



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: February 28, 2023

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KAYAK ISLAND HERRING SPRING TEST FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is soliciting bids to conduct a test fishery harvesting herring with purse seine gear near Kayak Island during spring of 2023.

The Request for Quotation (RFQ) format for this test fishery will be done in three lots at a maximum of 50 tons of herring/lot. Lots are intended to provide the opportunity for separation of fishing effort and provide opportunity for up to three fishing vessels; there is no geographic or temporal separation required and vessels may fish more than one lot at a time. All harvest, defined as harvestable biomass during the opening window of the fishery, must come from the area around Kayak Island (Figure 1). The department is seeking to generate a maximum of \$15,000 from a herring test fishery at Kayak Island. Revenues generated from the herring test fishery will be used to supplement Area E herring stock assessment and management. The minimum bid amount the department will consider is \$100/ton. The department will accept bids for up to 50 tons of herring/lot for an overall maximum harvest of 150 tons. Interested parties can bid on multiple lots. **Quotes will be accepted until 12:00 p.m., Friday, March 10, 2023.** The harvest of herring under this contract will be conducted during the period, March 25, 2023 – April 20, 2023. The vessel/s used to harvest may be required to assist the department in assessing the distribution of the herring biomass on Kayak Island to determine where the largest concentrations are located. ADF&G Staff will coordinate with awarded bidders on how to obtain biomass samples from completed sets in order to complete the necessary data collection required from the Kayak Island test fishery.

The State of Alaska will be paid at the base price for any overages of herring above the original quote amount up to 20%. The State will be paid two times the base price of the original quote on any herring that exceed 20% of the original bid incurred during the fishery (base price is a maximum \$5,000/lot divided by tons herring quoted for that lot).

Quotations will only be accepted from a current CFEC permit holder in the Prince William Sound Herring Sac Roe Purse Seine Fishery. Interested bidders must have prior experience fishing in the Prince William Sound Area and must supply a fishing vessel equipped with a refrigerated sea water system and a minimum fish hold capacity of 25 tons. In addition, successful bidders will be responsible for their own supplies including food, fuel, and net.

ADF&G, Commercial Fisheries staff in Cordova will coordinate management and supervision of this program. **RFQ bid forms are available from the Cordova, ADF&G office upon request.**

Additional updates on the status of the PWS herring population including any potential management actions will be announced when new information becomes available.

Figure 1.—Kayak Island area map.

