

PENINSULA/ALEUTIANS HERRING SAC-ROE FISHERY
MANAGEMENT PLAN 1988

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^{1/}The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 to provide an information access system for all unpublished divisional reports. These reports frequently serve diverse ad hoc informational purposes or archive basic uninterpreted data. To accommodate needs for up-to-date information reports in this series may contain preliminary data.

AREA DESCRIPTION

- The Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian management area includes all waters of the Alaska Peninsula west of Kupreanof Point on the southside of the Peninsula and Cape Menshikof on the northside and includes all waters of the Aleutian Islands.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

- Tenders and Processors: Each tender operator and buyer must register in person at an ADF&G office in either Cold Bay, Sand Point or Port Moller prior to buying or tendering herring. Catch reporting instructions will be explained during registration. (See Regulation 5 AAC 27.662. BUYER AND TENDER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.)
- If proper monitoring of the Area M sac-roe fisheries is not possible because of a breakdown in the catch reporting procedures, stringent in-season measures will be required to insure that excessive harvests do not occur, i.e.: frequent closures to assess fish ticket information followed by adequately noticed and well publicized reopenings. Additionally, failure to adhere to the reporting requirements specified on the tender registration form will result in citations being issued.
- Fishing Vessels: There is no area registration requirement for fishing vessels for the 1988 sac-roe season. Fishermen must give specific catch locations to buyers, so that it can be recorded on fish tickets. (See statistical charts attached.)

HARVEST STRATEGY

General:

- Statewide policy dictates that harvest levels may range from 0% to 20% of the available spawning biomass, depending upon the health of the stocks being exploited.

GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVELS:

- Preseason harvest guidelines have been compiled for known Alaska Peninsula spawning stocks based on the best available information of stock size (Table 1). The exact size of each stock may not be known, however aerial surveys estimates, age class composition, and fisheries performance are information which allows estimates of stock size to be made. Preseason harvest guidelines will be used as catch quotas unless inseason stock status indicators suggest extreme variations in anticipated stock abundance.

If extreme variations occur, harvests will be adjusted up or down depending on stock abundance.

Portions of the area that have not produced harvests in the past will be open for exploration. No harvest guidelines have been established for these areas, however harvest will be kept small until some estimate of

stock size can be obtained. Monitoring of exploratory commercial activity will be accomplished by required industry reporting procedure and by ADF&G aerial surveillance when needed.

Harvest Allocation:

- As described in the 1988 Commercial Herring Regulations:
 - 5 AAC 27.660. HARVEST STRATEGY (b) The Department shall manage the King Cove, Pavlof and Sand Point Districts so that 75 percent of the estimated guideline harvest (See Table 1) is taken during the sac-roe season (April 15 through July 15) and 25 percent is taken during the food and bait season (July 16 through February 28). If the 75 percent is not taken during the sac-roe season, then the amount of herring not taken may be allowed to be taken during the food and bait season. The Department shall adjust the guideline harvest level based on herring biomass assessments conducted during the sac roe season.

(NOTE: If the sac-roe harvest is exceeded, then the excess harvest will be deducted from the food and bait harvest.)

Sac-Roe Season and Fishing Periods:

- The entire Alaska Peninsula Area (North Peninsula, South Peninsula, and Aleutian Islands) is open to commercial sac-roe herring fishing from April 15 through July 15, with the exception of the Port Moller District (see statistical chart). In order to shift fishing pressure from the earlier arriving smaller stock to the later arriving more abundant stock, the Port Moller District will not open until May 28 unless a large biomass is spotted before this date. ADF&G will be flying surveys in Port Moller prior to May 28, however industry spotters are encouraged to report any large sightings.

Legal Gear

- Purse Seine Gear: During the period from April 15 through July 15 no purse seine may be more than 100 fathoms long or more than 1,000 meshes deep.
- Gillnet Gear: During the period from April 15 through July 15, the aggregate length of herring gillnets used per permit holder may not exceed 150 fathoms.

Table 1.

1988
PENINSULA/ALEUTIANS
HERRING SAC-ROE HERRING GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL (TONS)

<u>SOUTH PENINSULA</u>			
<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SAC-ROE HARVEST</u>	<u>BAIT HARVEST</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>
Sand Point District			
Stepovak Bay Section	19	6	25
Balboa Bay Section	15	5	20
Beaver Bay Section	23	7	30
Pavlof District			
Pavlof Bay Section	75	25	100
Canoe Bay Section	131	44	175
General Section (Volcano Bay)	23	7	30
King Cove District			
Belkofski Section	23	7	30
Cold Bay Section	68	22	90
Deer Island Section	23	7	30
Guideline Harvest Totals:	400	130	530 ^{1/}
<u>NORTH PACIFIC</u>			
Port Moller District ^{2/}			
Guideline Harvest Totals	500-1,000		500-1,000 ^{1/}
<u>ALEUTIAN ISLAND DISTRICT:</u>			Exploration

^{1/} Does not include harvests that may occur in sections open for exploration.

^{2/} Parts of the Port Moller District may be closed before the District harvest guideline is taken, in order to prevent the overharvest of discrete spawning stocks within the District.

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