

PROPOSAL 102

5 AAC 27.XXX. New section.

Allow commercial fishery permit holders to harvest herring for the own use as bait, as follows:

5 AAC 27.XXX. Harvest of bait by permit holders in Prince William Sound District. The holder of a valid Prince William Sound Herring permit may take but may not sell herring for use as bait.

- (1) herring may be taken at any time;**
- (2) herring may be taken by any gear specified in 5 AAC 39.105;**
- (3) in the 72 hours before and 72 hours after an open commercial herring sac roe fishing period in the Prince William Sound Area, a vessel, crewmember, or permit holder that participates in that commercial herring sac roe fishing period may not take herring under this section in any district in the Prince William Sound Area;**
- (4) a person or vessel may not take more than one ton of herring in a calendar year.**
- (5) any herring that is harvested under 5 AAC.27.XXX will be deducted from the Prince William Sound food and bait fishery allocation under 5 AAC 27.365**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There is a consistent challenge and issue that there is a lack of bait access in Area E. Adopting this regulation would give the department a tool to allow a small harvest of bait in Area E if we are below the 22,000 ton threshold to execute a fall food and bait fishery. There are similar regulations in other areas that allow for 1 ton of bait to be harvested by permit holders.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

PROPOSED BY: Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU) (EF-F24-118)
