



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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UFA Statement on Passing of Senator Ted Stevens

The United Fisherman of Alaska (UFA) extends its deepest sympathies to the family of Senator Ted Stevens. Alaska's seafood industry lost a great champion. Senator Stevens was a warrior for Alaska's commercial fishermen. He threw out the foreign fleets; stopped high seas pirates from drift netting; increased spending for marketing Alaska's seafood; and created a capital construction fund for fishermen.

Over his long and distinguished career, he authored the laws that established the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone which led to Americanization of the fishing fleet off Alaska and shaped the way the nation's federal fisheries are managed today. He understood the importance of funding fisheries research and stayed true to his principles of putting the resource first - followed by what was good for Alaskans. Senator Stevens' vision for Alaska's coast was strong sustainable fisheries and vibrant coastal communities.

"His attention to international issues led to the successful ban on use of large scale high seas driftnets. He raised the issue of illegal, unreported, and unregulated fisheries to national and international attention, leading to an entire new section in the Magnuson-Stevens Act in 2006 and a United Nations treaty that bans port entry to vessels used in illegal fishing. His work to secure sustainable fisheries will bring benefits for future generations beyond Alaska and the United States," said UFA President Arni Thomson.

Senator Stevens received the Lifetime Achievement Award from UFA in 2009. The United Fisherman of Alaska bids a sorrowful farewell to a great man whose legacy lives on.

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UFA MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers • Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association
Alaska Independent Tendermen's Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Scallop Association • Alaska Trollers Association
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association • Aleutian Pribilof Islands Community Development Association • Armstrong Keta • At-sea Processors Association
Bristol Bay Reserve • Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association • Cape Barnabas Inc. • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Crab Group of Independent Harvesters • Douglas Island Pink and Chum
Fishing Vessel Owners Association • Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association
North Pacific Fisheries Association • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • Petersburg Vessel Owners Association
Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative • Sitka Herring Association
Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance • Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners
Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • United Catcher Boats • United Cook Inlet Drift Association
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association