The 1981 Bristol Bay herring and herring roe-on-kelp fishery will be managed within the following guidelines:

1. a minimum threshold level of biomass for conservation of the stocks will be maintained;

2. differing harvest rates for older and younger age class herring will be used;

3. the commercial harvest will not start until the start of spawning, thus insuring the opportunity for the highest roe recovery; and

4. the harvest management should minimize wastage of the resource.

The Board of Fisheries therefore directs the staff of the Department to take the following actions given the specified circumstances:

1. when the total observed biomass of early season older age class herring exceeds 20,000 metric tons, the season will open and the harvest rate will be 10% of the observed biomass; the harvest rate may be allowed to increase to 20% if the observed biomass exceeds 40,000 metric tons and sufficient spawning has occurred;

2. when the total observed biomass of later season younger age class herring exceeds 20,000 metric tons, a harvest rate of no more than 10% will be allowed; and

3. the number of openings allowed in the herring roe-on-kelp fishery will be based on the fishing time in the herring fishery.

ADOPTED: Anchorage, Alaska
December 13, 1980

VOTE:

Nicholas G. Szabo
Chairman