
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Date: March 29, 2017
Time: 1:30 p.m.

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery is closed for the season. The fishery was opened in northwest Sitka Sound on March 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on March 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, as a controlled fishery. Preliminary hauls from processors put the total harvest for these openings at 1,100 tons, with a cumulative harvest for the season of 14,600 tons. The area opened included the waters of Hayward Strait north of 57°08.71' N. latitude; and Krestof Sound west of a line from Partof Point at 57°13.69' N. latitude, 135°34.15' W. longitude, to Olga Point at 57°13.72' N. latitude, 135°32.19' W. longitude.

Yesterday's aerial survey covered Sitka Sound north of Eastern Channel, including Salisbury Sound. No spawn was observed. Herring were observed in the bays of south Middle Island, along Kasiana Island, and in the Magoun Islands. Herring predator activity was concentrated in northern Sitka Sound from Inner Point to Hayward Strait, in Krestof Sound and in Eastern/Promisla Bays. Herring predators were observed south of the Maknati Island Causeway south of Sitka.

Today's aerial survey covered Sitka Sound north of Eastern Channel. Approximately 1.1 nmi of active spawn was observed on Middle and Crow Islands (see attached map). Herring were observed in Krestof Sound and in the Magoun Islands. Concentrations of herring predators were in many locations including: Krestof Sound, Whiting Harbor, around Crow Island, and along Inner Point.

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

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