

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
**Sam Rabung, Director**

Sitka Area Office  
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Sitka, AK 99835



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game**  
**Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner**

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Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
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## **Advisory Announcement**

***For Immediate Release: March 18, 2021***

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### **SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery will be placed on 2-hour notice effective 8:00 a.m., Saturday, March 20, 2021. This means that a fishery could be expected with two hours notice after the effective time.

One test sample was taken today near Inner Point on Kruzof Island. The sample results are: 30 ton set, mature roe – 8.0%, immature roe – 1.7%, and average weight – 111 grams.

The *R/V Kestrel* will be arriving the morning of March 20 and will immediately conduct a vessel survey.

The 2-hour notice fishery meeting will be conducted via Zoom™ and is scheduled for Friday, March 19, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Zoom™ meeting information:

<https://zoom.us/j/95709001385?pwd=ZE5IcFltZnJzVXBNTVp3VWNYL3JqUT09>

Meeting ID: 957 0900 1385  
Passcode: 21Herring

Dial-in information for the meeting (dial by your nearest location):

- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 957 0900 1385  
Passcode: 745038376

Today's aerial survey covered Sitka Sound from Eastern Channel to Hayward Strait. Weather during the flight was good with clear skies and fair winds. No herring or herring spawn were observed. The highest concentration of herring predators was observed west of Bieli Rock, east of Middle Island, and east of Vitskari Rocks. Several whales were seen working in deeper waters between Bieli Rock and Inner Point, near Middle Island, and east of Vitskari Rocks. Large groups of sea lions were observed holding off Inner Point, Bieli Rock, and east of Middle Island. South of Sitka, two whales and no sea lions were observed near Eastern Channel. Predator numbers and locations are normal for this time of year.

The next aerial survey is scheduled for Friday, March 19. Fishery updates will typically be released after vessel and aerial surveys are completed for the day.

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

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

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<i>ADF&amp;G</i>	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220