



100 Mt. Roberts St.
Juneau, AK 99801

1/15/18

Board of Fisheries

January 15 – 23, 2018

Sitka, Alaska

Support for Proposal 94 & 104; Opposition to Proposals 95, 96, 98, 99, 100, 105, & 106

Dear Chairman Jensen and Board of Fish Members:

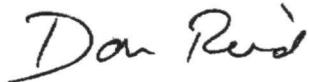
I represent Alaska Marine Lines which is the largest provider of marine transportation services to Southeast Alaska. I submit the below comments to be considered at your upcoming meeting concerning fisheries in Southeast Alaska and more specifically the herring fisheries. Our company position is that we firmly believe that seafood resources should be managed for the long term and not for short term gain. We do not support allowing political or any other influences effect the outcome of managing our seafood resources.

I can speak to the economic consequences of significantly reducing the harvest rate of this fishery, but that is really not what I suggest you should be concerning yourselves with. I believe that decisions that affect the way this fishery is managed should be based on scientific evidence which is what managers of this fishery have been successfully doing to make this fishery sustainable.

This fishery is important to the overall economy of Southeast Alaska. As you are well aware the forecast for pink salmon harvest in Southeast Alaska this summer is expected to be below average. This herring fishery provides diversity for everyone involved in the fishing, processing and shipping of seafood in Southeast Alaska. This year in particular the economic benefits of this fishery will be very important to all involved. Specific to Alaska Marine Lines seafood shipments pay for a portion of our overall transportation costs for Southeast Alaska. Without that our rates which impact everyone in Southeast Alaska would be higher. I simply ask that you don't take making this decision lightly. The only reason I included these economic comments is that if you are considering other emotional comments from people with views on this fishery you can consider these economic comments as well.

What I hope you will do is set aside emotional comments from those who may be uninformed or politically or economically motivated and focus on how this fishery should be managed for the long term. I urge you to allow decisions related to the management of this fishery to continue to be based on science and not emotions. The reality is I am not in a position to make an argument one way or the other as to what the harvest should be. I put my faith in the ADF&G managers who have successfully managed fisheries in Alaska. They have a proven track record of managing our fisheries.

Respectfully, Don Reid

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Reid". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Vice President, Operations
Alaska Marine Lines

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