

# Attention Beachcombers

**WANTED:** Sightings of Capelin (*Mallotus villosus*) and Pacific Sandlance (*Ammodytes hexapterus*) on Kodiak Archipelago Beaches



Contact: Susan Payne

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## Background:

A study is underway to compare hydrographic and astronomical data as well as other conditions surrounding the beach spawning events of capelin and Pacific sandlance.

## When to look:

Capelin typically spawn in May and June and Pacific sandlance in the Fall (August-November).

## Where to look:

These small schooling fish prefer sandy/fine gravel beaches for spawning such as Roslyn Beach at Cape Chiniak and White Sand Beach and Pillar Creek Beach in Monashka Bay.



Capelin being measured for length

Photo by Jan Haaga

## Collect (if possible):

100 fish (any number will do) in plastic bag and freeze. Especially important if species identity is in doubt!



Capelin larva just emerged from egg

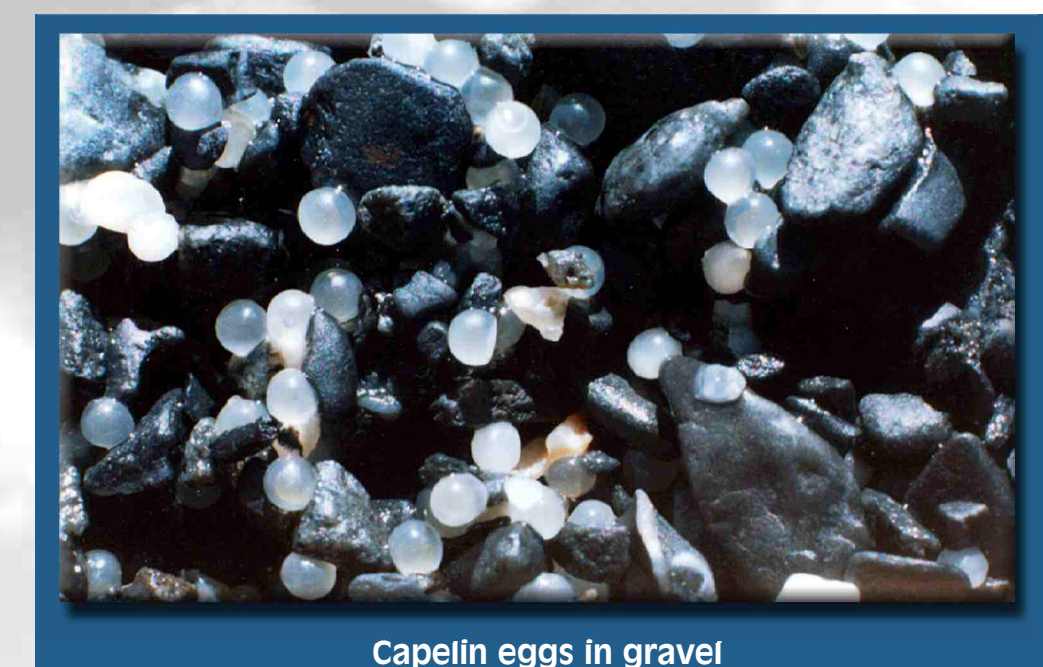
Photo courtesy of Joseph Black, Kodiak, AK

## What to look for:

Small schooling fish washed up on the high tide line or in the surf. Marine mammals and birds may be feeding heavily. Female fish may be extruding eggs. Male capelin will have a noticeable ridge along their sides. The air may smell of cucumbers.

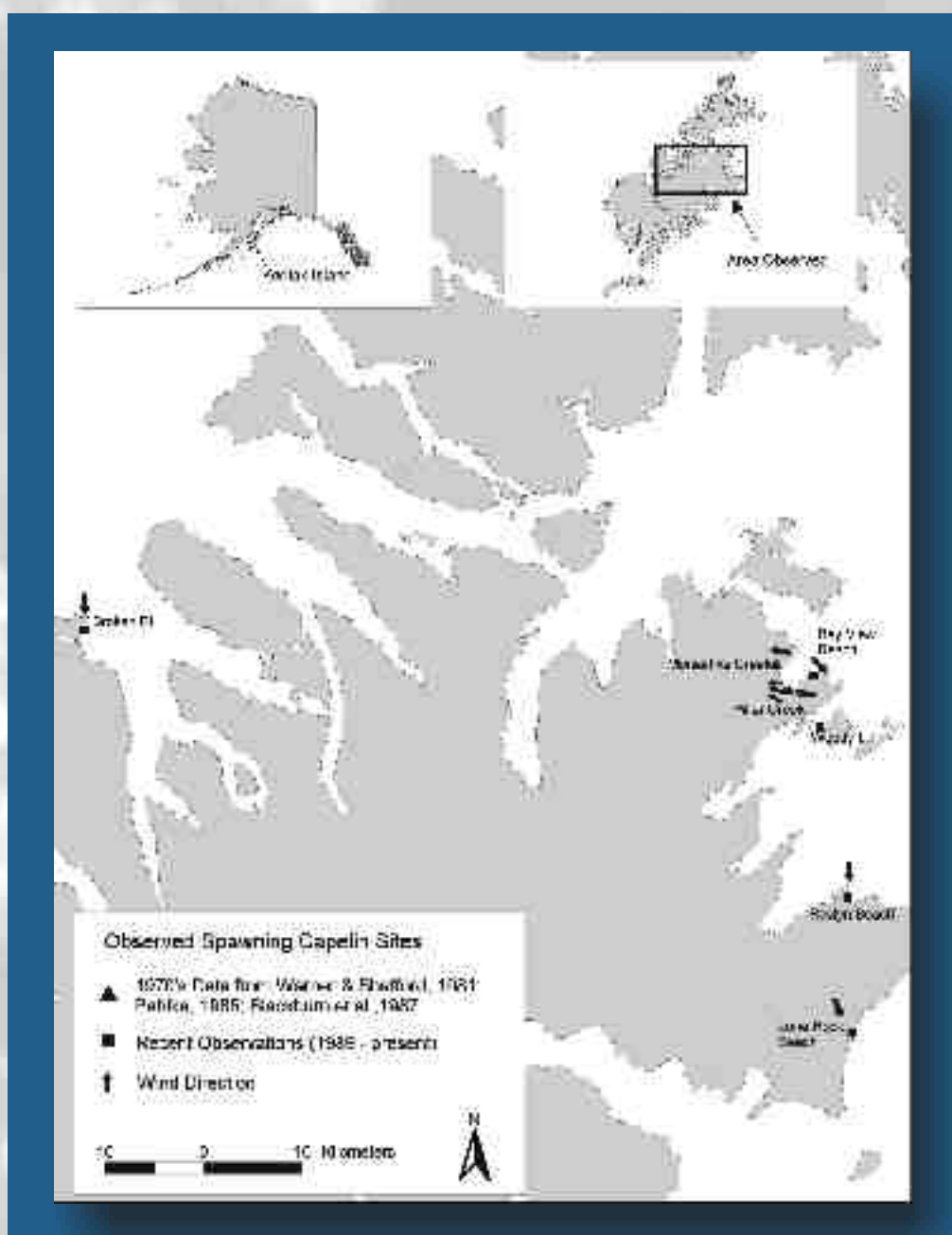
## Please note:

- Beach name and Bay, and if possible, latitude and longitude.
- Date of sighting! Or duration of spawning, if observed over a period of time.
- Time of sighting!
- Tidal stage.
- Local wind direction and cloud cover.
- Animal activity in the area.
- Other pertinent information.



Capelin eggs in gravel

Photo courtesy of Joseph Black, Kodiak, AK



Graphic courtesy of Claire Armistead

**Please call immediately:**  
Susan Payne at **481-1719** or **486-3737**  
(leave message if unavailable)!

*Your assistance is greatly appreciated!*