

PROPOSAL 100

5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.

Amend formula used to calculate guideline harvest levels for the commercial herring sac roe fishery in Sections 11-A, 15-B, and 15-C, as follows:

I would like to have the following wording included in 5 AAC 27.160 –

The guideline harvest level for the herring sac roe fishery in Section 11-A, 15-B and 15-C shall be established by the department and will be a harvest rate percentage that is not less than 5 percent, not more than 10 percent, and within that range shall be determined by the following formula:

Harvest Rate Percentage = 2 + 8 (Spawning Biomass (in tons) /20,000)

The fishery will not be conducted if the spawning biomass is less than 20,000 tons.

After ten consecutive years of conducting a successful fishery without harming the stocks, the harvest rate percentage can be increased to not less than 10 percent, not more than 20 percent, and within that range shall be determined by the following formula:

Harvest Rate Percentage = 2 + 8 (Spawning Biomass (in tons) /20,000)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The herring stocks in the Juneau area, 11-A, 15-B and 15-C, have not recovered since the last commercial fishery 35 years ago. I do not believe this fish stock can withstand a commercial fishery and have submitted a proposal to close this fishery.

Should the Board not agree with closing the fishery I would like to see the Board adopt a cautious approach to the fishery. The solution I propose is to adapted a regulation similar to the Sitka management regulation, which seems to be successful. It is my intent that if there is a fishery in the future that the harvest rate would be half of what the Sitka fishery allows for the first ten year. After that it could increase if the stocks are still doing good. I do not want to see this stock fail again.

PROPOSED BY: Rollin Young

(EF-F17-073)
