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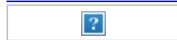
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Years in the Making, Plan to Expand a Gulf Marine Sanctuary Faces an Uncertain Future

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Houston Public Media] TRAVIS BUBENIK - May 01, 2018

Efforts to further protect sensitive coral reefs could be halted amid President Trump's push to expand offshore oil and gas drilling.



Off the coast of Galveston are some of the world's most unique coral reefs. They're so special that for more than a decade, scientists and conservationists have been working alongside the fishing and energy industries to further protect them.

But now, with the Trump Administration's push to expand offshore oil and gas drilling, there's a chance that effort could be halted altogether.

The Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary is home to living coral reefs and "salt domes" - basically underwater mountains - that are key habitat for fish, manta rays, sea turtles and other animals. By all accounts, it's a special ...

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Pricing for 20-30 Count Scallops Upside Down, as U-10 and 10-20 Prices Fall Lower

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] by John Sackton - May 10, 2018



Scallops are priced by size with U-10 and 10-20 count scallops usually selling at a premium over smaller 20-30 count sizes.

Currently that relationship is upside down. For all natural scallops and dry scallops, 10-20's are now priced lower than 20-30 count.

And U-10's, which in January were priced \$4.50 per lb. higher than 20-30's, are now quoted at only a \$1.00 premium.

The same pattern is true for processed scallops as well.

This is all due to a shortage of 20-30 scallops...

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Sealaska Corp. Sees First Profits Since 2003 Due to Its Seafood Investments

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] by John Sackton - May 10, 2018



Sealaska, the Southeast Alaska Native corporation, and is the largest in of the 13 native corporations in Alaska, representing 22,000 shareholders.

The corporation has struggled with poor investments and lack of profitability, but adopted a turnaround plan in 2012.

Before that the company had been hit by failed investments in Hawaii. The CEO at the time, Chris McNeil Jr., resigned, and was replaced by Anthony Mallot.

As reported by the Juneau Empire in an interview with Mallot, part of the turnaround plan was investing in ...

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FSIS to Investigate Catfish Production in Vietnam Next Week as Part of Equivalency Rating

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Viet Nam News] - May 10, 2018



The US delegation will investigate the production process of tra fish from May 14-25, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, will conduct a field inspection under the US catfish control programme for Viet Nam's tra fish production.

Regarding the upcoming inspections by the US, the ministry has asked its agencies to set up ...

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Fisheries Minister's Wife's Family Allegedly Had Financial Stake in Winning Arctic Surf Clam Fishery

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC News] by John Paul Tasker - May 10, 2018



The ethics commissioner has rebuffed a request from a Conservative MP to investigate Fisheries Minister Dominic LeBlanc's decision to award a license for the Arctic surf clam fishery to a group with federal Liberal ties.

But Conservatives are now asking Mario Dion to take a second look at the deal — because they say they now have evidence that a member of LeBlanc's wife's family had a financial stake in the winning bid ...

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Rep. Keating Says End in Sight for Groundfishing Ban in New Bedford; Reports Are Settlement Reached  
SEAFOODNEWS.COM [New Bedford Standard Times] by Michael Bonner - May 10, 2018



Bill Keating sees a finish line in sight to get New Bedford's groundfishing boats back to work.

The Democratic U.S. representative spoke with NOAA's regional administrator Mike Pentony on Wednesday and came away with the belief that the operational plans in Sectors VII and XI would be approved soon, potentially as soon as a few weeks.

"There's great progress now on the road to beginning to fish," Keating said

...

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National Shrimp Day: 5 Ways to Celebrate on May 10

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] by Amanda Buckle - May 10, 2018



In case you needed a reason to indulge in shrimp, today is National Shrimp Day!

An always delicious meal choice, shrimp is also a healthy one, packed with B vitamins, iron and omega-3's. While we can't tell you how the "holiday" started, we can share some ways to celebrate:

Bonefish Grill: Search for your nearest Bonefish Grill to feast on their [Bang Bang Bliss menu](#). Created just for National Shrimp Day, this special menu is built around the chain's signature ...

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Mexico Commits to Sustainable Shrimp Fishery with FAO Gulf of Mexico Project

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] - May 10, 2018



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) announced on Wednesday that Mexico is committed to ensuring the sustainability of shrimp fishing.

FAO, as well as the National Commission of Aquaculture Fisheries (CONAPESCA) and the National Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture (INAPESCA), will be implementing two projects that aim to achieve the sustainability of shrimp activity on the high seas. The projects include the implementation of the strategic action plan of the great marine ecosystem

of the Gulf of Mexico ...

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Start to Alaska Salmon Season Just One Week Away

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Fish Radio with Laine Welch] - May 10, 2018



This is Fish Radio. I'm Laine Welch - It's nearly salmon time!

The official start of Alaska's salmon season is just one week away with the first 12 hour opener on May 17 at the Copper River near Cordova. The catch there this year calls for 19,000 kings and just under one million sockeye salmon (942,000).

Statewide, Alaska's 2018 salmon harvest is projected at 149 million fish, down 34 percent from last year's take of 226 million ...

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## Kodiak Fisherman Killed in Accident on Trawler in Bering Sea

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Anchorage Daily News] by Zaz Hollander - May 10, 2018

A 55-year-old Kodiak man died in a commercial fishing accident at sea last week, authorities said.

Christopher O'Callaghan was working May 2 on the deck of the 95-foot longline trawler F/V Ocean Hunter when a slack line suddenly went taut and struck him in the chest, Alaska State Troopers said. The vessel was tied off to another, transferring fish in the Bering Sea.

Bruising and internal injuries caused O'Callaghan's death ...

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## Pacific Salmon Foundation Calls For Contained Fish Farms to Protect Wild Salmon

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Canadian Press] - May 9, 2018



The foundation created to conserve and rebuild Pacific salmon stocks is calling for a switch from open net-pen aquaculture to closed containment systems in order to protect wild salmon returning to British Columbia waterways.

The Pacific Salmon Foundation says in a news release that open-net salmon farming poses biological risks to the abundance and diversity of already depleted wild Pacific salmon.

In rejecting open-net systems, the foundation says the federal and provincial governments should ...

[Full Story Â»](#)

## Florida AG Files Complaint Against Restaurant for Allegedly Deceptive “Locally Sourced” and “Sustainable” Claims

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [ JD Supra] by Kelley Drye & Warren LLP - May 10, 2018



Florida attorney general Pam Bondi filed a complaint last week against Icebox Cafe, L.C. alleging that the restaurant violated Florida’s Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act by making misleading claims that its food products were “locally-sourced” and “sustainable.” The defendant operates a self-proclaimed “farm-to-table” restaurant in Miami Beach, along with select locations at airports.

According to the complaint, Icebox sought to capitalize on the market for locally sourced ...

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## High Liner Foods Announces Increased Sales in Q1 Financial Results

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] - May 10, 2018





High Liner Foods released their financial results for the first quarter of 2018 on Wednesday.

According to the value-added frozen seafood company, they had \$319.2 million in sales in the thirteen weeks that ended on March 31, 2018. That's a \$43.5 million increase when looking at the first quarter of 2017, which raked in \$275.7 million in sales. Meanwhile, gross profit increased by \$5.1 million to \$60.6 million compared to \$55.5 million.

The boost in sales volume can be credited to ...

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Clearwater Speaks Publicly About Surf Clam Dispute, Doubts New Group Will Fish This Year

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC News] by Paul Withers - May 9, 2018



Halifax-based Clearwater Seafoods spoke for the first time Tuesday since losing a valuable arctic surf clam quota and raised doubts about whether a new Indigenous rival will be able to live up to its promise to harvest in 2018.

The company suggested the licence for about 9,600 tonnes of the shellfish, worth an estimated \$29 million, is on hold while the award is challenged in Federal Court.

"Our understanding is with a judicial review process ...

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Russian Fishery Co. to Build Big Cod Plant on Barents Sea if they get Quota

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] by Eugene Gerden - May 9, 2018



The largest pollock producer, Russian Fishery Company (RRPK), together with "Agama Group of Companies", another large fish processor, plan to build a new coastal processing plant in the Russian Northern Basin, that will specialize on the processing of cod and haddock, according to the partners.

The project will be implemented by "Russian Cod", which is a fishing enterprise, based in Murmansk, and which was specially established by the partners for the project ...

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Cooke Tries Thermal Shock System to Deal with Sea Lice on Salmon

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [CBC News] by Hadeel Ibrahim - May 9, 2018



A Bay of Fundy fish farm is using a new non-chemical method to combat sea lice.

Cooke Aquaculture has been testing out the Thermolicer for a few years. This week its new boat the Miss Mildred hit the water, equipped with one.

The Thermolicer was created by the Norwegian company, Steinsvik. The Miss Mildred stops by a fish pen, and through Thermolicer tubes the fish are sucked into the hull ...

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## Four Indian Seafood Companies Line Up IPOs

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Financial Express] by Rajesh Ravi - May 9, 2018



Four Indian seafood companies are trying to cash in on the booming shrimp exports by going for an IPO. In last few years, Indian seafood exports have been recouping losses suffered due to the punitive tariff imposed by the US in 2004 and the decline in capture fisheries with the help of vannamei shrimp production, which is cheaper than the traditional black tiger.

According to trade sources, Indian aquaculture production is estimated to touch a record ...

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## Thai Union to Buy Majority Stake in Russian Tuna Canner if Anti-Monopoly Board Approves

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Just-Food] by Simon Harvey - May 9, 2018



Thai Union Group has acquired a 45% holding in DPR Group, a Russia-based seafood business, for US \$16 million.

The transaction by Thai Union, which manufactures the John West tuna brand, will be conducted through TUMD Luxembourg, the owner of the Dalpromryba Ltd Liability Company, the Torgovo-Promyshlenny Kompleks "Dalpromryba" Ltd Liability Company, and the Maguro Ltd Liability Company, collectively known as DPR Group ...

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## Government Crackdown on Food Stamps Raises Alarm for Baltimore Seafood Industry

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Baltimore Sun] by Scott Dance - May 10, 2018



Federal regulators have forbidden many Baltimore-area carryout shops from accepting food stamps for steamed crabs, stirring debate over whether such purchases are an appropriate use of government benefits, and if the restrictions could be another blow to Maryland's beleaguered seafood industry.

Officials warned retailers last year that they could continue to accept food stamps for crabs only if they sold them alive or raw (but they could steam the crustaceans for a separate cash fee) ...

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## Survey Finds Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab Population Healthy and Sustainable

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [WTOP] by Dick Uliano and Teta Alim - May 10, 2018



Despite the seemingly unending winter weather, Maryland found that the population of blue crabs in the Chesapeake Bay are "healthy and sustainable."

According to this year's Blue Crab Winter Dredge Survey from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, even though around 35 percent of adult female blue crabs didn't make it through the cold, icy weather, there was a marked increase of young crabs returning to the bay this year.

"The population is showing more ...

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## Sustainable Seafood Fast-Casual Franchise Slapfish Continuing to Expand

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] by Amanda Buckle - May 10, 2018



Slapfish, a sustainable seafood fast-casual restaurant franchise, is making moves. The restaurant announced that they are planning to open two locations in Oklahoma City by the end of the year, as well as a third location by the end of 2019.

"Oklahoma City is also a booming market with a need for quality fast casual seafood restaurants, and I can't wait to introduce this incredible concept to my home state," owner Mechelle Petty said in a press release ...

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## Fisheries and Oceans Canada Monitoring Cermaq Tofino Fish Farms after Sea Lice Outbreak

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Toronto Star] by Tessa Vikander - May 10, 2018



Fisheries and Oceans Canada is looking into whether a fish farm company has been complying with industry rules, and conservationists say they welcome the increased scrutiny.

The news comes after environmentalists and scientists sounded the alarm about a massive sea lice outbreak at several Cermaq fish farms near Tofino, B.C.

"They've been caught red-handed in a very bad situation," said Bonny Glambeck, a campaigner for environmental non-profit Clayoquot Action.

Under DFO regulations, salmon farms must ...

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## Oregon Seeks Members to Serve on Seafood Commodity Commissions

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] - May 10, 2018

The Oregon Department of Agriculture is seeking applications to fill several positions on the state's agricultural and commercial fisheries commodity commissions.

The deadline for applications is May 18, 2018. Applications can be accepted after the deadline for unfilled positions. The Commissioner Application and Qualification forms and a list of all openings may be seen is [posted here](#). Scroll down to Resources for the application forms.

Most appointments are for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2018. Some commissions have openings for four-year terms ...

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## Alaskan Businesses Thrive With State-Water Cod Fisheries

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Juneau Empire] by Trever Shaishnikoff - May 10, 2018



Fishing vessel crews in Western Alaska wrapped up a successful pot-cod season last month, building upon what's become a mainstay winter fishery for an increasing number of Alaskan boats. Now that pots and gear are stacked and stored, we have time to look ahead at what comes next.

As a young skipper within the under-60-foot pot-cod fleet, I see first-hand the value Pacific cod offers to the state ...

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## Whole Foods' Plant-Based Sushi Rolls Across U.S.

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [The Produce News] May 10, 2018

Whole Foods Market is expanding its partnership with Ocean Hugger Foods to offer Ahimi, the first-ever plant-based alternative to raw tuna, in select store sushi counters in a total of 40 Whole Foods Market locations in 10 states across the U.S.

Ahimi first launched at Whole Foods Market locations in New York and Los Angeles in November 2017. The product spurred Whole Foods Market's culinary experts to include high-tech, plant-forward foods as a top trend for 2018, and earned Ocean Hugger Foods a Whole Foods Market Supplier Award for Outstanding Innovation last month.

"We know our shoppers come to Whole Foods Market to try new, innovative and trend-forward products, and Ahimi delivers on all three as the original plant-based alternative to raw tuna," said Andy Sasser, global category manager at Whole Foods Market. "We're thrilled to expand our partnership with Ocean Hugger Foods to bring Ahimi to more than 20 additional in-store sushi counters this spring."

Created by Certified Master Chef James Corwell, Ahimi is made using a proprietary process that enhances the ...

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## High Priced Crabmeat is Leading to Record Prices on Lower Grades, as Buyers Trade Down

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] by John Sackton and Angel Rubio - May 9, 2018





Blue swimming crabmeat prices are heading back up near their record highs again, as lack of supply continues to hamper sales.

This has led to a significant trading down reaction, as buyer of Jumbo and Super Lump blue swimming crabmeat have switched to alternatives, including both smaller sizes such as backfin and lump, and also from blue swimming crab to red swimming crab.

As a result, prices of the lower grades of blue crabmeat are ...

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## Health-Conscious Consumers Keep Norwegian Salmon Price Rally Intact

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Reuters] by Ole Petter Skonnord and Gwladys Fouche - May 9, 2018



Prices of salmon and other farmed fish are likely to remain high as rising demand from increasingly health-conscious consumers in China and elsewhere outpaces limited growth in supply, Norwegian producers said on Tuesday.

Salmon spot prices have surged from a low point of 51.90 Norwegian crowns (\$6.40) per kilo in early January to close to 80 crowns per kilo, their highest level in 16 months.

As well as robust demand, prices have been lifted by ...

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## Ethics Watchdog to Review Canadian Surf Clam Licence as Court Documents Reveal Details of Decision

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Postmedia Breaking News] by Maura Forrest - May 9, 2018



The Conservatives have asked the federal ethics watchdog to investigate a controversial Atlantic Canada fishing licence the Liberal government awarded earlier this year to a partnership of Indigenous groups, part of the government's efforts to further reconciliation.

The request comes as a court challenge of the decision reveals new details about how Fisheries Minister Dominic LeBlanc made the decision to award the lucrative Arctic surf clam licence to the ...

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## Alaska's Herring Fisheries Wrap Up -- Quotas Taken in Togiak and Port Moller

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [KDLG] by Avery Lill - May 9, 2018



The purse seine fleet in Togiak took 16,500 tons in 11 days. In Port Moller, seiners took 1000 tons in 39 hours.

Bristol Bay's sac roe herring fisheries are almost finished. In just under two weeks seiners harvested their quotas in Togiak and Port Moller. The gillnet harvest remains open for the one gillnet boat fishing the quota in the Togiak District.

The Togiak herring fishery closed to the purse seine fleet on May 2 ...

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## Experts Predict Vietnam to Earn \$4.8 Billion From Shrimp Exports This Year

SEAFOODNEWS.COM [Vietnam News Brief Service] - May 9, 2018



Experts have predicted that Vietnam would earn \$4.8 billion from shrimp exports this year, up 24.67% year/year, mainly thanks to the government's current supporting policies and some positive outlooks in the foreign markets, state media reported.

A representative from Minh Phu Seafood Corp (UPCoM: MPC) said that the government has facilitated firms to open material production centers and seek solutions on supplying raw materials.

The Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers (VASEP) added that ...

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#### Clearwater Revenues Down in 1st quarter



SEAFOODNEWS.COM [SeafoodNews] - May 9, 2018

Sales and Earnings for Clearwater were down for the first quarter, the company reported yesterday.

Total sales were \$CA 120.1 million vs \$CA 128.4 million last year. EBITDA was \$19.1 million vs. \$19.8 million in the year ago period.

Clearwater will lose 30% of their quota in the clam fishery, as they have seen a Quota cut of 25%, and a modest reduction in the overall harvest TAC.

The company also expects more difficult scallop markets due to market pressure on prices from the increased supplies of US scallops...

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