



**Advisory Announcement**  
***For Immediate Release: March 17, 2025***

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**SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 2**

Aerial surveys were conducted daily from March 15 to March 17. These survey flights covered Sitka Sound from Biorka Island to Krestof Sound and Cape Edgecumbe. No herring or herring spawn were observed; herring predators were seen throughout the surveyed area. Humpback whales were observed between Vitskari Rocks and Hayward Strait, with the largest concentrations located near Inner Point. Sea lion numbers increased during this time period and were concentrated near Inner Point. Herring predator locations have shifted to areas within Sitka Sound during the surveyed period. Predator numbers and locations are typical for this time of year.

From March 16 to March 17, a department vessel surveyed the northern portion of Sitka Sound from Inner to Mountain Point and from Hayward Strait to Eastern Bay and observed several very large schools of herring in shallower waters along the Kruzof Island shoreline from Inner Point to Mountain Point.

The R/V *Kestrel* will be arriving in Sitka Sound Tuesday, March 18. Vessel surveys with the R/V *Kestrel* will begin Wednesday, March 19.

The next aerial survey and fishery update are scheduled for Tuesday, March 18.

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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