Interesting Facts About The Alaskan Salmon Season

The summer harvest season for wild Alaska salmon officially opens May 15. Here is some of the data that processors and buyers should know.

- The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) has forecast a total harvest of 133.1 million fish, with a breakdown of 538,000 king, 33.6 million sockeye, 4.4 million coho, 19.9 million keta, and 74.7 million pink salmon.
- This season follows the largest Alaska salmon harvest on record. The 2013 harvest exceeded the ADFG prediction by 58 percent, largely due to a massive harvest of pink salmon, the most abundant of the five species.
- The summer salmon season kicks off with the arrival of king and sockeye in the Copper River, with other fisheries seeing returns throughout the summer and continuing into September.
- Alaska salmon accounts for over 90 percent of all wild salmon in North America. Like all seafood harvested in the state, Alaska salmon is always wild, natural, and sustainable.
- While most Alaska salmon is harvested during summer openings, Alaska troll-caught king salmon is harvested year round.
- Alaska seafood creates more jobs than any other private sector industry in the state, and over half of those jobs depend on salmon.
- Commercial salmon fishing is a treasured way-of-life handed down through generations, directly employing over 38,000 hard working men and women.

For more information, visit www.alaskaseafood.org [1].

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