



Charting a course to responsibly managed seafood resources

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mariner Seafood Joins GSSI as Funding Partner

NEW BEDFORD, MA – 2/27/17 – Jack Flynn, CEO and Founder of Mariner Seafood, LLC announces that the company has joined the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) as a Funding Partner. In this role, Mariner Seafood will collaborate with approximately 40 GSSI partners across the seafood industry to shape the direction of leading topics that impact the seafood sector worldwide.

"Becoming a GSSI Funding Partner was a natural choice for Mariner Seafood," says Flynn. "We are excited to join with other leaders from across the seafood industry to work on critical knowledge-exchange initiatives and collaborate on topics that are vital to shaping our future."

One such major topic is the use of seafood certification schemes to provide assurances of more sustainable practices in both aquaculture product and wild-capture fisheries. Toward this end, the GSSI, which was established in 2013, has created the Global Benchmark Tool for seafood certification schemes – the first collective and non-competitive approach to bringing clarity to seafood certification worldwide. The Tool also supports key tenants of sustainability based on the sound science and fisheries management practices established by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization's Code of Conduct and Ecolabelling for wild-caught and farm-raised seafood.

As Flynn notes, "This new tool is especially important today, as it has become increasingly difficult for producers, retailers and consumers to recognize credible seafood certification schemes. We strongly believe that the partners of GSSI will be a powerful force in eliminating confusion and duplication, while helping ensure that

consumers can purchase affordable seafood with full confidence in its quality, safety and sustainability. As a Funding Partner, Mariner Seafood commits to recognizing all CSSI certification schemes as acceptable when sourcing seafood. We encourage companies across the seafood industry, both here at home and around the world, to join with us in making this commitment, which has the potential to drive positive change and lower costs."

About GSSI

The Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) is a global platform and partnership of seafood companies, NGOs, experts, governmental and intergovernmental organizations. It was established in 2013 to bridge the public-private divide in order to harness the commercial power of the market and the influence of governments to deliver change at a global level. Its ultimate mission is to ensure confidence in the supply and promotion of certified seafood, as well as to promote improvement in seafood certification schemes. To date, 34 companies worldwide from across the seafood industry, including harvesting, aquaculture, farming, processing, food service, retail and brand manufacturing, are backing GSSI as Funding Partners. GSSI also counts on the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and six non-profit Affiliated Partners. In addition, it has established networks across North America and Europe and increasingly with government counterparts in Asia, Africa and South America.

About Mariner Seafood, LLC

Headquartered in New Bedford, Massachusetts – the top value landed port in the United States – Mariner Seafood, LLC processes fresh and frozen seafood, including Alaskan salmon, Pacific ground fish, Gulf shrimp and Atlantic sea scallops, from two BRC-audited, SQF level 2 processing facilities and delivers its products to markets throughout the U.S. and Canada. Fully dedicated to preserving precious resources, Mariner Seafood only sources from American and International fisheries that follow responsible, sustainable, traceable practices.

MISSION STATEMENT: Mariner Seafood, LLC truly cares about our customers, our environment, our industry and the consumer. We wholeheartedly embrace our responsibility to educate, inform and share our knowledge and insight to help people live stronger, safe and healthier lifestyles. We will not compromise our belief in providing the highest standard of quality resources, which is essential to serving our customers with excellence.

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