ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Togiak Herring Announcement 7

This is the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Dillingham with an announcement regarding the Togiak herring fishery.

Department staff flew an aerial survey of Togiak District today, May 10. Survey conditions were very good with light winds and mostly clear skies. Numerous schools of herring were seen entering the district from the east along Cape Constantine. There was also a significant biomass of herring along the east face of Hagemeister Island. Staff did not document any herring in Nunavachak Bay and only a small amount in Togiak Bay.

Commercial fishing with gillnets will open in the Egg Island Section of the Togiak herring district from 12:00 noon Saturday, May 11 until further notice. Participants are reminded that Metervik Bay is closed by regulation.

We have one report of fish sampled from Kulukak Bay; the fish sampled had a low male count and averaged 6.6% immature roe and 11% mature roe. All fishermen are reminded to sample first with a small portion of gear to make sure the fish they are targeting are of commercial quality before fully deploying their gear.

Commercial fishing with purse seines will be allowed for 82 hours from 12:00 noon, May 11, until 10:00 p.m., May 14. The open area will be from Togiak Reef at 160° 30.10' west longitude to the longitude of Cape Newenham at 162° 10.50' west longitude and in the area from the longitude of Right Hand Point at 159° 55.00' west longitude to the longitude of Anchor Point at 160° 19.70' west longitude. Participants are reminded that Ungalikthluk Bay is closed by regulation.

We have a sample from purse seine fish near Anchor Point. Those fish had a mature roe percent of 4.35% on average.

This has been the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham.