

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

Headquarters Office
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526



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

PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

CONTACT: James Jackson, Area Biologist
Geoff Spalinger, Asst. Area Biologist
Todd Anderson, Asst. Area Biologist
Brad Fuerst, Fishery Biologist
(907) 486-1830

Released: 11:30 a.m. April 14, 2020

KODIAK COMMERCIAL HERRING SAC ROE FISHERY ADVISORY ANNOUNCEMENT #16 For Emergency Order #4-FH-K-16-20

The **Combined Paramanof Bay and Foul Bay sections (WA31 and 32)** of the **West Afognak District** will **open** to commercial herring fishing at **noon Wednesday, April 15** and follow fishing periods as described in regulation. The Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) for the **Combined Paramanof Bay and Foul Bay sections (WA31 and 32)** **will be increased** from 20 tons to **150 tons**.

The **Raspberry Strait Section (WA10)** of the **West Afognak District** will **open** to commercial herring fishing at **noon Wednesday, April 15** and follow fishing periods as described in regulation. The Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) for the **Raspberry Strait Section (WA10)** of the **West Afognak District** **will be increased** from 10 tons to **150 tons**.

As Previously Announced:

The *R/V K-Hi-C* will now be conducting surveys in the **combined Village Islands/Uganik sections (UG30,32,33, and 34)**. If test fishing detects fishable quantities of quality fish, commercial fishing may begin as early as **4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14**. Herring fishermen interested conducting test sets should contact the *R/V K-Hi-C* on the fishing grounds (VHF channel 6 or Sat dispatch 7412).

The following areas are **closed** for the remainder of the 2020 Kodiak herring sac roe season:

- (EA21) Three Saints Bay;
- (EA22) Newman Bay;
- (EA24) Barling Bay;
- (EA31) Tanginak Anchorage;
- (EA43) Outer Kiliuda Bay;
- (AL60) Geese-Twoheaded;
- (NE10) Womens Bay; and
- (EA20) SW Sitkalidak;
- (EA23) West Sitkalidak;
- (EA30) East Sitkalidak;
- (EA42) Shearwater Bay;
- (EA44) Inner Kiliuda Bay;
- (NE20) Kalsin Bay;
- (UG21) Terror Bay section.

All herring **permit holders**, buyers and tender operators participating are **required to register** with the ADF&G Kodiak office or with ADF&G personnel on the grounds prior to operations.

FISHING PERIODS:

PURSE SEINE: Fishing periods for purse seine gear will be noon to 9:00 p.m. on odd-numbered days and 9:00 a.m. to noon on even-numbered days. **GILLNET:** Gillnet fishing periods will be noon on even-numbered days to noon on odd-numbered days starting April 2.

OPEN AREAS AND GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVELS:

<u>Afognak Districts:</u> (SA10,20,30) Kitoi/Izhut/ MacDonalds Lagoon (NA50) Tonki	<u>GHL</u> 65 30	<u>Uganik District:</u> (UG31) West Uganik Passage	<u>GHL</u> 30	<u>Alitak District:</u> (AL21,22) Inner and Outer Deadman bays	<u>GHL</u> 50
<u>Inner Marmot District</u> (IM40) Kizhuyak Bay	30	<u>Eastside District:</u> (EA50) Outer Ugak Bay (EA51) Inner Ugak Bay	150 50	<u>Uyak District:</u> (UY30,32) Inner Uyak/ Browns Lagoon	30

EMERGENCY ORDER (EO) AREAS

These sections will be actively managed for roe quality and size of herring by the ADF&G management biologist aboard the R/V *K-Hi-C* or R/V *Resolution*. There will be at least 24-hour notice prior to any potential fishing period. ADF&G will attempt to target approximately 140 gram or larger herring with approximately 11% roe recovery on the grounds. Permit holders wishing to fish in these sections are urged to contact the management biologist to volunteer for test fishing and discuss how the fishery will be managed. Purse seine permit holders will be given the first opportunity to fish after permit holders have detected harvestable quantities of quality fish.

<u>Afognak Districts:</u> (SA40) Danger Bay	<u>GHL</u> 150	<u>Uganik District:</u> (UG30, 32,33,34) Village Is., NE Arm, E Arm, and S Arm Uganik Bay	<u>GHL</u> 150
--	-------------------	--	-------------------

The following areas are temporarily on **stand down**. The following areas may reopen to commercial sac roe herring fishing when department staff are available to assess the herring biomass and risk of overharvest:

<u>Afognak Districts:</u> (WA20) Malina Bay (NA30) Perenosa Bay	<u>GHL</u> 10 10	<u>Uganik District:</u> (UG20) Viekoda Bay	<u>GHL</u> 15	<u>Alitak District:</u> (AL20) Inner Alitak (AL30) Sulua Bay (AL40) Lower Olga-Moser (AL41) East Upper Olga (AL50) West Upper Olga	<u>GHL</u> 25 25 25 25 25
		<u>Uyak District:</u> (U40) Zachar Bay (UY50) Spiridon Bay	10 20		

The following exploratory areas are temporarily on **stand down**: The following exploratory areas may reopen to commercial sac roe herring fishing when department staff are available to assess the herring biomass and risk of overharvest:

<u>Afognak Districts:</u> (NA20) Delphin Bay (WA40) Bluefox Bay	<u>Mainland Districts:</u> (NM20) Inner Kukak Bay (MM10) Inner Katmai Bay (MM30) Alinchak Bay (MM40) Puale Bay (MM50) Portage Bay (SM10) Wide Bay	<u>Eastside District:</u> (EA10) Kaiugnak Bay
---	---	--

GHLs and maps of open sections are available at the Kodiak office and in the herring sac roe fishery harvest strategy for the 2020 season. Fishermen are urged to check with their market and test their catch prior to landing herring. Determining if size or roe quality meets processor standards is the responsibility of fishermen and industry. It is anticipated that many small and green fish will be present on the grounds during the initial open fishing periods. Recent fishery information may be obtained by calling the Department's message phone at 486-4559.

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>.