



**Advisory Announcement**  
***For Immediate Release: March 25, 2024***

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**2024 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 6**

**Craig**

Today's aerial survey covered the entire Craig area, from the Coronados Islands to St. Philip Island, the eastern shore of East San Fernando, and San Juan Bautista Islands. The weather was overcast, with calm winds, and good visibility. 10.1 nautical miles (nmi; Figure 1) of active herring spawn was observed around the Coronados, Fish Egg, and San Juan Bautista Islands, and the Prince of Wales Island shoreline from Craig's south boat harbor entrance extending south around Cape Suspiro and throughout Port Bagial. Predator activity is concentrated on the north side of Fish Egg Island and Cape Suspiro with scattered pods of sea lions around Klawock Reef, the Alberto Islands, and the north side of Abess Island. Observations of humpback whales during aerial surveys have been reduced throughout the Craig area compared to recent years. Two whales were observed near Wadleigh Rock, one on the west side of Fish Egg Island, and several others dispersed throughout San Alberto Bay. The current cumulative spawn in the Craig/Klawock area is 17.2 nmi. There are currently 48 active pound structures on the grounds and approximately 15 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.
March 25, 2024	10.1 nmi of spawn on POW, Coronados, 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* is scheduled to conduct a herring spawn deposition dive survey for the Revilla stock Thursday, April 4, 2024.

**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

There were no new reports in West Behm Canal today.

Industry pilots confirmed a second consecutive day of spawn in West Behm Canal on Sunday, March 24. 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 **Tuesday, March 26**. 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:

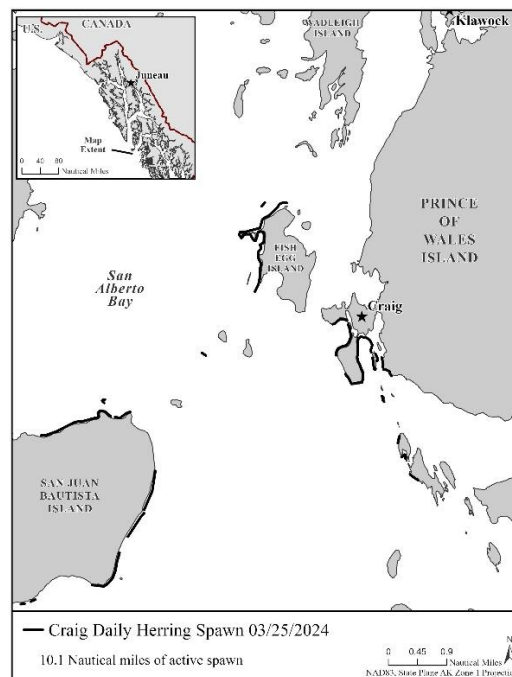


Figure 1. Active herring spawn in Craig for March 25, 2024.

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

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