



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: March 20, 2026

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2026 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 1

An aerial survey was conducted today, March 20, in the Revilla Channel and Craig/Klawock areas.

Craig

The aerial survey covered the immediate Craig area including Abbess, Wadleigh, Fish Egg, and the Ballena Islands and Port St. Nicholas. The weather was marginal, with overcast skies, light winds, and an approaching snow squall. Very little predator activity was observed throughout the area with 30 sea lions on the north side of Abbess Island. No whales were observed during today's aerial survey, though 6 humpback whales were observed during yesterday's skiff survey. There were approximately 25 pounds in the open pounding area; no herring have been introduced.

The fishery opened for the placement of herring into pounds at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. ADF&G personnel arrived on the grounds Thursday, March 19, but due to limited activity, will not be present through the weekend. When predator and herring activity increase, ADF&G biologists will return to monitor the fishery daily throughout the spawning event and can be reached on VHF Channel 10 or 16. **Notice to all commercial spawn-on-kelp fisherman, the ADF&G commercial fisheries office in Craig will be staffed beginning 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 23 for assistance with permits, registrations, and herring updates.**

The next scheduled aerial survey of the Craig area is planned for **Tuesday, March 24**. Fishery updates will be released after aerial surveys are completed for the day.

2026 Craig/Klawock Herring Summary

March 20, 2026 Limited predator activity.

Revilla Channel

Today's aerial survey included Mary, Cat, Dog, and Duke Islands and the Kah Shakes shoreline down to the De Long Islands. Weather conditions were fair with broken clouds, light winds, and the occasional snow squall. No predator activity was observed in state waters.

The next scheduled aerial survey of the Revilla Channel area is planned for **Tuesday, March 24**.

2026 Revilla Channel Herring Summary

March 20, 2026 No predator activity.

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:



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

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