



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: April 9, 2021

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SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 25

Today's aerial survey of Sitka Sound covered an area ranging south to West Crawfish Inlet, north to Salisbury Sound, and west to Cape Edgecumbe. Weather and visibility were poor with partly cloudy skies, numerous snow squalls, and 10-knot winds. Approximately 18.4 nautical miles (nmi) of spawn was observed today in the Magoun Islands, Degroff Bay, Promisla and Eastern Bays, the Siginaka Islands, on Little Gavanski, Gagarin, Crow, and Middle Islands, the Kasiana Islands, Whiting Harbor, along the Sitka road system near Halibut Point, near Indian River, Pirates Cove, Samsing Cove, Redoubt Bay, and Hot Springs Bay (Figure 1). Through April 9, the cumulative estimate of observed herring spawn in Sitka Sound is approximately 48.8 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 8 is confidential due to low participation. The estimated cumulative harvest through April 6 is approximately 15,700-tons of herring.

The next aerial survey is scheduled for Saturday, April 10, and the next fishery update will be released after the aerial survey is 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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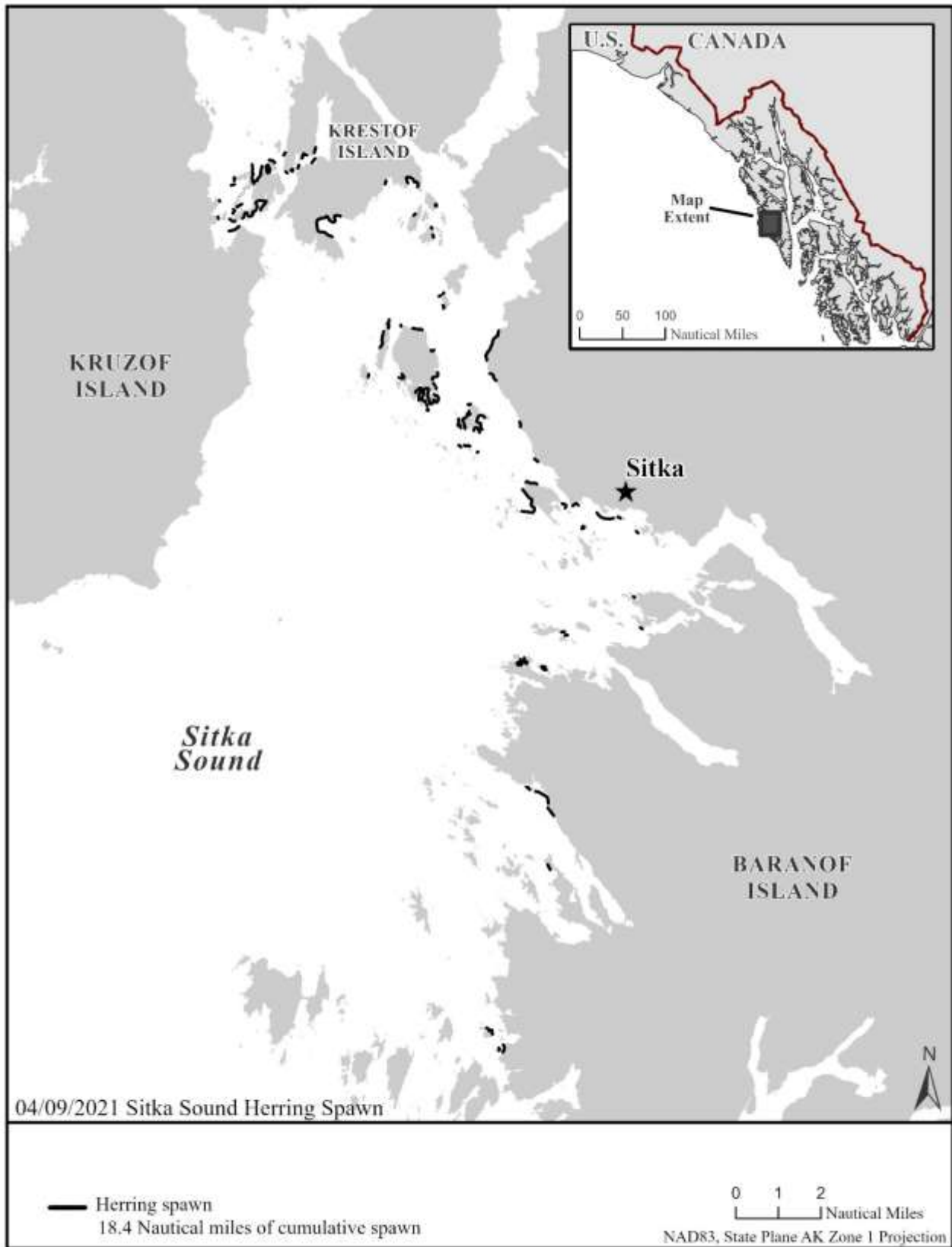


Figure 1.– Map of cumulative herring spawn observed in Sitka Sound through April 9, 2021.