

Local production of delicious, safe and healthy Hawaii seafood harvested in a responsible manner is vital to our sustainable future.

MISSION

The Hawaii Seafood Council (HSC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

HSC supports responsible fisheries and sustainable seafood in Hawaii for future generations through consumer education, outreach, and research.

HSC believes that marine fisheries, fishing and seafood are essential to Hawaii's unique culture, food traditions, diversified economy, food security and healthy life-style.

CORE VALUES

HSC works to help preserve Hawaii fisheries for current and future generations; optimize the quality and safety of Hawaii seafood; support the reputation of sustainable Hawaii seafood; and build a broad base of informed seafood consumers and general public:

- sustainability and self-sufficiency keep Hawaii fishing and growing food.
- reconnect people to their food and resources eating close to home, buying local, and connecting with people through their food.
- respect the resource, don't waste keep what you catch, eat what you keep.
- cooperation, mutual respect, and seeking common ground to strengthen ties between fishermen, managers, scientists, and the public.
- responsibility to "do the right thing" in fishing, fisheries management, seafood quality and safety assurance, and seafood consumption.
- science-based education and outreach based on sound science and research with respect for local knowledge.
- commonsense be practical, logical and communicate clearly.



VISION

• We envision a sustainable future for Hawaii that includes responsible fishing and healthy local seafood.

- We believe in increasing local food production and reducing our dependence on food shipped to the islands.
- We see a future that preserves our heritage of fishing, local culture and food traditions.
- We look forward to the day when Hawaii's fisheries are fully recognized as models for responsible fishing and sustainable fisheries management.
- We envision a time when Hawaii's people are reconnected with their food and regain respect and appreciation for those who bring fish to the table in a responsible and sustainable manner.
- We are committed to preserving our endowment of local healthy and sustainable seafood for future generations.

The Hawaii Seafood Council

For further information visit our website at www.hawaii-seafood.org

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FAQ's. Why should I buy Hawaii Seafood?

Why should I buy Hawaii Seafood?

- It tastes great and it's healthy for you and your family.
- It's sustainable seafood produced by Hawaii's hard-working fishermen who are among the best-managed and most responsible fishermen in the world.
- It supports a local industry that's vital to our community, culture and sustainable future.

Why is buying local seafood important?

- Only a small percentage of the total food supply in Hawaii is produced here.
- Fishing is one food system that we excel at. Hawaii Seafood is known around the world and visitors enjoy it as much as locals.
- If we don't buy Hawaii Seafood, we aren't supporting local fishermen, their families and our community.
- Buying local "anything" helps keep our hard-earned money cycling through the local economy instead of flowing out.

What makes Hawaii Seafood sustainable?

- Sustainable seafood comes from well-managed, responsible fisheries.
- Hawaii's fisheries are among the most intensively studied, monitored and managed fisheries in the world.
- In fact our longline fishery has a very high score of 94% compliance with the only global standard for Responsible Fisheries, the FAO Code of Conduct.
- Our management system under NOAA and the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council process is science-based, precautionary, transparent and inclusive.
- It's an exemplary management system and a model for sustainable fisheries.

Tuna is caught by many countries in the Pacific, what makes Hawaii tuna special?

- Quality-wise, our attention to quality is intense. Hawaii produces some of the best quality tuna and swordfish in the world.
- Our fishing vessels have adopted best practices for fish quality at sea.
- Our auction system rewards high quality with better prices, so fishermen are compensated for attention to quality.
- Fish handling standards in Hawaii at sea and on shore ensure quality and safe seafood.
- Sustainability-wise, our fisheries are sustainable because of science-based management and responsible fishing.

Why is the auction system important for sustaining the Hawaii fishing industry?

- The auction brings the daily fish landings together with the market demand.
- Fishery waste (at-sea discards) occurs when the value of fish is low.
- Fishery waste (spoilage) occurs when fish are not handled properly.
- Open-bidding on each fish allows the market to determine the value of the fish.
- Fishery waste is minimized because of the economic incentives.
- It's a system that has worked in Hawaii for decades.
- The auction works with our fishermen, not against them.
- This is not only in marketing their fish, but in seafood quality and seafood safety.

How do the fishermen and the auction work together?

- All our fishermen are registered with the auction. We know who they are and how they handle their fish.
- A vessel's catch is unloaded based on time of arrival to the dock.
- Unloading begins in the early morning hours shortly after midnight.
- Fish are weighed, tagged, inspected and displayed for auction bidding.
- The auction starts at 5:30 am and lasts until all the fish are sold.
- Fishermen are paid that afternoon so they can get back out fishing.

What is done to preserve the quality and safety of auction fish?

- All fishermen have agreed to follow safe fish handling practices.
- They sign letters of assurance that they follow safe fish handling practices at sea.
- Each fish is inspected for signs of spoilage and mishandling before being auctioned.
- Fish temperatures are checked at delivery and fish are kept cold at the auction.
- We have an intense sanitation program and seafood safety plan that keeps our seafood safe.
- Our state-of-the-art fish auction facility is inspected by the FDA.

There is great concern about the condition of the oceans and fish populations. Should I stop eating fish?

- Not all seafood is created equal. There are choices to be made.
- Responsible consumers should support responsible fisheries.
- Buy fish from well-managed fisheries (like Hawaii with NOAA management) and avoid seafood from less well-managed fisheries. (e.g. imported seafood)
- There is a very good reason why imported seafood tends to be less expensive.
- The reason is lower operating costs, lax environmental laws and often a much less stringent fishery management and enforcement.
- Don't be "part of the problem". Avoid seafood from poorly managed fisheries.
- Be "part of the solution". Buying Hawaii Seafood supports a fishery that is well-managed for sustainability.







Hawaii Seafood Sustainability Statement

Hawaii Fisheries are sustainable.

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The people of Hawaii work together with unity of purpose to preserve fishing and protect fishery resources. The fishing sector collaborates with scientists and managers to reduce impacts and risk to protected species and to prevent fish populations from becoming overfished. Our fish are hook and line-caught, no gill nets, trawl nets or seine nets are used. We constantly strive to anticipate and exceed expectations for sustainable fishery management and to pioneer mitigations that reduce environmental impacts. We trace our seafood products directly to registered vessels that are accountable to government regulations, intensive monitoring by federal fishery observers and enforcement by NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Hawaii longline fishery for tuna and swordfish produces sustainable seafood.

This fishery is sustainable because it meets the national and international requirements for

1) science-based, precautionary fishery management, 2) performance in managing fish populations for sustainability, and 3) controlling fishery impacts on the ecosystem.

The Hawaii fishery management system is exemplary.

This fishery operates under a model fishery management system. With every aspect of the fishery strictly regulated, closely monitored and tightly enforced, it is a model for sustainable pelagic fisheries worldwide. This management system is based on sound science and a transparent and inclusive fishery management process committed to sustainability.

Track record of precautionary conservation measures.

- 1991- First limited entry pelagic fishery in the U.S.
- 1991- First pelagic fishery in the U.S. to require daily logbook reporting.
- 1991- Longline fishing exclusionary zones set up around Hawaii.
- 1993- Fishery observers placed on vessels to monitor protected species impacts.
- 1994- First U.S. fishery to require vessel tracking using satellite technology.
- 2000- Shark finning was prohibited.
- 2004- Became the only Pacific fishery with a fleet limit on sea turtle interactions.
- 2004- Established the most extensive government fishery observer program of any Pacific longline fishery (100% of swordfish trips and more than 20% of tuna trips).

Key Elements of the Hawaii Longline Fisheries Management System under NOAA.

- High compliance (94%) with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.
- Conformance with national, regional and international laws and rules.
- Management system can adapt to new information and/or changes in fish population status or environmental conditions through timely corrective actions.
- Strong science and research base.
- Effective monitoring, data availability and enforcement, including comprehensive observer program.
- Adherence to advice of the Scientific and Statistical Committee comprised of uniquely qualified scientists.
- Precautionary approach to address uncertainty.
- Transparent and inclusive stakeholder involvement in development of regulations.
- Fishing capacity is capped under the Hawaii longline vessel limited entry system.
- Catch limit has been reduced to protect bigeye tuna.
- Strict and mandatory measures limiting protected species bycatch.
- Habitat protection through environmental standards for fishing vessels.

Performance of the fishery management system under NOAA.

None of the pelagic fish populations harvested are overfished. Hawaii's fishery is doing its part to eliminate overfishing on Pacific bigeye tuna. Ecosystem impacts are constantly being assessed and managers, scientists and the fishing sector are working together on solutions. Substantial and verifiable reductions of protected species interactions and finfish bycatch have been achieved.

Consumers can use sustainable Hawaii Seafood with confidence.

The Hawaii longline fishery has achieved a high level of compliance with United Nations FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, U.S. National Standards for sustainable fishery management implemented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service and the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, as well as international conservation and management measures adopted by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission.







ARU Skipjack Tuna

Bigeye Ahi Bigeye Tund

Yelloufin Abi Yelloufin Tand

Tombo Albacore Tuna

Swordfish Broadbill

Nairagi striped Martin

Kajiki Bue Martin

Hebi Shortbill Spearfish

Mahindhi Dolphinth

Uno Wahoo

Opab Monifish

Monchong sickle Pontified

Hawaiian Sea Bass Opioephelus queransi

Нари'ири'и

Onaga Long-tail Red Snapper

Opakapaka

RU Blue-green Snapper Pink Snapper

Billfish







Bottonifish



Importance of Hawaii Seafood

Fishing and food from the sea are essential to Hawaii's people, it's multi-cultural food traditions, our regional cuisine and visitor experience. It's part of who we are and what makes Hawaii so special. Reconnecting people with local food sources is critical for preserving food traditions and production capacity in Hawaii both on land and from the sea. Local seafood is vital to the health, well-being, and food self-sufficiency of our island state. Widespread respect for our ocean and coastal environment and resources is crucial if we are to preserve the natural "seafood pantry" for future generations.

Responsible Consumers support Responsible Fisheries

Eating locally and sustainably produced food is one the most profound environmental actions that each of us can take on a daily basis. For this reason, more and more consumers want to know where their food comes from. Is it imported or domestic? Is it good for the environment? Is it wild-caught or farm-raised? How was it processed? Is it safe to eat? Is it good for me? Does it taste good? When we purchase food we support those food production systems. By becoming more aware and taking personal responsibility, well-informed consumers can play a significant role in guiding the way scafood is produced and how fisheries operate. Merely rewarding the lowest cost producer is not often the best overall choice in the age of globalization.

Sustainable Hawaii Seafood comes from Responsible Fisheries

How responsible are Hawaii fisheries? Our fishers operate under a highly-evolved science and ecosystem-based fishery management system with a mandate to manage for sustainability. As a result, the Hawaii longline fishery is one of the most intensively regulated, monitored and studied fisheries in the world. In 2008, Hawaii's fishery achieved a score of 94% compliance with the international standard Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) the assessment of our fishery is the most comprehensive application of the FAO Code for the scoring of any fishery to date. Our fishers comply with fishery regulations and contribute essential information needed for sustainable fishery management. Seabird and sea turtle interactions have been reduced by 90% through the cooperative efforts of fishers, scientists and managers. Our hook & line fishing methods, multi-species catch, fresh chilled products and our unique fish auction marketing system that rewards fishers with the best fish handling practices, results in high-quality and safe seafood while minimizing fishery waste. It's the responsible thing to do.

Hawaii Seafood Branding

Hawaii Seafood is an excellent choice for sustainable seafood. Consumers need to know what the Hawaii Seafood brand stands for in terms of sustainability, seafood & health and seafood safety. The Hawaii Seafood Council is helping to strengthen the brand and inform the public, fishers, and seafood processors what it means to fish responsibly, how Hawaii's fisheries are managed, and what efforts are taken to ensure the sustainable harvest of high-quality, wholesome and safe Hawaii Seafood.

Hawaii Seafood Council (with support from NOAA Award No. NA10NMF4520344).





lagiline" (Briting was first introduced to Hawaii by Japanese immitgrants, agitining modeca a long maintine set horizontally in the water, with multiple aders and balled hoots, suspended by multiple floats with flags, hence the are "flagiline". Those early vessels were wooden, designed and constructed is panese boat builders. To obtain opelal (mackerel scad) for boit, the first gline (Bhermen developed a relationship with native Hawaiians living in butth Kona. Hawaii island. Some of these Hawaiians became involved in the rish flagiline fishery.

e number of flagline versels based in Horolulu and Hio rose to 42 versels ter World Ward hus declined to only 14 by the late 1970s. Expansion occurred pain in the 1980s, reaching 164 versels in 1991 as the local Hawaii flagline free signed by modern, long-range versels from the U.S. West Coast, East Coast is joined by modern, long-range versels from the U.S. West Coast, East Coast of Gilf of Mexico. During this period, all but one flagline versel converted to define monofoliament mainline, line setters and large hydraulically-powerce els, and the fishery became known as "longline."

wall longing its peries have been the predominant source of sashmit band cliding open creat fish in Hawaii since the carry 1985s. Idday's Hawaii regilar lightly has two components. The majority of the active vessels (about 5) sets forgilar open deep in the vester column during the day (6-400 m) to rect our prized sashmit lish, the deep swimming bigsye tuna. Other vessels bout 25) larget swordish, the world's premium grilling ish, during part of eyear. These vessels tues stallowset longline gear to catch swordish as eye swim meater to the surface at night.

gine fishery has been the catalytic for major changes in Hawain lishing lests, gear, species composition of lish catch and sea further and seabird atch reduction. The Hawaii longling fishery is one of the most intensively lied, monitored and best meaning of fisheries in the world. Hawaii's fishery the first pelagic longline lishery in the world to be evaluated using the United Nations food and Agriculture Organization's Code of Conduct for Responsible fisheries. The lishery received a high score of 93% common control of the Code The Internovative management system (including NOA, WESPAC and USCG) and the performance of the Hawaii longline lishery make it a mode of responsible seafood.

HISTORY OF OTHER Hawaii Pelagic Fisheries

POLE & UNEFISHIG. After World War II and up to the early 1980s, the pole 8. line fishery for older (skippack tuna) was the main supply of fresh tuna for less stabini and conning zaw material in Hawali. This fishery involves two different types of Fishings one to capture live bast and the other to catch skipjack tuna. Chumming tuna with live bast keeps them near the bast, stabini and continues feathered uses with barbless hooks attended to barbo an poles to catch the fish. This fleet suspiled the local tuna concey until it closed in 1984. With the cannery gone, the "old boar" fleet stability detiined as it be old wooders sampans deteriorated. Now only one of the old sampans, plus a modern boat make up the pole 8 line fishery. The modern vessel stores plus a modern boat make up the pole 8 line fishery. The modern vessel stores the continue of the make the pole of the many unique for its special sashim product. Eating fresh own is one of the many unique stopped seagues of life in Hawaii.

IROLING is the most popular pelagic fishing method in Hawaii. Hundreds of boaters participate in this fishery, including full and participe commercial fishermen, charterboats, and receational fishermen. The troil fishery targest side meanth, yellowfin tuna, mehimehi, one and skiplack tuna and also lands indeental species such as specialish, kowekowe and raintow runner, up to six lines rigged with artificial lures (or live or dead bait) may be troiled when outligger poles are used to keep the lines from tangling. Troiling geous analy consists of short, stout hergiass poles and lever-faxy hand-cander reals. Troilers frequent fish aggregation devices (FADs), drifting logs or flotsam, and areas where the bottom drops off sharply that may aggregate lish.

HANDLUE FISHING is a method of fishing that traces back to the ancient Hawaiians. This fishery has become commercially important since the late 1970s. There are neashbore and offshore components of the hardline fishery. Ahl kog, or locations where yellowfin tuna are known to aggregate, are present near Hawaii Island and some other Islands. Small vessels deploy baited writted lifers at these places and release chum (ruch abi) underwater to entire large ohi, or yellowfin tuna, to bite. The ika-shibi method is practiced at night, whereas the palurah method is practiced during the day, Larger posts travel to seamounts and weather buoys up to 200 neartical miles from shore to travel to seamounts and weather busy up to 200 neartical miles from shore to travel bigeye and yellowfin tuna using handline and trolling techniques combined with heavy chumming.

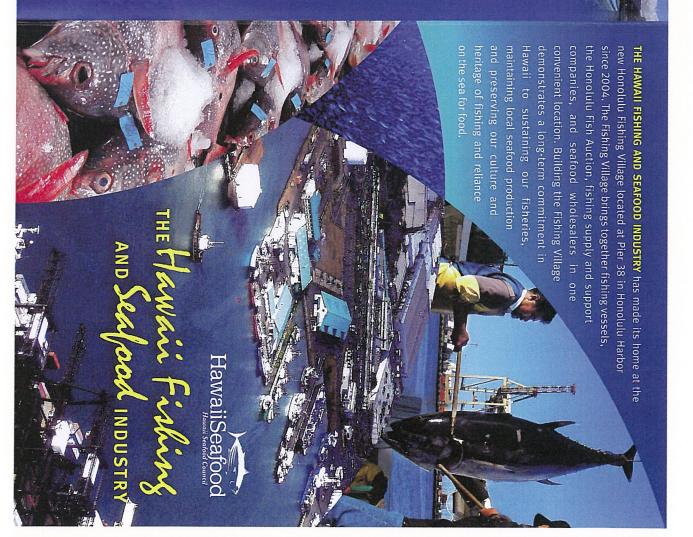


This method has been practiced throughout the length of the Hawalian Archipelago since the 1930s. Bottomishing methods originated with the ancient Hawalians but have been modernized with the introduction of small mechanized reals and line pullers. Underwater chumming practices of the ancient Hawalians continue in the present-day Fishery, Fishermen target both deepwater species (papakopiko, cnoqo, hapu'upu'u) and mid-water species (pks) associated with pimacles and other bottom features on offstiper shopes and banks. During the 1980s, participation in the bottomish fishery expanded from a small group of full-time commercial Hishermen have voluntarily robused fishing grounds to allow local fish populations to recover and to conserve the overall stocks.

On front cover; aerial photo of Pier 38 by Bob Lamb Big Island Photography ©2012 Hawaii Seafood Council

HawaiiSeafood

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on estimated 571 million landed value according to the NOAA fisheries Service. He Nonalulu receives approximately 83% of the total Hawaii fish landings with the majority being sold through the Hennalulu fish Auction. Fish quality counts in Howaii and the fish are chilled in ite immediately after capture and landed fresh. Compared with other ports, Hannalulu has a relatively low valume, but high value fishery. Hannalulu ranked 31st by weight of fish landed 42-33 million lbs) among U.S. ports, but ranked 8th in terms of landed value (559-4 million).

The Hawaii Fishing Industry can be described by fishing gear and methods. Hook and line methods are used by longline ("flagline"), foolling ("rollers"), handline ("kashibi and polu ohi"), pole & line ("rok boast") and bottomfishing (vertical line) yease to catch a variety of polagic (fish (open ocean) and deepwater bottomfish species. No nets are used to harvest open ocean fish or deepwater bottomfish in Hawaii. Only American flagged vessels to harvest open ocean fish or deepwater bottomfish in Hawaii.

WHAT TYPES OF OPEN OCEAN FISH ARE CAUGHT?

WHERE DO HAWAII'S BEST QUALITY OPEN OCEAN FISH COME FROM? Longtimes are the main producers of sashimi quality bigere tung (oh), yellowing tung officers, wordfish and other open ocean fiels. They prepare beyond 50 natical infect from Hawaii shores, offen far off shore within international waters. Trollers, handliners and pole & line boats tend of far within 50 natical miels of Hawaii shores. Trollers produce premium quality bale (skipicts), mehimati, con and main (skipic and notation), than differe grounder gummer yellowing two and other runas. Pole & line boats produce premium quality aku, an island favorite for raw fish

WHAT TYPES OF DEEPWATER BOTTOMFISH ARE CAUGHT? Hawaii's premier bottomfish include onaga (longtail red snapper), opakapa

▼ THE HONOLULU FISH AUCTION is the anchor of the Fishing Village. It is a fresh lish display autition operated by the United Fishing Agency since 1952. It evolved from Ipan's tuna auction system, first introduced to Hawaii in the early papes. The new lish autition is a modern, state-of-the-art facility and showcase for the industry. It is the only fresh tuna auction of its kind in the U.S. The auction provides a marketing service for Hawaii's commercial fishermen to focus on what they do best. Is thing, With open competitive binding, an auction system rewards higher quality fish with higher prices, it also produces hir pricing for the range of fish species and quality based on market conditions of supply and demand.

THE FISH AUCTION SEQUENCE begins when fishing vessels return to port and line up to be unloaded in order of arrival. Unloading begins at 1:00 am. 6 days a veek. Each fish is weighed, tagged with the vessel name, displayed on pallets, and kept clean and cold. Before being offered for sale, each fish is carefully inspected by the auction staff to ensure fish quality and safety. Buyers arrive before the auction begins to inspect the day's landings. By radition, the auctioneer rings a brass bell at \$20 an and the bioding begins. The majority of fish are sold individually, Buyers bid against each other until a final price per pound is reached. Buyers are invoiced for their purchases and lishemen are paid that day for their fish. The fish are picked up by the buyers. Some of the fish are packed at the auction facility and shipped to distant markets.

ATTENTION TO FISH QUALITY AND SEAFOOD SAFETY, Hawaii's fresh bigeye

and on shore because Hawaii consumers know fish quality and love to eat fish raw as sostimi and poke (Hawaiian raw lish). We eat 42 bis offish per person per year, nearly 3 times the national average. Fish are inspected by auction Quality Control saff to be certain that fish quality and seatood safety standards are met, Auction buyers then inspect each fish before bidding. The auction system allows for the efficient safe of the range of fish species, size and quality to suffeat special market niche. There is very lifte by watch of lish was 50 hecture Hawaii fisheries, are very highly regulated and all fish caught have a place in the market.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTION. The Honolulu Fish