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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: April 20, 2025

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Prince William Sound Herring Announcement #4

The herring sac roe seine and gillnet fisheries will open in the Southeastern and Montague Districts at 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 and will remain open until further notice.

Recent aerial surveys (April 18 and 20) in the Southeastern and Montague Districts indicated that herring were amassing nearshore in advance of spawning. Fishery participation is expected to be minimal, and potential harvest is expected to be well below harvest quotas.

Before making test sets, test boats need to contact the department biologist at the Cordova office (907-424-3212). The department will monitor set locations, roe maturity, and age/size of herring samples.

All herring processors and buyers are required to register with the Cordova office prior to buying herring or herring products in Prince William Sound. Processors must provide a list of tenders and processing vessels. Some permit holders may elect to have their harvest custom processed. The department reminds all permit holders that fish may not be delivered to an unregistered buyer or tender. A fish ticket must be generated at the time of delivery. The fish ticket must be imprinted with the processor's code. Buyers are reminded that if any herring are to be processed in another management area, the Cordova Fish and Game Office must be contacted in person, by phone, or by email with the amount of herring on board the vessels before leaving the area.

Herring aerial survey data can be reviewed online, including spawn lines and photos, in an interactive map application found at: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/53d54699cbf54e72aa1a4daf405076b7?org=adfg>.