



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: March 26, 2024

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2024 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 7

Craig

Today's aerial survey covered the Craig area, from the Coronados Islands to St. Philip Island, the eastern shore of East San Fernando Island, and around San Juan Bautista Island. The weather was overcast, with calm winds, and good visibility. 8.7 nautical miles (nmi; Figure 1) of active herring spawn was observed around the Albertos, Coronados, and Fish Egg Islands, and the Prince of Wales Island shoreline from Cape Suspiro throughout Port Bagial and extending towards Port St. Nicholas. Predator activity is concentrated on the southwest side of Fish Egg Island and the Ballena Islands with scattered pods of sea lions at Cape Suspiro, north Fish Egg, the Albertos, and the north side of Abbess Island. Observations of humpback whales during aerial surveys have been reduced throughout the Craig area compared to recent years. One whale was observed north of Pt. Ildefonso. The current cumulative spawn in the Craig/Klawock area is 20.4 nmi. Fishermen are actively filling pound structures with herring today. There are currently 48 active pound structures on the grounds and approximately 25 pounds have had herring introduced.

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.
March 26, 2024	8.7 nmi of spawn on POW, Coronados, and Fish Egg 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

Industry pilots confirmed light, dissipating spawn in Wadding and Raymond cove today in West Behm Canal.

The next scheduled aerial survey for Craig is planned for **Wednesday, 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:

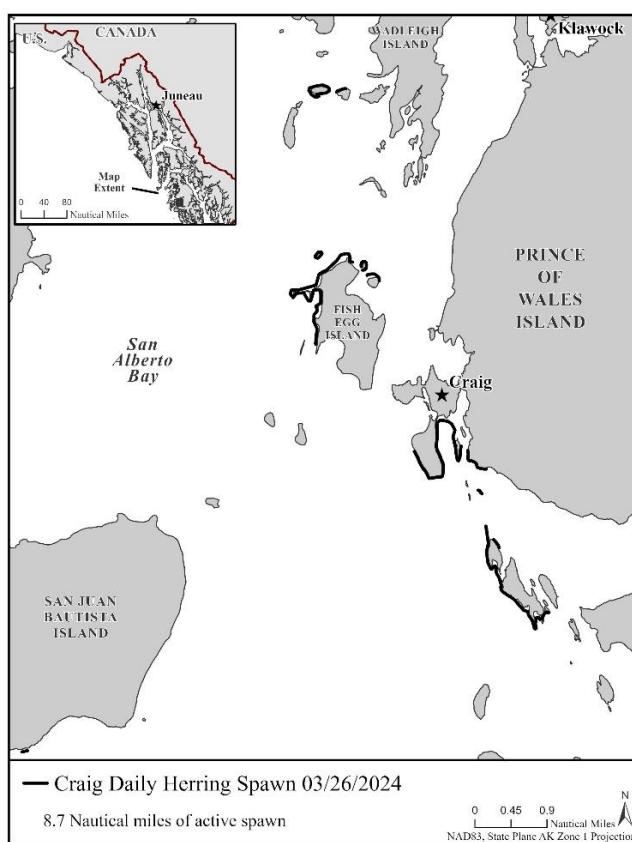


Figure 1. Active herring spawn in Craig for March 26, 2024.

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

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