



Strengthening Alaska's FISHERIES



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Accomplishments continued:

🔗 STABILIZING THE MARKET

In addition to efforts on trade, we have been focused on actions that can be taken to stem tariff impacts and further grow demand. As a result of those efforts, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced a \$30 million Section 32 purchase of pollock products, which builds on a \$20 million purchase in 2017, and a sizable pink salmon purchase in 2016.

🔗 ALASKAN NMFS DIRECTOR

We successfully pushed hard for an Alaskan to lead the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). In 2017, Chris Oliver was the first Alaskan ever appointed to the post after his 27 years at the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. Having Oliver at NMFS ensures the perspectives of Alaska's commercial, charter, and recreational fishermen will be well-represented.

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Dear Alaskan,

Enhancing Alaska's role as the "Superpower of Seafood" is a top priority of mine in the Senate. As a member of the Senate Commerce Committee and co-chair of the Oceans Caucus, I have worked relentlessly to continue the important work of my predecessor, Sen. Ted Stevens, who co-authored the Magnuson-Stevens Act, a critical piece of legislation for Alaska fisheries, in addition to many other fisheries issues of importance to Alaska.

Thank you again for all you do to make our seafood industry what it is today. Strengthening coastal communities, building the Alaska brand, and ensuring our fresh, wild Alaska seafood remains plentiful and strong on the domestic and international stage is a goal we all share.

U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan

Expanding Markets for Alaska Seafood

🐟 NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

We corrected a major loophole in the federal school lunch program that allowed the purchase of foreign-caught pollock that was erroneously labeled a "Product of USA." The most recent Farm Bill, signed by President Trump, included my "Buy American" amendment requiring only domestically landed and processed fish be included in the National School Lunch Program.

🐟 FUTURE TRADE AGREEMENTS

In President Obama's 2016 trade law, we included a provision requiring fisheries to be a principal negotiating objective for all future trade agreements. The measure will lead to a reduction or an elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers, eliminate subsidies that distort trade, and open new markets. Because of our provision, the recently negotiated U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (replacing NAFTA) features multiple important articles on fisheries, and future agreements with the EU and Japan will too.

🐟 PROTECTING AGAINST TARIFFS

We worked hard to educate the Trump administration about the unintended impacts on Alaskan-sourced seafood from the recent flood of tariffs on Chinese imports. We were able to secure the exclusion of two salmon-specific tariff lines from close to \$250 million worth of U.S. tariffs on goods from China.



Bolstering the Sustainability of Our Fisheries

🐟 FIGHTING THE OCEAN DEBRIS CRISIS

According to NOAA, 1.4 billion pounds of trash enter the ocean each year, endangering wildlife species and littering Alaska's shorelines. In late 2018, President Trump signed the *Save Our Seas (SOS) Act*, legislation I introduced with Senator Whitehouse (D-RI). The Act reauthorizes NOAA's Marine Debris Program, supports state clean-up efforts, and directs the U.S. State Department to engage with nations responsible for the majority of ocean debris, and work toward agreements on prevention and mitigation strategies.

🐟 COMBATTING ILLEGAL FISHING

Each year, illegal fishing produces millions of tons of seafood – threatening our fishermen and the overall health of our fisheries resources. In 2017, I worked with my colleagues to pass the *IUU Fishing Enforcement Act*, which increases enforcement capabilities for a number of international fishery agreements and gives our U.S. enforcement authorities, like the Coast Guard, the tools and resources they need.

🐟 ADDRESSING HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS

We worked across the aisle to reauthorize the *Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act* through 2022. Substantial funds authorized by this law have already gone to protect Alaska fisheries, including the Southeast geoduck clam.



🐟 TRANSBOUNDARY MINING

In 2018, former Lt. Governor Mallott and I traveled to Ottawa to press senior Canadian ministers on the threat of transboundary mines to Southeast fisheries. Later that year, the government of British Columbia began taking steps to clean up and close the Tulsequah Chief Mine, 40 miles northeast of Juneau.

🐟 COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION

I led the 2018 legislative re-authorization of the U.S. Coast Guard. We were able to lessen certain onerous logbook requirements, reduce regulatory burdens on Alaska fishermen, increase the influence of fishermen in safety regulations, and reduce the cost burden of building new fishing vessels. During my tenure, I've also led a major recapitalization effort of our Alaska-based Coast Guard assets, giving many the long-term certainty they've been asking for and bringing significant investments – in infrastructure and local housing – to our coastal communities.

🐟 VESSEL INCIDENTAL DISCHARGE ACT

We worked with a large group of stakeholders to provide vessel owners and operators relief from a patchwork of confusing federal regulations for ballast water and incidental discharges. After 15 years, the Act (VIDA) gives a permanent exemption to all small operators and fishermen from EPA incidental discharge permitting.

