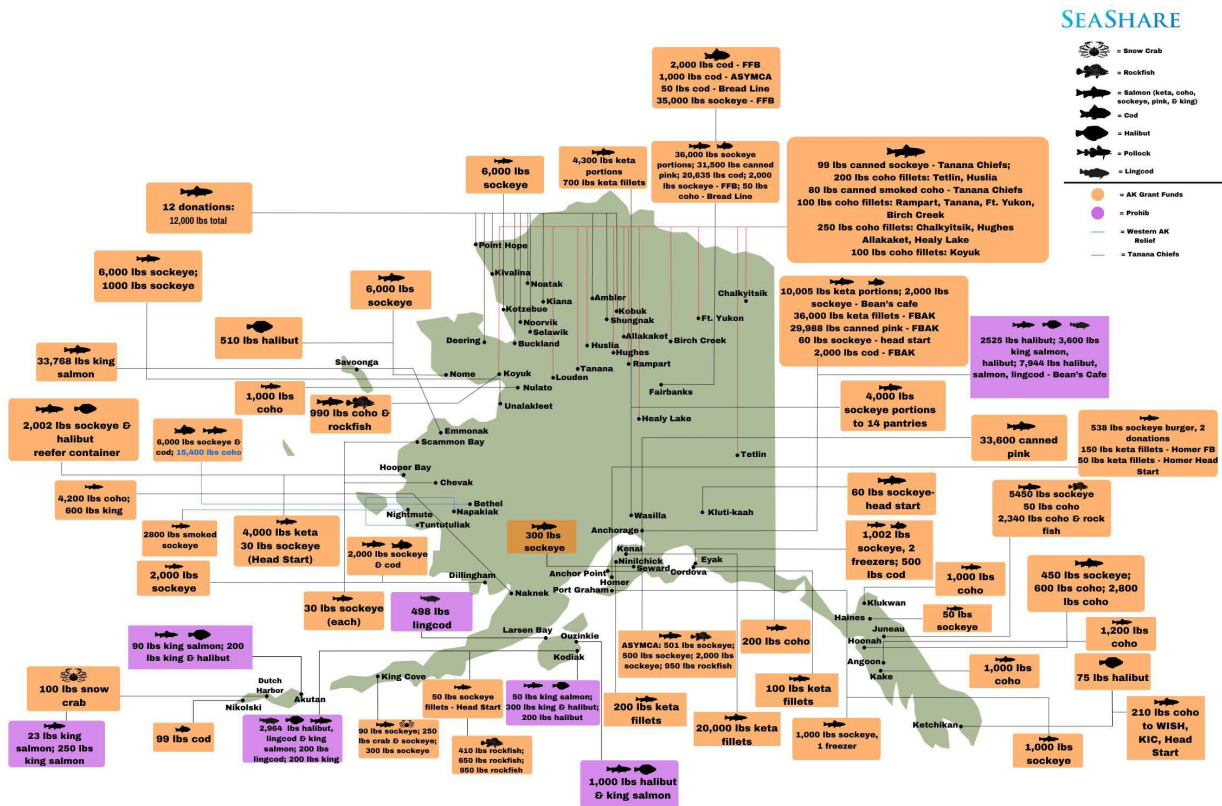
- 7,140 lbs. of salmon and 4,726 pounds of halibut were distributed in Alaska in Akutan, Kodiak, Anchorage and Ouzinkie.
- 97,300 lbs. of salmon and 6,600 lbs. of halibut were distributed in Washington and California.

Salmon distributions in Alaska were all king salmon. The high percentage of halibut distributed within Alaska is in response to high demand. SeaShare continues to push for Alaska distribution of king salmon and halibut in 2025.

Other Donations in Alaska

We have grant funding through the State of Alaska to purchase Alaska seafood from Alaska processors, with an emphasis on small processors, and distribute to food banks and feeding programs throughout Alaska. This has allowed SeaShare to greatly increase our reach in Alaska within the last year.

The map below shows distributions in Alaska Oct. 2024-Nov. 2025 and includes both '24 caught and '25 caught PSDP (in purple) as well as grant purchased fish (orange).



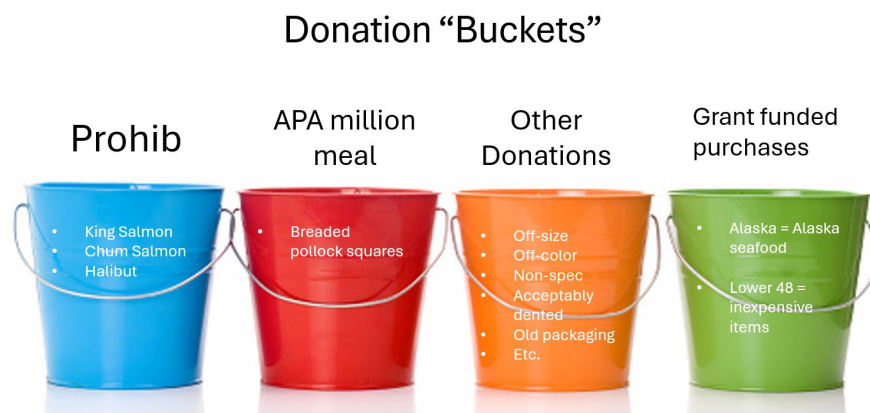
In many ways the Alaska grant program compliments the PSDP program because it has allowed for SeaShare to meet with more feeding programs, some of which are interested in receiving PSDP product.

All seafood donated in Alaska is at no cost to the receiving agencies. Notably, the processors in Naknek again donated king salmon from Bristol Bay to Emmonak for distribution along the lower Yukon with no cost to SeaShare or the residents.

Additional SeaShare Programs

SeaShare is a national charity with headquarters in Juneau and Seattle, and has donated over 1.7 million lbs. of seafood YTD in 2025. PSDP is a fraction of our donations but a fundamental program within this organization and we seek to continually improve our efforts to serve Alaskan communities.

Grant programs and food banks in the Lower 48 are able to support our seafood donations with funding for some fish, however PSDP is distributed at zero cost to food banks.



Current Financial partners for Alaska

The State of Alaska grant program is entirely separate from the PSDP program and no State of Alaska funds go toward the PSDP program.

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 support it:

- Pacific Seafood Processors Association (PSPA)
- At-Sea Processors Association (APA)
- United Catcher Boats
- ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
- Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC)
- Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA)
- Coastal Villages Region Fund (CVRF)
- Wells Fargo Alaska

SEASHARE

- Global USA
- Coastal Transportation
- Lynden
- Frontier Packaging
- Fishing boats and fleets
- Industry leaders

SeaShare is grateful to NMFS and all of the individuals, companies, and organizations who support the Prohibited Species Donation Program. Please let us know if you have recommendations to improve the program, or if you have ideas for additional collaboration.

Sincerely,

Hannah Lindoff

Hannah Lindoff
Executive Director

cc: SeaShare Board of Directors
CDQ Partners
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
Wells Fargo