



2010

Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF) has played a key role in the progress and development of the Alaskan fishing industry over the past three decades. As a non-profit foundation, we interface with agency representatives, academia and seafood industry participants to discuss developmental needs and challenges; transforming those challenges into opportunities for coastal communities, permit holders and support sector businesses. Improving Alaska's commercial fisheries on a sustainable basis is what AFDF has done since 1978.

Several of our projects have had a major positive impact on the Alaskan fishing industry, such as;

- A variety of projects culminating in bringing the first shore-based Surimi plant to Alaska and the U.S.;
- Developmental techniques for bone/parasite removal in white fish fillet production;
- Developing escape panel strategies in pot fisheries;
- Halibut and salmon bycatch reduction: intermediate panels for trawl gear to allow halibut and salmon to escape while retaining groundfish;
- Modifying crab pots to harvest Pacific cod;
- Study of killer whales impact on longline fisheries and potential sonic deterrents, and research on Steller sea lions and impacts of commercial fishing;
- Development of Alaska pink/chum salmon products to enhance exvessel value;
- Perishable Handling: Investigating feasibility of temperature controlled modules for air transport of seafood;
- Alaska salmon and white fish oil market potential (including FDA summary and quality analyses and fatty acid profiles of Alaska Salmon Oil);
- Investigation of tagging methods and tracking for Giant Pacific Octopus in Southcentral Alaska;
- 2008 Seafood Byproducts market study; 2008 Fish Processing Byproducts bibliography compiled;
- Salmon Baby Food project resulted in Beech Nut producing "Wild Alaska Salmon and Sweet Potato Baby Food"

We are currently working on:

- Completing MSC's certification of sustainability for all sectors of the Pacific cod fishery in Alaska;
- Utilization of salmon & fish byproducts: Modified Silage process to turn fish waste into value added products.
- Salmon oil: Purification methods to produce Food Grade salmon oil;
- Sponsorship of Joint Conference w/ ICST (International Conference of Seafood Technologists) and FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN) in Anchorage, May 2010;
- New seafood products – 17th Annual Alaska Symphony of Seafood in Anchorage, February 2010.

These types of projects are vital to the commercial fishing industry. AFDF's goal is to continue turning challenges that face the fisheries today into opportunities for Alaska and for a sustainable future in the commercial fishing industry. In order for AFDF to achieve these goals, we need your support.