



Alaska Salmon Alliance  
Working for Alaska's salmon future today.



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Sarah Hndkins

# Alaska Salmon Alliance

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The Alaska Salmon Alliance has a philosophy of shared harvest leading to a diverse Alaska economy. It is an organization committed to scientifically based fishery management, geared toward preserving the salmon culture that is unique to Alaska.

The salmon of Cook Inlet support a traditional commercial fishery that has operated sustainably for more than 130 years. Year-round Alaska residents own the majority of the commercial fishing permits. The companies that process the fish in this region, as well as all of the businesses that provide support services, contribute to a critical portion of the economy in the Kenai Peninsula and Southcentral Alaska.

Healthy ecosystems = Healthy fisheries =  
Healthy economies = Healthy communities

**Alaska Salmon Alliance Executive Director:**  
Arni Thomson

**Board members:**

Paul Dale Co-Owner, Snug Harbor Seafoods, Kenai  
Duff Hoyt Manager, Icicle Seafoods, Homer  
Tab Goto Director, Pacific Star Seafoods, Kenai  
Erik Huebsch Drift Boat Owner, Kasilof  
Norm Darch Set Net Owner, Nikiski

For the complete report on the Cook Inlet salmon fishery, visit [www.aksalmonalliance.org](http://www.aksalmonalliance.org)

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**"My wife and I started Snug Harbor Seafoods in 1990. We now have an annual payroll of \$2 million and sales of \$25 million. Like most business people, we need reasonable consistency in supply and regulatory stability to prosper. We advocate for science-based solutions to these problems. Smart management will lead to an abundance of fishery resources that will provide maximum value to all user groups."**

— Paul Dale  
President, Alaska Salmon Alliance



## Wild Alaska Salmon

are part of the cultural fabric of our state. They are woven into our past, our present and our future.

The Alaska Salmon Alliance is an organization focused on public education, promoting the value of scientifically based salmon management to preserve habitats and create predictable harvests for all salmon users in the Cook Inlet region. The Alaska Salmon Alliance promotes long-term sustainability and is a source for accurate information about the salmon industry. We advocate for thoughtful, process-oriented allocation of Cook Inlet salmon for the benefit of all Alaska.

The organization was formed in 2011 and has five board members that represent more than 150 years of fisheries experience in Alaska.

**Fishing has always been part of the economic backbone of our state, long before the Last Frontier became the 49th star.**

**The Alaska Salmon Alliance sponsored research to summarize the economic contribution of the Cook Inlet salmon fishery. The numbers tell the story:**

- **\$2.15 billion** equals the accumulated harvest value of the Cook Inlet salmon fishery from 1980-2011, using 2012 dollars

**As of 2011 the Cook Inlet salmon fishery:**

- Is **larger than all salmon fisheries in the Lower 48 combined**
- Is the **fourth largest salmon fishery in Alaska**
- Creates more than **5,000 Alaska jobs within the industry**

**The Cook Inlet salmon fishery grows our communities. In 2011 alone, the fishery added:**

- **\$102 million** in direct value to Alaska's economy

**If you consider all fish processed in Cook Inlet region fisheries, including halibut, sablefish and groundfish, the additional economic value is even larger.**

- **\$119 million** in direct value to Alaska fisherman
- **\$212 million** in wholesale value

**"I am a third-generation commercial fisherman. My family began fishing in Cook Inlet prior to statehood. I grew up on the family set-net site and then bought my grandfather's boat and drift permit. I get a lot of satisfaction from being part of an industry that provides this great product – wild salmon – to the rest of the country."**

-Erik Huebsch, Board Member, Alaska Salmon Alliance

## EMPLOYMENT

The Cook Inlet salmon fishery creates opportunities for Alaskans to learn a sustainable resource development trade that is handed down from generation to generation in Alaska.



The Cook Inlet salmon fishery helps keep employment stable in Cook Inlet communities by directly providing jobs. In 2011 the Cook Inlet salmon fishery created:

- **3,854 harvester jobs**
- **1,617 processor jobs**



### Estimated Jobs in 2011 From Cook Inlet Salmon Fisheries



■ Estimated salmon processor jobs  
■ Estimated salmon harvester jobs

### The five-year average of existing jobs from the Cook Inlet salmon fishery is approximately:

- **3,600 harvester jobs**
- **1,300 processor jobs**

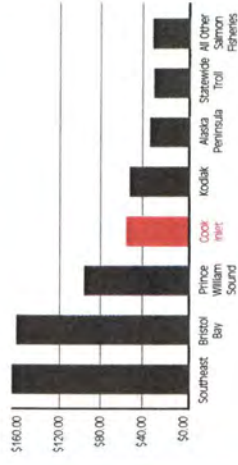
The Cook Inlet salmon fishery harvest value grows our communities. The Cook Inlet salmon set-netters and drift-netters caught more than 36 million pounds of salmon in 2011.

## REVENUE

**The harvest value paid to fishermen was more than \$54.2 million. This revenue goes directly to the communities of resident fishermen.**

The harvest of all Lower 48 salmon fisheries is only \$53.5 million.

### Cook Inlet Is The 4th Largest Salmon Fishery In Alaska



Indirect revenues from commercial fishing in the Cook Inlet region support many other businesses, including air, barge and truck freight companies; fuel companies; hardware and marine repair businesses; air and water travel companies and many other related support industries.

The salmon fishery does not stand alone. It is an integrated component of the general commercial fishing and processing industry in the Cook Inlet region, including halibut, sablefish and groundfish. For the many processing companies located in this area, Cook Inlet salmon are a critical part of the processing mix that creates diversity and financial stability.

These fishery resources combine in Cook Inlet and form a powerful economic base. If the ports of Homer, Kenai, Seward and Anchorage were combined, the value of landings salmon, halibut, sablefish and groundfish would create the **6th largest port in the United States.**



### The economic value to Cook Inlet from salmon, halibut, sablefish and groundfish grows our communities.

The estimated overall economic contribution to the region from harvesters and processors of Cook Inlet salmon approaches \$350 million.

This includes an estimated \$212 million in wholesale value from all species processed, and an additional \$138 million of indirect and induced economic activity. These estimates are based on multipliers developed by Northern Economics in 2011 for the Marine Conservation Alliance (MCA).



Produced by Alaska Salmon Alliance (2012)