



# AKFIN News

2013

Alaska Fisheries Information Network (AKFIN)  
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission  
205 SE Spokane Street, Suite 100, Portland, OR 97202  
[www.akfin.org](http://www.akfin.org) [robert\\_ryznar@psmfc.org](mailto:robert_ryznar@psmfc.org) (503) 595-3234

## What's New

### AKFIN's New Comprehensive Data Sets

Two data sets, Comprehensive AK and Comprehensive SPR, have been added to the suite of comprehensive data sets maintained by AKFIN. The Comprehensive AK, developed at the request of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), combines federally managed groundfish landings from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) catch accounting data with non-federally managed groundfish and non-groundfish landings from ADF&G fish ticket data. This data set provides a broad view of the entire Alaska fishery by area, species, gear, vessel, and processor. AKFIN developed Comprehensive SPR at the request of Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) analysts to support annual production of the Groundfish SAFE Economic Status Report. Comprehensive SPR applies wholesale prices to shoreside groundfish production by product, processor, and species in the same format as the Comprehensive WPR (i.e., Weekly Production Reports). This data set allows analysts to view prices in the same detail in the shoreside sector as in the at-sea sector, and additionally provides information on intra-year production not available from the Commercial Operators Annual Reports (COAR).

### AKFIN Supports Community-based Analyses

The AKFIN community profiles data repository assembles over 800 demographic and commercial, recreational, and subsistence fishing metrics calculated by year and Alaskan community, with additional regional- and state-level aggregations. Sourced from the US Census Bureau, ADF&G, Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC), NMFS Alaska Region (AKRO), and other agencies, these data have been compiled for 1991 to 2011, with subsequent years to be incorporated as data become available.

The repository was developed initially to support a comprehensive update to the *Community Profiles for North Pacific Fisheries - Alaska*, scheduled for publication in early 2014 as NMFS-AFSC Technical Memorandum 259. Maps programmed by AFSC are available at <http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/maps/> and show participation by communities in commercial, recreational, and subsistence fishing. Community profiles data are also being employed by AFSC social scientists in ongoing research examining the vulnerability and resiliency of Alaska fishing communities.

## Crab Bycatch Estimation

AKFIN is working with AKRO to program estimates of Bering Sea and Aleutian Island crab species caught as bycatch in North Pacific groundfish fisheries. The estimation process uses observer and NMFS groundfish catch accounting data to estimate bycatch specific to nine of ten crab stocks managed under the *Fishery Management Plan for Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crabs*. Estimates will be made available to analysts through the Stock Assessment dashboard on *AKFIN Answers*.

## Groundfish Economic SAFE

AKFIN continued this year to support production of the Groundfish SAFE Economic Status Report, following work in 2012 to migrate legacy scripts historically used by AFSC analysts to assemble core tabular summaries from SPSS to Oracle SQL. In addition to providing these core data, AKFIN staff also contributed to a new section in the 2013 Economic SAFE reporting economic performance metrics for North Pacific Groundfish Catch Share Programs. These metrics, describing catch and harvest, fishing effort, and revenue, were calculated by AKFIN in collaboration with AFSC and AKRO staff as part of a nationwide reporting effort implemented by NMFS to monitor the overall performance of fisheries using standardized economic indicators.

## AKFIN Answers' Online Mapping

*AKFIN Answers* is an online reporting tool that allows authorized users direct access to the AKFIN database and metadata resources through web browsers such as Google Chrome, Firefox, and Internet Explorer. AKFIN is constantly updating *Answers* with new data sources and customized functionality. Most recently, AKFIN integrated Oracle's online mapping tool, which enables users to build and embed maps for use in the *Answers* analysis tool and dashboards. These maps can be linked to ad hoc query results or to filters in pre-built reports, providing highly interactive and dynamic maps that spatially display data on catch, revenue, effort, and other features of interest by either harvest location (e.g., ADF&G statistical areas, NMFS reporting areas, latitude and longitude) or port of landing, or a combination of both. Interactive features available to users include relocating the map within the object viewer, instantly zooming or panning to any desired level/location, and viewing mouse-over information when hovering over specific features of interest.

## Staff Changes

We at AKFIN and PacFIN are proud to announce the appointment of Niels Leuthold and Yan Jiang to our team. Niels Leuthold has a PhD from Oregon State University and was employed for the last few years by the Marine Resources Program at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Yan Jiang is a doctoral candidate at the University of Washington and has an extensive background in data analysis and ESRI's GIS mapping software. We are delighted to have them onboard and part of our team.

Sadly, at this time we also need to say a fond farewell to Camille Kohler, a dear friend and colleague who has been with AKFIN since its inception and who has played a crucial role in AKFIN's ongoing success. We will all miss her enthusiasm for, and commitment to the AKFIN program, but most of all we will miss her as a source of inspiration. Thank you Camille!