



**Advisory Announcement**  
***For Immediate Release: April 4, 2026***

**CONTACT: Aaron Dupuis**  
**Sitka Area Management Biologist**  
**[aaron.dupuis@alaska.gov](mailto:aaron.dupuis@alaska.gov)**  
**(907) 747-6688**

**SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. daily, beginning on Sunday, April 5, 2026, in the waters of Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of 57°00.81' N lat and east of 135°23.16' W long, and in the waters within 3 nautical miles (nmi) from the Baranof Island shoreline south of the latitude of Cape Burunof at 56°59.07' N lat and north of the latitude of Cape Aspid at 56°41.14' N lat, except for the waters of Whale and Necker Bays (Figure 1) until closed by field or advisory announcement. Fishing boundaries and open times may be modified by subsequent announcement. The emergency order corresponding with this opening is EO 1H1026. Harvest estimates from this fishery opening will be included in the next fishery update.

The department has determined that the opening described above would not harm a reasonable opportunity for participants in the subsistence fishery to harvest the amount of roe necessary for subsistence uses. When making this determination, the department considered: 1) vessel surveys conducted by the department beginning on March 20 indicated that there is a very large biomass of herring distributed throughout Sitka Sound; 2) the boundaries for this fishery were restricted in order to direct the commercial fishery away from important subsistence areas; 3) the cumulative herring spawn mileage to date within regulatory closed waters is approximately 11.7 nmi; 4) the cumulative herring spawn mileage to date in all of Sitka Sound is approximately 26.5 nmi; 5) the department will continue to monitor the open area for subsistence sets and active spawn.

The next aerial survey and fishery update are scheduled for Sunday, April 5.

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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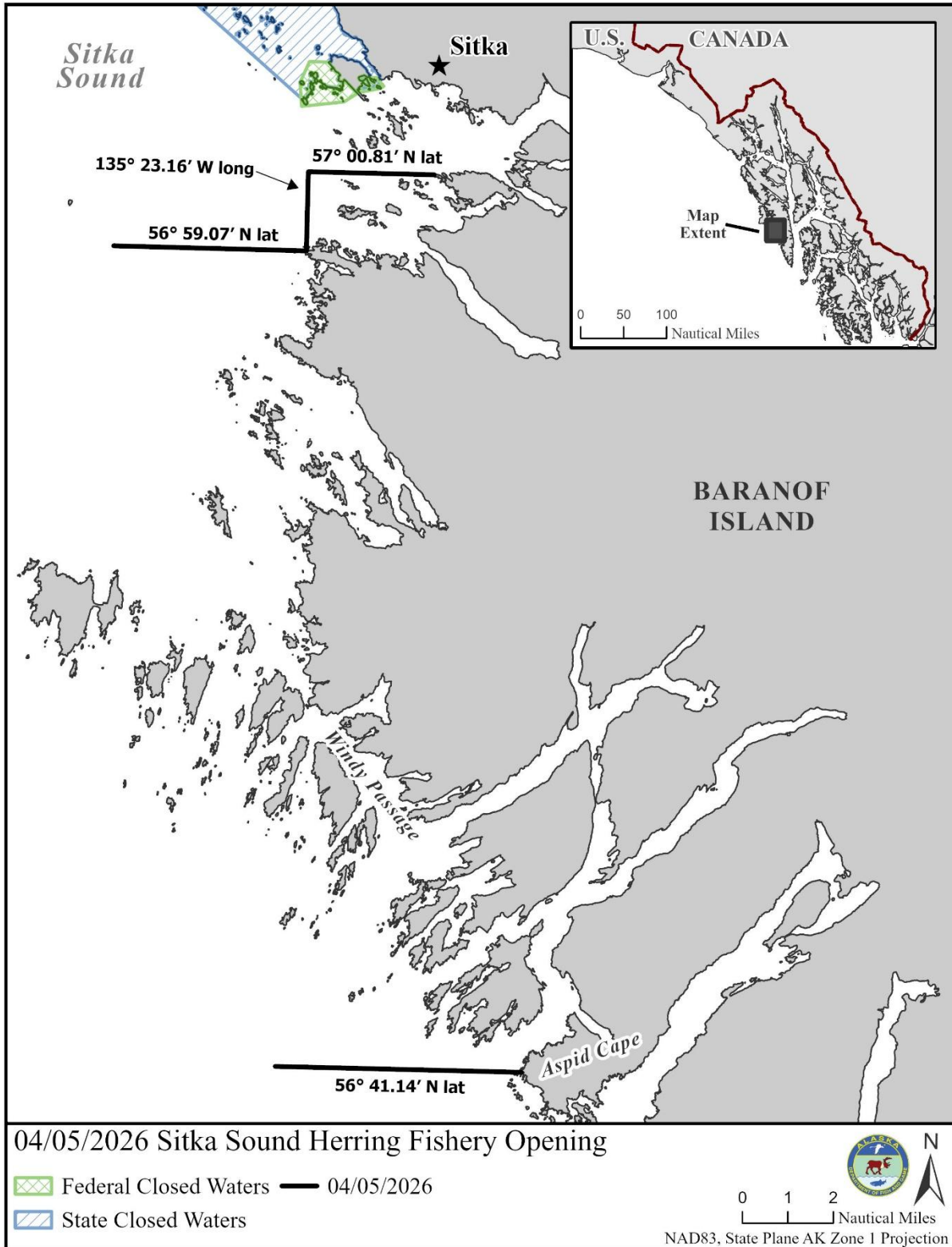


Figure 1.— Map of Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery boundaries beginning April 5, 2025.