

Alaska Seafood Industry Modernization Initiative

Southeast Conference Annual Meeting, 2024

Revitalizing Alaska's Fisheries: Seafood Industry Modernization Initiative

Alaska's Seafood Industry:

- Cornerstone of our state's economy
- Vital to the sustainability of our coastal communities for over a century
- Now facing significant challenges and recent crisis

AFDF's Response to Crisis:

- Unanimously adopted initiative by the AFDF Board, February 22, 2024
- Strategy to address current challenges and secure the future of Alaska's fisheries

Key Objective:

 Modernize Alaska's seafood industry for sustainable growth and resilience in a changing economic and environmental landscape.



Key Components of the Initiative

Large-Scale Economic Study

Comprehensive statewide study to identify critical industry challenges.

Industry Collaboration

 Collaboration with stakeholders, researchers, and government agencies to drive innovation and problem-solving.

Workforce Development

 Investments in training programs to grow employment in coastal communities and stimulate economic growth.

Key Components of the Initiative

Technological Advancement

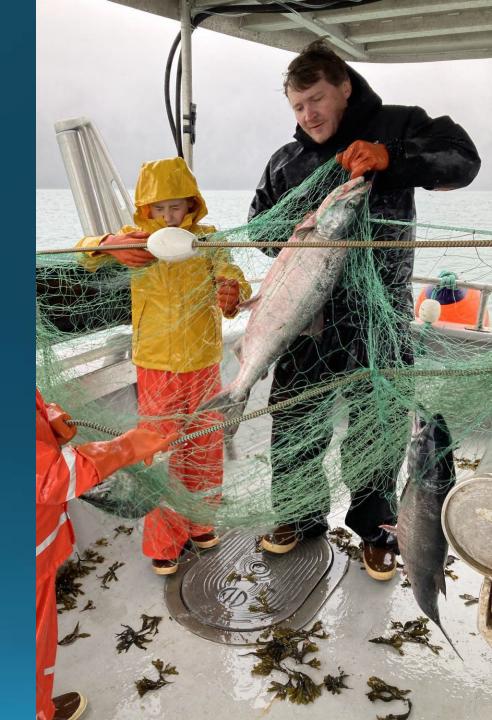
- Adoption of cutting-edge technologies for harvesting, processing, and distribution.
- AFDF Accelerator as a central component.

New Seafood Product Development

 Expansion of the Alaska Symphony of Seafood to foster global recognition of innovative Alaska seafood products.

Policy Advocacy

 Proactive engagement with policymakers to advocate for supportive policies and funding.





Mariculture Start-Up Accelerator Alaska Symphony SeaThrive Development of Seafood Program Program Program Blue Economy Innovation Research & Development Sustainable Certifications Vessel Energy Solutions Seattle WA Event Joint Innovation Projects Climate-Ready Fisheries Start-Up Advisory Support Economic Development Environmental Awareness AK Mariculture Conference Workforce Development Entrepreneur Mentorship Community Investment Social Responsibility Research & Development Juneau AK Event

Progress Since February: Building Momentum

Large Scale Economic Study

- Collaborating with McKinley Research on a seafood processing business model and cost comparison study
- Draft report expected by May 2025

Technological Integration & Innovation

- Leveraging the Startup Accelerator to drive industry innovation
- Partnering with Washington Maritime Blue to expand our footprint

New Seafood Product Development

 Rebranding the Alaska Symphony of Seafood to expand its reach and support industry innovation, promoting new Alaska seafood products

Expected Outcomes of the Initiative

Increased Efficiency

 Streamlined operations, waste reduction, and higher yields/profitability for harvesters and processors.

Market Growth

Expansion of Alaska seafood products leading to economic growth and job creation.

Industry Resiliency

 Enhanced adaptability to environmental and market changes, securing long-term viability for Alaska's coastal communities.

Path Forward Community Collaborations

- Our success depends on the collective efforts of all community partners.
- AFDF is dedicated to advancing the entire Alaska seafood industry, supporting growth across all regions of the state.
- Let's do this!

