

No Foreign Herring Processing

The Alaska Board of Fisheries has reversed an earlier decision to approve foreign processing for gillnet herring harvests in Bristol Bay this year. The proposal was approved in December 1980, but was brought up for reconsideration at a meeting January 20, 1981, in Juneau, where it failed on a 3-4 vote.

The Board initially accepted the proposal out of concern for waste and processing difficulties

encountered by Bristol Bay gillnetters during the 1980 roe fishery. New evidence received at the meeting this week indicated firm plans in 1981 by major Bristol Bay processors to provide markets for gillnet caught herring. The Board concluded that domestic processing capability for the 1981 season would probably be sufficient to handle the harvest and avoid repetition of problems encountered in 1980.