



**Advisory Announcement**  
***For Immediate Release: March 24, 2024***

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

**2024 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 5**

**Craig**

Today's aerial survey covered the entire Craig area, from the Coronados Islands to St. Philip Island and the eastern shore of East San Fernando Island. The weather was excellent, with clear skies, calm winds, and excellent visibility. 12.1 nautical miles (nmi) of active spawn was observed around Fish Egg, Ballena, Balandra, and San Juan Bautista Islands, and the Prince of Wales Island shoreline from the Craig Cannery dock extending south around Cape Suspiro and into Port Bagial. Predator activity is concentrated around Fish Egg Island with scattered pods of sea lions around Klawock Reef, Clam Island, and Alberto Islands. Observations of humpback whales during aerial surveys have been reduced throughout the Craig area compared to recent years. Two whales were observed to the west of Clam Island and there continue to be whales near Blanquizal Point. There are approximately 50 pound structures on the grounds. Two pounds have had herring introduced.

Fisherman participating in the herring spawn-on-kelp pound fishery are encouraged to monitor the open pounding area for opportunity to introduce herring into their structures.

The fishery opened for placement of herring into pounds at 12:00 noon on Sunday, March 17, 2024. ADF&G personnel are on the grounds and will be monitoring the fishery daily throughout the spawning event and can be reached on VHF Channel 10 or 16.

**2024 Craig/Klawock Herring Summary**

March 19, 2024	Limited predator activity.
March 21, 2024	1.1 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg Island.
March 22, 2024	3.6 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg and Ballena Islands.
March 23, 2024	9.0 nmi of spawn on the POW shoreline, Ballena, and Fish Egg Islands.
March 24, 2024	12.1 nmi of spawn on POW, Ballena, Balandra, Fish Egg, and San Juan Bautista Islands.

**Revilla Channel**

The cumulative herring spawn observed in state waters in Revilla Channel is 8.6 nmi. This will be updated and finalized later this week. The *R/V Kestrel* may conduct a herring spawn deposition dive survey for the Revilla stock if time and schedule allows.

**2024 Revilla Channel Herring Summary**

March 16, 2024	Spot spawn on the northwest side of Double Island.
March 17, 2024	Approx. 1.0 nmi of spawn on Cat and Double Islands.
March 18, 2024	3.5 nmi of spawn on Cat, Dog, Double, and Village Islands.
March 19, 2024	5.8 nmi of spawn on Cat, Dog, Double, and Village Islands.
March 20, 2024	5.2 nmi of spawn on Cat, Dog, Fripo, and Village Islands.
March 21, 2024	2.7 nmi of spawn on Cat, Dog, Duke, and Fripo Islands.
March 22, 2024	1.5 nmi of spawn on Dog Island.

March 23, 2024 0.3 nmi of spawn on Duke Island.

### West Behm Canal

Industry pilots confirmed continued spawn in West Behm Canal today. Active spawn was observed in Wadding and Raymond Cove with lighter spawn extending north towards Point Francis on the Cleveland Peninsula shoreline. There continued to be light spawn near Indian Point that extended south towards Naha Bay. There was also an additional spot spawn near Whipple Creek in Tongass Narrows.

The next scheduled aerial survey for Craig is planned for **Monday, March 25**. Fishery updates will be released after aerial surveys are completed for the day. **Monday, March 25, is a state holiday and state offices will be closed.**

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:

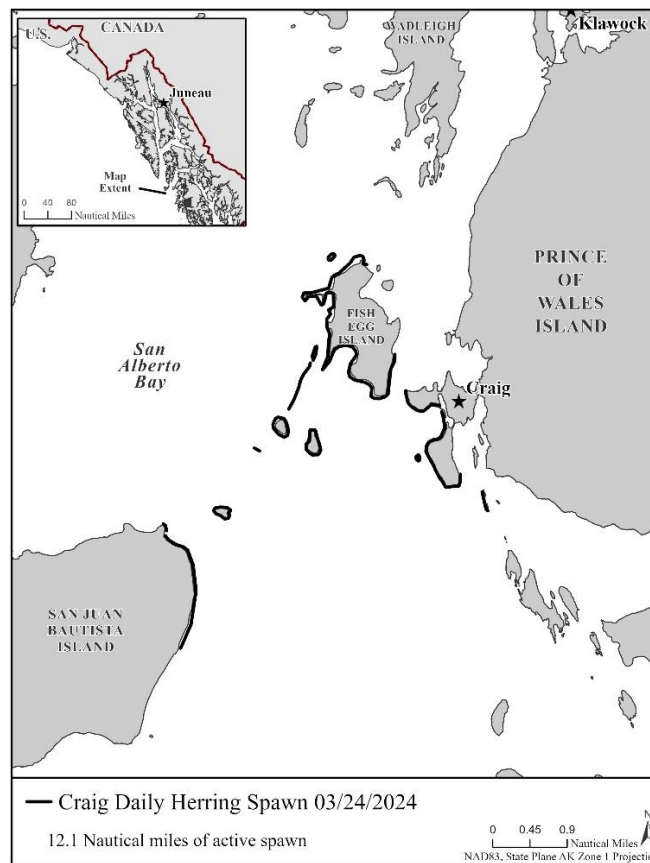


Figure 1. Active herring spawn in Craig for March 24, 2024.

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

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