Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: March 20, 2020 CONTACT: Bo Meredith Ketchikan Area Management Biologist (907) 225-5195

2020 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 2

Ketchikan . . . An aerial survey was conducted today in the Craig Area. Weather was sunny with clear skies and calm winds.

Herring were observed on the beach on the western shore of Wadleigh Island and schools of herring were observed near Fish Egg Island and the Ballena Islands. No herring spawn was observed during the survey. Predator activity has increased, with whales and sea lions observed near Abbess, Fish Egg, Ballena, and Alberto islands.

There were approximately 70 pound structures on the grounds adjacent to the western shore of Wadleigh Island. Due to the increase in activity, fishermen are encouraged to mobilize quickly.

The Ketchikan ADF&G office will remain open and staffed at this time. Due to the safety measures being implemented by the building operator, the building is to remain locked. Please call the front office at (907) 225-5195 to inform staff of your arrival. Fishermen registering for the *Macrocystis* kelp harvest permit are encouraged to call prior to visiting an ADF&G office to help expedite the permitting process.

The next scheduled aerial survey is planned for Monday, March 23.

2020 Ketchikan Herring Summary

Craig	
March 19	Limited predator activity in the Craig Area.
March 20	Herring on beach and schools observed. Increased predator activity.

Advisory Announcement web site: <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</u>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
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