

**PROPOSAL 56**

**5 AAC 27.535. Harvest strategies for Kodiak Area.**

Establish guideline harvest levels for the Kodiak Area food and bait herring fishery, as follows:

The Kodiak Area food and bait fishery should have its regulatory language updated.

**Draft Language: 5 AAC 27.535. Harvest strategies for Kodiak Area.**(a) The department shall establish guideline harvest levels for the herring food and bait fisheries for each section which may not exceed 10 percent of the guideline harvest level of that section in the previous sac roe season. (b) 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 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.(c) Sections of a district that are designated exploratory for the sac-roe fishery may be designated exploratory for the food and bait fishery.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Kodiak Area Food and Bait Fishery's North Shelikof section cannot presently open because it is regulated by the Kamishak Bay District herring management plan. The Kamishak Management Plan presently closes the North Shelikof section when the spawning biomass in Kamishak is below 6,000 tons. The Kamishak section has not been surveyed in several years, and the surveyed biomass of herring in the North Shelikof section has been much larger than 6,000 tons. The Kodiak Food and Bait fishery should be managed on its own recent stock assessment. This would allow this, sustainable fishery, to provide food and bait herring throughout the state.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sam Mutch

(EF-F19-023)

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