

# 99

MILLION lbs

# ILLEGAL



# AMERICAN JOBS

Alaskan Crabbers Have  
Lost an Estimated  
**\$600 MILLION**  
since 2000

Alaskan Coastal  
Communities Have Lost  
**MILLIONS** in Tax  
Revenue

**40%** King Crab  
Sold in World Markets  
During 2012 Were From  
Illegal Russian Harvests



# Do You Know Where Your Crab Comes From\*



*\*Cooked crab imports not subject to Country of Origin Labeling.*

## How Does Pirate Crab Enter the Market?

- 1) Illegal crab is often transferred from a fishing vessel to a cargo ship at sea. A receipt of the transaction is recorded. This receipt is created to provide cover for the cargo vessel which will need the receipt in order to offload the product, or
- 2) Illegal crab is also delivered directly to ports in South Korea, Japan, or China. The crab is inspected by an agent company that provides documentation certifying the product meets basic quality standards. The product is then stored until it is sold to secondary wholesalers (typically Japan or the U.S.)



# LIVE WEIGHT CONVERSION FACTOR

Imports of Russian Crab by Product (million lbs.)	Import Weight	Live Weight Equivalent
Frozen Cluster/Sections (60% of live weight)	96.0	160.0
Live Crab (100%)	35.0	35.0
<b>Total Imports (2013)</b>	<b>131.0</b>	<b>195.0</b>

Sources: Global Trade Atlas, Russia Federal Fishery Agency, and Recoveries and Yields from Pacific Fish and Shellfish (Alaska Sea Grant Program).

## PIRATE CRAB MATH

(in millions of lbs)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &195.0\text{lb Live Wt Equivalent of Russian Crab Imports} \\
 &- 96.1\text{lb Subtract from Official Harvest Figures} \\
 &= \mathbf{98.9\text{lb Estimated Pirate Harvest in 2013}}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Note:** These priate estimates are conservative because they make no assumptions about crab deadloss or sales of crab within Russia. Domestic sales would not show up in export data, and only some deadloss will be included in the data. Incorporating domestic sales and/or deadloss would likely increase the estimated pirate volume.

## "Flags of Convenience"

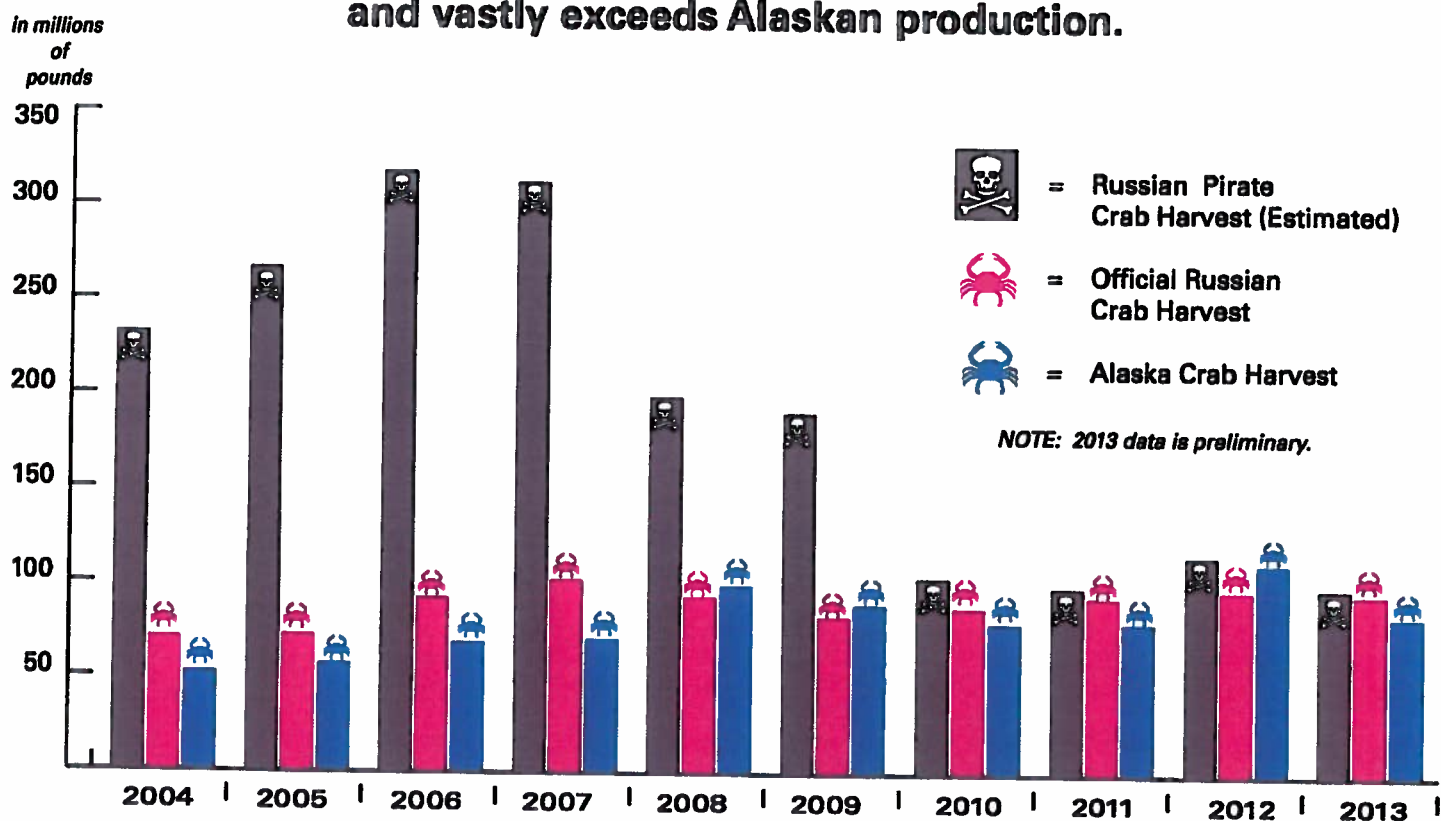
are common in the pirate crab fishery. Although the ships may be registered in exotic locales such as Belize, Sierra Leone, or Cambodia, the ships are typically crewed by Russian fishermen. Fishing under a foreign flag limits the options of U.S. and Russian authorities to take meaningful action.







**Progress has been made but Russian pirate crab  
still controls 40% of the world market  
and vastly exceeds Alaskan production.**



SOURCE: Official Foreign Trade Harvest (2004-2012) and Russian Center for Fishery Monitoring and Coordination (2013).  
 Estimated Russian Pirate Crab Harvest: McDowell Group estimations based on trade figures from the Global Trade Atlas Database and a  
 revised official harvest (2004-2012) and McDowell Group estimations based on ADFQ (2013).



**ALASKA**  
Bering Sea Crabbers

This document was prepared for the Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers based on pirate crab research conducted by McDowell Group, Inc., of Juneau, Alaska. This document contains estimates of Russian pirate crab production based on official foreign trade and harvest data.

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