

Sitka-Japonski Is. Bridge to Be Built

JUNEAU—A major road-block in the way of efforts to provide Sitka with direct vehicular access to its city airport and other facilities on neighboring Japonski Island was cleared last week as Gov. Walter J. Hickel received Coast Guard approval for construction of a \$3 million highway bridge between Baranof and Japonski Islands.

The bridge permit was approved by Adm. Willard J. Smith, commandant of the Coast Guard in Washington, D. C. Word of the approval

was relayed to the Governor by Rear Adm. Joseph Scullion, commander of the 17th Coast Guard District in Juneau.

Hickel said the Coast Guard's action means the Department of Highways can proceed immediately with right-of-way acquisition and preliminary engineering on the bridge.

Construction should get under way in mid-1969, Hickel said, with completion expected by late 1970 or early '71.