

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

BRISTOL BAY HERRING MANAGEMENT PLAN

See also #79-49-FB,
#80-80-FB,
#80-68-FB,
#79-59-FB

The Bristol Bay herring fishery is still rapidly developing. Harvest trends by gear type are not well established between seine and gillnet gear. Run timing, distribution, and magnitude cannot be predicated upon past data for this new fishery and most forms of in-season or pre-season regulation to achieve any predetermined catch allocation between the gear types are not feasible.

It is the Board's feeling that resource size, relative gear numbers, and the efficiency of the two gear types will insure that all users will have ample opportunity to satisfy their economic requirements. Nevertheless, it is desirable to try to insure that neither gear group is totally disadvantaged. The Board therefore directs the staff to take the following actions given the specified circumstances.

When the total reported harvest reaches 20,000 metric tons, the Department will determine the reported tonnage for gillnet and seine (purse and hand purse) gear. If the harvest for either gear type has not reached 6,000 metric tons, the fishery on the gear with the higher reported catch shall be closed for 24 hours.

It is the intent of the Board that no guaranteed minimum quota for any gear type is implied in this policy.

ADOPTED: Anchorage, Alaska
December 14, 1979

VOTE: 5/0 (Gordon Jensen, Herman Schroeder absent)