

---

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
*Scott Kelley, Director*



---

Contact:  
Eric Coonradt

Sitka Area Office  
304 Lake Street, Room 103  
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Phone: (907) 747-6688

Date: September 25, 2017

Fax: (907) 747-6693

Time: 3:30 p.m.

---

#### SITKA SOUND HERRING BAIT TEST FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is soliciting bids to conduct a test fishery by harvesting food and bait herring with purse seine gear in Sitka Sound during October and November 2017. The Sitka Sound winter herring test fishery has been conducted annually since 1992 and was used to provide updated weight-at-age information used to forecast the biomass of herring returning to Sitka Sound the following spring. This year's test fishery is being used to collect biological measurements, scales, and ovary samples to determine if maturity can be determined from scale growth. Maturity is one of the important components that are used in the departments existing stock assessment model

The Department is seeking to harvest 50 tons of herring from Sitka Sound. The quote **must** be based on price per ton of whole herring. The party that quotes the highest price per ton will be awarded the contract. **Quotes will be accepted until 12:00 noon, Tuesday, October 3, 2017.** The harvest of bait herring under this contract will be conducted during the period October 16–November 15, 2017. The department needs approximately 3 tons of herring for a special study; this tonnage will not be paid for by the winning bidder, and will be in addition to the 50 tons being harvested for bait. The vessel used to harvest may be required to spend some time assessing the herring biomass in Sitka Sound to determine where the largest concentrations are located. For the period October 16–November 15, 2017, the contractor is required to notify ADF&G at least 36 hours before test fishing commences. Samples of smaller herring (approximately 50-150 grams) will be provided to the department on two occasions at least a week apart, between October 16 and November 15, 2017, for department research. Each sample (two totes for each sample) should come from multiple sets during the period to attain a sample representative of the younger population. One or two department biologists may be on board during harvesting.

The State will be paid at the base price for any overages of any 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 considered to be \$30,000 divided by the amount of the herring quoted).

Quotations will only be accepted from a current CFEC permit holder for the Southeast Alaska Herring Sac-Roe fishery, a current CFEC permit holder in the Southeast Alaska Herring Winter Bait fishery, or from a company licensed to process herring in Southeast Alaska.

ADF&G, Commercial Fisheries staff in Sitka will coordinate management and supervision of this program. Requests for Quotation (RFQ) bid forms are available from the Sitka, ADF&G office upon request. In the case of equal, low bids, the winner will be drawn from a hat.

News releases web site: <http://documents.cfl.adfg.state.ak.us/TopicContents.po>.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&amp;G</i>	<i>225-5195</i>	<i>772-3801</i>	<i>874-3822</i>	<i>747-6688</i>	<i>465-4250</i>	<i>766-2830</i>	<i>784-3255</i>
<i>AWT</i>	<i>225-5111</i>	<i>772-3983</i>	<i>874-3215</i>	<i>747-3254</i>	<i>465-4000</i>	<i>766-2533</i>	<i>784-3220</i>