
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERIES UPDATE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Dave Gordon

Phone: (907) 747-6688
Fax: (907) 747-6693

Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
Sitka, Alaska 99835
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Time: 3:00 p.m.

2013 SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY FINAL UPDATE

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the final results of the Sitka Sound herring spawn. This season there were two separate spawning events. The first spawn began on March 28, peaked on March 31 and concluded on April 7. This spawn included the shorelines of Gagarin, Crow, Middle and Kasiana Islands and the smaller islands to the south, the Halibut Point Road shoreline, Japonski Island and Whiting Harbor, the Crescent Bay area, the shoreline from Samsing Cove to Povorotni Point and Shelikof Bay (see attached map). The total shoreline recorded during the initial spawn was 50.8 nautical miles. A second spawn began April 15 and continued through April 23. This spawn included shoreline on west Kruzof Island, Promisla and Eastern Bays, Starrigavin Bay, north Middle Island, with additional small spawns in Salisbury Sound and Windy Pass adding a total 10.6 nautical miles of shoreline. The total shoreline recorded with spawn this season is approximately 61.4 nautical miles. This compares to 55.9 nautical miles of spawn in 2012 and a recent 10-year average of 61.7 nautical miles. The department will not be conducting further aerial surveys of Sitka Sound unless the department receives reports of additional spawning.

Spawn deposition surveys were conducted on the first spawning event on April 8-12. A second spawn deposition survey is planned to assess the second spawning event beginning May 1.

The final harvest for the Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery was 5,688 tons and the reported overall roe recovery was 13%.

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

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