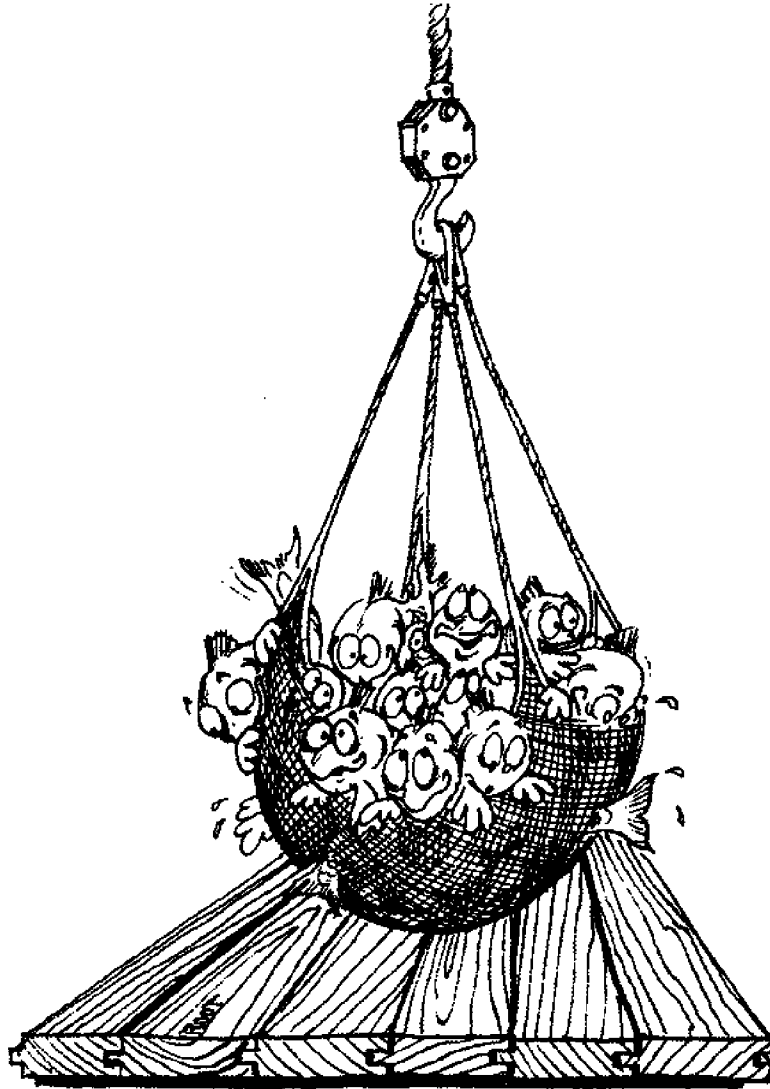


LOAN COPY ONLY

AKU-S-97-002 C2

Alaska Groundfish Fisherman Survey Results 1996



University of Alaska Sea Grant College Program



About the Survey Results

In 1996 Alaska Sea Grant conducted a survey of groundfish fishermen. The purpose of the survey was to get advice on what we can do through university research and information services to help keep marine resources viable and Alaska's seafood industry healthy. We mailed out 1,500 surveys to groundfish fishermen, and 135 were returned to us. This document, AK-ADMIN-32, has the results of that survey. Most comments—positive or negative—were left unedited. They are not the opinions of the publisher or affiliated agencies. If you participated in the survey, we thank you for your support. We are using the information to strengthen service to the industry. Please feel free to contact Sea Grant, the Marine Advisory staff, and the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute for how-to manuals and other information on commercial fishing in Alaska.

—University of Alaska Sea Grant Staff

Acknowledgments

Kurt Byers and Doug Schneider wrote the survey questions. Rose Pfund of Hawaii Sea Grant reviewed the questions and provided invaluable advice on construction of the survey. Susan Gibson designed the survey, Sherri Pristash distributed the survey, Micah Schorning recorded the results, Sue Keller and Carol Kaynor compiled and formatted the summary, and David Brenner created the charts and cover page for the summary. Illustration on cover is by Bud Root.

This work is sponsored by the University of Alaska Sea Grant College Program, which is cooperatively supported by the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA Office of Sea Grant, under grant no. NA46RG-0104, project A/75-01; and by the University of Alaska with state funds. The University of Alaska is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution.

Sea Grant is a unique partnership with public and private sectors combining research, education, and technology transfer for public service. This national network of universities meets changing environmental and economic needs of people in our coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes regions.

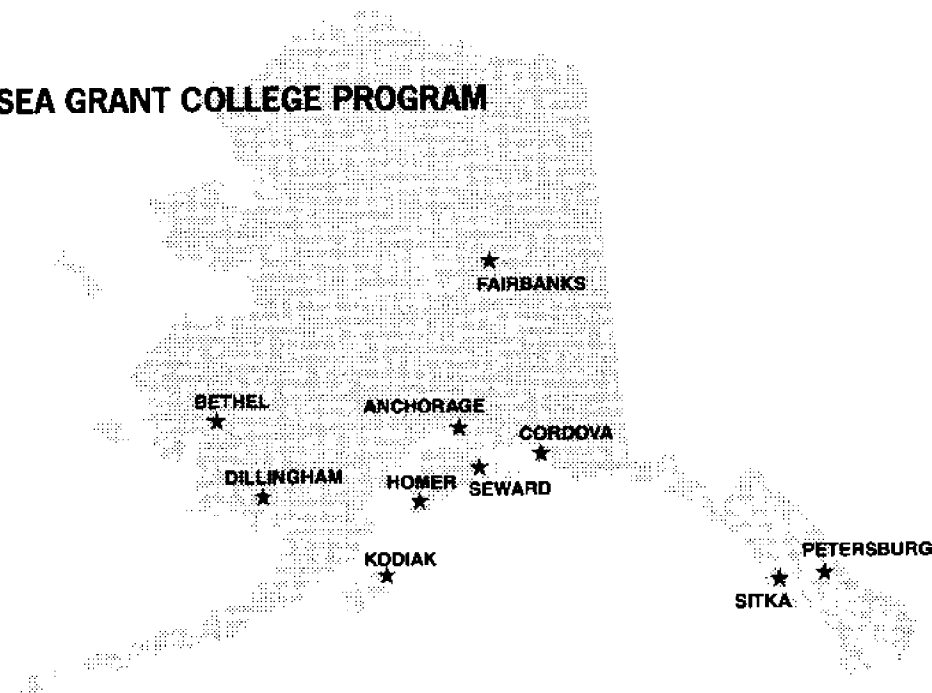
AK-ADMIN-32
1997



ALASKA SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

Alaska Sea Grant College Program
University of Alaska Fairbanks
P.O. Box 755040
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5040
(907) 474-6707, Fax (907) 474-6285
<http://www.uaf.edu/seagrant>

Sherri Pristash
Publication Sales Manager



ALASKA SEA GRANT MARINE ADVISORY PROGRAM

ANCHORAGE

Donald E. Kramer, Chairman
Seafood Technology Specialist
AFDEK@uaa.alaska.edu

Ellie Evans
Administrative Assistant
ANEJE@uaa.alaska.edu

Deborah Mercy
Instructional Media Specialist
ANDAM@uaa.alaska.edu

Ray RaLonde, Assoc. Chairman
Aquaculture Specialist
AFRLR@uaa.alaska.edu

Rick Steiner, Assoc. Chairman
Fisheries Specialist
AFRGS@uaa.alaska.edu

Marine Advisory Program
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Carlton Trust Building, #110
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4140
(907) 274-9691, Fax (907) 277-5242
http://hess.ims.alaska.edu:8000/MAP/MAP_home.html

BETHEL

Jerene Hoffman Sumpter
Assistant Agent
UAF Kuskokwim Campus
P.O. Box 368
Bethel, Alaska 99559
(907) 543-4515
Fax (907) 543-4527
LNGLS@aurora.alaska.edu

CORDOVA

Belle Mickelson
P.O. Box 830
Cordova, Alaska 99574
(907) 424-3446
Fax (907) 424-5246

DILLINGHAM

Terry Johnson
Marine Advisory Agent
P.O. Box 1549
Dillingham, Alaska 99576
(907) 842-1265
Fax (907) 842-3202
RFTLJ@aurora.alaska.edu

HOMER

D. Douglas Coughenower
Marine Advisory Agent
4014 Lake Street, Suite 201B
Homer, Alaska 99603
(907) 235-5643
Fax (907) 235-6048
FFDDC@aurora.alaska.edu

KODIAK

Chuck Crapo
Seafood Quality Specialist
(907) 486-1515
DFCAC@uaa.alaska.edu

Kate Wynne
Marine Mammal Specialist
(907) 486-1517
FFKMW@aurora.alaska.edu

Fishery Industrial Technology Center
900 Trident Way
Kodiak, Alaska 99615
(907) 486-1500
Fax (907) 486-1540

PETERSBURG

Brian Paust
Marine Advisory Agent
P.O. Box 1329
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
(907) 772-3381
Fax (907) 772-4431
FFBCP@acad1.alaska.edu

SEWARD

(first Monday and Tuesday
each month)

D. Douglas Coughenower
Marine Advisory Agent
Seward Marine Center
P.O. Box 730
Seward, Alaska 99664
(907) 224-5261
Fax (907) 224-3392

SITKA

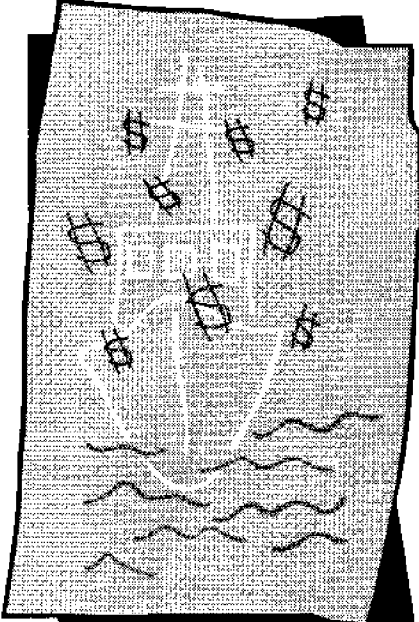
Dolly Garza
Marine Advisory Agent
700 Katlian St. #D
Sitka, Alaska 99835-7314
(907) 747-3988
Fax (907) 747-1443
FFDAG@aurora.alaska.edu

Contents

Page	
7	Question 1. Which of the following University of Alaska seafood development and fishery research programs have you heard of?
7	Question 2. How did you hear of these programs?
8	Question 3. Sea Grant, through its Marine Advisory Program, sponsors workshops around the state on topics of interest to fishermen. What workshops would you attend?
8	Question 4. Sea Grant publishes many books and videos to help fishermen improve product quality, safety, etc. What kinds of self-help books and videos could you use?
10	Question 5. How do you get your fishing/seafood trade news?
10	Question 6. Which seafood industry trade publications do you regularly read?
11	Question 7. What industry trade shows do you attend?
11	Question 8. Does your company use computers?
12	Question 9. If yes, how do you use your computer?
12	Question 10. Do you use the Internet to gather fishing industry information?
13	Question 11. Listed below are topics addressed by Alaska Sea Grant research and advisory services. Which ones are most important to you? Please number in order of priority, (1) being highest priority.
13	Question 12. If a University of Alaska scientist visited your operation and told you he/she had money to spend on seafood industry research, what would you suggest be studied?
16	Question 13. If you had children, would you encourage them to pursue a career in commercial fishing? Why or why not?
19	Question 14. Should more be done to expand shellfish farming in Alaska? Why or why not?
20	Question 15. Should Alaska state lawmakers legalize salmon farming? Why or why not?
24	Question 16. Do you think Alaska's federally regulated fisheries are well managed? Why or why not?
26	Question 17. What do you consider the biggest threat to the long-term abundance of Alaska's North Pacific fish stocks?
29	Question 18. What do you consider the biggest threat to Alaska's share of the world seafood market?
32	Question 19. What do you think should be done to increase seafood consumption in the United States?
35	Question 20. What can the University of Alaska do to help keep Alaska's seafood industry strong?

Alaska Sea Grant

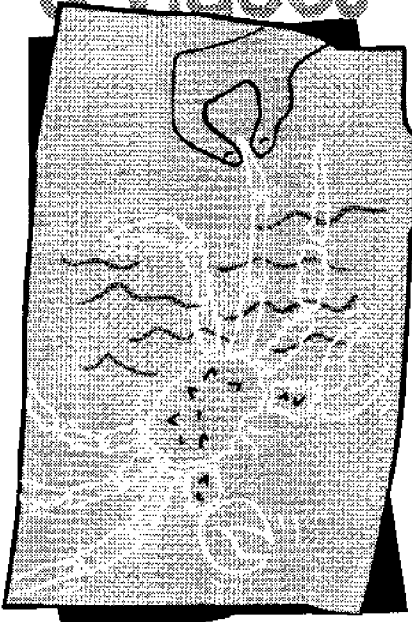
Fishing Business Guides



JUNE 1997

Alaska Sea Grant

Seafood Handling Publications & Videos



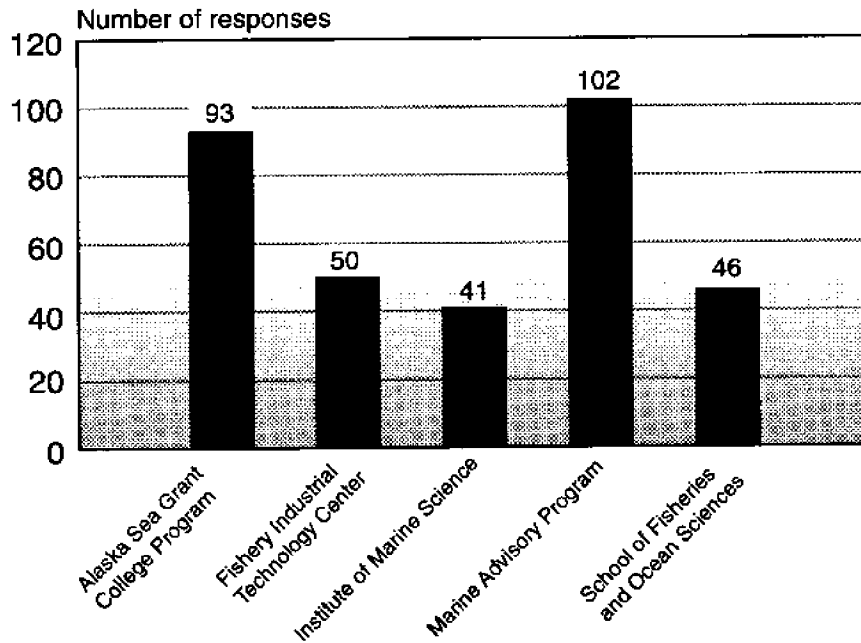
JUNE 1997

Alaska Sea Grant publishes books and videos useful to processors and fishermen. For free copies of these and other catalogs, contact us at (907) 474-6707.

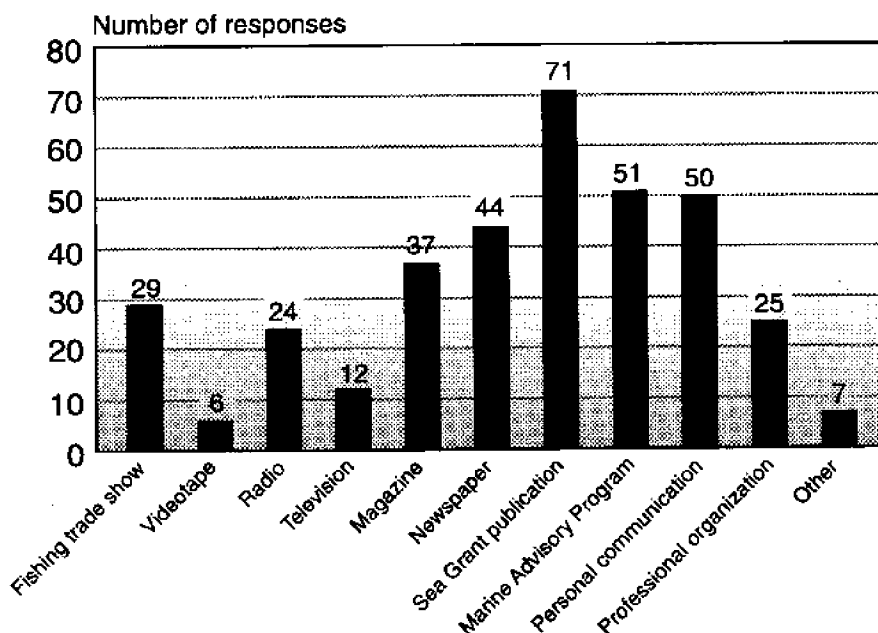
Contact the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) for a catalog with a wide selection of seafood handling publications and videos. (800) 854-3054.

Alaska Groundfish Fisherman Survey

1. Which of the following University of Alaska seafood development and fishery research programs have you heard of? Please circle all that apply.



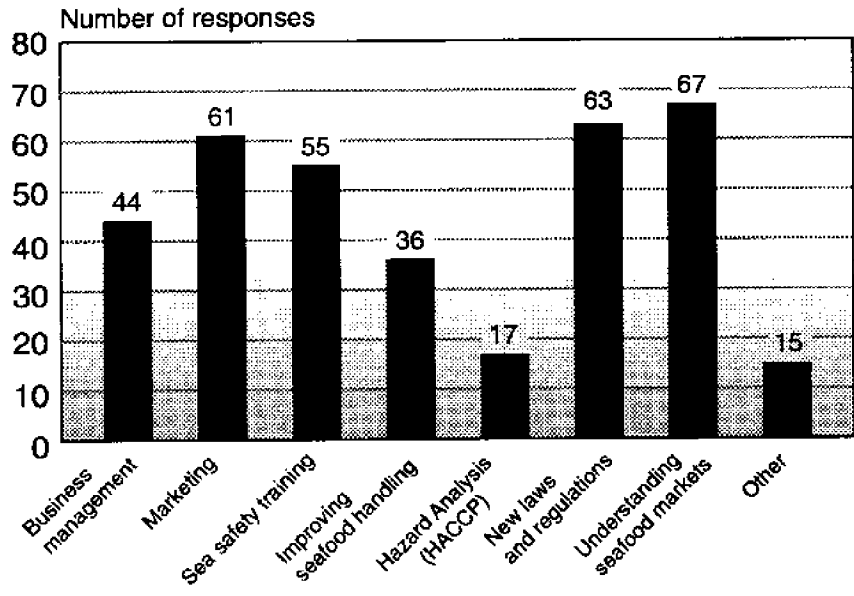
2. How did you hear of these programs? Circle all that apply.



Other sources:

- College.
- Worked for UAF (SFOS).
- Fishermen.
- Friends.

3. Sea Grant, through its Marine Advisory Program, sponsors workshops around the state on topics of interest to fishermen. What workshops would you attend? Circle all that apply.



- Other workshops:**
- Obtaining DEC small vessel processing permit.
 - Fishermen and IRS.
 - Product development.
 - Government laws regarding industry and ability of officers to interest them.
 - New fishing methods/ technologies.

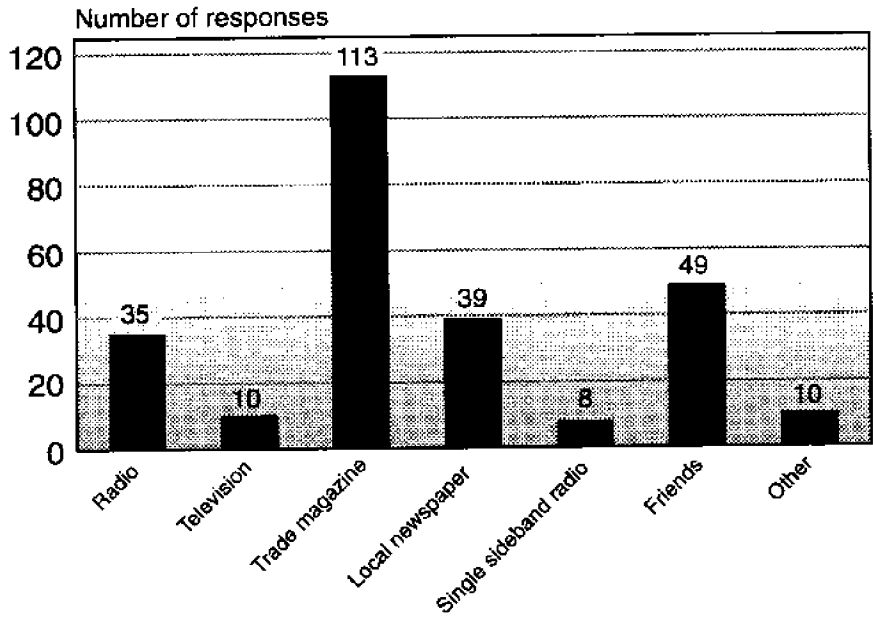
4. Sea Grant publishes many books and videos to help fishermen improve product quality, safety, etc. What kinds of self-help books and videos could you use?

- Not sure.
- Financing a seafood aquaculture business in scallops.
- Marketing your own catch.
- Getting through the processing permit application.
- HACCP and the small smoker op.
- HACCP and the small freezer op.
- I have used some and carry some on board to help train crew.
- Safety for general operation on board during longlining, seining, and gillnetting.
- Computer accessing maps, weather reports.
- Halibut cleaning technique.
- Keep the diversity.
- Steps to get through intergovernmental regulations for licensing, processing, etc.
- Fish handling.
- We really liked the rockfish and flatfish identification books. They are the most useful things from you. You should make a video on how to bleed, dress and ice fish properly and for each gear type—seine, gillnet, and troll.
- Processors could have fishermen delivering poor quality. Watch the video.
- Marketing strategies, seafood quality information etc.
- Longline theory and studies.
- Whitefish fishing is continually becoming more complex, reporting requirements, logbooks, certifications etc. We need to start increasing a knowledgeable pool of people and future fishing captains.
- Safety mostly.
- Books/videos for crew to watch/read for fish handling and safety.
- Quality control.
- Self-directed seafood marketing, underutilized seafood processing.
- Business management, marketing, improving seafood handling, new laws and regs.
- I'm happy with selection.

4. (Continued.) Sea Grant publishes many books, posters, and videos to help seafood processors improve product quality, safety, etc. What kinds of self-help books and videos could you use?

- Safety training for crew and skipper. Fish handling, filleting, and preserving of fish, i.e., salting, smoking and freezing.
- How to get fish hooks out of hands without cutting. Where to buy scalpels and local anesthesia for such operations.
- Marketing my own catch, a listing of potential distribution companies.
- I would like information on and uses for skates.
- Fish ID. Vessel catching and retaining systems.
- Fish handling videos, dressing procedures for groundfish and salmon.
- Fish identification—rockfish, sharks, and shrimp. Fishing gear—types and use. How to use basic electronics—plotters, GPS. Chart computers—fish finders.
- Basic refrigeration.
- Business management, marketing, sea safety training, improving seafood handling, HACCP, new laws and regs, understanding seafood markets.
- New laws and regs for existing fisheries.
- Safety on sinking vessel. Medical safety.
- Understanding refrigeration and product handling.
- How to fill out a log book and not get busted!
- Safety and product quality.
- Safety—perhaps for annual training or refresher. Fill CF requirement.
- Ones that are not published with government funds. Let the private sector fill the need.
- As long as the Sea Grant publications can be self-supporting. Maybe less money should be spent on sending surveys to the fishermen, instead send promotions to consumers.
- Marketing your own product. Info on cold storage and value-added processing.
- Detailed bookkeeping hints and recommendations for catcher/processor, catcher/sellers, and catcher/exporters.
- Marketing.
- Gutting and different cuts of various fish in video for crew members for ease of learning.
- Video—small vessel processing. Obtaining DEC permit and satisfying requirements for other permits.
- Developing new fisheries. Marketing one's catch. Buyer contacts.
- All in all Sea Grant does a good job.
- Gear design and construction. Pots—new technologies (design).
- All the ones I've seen paint a misleading picture. I haven't seen a video or read a story that contains actual methods of catching. If the products are poor upon landing, it is second rate all the way.
- Boat handling, sea safety and first aid.
- Improving seafood handling.
- Help with tax time (IRS).
- Video of escape patterns on trawl nets in action. Also published results of such surveys. Taking of underutilized species such as squid.
- Quality improvement and marketing.
- Business management and marketing.
- Safety
- 101 things to do with pink salmon.
- How to comply with safety drill requirements.

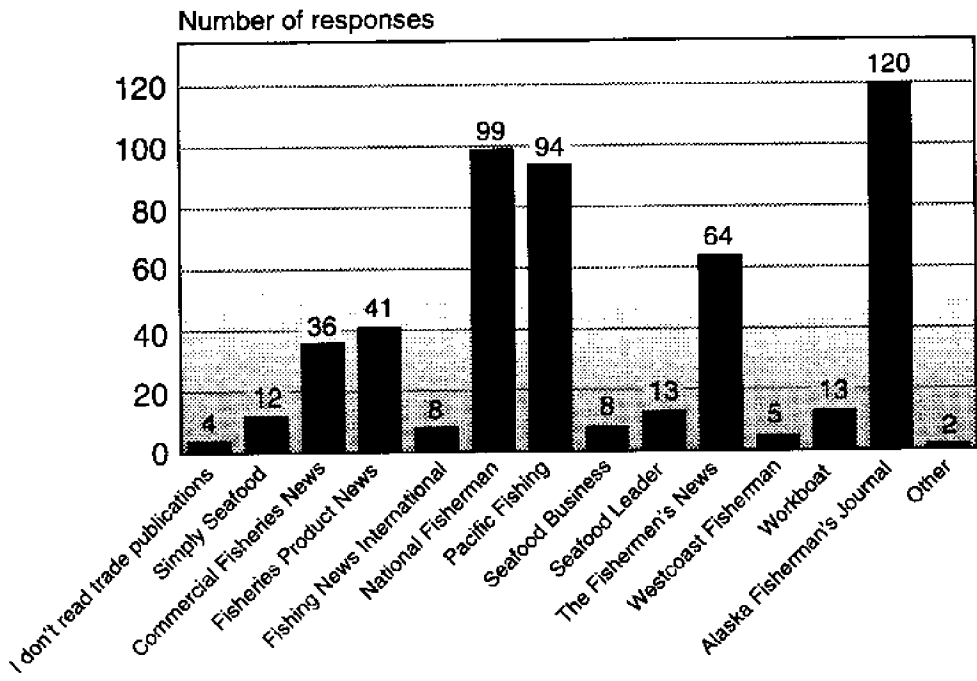
5. How do you get your fishing/seafood trade news? Circle the one that is your best source.



Other sources:

- Industry groups.
- Fishing vessel owners association.
- Organization of fishing interest.
- ADFG Homer or Kenai.
- Involved in Board International Salmon Treaty Process.
- Trade organizations.

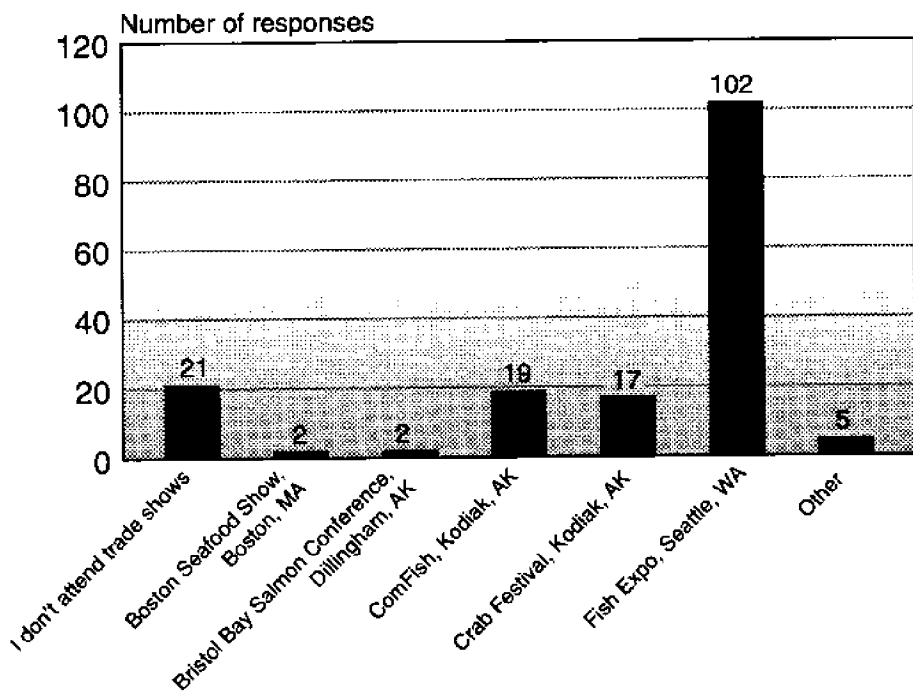
6. Which seafood industry trade publications do you regularly read? Circle all that apply.



Other publications:

- IPHC.
- Department of commerce, fax back—seafood prices.

7. What industry trade shows do you attend? Circle all that apply.



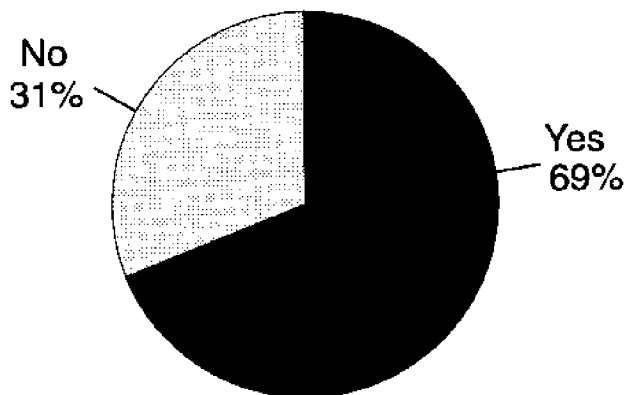
Other trade shows:

California Buyers Show.

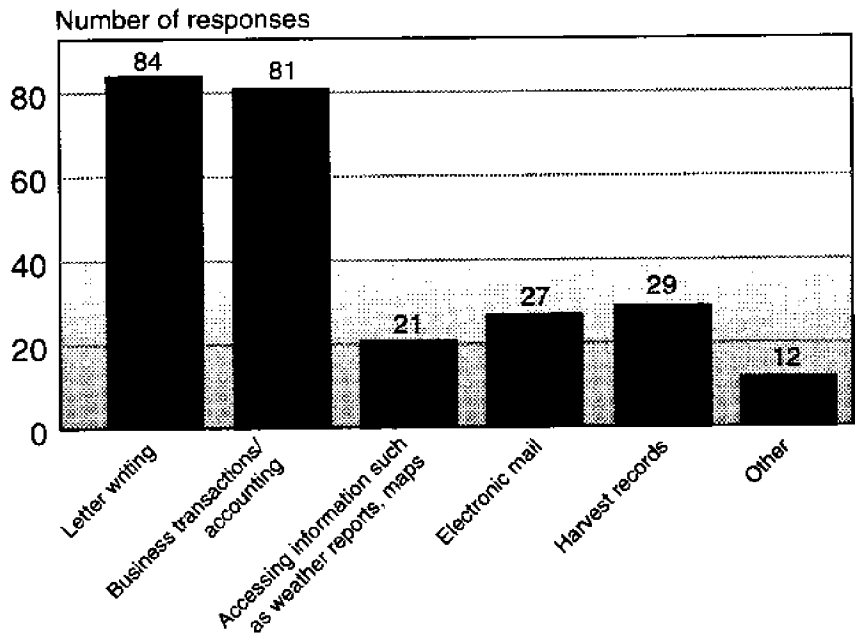
Homer Expo.

Bristol Bay Fish Conference.

8. Does your company use computers?



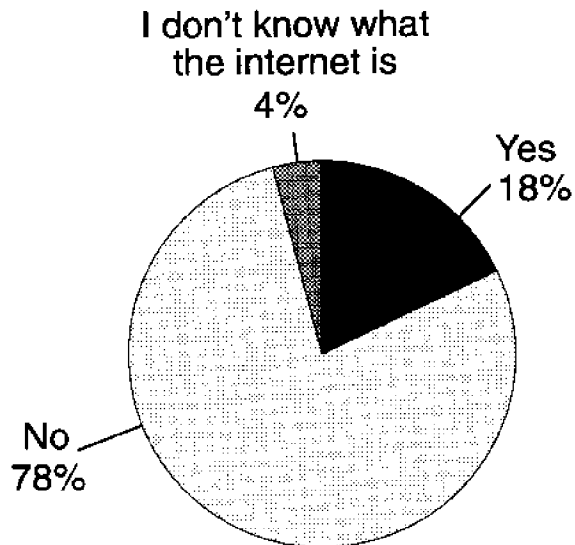
9. If yes, how do you use your computer? Circle all that apply.



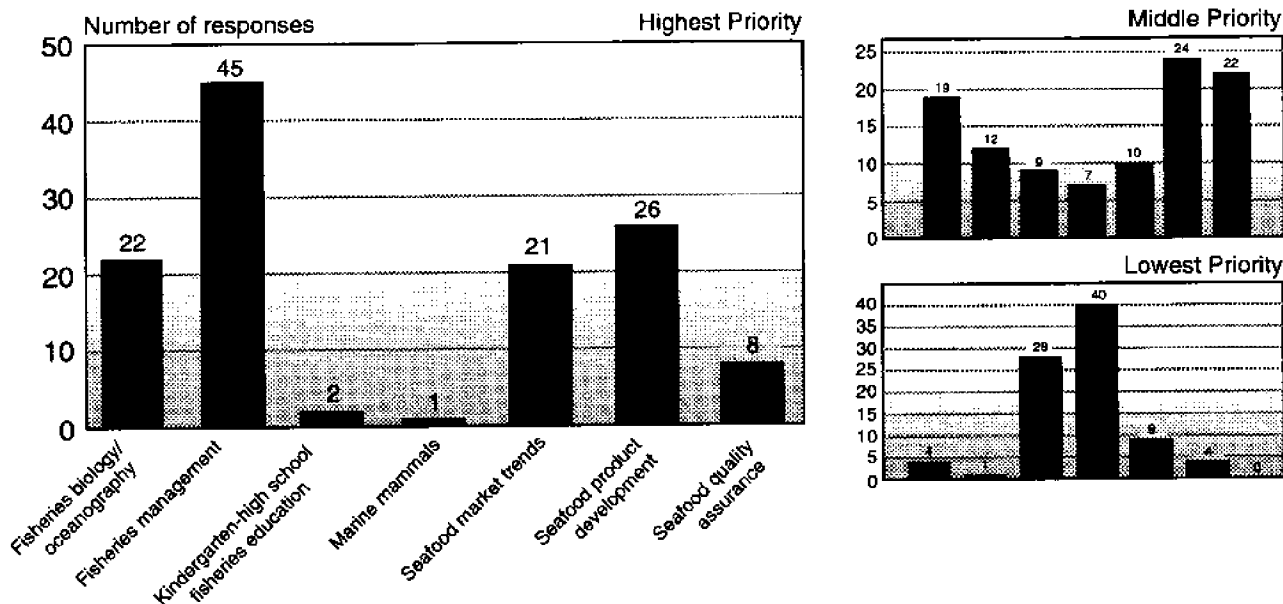
Other uses:

- Faxes.
- Plotter and navigation.
- CAD.
- Navigation—satellite communication.
- Jobs.
- Electronic charting onboard.

10. Do you use the internet to gather fishing industry information?



11. Listed below are topics addressed by Alaska Sea Grant research and advisory services. Which ones are most important to you? Please number in order of priority, (1) being highest priority.



12. If a University of Alaska scientist visited your operation and told you he/she had money to spend on seafood industry research, what would you suggest be studied?

The mismanagement of ADFG in Area E Prince William Sound.

The information needed to raise scallops is in Equator. Raise scallops, they sell for big money. Big Money.

Markets.

How to get the kids from the docks into the type of courses needed to be managers of fisheries decisions.

Product development and markets.

Economic barriers to lowering cost of operations (legal); i.e., 32-foot limit Bristol Bay. Seine drum, seining prohibition.

Prohibit using vessels in more than one statistical area (salmon).

Shrimp populations of Western Prince William Sound.

Value-added for chum salmon.

Relation between high value commercial species (i.e. crab, halibut, shrimp, salmon) and low value commercial species (i.e. cod and pollock)

in the ocean environment such as food competition and predation.

Market options.

To help the fishermen in bad seasons.

Product development and quality control.

Local impacts. Do IFQs really work?

Preserving quality and preserving the ecosystem and bottom integrity.

Underutilized species—skates, flounder, etc.

Helping small market stay viable localizing Alaskan fisheries for more product enhancement instead of a raw resource extraction system.

Ocean rearing holding capacity.

Methods to develop stable domestic markets for salmon products. The processor is becoming a very important part as they must be able to assure product without foreign control.

Product development and how to better utilize species such as arrowtooth. Market analysis of whitefish commodities, cause and effect of market condition.

12. (Continued.) If a University of Alaska scientist visited your operation and told you he/she had money to spend on seafood industry research, what would you suggest be studied?

The significance and impact of salmon hatcheries on the commercial fishermen's salmon prices.

Somehow exhibit to fishers that quality handling of the fish catch is of the highest priority.

Rehab crab and shrimp stocks in Gulf of Alaska.

How trawling is affecting other fisheries. How seafood is handled after it leaves the boat in order to arrive at many markets in such bad shape. How government regs are smothering small operations.

Interaction of fish species and stocks, predator/prey relationships.

Getting USCG regs repealed or give us money to pack our rafts and get all the BS safety gear (about \$1200 a year).

Underutilized species, new opportunities.

Added value product.

Right now NSRAA is trying to get assistance on 2 new projects to improve marine survival of smolt releases by timing of when they are released from pens.

New markets, how small processor can get started.

Ways to improve quality of fish at the market. SE AK coastal stream study. Habitat reconstruction enhancement of coho and sockeye. Use of nonproducing lakes and streams as enhancement projects for nonprofit.

Product development.

Open up stores in US to sell seafood.

Crab and shrimp stocks.

Overharvesting of hatchery fish.

Gear, use of boats under 55 feet to harvest underutilized species.

Stock ID on salmon and groundfish stock assistance.

Seafood marketing.

How they can save money. Or marketing programs to sell salmon surpluses, maybe canned salmon tee shirt offers/promotions, maybe buy one get one free coupons.

Habitat diversified products and marketing, helping put laws in place to protect the habitat and fish.

Quality and marketing.

Opening of crab closure areas to trawling to reduce stocks of predators such as codfish and assist the populations of depleted crab. Methods of harvesting squid without bycatch problems. Value-added products, new products especially for salmon. Health benefits of eating fish with results made public.

Interactions between marine species, i.e. sea lions and otters and their food.

New products.

How small fishing enterprises could establish a market for their product (especially given all the regs and agendas involved).

Fish quality and domestic markets.

Salmon marketing.

Need to develop a few new markets for underutilized species, such as sharks, squid, etc.

Water quality: farmed fish versus wild stock.

This question I cannot answer; everyone wants more research done on their particular fishery. Mine is salmon. About groundfish I don't know where to start. (200 mile zone was the best.)

New value-added products.

Begin to learn something about sablefish early development and life cycle.

Herring in PWS and salmon aquaculture.

New products made from low cost salmon. What to do with chum and pinks.

Nothing, give the money back to the taxpayers.

Whichever would benefit my operation.

Release fish mortality and crippling fish population/biology studies and effect on growth.

Value-added products.

Market and resource available trends.

Taking pinbones out of salmon to make them more appetizing.

Fishing management in Alaska.

Product development.

12. (Continued.) If a University of Alaska scientist visited your operation and told you he/she had money to spend on seafood industry research, what would you suggest be studied?

- The nasty trend of hatchery fish slowly killing off wild stock salmon, i.e., Prince William Sound and the overabundance of chum in Southeast this year.
- King salmon migration, the destruction of pollock and cod due to small shellfish fingerlings, in essence they are eating up everything.
- High seas management, salmon marketing, and product development.
- It would depend on fishery, i.e., salmon—new markets and user friendly products. Halibut—biomass evaluation methods and ways of dealing with new IFQ system. Developing fisheries (octopus, snails, etc.)—new ways to catch and market. Herring—understanding markets and biomass assessment.
- Halibut and crab life cycles.
- How well-managed mixed stock fisheries away from terminal salmon areas are needed for salmon quality. The long-term effects of hard bottom trawling to crab and juvenile groundfish productivity.
- Bycatch reduction and gear groups responsible.
- Marketing product.
- Short term—tagging salmon caught in Cook Inlet area to determine river of origin. Long term—how are cod and pollock in Kachemak Bay affecting shellfish?
- Crab.
- New product forms to get away from the same old fish.
- The adverse socioeconomic impact that IFQs have had on small boat fishermen and small fishing communities.
- Efficient use of the tons of protein that are released each season in the form of skates and gray cod.
- Fish finding techniques.
- Destruction of basic food chain by hard on bottom trawling.
- More ways to utilize seafood products, especially waste products.
- Fishing quotas and new marketing. How can we get more money for our salmon products?
- Fish identification with sonar. Fish predators feeding on small fry salmon, crab and shrimp.
- Educate the public in Alaska and out of state about salmon. Life cycle and return, how it works. We have politicians in Alaska who want to manage but know nothing about what they're trying to encourage.
- New product research on value-added seafood.
- Marketing for the fishermen.
- How hatcheries have affected the price of fish through overproduction.
- Mainly programs involving some way of getting Alaskan fishermen residents to get more shares of our Alaskan fish resources.
- Fleet reduction throughout, for salmon. Increases in efficiency in boats/gear simply transforms into increased competition (uncontrolled, disorderly and wasteful, in Bristol Bay).
- Education of public. Training on how to prepare fresh fish in market trade shows. Improvement of quality on small boats. This would involve insulation, storage compartments, refrigeration, and consequently stability issues. Perhaps an engineer. Also delivery systems need to be improved. Most trailors and fish pitches injure fish.
- Marketing second, but first would be the biological cycle of both halibut and black cod.
- Further utilization of bycatch.
- How to maintain quality.
- The marketing of discarded edible seafood while at sea.
- How to package pink salmon so it would sell.
- New products.
- New fisheries and marketing salmon.
- Shrimp stock in Southeast Alaska. Currently there has been no study and it is soon to be limited entry.
- Value-added processing. Control for US market on fish products.
- Better fresh market transportation.
- How to improve markets.

12. (Continued.) If a University of Alaska scientist visited your operation and told you he/she had money to spend on seafood industry research, what would you suggest be studied?

Interception of Cook Inlet fish in Kodiak, PWS, False Pass, and Chignak.

Salmon—food supplies and effects of large hatchery releases on wild.

Effect of hard on bottom trawling on ocean floor ecosystem.

Fisheries biology.

Marketing strategies of Alaska seafood products.

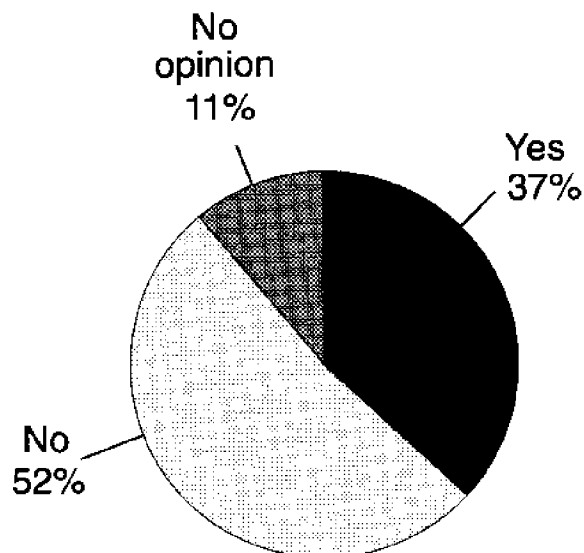
Marketing

Diversification of processing and manufacturing of fish. The removal of pinbones. Stop the negative words now being used to portray the arrival of fish. Bad news takes people to the garbage dump.

Rockfish hook and release survival.

Ways to make a pink salmon appear on Mr. and Mrs. America's monthly menu.

13. If you had children, would you encourage them to pursue a career in commercial fishing? Why or why not?



Yes. Additional comments:

Good opportunities and lifestyle for hard-working people as long as they stay out of the overcapitalization trap.

If they loved that kind of work, if it makes them happy. I would encourage a college education also.

Narrowing field of opportunities, we can show our children the ropes.

I have 4 children and I think that 2 of them could become successful fishermen.

Our ancestors have fished for centuries in Europe and North America.

Mainly because we come from a long line of fishermen that love the ocean; not much else available in Alaska.

Fishing is a renewable resource and it is a fine way to make a living.

If there's anything left of fish.

It has been a family operation.

Part time but get an education.

It is my opinion that they should inherit that which is rightfully theirs.

We do, they have, they are. It's a good life if we can keep politics out of it and keep biology in.

Commercial fishing has been our family business. It teaches self reliance and many values I consider important. It is dangerous at times and that is scary; also there are threats to the continuation of the industry which is disheartening.

If they want. One daughter has been deckhand in summer.

It can be a viable business.

If the child really was happy doing it, other wise no.

Because it's not a 9-5 job.

For longline.

If the fisheries are managed properly from now until then.

13. (Continued.) If you had children, would you encourage them to pursue a career in commercial fishing? Why or why not?

Yes, comments (continued):

To make money to go to college.

Only if they were truly interested, not only for money, but for the lifestyle.

Fishing is our heritage and way of life.

Independent lifestyle.

Although opportunities will be limited in the future I believe fishing will still be a good way to make a living.

With the multitude of changes in fisheries management for their future benefit. They are sure to continue the vision of long-term viable fish populations and industry.

Qualified: We have a fourth generation fishing business in Alaska.

It's self employment.

It's a good lifestyle as long as the state remains conservative in its management philosophies and preserves the environment.

Seafood will contribute to world consumption—how much?

It is an honest and very rewarding occupation. It has challenges and demands hard work, good ethics as well.

Because it is an honest way to make a living.

I wouldn't encourage or discourage them. I would let them decide and support that decision whatever it may be.

I would like to show them the realities of the industry and let them decide.

No. Additional comments:

The uncertainty in the regs and in the resources.

Future looks bad.

Because we appear to be on our way to destroying the industry.

Overregulated and government is giving away the resource.

Would like to see support for industry. Politics can destroy—it has been done in Florida, East Coast, Gulf and California.

Fishermen need to do it for enjoyment.

Our fishery is dying due to the heavy political pressure placed on us without biological data required to substantiate any changes made in managing our fishery, and we do not have the populations to make any impact on the situation.

Too much governmental bureaucracy. The aggressive levels/frustration factors are increasing faster than the returns.

Future too uncertain; have two daughters; crab and longline too brutal, labor intensive.

Area E is dying due to mismanagement, and tourism is taking over.

Paychecks are shrinking. Fish hatcheries around the world funded by US government are producing ever cheaper salmon and other seafood. South Korea, New Zealand, etc.

Maybe see how it goes in the future.

Static industry.

It continues to be like gold mining instead of evolving. The same scenario that killed commercial fishing in the lower 48 is being played out here.

Unstable due to politicians and special interests control, too expensive to buy into.

Lack of support, sport boat gaining control, commercial fisheries losing control.

Too much initial outlay, regulation, and competition in the market.

The price of permits and gear does not justify the fishing today.

Too unstable.

It's a dying breed because of farmed fish.

Future is too precarious. Markets will no longer rebound during poor return years in our area because of massive worldwide production.

I'm a troller; trolling by itself is not financially viable. Unless the world becomes salmon eaters, the competition between farmed and wild fish will keep prices down. Other salmon permits, IFQs and total startup costs make entering a fishery as a young person financially impossible.

Downhill business, with factory trawlers themselves in general destroying the system.

13. (Continued.) If you had children, would you encourage them to pursue a career in commercial fishing? Why or why not?

No, comments (continued):

There is no future.

Not in salmon fishing.

Too volatile and expensive.

Too dangerous.

We appear to be the buffalo hunters of the 20th century.

Too uncertain and hazardous.

Fishing commercially is getting harder and harder to get into and to support a family.

An overall trend by government to allow the small commercial fishermen to be squeezed out of the resource.

Factory trawlers are scalping every resource which belongs to all people in USA.

No return on investment. Let's face it, it's a lifestyle choice.

Management has failed to keep fisheries available in this area.

No money in it, becoming too controlled, not enough fisheries to participate in tough financial time.

Safety, cost of permits and cost of IFQs.

Fishing industry's provincial attitude and inability to make constructive changes to adapt.

I would not encourage, but would not discourage. They have strength and gifts better applied in other fields.

Unsure markets, prohibit cost of permits.

Because it's not worth it anymore.

We need to lose many fishermen now before the fisheries stabilize. We don't need more and won't for many years.

NMFS.

Fishing costs are increasing, price is going down.

It looks like it's going the way of the buffalo hunters.

Too much investment is required to have a viable fishing business nowadays.

High costs and uncertain future in a time of shrinking commercial fishing grounds.

It's becoming a terrible way to make a living. Political issues—overzealous sporties trying to shut down a 100 year tradition due to greed and lack of education.

With the implementation on IFQs and moratoriums, very little opportunity available. Would encourage a college education first and then possibly salmon fishing, more as a lifestyle choice than economic.

Politics are managing the fisheries, not sound biological management. Politics is special interest and makes the industry very unstable depending on what administration is in power. A fisherman's whole life's work and investment can be regulated away without any compensation or remorse.

I see a trend toward small-time mom and pop type fishing being phased out (quota shares) so the lifestyle, which is more of a reason to fish than the money, is not there anymore.

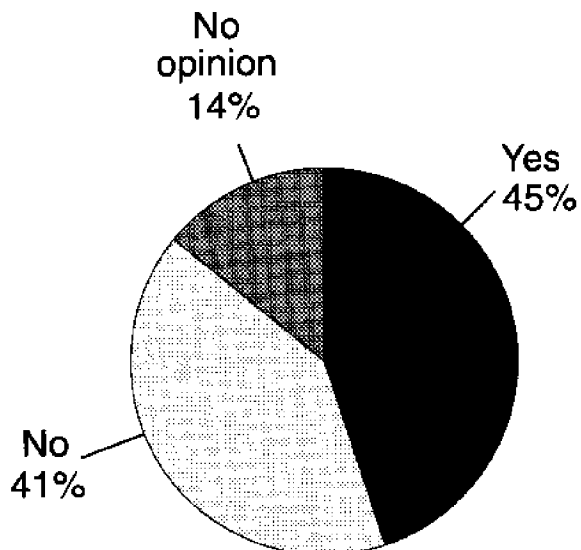
No stability, overregulated, lack of opportunities for entry into most fisheries with our major financial resources.

Future looks financially dim without major changes in industry.

Does not look good long term.

Tourist and government are taking over.

14. Should more be done to expand shellfish farming in Alaska? Why or why not?



Yes. Additional comments:

- Stability.
- Snails.
- Crab stock enhancement research.
- A profitable market. It is limited, so make sure Alaska receives a fish tax break.
- Only in a careful and small way, with lots of public. Maybe a nonprofit hatchery system for harvest, much like salmon, for abalone.
- It is a good environment for shellfish and produces jobs and doesn't appear to cause any harm. With more production marketing costs would fall and make it more profitable.
- This would be beneficial to diversify the fishing industry.
- Future industry, let's not miss the boat on this one.
- The markets are there and my perception is that the shellfish niche is wide open. If not, why do I see so many pond-rearing shrimp and imported shrimp from SE Asia in Alaska supermarkets?
- Our waters are pristine and the seafood industry needs to offer versatility and options. This industry is underutilized.
- To strengthen coastal economies, and forestall the trend of brightest young people leaving rural Alaska.

- Farming is more stable and shellfish are a high-price product.
- For market share.
- Farmed product is increasing in popularity and gaining market share.
- Provided they are located in only a few areas.
- Any food put on the market increases the share of the market place.
- Shellfish such as scallops and the dredge fishery are less than desirable to the marine environment.
- Because it allows Alaskans to work here rather than outsiders.
- I think it would be cheaper if grown in Alaska.
- Because of decline of wild stock.
- Only if it does not tie up your bays and estuaries.
- Research only! Markets should be found by private enterprise.
- The 20 acres in Halibut Cove Lagoon should be fully utilized for other shellfish mussels.
- Good low impact use of shoreline. Good indicator for changes in ocean.
- This is a world trend. We should compete for markets instead of head in the sand.
- Aquaculture enhancement, not mariculture.
- This seems to be expanding; information can be used to help increase efficiency; I'm in favor.
- Viable market, relatively low startup costs.

No. Additional comments:

- Not until the present farms can make viable profits.
- You will kill off fishermen's jobs.
- Look what happened to the salmon market.
- Right now it's a scam. The oyster farmers are going broke so now they are stealing the clams.
- Habitat destruction, degradation of water quality.
- Shellfish farms leads to fish farming and the wild stocks suffers.
- I believe tampering with nature is proving to be detrimental in the long run.
- Let the present level of permits mature.

14. (Continued.) Should more be done to expand shellfish farming in Alaska? Why or why not?

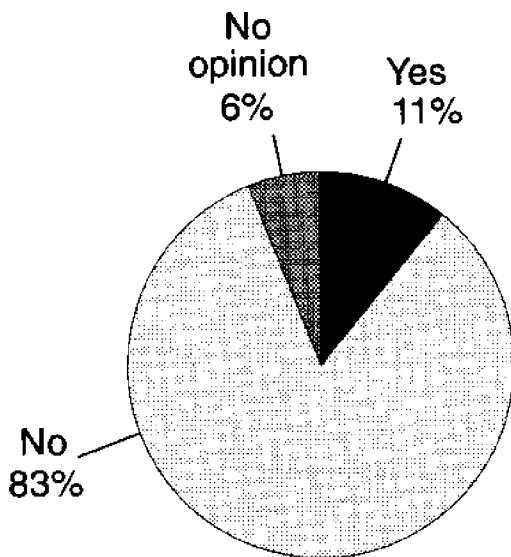
No, comments (continued):

- Market needs to be developed.
- Fish farming already ruined the dog salmon industry.
- I do not agree with any form of fish/shellfish farming.
- Water quality concerns.
- It would put commercial fishermen out of jobs.
- Environmental damage, pollution, unless this can be cured.
- Who's going to pay for it?
- I am against fish farms.
- Seems plenty has been done already. In Kachemak Bay we have lots of sitting conflicts.
- Threat of disease from contained shellfish and populations.
- Shellfish farms will end up occupying every nook, cove, bay, and decent anchorage. They're ugly and a navigational hazard that would promote development of otherwise pristine coastline.

Waste, disease, etc.

- Some reasons: only the big corporations will survive and the little guy will be killed off.
- I'm not sure if there is enough info on the impact of existing life in the environment.
- I don't approve of farming the oceans, seas, bays, inlets, and lakes. Just like land farming there will be pesticides in some form.
- We're the last wild stock areas on the West Coast—why build shellfish? It doesn't do anything but flood the market more.
- It should be developed by industry, not government money.
- The government overpromoted and overfinanced other fisheries such as factory trawl fleet and all should be used to avoid the same mistake that lead to overcapitalization and overcapacity.
- I don't agree with setting aside areas of the bays and oceans for the private use of individuals.
- Let them farm in a bay and they think they own it.

15. Should Alaska state lawmakers legalize salmon farming? Why or why not?



Yes. Additional comments:

- To further ignore commercial salmon farming and the impact on Alaskan's fishermen is not wise. A steady supply of fresh fish year-round is essential to maintain Alaskan market share.
- What better way to keep a line of fresh Alaskan salmon in the spotlight on world markets for a longer period of time each year? It could encourage interests in our main salmon pack.
- Competition, stability, don't have to argue with Canada and the West Coast states over stocks.
- If it's environmentally sound.
- We have to compete.
- It would add more off fishing season jobs.
- Farmed product is increasing in popularity and gaining market share.
- In certain areas like Halibut Cove Lagoon, unique flushing and tidal action.

15. (Continued.) Should Alaska state lawmakers legalize salmon farming? Why or why not?

Yes, comments (continued):

Add year-round fresh fish to salmon market; allow Alaska producers to maintain market share.

This is a world trend. We should compete for markets instead of head in the sand.

Absolutely, we can produce ranch salmon competitively with world markets. Sea jobs.

No. Additional comments:

How about we manage what we have.

Good grief, no. Disease, no eggs, we have a better product, why replace it with inferior fish.

Isn't too much world supply our major problem? Come on.

It has done more harm to the commercial fishermen than good.

I feel that farmed salmon have ruined the wild fish market.

There is no need for more salmon on the world market.

Conflict for use of best anchorages. No Atlantic or exotic fish should be introduced. Until all local streams are at max. carrying capacity, no local stock should be used for private gain. Farming encourages large corporations, not ma and pa's, make low paying factory jobs.

At present there are already too many salmon in the state, why add more while risking disease and genetic mixing. In the future if runs decline drastically then it may be an option.

If you need to ask a reason, start reading the Alaska papers.

Alaska has enough salmon for all user groups. We need more markets.

We already fought this battle. All the arguments were made then, stupid question.

Too much money for startup and not very profitable at present, competes with wild market.

We can't sell our pinks now and dogs are worth \$0.15 a pound.

Problems with escapees and disease and glutted markets.

Because it would decrease the value of wild salmon and this would hurt the commercial fishermen, their families, and communities.

Worldwide salmon glut, now environmental concerns about wild salmon.

We don't have a resource problem; we need to concentrate on increasing the demand, only when demand can no longer be met should farming be considered.

There is a worldwide glut of salmon, so why would we need more, especially if we cut our own throats in the process.

Habitat destruction and economic displacement.

Retain image of Alaskan salmon as wild.

There is already a worldwide glut of salmon and will only get worse as Far East Russia develops their infrastructure and salmon runs.

It hurts our salmon prices.

Farm fish carry diseases and are feed growth enhancers like cattle.

Too late.

Shellfish mariculture does not need space competition only, so much is available—WILD.

Killing the fishermen with overloading the markets.

There is already an overabundance of wild and hatchery stocks. Emphasis should be on researching new markets in China, Indonesia, and others.

The only good argument is the biological one of disease, cross breeding potential problems of interaction with wild stocks.

We can't market what we've got now.

There is enough wild stock in Alaska now. The problem is not lack of fish, it is how to use the ones we have.

Markets conditions are very apparent.

We have plenty of wild salmon, which are far better quality when handled properly.

Farmed salmon do not belong in Alaska waters.

They would severely impact the wild stock in our state. They are poor quality and are reared in their own waste. Who wants to eat a fish raised in a fish tank?

It would undermine the commercial fishing industry. Farmed fish already has an effect on Alaska fishermen detrimentally due to competition in the market place.

Hatcheries have already done enough damage.

15. (Continued.) Should Alaska state lawmakers legalize salmon farming? Why or why not?**No, comments (continued):**

We already have hatchery fish which are salmon farms. Disease may happen.

We have to compete.

We already have a glut in salmon.

It would put commercial fishermen out of jobs.

We make our living on the sea. Farmed fish puts us out of business.

Industry is controlled by large corporations and would be direct competition into already glutted markets.

Wild fish are a far superior product. This point needs to be imposed on the world. Farmed fish are very bad for the environmental balance.

We have the finest farm in the world: it's called rivers and streams. They produce the best quality fish in the world. We need to market our salmon.

Salmon enhancement has increased salmon production already and farming would in my opinion ruin the wild runs.

As of now, our market for fresh salmon depends on demand for premium wild salmon. These runs will suffer if extended aquaculture is allowed. There are too many farmed fish on the market now.

Pollution of bays where fish are farmed. Poor quality of fish.

Antibiotics needed to keep farmed salmon alive are detrimental to humans and wild stock.

I traveled through British Columbia this last spring and I believe it hurts commercial fishermen, and the waste from the pens is detrimental to the marine environment.

Farm-raised has a lot of government subsidies involved in keeping them viable. I don't believe government should be involved.

Not until market overall improves. If we can't sell wild salmon how can we sell farmed?

With a worldwide salmon glut why compound the problem.

The markets are already plugged. Why pour more good money after bad hatcheries are probably going to close. Stupid question.

The most healthy fish is natural. We should be proud of our resource and build a good reputation.

But keep educated on world farming.

We have enough wild fish (too many) we would lose our only market niche.

Environmentally unsound and may possibly destroy wild stocks.

Salmon farms are large corporate businesses. They would do nothing for the average fisherman and would only add to the salmon market glut.

Benefits few people for jobs, direct competition with trollers, depresses the market prices. Gluts the market with fish.

We need to continue to rebuild the desire for our world stocks over pen raised.

All we hear is how there is too much salmon so why should we legalize farming when the big corporations are the ones who would survive.

More than enough wild fish.

Oversupply of salmon worldwide and most important, disease introduction into native salmon gene pools.

Wild runs are strong in Alaska, farming development should be left to lower 48 and Canada. We have good management.

Weakened gene pool through escapes, disease etc. Seems to already be too much salmon. Why make more to further add to the glut?

Alaska has wild salmon and fish would not grow fast enough in these cold waters to be profitable, only a few areas of state might benefit at expense to all.

Absolutely not! Water quality, genetic and marketing concerns.

Problems with disease spreading to wild stocks from salmon escaping. Pollution problem in bays and coves where farming is located. Worldwide salmon supply doesn't need more farmed fish and only way farms can make it is with government subsidies. Would actually decrease jobs from depressing the commercial fisheries even more and probably deplete wild runs by disease transfer.

15. (Continued.) Should Alaska state lawmakers legalize salmon farming? Why or why not?**No, comments (continued):**

Arithmetic: I'm home now—letting 25 to 40 silvers swim upriver, kings were \$0.60. In one brief, freak market silvers sold for \$1.60. They cannot be raised here for \$3.00 without at least some enviro/disease hazard. Why let fools try!

Are you kidding? Commercial fishing (salmon) are barely making it now. Do you like traps too?

Pretty soon there's going to be no more wild stock, just hatchery and farmed fish. There's already too much fish out there to sustain the market evenly.

We can't market what we have in wild stock.

Too many negatives with an artificial product.

Enough fish already.

Disease introduction present salmon glut, accidental introduction into habitat.

They are going to do it anyway whether we want them to or not, it's already legal through the hatcheries. The hatcheries have stolen the salmon industry from salmon fishermen.

Too many salmon now.

Let's figure out what to do with the wild salmon we already have.

Too many salmon on world markets today and lousy prices to Alaskans who depend on wild salmon harvests.

Are you kidding! We have enough salmon in our to market, let alone letting those guys add more product to pipeline.

It would kill commercial fishing.

The commercial fishermen would never be paid their fair share of their permits, just like IFQs all went to Seattle Big Boys.

We already have an overabundance of fish in today's market. We should work on improving markets for existing stocks.

But other finfish should be legalized. A blanket law as it is now is not sensible.

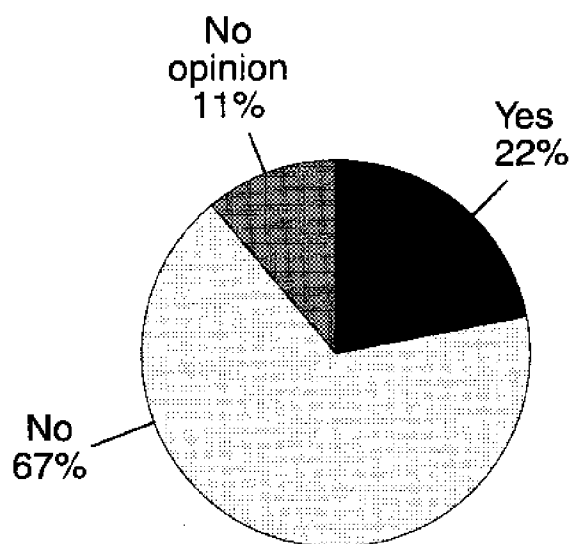
Direct competition, wild prices have dropped.

It is too late and Alaska is one of the last places on earth that could pursue "wild stock" image. Also the pollution and loss of jobs due to reallocation of resources would devastate our state.

The market place is oversupplied already; however even if it were not, there are many reasons not to allow it. Halibut is currently fully utilized; commercial fishing is largest employer in Alaska; this would jeopardize industry. It would be owned by larger corporations and held by a few individuals.

The genetic mistake to the wild stock gene pool as well as disease is too great. In Norway, Britain, etc. we destroy the commercial viability of our wild stocks; only then does the risk/benefit equation change.

16. Do you think Alaska's federally regulated fisheries are well managed? Why or why not?



Yes. Additional comments:

Promotion of the resource to maintain maximum yield, being able to withstand pressure from special interest groups.

Expect USCG doesn't need to harass us.

There is not enough for everyone and the stocks must be managed in a way that long-term existence for the future of healthy stocks.

For the most part yes, there are problems such as: Fishing tends to be area specific, where lots of boats hit one area hard every opener and other areas are never touched. Especially in the gulf. Consecutive opening in smaller areas would help the situation.

We still have lots of fish; they must be doing something right.

Yes, comments (continued):

Except for the trawl fleet.

Fair, politics are the ultimate death of any industry.

I am familiar with black cod and halibut. There is good management, especially under the IFQ system.

Except for hard on bottom trawl fishing.

IFQs are great, they do need to favor cleaner fishing gears over trawls; streamlining bureaucracy would help.

Professional action, not politics.

We are longliners, very pleased with the management of sablefish and halibut except establishment of TAC.

Especially the longline fisheries.

They try their best but it's a tough job and I would like to think it's for the best of the fisheries although I think they are easily persuaded to open or close fisheries due to politics.

They are managed conservatively in a biological manner.

No. Additional comments:

Bycatch!

Lack of data to manage.

Because dragging or bottom trawling should be outlawed.

Afraid to face hard choices—too friendly to the large trawler industry.

IFQ system encourage fishers to keep only about 40 pounds of halibut and get rid of the smaller ones even if they are injured or dead.

Because the regs are not fair to all.

Too much wastage is allowed. Large corporations have too much influence, at the board level and above. No place has large-scale corporate trawling been sustainable.

Offshore trawlers waste more fish than any stock can stand. Soon we will have another depleted fishery.

The only reason why the NPFMC has been able to begin to control trawling is because of Alaskans who are applying what they learned in the State Board of Fisheries process.

Poor performance in reducing trawl bycatch, poor management of IFQ halibut. Fall 1995 not allowed to keep dead rockfish. Spring of 1996 not enough cod bycatch quota to allow retention by longliners.

Trawlers have the large power edge, well financed and represented companies, pound the halls of Congress for the bottom line benefits of this greed driven bunch of carpetbaggers.

The bycatch must be better controlled as the waste factor influences opinion of all commercial fishermen.

16. (Continued.) Do you think Alaska's federally regulated fisheries are well managed? Why or why not?

No, comments (continued):

NMFS both finances and manages fishermen.

It seems geared toward fast and furious fishing. I have no alternatives and legislation seems only to create new loopholes.

IFQs have done more damage than good but because those with special interests have the pull and benefited nothing will be done.

Big money runs the fisheries.

Sport-caught halibut are leaving in tons. None of it reported.

Too much bycatch waste, i.e., cod could be entirely harvested with pots with almost no bycatch, no codend crushing, with longer seasons.

IFQs = million dollar giveaway.

The halibut IFQ program is an example. Ten years of planning to divide a resource equitably; charter and sport fishermen's catch comes off the top and can increase, commercial fishermen divide what's left.

Too much is political rather than biological.

I don't think the observer plan is honestly reporting bycatch waste and will soon wipe out any fish stock being caught by trawlers.

This would require several pages, basically the federal machine is slow to respond to dynamic conditions.

I think too many pollock are being caught; I think the blackcod quotas are not set right because of IFQ fishing happening during survey times; I think bycatch is out of hand and should be stopped to a bare minimum. No excuse for giving it away.

NMFS.

Need more personal knowledge.

It also allows inferior product, too much to properly care for.

Sometimes I worry about conflicts of interest.

Not particularly, I feel we have been allowing factory trawlers to fish at the expense of the smaller vessel fleets. Also I detest the IFQ system.

The NMFS and all their scientists manage for maximum usage. US fishermen have watched

the factory fleet drag the ocean bottom leaving discarded fish in their wake.

Halibut has been fished for over 100 years yet it's doled out based on a three year participation.

A bunch of bureaucrats sitting on their butts making decisions without all the facts.

The state should control these fisheries. Most of this revenue is going outside.

Too many draggers and lobbyists in Washington, I think they should outlaw the bribes lobbyists give.

Too much wasted bycatch; we must fish cleaner and target our species.

Bycatch is still dead catch. If you catch it you should use it or else.

They successfully managed the East Coast fisheries to death.

IFQs have denied the commonwealth in groundfish fisheries. There are many millionaires because of this.

Bering sea pillage still occurring into 1997, bycatch waste is a crime.

Vessels in my class have to fish January through March only in order to participate.

There should be a priority for residents. Fishing here for residents is our livelihood but for outsiders it's just a side investment; it's not fair!

As typified by IFQs and draft quotas NPFMC votes their own self interest, (money) in direct conflict of interest (should be jailed) which is then rubber stamped without review by committee.

Too much fish production.

Too slow and bureaucratic.

Given what's happening in Washington and Oregon and East Coast I'm afraid of it. Further federal budgets are declining and federal management will probably deteriorate.

I see a lot of waste. I can't make a living fishing, and don't know the next move as of now.

Okay except for the utilization of bycatch. Some method needs to be developed so that bycatch is not just discarded.

Alaska's federal fisheries are managed for Washington and Oregon interests, not Alaskans.

16. (Continued.) Do you think Alaska's federally regulated fisheries are well managed? Why or why not?

No, comments (continued):

The IFQ program was a mistake.
 Factory trawlers, fish waste, non-full utilization, economic unfairness.
 It's ridiculous to have to wait 6 hours for someone not to show before delivering halibut.
 Big money talks to feds, i.e., factory trawlers.
 Big money has too much influence.
 Harvest levels set too high and by the time any problem is discovered it's too late to remedy it. Federal bureaucracy takes too long to respond to fisheries.
 Allowing excess bycatch is criminal.
 Tolerate much too high a rate of bycatch and waste. Bycatch avoidance, not bycatch utilization, is the key.
 Too much bycatch allowed by drag fleet.
 The IFQ system is insane.
 Too many IFQs are going to non-Alaskans.
 Too much big politics involved. Fed is too big and cumbersome to see the whole picture or the details.
 They started out too extreme, but I don't think they should compile information in a way it can be utilized for effective management.

I have worked with ADFG and NMFS as a biologist and do not feel NMFS has a good handle on resources.
 The feds are too involved in politics. Personal biases exist, much to the detriment of the stock! The state of Alaska does a much better job.
 No government-regulated anything is well managed. Do you really need to ask me? This question is an insult to my intelligence. Get real.
 The IFQ system is unfair; it has the small boats out of business.
 The policy of fishing to collapse and set low level of stock biomass as the sustained level is criminal.
 NPFMC members have been able to do more legislation for self interest, i.e., dragging, IFQs, setting quotas, etc. Stocks for the most part are fairly healthy but big drag interest needs to be curtailed.
 Single species management with little true regard for bycatch and halibut destruction fishing techniques because of economic pressure from commercial lobbyists.
 Need more hands-on info from fishermen and actual on-site participation.
 They overregulated as the people are not trained properly; they overreact.

17. What do you consider the biggest threat to the long-term abundance of Alaska's North Pacific fish stocks?

Trawlers, draggers, and government.
 Trawlers. Get rid of all trawlers by 2001.
 Management.
 Lack of knowledge on stocks and management.
 Factory trawlers and longline catcher-processors.
 Corporate greed and influences.
 Dragger.
 Bottom dragging.
 Poor management.
 Bottom trawling.

Overfishing; when stocks are on the decline, quotas should be set conservatively. Also bycatch and waste of other fish.
 Factory trawlers and big money taking over during a depressed cycle.
 ADFG, whoever is in management are not fishermen and have little or no understanding of livelihood.
 Overfishing and habitat destruction by bottom raking.
 Overfishing and more efficient technology pressure on owners to make ends meet on overly capitalized fleet.

17. (Continued.) What do you consider the biggest threat to the long-term abundance of Alaska's North Pacific fish stocks?

- Poor harvest by trawlers, on halibut juveniles and the blackcod.
- Targeting one species and wasting the bycatch.
- Trawling.
- Factory trawlers and their corporations.
- Bycatch and draggers.
- Political management instead of biological management.
- Hatcheries.
- Our governor.
- Factory trawlers; no doubt about it they will cause the demise of us all.
- Bottom trawlers.
- Overfishing, pollution (internationally) and management.
- Trawlers.
- Fish farming and trawling.
- Too many factory trawlers. Hard on bottom trawling.
- Allowing special interest groups to decide the future of the fishing industry.
- Overharvesting (short term), pollution (long term), habitat destruction (salmon).
- Unregulated trawl industry bycatch.
- Trawling. It's killed every other ocean—why wouldn't it happen here?
- Habitat damage. Overfishing.
- Overfishing and tampering with the food chain.
- Trawling.
- Too many pollock depleting nearshore and continental shelf water column of food and larva of more valuable species.
- Managers with personal agenda.
- Dragging! And the management mentality that allows it.
- Overfishing and the time lag in management.
- Politicians
- Habitat destruction by trawling and unreported discarding of bycatch in all fisheries.
- Bottom dragging and factory ships.
- Single species management. Bottom trawling and destruction of habitat.
- Potential of overharvesting; however, in the gulf, many of the stocks are managed on the conservative side.
- Politics and trawlers. Although our situation is not so multinational as the Grand Banks, we need to keep it in mind. Also breaks in the food chain, stocks and marine mammals. Way down westward and up in SE.
- Management imposed by the board of fish due to political pressures.
- Trawlers and draggers. Unregulated sports fishers and guides. They are all commercializing and selling for profit illegally. There's over 400,000 who bought licenses last year.
- NMFS.
- Trawlers.
- Overfishing.
- Draggers.
- Politics.
- The limited market.
- Overfishing and bottom trawlers.
- Russia and trawlers.
- Greed and political clout.
- Factory trawlers.
- Fish farming.
- Curtain of death.
- Politicians.
- Our board of fish and game.
- Bycatch by trawlers.
- Bottom trawling, salmon price decline, global warming, and consolidation of IFQ system.
- Factory trawlers financed by US government and IFQs.
- No threats to abundance. Just threats of poor quality and low prices.
- Overfishing.
- Draggers and tourists.
- Bycatch

17. (Continued.) What do you consider the biggest threat to the long-term abundance of Alaska's North Pacific fish stocks?

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Drag and trawl fleet. | Charter/lodge industry habitat not a priority. |
| Trawlers. | Poaching and fish pirates. |
| On bottom trawling and logging. | Trawlers and global warming. |
| Dragging, specifically hard on bottom. | Overfishing. |
| Groundfish trawlers. | Federal management. |
| Factory trawlers and bottom draggers. | Bottom trawling |
| Trawlers. | Draggers |
| Hatcheries. | Draggers and mismanagement. |
| NMFS. | Political action committees, sports fishermen, politicians, fish farms, and hatcheries. |
| Open seas fishing foreign vessels. | Overfishing is one, hatcheries, farmed fish and illegal selling of fish caught by sportsmen. This illegal selling is pretty big, most people don't see it. |
| Mother nature and Greenpeace. | Poor management due to politics, not enough research due to poor funding, and inadequate enforcement due to lack of funding. |
| Other stocks: Salmon and halibut seem well managed and not under threat. | Factory trawlers. |
| The trawl fleet. | Destruction of basic food chain by hard on bottom trawling. |
| Bycatch reduction. | Overfishing. |
| Draggers, they will end all our stocks in time, just like they are responsible for the decline in Steller sea lions. | The bycatch situation in some fisheries, especially the trawl fishery. |
| Bottom draggers, damaging the habitat and juvenile, fish and crab. Catching too many juvenile fish. | Trawlers—they are not selective and catch fish not wanted, and also kill the bottom they trawl on. |
| The trend to allow access and development along spawning areas. | Factory trawlers, especially bottom trawlers. |
| Trawlers. | Drag fleet bycatch impact. |
| Bottom trawling and halibut degradation. | Overharvesting along with poor management. |
| Factory trawlers. | Climate changes. |
| NPFMC is the biggest threat. | Factory trawlers. |
| Sport fishing groups and government. | Habitat destruction of rivers and streams by too many people. |
| Loss of habitat; politics. | Predators of salmon, high seas drift nets, salmon sharks, pollock and grey cod. |
| Overharvesting beyond point of natural recovery. | Trawler bycatch. |
| Farmed salmon for Norway and Chile. Oil spills. | It depends on the stock. For state managed stocks, reduction in ADFG budgets. For federal managed loss of control of NPFMC by Alaskans and overfishing on Russian side of Bering Sea. |
| Politics and politicians on board that are controlled by trawl industry. | |
| Over-trawling, pollution and global warming. | |
| Overharvest by drag fleet, bycatch, and waste. | |
| We share our salmon with sport fishermen in Cook Inlet; they want more share of fish. | |
| Factory trawlers and sloppy fishing practices. | |
| Allowing too much waste. | |

17. (Continued.) What do you consider the biggest threat to the long-term abundance of Alaska's North Pacific fish stocks?

Urbanization, tourism, logging, road building and land developing in coastal fisheries. Overfishing offshore especially if federal money for management is out.

Overfishing and environmental degradation. Poaching being the only substantiated problem, environmental problems will increase in the coming decades.

Politics management instead of biological management.

Habitat destruction by bottom trawlers.

Overfishing.

Trawlers.

Factory processors/draggers.

Management in this manner is not management, but stupidity; the birds and sea lions are the mark of their success.

18. What do you consider the biggest threat to Alaska's share of the world seafood market?

Farmed fish.

Short-term reactionary thinking that will result in market share loss. We need long-term catcher processing price/production agreements.

Farmed fish.

Storage transportation and marketing costs. Thin margins and an unprofitable exchange rate.

Outdated marketing.

Fish farming.

Fish farming.

Farmed fish.

Quality, availability and farmed fish.

Quality.

Fish farming.

Lack of marketing.

Quality.

Resource depletion; example king crabs, shrimp, tanner crab.

Steady supply of fresh seafood at a consistent price.

Not enough people are enticed to use salmon in the USA.

Price of the retail product.

Draggers.

Not improving quality of our fish to keep pace with fish farming and changing world markets.

Quality.

Disagreements between different areas of fishing.

Salmon farming.

Constant disagreements among the different fisheries, and not working together to meet the marketing needs of the world.

Too much Japanese and other foreign control of our processing sector. Their inter-rated trading companies dictate price and control the true fishing industry.

Having the availability of a quality product at a competitive price.

Prices so low that coastal communities cannot survive.

Farm fish.

Chilean farmed salmon.

The quality of our product must improve to the point that can equal that of farmed product. Quit selling our junk fish to the domestic market.

Farmed fish.

Politicians.

Foreign salmon fish farms. I feel the white fish market share will remain fairly stable. Russian pollock should start to decline.

Fish farms.

NMFS, federal government, and Tyson chicken.

Marketing and advertising.

Farmed salmon.

Not enough emphasis on marketing and advertising.

Overharvesting.

Farmed fish and emerging fisheries.

18. (Continued.) What do you consider the biggest threat to Alaska's share of the world seafood market?

- Lower cost producers, which makes it imperative that we streamline our operations. Eliminating laws that simply exist to hinder efficiency, i.e., 32 foot limit laws.
- Seafood quality and seasonal nature of salmon fishery.
- Regulations that drive up cost of doing business in Alaska.
- Farmed fish.
- Limited advertising budget and small minds in terms of relying so heavily on tradition as in salmon.
- Quality and alternate sources.
- The development of Far Eastern Russia's fisheries, including crab, halibut and salmon.
- Russian competition and product quality.
- No or little move to do enhanced product in state on a large scale. Fed/state regs limiting ability of enhanced product. Other countries scrambling for their share.
- We need markets other than Japan, also farmed fish, not taking care of habitat, and unenforced laws and regs.
- Presently the Russian fishing export. At least until the overfishing catches up with them. Also negative publicity—dolphin bycatch publicity nearly killed tuna fishermen. A toxin scare or something similar could kill other fisheries.
- Different species shut down commercially due to radical organizations (Greenpeace) and sport versus commercial advertising.
- Lack of product development.
- Fish farming.
- Farmed fish.
- Farmed fish.
- Old methods, reluctance to change.
- Fish farming.
- The negative views being put out by people in just about every level of the media and the universities.
- Farmed salmon and in the future farming halibut and shellfish.
- Fights for fishing rights among Alaskans.
- The larger cold storage flooding world markets with poor quality fish.
- Misconception by consumer (salmon endangered). Farmed salmon watered down price.
- No aggressive marketing. Too much volume fishing. Very little advertising.
- Wanting quantity of the market and not quality. A premium product niche, I believe, is more desirable than massive supply.
- Inability to compete globally due to high cost of doing business in America (relations, permits, etc.).
- Handling (lack of ice, delivery shocks) and limited air freight capacity and fish farming. Lack of sufficient marketing effort.
- Quality of product.
- Fish farms.
- Institutional constraints like 58' limit.
- Fish farming.
- Fish farms.
- Farmed salmon.
- Farmed fish.
- There are so many but probably foreign control of our on- and offshore processing.
- Fish farms.
- Washington and Oregon factory trawlers will soon wipe out the fishing and we will not have to worry about fishing.
- Lack of use of all discards; we should be able to sell everything edible that we have to throw back.
- Farmed salmon and upcoming halibut farms.
- Open seas foreign fishing vessels.
- Overproduction.
- Fish farms.
- Cheaper, more efficient method of harvesting fish, i.e., salmon farming.
- Alaska's industry leaders unwilling to change how we do business in a changing world.
- The Russian free trade market.
- Farmed salmon and Russian products.

18. (Continued.) What do you consider the biggest threat to Alaska's share of the world seafood market?

Trawlers, global warming, and aquaculture.

Farmed salmon and poor quality of wild salmon because of the trend to "terminate" our salmon fisheries. Rather than further limit mixed stock fisheries on the ones we manage for better quality.

Foreign countries—government subsidizing fish farms creating surplus that wouldn't normally occur if farms were run without subsidies.

Loss of ASMI money for marketing and lack of investment into marketing by industry. Farmed fish is a real threat, but the only way to combat it is to produce cheaper (more efficiently) and expand markets.

Poor quality.

Japan! We need to get away from this total control the Japanese have over us.

Curtain of death.

Politicians.

Farmed fishing.

Russia's fish flooding the market and farmed salmon.

Farmed fish.

Russia and farmed fish.

Closing the hatcheries.

Poor quality.

Fish farm competition.

Overabundance of farmed salmon.

Fish farms and misinformation.

Farmed salmon.

Fish farmers.

Lack of product development.

Salmon farms so far.

Lack of funding for ASMI. Quality of product (although big inroads have been made in this area).

Farmed salmon.

Fish farms.

Farmed salmon from Norway and Chile. Oil spills.

Not enough marketing and developing fisheries in third world countries.

Salmon farming.

Farmed fish and poor management and marketing of fish.

Farmed salmon and general global instability.

The increasing growth in fish farming from various world countries.

Sports fishermen, tourism, environmentalist fish farms, hatcheries, and NYMS.

Market trends and fish farms.

Fish farming.

Low quality of net-caught salmon.

Lack of advertising that Alaska natural/wild seafood are better.

Foreign fisheries.

Poor quality.

Russia and China.

High seas poaching.

Fish farming in other countries.

Farmed fish.

We need to build our reputation to prove wild and natural stocks are the most healthy for humanity as opposed to the unnatural farmed stocks.

In salmon, our "share" of the pie is bound to decline, ours nearly died while farmed, ranches and Russia will increase. The question is that of working toward best value from these products. Or how to fish profitably if price is fixed by global economy.

Lack of innovations in the market place due to product promotion and creativeness.

Overfishing by using single species fishing management, and the industrial fishing fleets cry for maximum harvest.

19. What do you think should be done to increase seafood consumption in the United States?

Get rid of the hatcheries and fish farms, go back to wild stocks and nature.

Responsible news reporting.

Marketing and advertising.

Make it available.

Education.

More advertising and value-added packaging.

Educate and get people to try eating fish to get them accustomed to fish products. Lower price in US stores so people can afford to buy fish. Advertise and give recipes.

Buy one can and get one free coupon sponsored by fishermen. No strategic offers for tee-shirt and products with seafood labels, offered with canned salmon purchases.

Advertise! Promote fish in school lunches. Quick or ready-to-eat product, most of them are not familiar with how to prepare fish and are afraid of it. It needs to be quick and easy to prepare. The ASMI program with salmon fishermen promoting in grocery stores was a great idea.

Salmon and other products need to combine offer—products such as rice, soy sauce, wines yoshida sauce, bread crumbs, lemon juice or anything that could be sold in conjunction.

More fish in federal funded food programs—school, shelters, etc.

Public awareness, drop canned salmon price—\$2.99 a can for \$0.05 a fish.

Advertisement and samples.

Catchy marketing promotions on TV; prepackaging seafood items in the pouch prepared with a variety of different sauces and stuff. Healthy, price and quality.

Advertising

Advertising

Single meal portions and diverse marketing.

Improve quality of Alaskan seafood. Education through marketing association.

Better awareness ads like the beef and poultry industry.

Lower price will help some; better quality control all the way to the consumer.

Advertising of health benefits.

Increase quality! By the time it gets to the markets it is awful quality, a piece of dried up yellow halibut that's freezer burned is not good.

Return to eating fish on Friday.

Advertise all of Alaska's seafood.

Either stop subsidizing beef and chicken or also subsidize seafood.

Subsidizing fishermen to get people eating more fish.

Education and marketing strategies making our fish products convenient for consumer usage.

Convince people that frozen is better than fresh.

Cooperative national seafood marketing effort with the processors, fishermen, and the state of Alaska.

Do some educating of school children and feed kids three meals per week of seafood at school and other institutions.

NAFTA/Mexico been has seriously reduced the consumer prices for beef.

Education—I believe the marketing ideas that ASMI is promoting are excellent. Unfortunately, budget restraints limit the impact.

I think more promotions at the consumer level (in grocery stores) have to be done. Americans don't know how to pick out, cook, season, or present seafood to their families so that they will ask for it again.

On-site vacuum packing for single serving or family sized meals, for freezers.

Drop the term "wild" to stop this stupid "better or not better" than farmed fish issue.

Develop products Americans want, i.e., user friendly.

Stress and maintain high quality product. Reasonable consumer prices. Campaign educating as to uses.

Fishermen have to develop markets other than processors.

19. (Continued.) What do you think should be done to increase seafood consumption in the United States?

- Serve fish in its finished form, teach people how to prepare fish. Quality, Quality, Quality.
- Hope people eat more fish.
- Develop products that are up to date and convenient. Canned salmon has been around and unchanged for how long?
- Compete with tuna, canned salmon without bones and skin is a better, cheaper product.
- Make it more affordable and easier to use by secondary processing, more direct marketing. The more hands the seafood passes through, the higher the price.
- Education and advertisement.
- Seafood market trends, quality and product development.
- This cannot be forced. Product diversity; encourage and allow small enhancement markets. There are ways my family eats salmon that are probably illegal or at best would take a lawyer and food processor to figure away to make it legal.
- Joint production agreements with wild/farm producers and processors to provide continuous flow of products to consumers.
- Create a product or products that consumers at home can make quick and easy.
- Advertisement.
- Target youth.
- Better advertising.
- Quality control.
- Advertise.
- Better products from salmon.
- Give what customer wants.
- Stop fish farming.
- Education.
- Better marketing.
- Info to public. They barely know what salmon are, much less various species. The botulism scare to switch to frozen sockeye has severely hurt the coho and king troll markets. They should be improved. Values are 1.King, 2.Coho, 3.Sockeye, 4.Chum, 5.Pinks. Now i get \$1.50 for sockeye and \$0.80 for coho.
- ASMI is doing well; they need a larger budget to promote seafood.
- Show the differences in care taken to insure a quality product, i.e., use a smaller processor. Because I wouldn't even buy, much less eat, seafood taken at present volume market standards.
- Educate the seafood marketer on the store/market. A lot of seafood departments don't know much about seafood.
- Advertise and value add with out ripping customer off with inflated prices.
- One portion seafood frozen packaging as available in London. Just like 2 oz. fillet of pink produced by Alaskan Pacific Seafood in Kodiak, Alaska.
- Provide good quality products in a form and flavor that is enjoyed by average people at an affordable price.
- Help us with improving transportation avenues; we can take it from there
- Market promotion and a state of national standard for fish quality.
- Develop user friendly product.
- Educate public.
- Less profit by middlemen.
- Promote health aspects.
- Get new products to the population, try different species.
- Instead of 3% enhancement tax and 1% for marketing, I think the 1% and 3% should be reversed.
- Fund ASMI to educate the US about good wild salmon.
- Eliminate the middleman; make fish more affordable.
- Tell the public the truth—the Surgeon General should let the US public know the truth that “natural” seafood is much better for the health of the nation, than the hyped “beef.”
- Show food preparers, especially homemakers, how to properly cook seafood. Package seafood in easy to use portion size containers.

19. (Continued.) What do you think should be done to increase seafood consumption in the United States?

- Advertising, getting food chains like Safeway to sell our fish as they are now doing.
- Education.
- Up price for commercial fishing, less cost on consumers cost.
- Cut our middlemen; bring price down.
- More advertising.
- Sea Grant should have a good letter writing campaign explaining the health and economics of why people should eat fish. Have every fisherperson send out 10 copies to friends and relatives all over the US to increase awareness.
- Better product and education. Lower shelf prices.
- Sampling programs, school programs and radio spots.
- Value-added products.
- Convenient packaging, chef instructions of "freshness" at fine restaurants.
- Federal programs—prisons, military, schools, etc.
- Quit grinding hatchery fish for caviar for the rich and if nothing else give the damn thing away.
- Put salmon on school lunch menus and at fast food restaurants.
- Promote, advertise, and educate.
- Educate on benefits of seafood, how to determine quality, how to prepare different types of salmon. Exposure to seafood, especially wild stock, always provide quality fish.
- Market to the US consumer, i.e., packaging and advertising.
- Education, advertising, and good products/handling.
- Better marketing. Lower prices for educational institutions (i.e., colleges, elementary schools, etc.). Apple computers gave discounts to schools, great marketing strategy by them to start them young.
- More advertisement and marketing.
- Education.
- Different ways of preparing, minced seafood patties for fish burgers or sliced for steaks.
- Increase advertising as to the nutritional benefits of and also consumer education as to cooking recipes etc.
- More value-added and ease of preparation.
- Increased marketing for specific fisheries.
- Advertising and taking the product to public demonstrations on how to prepare.
- Increase in school food service exposure to seafood.
- Get the word out.
- Continue to develop new markets and new products to market.
- More education to people who serve it, sell it, and cook it. I have seen humpies in bread bags at the grocery store in the freezer department. Female dungy crabs, farmed fish labeled WILD, no wonder people don't eat it.
- More advertising, more canneries; we need to get back into canning for a world product.
- More promotion and product development that answers the needs of present day consumers' lifestyles.
- More advertising; sell more fish to schools, hospitals, and jails. Make it a requirement.
- Learn from the poultry and citrus industries how to market products, make products more user friendly, have the state be a facilitator for fishermen to market their own products, especially salmon, since so many salmon fishermen live in lower 48 and have interest in it.
- Steps are being taken. Fishermen terminal in Seattle for instance and QFCs doing a beautiful job of offering variety, quality, and recipe-handly.
- Promotion of seafood and education of consumers as to the health value, preparation, and versatility of seafood.
- Marketing! By emphasizing healthy, wild and natural. Increase quality and educate public.
- Marketing through advertising and education.
- Follow chicken; more product forms that the average store-fed citizen will like.

19. (Continued.) What do you think should be done to increase seafood consumption in the United States?

The first reported case of mad-cow disease will take care of this problem.

Get rid of foreign owned processors and canneries.
Advertisement.

Educate on handling seafood for transportation and retailers. Industry presence at state fairs around the country into booth and food demos.

More marketing dollars.

More fish marketing established in the midwest and East Coast.

Advertise!!

Education of population.

Education through marketing.

Have competent biologists and market departments in those fields.

Marketing—educate the general public.

Find out whether our lethargic Japanese dominated processors are supplying such demand as currently exists. Are they supplying the product demanded? The answer seems no. They have no sales department and it is easier to sell mega pounds to Japan round or H and G.

Make the product (pink salmon) palatable to the 90s housewife and cheap.

More fresh frozen seafood and marketing. Market it together with fruits and vegetables from a health standpoint.

Better marketing, better understanding on how to prepare the product.

A continued media exposure. Personal contact and new products.

20. What can the University of Alaska do to help keep Alaska's seafood industry strong?

Help shut down the hatcheries and go back to wild stocks.

Abolish the trawl fishery.

You are doing a fine job now, just keep it up.

Publish good information.

Research on stocks.

Form an alliance with canneries to assist them; develop US and local markets and new products.

Keep informing the USA about wild salmon.

Research on value-added products, continue bycatch research. Help educate the public about seafood.

Help develop low bycatch fisheries. Stop funding high bycatch fish development, e.g., arrowtooth flounder.

Show canneries by dropping price—more volume would be sold—look at tuna price \$0.90 a can.

Keep your present programs and do more toward worldwide and national awareness of Alaskan seafood.

Do some constructive research especially rehab for crab; we need resources first because we figure out how to process them better.

Unite all fisheries and help people to sell their own product.

Product development and packaging concepts stressing ease of preparation and taste, smell and quality.

Education about how good seafood is for you. And the difference between wild and farmed.

Quality first. Improve onboard handling and processing. Find grants to upgrade vessels, equipment, processing gear, etc. Each fisherman should work to make more out of less. Quality not quantity.

Good advertising and publicity.

New products, fisheries, markets increase quality.

Listen to what fishermen say; study what draggers catch and try to limit areas they can drag.

Research and education.

Help to educate commercial fishermen on governmental policy, world market trends, inventory analysis, product development. Continue the lie about dolphin safe tuna.

Continue.

Help educate the politicians.

20. (Continued.) What can the University of Alaska do to help keep Alaska's seafood industry strong?

- Help smaller processor fishermen with the ever-increasing load of government paperwork; keep public informed on things like salmon is not endangered.
- Work on bringing the fishing areas together to enable us to work together as a whole to sell our fish. Look into the orange growers in Florida on how they work together on marketing and pricing their products cooperatively.
- Keep up the good work, research and education.
- Don't know. Perhaps do some cooperative work with the value-added folks that are trying to develop new salmon products.
- Research into cold water shellfish farming, especially shrimp.
- Educate the young commercial fishermen of rural Alaskan communities such as Petersburg, Wrangell, Ketchikan, Angon, Craig, Sitka, Klawack, etc.
- Baseline data on species and habitat conditions. Analysis of management plans of commercial and noncommercial stocks.
- Work with the overseer agencies in expanding market products with our needless regs.
- Stay flexible, respond to industry trends and lead.
- Fight factory trawlers that wipe out crab stocks and destroy bottom dwellers, and develop alternate markets for salmon.
- Support the "True" Alaskan resident fisheries.
- Encourage the process industry to get their head out of the sand and get moving.
- Bring fish prices up.
- Marketing and advertising in Lower 48.
- Continue to educate the children of fishing families to be active decision makers with knowledgeable answers to the problems facing their industry.
- More programs putting Alaska fishermen in spots around America to get the word to them that Alaska fish are not endangered.
- Study effects of "social engineering" type regulations, that hinder efficiency and the ability to compete on world markets, i.e., restricting salmon vessels to one area, foreign people to buy and maintain 2 boats. This is my situation.
- We need to bring the industry back to health by concentrating resources on developing modern products with our fish and shellfish.
- Recipes and education on health.
- Research.
- Help with R&D projects.
- Education of population.
- Training and research.
- Not ruin one fishery (troll) to help another (gillnet).
- Gear research, product development.
- Eat lots of pinks.
- Research—fisheries biology.
- Develop value-added product ideas and keep putting people into research.
- We are at the mercy of glut and dump markets.
- I guess by keeping your resource in tact.
- Educate non-fishers and politicians about the importance of Alaska's fishing industry.
- Warn both public and private practices of the dangers of overexpansions.
- Take your facts and studies and lobby for legislation to protect habitat and in turn all of our jobs.
- Outlaw factory trawlers, change to pot fishing only, no bycatch, Steller sea lion saved.
- Grants to commercial fishermen.
- Better marketing, better understanding on how to prepare the product.
- By providing more and better for the industry.
- Research on fish farming, promote consumption.
- Market more species, we have to throw back more than we keep.
- Emphasize quality to the fishermen, advertise quality to the consumer.
- Mandate of use of ice or refrigeration on all catcher vessels. Encourage laws requiring this, temperature control, state should finance ice machine, refrigeration, not permits and boats.

20. (Continued.) What can the University of Alaska do to help keep Alaska's seafood industry strong?

- By kindling the interest of US public to realize the good health of fish, maybe through Internet or major newspaper.
- If you think the present situation in the seafood industry is strong, buy a permit and try it.
- Slow waste of fish, process every fish.
- Scientific research on both groundfish and salmon and product promotion to the consumer.
- Help develop/fund technology to create new value-added products which will increase the demand for seafood.
- Research and develop new products and markets.
- Keep educating the people on the pure quality of wild stock fish.
- Provide information and research. Stock and marketing along with continued stress on quality.
- Develop marketing strategies.
- Research the importance of socioeconomic dynamics to Alaska's coastal communities and their immediate surroundings.
- Protest fish farming.
- Help overturn the IFQ system, or research and develop a program to provide low interest loans to small boat fishermen to buy IFQ shares.
- Help study/implement fisherman financed buyback; we are ten years late and it will take 20 years. The problem is obvious. In salmon our business is high volume, high quality, and reasonably priced, so while it seems unfashionable, we need to study and implement ways to enhance (increase volume) our wild stocks.
- Keep up the fight.
- Information to get newspapers to carry articles about fishing in Alaska.
- Tell us how to salt salmon and cod; where to sell.
- Talk of health benefits to public.
- Anything to get us a better share of the North American market.
- Continue to produce stats showing employment and economic activity relative to fishing. This is the forgotten backbone of Alaska.
- I don't know U of A limits; help Alaskans keep a presence in seafood industry.
- Aside from product support and R&D, fishermen need help with rising costs of labor and safety regs.
- Keep up the good work.
- Help get better product or more diversified product. Lease for consumer to use.
- Promote the benefits of Alaska's natural seafood and the benefits of seafood as a staple to their diet.
- Provide more marketing info.
- Use Alaskans and educate Alaskans in the industry.
- Research and information.
- Continue doing the same.
- Educate the fishermen.
- Research
- Education
- Educate all and more of it.
- Actually the Sea Grant program is one of the most worthwhile going in Alaska today.
- Sell it; promote it; develop new ways of serving it.
- Develop secondary processing of seafood, encourage market opportunities, train on fisheries management.
- Figure out how to get more money into the hands of the fisher people and out of the Japanese processors and so-called Alaskan processors.
- Do more research on "bugs" that destroy the fry.
- Continue what you've been doing.
- Support commercial fishing and oppose fish farms.
- Keep studies and research funded.
- Educating the general public, other than those already participating in the industry, about commercial fishing and its contribution to the economy and the nation's nutrition.
- Keep up the good work.
- Teach kids, that's what schools do don't they? Stay the hell out of the seafood industry.

20. (Continued.) What can the University of Alaska do to help keep Alaska's seafood industry strong?

Keep up good work. Eliminate tenure for institutions, so that competitions for university positions allow us to select only the best, most energetic, enthusiastic individuals for jobs.

Perhaps utilize some of the business marketing courses to come up with marketing strategies to put into use. Provide more workshops for

fishing families during off season or during weekends for training.

Provide seafood marketing specific programs for students. Support continued funding of ADFG budgets and work such as liaison for fishermen with government agencies and information sources.