



Advisory Announcement
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CONTACT: Aaron Dupuis
Sitka Area Management Biologist
aaron.dupuis@alaska.gov
(907) 747-6688

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 2

Today's aerial survey covered Sitka Sound from Eastern Channel to Biorka Island and St. Lazaria Island to Eastern Bay. No herring schools or spawn were observed today. Weather conditions were poor with scattered snow showers and strong winds. Few herring predators were seen throughout the surveyed area. A small number of humpback whales were observed in Eastern Channel and small number of sea lions were found near Inner Point. There was no aerial survey conducted on March 17 due to poor weather conditions. Predator numbers and locations observed are more typical for surveys conducted earlier in the season and showed no change relative to previous aerial surveys.

A department vessel surveyed Sitka Sound on March 17 from Eliason Harbor to Dog Point and from Bieli Rock to Middle Island. Several small schools of herring were observed in the deeper waters north of Bieli Rock and east of Middle Island.

The next aerial survey is scheduled for Thursday, March 19 and the next fishery update can be expected on Friday, March 20, or sooner if a significant change in predator numbers or distribution is observed.

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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