

NOTICE



Several fishermen have recently reported receiving letters and an invoice from the USDA, requesting repayment of the funds that they received as part of the Seafood Trade Relief Program (STRP) back in 2020. UFA and several member groups have reached out to the USDA and have received the response that I have pasted below. If you are one of the reportedly 209 individuals that this impacts, make sure that you follow the directions as outlined in the message and send in your response. If you have further questions, please reach out to the USDA contact listed below.

"In 2020 Alaska FSA administered the Seafood Trade Relief Program (STRP).

A piece of that application process was the completion of a [CCC-941 Adjusted Gross Income \(AGI\) form](#).

When FSA receives those forms (for most all of our programs, not just STRP), they are turned over to the IRS for income verification. An IRS verification must be completed within 180 days of the signature date on the form. IRS did not timely complete that step for several of the STRP applicants. FSA Alaska has attempted to contact those producers since being notified of the missing AGI form. Because of the length of time that has passed, the producers' payments have been transferred over to Receivables. That transfer created a Notification Letter. This is the letter that they have received and are calling/inquiring about. In that letter, the producers are given options to appeal this determination, they have 30 days after receiving the notice. Submitting a new signed CCC-941 form will make that producer AGI eligible again. Our office will be closely monitoring those to ensure that the IRS determinations are then completed within that 180 window.

I have attached a copy of the AGI form to this email (NOTE: the AGI form can be accessed in a link pasted in blue above). As I mentioned over the phone, if the applicant on the letter is an entity, we will need one AGI form for the entity and each of the entity members. The program year for the AGI form will be for 2020 in box 4A. The name and address need to be exactly how taxes are filed since it is an IRS verification. If there are any questions at all about the letter, form or information above please feel free to contact me or the applicants."

Thanks, Erin

Erin Sturdivant
Agricultural Program Manager
Alaska State Office
USDA - Farm Service Agency
800 E Palmer-Wasilla Hwy, Ste. 216

Palmer, AK 99645

907-761-7754 (o)

907-761-7789 fax

e-mail: Erin.Sturdivant@usda.gov

www.fsa.usda.gov/ak