

SUMMITTED BY: Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation

December 5, 2015

PROPOSAL 89 AND 90 Suggested language

5 AAC 27.865. Bristol Bay Herring Management Plan

(a) When managing the Bristol Bay commercial herring fishery, the primary objectives of the department will be to prosecute an orderly and manageable fishery, while striving for the highest level of product value [QUALITY] with a minimum of waste.

(7) The maximum exploitation rate for the Bristol Bay herring stock is 20 percent. Before opening the [SAC ROE] **Togiak District herring** fishery **for sac roe and/or other products**, the department shall set aside approximately 1,500 short tons for the Togiak District herring spawn-on-kelp fishery, and seven percent of the remaining available harvest for the Dutch Harbor food and bait fishery. If the actual harvest is less than the spawn-on-kelp guideline harvest level, the commissioner may reallocate 50 percent of the remainder to the Togiak District herring [SAC ROE] fishery.

(8) After the spawn-on-kelp harvest and the Dutch Harbor food and bait fishery have been subtracted, the remaining harvestable surplus is allocated to the [SAC ROE] **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. [TO MAINTAIN THOSE PERCENTAGES INSEASON, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO FISHING PERIODS AND FISHING AREAS BY EMERGENCY ORDER. AFTER THE GILLNET FLEET AND PURSE SEINE FLEET HAVE HARVESTED AT LEAST 50 PERCENT OF EACH GEAR'S GROUP ALLOCATION, THE COMMISSIONER MAY ALLOW EITHER FLEET TO HARVEST ITS REMAINING ALLOCATION WITHOUT FURTHER RESTRICTIONS.

(9) If a manageable separation of the year classes occurs, an exploitation rate of up to 20 percent may be allowed on the younger age herring (four years or less), and no fishery may be considered if this recruit population is less than 20,000 short tons.

(10) Late season (post-peak) [SAC ROE] **herring fishery** openings must be based on one or more of the following criteria:

(A) a definable increase in the biomass of herring present on the fishing grounds; **and**

(B) a major shift in the age composition of the herring in a definable biomass that is large enough to allow a harvest.[]; AND (C) A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE ROE MATURITY OF FISH SAMPLED OVER A BROAD AREA, INDICATING THE ARRIVAL OF A QUANTITY OF NEW HERRING].