



Advisory Announcement
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CONTACT:
Jeremy Botz and Todd Johnson
Finfish Area Management Biologists
(907) 424-3212

Prince William Sound Herring Announcement #3

The herring sac roe seine and gillnet fisheries will open in the Eastern District at 3:00 p.m. Friday, April 10 and will remain open until further notice.

An aerial survey conducted on April 9 in the Eastern District indicated that large schools of herring were amassing nearshore. Yesterday evening, the department and registered fishery participants discussed the need for flexibility in fishery timing due to the potential for rapidly changing roe maturity in the herring currently staging to spawn. The flexibility in open time and area will allow for timely fishing opportunity once a herring biomass has been identified and tested for market suitability. Fishery participation is expected to be minimal, and potential harvest is expected to be well below harvest quotas.

Before making test sets, test boats need to contact the department biologist at the Cordova office (907-424-3212). The department will monitor set locations, roe maturity, and age/size of herring samples.

All herring processors and buyers are required to register with the Cordova office prior to buying herring or herring products in Prince William Sound. Processors must provide a list of tenders and processing vessels. Some permit holders may elect to have their harvest custom processed. The department reminds all permit holders that fish may not be delivered to an unregistered buyer or tender. A fish ticket must be generated at the time of delivery. The fish ticket must be imprinted with the processor's code. Buyers are reminded that if any herring are to be processed in another management area, the Cordova Fish and Game Office must be contacted in person, by phone, or by email with the amount of herring on board the vessels before leaving the area.

Herring aerial survey data can be reviewed online, including spawn lines and photos, in an interactive map application found at: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/53d54699cbf54e72aa1a4daf405076b7?org=adfg>.