

Susan Bell
Commissioner

P.O. Box 110800
Juneau, AK 99811-0800

www.commerce.alaska.gov



Leslye Langla
Special Assistant

907.269.8159
leslye.langla@alaska.gov

Press Release

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Alaska to Send Salmon Donation to Philippine Residents and Communities

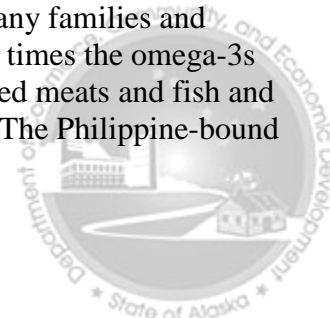
JUNEAU, AK -- The State of Alaska and the commercial fishing industry will team up to donate 133,000 pounds of canned pink salmon to Philippine residents impacted by the devastating typhoon that struck the country late last year. The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) will spearhead this effort, which follows recent seafood industry donations of canned salmon to residents of Northwest Alaska facing food shortages as a result of ravaging storms and economic hardships.

"We're grateful that processors in our fishing industry will be sharing a portion of their bounty with the many people in need, both in Alaska and the Philippines," said DCCED Commissioner Susan Bell.

Bell said Alaska and the Philippines have a long, shared history in developing Alaska's commercial fishing industry. Recently, delegations from Alaska and the Philippines participated in reciprocal trade missions to explore trade, educational, and cultural opportunities. In addition to industry ties, many Alaskans have family members and friends in the Philippines. "Through joint efforts to develop our seafood industries, we have reaffirmed the importance of seafood in the Philippine culture, and we welcome the opportunity to help during this critical recovery period," Bell said.

To procure the product, the department has issued an Invitation to Bid for the purchase and cost of shipping at least 6,048 cases (24 cans per case) of 14.75-ounce canned Alaska pink salmon <http://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=171018>.

Bell said the donation will be coordinated through relief agencies in the Philippines, which will distribute the nutritious and shelf-stable salmon to as many families and communities as possible. Alaska canned pink salmon contains four times the omega-3s EPA and DHA and twelve times the vitamin D as many other canned meats and fish and is ideal for food aid and disaster relief programs around the world. The Philippine-bound canned salmon should be ready to ship by mid-March.



The mission of the Department is to promote a healthy economy, strong communities, and protect consumers in Alaska. For more information about DCCED, visit www.commerce.alaska.gov.

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