

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
**Sam Rabung, Director**

Ketchikan Area Office  
2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite 205  
Ketchikan, AK 99901



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

PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

## **Advisory Announcement**

***For Immediate Release: March 24, 2023***

**CONTACT: Bo Meredith**  
**Ketchikan Area Management Biologist**  
**[bo.meredith@alaska.gov](mailto:bo.meredith@alaska.gov)**  
**(907) 225-5195**

### **2023 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 1**

Aerial surveys have begun in the Ketchikan management area for the 2023 season. Aerial surveys were conducted on March 17, 21, and 24 in the Revilla Channel area and in the Craig area on March 17 and 24.

#### **Craig**

The weather on March 17 was poor with strong northerly winds and poor visibility. Only a partial survey was conducted around Wadleigh and Fish Egg Islands with very little predator activity observed in the area. The weather for the March 24 survey was high overcast, no wind, and excellent visibility. Predator activity has increased with approximately 150 sea lions counted on the western side of Fish Egg Island and 15 humpback whales observed in the greater Craig area with the largest concentration off the west side of Fish Egg Island. There are approximately 31 pound structures on the grounds. No herring have been introduced into pounds. The fishery opened for placement of herring into pounds at 12:00 noon on Friday, March 17.

#### **2023 Craig/Klawock Herring Summary**

March 17, 2023    Limited predator activity.  
March 24, 2023    Increased predator activity.

#### **Revilla Channel**

The aerial survey on March 17 included Mary, Cat, Dog, and Duke Islands. No predator activity was observed. The aerial survey on March 21 included Mary, Cat, Dog, and Duke Islands, and the mainland shoreline from Foggy Point to Kah Shakes Cove. No predators were observed in the area. The weather for the aerial survey on March 24 was clear skies and light winds, and the flight included Mary, Cat, Dog, and Duke Islands. No predators or herring schools were observed in the area.

#### **2023 Revilla Channel Herring Summary**

March 17, 2023    No predator activity.  
March 21, 2023    No predator activity.  
March 24, 2023    No predator activity.

The next scheduled aerial survey is planned for **Tuesday, March 28**. Fishery updates will be released after aerial surveys are completed for the day.

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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