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## 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:

We depend on the Sitka Sound herring fishery for our livelihood and the jobs we provide for our crew. Cutting the harvest rate as in Proposals 98 and 99 would be particularly harmful to our operation and could literally put our fishing tender out of a job altogether, which will cut our annual income by approximately 10%. There is no biological reason to reduce the harvest rate. The Department manages the herring fishery conservatively, and given that the biomass has risen from 5,000 tons in the 1970's to the present day 55,000 tons is testament to their sound management. Fishermen and tendermen rely on sustainable and conservative management for our future.

I am opposed to Proposals 105 and 106 that seek to increase the area closed to fishing. The reasons stated are that subsistence needs cannot be met. The department has demonstrated that a 'reasonable opportunity' does exist, but participation by users has been declining over the past 30 years. If sufficient effort is applied toward harvest of herring eggs, the eggs are sufficiently abundant to meet those needs.

Please consider the following Articles from the Constitution of the State of Alaska!

- Article VIII, section 1: Statement of Policy.
  - "It is the policy of the State to encourage...the development of its resources by making them available for maximum use consistent with the public interest."
- Article VIII, section 4: Sustainable Yield.
  - "Fish.....shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preference among beneficial uses."
- Article VIII, section 15: No Exclusive Right of Fishery.
  - "No exclusive right or special privilege of fishery shall be created or authorized in the natural waters of the State. This section does not restrict the power of the State to limit entry into any fishery for purposes of resource conservation, to prevent economic distress among fishermen and those dependent upon them for a livelihood and to promote the efficient development of aquaculture in the State."

We posit that the framers of our State Constitution intend for maximum use (please let us fish for and market the herring), sustained yield (clearly a rising biomass proves this is met), and management to prevent economic distress among fishermen and those dependent upon them (tendermen). Please do not destroy 10% of our income!

Please reject these proposals.

Sincerely,

Dan Zarlengo, Captain/Owner

Kristen Zarlengo, Captain/Owner