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News Summary April 12, 2018

Today's Main Story: PFMC Opens Area Formerly Closed to Trawling; Permanently Protects 135,000 Square Miles

Today's lead item is a report that the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) adopted major changes to the West Coast groundfish fishery after more than 30 meetings with industry members and ENGOs. The council announced Wednesday that 135,000 square miles of ocean off the West Coast will be permanently protected, while a previously closed area of roughly 3,000 square miles will be reopened to commercial fishing ...

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Copper River Opens May 17 With Sockeye Run Near Average, but Big Improvement in Kings

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Seafod News] by Peggy Parker - May 7, 2018



The famed Copper River salmon season opens on Thursday, May 17 for a first period of just 12 hours -- from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

USF&G manages the Copper River returns of salmon by ensuring that adequate escapement makes it up the river to spawn. Subsequent periods will be announced in-season.

The total run of Chinook salmon is estimated at 43,000 fish, close to the ...

[Full Story >](#)

Months After Rafael Went to Prison, New Bedford Groundfish Landings Still on Hold

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Boston Globe] By David Abel - May 7, 2018



In the harbor off Leonard's Wharf, the large steel boats with their signature green hulls are rusting in the salt air, their dormant nets still coiled as if ready to scoop up schools of cod or haddock.

In the parking lot behind Reider's Manufacturing, more than a dozen trawls molder in the dirt, their floats and cables weathered and waiting.

From the icehouse to the auction house, a pull hangs over the fabled wharves ...

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Nova Scotia Premier Says Rashed MPA Decisions Not Based on 'Science, Research or Fact'

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC News] by Jean Laroche - May 7, 2018



Premier Stephen McNeil personally warned a federal panel on marine protected areas on Friday its decisions could have dire consequences for Nova Scotians who make their living from the North Atlantic Ocean.

Banning fishing and other activities in protected areas has a huge impact on communities, particularly those along the province's Eastern Shore, he told the National Advisory Panel on Marine Protected Area Standards in Montreal.

"If somehow our lobster fishery is affected ...

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Crayfish Prove to be a Gold Mine in Current Chinese Cuisine

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Shuichan] translated by Amy Zhong - May 7, 2018



What does summer taste like? Many foodies in China believe it tastes like delicious crayfish. Crayfish can help people break free of worries and unhappiness, say some crayfish sellers. If they fail to do that, it means the unhappy need to eat more.

Statistics show crayfish prices in April in Qianjiang of Hubei province, the main aquaculture region, have been continually rising. The best quality ones are sold at 39 yuan/jin ...

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Maryland Rep. Andy Harris Says Officials Will Approve 15,000 New Guest Worker Visas

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Baltimore Sun] By Scott Danne - May 7, 2018



Federal immigration officials have agreed to approve 15,000 new guest worker visas for seasonal work, including in a Maryland crab industry grappling with a significant labor shortage, U.S. Rep. Andy Harris said Thursday.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services would not confirm any changes to its H-2B visa program, which brings 66,000 immigrants to the country for work that employers can show they are unable to hire Americans to do

[Full Story >](#)

Seafod News Podcast: Scallop Market; Seafod goes Hollywood; StarKist Adds Chicken & More

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Seafod News] - May 7, 2018



Seafod News podcast hosts Amanda Buckle and Lorin Castiglione break down this week's top seafod stories, including: scallop prices, "Good Catch" on PBS, StarKist's new chicken pouches, and March 2018 shrimp imports.

This episode is brought to you by Umer Barry's Comtell App - ...

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Louisiana Shrimpers Disappointed With Shrimp Size, Prices During First Week

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Daily Comet] by Andrea Mujica - May 7, 2018



The spring shrimp season that opened Monday isn't off to a good start because the shrimp are not big enough and the prices are very low.

"Current reports show that the volume of brown shrimp landings is good, higher than the past couple years, and that sizes seem fairly typical for the spring inshore season," said Peyton Cagle, crustacean biologist with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

But shrimpers and processors are disappointed ...

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Surf Clam Quota Decision has Divided First Nations, Set off Lobbying

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC News] by Paul Withers - May 7, 2018



One of the Trudeau government's signature acts of Indigenous reconciliation is being challenged in court, exposing the fierce competition between First Nations for a shellfish quota worth millions — and the jockeying by one of Canada's leading seafood companies to keep control of the fishery.

Hundreds of pages of records filed in Federal Court offer new insight into the controversial decision in February to award 25 per cent of Canada's Arctic surf clam quota to ...

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Lobster Prices Dropping in Seasonal Move, Despite Canadian Delays

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Associated Press] By Patrick White - May 7, 2018



Lobster prices are high in the U.S. right now, but members of the industry expect them to come down soon as the Canadian catch creeps up and America's summer haul gets going.

One-pound lobsters, which Mainers call "chicks," are selling for about \$12 per pound to consumers, which is a couple of dollars per pound more than six months ago. The U.S. lobster industry, based heavily in Maine, is in a slow mode as fishermen get ready to pull traps in the summer ...

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Chinese Fishing Firm Tests Water With Giant Salmon Farm

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [South China Morning Post] by Frank Tang - May 7, 2018



A Chinese fisheries company has launched a massive deep-sea salmon farming facility in the eastern province of Shandong to help meet the country's growing appetite for seafood.

Shandong Wanzheng Fishery, the operator, said a fully submersible net cage called Deep Blue No 1, the world's biggest, had been delivered to the shipyard of state-owned Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry, state-run Xinhua reported.

The 35 metre high cage was deployed in the Yellow Sea about 130 nautical miles ...

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U.S. Coldwater Prawn Prices Declined in April

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Grocer] By Rachel Graham - May 7, 2018



English demand from the US caused coldwater prawn prices to decline in April, while the beginning of the shrimp season has bulked up available supplies. But prices remain almost 40% higher than the same period in 2017. Quotas for haddock in the Barents Sea north of Scandinavia were lowered this year to 202,305 tonnes, a cut of 13% in comparison to the previous year, jacking up prices by more than a quarter. Prices in the UK have dropped ...

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Scottish Fishermen Concerned Hake Boom Will Tie Vessels Up

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Press and Journal] By Keith Findlay - May 7, 2018



Scotland's fishing fleet is facing a "critical" risk which could force boats out of business or scupper the EU-wide ban on discards, it has been claimed. Rural Economy Secretary Fergus Ewing delivered the warning as he urged the UK Government to take action. Writing to his counterpart at Westminster, George Eustice, Mr Ewing said there was a "historic mismatch" with current North Sea hake quota that could stop boats going to sea ...

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B.C. Shellfish Industry Reeling From Oyster-Linked Illnesses

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Postmedia Breaking News] by Lindsay Kizer - May 4, 2018



A norovirus outbreak linked to people eating raw oysters from farms in south and central Baynes Sound has hurt B.C.'s entire shellfish industry, a growers' association said Wednesday. Federal officials closed four farms as a precaution after the outbreak began in early March. But despite the fact the illness was traced to a limited geographic area, all B.C. growers have felt the effects of public health warnings, said Darlene Winterburn, executive director of the B.C. Shellfish Growers' Association ...

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March 2018 Shrimp Imports Up 12.5%; 1st Quarter Imports 16.3% Higher Than 2017

SEAFOODNEWS.COM by Paul Brown, Jr. - May 4, 2018



March shrimp imports were just released, and the trend continues. Imports were up 12.5% for the month pushing 1st quarter imports 16.3% higher than a year ago. The average value of all shrimp imports in March fell from \$4.41 in 2017 to \$4.32 this year or about 2%. India's shrimp imports in March were almost 30% higher than a year ago leaving their 1st quarter imports up 34.2%. Indonesian imports were up sharply in March ...

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FDA Changes Name: Brown King Crab Now Officially Golden King Crab

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Seafood News] - May 4, 2018



The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) replaced the common or usual name for "brown king crabmeat" with "golden king crabmeat" in a Federal Register final rule yesterday. FDA took the action a year after the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Pub. L. 115- 31), was signed into law on May 5, 2017. The rule is effective May 3, 2018. The compliance date for this rule is January 1, 2020. Any adjustments to a product's labeling much occur by ...

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Maine Fisherman Sentenced to 6 Months in Prison For Illegally Poaching, Trafficking Baby Eels

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Portland Press Herald] by Dennis Hoey - May 4, 2018



A Maine fisherman who played a key role in the rise of the state's baby eel fishery was sentenced Thursday in U.S. District Court in Portland for illegally poaching and trafficking juvenile American eels - also known as divers. William Sheldon, 71, of Woodwich was sentenced to six months in prison followed by three years of supervised release. He's one of 21 men who were charged with ...

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EU Frets Over Use of Antibiotics in India's Primary Shrimp Production

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Business Standard] by Nirmalya Behera - May 4, 2018



The European Union, which accounts for about 18 per cent of India's seafood exports valued at \$5.7 billion, is apparently miffed with no official controls in primary production of shrimps in India. An audit team from EU had visited the Indian farm and processing facilities in November last year. Trade sources in UK said that an EU official, at the recently concluded Brussels Seafood Show, pointed out that official controls in India do not fully cover ...

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New Brunswick Aquaculture Company Northern Harvest Faces Pesticide Charge

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC News] By Connell Smith - May 7, 2018



Little information is being released about a charge to be laid this month against New Brunswick-based Northern Harvest Sea Farms. The company is alleged to have violated a section of the province's Pesticides Control Act. Northern Harvest has nine licences for salmon cage sites on the Bay of Fundy and other sites off Newfoundland. It also operates a processing plant in St. George. The Department of Environment and Local Government is saying little about the case ...

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ASMFC Warns Virginia of Enforcement Action After Legislature Fails to Comply with Menhaden Limits

SEAFOODNEWS.COM by John Sackton - May 7, 2018



A slow motion confrontation is brewing between Virginia and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission over Menhaden quotas. The Virginia legislature failed to approve a lower cap on Menhaden harvest in Chesapeake Bay, which was mandated by the ASMFC. The current menhaden cap in Chesapeake Bay is 87,000 metric tons; ASMFC voted to reduce this to 51,000 tons. Outside of the bay, Omega Protein, which processes menhaden in Virginia, takes 85% of the total TAC ...

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Sen. Murkowski Continuing to Fight for Labeling After FDA Approval of Aquabounty Salmon Facility

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Cordova Times] - May 7, 018

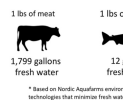


Aquabounty may have won federal approval on April 26 for a genetically engineered salmon facility in Indiana, but they won't be able to produce GE salmon there, says Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska. The Alaska Republican's comments on May 1 came in the wake of Federal Drug Administration approval of an application for an Aquabounty salmon facility in Indiana last week. The company began developing genetically engineered salmon in 1996 and received ...

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Nordic Aquafarms Making Progress with Giant Indoor Plant in Belfast, Maine

SEAFOODNEWS.COM by John Sackton - May 7, 2018



Nordic Aquafarms claims they are making progress towards the large indoor salmon farming facility they are proposing in Belfast, Maine. However, they are still doing due diligence before actually purchasing the land. They have confirmed that the water supply they need can be sustainably pumped on site. They also point out that their technology for raising salmon uses .0067% as much fresh water per pound as raising a pound of beef. The Belfast City Council has unanimously approved ...

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New England Haddock, Pollock and Redfish Trawl Fishery Achieves MSC Certification

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Seafood News] - May 7, 2018



The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) has certified the New England haddock, pollock and redfish trawl fishery as sustainable. Portland, Maine-based Atlantic Trawlers Fishing, who spearheaded the MSC certification efforts, confirmed the news on Monday. "The MSC label is the gold star standard of certification and will assure our customers that these fish stocks are healthy and well managed," Jim Odlin of Atlantic Trawlers said in a statement. "Our vessels - the Nobska, Morro, Harmony, Teresa Marie III and ...

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Poor Outlook for Labrador Fishermen Dependent on Crab and Shrimp

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC NEWS] May 7, 2018

Roy Mangrove is worried.

After years of seeing cuts to his crab and shrimp quotas, the fisherman from St. Lewis in southern Labrador is facing a further 25 per cent cut in shrimp this season.

That drops his quota to 61,000 lb. this year, from 82,000 last year.

"Everything going good, you can make a bit of money on it, but for us we got ... three trips of crab and one trip of shrimp. So four weeks and we're finished," Mangrove told CBC's Labrador Morning this week.

Mangrove and his crew fish in Shrimp...

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Lobsters Boost Wuhan Hema Grand Opening, Hema Plans Additional Stores

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [HBR] translated by Amy Zhang - May 7, 2018

Hema's first store in Wuhan was open for business on April 28 and large quantities of locals waiting outside rushed into the store to grab Boston lobsters priced at 98 yuan (~\$15.43 USD) each. Store staff replenished the lobster tanks four times in half a day and the store had to limit entry of consumers within half an hour of the opening. Apart from lobsters, other seafood like crayfish and frozen salmon from Norway were also widely received ...

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Fisheries Council of Canada Looks for a Clear and Stable Policy Framework in Fisheries Act

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Seafood News] by Susan Chambers - May 4, 2018

The Fisheries Council of Canada appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans on Thursday and called for a clear and stable policy framework that will instill confidence to invest in fisheries and support conservation.

The Committee is continuing its hearings on Bill C-68, Amendments to the Fisheries Act. The bill contains extensive amendments to restore lost protections from 2012 and to incorporate modern safeguards, according to the Fisheries Council. It is part of the government's review of environmental and regulatory processes.

The Committee also held a meeting on Wednesday. ...

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N.B. Lobster Fishermen Anxious As Start Of Season Keeps Getting Delayed

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC News] by Gabrielle Fahmy - May 4, 2018

Lobster fishermen in northern New Brunswick are increasingly worried about the fishing season, as they see delay after delay because of the conditions.

The official start date was April 30, but the ice in many harbours, along with strong winds, has made it too dangerous to go out.

The date has already been pushed back twice, and fishermen will only find out after a meeting Friday whether the season will start next week or ...

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Aquaculture Site SalsyFarmer.com Launches As Companion to New PBS Series 'Good Catch'

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Seafood News] - May 4, 2018

consumers wanting to learn more about responsible aquaculture can head over to SalsyFarmer.com. The new website launched as a companion to an upcoming PBS TV series called "Good Catch."

"Good Catch" takes acclaimed chefs from across the nation to meet responsible fishermen and fish farmers. These chefs leave the kitchens to "explore the landscape" and "discuss innovation," and then return to the kitchen to prepare the catch of the day. The PBS series hope to show consumers ...

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Falling Overboard 2nd Biggest Killer of U.S. Fishermen

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Fish Radio with Laine Welch] - May 4, 2018

This is Fish Radio. I'm Laine Welch. What's Alaska's deadliest catch?

Falling overboard is the second biggest killer of U.S. fishermen, second only to vessel sinkings.

From 2000 through 2016, 204 U.S. fishermen died after falling overboard. Nearly 60 percent were not witnessed, and nearly 90 percent were never found. In every case, not one fisherman was wearing a life jacket.

I think there is a social stigma against it. It doesn't look cool, it's a sort of macho thing ...

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Despite Tilapia Price Stability, Chinese Processors Slow Purchasing and Farmers Turn to Baa

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Shuichan] - translated by Amy Zhong - May 4, 2018

China's tilapia price index is reported to be 101.28 points for those between 0.6 to 1 jin (1 jin=0.5 kg) each on April 24, while it is 100.28 points for those around 1 to 1.6 jin each. They are stable compared with the number on April 17, but they are 4.05 points and 3.5 points lower than those of 2017.

Purchase prices of processing plants are 3.25 yuan/jin (\$1.02/kg USD) and ...

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Zhangridao Business Remains Haunted by Zero Harvest of Yesso Scallops

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [yuanchuang] translated by Amy Zhong - May 4, 2018

Zhangridao released its quarterly report on April 27, showing more revenue but slower growth.

The report shows the company earned a revenue of 712 million yuan (~\$112 million USD) in the first quarter, which is an increase of 5.94 percent compared with the same period last year. The growth rate is lower than the industry's average level, 11.26 percent. Its net profit attributable to shareholders plummeted by 344.18 percent to -8.999 million yuan (~-\$1.415 million USD), while the ...

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