

## Lynn Canal Ocean Circulation Studies May – September 2021

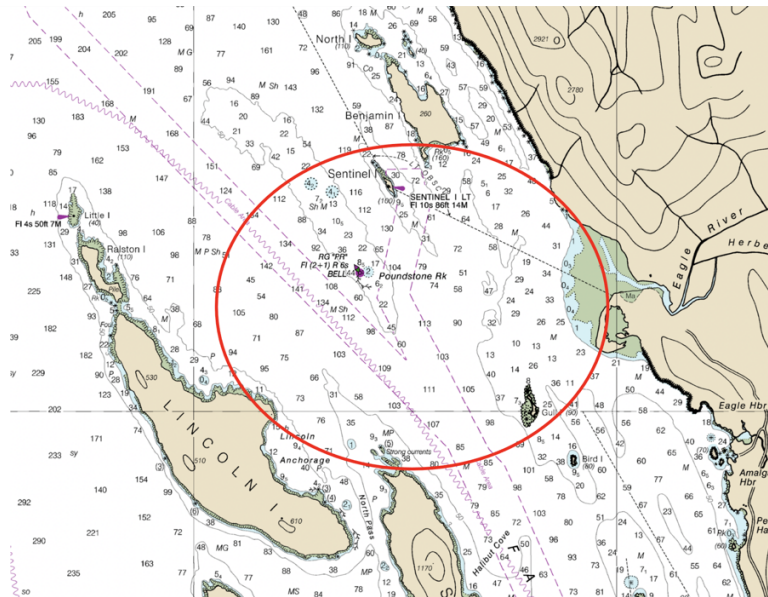
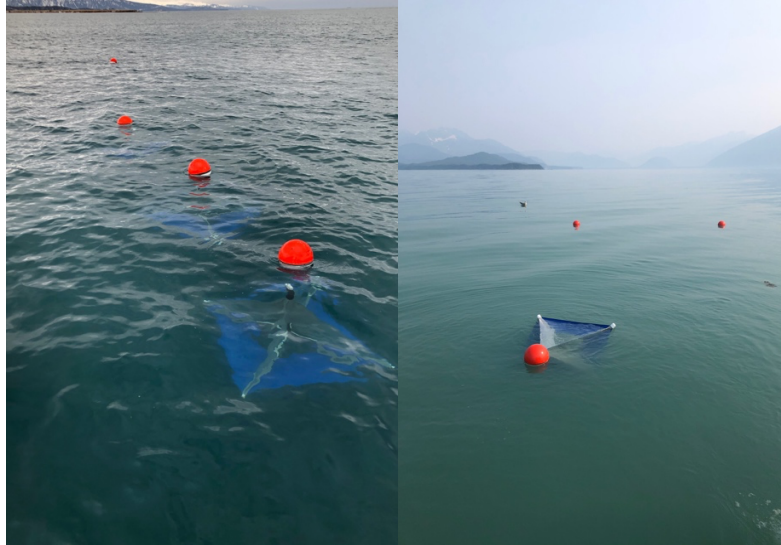
During May through September 2021, a team of scientists from the University of Alaska will be measuring the surface currents in Lynn Canal to better understand the speed and direction of the local ocean circulation. The measurements will be made using specialized current trackers engineered to drift with the upper 3 to 4 feet of the surface water. Each drifter has a float with a GPS and telemetry inside to send us data so we know where it is located at all times. We track each drifter position in real-time.

The photos at right show several drifters immediately after deployment, each with an orange surface float and drogue below to ensure the drifter follows the surface current.

In addition to measuring currents, we want to estimate how quickly things like fish larvae or pollutants might spread out from a source. We can estimate dispersion by measuring how drifter pairs separate in time.

Sets of four drifters will be deployed in the area within the red circle at right beginning in early May 2021. If you see a drifter in the water, please let it drift. If you see one washed ashore or grounded in shallow water, please

note the location and let us know. If you wish to be updated on this work, or see a grounded drifter, please email either or both of us at:



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THANKS!