PROPOSAL 316

5 AAC 27.510. Fishing seasons and periods for Kodiak Area; 5 AAC 27.525. Seine specifications and operations for Kodiak Area and 5 AAC 27.535. Harvest strategies for Kodiak Area.

Modify herring purse seine gear, fishing seasons and periods, and herring sac roe harvest strategy to increase commercial herring harvest as follows:

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- (a) Unless otherwise provided for by emergency order, herring may be taken [DURING THE SAC ROE SEASON] from April 1 through **January 31** [JUNE 30], as follows:
 - (1) in the "A" season from April 1 through January 31;
 - (2) in the "B" season from December 1 through January 31;
 - (3) fishing periods for purse seines are from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.;
- (4) [(2)] from April 2 through June 30, the fishing periods for gillnets are from 12:00 noon on even-numbered days until 12:00 noon on odd-numbered days;
 - (5) [(3)] repealed 4/9/2005;
- (6) [(4)] after April 30, a CFEC permit holder must register with the department before participating in the sac roe herring fishery.
- (b) Herring may be taken during the food and bait season from <u>October 26</u> [SEPTEMBER 1] through <u>November 30</u> [FEBRUARY 28] only during fishing periods established by emergency order. A CFEC permit holder must register with the department before participating in the food and bait fishery.

5 AAC 27.525. Seine specifications and operations for Kodiak Area.

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(c) From August 1 through <u>January 31</u> [FEBRUARY 28], a purse seine may not be more than 1,625 meshes in depth, including meshes used as chafing gear, or more than 150 fathoms in length.

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- (f) The "B" season shall begin on December 1 with a GHL of 1,000 tons, unless the department assesses the combined Kodiak Herring Season GHL to be less than 2,500 tons, in which case, "A" and "B" season will be evenly split.
- (g) Any unharvested GHL from the "A" season shall be rolled into the "B" season, unless the department determines the available biomass assessed in the A season is not large enough to support an exploitation of at least 10%.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The board created this proposal during their meeting in Ketchikan on southeast Alaska finfish and shellfish issues. The board referred to RC25 and RC67 from that meeting which can be found at https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo&date=01-28-2025&meeting=ketchikan