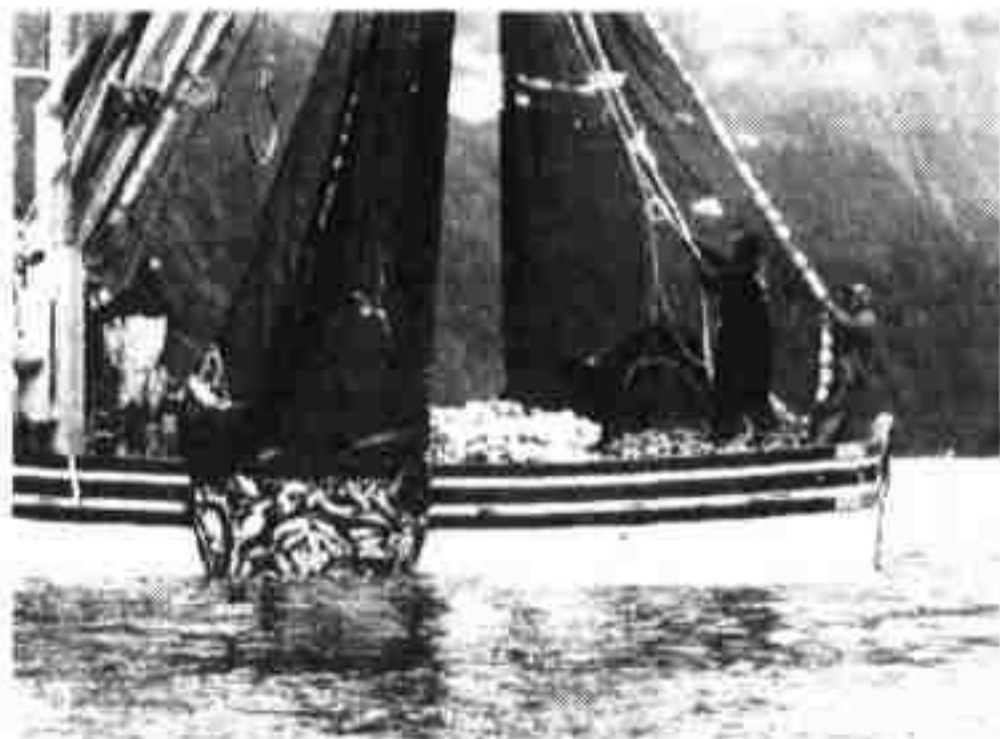


RECORD CATCH



The 1990 fishing season in Prince William Sound has been excellent.

The pink salmon catch has broken all records. More than 43 million pinks, the mainstay of the Sound's fishing industry, have been caught so far this year. This catch is nearly 50 percent higher than the old record of 29.2 million. And these are the

juvenile fish that left their Prince William Sound spawning streams and hatcheries in the Spring of 1989 while the Valdez oil spill was at its height.

The sac roe herring harvest, the largest of the Sound's herring fisheries, was 38 percent higher than forecast. The catch totaled more than 8,800 tons. The purse seine fleet caught 8,300 tons in only 20 minutes -- the highest catch rate ever recorded in Prince William Sound.

We congratulate the men and women of the fishing industry in Prince William Sound on their efforts and these results. We are encouraged by this fine harvest as the cleanup nears the end of its second year. There have been no reports of finfish kills, no tainting of edible finfish tissues, and no known effects of the oil spill on the fishing catch. In most cases, hydrocarbons measured in the waters of the Sound have been at least one-thousand-fold lower than concentrations that would be harmful to fish.



In summary, the impact on fish has been negligible with catches even better than expected. Exxon's scientists will continue to monitor progress in the Sound -- and expectations are that the results will continue to be good.

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