# Alaska Seafood Market Update

AGS 122

House Fisheries Committee

Jeremy Woodrow – Executive Director Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute



# Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute

ASMI is a **public-private partnership** between the State of Alaska and the Alaska seafood industry established to foster economic development of a renewable natural resource.

As Alaska's official seafood marketing arm, **ASMI maximizes the economic** value of the Alaska seafood resource by:

- building and protecting the Alaska Seafood brand
- developing and creating markets for Alaska seafood products
- working directly with the seafood industry to maximize efforts

ASMI is directed by a Governor-appointed Board of Directors: five processors, two commercial harvesters; and 10 board-appointed Species and Operational Committees.











About 75% of Alaska seafood production exported annually to 100 countries

U.S. usually largest market: 25-30%

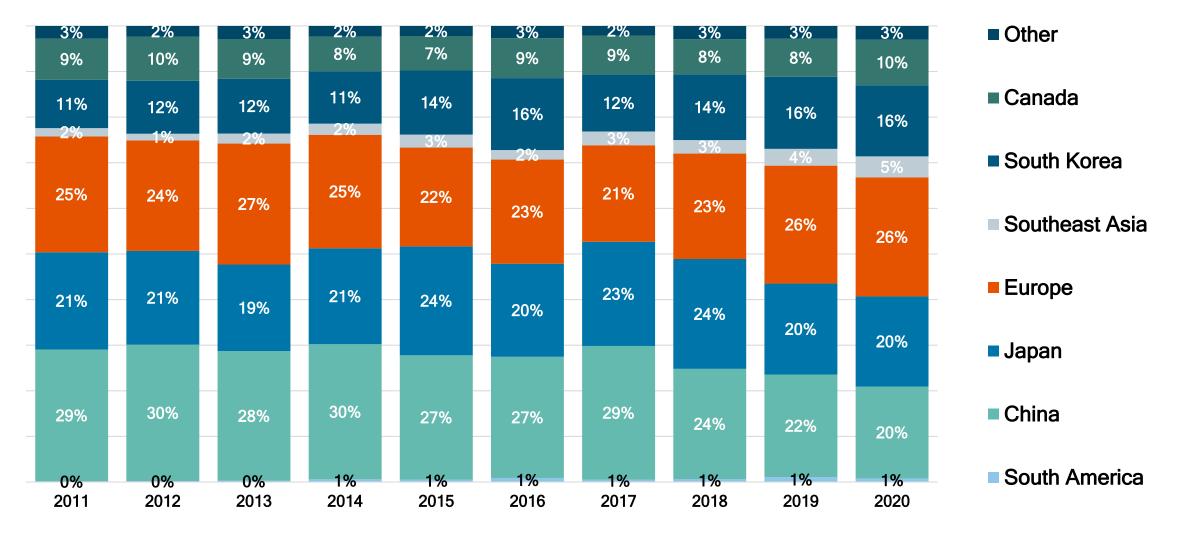
China/South Korea largest trading partners; primarily reprocessing

Japan/Europe largest direct foreign markets

90% of pollock, pink/keta salmon, and A8o species exported



#### Alaska Seafood Export Value by Region



Source: NOAA, compiled by McKinley Research.

# Trade in Key Export Markets

#### China

- 37% 42% tariffs on Alaska seafood into China
- 25% tariff on flatfish reimported to U.S.
- Phase One Trade Deal: retaliatory tariffs unchanged; other potential impacts on Alaska seafood still unclear

#### Russia

- Leading global competitor for Alaska seafood
- Russia market closed to Alaska since 2014, but exports to U.S. **up 173% since 2013**
- Significant government investments in seafood industry infrastructure, technology and marketing

#### **European Union**

- Significant trade barriers on U.S. seafood into EU; near free-market access of EU products into U.S.
- U.S. seafood caught in Boeing/Airbus dispute
- Brexit

#### Japan

- Leading export market for U.S. seafood sector
- Recently enacted FTAs with several U.S. seafood competitors
- "Phase One" agreement did not level playing field for U.S. seafood



COVID-19 contributed to widespread harvest value declines in 2020, witha preliminary estimated drop in ex-vessel value of 20-25%.

Key COVID-caused market disruptions to the Alaska seafood industry:

- Widespread closures in the global foodservice sector
- Shipping disruptions; more difficult and more expensive to get Alaska seafood to market.
- Added costs for harvesters and processors ensuring the safety of their workers on fishing vessels and processing lines, and the Alaska communities where they operate.



#### ASMI Revenue: 25% decrease

- ASMI, by statute, is funded via a voluntary assessment set by the Alaska seafood industry, based on the ex-vessel value of Alaska's commercial fisheries harvest.
  - The current assessment rate is set at .5%
- 20-25% drop in ex-vessel value equals approximately \$500 million in lost income to Alaska's commercial fleet.
- ASMI's revenue is expected to decline by \$5M over two years.
- Since FY 2018, ASMI has received no General Fund support and relies entirely on the industry assessment and competitive federal grant funding.



#### Global Consumer Responses to the Pandemic

- Increase in retail sales, especially in ecommerce, direct to consumer sales
  - U.S.: 122% yoy increase in seafood ecommerce sales
- Frozen seafood experiencing banner growth
  - U.S. : 35% yoy sales growth in frozen seafood; 24% in fresh
  - *Retail sales growth did not make up for sales losses at foodservice*
- More people cooking at home more often; unprecedented opportunity for education
- Consumers looking for immune-boosting, sustainable foods



#### COVID TRENDS

- RETAIL
- HEALTH
- SUSTAINABILTIY/ORIGIN
- CONVENIENCE
- HOME COOKING



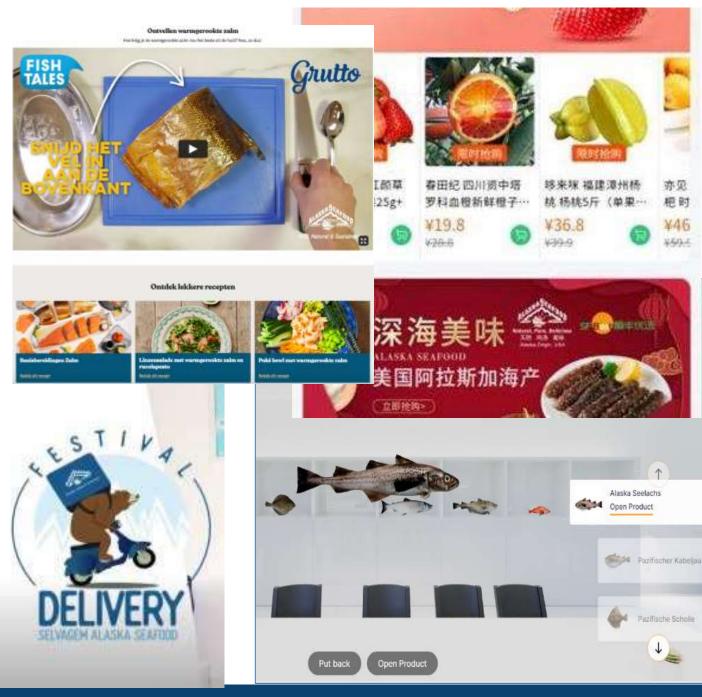


# INTERNATIONAL

**E-COMMERCE PROMOTIONS** see good rate of return in China and EU.

**TRADE MISSIONS** connect buyers and sellers from around the world

**SEAFOOD EXPOS** to facilitate sales of Alaska seafood



# RESTAURANT & RETAIL PROMOTIONS

- ASMI works with restaurants, retailers and organizations to promote Alaska Seafood to consumers
- #1 Protein Brand on U.S. Menus



## HEALTH

- 72% of consumers are putting more effort into eating healthy since the pandemic
- Many seafood consumers choose seafood because of specific nutrients, broad-based healthy claims, and no additives.



OF SEAFOOD CONSUMERS WANT TO BECOME MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS OF SEAFOOD (43% OF NON-SEAFOOD CONSUMERS).

#### **59%** OF SEAFOOD CONSUMERS

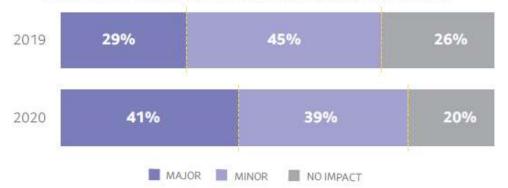
OF SEAFOOD CONSUMERS WHO HAVE BEEN EATING MORE SEAFOOD DURING THE PANDEMIC ARE DOING SO BECAUSE THEY ARE TRYING TO MAKE HEALTHY AND NUTRITIOUS CHOICES.



### SUSTAINABILITY/ORIGIN

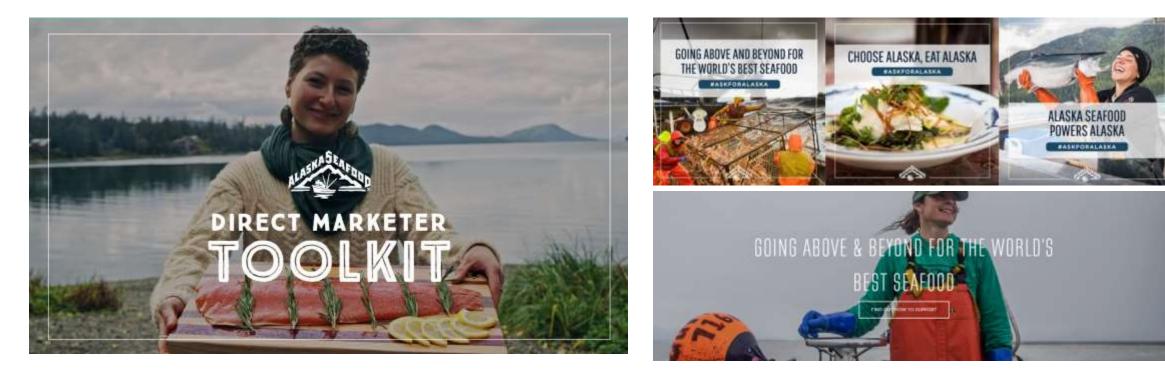
Concern for sustainability has gone up among seafood consumers from 29% in 2019 to 41% in 2020.

#### IMPACT OF SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD CERTIFICATIONS ON PURCHASE



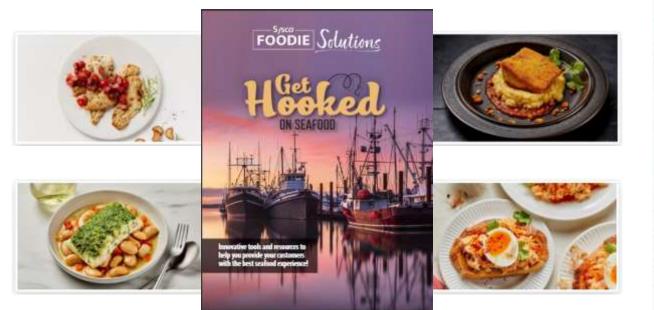


# LOCAL EATING





## TAKE-OUT





Video 1 in series: How-to create a high-quality and delicious take-out menu with Barton Seaver



# HOME COOKING



Restaurant Faves

Partnered with top chefs and influencers to share approachable tips on how to



Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute alaskassafood.org | wildeskassafood.com







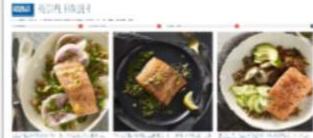


JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE CLASS!



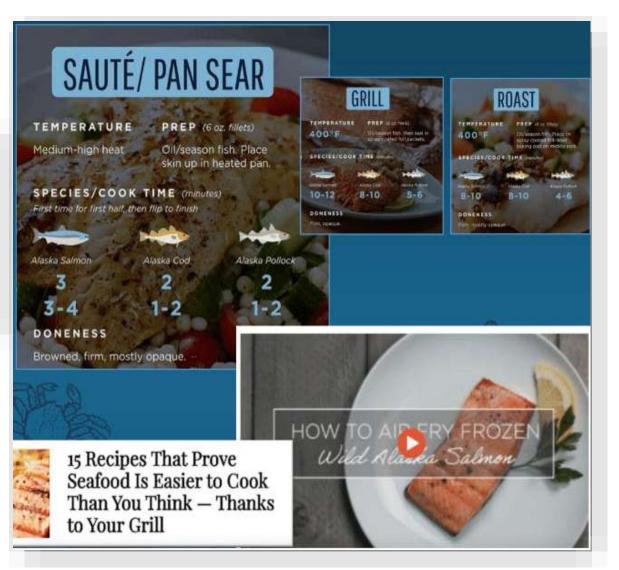


### HOME COOKING











#### Looking Ahead: Opportunities

- U.S. foodservice markets are expected to rebound in late 2021, in line with widespread vaccine distribution; new norms
- Consumers will continue to shop online and cook at home using new skills and recipes tested during the pandemic
- Consumers will continue to look for nutrientforward, sustainable and traceable proteins



#### Looking Ahead: Challenges

- Ongoing foodservice closures due to continued outbreaks, slow vaccination distribution
- Farmed salmon, cod and other competing products also redirected to retail downward price pressure on entire category.
- Continued challenges and significant costs to safely execute fisheries amid COVID-19 pandemic
- Continued shipping disruptions due to COVID-19
- Ongoing trade barriers with key export markets
- Continued volatile harvest projections for Alaska fisheries



#### COVID-19 Impact Tracking

- Briefing paper series
- Presentations
- Processor and harvester online surveys
- alaskaseafood.org/covid19



#### FOODSERVICE RETAIL INTERNATIONAL RFM CERTIFICATION

ABOUT THE CATCH HEALTH & NUTRITION QUALITY FOOD AID NEWS 🔍

Home » Covid-19 Impact Reports

#### COVID-19 IMPACT REPORTS

Impact Reports of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Alaska Seafood Industry are produced for ASMI by the McDowell Group.

#### Alaska Seafood COVID-19 Briefing Paper February 2021 Edition



Prepared on behalf of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute by McKinley Research Group (formerly McDowell Group), this series of briefing papers is intended to provide information on the depth and breadth of the pandemic's effects on Alaska's seafood industry.

#### COVID-19 Inspections in China Continue to Bottleneck Alaska Seafood

COVID-caused closures and slowdowns at key northern Chinese seafood processing ports continue to add costs for producers and complicate the process of getting some seafood to market. Import delays started last summer as Chinese authorities imposed strict COVID-19 inspection and sanitization protocols for imported frozen foods, including seafood. These protocols came despite the lack credible scientific evidence that the virus is transmitted by food or food packaging.<sup>1</sup>



### Thank you!

#### Jeremy Woodrow jwoodrow@alaskaseafood.org

### YOUR PRIDE IS OUR PRIDE.

#### Together, We Make Alaska Seafood Stronger.

From ocean to table, the heavy lifting doesn't stop here. Alaska Seafood Marleting Institute works to put your product into a variety of markets, from restaurants and grocery stores to university dining halls to hospitals and school lunch programs.

This is just one example of how Alaska Seafood Marleting Institute puts all hands on deck to tell the story of wild, sustainable Alaska seafood so you and your family can focus on fishing today and for generations to come.

