Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Ketchikan Area Office 2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite 205 Ketchikan, AK 99901



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

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: March 23, 2020 CONTACT: Bo Meredith Ketchikan Area Management Biologist (907) 225-5195

## 2020 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 3

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

Schools of herring were observed on the beach on the southwest side of Fish Egg Island. No herring spawn was observed during the survey. Predator activity has remained stable, with the biggest concentration of predators on the south side of Fish Egg Island extending over to the Ballena Islands. An additional 50 sea lions were observed on the south end of Abbess Island.

There are approximately 70 pound structures on the grounds. No herring have been introduced to pounds.

The Ketchikan and Craig ADF&G offices will remain open and staffed at this time. Due to the safety measures implemented by the building operator, the Ketchikan ADF&G 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. ADF&G staff are available on the grounds for assistance and can be reached on marine VHF channel 16 or 10.

In the event that local ADF&G offices are closed, personnel can be reached at the following email addresses:

Bo Meredith	Area Management Biologist	bo.meredith@alaska.gov		
Justin Breese	Assistant Area Management Biologist	justin.breese@alaska.gov		
Whitney Crittenden	Assistant Area Management Biologist	whitney.crittenden@alaska.gov		
Kim Vicchy	Administrative Supervisor	kim.vicchy@alaska.gov		
Melissa Kleeman	Technician IV	melissa.kleeman@alaska.gov		
Rhonda Ren-Kingery	Craig Program Technician	rhonda.ren-kingery@alaska.gov		

## The next scheduled aerial survey is planned for Wednesday, March 25.

2020 Ketchikan Herring Summary

Craig	
March 19, 2020	Limited predator activity in the Craig Area.
March 20, 2020	Increased predator activity and schools of herring observed in Craig Area.
March 23, 2020	Schools of herring along beach on SW Fish Egg Island. 70 pound structures.

## 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
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220