

**PROPOSAL 280**

**5 AAC 27.865. Bristol Bay Herring Management Plan.**

Extend Bristol Bay Herring Management Plan sunset dates one year, as follows:

5 AAC 27.865 (b) is amended to read:

....

(5) after the herring spawn-on-kelp harvest and the Dutch Harbor food and bait fishery have been subtracted, the remaining harvestable surplus is allocated to the Togiak District herring fishery; the department shall manage for a removal of 30 percent of that surplus by the gillnet fleet and 70 percent by the purse seine fleet, except that the allocations in this subsection shall be 20 percent by the gillnet fleet and 80 percent by purse seine fleet through December 31, 2022[2021];

....

(8) through December 31, 2022[2021], if the department's inseason projection of the Togiak District gillnet harvest is less than the guideline harvest level, the commissioner may reallocate 50 percent of the remaining gillnet guideline harvest level to the Togiak District purse seine fleet.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 2018, the Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) adopted Proposal 46 increasing the allocation of harvestable surplus Togiak sac roe herring to the purse seine fleet (80 percent of harvestable surplus) and reducing the gillnet fleet allocation (20 percent of harvestable surplus). In addition, the proposal allowed up to 50 percent of the unharvested gillnet fishery allocation to be reallocated to the purse seine fleet. This was done to provide more opportunity to utilize the annual herring guideline harvest level. Proposal 46 included a sunset date of December 31, 2021. The COVID-19 global pandemic shifted the normal Bristol Bay finfish board meeting schedule to December 2022. Therefore, these provisions will expire prior to the regular board meeting. In adopting the sunset provisions, the board intended to revisit them during the regularly scheduled meeting. This ACR is submitted to provide the board an opportunity to evaluate these sunset provisions at the next in cycle Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, as originally intended.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game. *(formerly known as ACR #4)*

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