ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
FISHERY UPDATE

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Date: May 2, 2014
Time: 3:00 p.m.

PETERSBURG/WRANGELL HERRING UPDATE #12

Ernest Sound

The cumulative mileage was 3.7 nm along the south shore of Vixen Inlet and extended to Union Point. A total of 77 pounds were actively fished. The product is reported to be of good quality from most pounds. No additional surveys are scheduled for Ernest Sound.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

An aerial survey was flown today of the Farragut Bay, Port Houghton, and Hobart Bay areas. There was approximately **1.0 nm of active spawning** occurring in the Sanctuary, waters surrounding the Sanctuary, and a small spawn near Boom Point. Spawning activity seemed light. There were multiple schools seen in the area from south of the entrance of the Sanctuary, in the waters of the Sanctuary itself, and the waters just north of the mouth of the Sanctuary. Spotting conditions had degraded from yesterday's flight with increased winds causing turbid conditions. Additionally, there appeared to be old milt in the water from the area around Boom Point south to the mouth of the Sanctuary, possibly from a spawning event yesterday. Sea lion activity has remained steady from yesterday's survey and bird activity has remained constant with the exception of scooters having arrived and well over 10,000 scooters were seen the Hobart area. The next scheduled survey is for Saturday, May 3.

The next update will be Monday, May 5.

2014 Herring Summary

Ernest Sound

April 4	No herring activity, 29 sea lions.
April 8	No herring activity, 17 sea lions.
April 11	No herring activity, 2 sea lions.
April 13	Department staff arrived on grounds, active fishing.
April 14	A small spot spawn, 79 sea lions, 1 whale, active fishing.
April 15	**1.0 nm of active spawn**, 154 sea lions, active fishing.
April 16	**0.3 nm of active spawn**, 149 sea lions, active fishing.
April 17	**1.6 nm of active spawn**, 211 sea lions, active fishing.
April 18	No herring spawn or schools observed.
April 19	**0.5 nm of active spawn**, 148 sea lions.
April 20	No herring spawn or schools observed, 211 sea lions, 1 whale.
April 22	No herring spawn or schools observed, 60 sea lions.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

April 14	No herring activity, 6 sea lions.
April 18	No herring activity, 46 sea lions, 1 whale.
April 21	No herring activity, 4 sea lions.
April 23	No herring activity, 76 sea lions.
April 25	No herring activity, 48 sea lions, 1 whale.
April 26	**0.1 nm of active spawn,** 160 sea lions.
April 27	No active herring spawn, 2 small schools of herring observed, 103 sea lions.
April 28	No herring activity, 105 sea lions.
April 30	No herring activity, 28 sea lions, 5,000 scooters.
May 1	**.75 nm of active spawn,** multiple schools of herring near the beach, 51 sea lions.
May 2	**1.0 nm of active spawn,** multiple schools observed, 55 sea lion, 10,000 scooters.

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

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