



# UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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March 10, 2021

Mayor Mark Jensen

Dear Mayor Jensen,

My name is Frances Leach and I am the Executive Director of the United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) in Juneau. I am writing to inquire if the City and Borough of Petersburg might be interested in joining UFA as a community supporting member. UFA is the largest statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 37 commercial fishing organizations from fisheries throughout the state and its offshore waters. Our mission is to promote and protect the common interests of Alaska's commercial fishing industry as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being. UFA's strength is a direct function of the breadth of our member groups that comprise our Board of Directors. We would welcome community supporting members such as the City and Borough of Petersburg that are not currently UFA members to join and support the economic benefits provided the State and local businesses by the commercial fishing industry.

Supporting community membership costs \$300 a year. Community supporting members have the communities web link included on UFA site (pasted below). You can see the list of communities and businesses that are members of UFA right now represent a broad spectrum of the fishing community. Each supporting community member also receives a membership certificate and UFA decals that can be displayed in public places to demonstrate your support of the commercial fishing industry. We know from experience that such support is much appreciated by our hundreds of permit holders and crew who live throughout the State.

I very much appreciate your time and consideration. If you'd like to discuss this letter further I would be happy to do so at your convenience. My number is 586-2820.

<http://www.ufafish.org/member-organizations/business-members/>

Sincerely,

Frances H. Leach  
Executive Director

#### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Scallop Association • Alaska Trollers Association  
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association • Area M Seiners Association • At-sea Processors Association • Bristol Bay Fishermen's Association  
Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association • Bristol Bay Reserve • Cape Barnabas, Inc. • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen  
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Douglas Island Pink and Chum • Freezer Longline Coalition • Fishing Vessel Owners Assn  
Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Crab Alliance Cooperative • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • Kodiak Seiners  
Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • Northwest Setnetters Association • Petersburg Vessel Owner  
Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative • Southeast Alaska Herring  
Conservation Alliance • Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance • Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners  
Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • United Catcher Boats • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters  
Valdez Fisheries Development Association

# Petersburg City & Borough



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## 2018 Commercial Fishing and Seafood Processing Facts

**Petersburg ranked as the #25 fishing port in the U.S. by weight and the #24 port by value, with landings of 35.3 million pounds of seafood worth \$44.7 million in 2018.<sup>6</sup>**

### JOBS - FISHING

#### Permit holders, crew and vessels:

Commercial fishing permit holders: **488<sup>1</sup>**

Total permits owned: **1,088<sup>1</sup>**

Permit holders who fished: **370<sup>1</sup>**

Commercial crewmember license holders: **395<sup>2</sup>**

Permit holders who fished plus crew: **765<sup>1,2</sup>**

Percentage of local population who fished: **23.9%<sup>1,2,4</sup>**

Commercial vessels home ported: **620<sup>3</sup>**; owned: **583<sup>3</sup>**;

**Each of these individual small and family businesses represents investment, employment, and income in the Petersburg Borough and Census Area.**

### INCOME

Estimated **ex-vessel income** by Petersburg-based fishermen: **\$50.5 million<sup>1</sup>**

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 Petersburg community benefits from commercial fishing dollars.**

### JOBS - PROCESSING

Seafood processing jobs in Petersburg: **651<sup>5</sup>**

Alaska resident processing jobs: 181<sup>5</sup> (**27.8%**)

Total processing wages: **\$10.1 million<sup>5</sup>**

Alaska resident processing wages: **\$4.9 million<sup>5</sup> (47.93%)**

Number of processing facilities: **8<sup>4</sup>**

### ...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. Much of the seafood harvested in Petersburg was shipped or flown out, providing many more jobs.

**Government related jobs include** Alaska Department of Fish and Game • U.S. Forest Service • 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 ...

FY 2018 shared taxes – **Petersburg received \$893,722 in fisheries business and landing taxes** through the municipal tax-sharing program from Petersburg fisheries landings and businesses.<sup>7</sup> The State of Alaska received a like amount.

### LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

Petersburg is in House District 35, Senate District R.

**The Petersburg Census Area includes Petersburg, Kake, Kupreanof, and Port Alexander.**

**Salmon is the most abundant and valuable species to Petersburg Census Area fishermen, with total landings of over 24.6 million pounds worth more than \$23.3 million.<sup>1</sup>**

#### Footnotes - Sources:

1. Commercial fishing permit activity and estimated harvest and earnings by permit holder are from the Alaska Commercial Fishery Entry Commission (CFEC) for Petersburg Census Area, online 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. [http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license\\_licensefile](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license_licensefile)
3. Vessel numbers are from CFEC database data found online at <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. Number of processing facilities, and population data used to calculate the percentage of residents who fished, are from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) Community Database: <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/dora/DCRAExternal>.
5. Processor employment and wage data is from the Alaska Department of Labor at <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/seafood/seafoodstatewide.cfm>.
6. NOAA, NMFS Office of Science and Technology, see reports "Total Commercial Fishery Landings at Major U.S. Ports" ranked by value and by weight at <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/commercial-fisheries/commercial-landings/index>.
7. Revenue figures are from the Alaska Department of Revenue Shared Taxes report: <http://www.tax.alaska.gov/programs/sourcebook/index.aspx>