

### NOAA Fisheries' National Seafood Strategy Supporting U.S. Commercial Seafood

### **Overview of the Implementation Plan**



North Pacific Council December, 2024



U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | National Marine Fisheries Service

# NOAA's National Seafood Strategy: Drivers

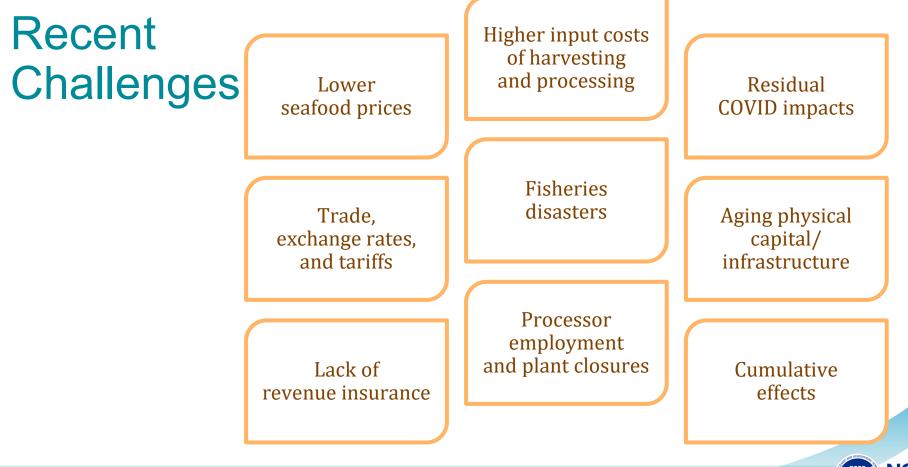
**Climate change** is rapidly altering species location, size, and composition. It is also intensifying storms and impacts on infrastructure.

The **coronavirus pandemic** disrupted markets and trade, decreasing the economic viability of the seafood industry and limiting access to some seafood.

**New technologies** and other ocean uses, such as offshore wind energy, will affect use of ocean space and potentially result in conflicts.

Significant **labor shortages** plus aging harvesting, processing, and distribution **infrastructure** affect production, safety, and cost-effectiveness in the industry.







# Seafood Industry Recommendations

- Continue vital science/survey work to inform Councils
- Industry services: be more responsive to seafood industry needs
- Increase US seafood production
- Highlight relevance of food, job, community, and economic security
- Strengthen resilience of US seafood sector and communities
- Put more US seafood on US plates
- Fair trade



# NOAA's National Seafood Strategy: Goals

NOAA's direction for **supporting a thriving domestic U.S. seafood economy** and **enhancing the resilience of the seafood sector** in the face of climate change and other stressors.



A strategy was crafted **based on input from the seafood sector** received over several years.

#### **Four Strategy Goals**

- Sustain or increase sustainable U.S. wild capture production
  Increase sustainable U.S. aquaculture production
  Foster access to domestic and global markets for the U.S. seafood industry
- 4. Strengthen the entire U.S. seafood sector

#### Complements other NOAA Fisheries policies, strategies





### Elements of the Implementation Plan

- Science and management work remain key activities
- Focus on: Industry services, Socio-economic work
- Existing resources and leveraging partnerships (whole of government approach)
- Pilot Initiatives



Goal 1: Maintain or increase sustainable U.S. wild-capture production through robust fisheries science, management and habitat conservation.

- Fisheries science:
  - Impacts of climate change scenarios modeling, changes in species abundance, underused species
  - Economic and social science analysis
  - Analyze impacts of new ocean uses, e.g. offshore wind
- Fisheries management:
  - Implement climate science regional action plans
  - Analyze potential management actions that may increase opportunities for commercial fishing
  - Economic feasibility and impacts of industry adaptions to climate change (target species, gear, vessels)



Goal 2: Increase sustainable aquaculture production through management and regulatory efficiency as well as developing sciencebased tools and advice in support of sustainable research and development.

- Efficient, predictable, timely, science-based regulatory framework for marine aquaculture
- Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in state and federal waters
- Science to support regulatory actions, study interactions with trust resources
- Science to support production of molluscs, finfish, and seaweed
- National Aquaculture Development Plan federal coordination



Goal 3: Foster access to domestic and global markets for the U.S. seafood industry through communications and promotion, developing U.S. markets, and promoting fair trade.

- Communication and outreach: tell the story of US harvest sustainability through stories, podcasts, videos, more; Saltonstall-Kennedy grants.
- Trade imports: monitoring/enforcement of illegal imports
- Trade exports: export facilitation, technical advice to federal trade agencies
- Domestic market development:
  - Seafood Inspection Program services for domestic markets, USDA purchases
  - Saltonstall-Kennedy grant program
  - Market and socioeconomic analyses: e.g., CEFI climate scenarios, AK market snapshot report, emerging direct to consumer markets, regional economic and social impact analyses, how to rebuild markets for rebuilt stocks



Goal 4: Strengthen the entire U.S. seafood sector through adaptations to a changing ocean economy, working across the government to modernize seafood infrastructure, and workforce development.

- Industry services: Seafood Inspection Program (SIP) certifications, SIP assistance to USDA buying program, Fishery Finance Program loans, seafood safety labs.
- Workforce training (e.g., Sea Grant)
- Infrastructure: Coordinate with and leverage other federal agencies, partners (e.g., USDA, DOT, EDA, MBDA, EPA) to recapitalize seafood infrastructure, ports, processing, and vessels; seafood marketing; and other federal assistance



### Pilot Initiatives - current and potential activities

- Alaska seafood resilience
  - AK snapshot report
- Gulf and Southeast Shrimp
  - Supply chain analysis
- HMS resilience
  - Econ and environmental impact of consuming imports
- Port of Port Orford revitalization
  - New market analysis

### +All of government coordination and communications



### Implementation: support to Alaska seafood industry

- Science and management remain key activities
- Economics/social science: Alaska snapshot report
- Seafood Inspection Program (SIP) technical advice to USDA seafood purchases (significant increases in USDA Alaska seafood purchases)
- Fisheries disaster funding
- Fishery Finance Program (loans)
- Trade facilitation: technical assitance to federal trade agencies, SIP export certificates
- Restricting IUU and Russian imports
- Support to Alaska mariculture initiative
- Communications: sustainability of Alaska seafood
- Whole of government approach leveraging resources at USDA and other federal agencies



## **QUESTIONS?**

- How can we leverage the Strategy to support your work and vice versa?
- Are there connections we can make to current work that could support the Implementation Plan actions? The pilot initiatives?

For more info or to request a presentation: Michael.Rubino@noaa.gov Sarah.Shoffler@noaa.gov

