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AFDF Announces Winners of the Alaska Symphony of Seafood
Winners go to Seafood Expo North America in 2022

Wrangell, Alaska (November 23, 2021) – The Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF) announced the Seattle People’s Choice and the 1st place winners of the Alaska Symphony of Seafood during Pacific Marine Expo on Friday, November 19. The Alaska Symphony of Seafood is an annual competition for new value-added products made from Alaska Seafood. The goal of the Symphony is to encourage innovation through product development and promotion of these new products. The Symphony helps to diversify markets, and increase utilization and value of the resource. Product development also helps keep Alaska Seafood relevant to consumers.

The Alaska Symphony of Seafood kicked off on November 17 in Seattle with the private judging session. Each product entered into the competition was grouped into one of five categories: Retail, Foodservice, Beyond the Plate, Whitefish and Salmon. Product entries were individually evaluated in each category by a panel of expert judges. The competition enlisted chefs, seafood writers, seafood buyers, and other industry experts to pick the best new Alaska Seafood products of the year. In Seattle, the judges tasted, deliberated and scored all the products. Scoring was based on the product packaging and presentation, overall eating experience, price and potential for commercial success.

This year included a new award in cooperation with the Symphony’s major sponsor and partner, Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association (BBRSDA) – the Bristol Bay Choice. The inaugural winner of this new award went to Wild Caught Bristol Bay Sockeye, by [Alaskan Leader Seafoods](#).



Also, on November 17th, AFDF held the Seattle Open House in collaboration with the Northwest Fisheries Association. At this event, the guests sampled each product and voted on their favorite product. The votes were tallied that evening and the winner, Wild Caught Alaska Black Cod, by [Alaskan Leader Seafoods](#), was awarded Seattle People’s Choice.

Additionally, this year’s first place winners in each category include the following amazing products:

- **RETAIL:** Echo Falls Wild Alaskan Smoked Salmon – Tapas Sliced Mediterranean, by [Ocean Beauty Seafoods](#)



- **FOODSERVICE:** Alaska Grown Ribbon Kelp, by [Seagrove Kelp Company](#)
- **BEYOND THE PLATE:** Deep Blue Sea Bath Soak, by [Waterbody](#)
- **WHITEFISH:** Wild Alaska Pollock Jerky, by [Neptune Snacks](#)
- **SALMON:** Echo Falls Wild Alaskan Smoked Salmon – Tapas Sliced Mediterranean, by [Ocean Beauty Seafoods](#)
- **SEATTLE PEOPLE’S CHOICE:** Wild Caught Alaska Black Cod, by [Alaskan Leader Seafoods](#)
- **BRISTOL BAY CHOICE:** Wild Caught Bristol Bay Sockeye Salmon, by [Alaskan Leader Seafoods](#)



This year’s panel of judges included: Monica George (Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute), Jessica Hathaway (National Fishermen), Tomi Marsh (Fishes and Dishes Cookbook), BT Thompson (Rogge), Susan Chesney (National Fisherman, retired), Lilani Dunn (Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association), Chris Sannito (Alaska Sea Grant), Thomas Sheridan (Sheridan Consulting), Annie Thenell (Catering Consultant), and Cynthia Nims (Mon Appetit LLC).

The first-place winners of each category and the grand prize winner will receive booth space at the distinguished Seafood Expo North America (SENA) in March, airfare to and from the show provided by our sponsor, Alaska Air Cargo, entry into the SENA new products contest, the *Seafood Excellence Awards*, as well as other promotional benefits.

All the winners, including the first, second and third places in each category, will be announced in February at the Symphony Awards Ceremony and UFA Legislative Reception in Juneau, Alaska, co-hosted with the United Fisherman of Alaska (UFA).

Thank you, Sponsors!

AFDF thanks all of the sponsors that make this important event possible each year. Our major sponsors this year include: *Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute, Bristol Bay Regional Development Association, Alaska Air Cargo, At-Sea Processors Association, Marine Stewardship Council, Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association, Bristol Bay Economic Development*

Corporation, Marel, Kwik'Pak Fisheries LLC, Northwest Fisheries Association, Trident Seafoods, UniSea, and United Fishermen of Alaska.

About the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation

Founded in 1978, AFDF is dedicated to identifying common opportunities in the Alaska seafood industry and developing efficient, sustainable outcomes that provide benefits to the economy, environment and communities. For more information, visit www.afdf.org. For more information about the Symphony, visit www.afdf.org/symphony-of-seafood/.