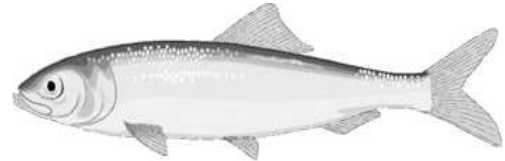


ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Travis Elison, Kuskokwim Area Manager
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Phone: (907) 543-2433
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Issuing Area Office
PO Box 1467
Bethel, Alaska 99559
Date Issued: 5/17/2013
Time: 8:30 p.m.

2013 KUSKOKWIM BAY-CAPE ROMANZOF HERRING NEWS RELEASE 3

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Bethel for commercial herring fishermen in Kuskokwim Bay.

The Goodnews Bay District will open to commercial herring fishing effective 11:00 a.m., Saturday, May 18, 2013 until 11:00 p.m., Saturday, May 25, 2013. Commercial fishermen **must** contact Coastal Villages Seafoods prior to fishing at 967-8009 or on VHF channel 6. Fishermen are cautioned that there is currently a substantial amount of sea ice in Goodnews Bay and conditions are changing quickly.

A biomass of approximately 4,000 tons of herring was documented on Wednesday, May 15. This exceeds the threshold biomass of 1,200 tons that is required to open the fishery. Based on a 20 percent exploitation rate the current guideline harvest level is 800 tons. The guideline harvest level could potentially increase if a greater biomass is observed during aerial surveys. The ADF&G test fishing crew is located in Platinum.

ADF&G's fishery managers can be reached by calling Travis Elison at (907) 543-2709 and Aaron Tiernan at (907) 543-2331 in the Bethel office for Kuskokwim Bay, and Jeff Estensen (907) 459-7217 in the Fairbanks office for Cape Romanzof. Current fishery information will be available by calling the telephone recorder in Bethel at (907) 543-2598 or toll free at (855) 933-2433. Recordings will be updated as information becomes available. Fishery updates will also be available at the Commercial Fisheries website:

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

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