

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
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**Advisory Announcement**  
*For Immediate Release: May 31, 2023*

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**2023 NORTON SOUND COMMERCIAL HERRING FISHERY TO OPEN**

The Norton Sound commercial herring fishery will open effective 8 a.m. June 1 and close at 11:59 p.m. June 30. Herring should arrive soon in southern Norton Sound and Norton Sound Seafood Products (NSSP) is interested in buying up to 25 tons of herring for bait. Leaving the herring fishery open continuously allows the buyer to direct the fishing fleet to areas where harvest efficiency can be maximized.

To commercial fish in the herring fishery, permit holders must have a valid 2023 Norton Sound bait or sac roe commercial herring permit and an ADF&G vessel license. Permit holders also must have a valid government picture I.D.

Crew members must have a 2023 crew member license or current year state of Alaska commercial fishery permit. For example, a 2023 Norton Sound king crab or salmon permit can substitute as a crewmember license for a crewmember on a herring vessel.

Permit holders will need to ensure they have a market for their herring before commencing fishing operations.

Permit holders can contact the ADF&G Nome office at 1-800-560-2271 or 443-5167 for information needs.

Be safe and good luck.