

**Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Charge to Sitka Spawn-on-Kelp  
Open Platform Fishery Workgroup  
2003-224-FB**

The objective of the Sitka Spawn-on-Kelp Open Platform Fishery Workgroup is to develop solutions to problems identified by the Board of Fisheries related to implementation of a new open platform spawn-on-kelp fishery in Sitka Sound.

Workgroup members will include two sac roe purse seine, two open platform, two closed pound, two subsistence stakeholders, and one Sitka Advisory Committee member. Workgroup members will be selected from nominations submitted to the board by each group or organization. Workgroup members will attend meetings at their own expense. Board member John Jensen will work with the group.

Specific issues identified by the board include:

- How to allocate herring and kelp at both low and high guideline harvest levels.
- Minimum threshold GHs for competitive sac roe seine and open platform fisheries.
- Number of open platforms.
- Configuration of pounds.
- Product limits versus kelp frond limits and related economic considerations.
- What stipulations should be in permit versus regulation. Refine permit requirements including fish ticket reporting requirements, when and where product is weighed, transfer of overages between pound operators, etc.
- How to deal with overages under a bag limit scenario.
- Application of kelp product to conversion rates.
- Funding issues related to fishery.
- Identify enforcement problems and develop regulatory or permit requirements to address them.
- Potential subsistence/commercial conflict.

The workgroup should report back in writing at the completion of their work, or by the October 2005 board work session.

Dated: October 3, 2003  
Anchorage Alaska

  
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Ed Dersham, Chair

Vote: 7 - 0