



Advisory Announcement
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**2025/26 SOUTHEAST ALASKA HERRING WINTER FOOD AND BAIT
FISHERY**

The 2025/2026 Southeast Alaska herring winter food and bait fishery opens by regulation October 1. Herring spawn deposition dive surveys were completed for the Craig/Klawock area in 2025. A finalized forecast for the Craig/Klawock area is not available at this time but based on the 2025 spawn deposition estimate and preliminary model runs, the overall guideline harvest level (GHL) for the 2025/2026 season is expected to be more than adequate to allow for the winter food and bait fishery to begin October 1. A formal forecast and GHL will be available and announced later this year.

Section 3-B and District 4 (Craig/Klawock): will open at 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, October 1, 2025, in those waters of Section 3-B west of a line from Blanquital Point at 55°37.36' N lat, 133°23.86' W long to Point Santa Rosalia at 55°34.19' N lat, 133°24.84' W long to Point Cuerbo at 55°28.51' N lat, 133°19.00' W long to Point Miraballes at 55°25.87' N lat, 133°05.22' W long and in those waters of District 4 north and east of a line from Lontana Point at 55°12.25' N lat, 133°20.12' W long to Diver Point at 55°11.02' N lat, 133°14.36' W long with the following restriction:

Trocaadero Bay: will be closed east of the longitude of the westernmost tip of Canoe Point at 133°01.48' W long.

District 7 (Ernest Sound): will be closed. A total of 2.5 nautical miles (nmi) of spawn was observed in 2025 which was insufficient to justify a spawn deposition survey. Therefore, a forecast for the 2025/26 season was not generated.

District 10 (Hobart Bay/Port Houghton): will be closed. Due to budget constraints, department surveys were not conducted, and herring spawn was not reported or observed in 2025. Therefore, a forecast for the 2025/26 season was not generated.

District 12 (Tenakee Inlet): will be closed. A total of 5.8 nmi of spawn was observed in 2025 including 4.2 nmi on the Catherine Island shoreline and 1.6 nmi from Peninsular Point north to Little Basket Bay on the Chichagof Island shoreline. No spawn was observed inside Tenakee Inlet, and a spawn deposition survey was not conducted precluding a forecast for the 2025/26 season.

Fishermen and operators of tender vessels must obtain an ADF&G permit to participate in the winter food and bait fishery (5 AAC 27.179) prior to fishing. For the 2025/26 season, the terms of the permit stipulate: 1) the amount of herring harvested and delivery location be reported to the Ketchikan office for Section 3-B and District 4 by 12:00 noon on the day after fish were harvested; and 2) one 5-gallon bucket of herring is to be provided to the department from each delivery for sampling purposes. Permit applications are available at ADF&G area offices in Ketchikan, Sitka, Petersburg, and Douglas.

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1H1625.

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

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