2021 Commercial Fishing and Seafood Processing Facts

JOBS - FISHING
Permit holders, crew and vessels:
Commercial fishing permit holders: 350\(^1\)
Total permits owned: 427\(^1\)
Permit holders who fished: 217\(^1\)
Commercial crewmember license holders: 383\(^2\)
Permit holders who fished plus crew: 600\(^1,2\)
Vessels home ported: 36\(^3\)
Vessels owned: 195\(^3\)

Each of these individual small and family businesses represents investment, employment, and income in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough community.

INCOME:
Estimated ex-vessel income by Matanuska-Susitna Borough–based fishermen: $33.3 million\(^1\)

Earnings generated from commercial fishing circulated in the local economy through property and sales taxes; purchases of homes, rentals, hotels, electricity, entertainment, fuel, vehicles, food, repair and maintenance parts, transportation, travel, medical, and other services. **Virtually every business in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough benefits from commercial fishing dollars.**

JOBS – PROCESSING
Seafood processing jobs in the Mat-Su Borough: 19\(^4\)
Total borough processing wages: $37 thousand\(^4\)

...AND MORE JOBS
In addition to direct harvester and processor workers, fisheries related jobs include hatcheries, fuel, accountants, consultants, air and water travel, hardware and marine repair and supply businesses, advocacy and marketing organizations, air cargo crew, freight agents, and scientists.

Government related jobs include Alaska Department of Fish and Game • Fish and Wildlife Protection/Alaska Department of Public Safety • Docks and Harbors • Hatcheries • Alaska State Troopers • United States Coast Guard • University of Alaska School of Fisheries• Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory program, and more.

REVENUE to the State and Community through Fishery Taxes …
The state general fund received over $47.6 million in fisheries business and landings taxes in FY 2021. Total seafood industry contributions to the state treasury totaled over $63.1 million, including business, landings, salmon development, and seafood marketing taxes, among others.\(^5\)

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS
The Matanuska-Susitna Borough includes House Districts 7-12, and Senate Districts D-F.

*The Matanuska-Susitna Borough includes the communities of Big Lake, Houston, Palmer, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, Sutton, Wasilla, and Willow*

Footnotes - Sources:
1. Commercial fishing permit activity and estimated harvest and earnings by permit holder are from the Alaska Commercial Fishery Entry Commission (CFEC) at [https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/fishery_statistics/earnings.htm](https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/fishery_statistics/earnings.htm).
2. Crew numbers are from Alaska Department of Fish and Game commercial crew license list, and are the number of full year adult resident license holders who list their address in a given community.
3. Vessel numbers are from CFEC database data found online at [https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/plook/#downloads](https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/plook/#downloads) and are a count of commercial fishing licensed vessels that list home port or ownership in a given community.
4. Processor employment and wage data is from the Alaska Department of Labor provided on request.