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Dear Chairman Jensen and Board of Fish Members,

Sitka Sound Seafoods (SSS), a division of North Pacific Seafoods, Inc. would like to submit some comments on proposals that you will be considering at the upcoming meeting concerning fisheries in southeast Alaska. SSS has been an active participant in the Sitka Sac Roe Herring fishery since its beginning. During this time period the Forecast Biomass has gone from a low of 4,500 tons to a current level of 73,245 tons (2017). The Department of Fish and Game has done a very good job of managing this fishery for sustainability as shown by the numbers over the years.

We would like to support proposals 94 and 104 and are in opposition to proposals 95, 96, 98, 100, 105 and 106. I personally have been involved in this fishery for over 30 years in one form or another in a management capacity for my employer. During this time frame I have worked on the grounds in a skiff, helped coordinate tender loading along with delivery and production at the plant. I have firsthand seen the time and effort that has been spent on this fishery with the capital investment made by all parties.

With the arrival of the Sitka Sac Roe Herring fishery, it is the change in the economy with the hustle and bustle of the entire fleet that let's Sitka know that spring is in the air. There are many components in this fishery and sound management is the one that has allowed this fishery to reach the point where it is today. We do not feel that the proposals that we oppose will benefit the fishery.

Sincerely yours,

Tim R. Ryan
Controller/Assistant Manager
Sitka Sound Seafoods