UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

★ news release

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TWO NEW FISH PRODUCTS WILL BEAR "U. S. GRADE" SHIELD

The "U. S. Grade" shield will soon be found on two more fish products in grocery store freezers, the Department of the Interior announced today. This shield is the purchaser's further assurance that such fish products are of high quality and have been processed under continuous in-plant inspection by the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service. Such inspection, voluntarily subscribed to by members of the fishing industry, is paid for by industry contributions.

New quality standards have been adopted for frozen fried fish portions and for frozen raw breaded fish sticks. The Department has, in addition, raised the quality requirements in standards for frozen pre-cooked fish sticks.

The Department said the higher standards benefit consumers by enabling them to purchase better quality fish sticks and also aid the processor by increasing his sales. Raising of the quality requirements is another successful cooperative effort by the processor, the distributor, and the Government to bring the best quality fish products to the American home.

With the two new additions, consumers will be able to purchase 13 different frozen fish products bearing the "U. S. Grade A" inspection shield. The others include fried fish sticks, raw breaded shrimp, haddock fillets, sole and flounder fillets, cod fillets, halibut steaks, salmon steaks, raw headless shrimp, ocean perch fillets, fried scallops, and raw breaded fish portions.

Quality standards are developed by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of the Fish and Wildlife Service, in cooperation with the fishing industry. The processor voluntarily accepts quality standards for a fishery product.

Standards set the requirements for taste, odor, color, uniformity, texture, and other features that housewives seek in purchasing food. The presence of USDI inspectors in a plant during the preparation of the fishery product qualifies the firm to place the "Shield of Quality" bearing the name of the Department of the Interior on the label.

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