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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### FISHERY UPDATE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Date: March 22, 2015

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Time: 9:00 a.m.

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#### **SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #5**

Yesterday, March 21, the Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery was opened from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the northwest portion of Sitka Sound. The harvest yesterday was approximately 900 tons and the total harvest to date is approximately 4,600 tons. The guideline harvest level is 8,712 tons.

There was no spawn observed during an aerial survey conducted March 21. Herring predators continued to be concentrated in the areas west and south of the Middle, Crow and Gagarin Islands.

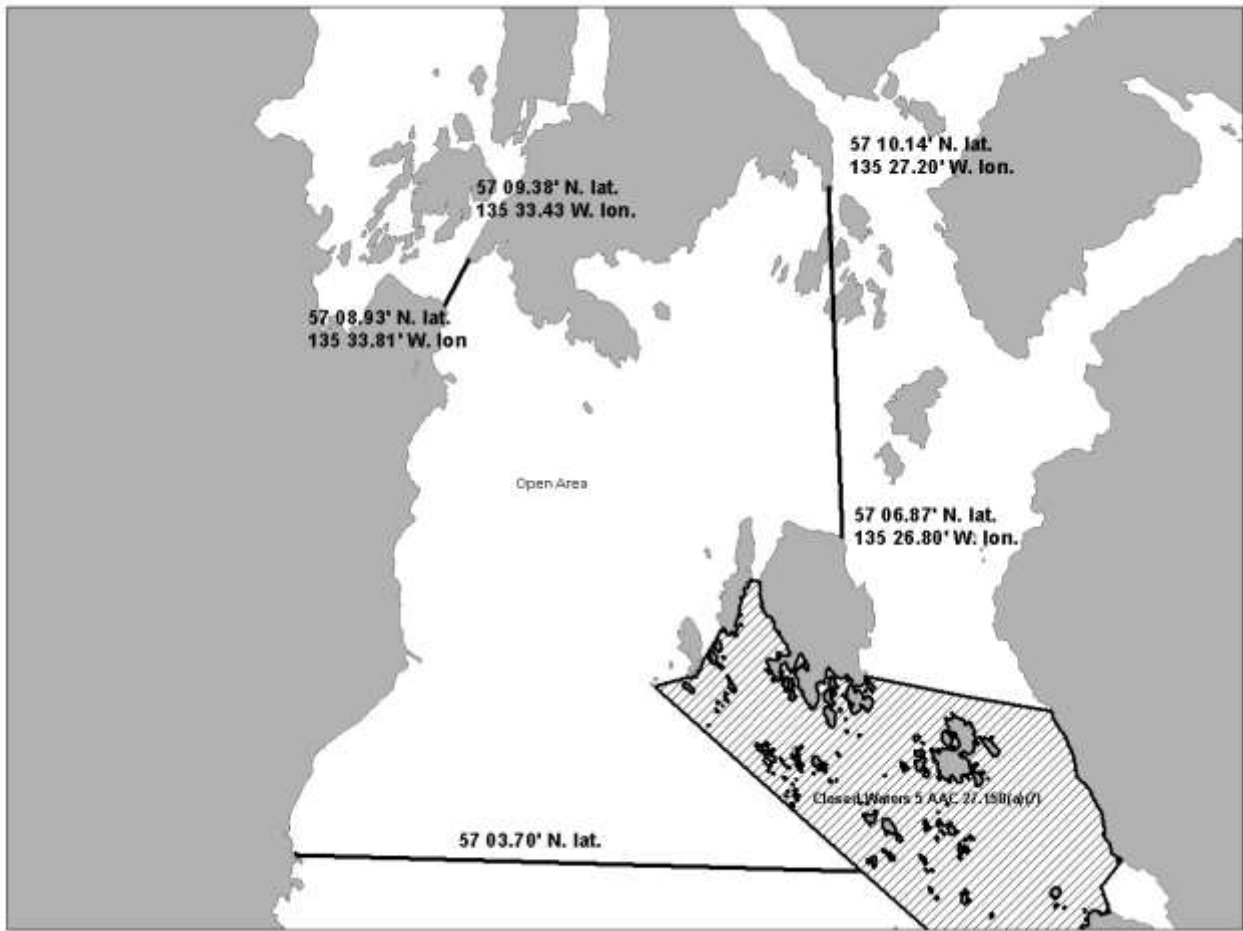
This season, the fishery is being conducted as a "controlled" fishery, whereby industry is determining the level of harvest each day depending on available processing and tendering capacities. This allows the department to set more flexible fishing times and area.

The plan is for the fishery to be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily until further notice. Currently the fishing area is the same as that announced on March 19 (see attached map). The fishing area may change by field announcement if herring concentrations are found in other areas.

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADFG	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	945-3620	784-3220

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Map of area opened beginning March 19. Open area subject to change by field announcement.