

My name is Louise Brady

I want to address the phrasing I have heard from permit holders and others who fish the herring roe:

"I am 4<sup>th</sup> generation fisherman." Or;

"I am a 5<sup>th</sup> generation fisherman."

Not to minimize the importance of this legacy, but I am a 400<sup>th</sup> generation user of herring and herring eggs.

In Dr. Thomas Thornton's "Herring Synthesis he states:

Overall, we found strong evidence that "herring were among the important schooling fish. In fact, it is certain that herring was more important than present [scientific] evidence suggests" (Ames and Maschner 117:1999). Native peoples distributed themselves among dense and predictable patches of herring according to the timing of their presence, just as they did with prize salmon streams, halibut banks, and berry patches. In doing so, they also took advantage of the rich supplies of other prey attracted to this foundational food source, such as birds, salmon, halibut, cod, and marine mammals. Overall, Pacific herring can be considered "cultural keystone species" among Southeast Natives, according to criteria outlined by Garibaldi and Turner (2004), including its: 1) intensity, cultivation, and multiplicity of use, 2) rich linguistic and 3) cultural associations, 4) persistence in memory and use despite cultural change, 5) unique and irreplaceable role in socioecological system, and 6) value in providing opportunities for resource acquisition beyond the home territory (e.g., through exchange).

The herring are in my DNA...as are the eggs...they nourish our physical bodies and feed our emotional and spiritual well-being.

[http://herringsynthesis.research.pdx.edu/ethnography\\_index.html](http://herringsynthesis.research.pdx.edu/ethnography_index.html)