



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: April 7, 2021

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SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 23

Today's aerial survey of Sitka Sound covered an area ranging south to West Crawfish Inlet, north to Krestof Sound, and west to Cape Edgecumbe. Weather and visibility were good with partly cloudy skies and 5-knot winds. Approximately 28.3 nautical miles (nmi) of spawn was observed today along the Kruzof Island shoreline from Lava Island to Rob Point, the Magoun Islands, from Point Brown to Kresta Point, Promisla and Eastern Bays, on Gagarin, Crow, and Middle Islands, Whiting Harbor, near Indian River, Pirates Cove, and around Golf Island (Figure 1). Through April 7, the cumulative estimate of observed herring spawn in Sitka Sound is approximately 33.3 nmi.

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery will continue to be open from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. daily until closed by field or advisory announcement in the waters of Deep Inlet and Aleutkina Bay south of 57°00.81' N lat and east of 135°21.93' W long, and the waters south of the latitude of Povorotni Point at 56°57.13' N lat and north of the latitude of Aspid Cape at 56°41.75' N lat, except for the waters of Whale and Necker Bays. Fishing boundaries and times may be modified by subsequent announcement.

Harvest from April 6 was approximately 1,000-tons of herring. The estimated cumulative harvest through April 6 is approximately 15,700-tons of herring. Harvest estimates from today's fishery will be included in the next fishery update.

The next aerial survey is scheduled for Thursday, April 8, and the next fishery update will be released after aerial and vessel surveys are completed.

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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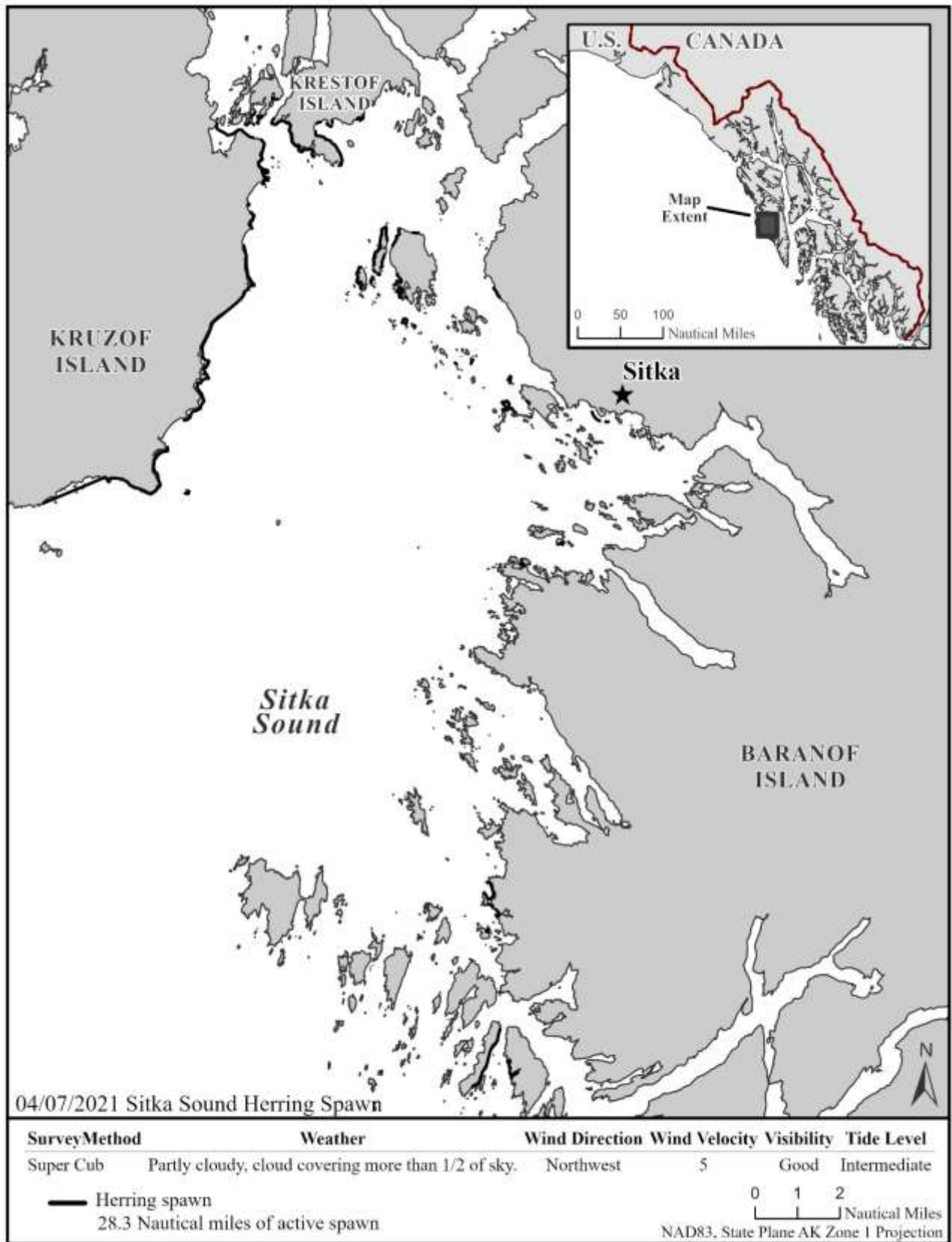


Figure 1.— Map of herring spawn observed in Sitka Sound on April 7, 2021