
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



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Time: 8:30 a.m.

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #9

Aerial survey: March 26. Covered Sitka Sound and south to Windy Pass. Spawning continuing on southwest Middle Island totaling 0.5 nautical miles. Little expansion of spawning from previous day. Numerous whales and sea lions in the vicinity of Kasiana Island and Middle Island and the island groups between Western Channel and Crow Pass.

Vessel survey: March 26. *R/V Kestrel* surveyed the Eastern Channel area and found scattered schools throughout the area. Large concentrations of herring were seen in the island groups between Western Channel and south Middle Island.

Spawn: Total active spawn on March 26 was 0.5 nm on southwest Middle Island.

Test samples: One sample taken on March 26.

SE of airport runway, 13.3% mature roe, 0.7% immature roe, 167 gram, 54% female.

Fishery: Yesterday, March 26, the fishery was opened from 2:30 p.m.-3:40 p.m. in the Eastern Channel area. Processors hauls put the harvest at approximately 3,700 tons. The total harvest to date for the three open periods is 13,500 tons, leaving approximately 2,800 tons remaining of this season's guideline harvest level.

Plans are to stand down on fishing today to allow for processing.

Fishermen wanting to make practice sets or clean their nets after an opening may do so in Eastern Channel east of the longitude of Rocky Patch Light until further notice.

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

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