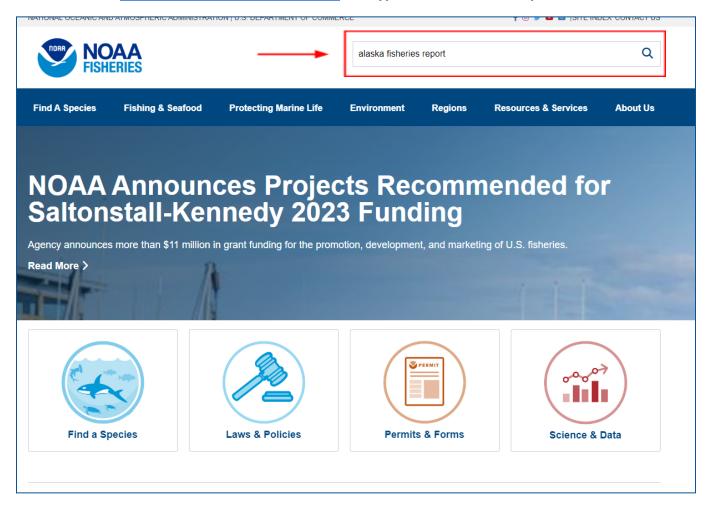
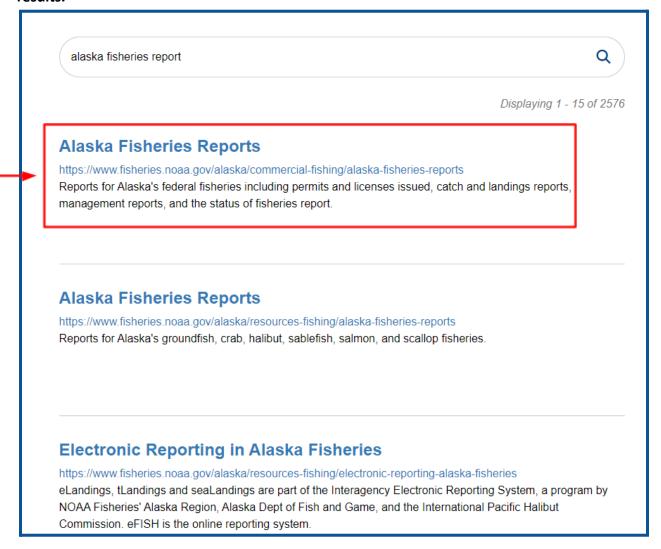
Guide: How to find information on

Alaska Fisheries Bycatch

1. Go to https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/ and type "alaska fisheries report"



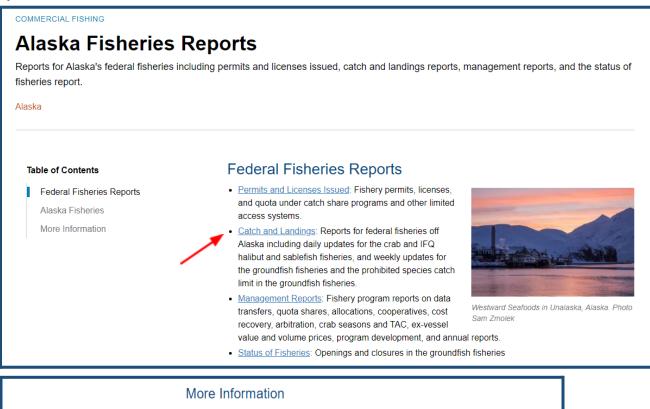
2. Your search results may vary. *Alaska fisheries reports* pages will likely be at the top of the results.

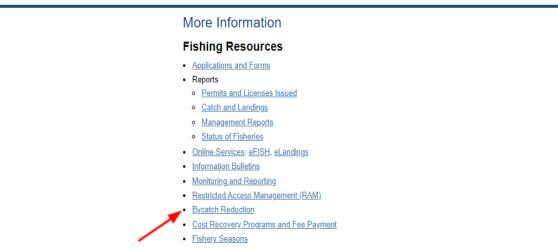


 Both of the top two results on this page will take you to bycatch information. Here is the direct link to the first page:

https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/commercial-fishing/alaska-fisheries-reports

3. On this page you can find reports, an overview of Alaska fisheries, and information about bycatch.





- a. Routing to the <u>Catch and Landings</u> page you can find daily, weekly, and historical data on catch and bycatch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and the Gulf of Alaska
- b. Routing to the <u>Bycatch Reduction</u> page you will find an overview of bycatch, prohibited species catch (PSC), and amendments implemented by the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council to address bycatch concerns. This page is broken down by Chinook, non-Chinook, Crab, and Halibut. You can also use this page to route back to the <u>Catch and Landings</u> page.

Bycatch in Alaska

Fishermen participating in fisheries off Alaska sometimes catch and discard fish they do not want, cannot sell, or are not allowed to keep. These unwanted fish are collectively known as bycatch. Fishery interactions that result in mortality or injury of marine mammals and seabirds are also a bycatch concern.

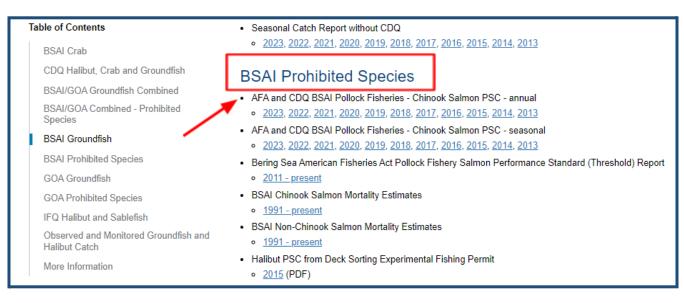
The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) requires that bycatch be minimized to the extent practicable. In the Alaska Region, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and NOAA Fisheries have adopted measures to limit the catch of species taken incidentally in groundfish fisheries. Certain species are designated as "prohibited species" in the fishery management plans because they are the target of other, fully utilized domestic fisheries. Prohibited species catch (PSC) include Pacific halibut, Pacific herring, Pacific salmon, steelhead trout, king crab, and Tanner crab.

Bycatch Information and Programs

- Fisheries Catch, Landings, and Prohibited Species Catch Reports
- · Chinook Salmon Bycatch
- Chum Salmon Bycatch
- Crab Bycatch [2]
- · Groundfish catch share programs for reducing groundfish bycatch
 - · Amendment 80 Fisheries
 - American Fisheries Act Pollock
 - Rockfish Program
- · Halibut Bycatch
 - Amendment 111 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the BSAI to Revise BSAI Halibut Prohibited Species Catch Limits
 - BSAI Halibut Abundance-Based Management

 - Amendment 95 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish of the GOA to Reduce Halibut Prohibited Species Catch Limits
- · Seabird Bycatch

4. If you are interested in looking at data for a specific type of bycatch, such as salmon in the Bering Sea, click on <u>BSAI Prohibited Species</u> under the Table of Contents on the <u>Catch and</u> <u>Landings</u> page:



- a. There are multiple ways to view bycatch. The first report series listed will give you an annual report of Chinook Salmon PSC in the American Fisheries Act (AFA) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Pollock fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands
- b. The second report series will give you the same data, broken down seasonally
- c. The fourth and fifth report will give you all of the bycatch data for Chinook and non-Chinook salmon species, in html format between 1991 and present
- If you are interested in halibut bycatch in the Gulf of Alaska, route to <u>GOA Prohibited</u>
 <u>Species</u> and scroll to Halibut Bycatch or Halibut Mortality near the bottom of the section.

CDQ Halibut, Crab and Groundfish
BSAI/GOA Groundfish Combined
BSAI/GOA Combined - Prohibited
Species
BSAI Groundfish
BSAI Prohibited Species
GOA Groundfish
GOA Prohibited Species

Observed and Monitored Groundfish and Halibut Catch

More Information

GOA Prohibited Species

- Chinook and non-Chinook PSC
 - 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015
- Chinook and Other Salmon Bycatch Trawl
 - 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994, 1993 (TXTs)
- Chinook Salmon PSC Central GOA and Western GOA
 - o 2014, 2013
- · Chinook, Other Salmon and Halibut Mortality
 - o 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013
- Crab Bycatch 1996-2002 (ZIP)
- GOA Chinook Salmon Mortality Estimates
 - 1991- present
- Halibut Bycatch 1996-2002 (ZIP)
- Halibut Bycatch Mortality Hook and Line 1993-2002 (ZIP)
- Halibut Bycatch Mortality Trawl 1993-2002 (ZIP)
- Halibut Mortality Rockfish Program
- 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013
- · Halibut Mortality Seasonal Combined
 - 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013
- · Halibut Mortality Report Seasonal Hook and Line
- <u>2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013</u>
- Salmon Bycatch 1996-2002 (ZIP)

6. If you want to review bycatch rates by week and/or vessel by building your own resolution, route to BSAI/GOA Combined - Prohibited Species. These links will give you an unformatted csv file. Clink "Explanation" for an overview of the data fields. Note, these reports are screened for confidential information, so may not include the total PSC amounts.

Table of Contents

BSAI Crab

CDQ Halibut, Crab and Groundfish

BSAI/GOA Groundfish Combined

BSAI/GOA Combined - Prohibited Species

BSAI Groundfish

BSAI Prohibited Species

GOA Groundfish

GOA Prohibited Species

IFQ Halibut and Sablefish

Observed and Monitored Groundfish and

BSAI/GOA Combined - Prohibited Species

- · Bycatch Rates by week and vessel
 - Explanation: 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 (CSVs)
- . Chinook and non-Chinook PSC by gear, area, target, week, processing sector
- Explanation: 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 (CSVs)
- · Crab Bycatch Rates by gear, area, target, week, processing sector
 - Explanation: 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 (CSVs)
- · Halibut Bycatch Rates by gear, area, target, week, processing sector
 - Explanation: 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 (CSVs)
- · Combined Groundfish and Prohibited Species Catch Reports (ZIP file of all reports combined)
 - 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 (ZIPs)
- · Field Definitions
 - o 2022 (PDF)
- 7. For an overview of the North Pacific Observer Program, refer to this webpage which provides a brief explanation of full coverage and partial coverage categories in Alaska Fisheries:
 - https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/fisheries-observers/north-pacific-observer-program
- 8. Please contact nmfs.akr.inseason@noaa.gov for any questions concerning these reports or these fisheries.