
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE



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Date: April 12, 2012

Time: 2:00 p.m.

WEST BEHM CANAL HERRING SAC ROE FISHERY CANCELLED

Ketchikan. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the West Behm Canal purse seine herring sac roe fishery will not open for the 2012 season. The spawn event in West Behm Canal appears to be over for the year.

It is estimated that 7.3 nautical miles of spawn occurred in the West Behm Canal area. The majority of the herring spawned in the closed waters of Tongass Narrows and Clover Pass. At no time during the spawning event in West Behm Canal was there ever a large buildup of mature herring in the area open for commercial fishing. Samples taken during the spawning event showed an average herring size of 59 to 82 grams.

The department will conduct spawn deposition dive surveys over the next several days to determine the amount of mature herring spawning in the West Behm Canal area during the 2012 season. This information will help the department assess the size of the herring stock in the future.

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

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<i>ADFG</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	945-3620	784-3220
<i>Herring Hotline</i>	225-6870	772-3700		747-1009	465-8905			

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