



Advisory Announcement

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CONTACTS:

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PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND HERRING FALL TEST FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is soliciting bids to conduct a test fishery harvesting herring with purse seine gear in the Prince William Sound Management Area (Area E) during fall of 2023.

The Request for Quotation (RFQ) format for this test fishery will be done in three lots at a maximum of 50 tons of herring/lot. Lots are intended to provide the opportunity for separation of fishing effort and provide opportunity for multiple fishing vessels; there is no geographic or temporal separation required and vessels may fish more than one lot at a time. All harvest must come from the Prince William Sound Management Area (Figure 1). The department is seeking to generate a maximum of \$15,000 from this herring test fishery. Revenues generated from the herring test fishery will be used to supplement Prince William Sound Management Area herring stock assessment and management. The minimum bid amount the department will consider is \$100/ton. The department will accept bids for up to 50 tons of herring/lot for an overall maximum harvest of 150 tons. Interested parties can bid on multiple lots. **Quotes will be accepted until 12:00 p.m., Friday, September 8, 2023.** The harvest of herring under this contract will be conducted during the period September 13, 2023 – November 30, 2023. The vessel/s used to harvest may be required to assist the department in assessing the distribution of the herring biomass to determine where the largest concentrations are located. ADF&G Staff will coordinate with awarded bidders on how to obtain samples from completed sets in order to complete the necessary data collection required from the test fishery.

The State of Alaska will be paid at the base price for overages of herring above the original quote amount up to 20%. The State will be paid two times the base price of the original quote on any herring that exceed 20% of the original bid incurred during the fishery (base price is a maximum \$5,000/lot divided by tons herring quoted for that lot).

Quotations will only be accepted from a current CFEC permit holder in the Prince William Sound Herring Sac Roe Purse Seine Fishery. Interested bidders must have prior experience fishing in the Prince William Sound Area and must supply a fishing vessel equipped with a refrigerated sea water system and a minimum fish hold capacity of 25 tons. In addition, successful bidders will be responsible for their own supplies including food, fuel, and net.

ADF&G, Commercial Fisheries staff in Cordova will coordinate management and supervision of this program. RFQ bid forms are available from the Cordova, ADF&G office upon request.

The successful bidder will be responsible for supplying the following:

1. A herring seine vessel(s) capable of fishing in weather common to the Prince William Sound Management Area.
2. A current CFEC Prince William Sound Herring Sac Roe Purse Seine permit holder must be on board any seine vessel fishing in the test fishery.
3. A commercial herring seine net and all associated fishing gear and equipment.
4. Vessels capable of tendering herring, if needed.

5. All personal and fishing related expenses including food, fuel, crew, and living arrangements.
6. A current Alaska Business License.
7. The department may take biological samples of herring for Age-Sex-Length and disease prevalence either from the catcher vessel, the tender (if used) or at the delivery location.

Page 1 of this form may be faxed to the Cordova ADF&G office at 907-747-3235 or emailed to lisa.laird@alaska.gov. Please call Lisa Laird at 907-424-3212 after faxing to ensure receipt.

Figure 1—. Prince William Sound Management Area (Area E).

