

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at the request of Board Member John Jensen

January 14, 2020

Substitute language for proposals 44 and 56:

5 AAC 27.465. Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan

(a) The purpose of the Kamishak Bay District herring management plan under this section is to promote and maintain the viability of the herring stock in the Kamishak Bay District and stabilize the commercial fishery targeting the herring stock by using conservative management strategies that support a biologically sound and sustainable commercial fishery. This management plan describes the management strategies used to set and implement the guideline harvest levels for the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery. [SINCE HERRING THAT SPAWN IN THE KAMISHAK BAY DISTRICT ARE KNOWN TO BE PRESENT IN WATERS OF NORTH SHELKOF STRAIT DURING PART OF THE YEAR, THIS PLAN ALSO SETS GUIDELINES FOR THE ALLOCATION OF THE KAMISHAK BAY HERRING STOCK TO THE SHELKOF STRAIT FOOD AND BAIT HERRING FISHERY, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 27.535.]

(c) [THE ALLOCATION OF THE ALLOWABLE HARVEST OF THE KAMISHAK BAY HERRING STOCK IS 90 PERCENT TO THE KAMISHAK BAY SAC ROE FISHERY, AND 10 PERCENT TO THE SHELKOF STRAIT FOOD AND BAIT FISHERY.] **Repealed.**

(d) The guideline harvest level for [THE FALL SHELKOF STRAIT FOOD AND BAIT FISHERY AND THE FOLLOWING SPRING] Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery will be based on the projected biomass as determined by the most recent aerial surveys, age class composition, historical mortality, recruitment trends, and other relevant data that is collected by the department.

(4) if the projected spawning biomass is less than the minimum threshold of 6,000 short tons, the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery [AND THE SHELKOF STRAIT FOOD AND BAIT FISHERY NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF MINERS POINT (57° 54.00' N. LAT.)] will be closed.

5 AAC 27.535. Harvest strategies for Kodiak Area

[(a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE THE SHELKOF STRAIT FOOD AND BAIT HERRING FISHERY IN THE WATERS SET OUT IN 5 AAC 27.505(a) (WEST AFOGNAK DISTRICT), 5 AAC 27.505(b) (NORTH AFOGNAK DISTRICT), 5 AAC 27.505(d) (UGANIK DISTRICT), AND 5 AAC 27.505(e) (UYAK DISTRICT), SO THAT THE TOTAL HARVEST DOES NOT EXCEED THE COMBINED GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL, ESTABLISHED IN (b), FOR THESE DISTRICTS AND THE ALLOWABLE HARVEST OF THE KAMISHAK SPAWNING STOCKS THAT OVERWINTER IN SHELKOF STRAIT, AS DETERMINED UNDER THE KAMISHAK BAY DISTRICT HERRING MANAGEMENT PLAN SET OUT IN 5 AAC 27.465. THE WATERS SET OUT IN 5 AAC 27.505(k) (NORTH MAINLAND DISTRICT) AND 5 AAC 27.505(l) (MID MAINLAND DISTRICT) SHALL BE MANAGED BASED ON THE GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL FOR THESE DISTRICTS AS ESTABLISHED IN (b), HOWEVER, THESE DISTRICTS WILL BE CLOSED WHEN THE GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL IS REACHED IN THE SHELKOF STRAIT FISHERY.] **Repealed.**

(b) The department shall establish guideline harvest levels for the herring food and bait fisheries **for the Kodiak Area** [FOR EACH SECTION OF THE DISTRICTS SPECIFIED IN (a) OF THIS SECTION,] which may not exceed 10 percent of the guideline harvest level of that section in the previous sac roe season. **The Shuyak Island, Offshore West Afognak, Offshore Uganik, Offshore Uyak, Hallo Bay, Outer Kukak, and Missak sections shall not open for the food and bait fishery.**

(c) The department shall manage the [REMAINING] districts of the food and bait herring fishery, so that the harvest does not exceed the combined sum of the guideline harvest levels of the individual sections of a district. The department may manage the food and bait fishery, including the Shelikof Strait fishery, by section of a district, if the harvest location, age class composition of the harvest, or biomass estimates indicate a harvest has occurred on a single herring spawning stock.

[(d) WHEN THE KAMISHAK BAY HERRING SPAWNING BIOMASS IS BELOW 6,000 SHORT TONS, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL CLOSE, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THE FOOD AND BAIT FISHERY IN SHELIKOF STRAIT NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF MINERS POINT (57° 54.00' N. LAT.)] **Repealed.**

...

(e)(4) a section that does not have an extensive history of sac roe **and food and bait** production may be designated as exploratory with no specified guideline harvest level; permit holders for either gear type may fish in an exploratory section; a section listed as exploratory under this paragraph may be opened or closed, based on inseason information such as observed stock abundance, harvest levels, and changes in fish behavior or harvest patterns, including such changes in adjacent sections;