



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: March 29, 2026

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2026 KETCHIKAN HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 6

Aerial surveys were conducted today in the Revilla Channel and Craig/Klawock areas. Weather was excellent, with light and variable winds, high broken overcast to sunny skies, and excellent visibility.

Craig

Today's aerial survey covered the immediate Craig/Klawock area, from the Coronados Islands to Pt. Ildefonso and the northwestern side of San Juan Bautista, the Ballena, Fish Egg, Wadleigh, and Abbess Islands. **5.4 nautical miles (nmi) of active spawn** was observed from the southern tip of Fish Egg Island wrapping around the western shore and northern shore. Today's spawn expanded along the entire northern shore of Fish Egg Island and the inner Ballena Islands. Predator activity, including sea lions and humpback whales, were dispersed along the active spawn with additional humpback whales observed between Shelter Cove and the Ballenas. Significant predator activity remains on the north shore of Fish Egg Island with several humpback whales moving north near Wadleigh Rock as the day progresses. There are approximately 58 pound structures in the open pounding area; no herring have been introduced.

The fishery opened for the placement of herring into pounds at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) personnel are on the grounds and can be reached on VHF Channel 10 or 16. Notice to all commercial spawn-on-kelp fisherman, the ADF&G commercial fisheries office in Craig will remain staffed during normal business hours for the remainder of the spawn-on-kelp fishery for assistance with permits, registrations, and herring updates.

The next scheduled aerial survey of the Craig area is planned for **Monday, March 30**. Fishery updates will be released after aerial or skiff surveys are completed for the day. **State offices will be closed Monday, March 30, for Swards Day.**

2026 Craig/Klawock Herring Summary

March 20, 2026	Limited predator activity
March 25, 2026	3.5 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg Island
March 26, 2026	4.1 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg Island
March 27, 2026	4.3 nmi of spawn on Fish Egg Island
March 28, 2026	5.0 nmi of spawn on Ballena and Fish Egg Islands
March 29, 2026	5.4 nmi of spawn on Ballena and Fish Egg Islands

Revilla Channel

An aerial survey was conducted along the Kah Shakes to De Long Islands shoreline, and around Mary, Cat, Dog, and Duke Islands. **0.5 nmi of active spawn** was observed on the south shore of both Cat and Double Islands. A subsequent skiff survey occurred observing a large biomass of herring north of Double Island.

The next scheduled aerial survey of the Revilla Channel area is planned for **Monday, March 30**.

2026 Revilla Channel Herring Summary

March 20, 2026 No predator activity

March 28, 2026 Limited predator activity

March 29, 2026 0.5 nmi of spawn on Cat and Double Islands

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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<i>ADF&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