



**Advisory Announcement**  
*For Immediate Release: April 3, 2021*

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**SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery opened at 11:30 a.m. today, April 3, 2021. 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°18.86' W long will close at 2:00 p.m. today and the waters south of 57°00.81' N lat and east of 135°21.93' W long will close by field announcement on marine VHF radio.

The attached map shows the boundaries for a Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery opening as initially announced at approximately 10:30 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 Any boundary changes made by subsequent field announcement will not be published in fishery updates on this date.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) while a comprehensive vessel survey was not conducted north of Watson Point this morning, numerous large schools of herring were observed in the state and federal regulatory closed waters extending from Eliason Harbor to Makhnati Island, west of the airport, and beyond into the islands south of the airport; 2) the boundaries and time allowed for this fishery were restricted relative to the previous opening in order to reduce commercial activity in the area; 3) at the time of the field announcement 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>.

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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

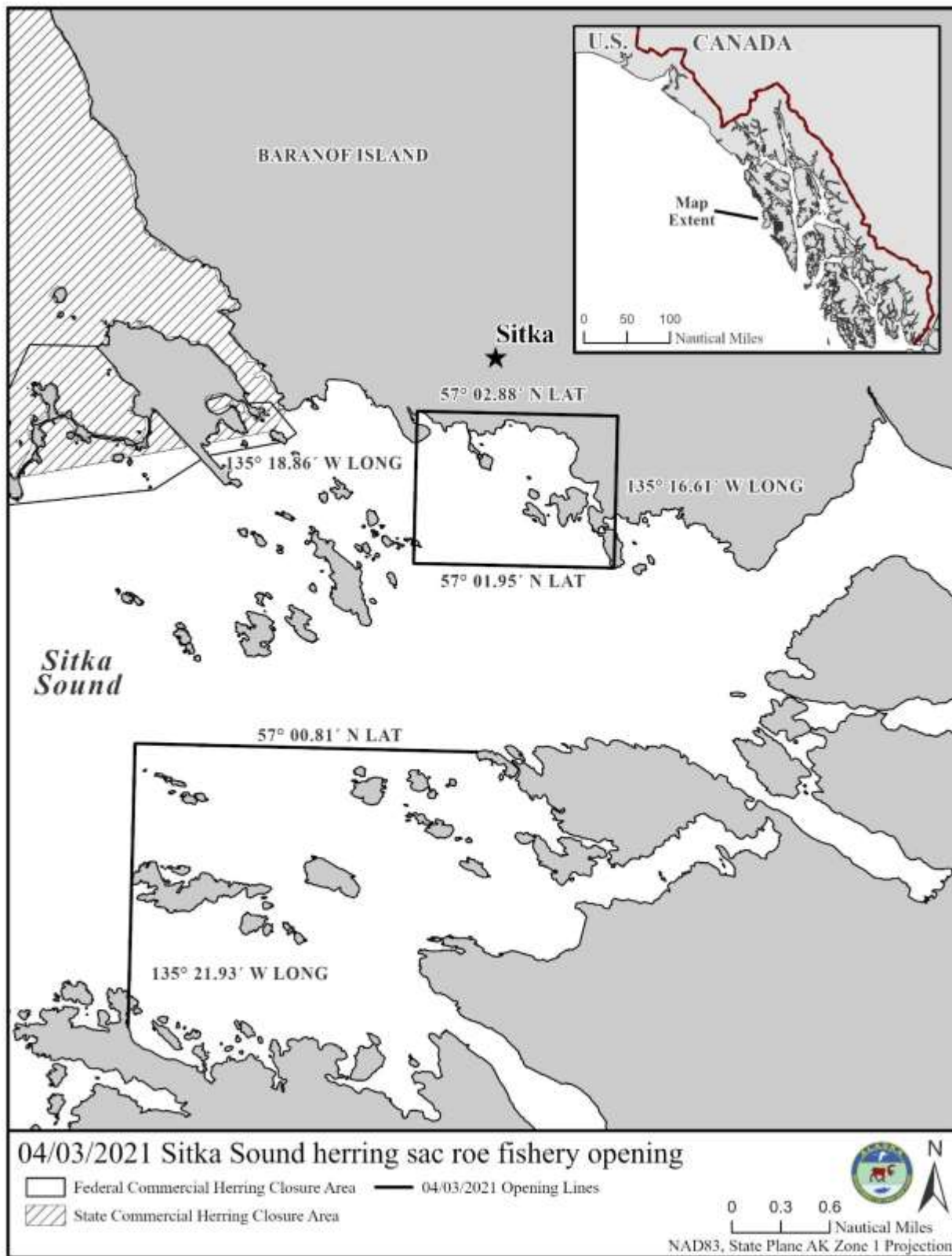


Figure 1.– Map of the initial area open for the April 3, 2021 Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery.