Advisory Announcement

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2022 Preseason Processor Capacity Survey In Bristol Bay.

In January 2022, the Department surveyed the 15 main commercial salmon processing companies that intend to purchase sockeye salmon in Bristol Bay in 2022. The purpose of the survey was to estimate total intended purchases, daily and season-long processing capacity, and tender fleet capacity. Processors intend to purchase 52 million fish in 2022, with a daily processing capacity of 3 million fish. An estimated 60 million fish will be available to harvest based on our preseason run forecast released in November 2021.

The intended purchases in 2022 would be an increase of 10 million fish, or 25%, since the last survey in 2019. Five processors account for 96% of this increase; three are established operations that increased capacity by 20–30% each, and the other two were new to the survey in 2019 and report increased capacity of ~5% each.

Ten companies intend to provide tenders in Bristol Bay, with a total holding capacity of 9 million fish. Three of these companies will also provide long haul tenders in 2022, delivering to at least four locations outside of Bristol Bay. The daily capacity of the Bristol Bay long haul tender fleet is 650 thousand fish.

Full results from this survey will be published in a Special Publication later in 2022.