Albertsons Companies’ Due Diligence Progress: 2020-2021

Traceability, counter-IUU (illegal, unreported, and unregulated) fishing, and social responsibility actions taken across Albertsons Companies’ fresh and frozen, sushi, and shelf-stable tuna supply chains:

Set Policies and Time-bound Commitments
- Continued to make progress towards the Responsible Seafood Policy and Commitment.
- Achieved the Sushi Commitment, June 2021.

Communicate Best Practice Expectations
- Shared Seafood Supplier Expectations and Supply Chain Accountability letter with our 200+ seafood vendors.
- Engaged seafood vendors in discussions about identifying and prioritizing social responsibility improvements by leveraging FishWise’s Roadmap for Improved Seafood Ethics (RISE) platform.
- Published an At-Sea Transshipment Position Statement, aligned with industry-wide best practices to improve monitoring, oversight, transparency, and worker protections.

Collect Data and Assess Risk
- Conducted human rights risk assessments and social responsibility questionnaires with Fresh & Frozen and Sushi vendors to assess their policies and procedures and prioritize engagement.
- Conducted in-depth review of our tuna supply chains to assess the availability and quality of traceability data being collected in Trace Register, including transshipment information, to identify areas for data improvements.
- Conducted a traceability and counter-IUU fishing risk assessment of sushi sources to focus improvements and to define future verification exercises.
- Leveraged sourcing data, and publicly available reports from civil society organizations, to prioritize engagement with vendors to verify human and labor rights policies and processes.

Verify Seafood Sources
- Leveraged near real-time sourcing data, collected through Trace Register, to directly engage and verify sourcing, policies, and practices of vendors.
- Worked with FishWise and our Waterfront BISTRO® wild-caught shrimp vendor to verify supply chain data and identify opportunities to strengthen traceability and transparency.

Publicly Report on Progress
- Continued transparency via Albertsons Companies’ ESG & Sustainability Reports to reflect progress towards meeting its Responsible Seafood Policies and Commitments.
- Publicly announced meeting Albertsons Companies’ Sushi commitment ahead of schedule.
- Celebrated national seafood month by publicly sharing our efforts to improve seafood traceability and verification with a Gulf of Mexico shrimp Fishery Improvement Project.

Improve Data Systems
- Engaged with Fresh & Frozen vendors to improve data quality in Trace Register.
- Transitioning to Trace Register’s TR5 platform to streamline seafood purchasing data analysis and better align our vendors with the Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability.

Participate and Stay Informed
- Signed the 2020 Global Tuna Appeal Letter, facilitated by the NGO Tuna Forum, and sent to four Regional Fisheries Management Organizations advocating for improvements in tuna management.
- Signed a public letter to the Thai Government supporting recent efforts to reform key pieces of legislation protecting the marine environment and workers.
- Sent the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) a letter voicing Albertsons Companies’ support of the inclusion of high seas catch in future ILAB’s reports.
- Sent a letter to the relevant industry stakeholders in response to allegations of human rights abuses in the Taiwanese Distance Water Fleet.
- Sent a letter to the Taiwanese government to advocate for legislative improvements that would support seafood workers.
- Engaged with seafood vendors in Thailand during COVID-19 to assess the impact on workers and identify how vendors are supporting workers.