



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: April 4, 2020

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2020 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 9

Ketchikan . . . Aerial surveys were conducted today of West Behm Canal and the Craig area. Weather was sunny with clear skies and light winds.

Craig

During today's aerial survey, 1.2 nautical miles (nmi) of active spawn was observed on the west side of Wadleigh Island and the Alberto Islands. Predator activity continues around Fish Egg, Wadleigh, Abbess, and the Alberto islands. Herring continue to move throughout the pounding area and fisherman are actively filling pounds. There are approximately 75 pound structures on the grounds and all have had herring introduced. The cumulative spawn to date is 1.3 nmi.

2020 Craig/Klawock Herring Summary

March 19, 2020	Limited predator activity.
March 20, 2020	Increased predator activity and schools of herring observed near beach on SW Fish Egg Island.
March 23, 2020	Schools of herring along beach on SW Fish Egg Island. ~70 pound structures.
March 25, 2020	Spot spawn observed near Port Bagial south of Craig.
March 26, 2020	No spawn. Significant predator activity south Fish Egg Is to Port Bagial. ~77 pound structures.
March 30, 2020	No spawn. Large schools of herring near Ballena Island. 6 pounds filled.
April 1, 2020	No spawn. Fisherman actively filling pounds. ~ 25 pounds filled.
April 3, 2020	0.5 nmi of spawn observed on Wadleigh Island. ~ 75 pounds filled.
April 4, 2020	1.2 nmi of spawn observed on Wadleigh and Alberto islands.

Revilla Channel

Herring spawn was observed in Revilla Channel from March 28 to April 2, 2020. The cumulative spawn was 11.3 nmi. With no active spawn or herring schools observed on April 3, the department will cease aerial surveys for the Revilla Channel area and may conduct spawn deposition surveys later next week.

West Behm Canal

Aerial surveys for the West Behm Canal area were conducted on April 3 and April 4. Approximately 1.3 nmi of active spawn was documented on April 3 dispersed along the shoreline from Point Higgins south to Danger Island. On April 4, a spot spawn was observed near Mud Bay.

2020 West Behm Herring Summary

April 3, 2020	1.3 nmi of spawn observed from Point Higgins south to Danger Island.
April 4, 2020	Spot spawn observed near Mud Bay.

The Ketchikan and Craig ADF&G offices will remain open. 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 for Ketchikan 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 Sunday, April 5. The next fishery update will be Monday, April 6.

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 11, and 12, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>

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

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220