



ALASKA POLLOCK (*THERAGRA CHALCOGRAMMA*)



Source : [Information system on commercial designations](#)

BIOLOGY AND HABITAT

- Species description ([Read more](#))

The Alaska pollock belongs to the family of *Gadidae*.

- Geographical distribution and habitat ([Read more](#))

The Alaska pollock lives in the Arctic Sea, and in Northwest, Northeast and Eastern Central Pacific.

RESOURCE, EXPLOITATION AND MANAGEMENT

- Production methods and fishing gear ([Read more](#))

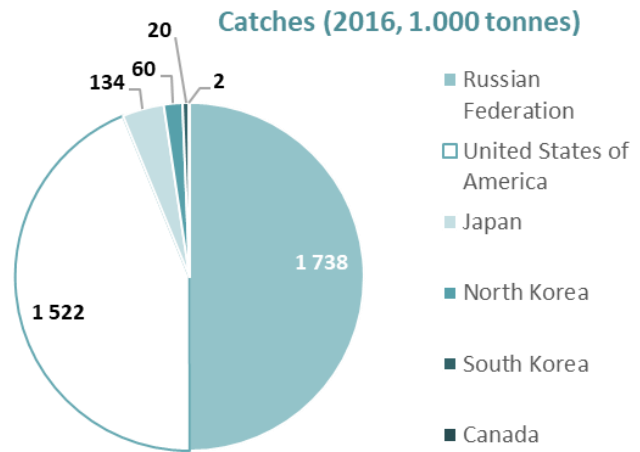
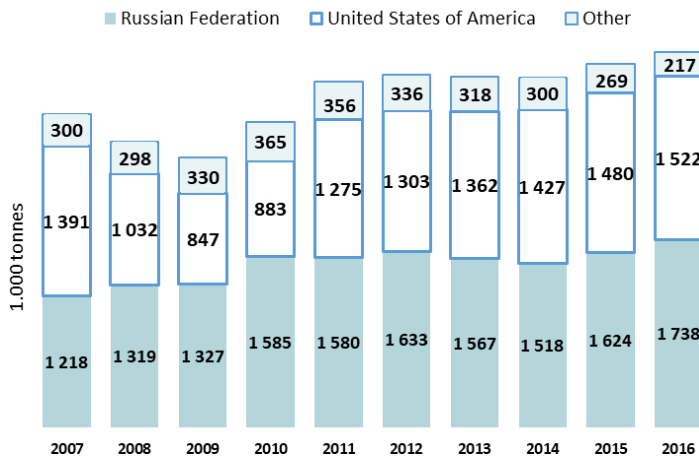
The main fishing gears used are bottom pair trawls, gillnets and similar nets, hooks and lines, seines and trawls.



CATCHES

- The share of Alaska Pollock in the global catches is **3,9%** (FAO, 2016).
- Catches have been increasing over the last ten years (+19,5% from 2007 to 2016).
- Russia and the US represent 94% of world catches.

Evolution of world catches



Source: FAO

Evolution of EU catches

- The EU fishery industry does not produce Alaska pollock.



AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

- No aquaculture production has been developed for this species.

PROCESSING

- Alaska pollock is the second most processed fish in EU, after atlantic cod. It is imported in frozen fillet blocks and frozen minced meat.
- Alaska pollock is mostly used in the processed industry to product fish fillets in batter and fish fingers, surimi and prepared meals, fresh or frozen.
- In EU surimi production is mostly based on Alaska pollock and blue whiting (*Micromesistius poutassou*). Raw surimi-material is imported, mostly from the United States. Surimi processing takes place mainly in Spain (58.000 tonnes in 2016), France (52.000 tonnes) and Lithuania (35.000 tonnes).



TRADE (source COMEXT)

- [Combined nomenclature](#)

EU trade of Alaska pollock products (tonnes – product weight - 2017)

CN code	Product	EU imports		EU exports	
		Intra-EU	Extra-EU	Intra-EU	Extra-EU
03 02 55 00	Alaska pollack (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>), whole, fresh	450	0	275	0
03 03 67 00	Alaska pollack (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>), whole, frozen	2.102	1.515	739	24
03 04 75 00	Alaska pollack (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>), fillets, frozen	61.280	267.521	79.310	588
03 04 94 10	Alaska pollack (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>), surimi, frozen	2.352	23.085	745	73
03 04 94 90	Alaska pollack (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>), other meat (whether or not minced), frozen	2.293	20.798	2.085	156
16 04 19 95	Alaska pollack (<i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>) and pollack (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>), prepared or preserved, whole or in pieces (excl. finely minced and fillets, raw, merely coated with batter or breadcrumbs, whether or not prefried in oil, frozen)	55.537	23	47.122	1.950

Source: COMEXT

- **Main extra-EU suppliers are:**

- for frozen fillets of Alaska pollock: USA (91.975 tonnes in 2017) and Russia (28.702 tonnes)
- for frozen whole Alaska pollock: USA (1.046 tonnes in 2017),
- for frozen surimi of Alaska pollock: USA (23.082 tonnes).

- **Main extra-EU destinations are:**

- for frozen Alaska pollock fillets : Switzerland (245 tonnes) and China (144 tonnes),
- for prepared or preserved Alaska pollock and pollack: Switzerland (1.649 tonnes).



PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

First-sale

Alaska pollock is not caught by the EU fleet and no Alaska pollock is landed in the EU.

Wholesale

Wholesale prices are reported for Mercamadrid, major wholesale market.

Most frequent price	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Alaska pollock (fresh)	n.a.	4,21	3,72	3,61	5,32	6,12	5,7	5,37	Mercamadrid
Alaska pollock (frozen)	n.a.	3,01	n.a.	n.a.	3,91	n.a.	n.a.	3,91	Mercamadrid

Retail/consumption

Retail prices refer to the UK, major consuming country of Alaska pollock.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
United Kingdom	n.a.	n.a.	5,20	5,02	2,38	5,17	5,76	5,98	EUMOFA

Import (frozen fillet)

Import prices are presented for Germany and France which are the main Alaska pollock importers in the EU, mostly frozen fillets and frozen surimi.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Germany	2,54	2,34	2,41	2,31	2,22	2,58	2,57	2,32	EUMOFA
France	2,44	2,25	2,29	2,25	2,19	2,54	2,52	2,31	EUMOFA

Export (frozen fillet)

Export price references are in Germany and the Netherlands (both at 73% of UE export volumes).

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Source
Netherlands	2,78	2,35	2,42	2,43	2,18	2,52	2,63	2,43	EUMOFA
Germany	2,81	2,52	2,56	2,59	2,59	2,77	2,89	2,55	EUMOFA



MARKETING ASPECTS

- Commercial designation in all EU official languages ([Read more](#))

CONSUMPTION

- Fourth most consumed species in the EU after tuna, cod and salmon (source: [The EU Fish Market – 2018 edition](#), EUMOFA)
- Apparent consumption per capita in 2016: **1,59 kg** live weight equivalent (source: [The EU Fish Market – 2018 edition](#), EUMOFA)
- Nutritional value (Alaska Pollock, North East Atlantic, fresh fillet, values per 100 g – source: USDA)

Nutritional value	alaska pollock
kilo calories (kcal)	56
Total fat (g)	0,41
Saturates (g)	0,124
Carbohydrate (g)	0
Sugars (g)	0
Protein (g)	12,19
Salt (mg)	333