

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
Sitka, AK 99835



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

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

Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: March 21, 2023

CONTACT: Aaron Dupuis
Sitka Area Management Biologist
aaron.dupuis@alaska.gov
(907) 747-6688

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 6

Today's aerial survey covered Sitka Sound from West Crawfish Inlet to St. Lazaria Island and as far north as Krestof Sound. Survey conditions were good with partly cloudy skies and light winds. Several large herring schools were visible in shallow water near Shoals Point. No herring spawn was observed today. Concentrations of humpback whales were seen in the deeper waters between Bieli Rock and Crow Pass, near Samsing Cove, and south of the Causeway. Concentration of sea lions were observed from Inner Point to Kamenoi Point. Additionally, several gray whales were seen between Biorka Island and Cape Edgumbe. No vessel survey was conducted today.

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery will be placed on 2-hour notice effective 8:00 a.m., Thursday, March 23, 2023. A 2-hour notice fishery meeting will be conducted via Zoom™ and is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. A Zoom™ account or app is not needed to attend this meeting. Participants can attend by clicking the below link or entering the meeting below link into a web browser and register for the meeting. After you register, an email will be sent containing information about joining the meeting either virtually or telephonically. To register in advance:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwucu-grj0sG90aTJbU_1dNJtwRJE6Ic1Tq

The *R/V Kestrel* plans to arrive in Sitka the morning of March 22 and will immediately conduct a vessel survey.

The next aerial survey and fishery update are scheduled for Wednesday, March 22.

All aerial herring survey data can be reviewed online, including spawn lines and photos, in an interactive map application found at: <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.herring#maps> or scan:



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

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