Prohibited Species Donation Program
How we work

NMFS authorizes SeaShare to administer the PSDP for Salmon and halibut, in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska. We work with NMFS staff in Juneau to renew the permits every 3 years.

It is SeaShare’s job to recruit partners; then coordinate, finance, and track the donations from each entity. Participation is voluntary at all levels, and includes.

• 122 Catcher Boats
• 12 Shoreside processors
• 35 At-Sea Processors
• 2 re-processors in Puget Sound (to inspect, trim, steak and re-pack)

None of us advocate for bycatch. There are a lot of costs and effort involved to retain, ship, re-work and distribute donated Prohibited Species Catch (PSC).

Everyone involved recognizes the value that these fish have, and our partners go to great lengths to make them available for hunger-relief.
The costs to administer

- SeaShare receives no government funding to administer the Prohibited Species Donation Program.

- We rely on donated and discounted services to minimize all the downstream costs.

- Pre-pandemic we were paying up to $.49 / pound to turn bycatch into finished, packaged servings that food banks could distribute.

- Over the last 2 years those costs have increased to approx. $.62 / pound.
Financial partners in Alaska include:

- Rasmuson Foundation
- Conoco Phillips
- All 6 CDQ groups
- Wells Fargo Alaska
- Lynden Inc
- PSPA members and the Terry Shaff Memorial Fund
- At-Sea-Processors Association
- United Catcher Boats
- Leading Seafood companies and Industry leaders
The Prohibited Species Donation Program - Respecting the resource & Minimizing Waste

- 176,399 pounds of PSC salmon and halibut were retained, processed, and distributed in 2021.

- Since 1994 over 6.3 million pounds of incidentally caught salmon and halibut have been retained, cleaned, packed, and donated to food banks.

- totaling 25 million servings from fish that would have otherwise been thrown overboard.
more than just bycatch

Most of the fish distributed in Alaska is NOT bycatch.

The success of the Prohibited Species Donation Program has led to other donation programs and other partners - providing a wide variety of species and product forms.

Over the last 28 years, bycatch accounts for 25 million of the 260 million seafood servings we’ve distributed.
Emmonak, 2021
This map shows all of the locations in Alaska where SeaShare has distributed seafood. Orange locations are places where SeaShare directly distributes to food banks/community groups. Blue locations receive our seafood from distribution partners.
DISTRIBUTION BY STATE, 2019-2020
Frozen salmon, Flight to Fairbanks, 2021