Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: March 26, 2024 CONTACT: Bo Meredith Ketchikan Area Management Biologist bo.meredith@alaska.gov (907) 225-5195

2024 CRAIG/KLAWOCK HERRING SPAWN-ON-KELP POUND FISHERY

Effective 12:00 noon, today, March 26, 2024, the number of days herring may be transferred into a closed pound is extended to 5 days. Herring may not be transferred into a pound after 11:59 p.m. on the fifth day after herring are placed into the pound, with the first day being the day the herring are first placed into the pound as stated in a field announcement on VHF channel 10 today at 12:00 noon. Herring must still be released by 12:00 noon on the seventh day.

The extra time is to allow fishermen more opportunity to capture and transfer herring into closed pounds. The availability of herring for capture in the traditional pounding area has been limited as the herring have been concentrated south of the open pounding area. In addition, given the amount of spawn that has already occurred around the Coronados, Balandra, Ballena, and San Juan Bautista Islands, the department does not have any biological concerns extending the numbers of days herring may be transferred into a pound for this season. To date, the number of total sets made has been limited.

The emergency order corresponding with this extension is EO 1H0724.

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

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