



Seafood Sustainability Policy

As the nation's largest grocer, Kroger recognizes we have an important role to play in responsibly sourcing seafood. Our management approach to responsible sourcing and sustainable seafood helps ensure that our customers have access to a wide variety of fresh, high-quality seafood choices for generations to come.

The commitments outlined below reflect Kroger's continued support for protecting and restoring marine ecosystems and healthy fish stocks. We have a long-standing partnership with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to advance seafood sustainability in our global supply chain and will continue directing support to environmental certification efforts and critical Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs). View our 10-year report here: <https://www.thekrogerco.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Kroger-2020-Seafood-Sustainability-Report.pdf>. As best practices evolve over time, we expect to periodically update our goals and approach as well.

As articulated in our [Statement on Human Rights](#), we strive to respect the rights of workers in our global seafood supply chain. In 2021, we established a roadmap for aligning with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the human rights due diligence process. Kroger's [Vendor Code of Conduct](#) conveys our expectations of suppliers to protect human rights in our supply chain, while our [Social Compliance Program Requirements](#) outline the approach and requirements of our supplier audit program.

Illegal Seafood

As a basic practice, Kroger will never knowingly purchase illegally caught seafood, which includes sourcing from IUU (illegal, unregulated, or unreported) fisheries. We will follow all federal and applicable international laws regarding procurement, labeling and traceability.

As part of tracking progress on our seafood commitments outlined below, Kroger requires all suppliers to our Seafood Department to provide source location information for wild-caught and farm-raised seafood products. This helps increase visibility into our supply chain.

Aspiration

We strive to source 100% of the seafood in our fresh and frozen departments from fisheries and farms that meet the environmental standards outlined below. In any year, there are supply chain variables that impact our goal progress, such as fisheries and farms that face challenges in progressing along the pathway to certification or whose certification status changes temporarily. We will support these supply chain partners as much as possible to meet our mutual objectives.

Wild-Caught Seafood

Kroger has partnered with WWF for more than a decade to develop our seafood sustainability program. This continued partnership and the resulting assessment work help Kroger make determinations about which source fisheries can help advance our commitments.

Today, Kroger's Seafood Department tracks information on all wild-caught fresh and frozen species we sell, including country of origin, method of production, and source location and country.

Our goal is to source 95% of all wild-caught seafood we sell in our Seafood Department from fisheries that are Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)-certified, in MSC full assessment, engaged in a comprehensive FIP toward meeting the MSC standard, or certified by other GSSI-recognized programs, by 2023.

Additionally, Kroger will preferentially source MSC-certified wild-caught seafood, and by 2023, we will source at least 85% of wild-caught seafood volume from fisheries that are MSC-certified.

Kroger will continue to advance the availability of more responsible products by supporting FIPs, with the goal of increasing the amount of seafood achieving MSC certification.

Additionally, Kroger prohibits the sale (and procurement) of endangered or critically endangered species.

Kroger will continue to work with fisheries that exhibit opportunity for improvement and will encourage fisheries to pursue MSC certification to validate performance and drive continued improvement. In some cases, Kroger will no longer source from fisheries where efforts to improve have been unsuccessful.

Tuna Sourcing

Kroger is committed to continue sourcing 100% of shelf-stable tuna from companies that participate in and are compliant with the conservation measures of the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF). The ISSF was formed in 2009 to create science-based solutions for tuna fisheries worldwide.

Additionally, by 2025, Kroger will source 20% of Our Brands shelf-stable tuna from fisheries that are MSC certified.

Farmed Seafood

For farm-raised seafood in our Seafood Department, we rely on third-party certification-standards to increase the environmental sustainability of the species we procure.

Our goal is to source 100% of farm-raised seafood in our Seafood Department from farms that are Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) 2-star or greater certified, Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) certified or GLOBALG.A.P. certified, by 2023.

Kroger will also start tracking geographic information about our farmed shrimp supply chains to gain visibility to potential deforestation or conversion of natural ecosystems occurring in this supply chain.

Continuous Improvement

Kroger makes sourcing decisions based on science, engagement with our NGO partners and government agencies, and customer preferences. As a result, Kroger no longer sources or sells shark, bluefin tuna, marlin, skates, rays, parrot fish, monkfish, hoki, Atlantic cod, Greenland halibut, Argentinian red crab and Jonah crab in any of our retail locations due to sustainability concerns surrounding these species. In certain cases, we will reconsider sourcing a species if the fishery or farm has credibly achieved the certifications outlined above and has improved the health of the species and the environment.

Human Rights

Kroger has increased our commitment to respecting human rights in our global supply chain, including the potential risk of labor issues in seafood sourcing. We continue to be vigilant in monitoring and mitigating human rights risks, and we acknowledge that seafood sourcing poses higher risk than some other categories because of various fishing modalities, including vessels at sea for extended periods. Please see Kroger's updated [Statement on Human Rights](#) for more details about how we are aligning with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the human rights due diligence process.

Communication with Customers

We focus on sharing important information with customers about the products they buy from us. We follow all laws related to seafood Country of Origin and Method of Production labeling.

We continue to have an opportunity to increase our customers' awareness of seafood sustainability and promote the items we carry in our stores that meet the commitments we have set out above. Because we value transparency, we will continue to share updates on our responsible seafood sourcing efforts at <https://www.thekrogerco.com/esgreport/>.

We always welcome customer feedback through www.Kroger.com or by calling 1-800-KROGERS.