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Togiak Herring

Announcement 3

Emergency Orders 1 and 2

"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/."

This is the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Dillingham with an update regarding the Togiak herring fishery.

Department staff flew a survey of the Togiak herring district today, May 3. Survey conditions were excellent in much of the district, with cloudless skies, clear water, and no wind. The eastern section of the district along Cape Constantine and offshore in front of Kulukak Bay to Right Hand Point was covered with ice. Staff observed herring in small schools in several places throughout the district. Spawn was also observed in Metervik Bay, in a small bay between Right Hand Point and Nunavachak Bay, near the mouth of the river in Ungalikthluk Bay, in Rocky Bay and on the west side of Anchor Point. These all appeared to be small spawning events and there was only a small amount of herring documented in these areas. There were a few schools of herring coming in along the west side of Togiak Bay and a few schools of herring west of Togiak Bay. A large amount of herring biomass was observed outside of Hagemeister Spit. These fish appeared to be moving in towards Hagemeister Straights and are estimated at 40,000 tons.

The Togiak Herring fishery will open to the harvest of herring with purse seine gear at 3:00 p.m. May 3, until further notice, in the area from Togiak Reef at 160° 30.10' west longitude to the longitude of Cape Newenham at 162° 10.50' west longitude and from Right Hand Point at 159° 55.00' north longitude to the longitude of Anchor Point at 160° 19.70' west longitude. The area within .5 nautical miles of Summit Island is closed; Metervik and Ungalikthluk Bays are closed by regulation.

The Egg Island Section will open to commercial fishing with gillnets at 3:00 p.m. May 3, until further notice.

Informational updates are available on our recorded message line at (907) 842-5226.

