



A Statement from Mikel Durham, CEO of American Seafoods

July 22, 2021

I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone who has helped American Seafoods and our crew members as we face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We deeply appreciate the support and guidance we've received from state and local health authorities, clinics, and hospitals in Alaska and Washington state, from local governments, unified commands, ports, the U.S. Coast Guard, and from our industry colleagues.

The story of how COVID-19 has impacted our fishing operations is well known. We've had outbreaks on three of our vessels: American Dynasty, Northern Jaeger, and American Triumph. These have occurred despite our efforts to screen and test crews, place them in quarantine, and sanitize vessels and belongings before going to sea – all in coordination with public health professionals. Still, the virus reached us, just as it has so many others. The Dynasty and Jaeger are back at sea and we look forward to having the Triumph rejoin them soon.

What our communities may not know is what occurs after we discover the virus aboard. Here is where health professionals and others have helped us assess the situation, and then gone to work with us to find solutions. Several important factors have shaped our approach:

- How we care for our crew members. We have programs in place and a team of professionals to support them and their families. We continue to pay crew, cover their expenses, and provide on-site medical attention – giving them the time and privacy they need to recover or stay isolated until they're no longer infectious. Thankfully, the vast majority of crew testing positive have experienced mild to no symptoms.
- How we protect the communities where we operate. We work to ensure that our quarantine facilities are secure and that no infected crew members come in contact with members of the community. For example, at our Anchorage quarantine facility, our crew members will be the only people housed there. Evaluations are conducted to ensure the facilities we use are safe and secure. We supply health monitoring by private medical staff. And part of our compensation to employees in quarantine is predicated on them staying through public health sign-off.
- How we avoid financial burden on the agencies and communities that are helping us. We are paying all the costs of caring for our crew, such as medical care, transportation, food, housing and security to enforce isolation to prevent further spread.



Fishing is our business. It provides a livelihood for our crews and an economic benefit to the places where we operate. Crew members are strong and resilient, and they are committed to this way of life. They provide an important food product to families around the world and they work very hard to do that.

We all want the Triumph to get back to fishing. Our crew wants to return to the work they love and join other American Seafoods vessels at sea. At the same time, we want to ensure we are doing everything we can to protect all our crew members and communities. We continue to learn from the medical community about COVID-19 and how it spreads. As we learn, we have and will continue to adjust our operations.

To those who have helped us better understand and deal with the virus and its challenges, we owe immense gratitude. And to our communities, we hope you understand how seriously we take this situation and how much we appreciate the privacy and support you offer our crew members who have been affected by this virus.