

# ADF&G predicts low salmon return

Preliminary projections for 1987 salmon returns call for a commercial harvest of about 94 million salmon, compared to a 1986 harvest of about 129 million salmon, according to the December *Fish & Game Bulletin* of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

As in 1986, pink salmon should make up the bulk of the 1987 harvest, with an anticipated harvest of 54 million fish.

The sockeye salmon catch should be about 21 million fish, followed by chum salmon at 12 million fish, coho at 5 million fish and 500,000 chinook salmon.

In addition, Division of Commercial Fisheries biologists are expecting the 1987 herring sac-roë harvest to be in the range of 33,000 to 37,000 short tons.

This is less than the approximately 49,000 short tons harvested in 1986.

As with last year, the Togiak harvest will be the largest in the state and is expected to be about 12,220 tons.

The Sitka Sound harvest should be about 3,600 tons, Prince William Sound about 4,200 tons, Lower Cook Inlet about 3,900 tons and Norton Sound about 4,000 tons.