Salmon fishermen will receive 16 cents a pound for fish caught during the 2019 season from Seafood Trade Relief Program. You will need to apply. Information below.

**USDA Supports U.S. Seafood Industry Impacted by Retaliatory Tariffs**

<https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2020/09/09/usda-supports-us-seafood-industry-impacted-retaliatory-tariffs>

*Salmon fishermen can sign-up for relief through the program from September 14, 2020 to December 14, 2020. Fishermen should apply through their local USDA Service Center. To find your local Service Center, visit*[*www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator*](https://www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator)*. The application can be found at*[*www.farmers.gov/seafood*](https://www.farmers.gov/seafood)*.*

**Washington, D.C., September 9, 2020)** – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced today that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will provide approximately $530 million to support the U.S. seafood industry and fishermen impacted by retaliatory tariffs from foreign governments. The funding will be provided through the Seafood Trade Relief Program and funded through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), administered by USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA).

“Many nations have not played by the rules for a long time, and President Trump is the first President to stand up to them and send a clear message that the United States will no longer tolerate unfair trade practices,” said Secretary Perdue. “The Seafood Trade Relief Program ensures fishermen and other U.S. producers will not stand alone in facing unjustified retaliatory tariffs while President Trump continues working to solidify better and stronger trade deals around the globe.”

## Background:

The Seafood Trade Relief Program funding will support the following seafood types:

* Atka mackerel
* Crab, Dungeness, King, Snow, Southern Tanner
* Flounder
* Geoduck
* Goosefish
* Herrings
* Lobster
* Pacific Cod
* Pacific Ocean Perch
* Pollock
* Sablefish
* **Salmon**
* Sole
* Squid
* Tuna
* Turbot

Fishermen can sign-up for relief through the program from September 14, 2020 to December 14, 2020. Fishermen should apply through their local USDA Service Center. To find your local Service Center, visit [www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator](https://www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator). The application can be found at [www.farmers.gov/seafood](https://www.farmers.gov/seafood).

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including some that are open to visitors to conduct business in person by appointment only. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors are also required to wear a face covering during their appointment. Our program delivery staff will be in the office, and they will be working with our producers in the office, by phone and using online tools. More information can be found at [farmers.gov/coronavirus](https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus).

# USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

**USDA Seafood Trade Relief Program**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

September 9, 2020

**Eligibility**

Q: Who is eligible to participate in the Seafood Trade Relief Program (STRP)?

A: U.S. commercial fishermen who have a valid federal or state license or permit to catch

seafood who bring their catch to shore and sell or transfer them to another party. That other

party must be a legally permitted or licensed seafood dealer. Alternatively, the catch can be

processed at sea and sold by the same legally permitted entity that harvested or processed

the product.

Q: I don’t participate in any USDA programs. Can I apply for STRP?

A: Yes. Prior participation in USDA programs is not a prerequisite.

Q: Is there an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) limit to participate in STRP?

A: Yes. To participate, a person or legal entity’s AGI cannot exceed $900,000 (using the

average for the 2016, 2017, and 2018 tax years). However, the AGI limit does not apply if

75 percent or more of an eligible person’s or legal entity’s AGI comes from seafood

production, farming, ranching, forestry, or related activities.

**Eligible Seafood**

Q: What seafood is eligible?

A: Eligible seafood species must have been subject to retaliatory tariffs and suffered more than

$5 million in retaliatory trade damages.

Eligible species are Atka mackerel, Dungeness crab, King crab, Snow crab, Southern

Tanner crab, Flounder, Geoduck, Goosefish, Herring, Lobster, Pacific Cod, Pacific Ocean

Perch, Pollock, Sablefish, Salmon, Sole, Squid, Tuna and Turbot.

Q: What aquaculture species are eligible under STRP?

A: In general, seafood grown in controlled conditions are not eligible for STRP. However,

geoduck and salmon grown in controlled conditions are eligible.

Application

Q: When does STRP sign up start and end?

A: Program sign up will begin September 14, 2020 and ends December 14, 2020.

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Q: Do all producers need to apply through the Farm Service Agency?

A: Yes. Producers of all eligible seafood must apply for assistance through their local USDA

Farm Service Agency (FSA) Service Center. Fishermen can locate their Service Center,

download application forms, and find addition information at farmers.gov/seafood.

Q: How can I prepare to apply for STRP?

A: If you are a new customer to USDA, your local FSA staff will work with you to apply for the

program, and will ask for this type of information:

• Name and address

• Personal information, including your Tax Identification Number

• Farm operating structure

• Adjusted Gross Income compliance certification to ensure eligibility

• Direct deposit information to enable payment

Q: My local USDA Service Center is not open for walk-in service. How do I apply for STRP?

A: USDA Service Centers are open for business, including some that are open to visitors to

conduct business in person by appointment only. All Service Center visitors wishing to

conduct business with FSA should call ahead and schedule an appointment. While program

delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers in

office (where available), by phone and using online tools. You can find the phone number

and the location of your local USDA Service Center at farmers.gov/seafood and view the

status of your local Service Center at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Q: Where can I get a STRP application?

A: Applicants can download application forms at farmers.gov/seafood starting September 14,

2020. Producers also have the option of signing and sharing their STRP applications using

our new document signature solutions initiated by Service Center staff.

Q: Are STRP funds a loan that must be repaid? Is there a fee to apply?

A: No. STRP is not a loan program and there is no cost to apply.

Payments

Q: How much is USDA spending to directly support fishermen negatively impacted by unfair

retaliatory tariffs?

A: STRP will provide up to $530 million in direct support for commercial fishermen.

Q: When are payments expected to begin?

A: Program approval is handled at the local level and FSA county offices process applications

as they receive them. The timeline for this approval process, including required internal

controls and data validation, varies from county to county and applications are paid as they

are approved.

Q: What are the payment limits for STRP?

A: There is a payment limitation of $250,000 per person or entity for all seafood combined.

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**Funding and Payment Calculations**

Q: How will STRP help commercial fishermen impacted by unfair retaliatory tariffs?

A: STRP will provide commercial fishermen with direct financial assistance that gives them the

ability to absorb sales declines and increased marketing costs associated with retaliatory

tariffs.

Q: How were payment rates determined?

A: Payment rates were calculated using USDA’s assessment of the expected trade damage by

the 2019 landings for each species.

For more information on the Seafood Trade Relief Program, visit farmers.