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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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River Ranch Recalls Salads for Potential Health Risk

(JUNEAU, AK) – River Ranch Fresh Foods, LLC is recalling retail and foodservice bagged salads distributed under several brand names because they have the potential of being contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

Listeria monocytogenes is an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, *Listeria* infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

This recall affects retail stores as well as restaurant distributors. Retail salad products under this recall were distributed under various sizes and packaged under the brand names of River Ranch, Farm Stand, Hy-Vee, Shurfresh, and The Farmer's Market. The recalled salad bags have either a "Best By" date between 12 MAY 2012 and 22 MAY 2012, or a Julian date of 118 or 125. The code date is typically located in the upper right corner of the bag.

The complete list of products under this recall can be found at:
<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm304742.htm>.

Alaska DEC has confirmed distribution of these products in Alaska. To date, there have been no reported illnesses in Alaska or other states. DEC is contacting distributors to assure that they have received the recall information, have pulled any affected product and have notified their customers.

Consumers with questions about this recall, including refund information, can call River Ranch at their 24-hour customer service center at 1-888-624-2596.

More information on this recall can be found at:
<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm304741.htm>.

For more information on recalls affecting Alaskans, visit DEC's website:
<http://www.dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/recalls/recallsalerts.html>.

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