



# Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

1008 Fish Creek Rd

Juneau, AK 99801

Email: [kathy@seafa.org](mailto:kathy@seafa.org)

Phone: 907-586-6652

Cell Phone: 907-465-7666

Fax: 907-917-5470

Website: <http://www.seafa.org>

---

February 22, 2021

Senate Resources  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Juneau, AK 99801

**RE: SUPPORT for SB 64 – SHELLFISH PROJECTS; HATCHERIES; FEES**

Dear Senator Josh Revak, Chair and Committee Members,

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) is a multi-gear/multi-species non-profit commercial fishing association representing our 300+ members involved in the salmon, crab, shrimp and longline fisheries in Southeast and the Gulf of Alaska.

SEAFA supports SB 64 which will allow large-scale shellfish enhancement and restoration projects. It is inappropriate to continue permitting projects with a research permit as they grow to become viable economic projects and associated facilities. This legislation will provide an environmentally safe framework for the development of mariculture by providing a means to increase the harvest of shellfish in a sustainable manner providing the protections for wild stock as we did with the salmon hatchery legislation.

Another key piece of this legislation is amending the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) statutes to allow rather than specifically prohibit marketing of aquatic farm products.

Shellfish enhancement and restoration may play an important role in helping these species in adapting to ocean acidification and changes. The growth of the mariculture industry provides another opportunity for economic recovery in the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hansen  
Executive Director