



**Advisory Announcement**  
*For Immediate Release: April 10, 2021*

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**SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE # 26**

Today's aerial survey of Sitka Sound covered an area ranging south from Walker Channel and north to Krestof Sound. Weather and visibility were fair with cloudy skies, rain and snow showers, and 10-knot winds. Approximately 24.2 nautical miles (nmi) of spawn was observed today in the Magoun Islands, Promisla and Eastern Bays, the Siginaka Islands, Gagarin, Crow, and Middle Islands, the Kasiana Islands, Pirates Cove, Samsing Cove, Redoubt Bay, Hot Springs Bay, Walker Channel, Jamboree Bay, Whiting Harbor, and along the Sitka road system including Halibut Point, and near Indian River (Figure 1). Through April 10, the cumulative estimate of observed herring spawn in Sitka Sound is approximately 62.5 nmi.

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery was closed April 9 at 6pm. Preliminary hauls from processors put the total harvest at approximately 16,000 tons of herring. Final harvest estimates will be announced in the season summary advisory announcement.

Yesterday's fishery update (update #25) initially had an incorrect map. The map depicted only active spawn observed on April 9 (not April 8). Active spawn observed on April 9 was 18.4 nmi and cumulative spawn through April 9 was 48.8 nmi. This was corrected shortly after released but there still may have been some incorrect versions uploaded.

The next aerial survey is scheduled for Sunday, April 11, 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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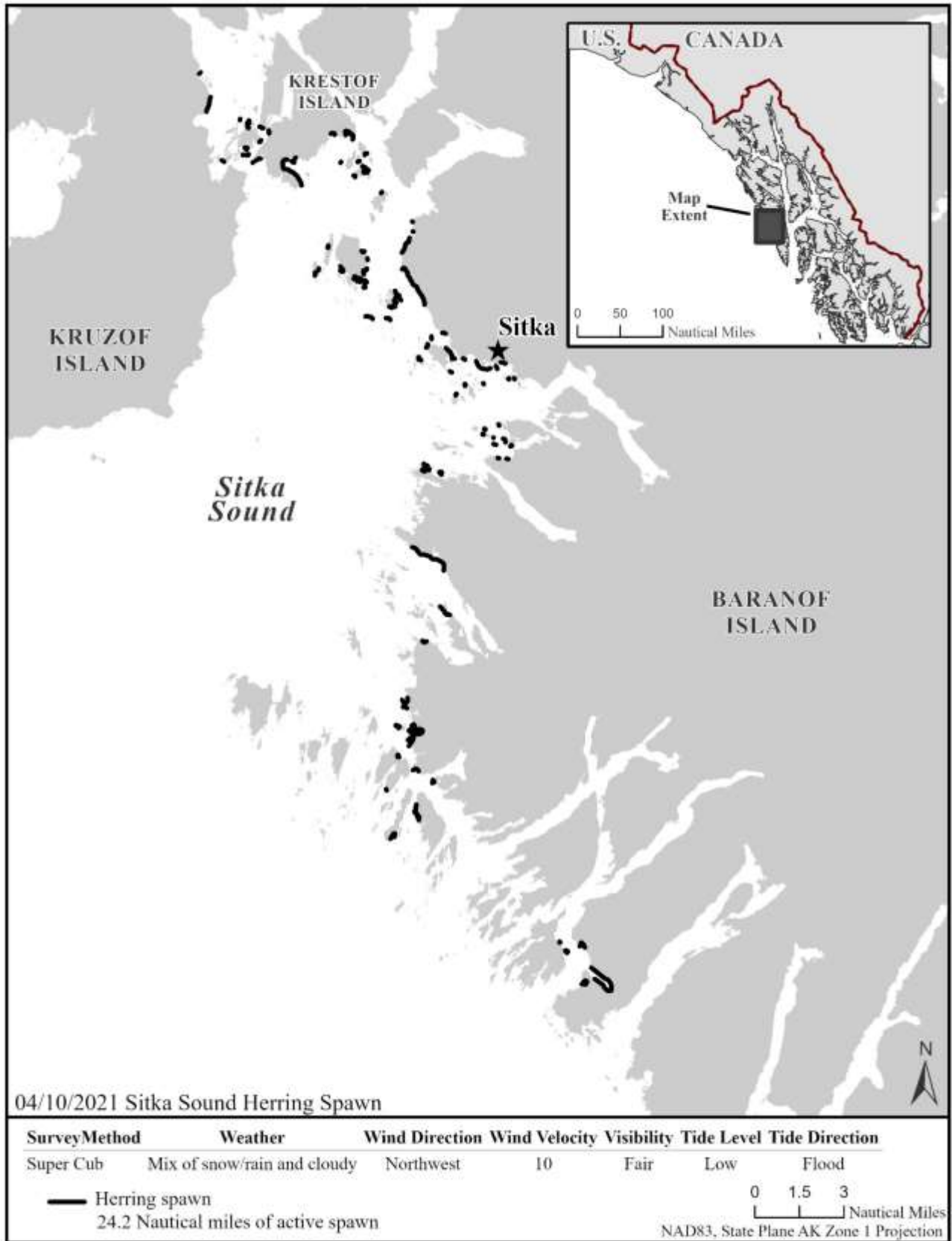


Figure 1.— Map of herring spawn observed in Sitka Sound on April 10, 2021