

HERRING CARE
SOP# = Ostei8

PURPOSE: To describe methods of care for herring.

POLICY: To provide optimum care for all animals.

RESPONSIBILITY: Collector and user of the animals. If these are not the same person, the user takes over responsibility of the animals as soon as the animals have arrived on station.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Identifying Characteristics
Pacific herring	<i>Clupea harengus pallasii</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have no spines on their fins - No scales on either the head or the sides of tail, but the rest of the body has large scales - There is no colour spotting on the silvery body - There is no adipose fin
		

CAPTURE:

Location	These fish form large schools which crowd into shallow bays and along shores
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Herring do not do well in captivity - Mortalities are usually very high - They lose scales during netting and are usually permanently damaged and stressed during capture and transport - Seine nets are probably the best method as herring never survive gillnets, or trawls but sometimes they can be caught successfully on longline
Transport	**Please follow transport and handling of fish SOP.

ANIMAL CARE:

Holding Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Herring should be held in continually flowing seawater in large tanks- Lids are necessary- Herring need high levels of dissolved oxygen, so water must be aerated
Feeding	Feed herring fresh or frozen fish cut in pieces
Tank Cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Since herring are so easily stressed it is best if the tank can be gently cleaned without removing the fish.- Vacuuming the bottom of the tank with a siphon hose- Use a net to remove waste, dead fish and leftover food
Daily Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Ensure water is flowing into the tank at a reasonable rate.-Ensure the standpipe is in place and not blocked.-Check for and remove dead animals.-Check for and remove any uneaten prey organisms.-Check for and remove foreign organisms.
Animal Return	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Animals should be returned to the site of their collection- Be sure to have well oxygenated water in bucket that they are being returned in- If any anesthetic chemical has been used on the fish during its holding at BMSC, the animal must not be released before the drug withdrawal time. Withdrawal time should be on the label of an anesthetic in degree-days or 'ATUs' (degree-days are the accumulated thermal units for a given day. One day at 10C 10 degree-days)