

PROPOSAL 100

5 AAC 27.XXX New Section.

Adopt a Kayak Island District herring management plan, as follows:

5 AAC 27.XXX. Harvest strategies for the Kayak Island District. (a) this district does not have a history of commercial herring harvest and may be opened to fishing on an exploratory basis with no specified guideline harvest level; Prince William Sound Area herring fisheries CFEC permit holders may participate in this exploratory district using the gear standard specified on their permits; the district listed as exploratory under this paragraph may be opened or closed, based on inseason information such as observed stock abundance, harvest levels, and changes in fish behavior or harvest patterns, including such changes in the adjacent Prince William Sound District;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? CDFU and ADFG collaborated to develop language for an exploratory herring fishery near Kayak Island. There is a biomass of herring that has been spawning near Kayak Island which has no historical harvest, but operates within the Area E region. We are unsure how a fishery would operate in this area. A good first step is language that defines that existing Area E herring permit holders are allowed to harvest these herring if the department decides to open the exploratory fishery. Breaking Kayak Island out of the existing management plan allows the department to execute a fishery.

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

PROPOSED BY: Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU)

(EF-F24-117)
