SELLING SEAFOOD TO USDA
COVID-19 PANDEMIC QUICK TAKES

• Since the 1930’s the USDA has used “Section 32” funds to purchase surplus commodities for distribution to school lunch programs, food banks, and other organizations.
• On May 4, 2020, USDA announced $470 million in planned commodity purchases in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. $70 million is allocated for purchases of fish.
  • Catfish - $30 million
  • Haddock, Pollock, Redfish (Atlantic) - $20 million
  • Pollock (Alaska) - $20 million
• The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service will begin issuing solicitations in June for delivery to organizations in “food boxes.”
• For more information on how to become a USDA approved vendor, visit: https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food/becoming-approved