



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: March 31, 2021

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SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery opened at 10:45 a.m. today and will close by field announcement on marine VHF radio. Open areas for this fishery include the waters south of 57°02.88' N lat, north of 57°01.95' N lat, west of 135°16.61' W long, and east of 135°20.21' W long, and the waters south of 57°00.81' N lat and east of 135°21.93' W long.

The attached map shows the boundaries for a Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery opening as initially announced at approximately 9:30 a.m. on this date by field announcement on marine VHF radio. This map is for informational purposes only and is subject to change at any time by subsequent field announcement. Any boundary changes made by subsequent field announcement will not be published in fishery updates on this date.

The department has determined that the opening described above would not harm a reasonable opportunity for participants in the subsistence fishery to harvest the amount of roe necessary for subsistence uses. When making this determination, the department considered: 1) vessel surveys conducted by the department indicated that there were numerous large schools of herring in the regulatory closed waters extending from Sandy Beach to Old Sitka Rocks and near Whiting Harbor; 2) there were no known subsistence branch sets and there was no herring spawn observed in the water on the adjacent shoreline of the open area.

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

Advisory Announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220

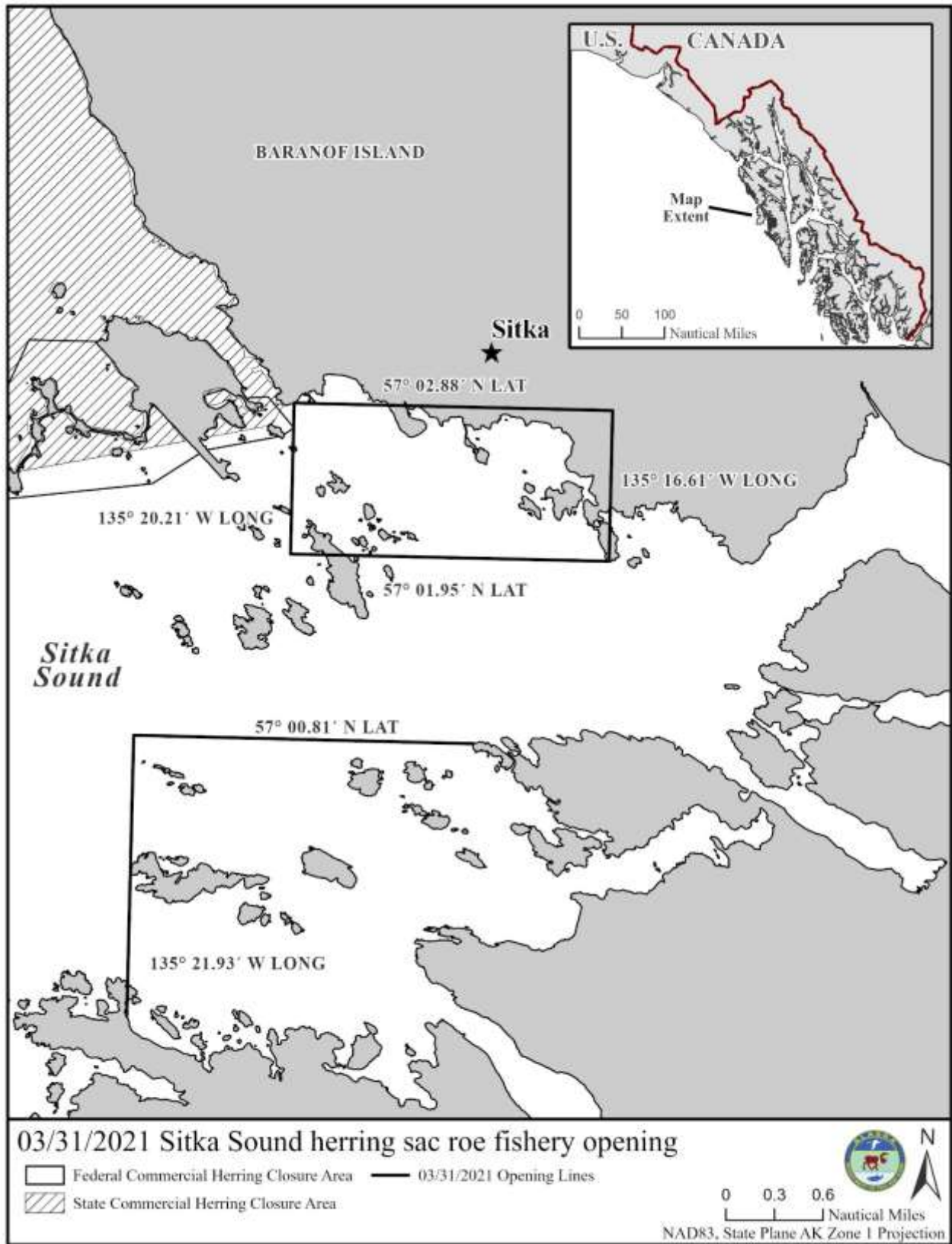


Figure 1.– Map of the initial area open for the March 31, 2021 Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery.