



**ALASKA RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT  
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

# THE ALASKA RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IS A RIGOROUS SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION

The Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute established the RFM program in 2010, in response to industry and customer suggestion that having a choice in seafood certification programs is important. Comprehensive information can be accessed at [alaskaseafood.org](http://alaskaseafood.org).

The Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management Program is a rigorous seafood sustainability certification standard. Based on United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) criteria, it is one of the few programs accredited under the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) code.

**Alaska Fisheries and the Supply Chain are assessed against the RFM Conformance Criteria and Chain of Custody Standards. The Criteria were developed by an independent expert committee and are based on the following FAO Guidelines and Documents:**

- Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries 1995
- Guidelines for Eco-labelling of Fish and Fishery Products for Marine Capture Fisheries 2005/2009
- Guidelines for the Eco-labelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries 2011
- Fisheries Circular No. 917, October 1996

## The Alaska RFM Conformance Criteria for Fishery Certification – Six Key Principles

1. The Fisheries Management System
2. Science and Stock Assessment Activities
3. The Precautionary Approach
4. Management Measure
5. Implementation, Monitoring and Control
6. Serious Impacts of the Fishery on the Ecosystem

Alaska RFM Certification is a voluntary and internationally accredited assessment of whether an Alaska fishery meets strict criteria to be certified as responsibly managed.

**More information can be found at [www.alaskaseafood.org](http://www.alaskaseafood.org)**



## THE ALASKA RFM CHAIN OF CUSTODY PROGRAM

The Chain of Custody component of the RFM Program ensures that only seafood producers who are verified as meeting the Chain of Custody Standard can make the on-product claim “sourced from a certified Alaska fishery,” whether through use of the certified seal or a marketing statement. It gives confidence to all buyers of the seafood that any on-product claims can be traced back through the supply chain to the Alaska RFM certified fishery.

### THE ALASKA RFM CERTIFIED SPECIES

FISH SPECIES	GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF FISHERY	GEAR TYPE
<b>PACIFIC SALMON SPECIES</b> Client: Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (King/Chinook, Sockeye/Red, Coho/Silver, Keta/Chum, Pink)	Region 1: Southeast & Yakutat Region 2: Central Region 3: Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Region 4: Kodiak, Chignik, Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands	Troll, Purse Seine, Drift Gillnet, Set Gillnet Purse Seine, Drift Gillnet, Set Gillnet Drift Gillnet, Set Gillnet, Fish Wheel Purse Seine, Drift Gillnet, Set Gillnet
<b>PACIFIC HALIBUT</b> Client: Fishing Vessels Owners Association (Eat on the Wild Side)	Gulf of Alaska; Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands	Benthic Longline
<b>SABLEFISH (BLACK COD)</b> Client: Fishing Vessels Owners Association (Eat on the wild Side)	Federal and State fisheries Gulf of Alaska; Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands	Benthic Longline, Pot, Non-pelagic Trawl
<b>ALASKA (WALLEYE) POLLOCK</b> Client: Alaska Pollock Fishery Group (Pacific Seafood Processors Association, At-Sea Processors Association, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank)	Gulf of Alaska; Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands	Pelagic Trawl, and other gears (Non-pelagic Trawl, Jig, Longline, Pot) from other non-directed pollock fisheries legally landing pollock
<b>PACIFIC COD</b> Client: Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation	Gulf of Alaska; Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands	Non-pelagic Trawl, Longline, Pot, Jig Non-pelagic Trawl
<b>FLATFISH COMPLEX</b> Client: Alaska Seafood Cooperative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellowfin sole</li> <li>• Flathead sole</li> <li>• Northern rock sole</li> <li>• Southern rock sole</li> <li>• Arrowtooth flounder</li> <li>• Kamchatka flounder</li> <li>• Alaska plaice</li> <li>• Greenland turbot</li> <li>• Rex sole</li> </ul>	Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Gulf of Alaska; Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Gulf of Alaska; Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Gulf of Alaska Gulf of Alaska; Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Gulf of Alaska	Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl Non-pelagic Trawl, Longline Non-pelagic Trawl
<b>CRAB</b> Client: Bering Sea Crab Client Group LLC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red King crab</li> <li>• Snow crab</li> <li>• Blue King crab</li> </ul>	Bristol Bay Eastern Bering Sea St. Matthew Island	Pot Pot Pot



### **Key Aspects of The Alaska RFM Program:**

- Open, transparent, collaborative process with a sound governance structure and expert advisory committees.
- Comprehensive stakeholder engagement procedures. All stakeholders have the opportunity for engagement at multiple levels during fishery assessments, standard review and in the fishery management process.
- Well-defined appeals and complaints process that ensures impartiality at all stages of the fisheries assessment process.
- No logo licensing fees. The Alaska RFM seal is free to use and this means a cost reduction for those companies using the certified seal.
- Dedication to maintaining a robust and credible program through continuous improvement.

**ALASKA SEAFOOD MARKETING INSTITUTE**

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