

**PROPOSAL 127 - 5 AAC 27.185. Management plan for herring spawn on kelp in pounds fisheries in Sections 3-B, 12-A, and 13-C, and District 7.** Reduce kelp allocations in the commercial herring spawn on kelp fishery to no more than 1,000 blades per permit holder, as follows:

The kelp allocation in any area in southeast Alaska shall not exceed 1,000 blades per permit holder, whether single or multiple permit pens.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In all southeast spawn on kelp fisheries, the kelp allocation for a permit holder shall not exceed 1,000 blades, whether it is a multiple or single pen. The kelp market is a finite market of around 1,000 tons of product per year. In years of large abundance the market crashes, resulting in very low prices, i.e. \$2.00 per lb. This has happened several times, each time taking several years to recover. Also I believe that the large kelp allocations in Hoonah Sound had a direct impact in the collapse of the stock, due to too many fish in the pens, over fishing.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert (EF-C14-025)

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**PROPOSAL 128 - 5 AAC 27.185. Management plan for herring spawn on kelp in pounds fisheries in Sections 3-B, 12-A, and 13-C, and District 7.** Modify herring spawn on kelp pound configurations, as follows:

5 AAC 27.185(cc) Two closed pounds as specified in 5 AAC 27.130(c) may be combined into one single closed pound structure and operated by multiple permit holders. The combined pound may have a maximum surface area of 800 square feet with a maximum depth level of 30 feet. The middle web cannot be removed, it can be weighed down. The kelp allocations per permit holder and other provisions specified in this section also apply to the combined pounds; however permit holders may transfer additional herring into the combined single closed pound structure after the two closed pounds are connected and combined into a single structure. A Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permit holder who intends to operate a combined pound must register with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game before placing the pound in the water. This pound structure may not be connected to any other pound structure.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 5 AAC 27.185(cc) delete the words (only when kelp is at the maximum allocation) and add a sentence saying (the web in the middle cannot be removed, it can be weighed down with a weight.) We have been doing this for the last two years and it works well. The fish just slowly move back and forth over the middle web which is held down about one foot with a weight.

**PROPOSED BY:** Mike Svenson (HQ-F14-004)

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**PROPOSAL 129 - 5 AAC 27.185. Management plan for herring spawn on kelp in pounds fisheries in Sections 3-B, 12-A, and 13-C, and District 7.** Allow permit holders to retain herring in a closed pound for seven days, as follows:

Herring shall be released from the pounds by noon on the seventh day.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to change the release day of herring in the pound fishery to noon, 12:00 p.m., on the seventh day. The release time of midnight on the sixth day causes undue hardship plus it makes the actual time of fish in the pens to less than six days. It makes it more difficult for harvest and gives the chance of sea lions to enter pens and ruin product. We are small businessmen and a family fishery, and to maximize the product we have to stay at the pens until midnight and then guard them until daylight when it is safer to harvest.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry Demmert

(EF-C14-092)

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