

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 20, 2010 CONTACT: Mike Gentry, DEC program manager, (907) 269-7596

Hallmark Fisheries packaged crab meat recalled

(JUNEAU, AK) – Hallmark Fisheries is recalling several brands of packaged crab meat because of its potential to be contaminated by *Listeria monocytogenes*.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has confirmed that the recalled product has been distributed in Alaska.

The crab meat is sold under the brands Hallmark, Peacock, Quality Ocean International and Yaquina Bay in five pound cans, one pound vacuum packs, one pound plastic tubs and eight ounce plastic tubs. The codes on the recalled products can be found on top of the containers and are as follows:

CP 232 4A (A-H) CP 233 4A (A-F) CP 235 4A (A-F) CP 236 4A (A-G) CP 238 4A (A-H) CP 239 4A (A-C) CP 240 4A (A-B) CP 242 4A (A-C) CP 243 4A (A-H) CP 244 4A (A-E)

Listeria monocytogenes can cause listeriosis, an uncommon but potentially fatal disease. Healthy people rarely contract listeriosis. However, those that do contract it could experience high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness and nausea. Listeriosis can also cause miscarriages and stillbirths, as well as serious and sometimes fatal infections in those with weakened immune systems, such as infants, the elderly and persons with HIV infection or undergoing chemotherapy. People experiencing these symptoms should seek immediate medical attention.

Consumers who have purchased any of the recalled packaged crab are urged to discard it and to contact Hallmark Fisheries about a refund at 541.888.3253.

For more information on this recall, visit <u>http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm226267.htm</u>

For more information on recalls affecting Alaskans, visit DEC's website: <u>http://www.dec.state.ak.us/eh/fss/recalls/recallsalerts.htm</u>

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