



Advisory Announcement
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SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 4

Today’s aerial herring survey covered the northern portion of Sitka Sound from St. Lazaria Island to Krestof Sound. Survey conditions were adequate with partly cloudy skies, moderate winds, and fair visibility. No herring schools or spawn were observed today. Herring predators were observed along the Kruzof Island shoreline near Inner Point and in the deeper waters south of Guide Island and south of the Siginaka Islands. Humpback whales were concentrated near Inner Point and in the deeper waters southeast of the Siginaka Islands and south of Guide Island. Fewer sea lions were observed today with the largest concentration located at Inner Point. Predator concentrations have shifted from locations of previous surveys to more normal distributions for this time of year.

Department and industry vessels surveyed from Inner Point to Hayward Strait and near the Siginaka Islands today and located several very large schools of herring in both areas. It appeared that the herring previously observed in the shallower waters of Hayward Strait have moved into deeper waters further offshore.

One successful test set was conducted today, the results are as follows:

Time	Area	Tons	% Mature Roe	% Immature Roe	Avg weight	% Female
11:32	E. Siginaka Islands	300	0.0 %	6.4 %	110g	33.2 %

The next aerial surveys are scheduled for Saturday, March 18 and Sunday, March 19, and the next fishery update can be expected on Sunday, March 19.

All aerial herring survey data can be reviewed online, including spawn lines and photos, in an interactive map application found at: <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.herring#maps> or scan:



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

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