



SeafoodTrade Strategy - NOAA Service Account <seafoodtrade.strategy@noaa.gov>

Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth

1 message

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To: SeafoodTrade.Strategy@noaa.gov

Currently, there is a tariff on US Seafood sold into many countries, which do not pay tariffs on their seafood coming into the United States. US Seafood production is not a threat to the national interests of foreign nations, as our seafood production is generally for consumption in the EU and US, and therefore is not sold into most countries, or the seafood that is does not exist in those countries and therefore does not displace their local production. These tariffs on US Seafood make it very difficult to grow market in countries that have found very lucrative markets in the United States. Further, they are able to produce at lower costs, establish their own offices in the US, and therefore replace US owned and operated seafood companies through strategic marketing and pricing, and using the leverage this creates to outmaneuver and underprice US owned companies. This allows foreign companies to buy out US companies at discounted prices, further consolidating their control of the US food supply, and of course US seafood industry. These companies, which operate with lower tax rates, reduced labor expense and burden, cheaper operating environments, have an irresistible advantage over US companies. Many US companies have been bought up by foreign owned entities, extending their reach and control of the US seafood industry. This could impact fishers as they find themselves selling within a very foreign and controlled processing and distribution chain, that controls raw material pricing, as well as the markets their catch may access.

Regards,

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