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## For Immediate Release

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## More than 600 Seafood Workers Needed Immediately

JUNEAU – Seafood processing companies are recruiting Alaskans to fillet, can, freeze and prepare Alaska wild salmon, pollock and other seafood for worldwide markets. There are 630 seafood processing job openings across the state that companies need to fill immediately.

"Seasonal jobs are in strong supply right now," said Click Bishop, Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. "Young people are especially encouraged to apply, as these jobs offer an opportunity to earn money quickly while building a work history, as well as travel and see Alaska."

Age requirements for the jobs vary. Prior experience is often not required for entry-level processing jobs. Typical starting pay ranges from \$7.15 an hour to \$8.50 an hour plus overtime. There's often a chance for overtime, but it depends on the harvest level.

Processors often provide room and board. Sometimes the processors advance the cost of transportation (to be reimbursed by the worker) or pay for it, contingent upon the worker completing his or her contract.

Demand for workers normally begins in mid June in Bristol Bay and Dutch Harbor, late June on the Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak, in mid- to late July in Southeast and other locations, and work continues into mid-August and September around the state as fishery seasons progress. The Department of Labor's Traveling Seafood Workforce program helps relocate workers who have completed their contracts in Bristol Bay in mid-July to new processing locations.

Information about seafood processing jobs is available at Alaska Job Centers or by calling toll-free in Alaska at (800) 473-0688. Seafood job descriptions and application information are also available online at <a href="https://www.jobs.alaska.gov">www.jobs.alaska.gov</a>. Click on "Seafood Jobs" or "ALEXsys," the Alaska Labor Exchange System.

## The locations and numbers of current seafood processing job openings are listed below:

Ninilchik - 6 Anchorage – 25 Coffee Point – 20 Nome - 50 Cordova – 40 Petersburg - 20 Dutch Harbor – 25 Seward - 20 Homer-40Egegik – 20 Sitka – 50 Togiak - 20 Hoonah-8Valdez - 5 Whittier - 20 Juneau - 30King Cove – 5 Yakutat - 10

Kodiak - 25 Off-shore and at sea - 36

Naknek – 155

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