



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: April 3, 2023

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2023 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 9

Craig

An aerial survey was conducted in the greater Craig area covering the Ballenas Islands to Abbess Island, San Christoval Channel to St Philip Island, the east side of San Fernando Island, and the north side of San Juan Bautista. The weather was good with light winds, broken cloud cover, and excellent visibility. Approximately 19.4 nautical miles (nmi) of active herring spawn was observed on the Alberto, Ballenas, Fish Egg, Clam, and Abbess Islands, Klawock Reef, the west side of Wadleigh Island, and a portion of the Prince of Wales Island shoreline from the Craig fuel dock extending northward (Figure 1). Predators were concentrated around the Alberto Islands and Abbess Island. Approximately 115 sea lions and five humpback whales were observed. The Craig/Klawock spawn event is progressing very rapidly. There are currently 54 pound structures on the grounds and the majority of the pounds have had herring introduced.

2023 Craig/Klawock Herring Summary

March 17, 2023	Limited predator activity.
March 24, 2023	Increased predator activity.
March 28, 2023	Moderate predator activity.
March 30, 2023	Moderate predator activity.
April 1, 2023	1.3 nmi spawn on Wadleigh Island.
April 2, 2023	11.2 nmi spawn on Klawock Reef, Fish Egg, Clam, Alberto, and Wadleigh Islands.
April 3, 2023	19.4 nmi spawn on Ballenas, Fish Egg, Clam, Alberto, and Wadleigh Islands and POW shoreline.

Revilla Channel

The 2023 cumulative herring spawn observed in state waters in Revilla Channel was 4.6 nmi.

West Behm Canal

2023 West Behm Canal Herring Aerial Summary

April 2, 2023	Limited predator activity.
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The next aerial survey is planned for **Tuesday, April 4**. 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:



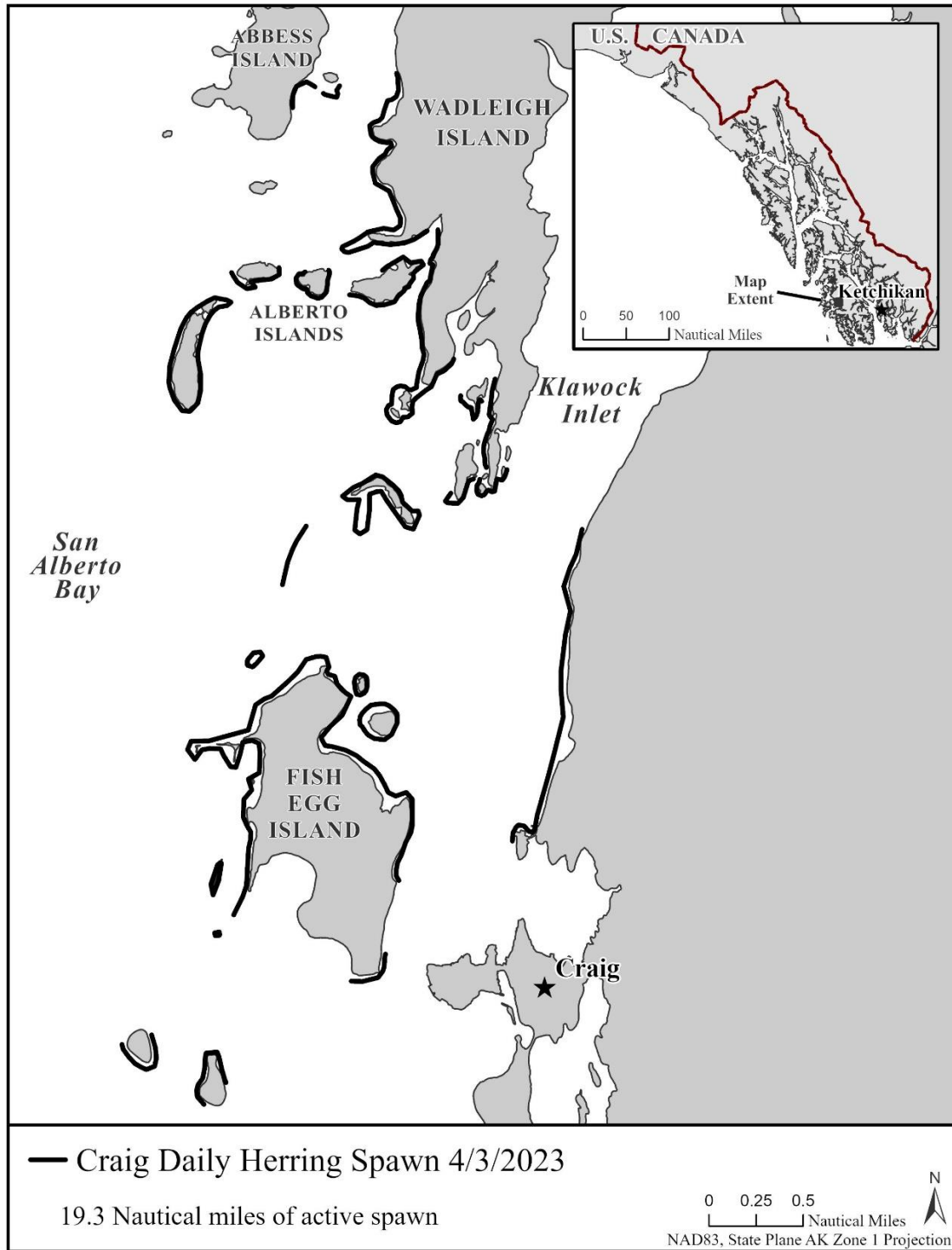


Figure 1. Active herring spawn in Craig for April 3, 2023.

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

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