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Walmart threatens to stop selling Alaska salmon

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From the Kodiak Daily Mirror: Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has sent suppliers [a letter](#) saying it will stop selling Alaska salmon that isn't certified by the Marine Stewardship Council. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game [dropped](#) its sponsorship of the salmon industry's MSC certification in 2010, saying it was too expensive, and [processors then pulled out](#), also citing the program's complexity.

Wal-Mart Inc. spokesman Chris Schrader on Thursday ... confirmed that Wal-Mart is buying Alaska salmon products only from salmon sectors with specialty MSC certificates, and not from all of the state's salmon fisheries.

For those not MSC-certified: "At this point, they would need to have a (plan) in place to bridge that," Schrader said.

In its letter to sellers, Wal-Mart Inc. suggested one way to skip MSC certification: supporting public fishery improvement projects coordinated by a nongovernmental organization.

That's out of the question, said Jeff Regnart, director of ADF&G's commercial fisheries division.

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