
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
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Date: March 17, 2014
Time: 5:00 p.m.

SITKA SOUND SAC ROE HERRING FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery will be on 2-hour notice effective 8:00 a.m., Thursday, March 20, 2014. This means that a fishery could be expected with a minimum of two hours notice after the effective time.

Today, a test sample was taken from a large body of herring in shallower waters near Magic Island. The results of that sample were as follows: Mature roe - 7.5%, immature roe - 5.5%, average weight – 201 grams.

Though immaturity in the sample was high, the separation of less mature herring from the mature schools as well as the maturation of herring over the next several days could result in a rapid progression of mature roe content. The department is placing the fishery on 2-hour notice to ensure that the department and industry are in position to take advantage of possible early opportunities to harvest good quality herring.

The department will hold an organizational meeting with fishermen, processors and interested individuals at the Centennial Building at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 19. The *R/V Kestrel* will be arriving in Sitka on Wednesday morning, March 19. Test sampling will be suspended until Wednesday, March 19. Seine boats wanting to conduct practice sets may do so in the deeper waters of Eastern Channel east of the longitude of Rocky Patch Light.

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

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