Department of Fish and Game





DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES Southeast Region Office

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Sitka Herring Sac Roe 2-Hour Notice Meeting Agenda March 19, 2024, 5:30 p.m. Zoom™

- Meeting protocol, staff introductions, and agenda review.
- o Enforcement Alaska Wildlife Troopers, U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA
- o Brief review of 2023 fishery.
- Stock status review.
 - o 2023 stock assessment sampling and surveys Kyle Hebert
 - o 2023 ASA modeling and 2024 forecast Dr. Sherri Dressel
- 2023 Subsistence fishery review and harvest survey Lauren Sill
- 2024 Fishery GHL 80,246 tons
 - Registration All fishing vessels, tender vessels, and processors must be registered. Foreign tenders may only receive fish in designated areas. Maps are available if needed.
 - Informational updates VHF ch.10 announcements will be made at 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or as necessary. Fishery updates will be issued through the advisory announcement system as time allows.
 - Vessel and aerial surveys All survey information will be shared in fishery updates, online interactive maps (aerial survey only), or VHF broadcasts.
 - Herring quality.
 - Roe testing ADFG will be coordinating the test fishing vessels inseason; test boats need to contact the Kestrel before making a set and department skiffs will take the samples.
 - There will be no test setting within closed waters.
 - Plan on doing roe testing on the grounds from this point on.
 - Commercial fishery closure area A map of the federal and state closures can be found on the ADF&G webpage on the SE herring page under the maps tab: <u>Southeast Alaska Herring, Alaska Department of Fish and Game</u>
 - Opening and closure announcements Will occur on VHF Ch 10 unless otherwise announced and details of the fishery openings will be announced in fishery updates.
 - Less than 2-hours notice of a fishery opening is likely.
 - Closures may have as little as 5-minutes notice.
 - Open area boundaries Latitude and longitude lines will be used whenever possible but we may still use point to point.
 - Fishery area maps Direct distribution of fishery area maps will be done via email and advisory announcement system if possible. Contact ADF&G in Sitka if you need help signing up for advisory announcements.
 - Fish ticket requirements Each landing to a tender requires a completed fish ticket.
 - Post-fishery processor reports Department will be expecting estimates of tonnage within a few hours of closing.

- Harvest Strategy 2024.
- Stretching nets Eastern Channel for now. After fisheries do not stretch nets between fishing area and town for safety concerns.
- Miscellaneous.
 - Whiting Harbor invasive tunicate species <u>Do Not Anchor in Whiting Harbor</u>
- Online interactive map of aerial survey data can be found here: <u>Southeast Alaska Herring, Alaska</u> <u>Department of Fish and Game</u>

Please contact Jessica Coonradt at 747-6688 for any issues concerning processor and vessel registrations.