



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: April 10, 2026

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SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 23

Today's aerial survey covered Sitka Sound from Crescent Bay to West Crawfish Inlet, Shoals Point to Krestof Sound, and Promisla Bay to Watson Point. A small area of spawn was observed near Indian River.

Vessel surveys conducted in Sitka Sound from April 7 through April 10 found an additional 4.2 nautical miles (nmi) of herring spawn that was not recorded during the aerial surveys this season. The total cumulative herring spawn observed to date (including the vessel observed spawn) in Sitka Sound is approximately 34.8 nmi (Figure 1).

The *R/V Medeia* is scheduled to conduct a herring spawn deposition dive survey in the Sitka area beginning Saturday, April 11, 2026.

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery will close today at 7:00 p.m. as previously announced.

This will be the last fishery update of the 2026 season. A season summary advisory announcement will be issued following the conclusion of aerial, vessel, and dive surveys. Aerial surveys will continue, weather permitting, to monitor for additional herring spawn in Sitka Sound until it is determined that spawning activity has ended for the 2026 season. The data collected and corresponding images will continue to be posted online immediately after each flight survey.

All aerial herring survey data can be reviewed online, including spawn lines and photos, in an interactive map application found at: <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.herring#maps> or scan:



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

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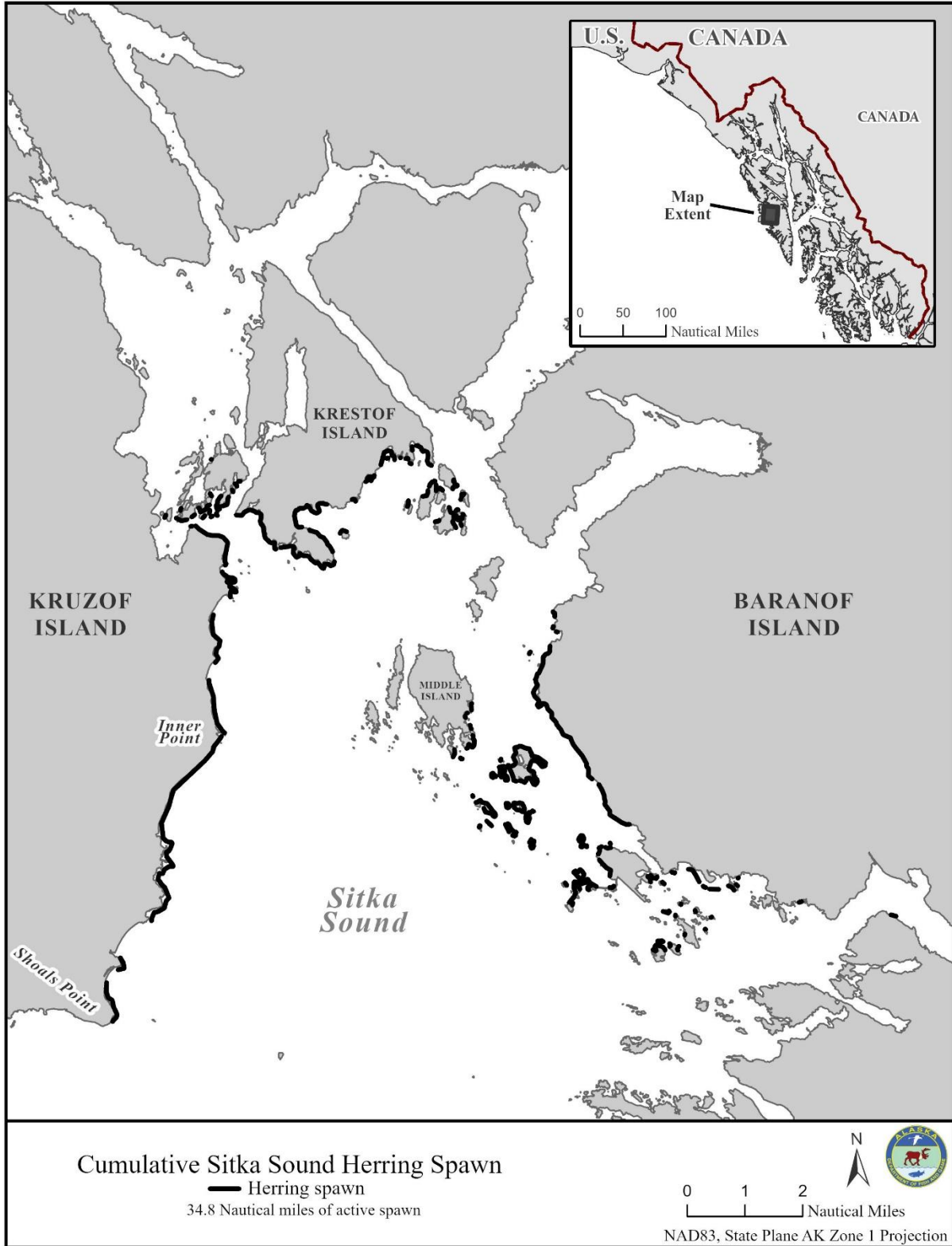


Figure 1.— Map of the total cumulative herring spawn observed in Sitka Sound through April 10, 2026