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Forest Service

Tongass  
National Forest  
R10-MB-144

August 1991



# Tongass Land Management Plan Revision

Supplement to the  
Draft Environmental  
Impact Statement

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## Appendix, Volume II



THIS ITEM HAS ACCOMPANYING MATERIAL.

**Tongass Land  
Management Plan  
Revision**

Supplement to the  
Draft Environmental  
Impact Statement

**Appendix, Volume II**

**C. Roadless Areas**

**E. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers**





**Appendix C**  
**Roadless Areas**



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## APPENDIX C

### ROADLESS AREAS ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of Appendix C - Roadless Areas is to present a more detailed description and effects analysis of the areas of the Tongass National Forest that are in an unroaded and essentially undeveloped condition. There are 105 roadless areas outside of existing Wilderness totalling 9.6 million acres. As a result of the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act, 727,765 acres were legislated as LUD II and are included in the roadless area descriptions. Some 24,587 acres of the legislated LUD IIs are roaded.

Appendix C describes each area's attributes and resource potentials, evaluates the area's capability and availability for management as Wilderness or allocation to other roadless management prescriptions. Each roadless area is identified by a name and a number, e.g. "312 Trap Bay". The roadless areas are shown on the map called "Roadless Areas" in the map packet, and are identified on the map by the area's number.

Each roadless area description is divided into the following sections:

**DESCRIPTION:** The history, location and access, physiographic and biologic features, current resource uses, and appearance, surroundings, and attractions are described

**WILDERNESS POTENTIAL:** The presence or absence of wilderness characteristics, potential for solitude, and manageability and special features are identified.

**RESOURCES:** The presence or absence of opportunities for resource uses, both extractive and non-extractive, are described. The relationship of each area to nearby areas and uses, and public interest in the potential management opportunities, are presented.

**CONSEQUENCES BY ALTERNATIVE:** The acreage of each land use designation for each alternative is presented in this table.

The 105 roadless area descriptions are presented in the order of the following table. The table gives total acres, National Forest acres, non-National Forest acres (i.e., private), and the number and percentage of acres tentatively suitable for timber harvest.

**Tongass National Forest Roadless Areas**

<i>Roadless Area Number</i>	<i>Gross Acres</i>	<i>National Forest Acres</i>	<i>Non-National Forest Acres</i>	<i>Tentatively Suitable Forest Lands Acres</i>	<i>Tentatively Suitable Percentage</i>
<b>Stikine Area</b>					
201	48,751	48,751	0	19,459	39.9
202	539,034	538,391	643	31,828	5.9
204	72,739	68,938	3,801	21,526	29.6
205	78,924	78,924	0	6,679	8.5
206	128,574	128,574	0	3,990	3.1
207	180,461	179,680	781	21,107	11.7
208	202,264	201,944	320	6,656	3.3
209	37,953	37,953	0	80	0.2
210	40,515	40,515	0	9,990	24.7
211	136,649	114,106	2,542	17,757	13.0
212	13,524	13,524	0	3,422	25.3
213	20,037	19,358	679	5,139	25.6
214	209,517	209,517	0	41,998	20.0
215	49,280	49,280	0	10,173	20.6
216	26,977	22,437	4,540	7,400	27.4
217	12,219	10,360	1,859	3,220	26.4
218	10,176	10,156	20	4,938	48.5
219	9,394	5,836	3,558	1,239	13.2
220	9,849	9,769	80	2,763	28.1
223	7,990	7,790	200	2,624	32.8
224	20,955	18,533	2,422	5,184	24.7
225	1,623	1,623	0	1,122	69.1
227	10,324	8,043	2,280	2,922	28.3
229	66,411	62,073	4,338	17,957	27.0
231	9,713	9,713	0	3,425	35.3
232	45,115	45,115	0	15,900	35.2
233	57,154	57,154	0	20,523	35.9
234	29,240	29,240	0	8,419	28.8
235	6,466	6,466	0	1,656	25.6
237	31,948	31,948	0	9,534	29.8
238	5,746	5,746	0	4,052	70.5
239	11,425	9,981	1,443	3,768	33.0
240	36,564	36,564	0	12,190	33.3
241	7,296	7,296	0	4,550	62.4
242	37,130	37,130	0	14,215	38.3
243	78,155	78,135	20	26,858	34.4
244	28,869	28,849	20	16,266	56.3
245	43,995	43,995	0	19,190	43.6
246	62,983	62,983	0	25,959	41.2
247	6,881	6,881	0	2,820	41.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,432,820</b>	<b>2,383,271</b>	<b>49,546</b>	<b>438,49</b>	<b>18.4</b>

**Tongass National Forest Roadless Areas**

<b>Roadless Area Number</b>	<b>Gross Acres</b>	<b>National Forest Acres</b>	<b>Non-National Forest Acres</b>	<b>Tentatively Suitable Forest Lands Acres</b>	<b>Tentatively Suitable Percentage</b>
<b>Chatham Area</b>					
301	1,196,837	1,196,777	60	22,865	1.9
302	722,134	22,015	120	66,004	9.1
303	66,217	66,217	0	8,285	12.5
304	205,682	05,501	180	38,347	18.6
305	102,410	02,410	0	27,815	27.2
306	54,853	54,773	80	23,082	42.1
307	27,736	27,716	20	3,960	14.3
308	165,896	65,876	20	77,307	46.6
309	6,290	6,290	0	3,547	56.4
310	28,609	28,549	60	10,355	36.2
311	561,042	58,380	2,662	66,195	11.8
312	14,178	14,178	0	1,875	13.2
314	10,698	10,698	0	3,216	30.1
317	15,319	15,319	0	7,859	51.3
318	5,800	5,780	20	2,260	39.0
319	5,800	5,800	0	4,380	75.5
321	21,722	21,722	0	4,420	20.3
323	35,900	35,740	160	7,177	20.0
325	51,069	45,266	5,803	11,681	22.9
326	27,987	27,987	0	7,452	26.6
327	14,361	14,361	0	5,287	36.8
328	93,880	93,880	0	10,545	11.2
329	55,699	55,699	0	6,126	11.0
330	337,976	335,975	2,000	57,371	17.0
331	118,595	117,495	1,100	7,262	6.1
332	17,456	17,456	0	6,059	34.7
333	77,181	73,360	3,821	19,945	25.8
334	122,545	122,165	380	11,376	9.3
338	500,153	500,153	0	0	0.0
339	319,107	316,950	2,157	15,949	5.0
341	31,334	31,035	299	13,910	44.4
342	6,366	6,306	60	1,281	20.1
343	6,487	6,487	0	2,222	34.3
344	13,480	12,720	760	6,721	49.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,040,799</b>	<b>5,021,036</b>	<b>19,762</b>	<b>562,136</b>	<b>11.2</b>

**Tongass National Forest Roadless Areas**

<b>Roadless Area Number</b>	<b>Gross Acres</b>	<b>National Forest Acres</b>	<b>Non-National Forest Acres</b>	<b>Tentatively Suitable Forest Lands Acres</b>	<b>Tentatively Suitable Percentage</b>
<b>Ketchikan Area</b>					
501	133,578	105,707	27,871	48,882	36.6
502	33,883	33,524	359	17,585	51.9
503	100,037	99,876	161	6,001	6.0
504	49,621	46,105	3,516	13,044	26.3
505	100,778	83,629	17,149	29,041	28.8
507	241,552	222,837	18,715	83,025	34.4
508	7,268	7,268	0	4,939	68.0
509	72,281	72,261	20	22,642	31.3
510	59,489	56,320	3,168	14,894	25.0
511	91,530	91,530	0	40,183	43.9
512	6,586	6,586	0	2,884	43.8
514	65,076	64,956	120	26,943	41.4
515	65,598	65,277	321	12,964	19.8
516	11,041	11,041	0	1,285	11.6
517	29,545	29,525	20	12,482	42.2
518	25,229	25,169	59	5,174	20.5
519	138,552	119,836	18,716	3,612	24.3
520	8,255	8,114	140	2,666	32.3
521	43,969	43,908	60	5,809	13.2
522	58,816	37,506	21,310	14,931	25.4
523	68,979	68,559	420	20,589	29.8
524	150,769	131,856	18,193	42,763	28.4
525	5,526	5,524	2	1,161	74.3
526	158,931	158,831	100	40,546	25.5
527	6,315	6,315	0	2,626	41.6
528	199,883	191,430	8,453	76,837	38.4
529	112,795	112,775	20	41,266	36.6
530	124,304	123,644	660	10,242	8.2
531	62,158	57,599	4,559	7,090	27.5
532	179	179	0	139	77.7
577	139,159	139,059	100	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,371,682</b>	<b>2,226,746</b>	<b>144,932</b>	<b>652,245</b>	<b>29.3</b>
<b>Total Forest-wide</b>	<b>9,845,321</b>	<b>9,631,053</b>	<b>214,240</b>	<b>1,652,879</b>	<b>17.2</b>

**INDIVIDUAL ROADLESS AREA DESCRIPTIONS**

**(201) Fanshaw**  
Gross acres: 48,751  
National Forest acres: 48,751

**Description**

The Fanshaw roadless area is located on the mainland at Cape Fanshaw and extends south to the North Arm of Farragut Bay. The shoreline along Frederick Sound is exposed and often difficult to access. The area is characterized by four separate peaks and ridges with low-lying valleys in-between. The many bays provide good anchorages. The area was probably inhabited by Tlingit in prehistoric times; there was a fox farm in Fanshaw Bay during the 1930-40's. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include mountain goats, black bears, deer, and an occasional brown bear and moose; waterfowl use the limited grass flats at the head of the North Arm. There are seven ADF&G numbered salmon producing streams within the area. Attractions to the area include the 540-acre Research Natural Area near Fanshaw Bay established for protection and study of a stand of Alaska-cedar, which is not particularly unique. Cape Fanshaw is also known to be a good site for collecting the wild Sitka rose. There are no cabins and the area does not receive much use, except for anchorages in some of the bays.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified except for some evidence of an old fox farm. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying airplanes are infrequent and boat traffic is far enough offshore not to cause any distraction. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities. There are no developed recreation facilities in the area, and the presence of bears also presents a degree of challenge and a need for woods skills and experience.

**Resources**

The area contains 19,459 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. As there are no suitable sites for log transfer facilities in the area, the potential for managing timber depends on the development of a road system in the adjoining roadless area to the north. Development is not likely in the near future. There is potential for additional outfitter/guide permits, trails, and cabins or shelters. Both fish and wildlife resource improvement projects are possible. The State has selected 700 acres within this area. There has been little interest on the part of any interest groups to retain the roadless character of this area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	614	614	614	614	614
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	5,751	5,751	0	5,751	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	20	0	20	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	8,699	8,699	0	8,679	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,194	1,194	2,126	0	2,126
Stream and Lake Protection	3,749	3,749	4,777	0	4,777
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,768	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	13,092	13,092	0	0	20
Modified Landscape	4,125	0	0	101	0
Timber Production	11,508	15,652	41,214	29,838	41,214
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(202) Spires**  
Gross acres: 539,034  
National Forest acres: 538,391

**Description**

The Spires roadless area is located on the mainland, from the Port Houghton drainage and Tracy Arm-Fords Terror Wilderness on the north to the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness on the south. The shoreline along Frederick Sound on the southwest is exposed and often difficult to access. The area is characterized as highly complex terrain dominated by rugged mountains, with deep valleys and numerous glaciers in-between. The Farragut and Thomas Bay areas were inhabited by the Tlingit in prehistoric times. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include mountain goat, black bear, deer, and an occasional brown bear and a moderate population of moose. Waterfowl use the extensive grassflats at the head of Farragut Bay and smaller areas around Thomas Bay. Thirteen ADF&G numbered salmon producing streams are present. Thomas and Farragut Bays are frequently used by small pleasure and commercial fishing boats. There are 4 recreation cabins and 3 improved trails. Moose hunting is popular during the fall, and there is some subsistence activity, primarily from Petersburg residents.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, except for the Muddy and lower Patterson River valleys where logging has occurred. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area. Low flying airplanes may briefly disrupt visitors, but passing boats are generally far enough offshore so as not to cause any distraction. The area provides primarily primitive, and semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized opportunity. The presence of bears also presents a degree of challenge and a need for woods skills and experience.

**Resources**

The area contains 31,828 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is closely linked to the existing road system near Thomas Bay, or development of additional log transfer facilities in Thomas and Farragut Bays. Recreation potential includes additional outfitter/guide permits, trails, cabins, or shelters. There are several fish and wildlife resource enhancement projects planned for the area. The Scenery Lake and Swan Lake drainages have been identified by the Federal Power Commission as potential hydropower generation sites and are withdrawn from other management considerations. There are two existing special use permits in the area. Mineral development potential is not high. Local Petersburg residents have a high degree of interest in how this area is managed. There was a strong protest when the State considered subdividing and selling land in Thomas Bay.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	7,328	7,468	0	11,272	7,388
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	387,550	386,989	414,660	47,771	100
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	52,348	0	27,322	0	20
Semi-Primitive Recreation	16,964	32,765	16,954	365,917	434,914
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	48,739	47,040	0	30,143	13,176
Beach Fringe and Estuary	824	1,564	1,945	0	2,772
Stream and Lake Protection	2,746	6,427	7,087	0	9,486
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	11,338	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	10,549	48,554	18,487	60	57,738
Modified Landscape	10,962	3,703	7,686	60	3,703
Timber Production	380	3,881	44,250	71,828	9,094
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(204) Madan**  
Gross acres: 72,739  
National Forest acres: 68,938

**Description**

The Madan roadless area is located on the mainland and is bounded on the south by the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness; on the west by the Eastern Passage, on the south by Blake Channel; and on the east by the Aaron Creek divide. There are accessible shorelines for landing small craft and floatplanes when weather conditions are favorable. The area is generally characterized as highly-complex terrain dominated by rugged mountains with deep, broad valleys in-between. Dominant waterforms include a relatively small glacier which occupies the highest mountains, Virginia Lake, and the waterfall on Mill Creek. The area was inhabited by the Tlingit in prehistoric times. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include mountain goats, black bear, deer and an occasional brown bear or moose. Even though there are seven ADF&G numbered fish streams in the area, salmon production is generally low. Some subsistence fishing occurs on Mill Creek for sockeye salmon. There are two recreation cabins and one short maintained trail in the area. Attractions include Virginia Lake and the opportunity to observe and study petroglyphs on the beach near Mill Creek.

**Wilderness Potential**

The majority of this area is natural appearing and unmodified, except for cabin sites, the trail, and a fish pass at the mouth of Mill Creek. There is moderate to high opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying aircraft may disrupt visitors for brief periods, but boats bypassing are generally far enough offshore so as not to cause any distraction. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 21,526 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. A preliminary timber analysis showed that timber values, overall, were not sufficient to warrant further investment at this time. Recreation potential includes additional outfitter/guide permits, trails, cabins, or shelters. Virginia Lake recreation cabin is being considered for conversion to barrier-free accessibility. Both fish and wildlife resource enhancement projects have potential. The Virginia Lake drainage has been identified as a potential hydropower generation site and is withdrawn from competing management. Native land selections include a four-acre Sealaska historical site at Green Point. Part of the 9,910-acre Zimovia Strait/Eastern Passage State selection is in this area. There are numerous mining claims and one group has been patented, but development potential is unknown. Wrangell residents have a high degree of interest in maintaining the integrity of the area around Virginia Lake, but many would like to see development in other parts of the area, including a road link between Wrangell and the Canadian highway system.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	23,224	16,323	40	40	40
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	8,346	8,066	0	20,108	1,402
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	3,401	3,401	0	0	3,481
Beach Fringe and Estuary	380	380	1,281	0	921
Stream and Lake Protection	3,081	3,401	6,761	0	5,381
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	4,721	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	19,905	28,206	28,168	20	26,306
Modified Landscape	3,481	60	32,607	1,020	31,407
Timber Production	7,122	9,102	80	43,029	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(205) Aaron**  
Gross acres: 78,924  
National Forest acres: 78,924

**Description**

The Aaron roadless area is located on the mainland and is bounded on the north by the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness and on the west, south and east by other roadless areas. There are 10 miles of shoreline at Blake Channel, including Berg Bay which is good anchorage for small boats. The area is dominated by rugged mountains, with deep, broad valleys in-between with several sizable streams which ultimately feed into the main channel of Aaron Creek. Small glaciers occupy the highest mountains, Aaron Creek, and numerous small cirque lakes. The area was used by the Tlingit in prehistoric times. Recent use includes extensive prospecting, and log raft storage on the grassflats at Aaron Creek. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include mountain goats, black bears, deer, wolves, and an occasional brown bear or moose. Aaron Creek produces chum, coho, and king salmon. Some subsistence activities occur in the area. There is a popular cabin at Berg Bay and a trail at Aaron Creek. Overall, the area provides spectacular scenery.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, except for minor impacts from mining and the cabin site. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying aircraft follow Blake Channel and boats frequent Berg Bay, but generally a person camped inland would not see others. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 6,679 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Potential for managing timber is closely linked to the development of an access road up the main river valley and the development of a log transfer facility. There is potential for additional trails and shelters located at high elevations. Wildlife enhancement opportunities include slashing portions of the older, decadent willow to promote new growth for moose, and improvement of habitat for waterfowl. There are numerous mining claims in the area, but potential for development is unknown. The valley is a potential road route to link the community of Wrangell to the Canadian highway system. The log storage area at the mouth of Aaron Creek is under special use permit with the State. Local Wrangell residents have a moderate degree of interest in maintaining the integrity of the area. Some would like to see development, while others support maintaining the roadless character of the area for wildlife and scenic values.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	61,223	60,122	33,377	0	29,177
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	1,920	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	2,900	4,140	520	77,363	33,326
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	12,780	12,820	0	0	14,340
Beach Fringe and Estuary	80	60	920	0	200
Stream and Lake Protection	0	60	4,561	0	100
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	60	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	1,621	0	0	820
Modified Landscape	20	100	60	180	60
Timber Production	0	0	39,486	1,320	900
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(206) Cone**  
Gross acres: 128,574  
National Forest acres: 128,574

**Description**

The Cone roadless area is located on the mainland and is landlocked. It is bounded on the north by the Canadian border, on the west by the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness and on the rest by roadless areas. The area is dominated by rugged mountains with deep, narrow valleys in-between containing several sizable streams which ultimately feed into the Stikine and Iskut Rivers. Dominant waterforms include the high velocity streams and small glaciers which occupy the highest mountains. Access is by foot or helicopter. Since the area drains entirely into Canada and is accessible only with great difficulty from the Alaskan side, there has been little use of the area in the past. Alpine vegetation dominates above an elevation of 2,500 feet. Below that elevation, the steep mountain sides are heavily marked with snowslide and landslide paths which are typically covered with grass, alders and willows. Wildlife include mountain goats, black and brown bears, and moose. There are no facilities of any kind, and the area gets little use. The attractions to the area include its natural features, remoteness, and solitude.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified. Activities on the Canadian side of the border are most likely to influence this area, such as the possibility of mining or a dam on the Iskut River. There is high opportunity for solitude within the area, with only an occasional low-flying aircraft to disturb one's sense of solitude. The area provides primarily primitive recreation opportunities. The difficult access and presence of bears present a high degree of physical challenge and a need for woods skills and experience.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,990 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. There is no potential for managing timber in this area without road access. The nature of the steep slopes and scattered timber make it doubtful that timber harvest would be economical even if a road were financed by other sources. Recreation potential for increased use or facility development is low until access is improved. There are several invalid mining claims in the area and potential for development of new claims is unknown. A 69 KV powerline has been authorized for construction and the portion that traverses the headwaters of the Craig River would be in this area. Two possible routes between saltwater and the Canadian highway system include portions of this area. Local Wrangell residents have a high degree of interest in this road system. Presently, there is virtually no local use of the area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	128,574	128,488	128,488	128,574	128,488
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	86	86	0	86
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(207) Harding**  
Gross acres: 180,461  
National Forest acres: 179,680

**Description**

The Harding roadless area is located on the mainland and is bounded on the west by Blake Channel, on the southeast by Misty Fiords National Monument, and by other roadless areas on all other sides. The Bradfield Canal bisects the area. The area is generally dominated by rugged mountains, with deep, narrow valleys in-between containing several sizable streams which ultimately feed into Blake Channel or Bradfield Canal. Dominant waterforms include numerous streams, several lakes covering a total area of about 1,000 acres, and relatively small glaciers on the highest mountains. The area was used by the Tlingit in prehistoric and historic times. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A small population of mountain goats ranges over the area, as do black and brown bears, and moose. The shoreline is mostly rocky and receives little recreation use. There are two recreation cabins on inland lakes and one at saltwater near the mouth of Harding River. There is no known subsistence use in the area. Attractions include the natural features of the area and high quality fishing.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified except for the Tyee powerline and minor timber harvest conducted in 1955 on the north shore of Bradfield Canal. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area. The sound of low-flying aircraft or the sight of boats might be the only invasions on solitude. The area provides primarily primitive recreation opportunities. The difficult land access and the presence of bears offer a high degree of challenge and a need for woods skills and experience.

**Resources**

The area contains 21,107 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependant upon market values and the development of harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. It will also require numerous log transfer facilities sites. Recreation potential includes additional outfitter/guide permits, trails, cabins or shelters. There is potential for various fish and wildlife enhancement projects in the area. The area generally has a low minerals rating and there are no known current claims. A 138 KV powerline under special use permit crosses part of the the area south of Bradfield Canal and there is the potential for development of another one. Most use of the area is associated with commercial fishing in Bradfield Canal and Blake Channel and with sport fishing in some of the major streams in the area. There has been some interest by residents of Wrangell in limiting the number of outfitter guides in the area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	28,350	71,200	23,228	80	23,228
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	75,872	59,265	86,737	0	81,953
Semi-Primitive Recreation	6,463	0	6,204	136,081	6,204
Legislated LUD II	220	220	220	220	220
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	13,485	7,904	0	7,924	4,784
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,520	1,520	1,860	0	1,860
Stream and Lake Protection	5,441	3,841	6,801	0	6,761
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	4,141	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	7,220	7,240	0	0	6,500
Modified Landscape	34,425	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	6,683	25,889	54,631	31,233	48,171
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(208) Bradfield**  
Gross acres: 202,264  
National Forest acres: 201,944

**Description**

The Bradfield roadless area is located on the mainland and is bounded on the east and southeast by Misty Fjords National Monument, on the west by the Harding Roadless Area, and by the Canadian border on a minor portion of the northeast side. The area at the mouth of the Bradfield River, and areas extending up the valley bottoms of both forks of that river, have been extensively roaded and harvested and are excluded from the boundaries of this roadless area. The area is dominated by rugged mountains, with deep, narrow valleys containing the high-energy Bradfield and White Rivers which feed the head of Bradfield Canal. There are relatively small glaciers, numerous streams, waterfalls, and a small hot spring in the area. The area may have been used by the Tlingit in prehistoric and historic times. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include brown and black bear, mountain goats, moose, and bald eagles. The Bradfield River is important for producing salmon and steelhead. There are no public recreation facilities in the area, but brown bear, waterfowl and goat hunting is popular.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the harvest areas mentioned above. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area. Boats and low-flying airplanes are common and may be observed in this area. Present recreation use levels are low except around the grassflats at the mouths of the rivers. The area provides primarily primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 6,556 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The timber remaining for harvest in the area is in areas where high development costs will preclude development for the immediate future. There is potential for outfitter and guide permits, trails, cabins and shelters in the area. There is potential for waterfowl enhancement and browse regeneration for moose. The area generally has a low minerals rating although the White River drainage is rated fairly high. A support camp and a power generating plant are under special use permit near the head of Bradfield Canal. Authorization has been given for a 69 KV power transmission line up the North Fork of the Bradfield River to the Canadian border. The State has appropriated \$150,000 to complete an Environmental Impact Statement addressing the impacts associated with a road up the North Fork. Interest has developed from both the Canadian and Alaska State governments for a potential road access to Canada through this area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	49,858
Primitive Recreation	66,544	63,763	64,523	120	64,523
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	40	0	40	0	40
Semi-Primitive Recreation	131,503	134,324	5,303	163,048	5,303
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	3,837	3,837	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	20	20	180	0	180
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	9,590	0	7,574
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	4,238	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	20	0
Timber Production	0	0	122,308	34,517	74,466
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(209) Anan**  
Gross acres: 37,953  
National Forest acres: 37,953

**Description**

The Anan roadless area is located on the mainland and has six miles of shoreline on Ernest Sound, but is otherwise surrounded by other roadless areas. The area is dominated by rounded mountains and hills, between which are deep, narrow valleys containing two forks of Anan Creek and two long, narrow lakes. The area was inhabited by the Tlingit in prehistoric times and several cultural sites are known. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The largest concentration of black bears in southeast Alaska exist here, as well as brown bear, bald eagles and other birds which concentrate here due to the fish runs, and goats. Anan Creek produces the most pink salmon of any stream on the Stikine Area. There is one recreation cabin, a bear observatory, and trails up both forks of the creek. The area at the mouth of Anan Creek receives heavy use by people (including many from Wrangell, Petersburg, and Ketchikan) who come to camp, fish, and observe the wildlife. Good anchorage, frequently used by outfitter/guides, is found off the mouth of the creek. Salmon have been gathered from this area for subsistence use in the past. A fish ladder at the bear observatory is managed by ADF&G.

**Wilderness Potential**

Most of the area appears natural and unmodified, except for the facilities at the mouth of Anan Creek which are constructed of natural materials. Continued public demand and increases in use will likely chip away at the area's natural integrity. There is a low opportunity for solitude in the bay, but opportunity increases as one moves away from the mouth of the creek, or in the off season. The area provides primarily primitive recreation opportunities. Travel on land is difficult, offering a high degree of physical challenge.

**Resources**

The area contains 80 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. There are no plans to harvest timber in the area. The area was proposed as wilderness in Congressional legislation, but instead the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 38,313 acres as LUD II. There is potential for additional outfitter/guide permits, trails, cabins or shelters, as well as for further improvements to existing facilities for barrier-free access. There is potential to improve fish access into the two large lakes in the upper watershed. Public demand to observe the black bear concentrations has increased dramatically. Levels of disturbance to bears need to be determined along with future recreation goals for the area. The 138 KV Tyee power transmission line crosses the north edge of the area. A Native historic site has been selected in the Anan Bay area. There is one inventoried potential Research Natural Area, but is not a priority area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	80	100	40	40	40
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	60	0	60
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	60	0
Legislated LUD II	37,793	37,793	37,793	37,793	37,793
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	7,203	0	7,243	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	20	20	20	0	20
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	20	20	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	20	0
Timber Production	40	20	40	40	40
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(210) Frosty**  
Gross acres: 40,515  
National Forest acres: 40,515

**Description**

The Frosty roadless area is located on the mainland and is bounded on the west by Ernest Sound and Seward Passage, and by other roadless areas on three sides. The area is generally characterized as complex terrain dominated by rounded mountains and hills rising steeply from saltwater, between which are low valleys containing short streams. Frosty and Sunny Bays provide good anchorages. The area was inhabited by the Tlingit in prehistoric times. In the 1930-40's there were salmon canneries located at Point Ward and in Santa Anna Inlet. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include black and brown bears, wolves, deer, and some goat. Geese nest in Frosty Creek, and swans winter at Lake Helen in Santa Anna Inlet. Lake Helen is also a popular sport fishing site for resident trout. Generally this area is not a large producer of anadromous fish. Trapping occurs along the beach fringe. There are no public recreation facilities and inland use is light. There is no known subsistence use in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area has not been modified, except for the minor timber harvest in Frosty Bay which took place about 30 years ago, and some cannery remains. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area, especially once one moves away from the beach a short distance. Boats or airplanes passing by or entering one of the bays may be observed, but such influences are not widespread. The area provides primarily opportunities for primitive recreation. Travel on land is difficult, offering a high degree of physical challenge.

**Resources**

The area contains 9,990 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. A timber sale has been sold for the Frosty drainage with construction of a log transfer facility near the mouth of Frosty Bay. There is potential for outfitter and guide permits, trails to some of the lakes, and additional cabins or shelters. There is potential for fish and wildlife resource projects, but none are planned. The area has a low minerals rating and there are no known mining claims.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	4,402	40	0	0	
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	100	0	100
Semi-Primitive Recreation	320	4,682	4,402	4,502	4,402
Legislated LUD II	40	40	40	40	40
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	1,305	1,305	0	0	1,165
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,122	1,122	1,262	0	1,202
Stream and Lake Protection	3,664	3,664	3,985	0	3,704
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,985	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	5,815	4,317	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	15,137	2,981	0	140	0
Timber Production	8,710	22,364	30,726	31,848	29,903
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(211) North Kupreanof**  
Gross acres: 136,649  
National Forest acres: 114,106

**Description**

North Kupreanof roadless area is located on the north end of Kupreanof Island adjoining the community of Kake to the west, and South Kupreanof roadless area and the Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness to the south. Frederick Sound forms the northern boundary. Landforms along this area are characterized by uniformly rolling lowlands. Bohemia Ridge provides topographic relief to essentially flat terrain. Muskeg/scrub timber complexes on wet areas are extensive, while timbered slopes are typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Traditional and subsistence uses have been concentrated around the lower reaches of Cathedral Falls Creek and the Hamilton River, but there are no known unique cultural or historic resources in the area. The majority of this area has low habitat qualities, but there are deer, moose, waterfowl and black bear. The areas immediately adjacent to saltwater or major creeks are valued for recreation uses such as black bear and waterfowl hunting, camping, sport fishing, as well as subsistence activities. The adjacency of this area to Kake, and to planned timber sales in Portage Bay area, will influence the future management of this area.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, although adjacent harvest activities are evident in some areas. There is a high opportunity for solitude in the area. Use of floatplanes and powerboats may be present for brief periods. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 17,757 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Timber values are generally low and development costs, though moderate, are still high for economical development. The proposed Bohemia Mountain Timber Sale Draft EIS is currently available for public comment. Recreation potential in this area is moderate, reflecting its proximity to Kake. The area could be accessed by foot from the adjacent road system, with appropriate trail development. There is potential for fish enhancement projects. Moose and deer habitat improvement projects are planned for the area. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development potential. A proposed 240 acres have been selected by the State. The area is of concern to local residents of Kake as future timber sales may provide employment and other opportunities. If a road connection from Kake to Petersburg were built, it would cross this roadless area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	20,356	20,664	0	29,641	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	559	1,695	80	80	80
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	7,123	6,428	20	8,223	20
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	6,323	3,290	0	2,434	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,352	1,114	1,870	0	1,870
Stream and Lake Protection	5,998	6,537	10,717	0	10,717
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	6,299	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	19,750	17,619	0	1,795	0
Modified Landscape	8,914	1,634	20	60	20
Timber Production	43,731	55,124	101,400	65,575	101,400
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(212) Missionary**  
Gross acres: 13,524  
National Forest acres: 13,524

**Description**

The Missionary roadless area is located on the northern portion of the Lindenberg Peninsula, on Kupreanof Island, about 12 miles northwest of Petersburg. It has one mile of shoreline on Frederick Sound to the east, while from Portage Bay to the west, a logging road system accesses three sides. The area is characterized by steep slopes, glacial cirque lakes, and an alpine ridge line. There are four lakes high on the flanks of the mountains. The area was once inhabited by the Stikine Tlingit, although there are no cultural resource sites in evidence. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include Sitka black-tailed deer and black bear. Fishing and hunting are the main recreational uses in the area, but deer hunting has been closed for the last fifteen years. Most use is concentrated along the outside edges which are accessible by roads, but overall use levels are low. There is some subsistence use in the area. Special features might include the uncommon grayling found in one small lake in the region and an unusual mineral outcrop near the east side of the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area itself is unmodified, however its overall integrity is not considered pristine due to the adjacent roads and timber harvests. The irregular shape of the area, and penetration of roads and timber harvest up the Todahl Creek Valley, also have likely impacted the area's natural integrity. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Air, boat, and vehicle traffic may be heard in the area, and timber harvest activities are heard when they do occur. The area provides semi-primitive recreation opportunity. There are no developed recreation opportunities in this area.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,422 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on market values. A road system and/or logging systems would be necessary, and nearby roads could be extended to accomplish much of this. There is some potential for outfitter/guide permits, trails, and cabins and/or shelters. There is some potential for adjacent recreation activities to spill into the area, such as mountain biking or off-road vehicle use. No fish or wildlife habitat improvement projects are planned. The area has low minerals development potential. Numerous special use permits exist within parts of this area, including a Coast Guard reservation, roads, logging camp, log dump, and public recreation cabin.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	80	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	120	120	0	120	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	20	20	80	0	80
Stream and Lake Protection	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1,000	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	6,343	6,343	3,902	0	3,902
Modified Landscape	6,041	1,640	1,640	0	1,640
Timber Production	0	4,401	6,902	12,404	6,902
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(213) Five Mile**  
Gross acres: 20,037  
National Forest acres: 19,358

**Description**

The Five Mile roadless area lies along the eastern shore of the Lindenberg Peninsula on Kupreanof Island at Five Mile Creek, and includes the Sukoi Islets in Frederick Sound. Areas to the north are defined by roads and harvest areas, and the south is bounded by Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness. Petersburg lies five miles to the south across Wrangell Narrows. Landforms along this area are characterized by a glacier-fed stream, Five Mile Creek, and steeply-rising mountain slopes. Several historic resources exist in this area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The areas immediately adjacent to saltwater or major creeks are valued for recreation uses such as black bear hunting, hiking, fishing, and beach combing. Two trails exist in this area, both beginning at saltwater, which are used primarily by Petersburg residents. The Sukoi Islands lie in a primary marine route for pleasure and commercial boat traffic, including the Alaska State ferries, and have good anchorages themselves.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified. External influences include the roaded northern end of the peninsula, heavy boat traffic in Frederick Sound, and the community of Kupreanof to the southeast. There is high opportunity for solitude in this area away from these areas. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 5,139 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. There are good timber values in this area, however high roading costs and high scenic values will need to be recognized. Recreation potential for the area is moderate to high, including additional trails, cabins or shelters. The area displays a wide variety of setting in a compact area that is easily accessible from Petersburg and Kupreanof. Wildlife habitat improvement projects, such as browse enhancement, have potential. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development potential. There is continued interest in future road access from Kake to Kupreanof, which would require access through this area. Fifty acres of this area are private landholdings, and 600 acres are proposed for State land selection. A special use permit exists for an electronics site on top of Petersburg Mountain.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	3,479	3,479	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	1,819	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	1,780	2,479	0	5,959	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	620	660	920	0	920
Stream and Lake Protection	680	780	1,220	0	1,220
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	780	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	4,499	5,478	4,938	1,419	9,638
Modified Landscape	5,921	1,220	6,479	0	1,780
Timber Production	560	5,261	5,801	11,200	5,801
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(214) South Kupreanof**  
Gross acres: 209,517  
National Forest acres: 209,517

**Description**

The South Kupreanof roadless area is generally surrounded by other roadless areas, except on the northeast corner where it adjoins the Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness area. Technically, it doesn't reach the southern shoreline along Sumner Strait, due to the presence of clearcutting and roads which occurred in the 1960-70's. There are a few good anchorages along the southern shore, and also within Duncan Canal. The area is low-lying, rolling terrain with little relief. The southern shorelines and along Duncan Canal were probably used extensively by the Tlingit, although there is only incidental evidence, such as pitch trees. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer and moose which appear to be a growing population. The area contains either the entire stream or the headwaters of approximately twenty ADF&G numbered salmon producing streams. Generally, this area is a good producer of anadromous fish. Attractions include the areas immediately adjacent to saltwater or major creeks which are highly valued for recreation uses such as black bear and waterfowl hunting, camping, trapping, beach combing, and sport fishing. Stone columns produced by erosion formed the "totems" at the head of Totem Bay. Overall, the area receives light recreational use. There are two out-of-service recreation cabins.

**Wilderness**

The area is essentially unmodified, except for the southern beach areas which have been heavily harvested and roaded and are seen by ferry and cruiseship passengers. There is a high opportunity for solitude in the area. Use of floatplanes and motorboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 41,998 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The North Irish Timber Sale activities will continue in the northern half of VCU 429. Additional timber sale offerings are likely in the next 10 to 15 years. Overall recreation potential for the area is low as activities are limited. There is potential for some fish and wildlife habitat enhancement projects. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development potential in the area. Three VCUs were identified as part of the West Duncan proposed wilderness in Congressional legislation, but were not included in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. There is high interest by local users in maintaining Duncan Canal in its natural state for recreational use, although remaining lowlands are lacking interest to the average user.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	1,723	3,119	240	20	240
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	79,207	20,700		10,389	8,507
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	15,480	5,610	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	561	581	3,581	0	1,443
Stream and Lake Protection	10,324	16,767	20,731		20,232
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	19,573	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	7,805	8,045		80	1,077
Modified Landscape	18,792	4,646	22,476	20	18,905
Timber Production	75,626	150,049	162,489	179,255	159,112
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(215) Castle**  
Gross acres: 49,280  
National Forest acres: 49,280

**Description**

The Castle roadless area is located along the southwest shore of Duncan Canal on the southeast corner of Kupreanof Island. It is just north of Kah Sheets Bay, and includes Castle River Estuary and flats. Technically, the area does not reach the shoreline along Kah Sheets Bay or Little Duncan Bay due to the presence of clearcutting and roading which occurred in the mid 1970's. Its western boundary is another roadless area. The community of Petersburg lies 20 miles to the northeast. The area is characterized by uniformly-rolling to moderately-steep hills, with fairly extensive areas of lowlands in-between. The shorelines along the southern boundary and along Duncan Canal were probably used by the Tlingit. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include some deer, black bear, waterfowl, and a growing moose population. Castle River and Kah Sheets are noted for good spring steelhead fishing, and coho fishing in the late summer. There are four recreation cabins and three developed trails, some of which are planked, in the area and recreation use is fairly intense. The areas immediately adjacent to saltwater or major creeks are highly valued for recreation uses such as black bear and waterfowl hunting, camping, beach combing, and sport fishing. There are a series of small islands off the mouth of Castle River which have limestone cliffs and caves.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified and appears natural along Duncan Canal, except for the harvested area along the beach. There is high opportunity for solitude in the area, except around the cabins and trails. Use of floatplanes and motorboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 10,173 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent upon the development of high market values and the development of less expensive access methods. Recreation potential for the area is high due to its proximity on relatively sheltered waters to Petersburg. There is potential for additional cabins, trails, and outfitter/guide permits. Both fish and wildlife enhancement projects have been identified. A barite mine operated in the 1960-70's, but there are no active claims today. Private lands make up 5.3 acres of this area. Most of the area was considered for designation in Congressional legislation but was not adopted in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. High interest exists by local users in maintaining Duncan Canal in a natural state for recreational use.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	1,839	0	60	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	39,690	6,195	0	6,295	6,295
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	5,737	4,338	0	0	3,217
Beach Fringe and Estuary	60	420	1,819	0	420
Stream and Lake Protection	280	2,678	4,436	0	2,798
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,617	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	240	9,693	8,035	40	8,035
Modified Landscape	20	4,976	18,467	20	14,410
Timber Production	3,253	19,141	16,523	39,248	14,105
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(216) Lindenberg**  
Gross acres: 26,977  
National Forest acres: 22,437

**Description**

The Lindenberg roadless area lies inland on the Lindenberg Peninsula on Kupreanof Island, directly south of the Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness. The city of Petersburg lies one mile to the east across Wrangell Narrows, and the city of Kupreanof and State land are adjacent to the east side of the area. The area is characterized by steep mountain slopes divided by two major drainages, Duncan Creek and Coho Creek. This area was within the former territory of the Stikine Tlingit which is evidenced by campsites, fort sites, garden areas, and fish weirs. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, moose, and waterfowl. The areas immediately adjacent to saltwater or major creeks are valued for recreation uses such as black bear hunting, hiking, beach combing and sport fishing. The Duncan Canal Portage Trail, which is not an official trail, provides one of the few extended hiking opportunities in the area. This loop trail of about 30 miles includes the adjacent Wilderness and ties in numerous recreation amenities, including encountering numerous ecotypes in one area. This area is adjacent to the community of Kupreanof, and to land owned by State of Alaska and Petersburg which will most likely lead to continued development of homesites, which may not be compatible to long-term roadless maintenance of the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, although areas adjacent to private land are likely to change in character as development occurs. There is a high opportunity for solitude in the area, except around specific recreation areas. Use of floatplanes and powerboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods. The area provides primarily semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 7,400 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent upon the development of stable market values and the ability to develop cost effective transportation of logs. Recreation potential for the area is high, due to the proximity to Petersburg and the adjacent Wilderness. There is potential for additional outfitter/guide permits, and the development of cabins and/or shelters. Additional opportunities for trails would create more loop options. Browse, winter range, and waterfowl habitat improvement projects are planned for the area. Three recreation cabin special use permits are present. The State has selected 3,515 acres at Coho Creek. Many local residents want this area to remain unroaded and undeveloped as long as possible.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	20	20	20	20	20
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	10,579	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	840	840	0	840	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	60	120	320	0	320
Stream and Lake Protection	1,080	2,000	2,100	0	2,100
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,000	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	520	6,599	6,079	6,199	6,079
Modified Landscape	7,759	2,120	3,520	3,520	3,520
Timber Production	1,580	10,739	10,399	9,858	10,399
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(217) Green Rocks**  
Gross acres: 12,219  
National Forest acres: 10,360

**Description**

The Green Rocks roadless area is located on the Lindenberg Peninsula on Kupreanof Island, adjacent to Wrangell Narrows and Duncan Canal. Extensive roading and logging exist to the north. The area is comprised of one major drainage and several small ones, and is characterized by rolling, subdued topography and extensive muskeg areas. The area was used by the Stikine Tlingit in prehistoric and historic times as is evidenced by the remains of a village site, fort site, and several fish weirs. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, black bear, and moose. Green Rocks Lake, Green Rocks Trail, and several popular waterfowl hunting areas provide the great attraction to the recreating public. Land adjacent to this area was selected by the State of Alaska, which then sold numerous parcels through the land lottery programs. Many of these land owners have built permanent residences on their property.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the existing recreation cabins, residences and trail. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying airplanes, Alaska State ferries which travel within one quarter mile of the area, and other boaters may be observed by people in this area. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,220 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this roadless area is dependent on the development of a road system or harvest methods which do not require extensive roading, although one log transfer facility may be needed. There is potential for additional outfitter and guide permits, and for developed trails and cabins or shelters. Browse, winter range, and waterfowl habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development potential. The State has selected about 2,000 acres concentrated near the shoreline; some of these are currently private landholdings.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	5,222	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	1,541	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	160	500	500	0	500
Stream and Lake Protection	100	560	580	0	580
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	400	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	3,878	8,100	4,720	2,401	5,981
Modified Landscape	999	200	2,181	980	920
Timber Production	0	999	2,378	5,037	2,378
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(218) Woewodski**  
Gross acres: 10,176  
National Forest acres: 10,156

**Description**

The Woewodski roadless area is located on Woewodski Island, south of Kupreanof Island where the Wrangell Narrows and Duncan Canal meet. The island is comprised of four major drainages, flat muskegs to the northeast, and Harvey Lake in the northwest. The area is close to Petersburg on relatively sheltered waters. The area was used by the Tlingit in prehistoric and historic times. The area is unique in its extent of mineral wealth, including gold. Various companies have held rights to the island's mineral wealth since the early 1900's. The area is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include black bear and a small population of deer. There are two recreation cabins, and on trail connecting Harvey Lake to Duncan Canal. In the summer, fishing for silver salmon takes place around the cabin. The area is primarily used for recreational purposes, with Petersburg residents and those from the Beecher Pass homesites making use of the trail and cabins. There is no known subsistence use in the area. Special features include its natural characteristics and the remnants of old mines.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the cabin, residences, and trail located on the northern end of the island. There is moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying airplanes, the ferry, and recreation boaters may at times pass by the area. The area provides primarily primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity. Recreation use is low except around the cabins and trail.

**Resources**

The area contains 4,938 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on high market values, and the resolution of resource conflicts. One log transfer facility would be necessary. There is potential for additional outfitter/guide permits and for developed trails and additional cabins or shelters. There is one special use recreation residence permit on the north shore, one private residence, and one private mining property near the Harvey Lake trailhead. Wildlife habitat improvement projects are planned for the area. The area has an abundant supply of minerals, and mineral exploration activity has increased in the last few years. Claims cover 90 percent of the island. Private landholdings total 38.72 acres. There are no State or Native land selections within this area. During the planning for the Woewodski Timber Sale, intense local opposition developed from residents in the Beechers Pass area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	10,076	0	0	2,518	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	80	1,400	1,400	0	1,400
Stream and Lake Protection	0	900	900	0	900
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	620	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	6,557	4,139	80	6,557
Modified Landscape	0	440	3,718	3,501	1,300
Timber Production	0	859	0	3,438	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(219) North Mitkof**  
Gross acres: 9,394  
National Forest acres: 5,836

**Description**

The North Mitkof roadless area is located on the northern portion of Mitkof Island, adjacent to and just southeast of the city of Petersburg. State land surrounds the area on three sides with its associated roads and timber harvest areas, while the northeastern portion is adjacent to Frederick Sound. The area was claimed by several Stikine Tlingit clans who used the area for hunting and trapping; however, there are presently no recorded cultural resource sites. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A small population of deer and black bear range over the area. There are two trails and one recreation cabin and the area receives relatively heavy recreational use. Wintertime use of the area is growing, with cross-county skiing where suitable. Hunting, fishing, and woodcutting are all popular activities. There is some subsistence use in the area. Much of the land in this area has been selected or is being considered for selection by the State and the city of Petersburg, which gets its drinking water from a watershed located primarily in this area. The proximity to Petersburg makes portions of this area attractive to a variety of uses, community expansion, recreation, and various forms and intensities of resource utilization such as timber, rock sources, utility corridors, and special uses.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified and has maintained its overall integrity. There is a moderate to low opportunity for solitude within the area. Air and marine traffic pass nearby, the trail and cabin concentrate users, noise and sights of timber sales may occur, and the town of Petersburg can be seen and heard from some locations. The area provides primarily semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 1,239 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on market values and road or logging systems capable of harvesting the area. There is potential for outfitter and guide permits and for additional ski and summer trails, cabins, shelters, and roaded recreation activities, such as sightseeing and downhill ski development. No fish habitat enhancement projects are planned, and it is unlikely that wildlife improvements will take place in the area. The area has low minerals potential. Portions of the area are identified for community expansion and development. The municipal watershed makes portions of the area extremely valuable. Other portions of the area are traditional and/or popular recreation areas for local users.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	20	20	20	20	20
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	1,359	1,359	1,359	0	1,359
Old-Growth Habitat	2,358	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	80	1,759	0	3,118	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	180	240	340	0	340
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	240	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	100	680	680	680	2,239
Modified Landscape	620	40	1,619	40	60
Timber Production	1,119	1,739	1,819	1,739	1,819
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(220) East Mitkof**  
Gross acres: 9,849  
National Forest acres: 9,769

**Description**

The East Mitkof roadless area is located on the eastern side of Mitkof Island, adjacent to the southern end of Frederick Sound, eight miles southeast of the city of Petersburg. Forest roads and harvest units generally make up the rest of the irregularly shaped land boundaries. The area generally slopes to the east in a gentle manner; terrain in the northern portion is nearly flat. The area was inhabited by several clans of the Stikine Tlingit. An abandoned village site and petroglyphs are reported in the vicinity of Ideal Cove. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska Temperate rain forest. Wildlife include black bear, a small population of deer, and a few moose. Due to its proximity to Petersburg and easy accessibility, the area receives relatively heavy recreational use centered around the Three Lakes area which has a system of interconnecting trails, which in itself is unique to southeast Alaska. The trails are short and gentle, and some are planked, adding to their popularity. Wintertime use of the area is increasing, especially snowmobile use and some cross-country skiing. Hunting, fishing and woodcutting are all popular activities. There is some subsistence use in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area has maintained its overall integrity, except for the plank trails and minor development at the lakes. However, adjacent management activities have likely impacted some of the natural integrity of this area. There is a moderate to low opportunity for solitude within the area. Air traffic and marine traffic pass nearby, trails and lakes concentrate users, and timber harvest activities when occurring would impact users. The area provides primarily semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,763 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this roadless area is dependent on market values. A road system and/or logging systems capable of harvesting the area would be necessary, although nearby roads could be extended to accomplish some of this. There is potential for outfitter/guide permits, winter trails, and additional summer trails. Potential also exists for additional cabins, shelters, and roaded recreation activities. Ideal Cove, an area of about 900 acres, was selected by the State. In cooperation with the State, it could provide an important trail access to the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness and be used more extensively by watercraft. The area has low minerals potential.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	80
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	6,044	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	1,802	3,863	0	2,061	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	300	641	981	0	981
Stream and Lake Protection	180	461	1,021	0	1,021
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	641	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	180	0	0	120	2,223
Modified Landscape	240	1,202	2,744	140	441
Timber Production	1,022	3,603	5,024	6,807	5,024
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(223) Manzanita**  
Gross acres: 7,990  
National Forest acres: 7,790

**Description**

The Manzanita roadless area is located on the southeast corner of Mitkof Island, about 18 miles southeast of the city of Petersburg. Forest roads, harvest units, and the Mitkof Highway generally make up the irregularly-shaped land boundaries, with just one mile of shoreline on saltwater. The area exhibits great relief, as the core is made up of a ridge system with moderate to steep slopes, and drainages oriented in all directions. There is one small pond near the southwest corner. The area was claimed by the Stikine Tlingit clans, although no aboriginal sites have been recorded within this area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A population of deer and black bear, and possibly a few moose, range over the area. The proximity to Petersburg by roaded access makes portions of this area attractive for recreation, including hunting, woodcutting and gathering, and snowmobiling. Some of the use is likely for subsistence. There are no developed recreation opportunities in the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified, however its overall integrity is not considered pristine. Adjacent management activities have likely impacted some of the natural integrity of this area, such as wildlife. The irregular shape of the area also lessens its natural integrity. There is a low opportunity for solitude within the area. Air traffic and vehicle traffic pass nearby and timber harvest activities in adjacent areas would have a significant impact on solitude when they occurred. The area provides some semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

There are 2,624 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on market values. A road system and/or logging systems capable of harvesting the area would be necessary, although nearby roads could be extended to accomplish some of this. There is potential for trails, and possibly shelters, to access the ridgelines and saltwater. There is some potential for interpretive activities due to its accessibility and proximity to the existing interpretive tour of the Mitkof Highway and Three Lakes Road. The area has low minerals potential. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for certain wildlife and traditional recreation activities.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	1,842	1,842	0	280	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	120	0	120
Stream and Lake Protection	521	521	601	0	601
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	581	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	100	100	40	0	1,541
Modified Landscape	3,726	0	2,482	0	981
Timber Production	1,602	5,328	4,547	6,929	4,547
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(224) Crystal**  
Gross acres: 20,955  
National Forest acres: 18,533

**Description**

The Crystal roadless area is located on the southwest corner of Mitkof Island, about 15 miles southwest of the city of Petersburg. Forest road, harvest units, and the Mitkof Highway form the irregularly shaped land boundaries, with just six miles of shoreline on saltwater. Two mountainous areas dominate the landform: Crystal Peak to the north and the northern portion of the Sumner Mountains to the south. Crystal Lake is a significant waterbody to the north. The area was claimed by several Stikine Tlingit clans and used for hunting and gathering of subsistence items. Evidence of their use is indicated by the remains of temporary camps, fish weirs, petroglyphs, and bark-stripped trees. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A population of deer and black bear range over the area, as do some moose. Due to its proximity to Petersburg and accessibility by road and water, the area receives moderate recreational use, consisting primarily of hunting, berry picking and woodcutting. There is one trail from the State's Crystal Lake Fish Hatchery to Crystal Lake, which provides water for the hatchery and its residents. Some State land selections have occurred or are pending in the southern portion. The western portion has been selected by the State, and selections are pending which encompass Crystal Lake.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified, however its overall integrity is not considered pristine. Adjacent management activities have likely impacted some of the natural integrity of this area, such as wildlife. The irregular shape of the area and inclusion of private land also lessen its natural integrity. There is a low to moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Air traffic and vehicle traffic pass nearby, and timber harvest when occurring would have a significant impact on solitude. The area provides some semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 5,184 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this roadless area is dependent on market values and the construction of a road system or logging systems capable of harvesting the area. There is potential for trails and shelters to access the ridgelines. There is some potential for interpretive activities due to the area's accessibility and proximity to the existing interpretive tour of the Mitkof Highway and Three Lakes Road, and the popular Blind Slough recreation site. The extensive alpine area is an attraction for recreationists. Support for a trail to the ridgeline and alpine terrain above Crystal Lake has evolved from several recreation public meetings. There are three special uses in the area. The area has low minerals potential.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	6,084	0	0	6,024
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	620	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	1,761	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	620	620	0	540	600
Beach Fringe and Estuary	80	80	520	0	160
Stream and Lake Protection	801	1,061	1,781	0	1,061
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1,761	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	2,682	3,442	3,542	5,324	3,623
Modified Landscape	6,184	7,245	12,689	4,323	7,065
Timber Production	0	0	0	6,585	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(225) Kadin**  
Gross acres: 1,623  
National Forest acres: 1,623

**Description**

The Kadin roadless area consists of Kadin Island located off the mouth of the Stikine River where Sumner Strait, Stikine Strait and Eastern Passage converge. At low tides it is nearly surrounded by tideflats formed by the sediments of the Stikine River. The island rises fairly steeply and uniformly to a height just above 1,000 feet, giving it its local name of High Island. Soils are unique because of the influence of the Stikine River. High winds moving down the Stikine River canyon pick up silt from the unvegetated glacial river floodplain and deposit it as loess on islands at the river's mouth. Few areas in the world have a combination of high rainfall and recent loess deposition, so the properties of the soils here are of special interest. This soil also causes a unique form of high productivity Sitka spruce/devil's club forest type. A small population of deer and black bear range over the island. There is some subsistence use in the area. There are no developed recreation opportunities in the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified, and has maintained its overall natural integrity. There is a low to moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Air and marine traffic pass nearby, and timber harvest or other activities in adjacent areas would have a significant impact on solitude when occurring. The area provides primarily semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 1,122 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this roadless area is dependent on high market values. Development of beach access and log transfer sites would also be required, both of which would be difficult. There is some potential for outfitter and guide permits, or for developed trails, cabins, or shelters. The area has been inventoried as a potential Research Natural Area. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for certain wildlife, and for further consideration as a Research Natural Area. It could also be added to the existing adjacent Stikine-LeConte Wilderness.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	1,623	1,623	0	0	1,623
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	641	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	80	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	120	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	902	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	1,503	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(227) North Wrangell**  
Gross acres: 10,324  
National Forest acres: 8,043

**Description**

The North Wrangell roadless area is basically a mountain ridge forming the northern tip of Wrangell Island, with four somewhat rounded peaks having steep drainages containing small streams emptying into salt water. Land access roads and closely associated clearcut timber harvest units bound the area on three sides. The east side is defined by saltwater which is now State owned land. Future uses of that land is uncertain, however some development is likely. A 138 KV powerline crosses the area near its center. The area was used by the Stikine Tlingit in prehistoric times, however only a few sites have been recorded, including a former camp and a possible burial site. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Important wildlife species include deer, wolves, black bear, marten and a small population of moose. Two trails and a shelter are the only facilities in the area, which is accessible by boat and automobile from the community of Wrangell in less than two hours. The Institute Trail is one of the few trails easily accessible to a major population center on the Stikine Area and it receives relatively heavy use. The shoreline currently receives little recreation use, but areas where roads cross the larger streams receive higher use during the summer.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area's natural integrity has been impacted by the roads and clearcut harvests surrounding it, and the powerline crossing near the center. There is a good opportunity for solitude within the area, especially after one has gone a short distance from the roads. The area provides primarily semi-primitive recreation opportunities. The character of the landforms and vegetation generally allows the visitor to feel remote from the sights and sounds of human activity which surround the area.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,921 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is high as roads could be extended from the existing system and much of the area could be logged without constructing a camp or additional log transfer facilities. There is potential for development of a trail system, and cabins or shelters. Because of the area's accessibility from Wrangell, there is potential for use of off-road vehicles and snowmobiles, and for cross-country skiing. Moose and deer winter range habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. The area generally has a low minerals rating and there are no known claims. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for residents of the city of Wrangell who do not have a boat to have a semi-primitive recreation experience.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	7,343	7,343	0	7,343	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	60	60	740	0	740
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	60	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	640	640	640	220	7,303
Modified Landscape	0	0	6,663	0	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	420	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(229) South Wrangell**  
Gross acres: 66,391  
National Forest acres: 62,052

**Description**

The South Wrangell roadless area is located on Wrangell Island and is bounded on the east by Blake Channel, on the south by Ernest Sound, and on the west by Zimovia Strait. The northern boundary is defined by roads. The area is nearly bisected by a timber access road with its associated timber harvest, almost isolating the northwestern portion. A 138 KV powerline crosses the eastern and northeastern edges of the area. The area is generally characterized by moderately-diverse, rounded to occasionally blocky terrain, with broad, U-shaped valleys in-between. The area was inhabited by the Tlingit in prehistoric and historic times. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Important wildlife species include deer, wolves, black bear, marten, and small populations of brown bear and moose. Thoms Lake, Thoms Creek, and Thoms Place are all attractions, especially during the salmon run. Thoms Place and Thoms Lake were selected by the State, and Thoms Place is now a State Marine Park. The two recreation cabins in the area are both on State land, and there is a picnic area and trail at Long Lake.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The natural integrity of the area has been impacted by the road bisecting the area and the powerline crossing the eastern and northeastern edges. Boats plying the waters surrounding the area may be visible from within parts of the area, but usually are not intrusive. There is a good opportunity for solitude within the area, especially after one has gone a short distance from the roads. Generally, a person camped or traveling inland is likely to see others only occasionally. The area provides primarily primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 17,956 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is high, as roads could be extended from the existing system and the area could be logged without constructing a camp or additional log transfer facilities. There is potential for additional outfitter/guide permits, trails and cabins or shelters. There is also potential for use of off-road vehicles and snowmobiles. Moose and winter range habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. The area generally has a low minerals rating and there are no known current claims. The Sealaska Native Corporation has selected several small historic sites along the coast. Maintenance of the area or parts thereof in a roadless condition would enhance primitive recreation opportunities for those residents of Wrangell without boats. It would also enhance the opportunities for residents of Thoms Place to maintain their current lifestyles.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	40	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	16,179	3,259	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	840	840	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,440	2,099	2,519	0	2,519
Stream and Lake Protection	2,460	3,580	4,140	0	4,140
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	4,160	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	25,237	29,276	10,637	3,241	13,678
Modified Landscape	7,300	4,140	7,259	8,918	9,218
Timber Production	8,617	18,879	37,518	45,715	32,517
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(231) Woronkofski**  
Gross acres: 9,713  
National Forest acres: 9,713

**Description**

The Woronkofski roadless area is located on Woronkofski Island and is bounded on three sides by saltwater, however harvest activities have occurred in several places along the beach. Roads and cutting units which follow a drainage penetrating the roadless area define the northern boundary. The city of Wrangell is five miles to the northeast. The area is generally characterized by steeply rising mountains reaching elevations of over 2,000 feet. The island was apparently used by several groups of the Stikine Tlingit as a hunting and fishing area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Important species include Sitka black-tailed deer and black bear. Attractions include Elephants Nose, a rocky feature on the north end of the island at the edge of the area. Several gold mine claims were made in 1900 in a cove near here, too. The saltwater bodies surrounding the island receive moderately heavy use by commercial and pleasure boats and the shoreline receives moderate recreation use. Some recreation use occurs on the road system, generally from residents of Wrangell who sometimes transport small motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles by boat for use here. There is some subsistence use in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

Timber harvest activities are evident all around the island, and dominate the northern portion. The remaining core is the roadless area, but it has been penetrated by harvest and roads following a drainage. In other portions, natural integrity is high. There is a good opportunity for solitude within the area, especially after one has gone a short distance from the roads. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,425 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this roadless area is high, as roads could be extended from the existing system and much of the area could be logged without constructing a camp or additional log transfer facilities. There is potential for additional outfitter and guide permits, developed trails, and cabins or shelters. There is also potential for use of off-road vehicles and snowmobiles. Wildlife improvement projects planned typically consist of thinning and planting. The area generally has a low minerals rating and there are no known current claims. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for residents of Wrangell to have a semi-primitive recreation experience. There has been no formal support for or opposition to maintaining this area in a roadless condition.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	9,453	9,453	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	40	40	501	0	501
Stream and Lake Protection	80	80	961	0	961
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	981	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	140	140	8,251	40	8,251
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	8,692	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(232) North Etolln**  
Gross acres: 45,115  
National Forest acres: 45,115

**Description**

The North Etolln roadless area is located on the north end of Etolln Island and is bounded by Stikine Strait, Zimovia Strait, and Anita Bay. The southern boundary has been logged and partially roaded, and a small area on the northeast side has also been harvested. Wrangell lies ten miles to the north. The area is generally characterized by steeply-rising mountains reaching elevations of over 3,000 feet. There is much landform variety, including a major drainage flowing to the south. The island was claimed by the Tansaqwedi and Xokedi clans of the Stikine Tlingit, as is evidenced by the remains of villages, fish camps, fort sites, petroglyphs and fish weirs. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife species include deer, black bear, and elk, which were introduced to the island in 1986 as a cooperative effort to establish elk in southeast Alaska. Survival so far has been described as marginal. Kunk Lake is a popular recreation destination accessible by trail. The area is primarily used for recreation by residents of Wrangell. The saltwater bodies surrounding the island receive moderately heavy use by commercial and pleasure boats. There is subsistence use in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

Within the area the natural integrity is unmodified, except for the trail to Kunk Lake; however, timber harvest dominates the southern boundary. There is good opportunity for solitude within the area. Present recreation use levels are low except at the mouths of some streams and along the trail. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized, as well as primitive, recreation opportunities. Travel within the area is challenging, requiring a high degree of woods skills and experience. The presence of black bears, especially around salmon streams in the fall, presents a degree of challenge and a need for caution.

**Resources**

The area contains 15,900 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber is moderate, as roads could be extended from the existing system and much of the area could be logged without constructing a camp or additional log transfer facilities. There is potential for additional outfitter and guide permits, developed trails, and cabins or shelters. If the elk population grows, a harvest may occur at some point in the future. Deer range habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. There is generally a low minerals rating and no known current claims. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for visitors to and residents of Wrangell to have a semi-primitive recreation experience.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	9,972	13,156	0	6,648	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	9,352	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	4,045	5,747	0	5,587	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	1,021	1,021	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,221	1,502	2,403	0	2,403
Stream and Lake Protection	2,002	2,463	4,966	0	4,966
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,224	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	10,333	17,762	14,519	80	10,433
Modified Landscape	5,766	2,984	4,145	12,216	27,313
Timber Production	1,582	481	19,083	17,360	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(233) Mosman**  
Gross acres: 57,154  
National Forest acres: 57,154

**Description**

The Mosman roadless area is located in the middle of Etolin Island. It is bounded by Clarence Strait on the west, a roadless area to the south and east, and an area of roads and harvest units to the north. The area is generally characterized by a series of mountains oriented nearly in a north-south alignment, separated by the long, narrow waterways of Mosman and Burnett Bays. Major lakes in the area include Streets, Navy and Burnett Lakes. The city of Wrangell lies 22 miles to the north. This area was claimed by several Stikine Tlingit clans during prehistoric times as is evidenced by the remains of villages, camps, fish weirs, petroglyphs, and bark-stripped trees. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, black bear, and elk which were introduced on the island in 1986 as a cooperative project. The saltwater bodies surrounding the island receive moderately-heavy use by commercial and pleasure boats. The shoreline and bays receive light recreation use. Steamer Bay cabin is located in the northwest corner of the area. There is subsistence use in the area. There are five special use permits under authorizations, and lighthouse reservations.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

Within the roadless area the natural integrity is unmodified except as noted above, but timber harvest activities dominate the northern boundary. There is a good opportunity for solitude within the area away from improvements and facilities. Present recreation use levels are low except at the mouths of some streams and at the cabin. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities. Travel within the area is challenging, requiring a high degree of woods skills and experience. The long bays penetrate the area and provide access to portions of the interior, as well as protect users from the open waters and traffic of Clarence Strait.

**Resources**

The area contains 20,523 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber is moderate, as roads could be extended from the existing system, and much of the area could be logged without constructing a camp or additional log transfer facilities. There is potential for additional outfitter and guide permits, developed trails, and cabins or shelters. Elk hunting may be possible at some point in the future. Deer range habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. The area generally has a low minerals rating and there are no known current claims. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for visitors to and residents of the city of Wrangell to have a semi-primitive recreation experience.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	60	40	20	20	60
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	20	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	7,531	15,398	40	443	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	981	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	5,238	3,091	6,960	0	6,960
Stream and Lake Protection	4,509	4,068	5,391	0	5,391
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	5,731	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	13,044	6,201	16,987	1,367	16,987
Modified Landscape	25,048	25,311	26,195	14,733	27,756
Timber Production	722	3,046	1,562	34,860	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(234) South EtoIn**  
Gross acres: 29,240  
National Forest acres: 29,240

**Description**

The South EtoIn roadless area encompasses the southern end of EtoIn Island. It is bounded by Clarence Strait, Mosman roadless area, and Ernest Sound. This area was proposed as Wilderness in during ANILCA but was not designated, and has since been managed to retain its Wilderness potential. The area is generally characterized by a series of rugged mountains, ridges, and glacial cirque lakes. Several large islands off the southern end of the island are included, plus numerous smaller islands in the vicinity. The area was inhabited by several clans of the Stikine Tlingit as is evidenced by the many cultural resource sites. Historic use of this area was also considerable and is represented by the remains of the first salmon hatchery in Alaska, canneries, fox farms, and other temporary camps. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, black bear, and elk which were introduced to the island in 1986 as a cooperative project. The saltwater bodies surrounding the island receive moderately-heavy use by commercial and pleasure boats. The shoreline and bays receive light recreation use. There is subsistence use in the area. Attractions include the landform variety, the bays which provide sheltered moorages, and the unique elk. Use of the area is mostly for recreation by residents of Wrangell.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified, and has maintained its natural integrity. North of the area, it has been logged and partially roaded. There is a good opportunity for solitude within the area. Present recreation use levels are low except at the mouths of some streams and at good anchorages. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunity. Travel within the area is challenging, requiring a high degree of woods skills and experience.

**Resources**

The area contains 8,419 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is low due to the rugged nature of the terrain. An exception is in the southern portion where the potential is moderate due to the more gently sloping terrain. The 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 83,371 acres of the area as Wilderness. There is potential for additional outfitter and guide permits, developed trails, and cabins or shelters. The elk population may offer a unique hunting experience in the future. Deer range habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. The area generally has a low minerals rating and there are no known current claims. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for visitors to and residents of Wrangell to have a semi-primitive recreation experience. The State has selected about 805 acres near McHenry Anchorage. There is support for maintaining this area in a roadless condition.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	40	2,222	40	0	40
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	7,805	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	3,418	3,479	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	1,261	1,261	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,599	1,599	2,319	0	2,319
Stream and Lake Protection	920	1,420	2,160	0	2,160
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,180	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	5,997	9,881	0	0	10,617
Modified Landscape	8,199	420	20	180	8,006
Timber Production	0	8,958	24,701	26,880	6,097
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(235) West Zarembo**  
Gross acres: 6,466  
National Forest acres: 6,466

**Description**

West Zarembo roadless area is located on the west side of Zarembo Island, south of Mitkof Island and 10 miles west of the town of Wrangell. Sumner Strait lies to the north, and Clarence Strait to the west, while clearcut harvest areas and reforested plantations are adjacent to the east. Some of the beachfront has been salvage-logged in the past. The area is generally flat and slightly rolling. Zarembo Island was evidently used by all of the Stikine Tlingit clans for hunting and gathering as is evidenced by several fish weirs and petroglyph sites along the west coast of the island. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A small population of deer and black bear range over the area. There are no developed recreation opportunities in the area. Recreational use is light in all of the roadless areas on the island, occurring mostly along the beach fringe, due in part to difficult access.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified, however logging outside of the area, but within higher reaches of the drainage, may have altered some of the natural processes. This impact, however is considered low. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying airplanes and recreational boaters may at times pass nearby, but generally a person camped or traveling inland is unlikely to see others. Periodic timber harvest activities in the adjacent areas would have a significant impact on the opportunity for solitude. The area provides primarily primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 1,656 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on high market values. A road system is already present nearby and could be extended into parts of the area. A log transfer site to saltwater is already present on the island. There is potential for outfitter and guide permits, and for developed trails, cabins or shelters. Fish habitat enhancement projects for the two VCU's have been identified, as well as deer mitigation projects which are unlikely to occur within the roadless area. The area has moderate minerals potential. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for wildlife to move freely through the area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	359	359	359	0	359
Stream and Lake Protection	639	639	639	0	639
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	639	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	858	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	4,610	5,468	5,468	5,827	5,468
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(237) South Zarembo**  
Gross acres: 31,948  
National Forest acres: 31,948

**Description**

South Zarembo roadless area is located on the south side of Zarembo Island, south of Mitkof Island, and 10 miles west of Wrangell. Sumner Strait lies to the north, Stikine Strait to the south, and Clarence Strait to the west. The terrain is moderately rolling and there are about 80 acres of small ponds and lakes. Clearcut harvest areas and reforested plantations generally surround the whole area, except for a small section of shoreline adjacent to Stikine Strait. Zarembo Island was shared by all of the Stikine Tlingit clans for hunting and gathering of subsistence items. There are remains of a village sites, burial sites, fish weirs, petroglyphs, and pictographs. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A small population of Sitka black-tailed deer and black bear range over the area. There is some subsistence use in the area. There are no developed recreation opportunities. Recreation use is light in all the roadless areas on the island, occurring mostly on the beach fringes.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified. Logging outside of the area, but within higher reaches of the drainage, may have altered some of the natural processes. This impact, however, is considered low. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying airplanes and recreational boaters may at times pass nearby. Periodic timber harvest activities in the adjacent areas would have a significant impact on the opportunity for solitude when they are occurring. The area provides primarily semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 9,534 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber is dependent on high market values. A road system is already present nearby and could be extended into parts of this area. A log transfer site is already present on the island. There is potential for outfitter and guide permits, and for developed trails, cabins or shelters. Fish habitat enhancement projects have been identified, as well as deer mitigation projects for the area. The area has moderate minerals potential. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for wildlife to move freely through the area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	1,119	1,119	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	321	321	540	0	540
Stream and Lake Protection	2,377	2,377	2,477	0	2,477
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,477	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	5,175	5,175	6,216	40	6,216
Modified Landscape	20,499	8,012	8,469	10,013	8,469
Timber Production	2,457	14,944	14,245	19,418	14,245
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(238) Kashevarof**  
Gross acres: 5,746  
National Forest acres: 5,746

**Description**

The Kashevarof roadless area consists of a series of small islands located in Clarence Strait, between the southwest side of Zarembo Island and the northeast corner of Prince of Wales Island. Bush and Shrubby Islands are not included in this roadless area as they have been logged. The islands in this area have little relief and are flat to slightly rolling with a high point of 482 feet on one of the Blashke Islands. The Tihitan clan of the Stikine Tlingit claimed this area which was used chiefly for hunting seals and gathering seaweed. Their use is evidenced by the remains of temporary camps, fish weirs, and petroglyphs. Historic use is indicated by the remains of numerous fox farms, trapping cabins, and temporary camps. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A small population of Sitka black-tailed deer and black bear range over the area. No major resource activities have occurred in this area, but there is some subsistence use. Attractions include the numerous small islands and sheltered bays providing opportunities for discovery, day use activities, and anchorage. There are no developed recreation opportunities in the area. The island clusters easily lend themselves to be managed in an unroaded condition. Wilderness consideration is less feasible due to the amount of marine traffic in the area and activities in the adjacent areas.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified, and has maintained its overall integrity. There is moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Low-flying airplanes and frequent marine traffic pass nearby and may be observed. Present recreation use levels are low. Timber harvest or other periodic activities in the adjacent areas would have a significant impact on the opportunity for solitude when they are occurring. The area provides primarily semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 4,052 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this roadless area is dependent on high market values. A road system and/or logging systems capable of harvesting the numerous small islands would be necessary. Development of beach access and log transfer sites would also be required. There is potential for outfitter and guide permits and for developed trails, cabins or shelters. There are four special use permits in the area, and a Coast Guard reservation. The area has low minerals potential. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition enhances opportunities for certain wildlife, as some of the islands in this group have been logged and the timber stands converted for even-age management.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	81	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	3,608	3,608	0	0	3,608
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	2,138	2,138	3,851	0	2,138
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	81	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	2,138	0
Timber Production	0	0	1,815	3,528	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(239) Keku**

Gross acres: 11,425

National Forest acres: 9,981

**Description**

The Keku roadless area is located on the northern end of Kuiu Island and includes 1,483 acres of offshore islands. It is bordered by Security roadless area, Rocky Pass and Keku Strait. Several good anchorages are located in Saginaw Bay and Halleck Harbor which allow visitors to "boat camp" overnight. Landforms are characterized by gently-sloping to moderately steep hills that are abruptly broken by prominent limestone cliffs. Orientation of the landscape makes development of a road system challenging. The area was claimed by several clans of the Kake Tlingit and there is a rich assortment of cultural resources. In modern times, this area has been a contingency area of the APC Long-term Timber Sale contract since 1960. A logging camp was developed at nearby Rowan Bay and is still active with up to 130 seasonal occupants. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. This area is highly rated for wildlife values. The area is popular for black bear hunting and King salmon fishing. There are no developed recreation facilities, and recreation use levels are low. Special features include fossil hunting in Halleck Harbor which directly adjoins the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, except for some evidence of past occupancy, beach logging, and other logging and roading which has somewhat fragmented this area. Generally, there is a high opportunity for solitude in the area. Use of floatplanes and motorboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods, and visitors may be disturbed by logging when it occurs along the road to Saginaw Bay. The area provides primarily semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,768 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. In general, long-term timber sales on Kuiu Island will result in further road development, thus increasing access to parts of the area. Recreation potential for Keku is moderate, as there is potential for additional outfitter and guide permits, cabins, and opportunities associated with roaded access. Both fish and wildlife habitat improvement projects have been identified for the area. There are no inventoried sites with high mineral development potential. One year-long residence special use permit exists in the head of Saginaw Bay. A former village site has been selected by Sealaska Corporation under ANCSA. Up to 5,000 acres have been selected in Saginaw Bay but are still pending. The State has selected lands in Security Bay. Both these selections overlap with this roadless area. Maintenance of the area in a roadless condition would have no direct beneficial effect on nearby roadless areas.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	561	561	0	0	561
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	241	241	0	241	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,303	1,303	1,784	0	1,383
Stream and Lake Protection	581	581	621	0	601
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	621	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	5,131	0	0	842	0
Timber Production	2,165	7,576	7,576	8,278	7,436
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(240) Security**  
Gross acres: 36,564  
National Forest acres: 36,564

**Description**

The Security roadless area is located on the northwest side of Kuiu Island on Chatham Strait. The area is bordered by saltwater on three sides with the remaining portions being highly roaded and modified terrain. The area includes all of Security Bay, Washington Bay, and a portion of Rowan and Saginaw Bays. Washington Bay, on the west slope, has a secure anchorage, but the remaining coastline is rocky and open to a moderate energy shoreline. The coastal area is characterized by steep, heavily-dissected slopes, rocky beaches, and numerous streams cascading directly into saltwater. North Kuiu Island was claimed by several clans of the Kake Tlingit as is evidenced by the remains of various sites, petroglyphs and bark-stripped trees. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The salt chuck at the head of Security Bay is known for high quality waterfowl hunting, and black bear populations attract numerous hunters. Security Creek, Rowan Creek, and Browns Creek are primary contributors to fish production in Rowan and Security Bays. There are no developed recreation facilities. Traveling by boat in the area requires extended boating time in exposed waters, challenging the skills of even experienced skippers. Lack of cabins or commercial overnight facilities limits use by fly-in recreationists. A fish buying station is normally established in Security Bay each year. The State has selected land in Security Bay for a future marine park, which could increase use of the area if developed.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, although some evidence of old fox farms and fish camps is present. There is a low opportunity for solitude within the area. Noise from logging trucks on the adjacent road can be heard during harvest, and floatplanes and motorboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 12,190 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Activities under the APC Long-Term Sale contract could increase road access into parts of this area, which is considered a contingency area. If a ferry route were established to Rowan or Saginaw Bays, a new array of recreation opportunities would open up. There is also potential for one or more cabins or shelters and additional outfitter and guide permits. Both fish and wildlife improvement projects are planned for the area. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development potential. With the exception of the head of Security Bay, there has been little interest expressed in retaining the roadless character of this island.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	12,639	13,912	0	13,754	13,335
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	3,782	11,316	0	11,597	11,353
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	621	621	0	0	722
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,058	958	3,115	0	1,178
Stream and Lake Protection	2,771	1,612	5,242	0	1,712
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1,771	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	100	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	14,814	100	0	441	0
Timber Production	780	8,045	28,207	9,001	8,264
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(241) North Kuiu**  
Gross acres: 7,296  
National Forest acres: 7,296

**Description**

The North Kuiu roadless area is located near the center of the northern portion of Kuiu Island and is completely surrounded by roads and timber management activities, some of which have impacted parts of the core of the area. The area is characterized by rolling terrain with drainages in all directions. The area was within the territory of the Kake Tlingit, however no cultural resources have been recorded. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. A population of deer and black bear range over the area. There are no developed recreation opportunities in this area and overall use levels are low. Hunting is the primary recreation use, with some subsistence use occurring also. Use is concentrated along the road-accessible outside edges. Rowan Bay, a logging camp, is the only community on Kuiu Island and is connected to the road system.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified, however its overall integrity is not considered pristine. The irregular shape of the area, patterns of adjacent timber management, and roading have impacted the area's natural integrity. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Timber harvest or other activities in the adjacent areas, which occur periodically, would have a significant impact on the opportunity for solitude when they are occurring. The area provides semi-primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 4,550 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The area is within the primary sale area for the APC long term sale. The Supplemental EIS for the 1986-90 APC long term sale approves 438 acres of harvest, affecting a major part of the north portion of this roadless area. Additional long-term sale offerings are likely in the next 10 to 15 years. A road system and/or logging systems capable of harvesting the area would be necessary. Nearby roads could be extended to accomplish much of this. There is some potential for outfitter and guide permits. There is also potential for some off-road vehicles to enter the roadless area. Wildlife habitat improvement projects are planned such as seeding, planting, and thinning for browse species. The area has low minerals potential.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	281	281	0	0	281
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	742	742	822	0	742
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	822	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	982	982	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	4,931	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	361	5,291	6,474	6,474	6,273
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(242) Camden**  
Gross acres: 37,130  
National Forest acres: 37,130

**Description**

The Camden roadless area is located on the northeast corner of Kuiu Island on both sides of Port Camden, and includes Kadake Bay and a portion of Three Mile Arm. Landforms along this area are characterized by gently-rolling hills that are typically short, extremely broken and benched, making development of a road system challenging. The coastline area represents a richly varied ecosystem. The isthmus area between Port Camden, Bay of Pillars, and Threemile Arm includes several naturally occurring springs, which adds diversity to the habitat. The Port Camden area was an important subsistence area for the Saqtunedi clan of the Kake Tlingit as is evidenced by the remains of a village, temporary camps, fish weirs, petroglyphs and bark-stripped trees. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Port Camden supports quality waterfowl hunting at the head of the bay, as well as quality habitat for black bear, fur bearers, marine mammals and bald eagle. Easily accessible by boat from Kake, it has a tradition of high subsistence use. The many creeks in the area support commercial and sport fishing. There is one cabin and two portage trails, which provide opportunities for canoeists and kayakers to access additional recreation areas.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, but roading and timber harvesting adjacent to the west have likely had a small effect on the area's natural integrity. There is moderate to high opportunity for solitude within the Kadake Creek, Port Camden and isthmus areas. Floatplanes, motorboats and noise from logging trucks may disrupt visitors' solitude. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity, but overall recreation use level is low.

**Resources**

The area contains 14,215 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. APC Long-Term Timber Sale activity on Kuiu Island may result in increased roading, which may provide additional access to parts of this area for timber activities. The 1986-90 Supplemental EIS for the APC long term sale approves the harvest of 2,408 acres along the north side of Threemile Arm and along the west shore of Port Camden. Previous attempts to road and develop a log transfer facility along the eastern side of Port Camden met with high public resistance. Recreation potential for the area is high, access being the primary limiting factor for increased recreation use. There is potential for additional cabins, outfitter and guide permits. Kayaking and canoeing are increasing in connection with the recent establishment of portage trails and a brochure on kayaking/canoeing opportunities in the area. Both fish and wildlife habitat improvement projects are planned. The site along the eastern shore of Port Camden, where fossils have been located, is an inventoried potential Research Natural Area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	8,809	6,880	120	360	120
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	2,255	2,255	20	1,791	1,730
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	638	638	0	0	678
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,977	2,474	3,633	0	3,335
Stream and Lake Protection	2,278	2,358	3,457	0	3,258
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,398	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	3,645	4,997	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	7,474	0	0	180	6,140
Timber Production	10,053	17,528	29,899	31,401	21,869
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(243) Rocky Pass**  
Gross acres: 78,155  
78,135al Forest acres: 78,976

**Description**

Rocky Pass roadless area lies east of the Camden roadless area on Kuiu Island, and west of the South Kupreanof roadless area on Kupreanof Island, encompassing the narrow and often shallow waterway called Rocky Pass which has scores of small islands and rocks. Landforms along this area are characterized by rolling to moderately steep hills, with short, extremely broken or benched slopes. Forest Road 6040 adjoins this area near the head of McNaughton Bay, connecting to Kake, approximately 15 miles away. The Keku Strait area was used by both the Kake and Kuiu Tlingit. Former sites include temporary camps, garden areas, fish weirs, and fort sites. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include bald eagle, large flocks of ducks and geese that migrate through in fall, and otter which use the small islands. Bear hunting and sport fishing in the many streams are popular activities throughout the area. A fish pass, two recreation cabins, a short trail and an offshore oyster farm are the only major management activities in the area. The State has selected 605 acres on High Island.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, except for the items mentioned above. There is a high opportunity for solitude in the area. Use of floatplanes and powerboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods. Persons camped along the shore are generally unlikely to encounter another person, but might see or be visible to the occasional fishing boat. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 26,858 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. APC Long-Term Timber Sale activity may result in increased roading of Kuiu Island, which may provide additional access to the Rocky Pass area. This was identified by Congressional legislation, but was not designated in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. Continued development of the road system south of Kake would parallel the area and could make future management of the area in primitive settings more challenging. Recreation potential for the area is high, as there are opportunities for additional recreation cabins, trails, and outfitter and guide permits. Deer mitigation habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development potential. Residents of Kake have a cultural, traditional interest in the area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	298	298	0	0	298
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	69,561	47,878	50,593	698	50,573
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	1,531	20,599	22,309	36,014	22,309
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	4,058	2,178	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	976	1,910	1,990	0	1,771
Stream and Lake Protection	139	398	458	0	458
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,534	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	60	2,327	40	0	60
Modified Landscape	60	1,014	40	359	736
Timber Production	1,452	1,532	2,706	38,530	1,930
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(244) Bay of Pillars**  
Gross acres: 28,869  
National Forest acres: 28,849

**Description**

The Bay of Pillars area is located on the west side of Kuiu Island bordering Chatham Strait. The Tebenkof Bay Wilderness adjoins to the south, and areas to the north have been heavily modified by past and present timber harvest. The area is characterized by a large, open bay with numerous small islands, and a large inner bay connected to the outer bay by a narrow, rocky, but navigable channel. The outer bay is subject to occasional strong wave action, but is generally accessible. Kutlaku Lake is a major feature accessed from the south arm of the inner bay. The area was claimed by the Kake Tlingit as is evidenced by remains of village and garden sites, and bark-stripped trees. A cannery operated at Pillar Bay from about 1930-50, and employed Native people from Kake and Port Camden. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Habitat for black bear, deer, furbearers, land birds and waterfowl is highly valued in the area. Subsistence users, mostly from Kake, harvest sockeye at the mouth of Katlaku Creek, and sport anglers are beginning to fish steelhead in Kwatahein Creek. There are no cabins, but there is a portage trail connecting the inner bay with Port Camden.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, except for those items mentioned above. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area. Use of floatplanes and powerboats, and noise from logging trucks on the adjacent road, may disrupt visitors' solitude briefly. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive motorized recreation opportunities. Access by boat into the area requires extended boating time in exposed waters, and entering the inner bay requires boating skill and may present great risk.

**Resources**

The area contains 16,266 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. APC Long-Term Sale activity on Kuiu Island may increase road access on the island, and in particular to this area. The area was proposed as Wilderness Congressional legislation but was not designated in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. There is a strong interest on the part of inhabitants of some local communities to retain the roadless character of unroaded parts of Kuiu Island. Recreation potential includes a trail corridor from saltwater to Kutlaku Lake, additional cabins and outfitter/guide permits. If a ferry route were established to Rowan Bay, it would open up other recreation opportunities. Deer habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. Two electronics sites are located adjacent to or just within the area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	299	20,745	20,745	299	20,745
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	23,771	4,042	3,922	0	3,922
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	717	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	796	796	916	0	916
Stream and Lake Protection	299	299	299	0	299
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,329	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	2,967	0	0	179	0
Timber Production	0	2,967	2,967	26,041	2,967
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(245) East Kuiu**  
Gross acres: 43,995  
National Forest acres: 43,995

**Description**

The East Kuiu roadless area lies directly east of Tebenkof Bay Wilderness on Kuiu Island, and borders Keku Strait. To the north, road construction and timber harvesting have been extensive. Several good anchorages can be found in Reid, Alvin, and No Name Bays, as well as at the head of Seclusion Harbor. Landforms along this area are characterized by gently-rolling hills that are typically short, extremely broken and benched, making development of a road system challenging. The area was used by both the Kake and Kuiu Tlingits and sites include temporary camps, garden areas, fish weirs and petroglyphs. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Salt Lagoon-Seclusion Harbor has a unique combination of freshwater and saltwater, making it valuable habitat for waterfowl, black bear, furbearers, marine mammals and bald eagles. This is also true for estuarine habitat found in Alvin Bay, Reid Bay and at the head of Threemile Arm. Attractions to this area include the south-facing sand beaches in Reid and Alvin Bays, and the Alecks Creek portage trail which connects No Name Bay with the Tebenkof Wilderness. There is a total of four miles of improved trail in the area. Generally, the area does not produce large numbers of salmon, and sport fishing pressure is low.

**Wilderness Potential**

The majority of the area is essentially unmodified, although some evidence of past occupancy is present. There is a high opportunity for solitude in the area. Use of floatplanes and powerboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods. The area provides primarily primitive recreation opportunity; there are no developed recreation facilities.

**Resources**

The area contains 19,190 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. APC Long-Term Timber Sale activity on Kuiu Island may result in increased road development, which may increase access to portions of this area. The area was considered for Wilderness designation in Congressional legislation, however the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act only designated the islands in Sumner Strait east of East Kuiu Island as LUD II. Recreation potential for the area is moderate. There is potential for a recreation cabin site, and for additional outfitter and guide permits. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development potential in the area. Residents of Point Baker/Port Protection use the area for subsistence crabbing and shellfish harvesting. There is a fair level of public resistance to developing a road system into No Name Bay, which is a proposed State land selection.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	80	80	100	80	80
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	3,351	7,129	1,718	0	1,778
Legislated LUD II	3,471	3,471	3,471	3,471	3,471
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	100	100	0	100	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	3,496	3,195	4,832	0	4,792
Stream and Lake Protection	3,415	3,056	3,435	0	3,435
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,695	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	26,242	1,040	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	3,399	0	0	679	30,179
Timber Production	440	25,924	30,438	35,970	259
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(246) South Kuiu**  
Gross acres: 62,983  
National Forest acres: 62,983

**Description**

South Kuiu is located on the southern third of Kuiu Island, directly south of Tebenkof Bay Wilderness. The area borders on Chatham and Sumner Straits, and includes many bays and deep inlets with good anchorages. Landforms are varied and show great relief. Gently-rolling hills contrast to the sharply rising, heavily dissected mountain slopes at the head of Port Malmesbury and Crowley Bight. Deep islets and broken terrain make development of a road system, which would interconnect bays and islets to a primary log transfer facility, challenging and infeasible. The area was claimed by the Kuiu Tlingit who eventually settled in Klawock. There are remains of villages, fish weirs, and petroglyphs. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include black bears, deer, furbearers and waterfowl. This large area has 34 ADF&G numbered salmon producing streams and is generally a good producer of anadromous fish. Two of the best known streams are at the head of Bear Harbor and Kell Bay. There are no developed recreation facilities, and only 1.5 miles of improved trail in the area. The prime attraction to the area is its proximity to Tebenkof Wilderness and the terrain which provide ample opportunity for isolated, undeveloped forms of recreation.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is essentially unmodified, although there are the remains of some old fox farms, a cannery, and a Coast Guard station, and evidence of past beach logging. There is a high opportunity for solitude in the area. Use of floatplanes and powerboats may disrupt visitors for brief periods. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 25,959 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 60,581 acres as the Kuiu Wilderness. This action eliminated the possibility of connected road access with east and north portions of Kuiu Island thus reducing the economic likelihood of timber harvest activity on the remaining area. Recreation potential for the area is moderate. There is potential for additional outfitter and guide permits, trails, cabins and shelters. There is potential for fish habitat improvements, but none are planned. A special use permit exists for a waterline. There are no inventoried areas with high mineral development in the area. Residents of Point Baker/Port Protection use the area for subsistence crabbing and shellfish harvesting.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	62,404
Primitive Recreation	20	20	20	20	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	61,738	8,814	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,106	6,028	7,839	0	120
Stream and Lake Protection	0	3,875	4,378	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	4,459	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	120	11,209	11,209	966	200
Modified Landscape	0	19,754	26,213	140	259
Timber Production	0	13,284	13,323	57,398	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(247) East Wrangell**  
Gross acres: 6,881  
National Forest acres: 6,881

**Description**

The East Wrangell roadless area is located on Wrangell Island and is bounded on the east by Blake Channel. The western boundary is defined by roads. The area is generally characterized by moderately-diverse, rounded to occasionally blocky terrain, with broad, U-shaped valleys in-between. The area was inhabited by the Tlingit in prehistoric and historic times. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Important wildlife species include deer, wolves, black bear, marten, and small populations of brown bear and moose. Thoms Lake, Thoms Creek, and Thoms Place are all attractions, especially during the salmon run. Thoms Place and Thoms Lake were selected by the State, and Thoms Place is now a State Marine Park.

**Wilderness Potential**

The natural integrity of the area has been impacted on the western boundary. Boats plying the waters surrounding the area may be visible from within parts of the area, but usually are not intrusive. There is a good opportunity for solitude within the area, especially after one has gone a short distance from the roads. Generally, a person camped or traveling inland is likely to see others only occasionally. The area provides primarily primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,820 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is high, as roads could be extended from the existing system and the area could be logged without constructing a camp or additional log transfer facilities. There is potential for additional outfitter/guide permits, trails and cabins or shelters. There is also potential for use of off-road vehicles and snowmobiles. Moose and winter range habitat improvement projects are planned in the area. The area generally has a low minerals rating and there are no known current claims. Maintenance of the area or parts thereof in a roadless condition would enhance primitive recreation opportunities for those residents of Wrangell without boats. It would also enhance the opportunities for residents of Thoms Place to maintain their current lifestyles.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	660	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	120	120	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	440	440	440	0	440
Stream and Lake Protection	460	460	460	0	460
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	400	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	4,341	4,341	2,640	0	4,101
Modified Landscape	1,520	1,520	3,341	100	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	5,721	1,880
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(301) Skagway-Juneau Icefield**

Gross acres: 1,196,837

National Forest acres: 1,196,777

**Description**

The Skagway-Juneau Icefield roadless area is located on the Juneau mainland and is bordered by Canada, the Lynn Canal and the southern edge of the Juneau Icefield above the Taku River drainage. There are several major rivers in the area. Berner's Bay area is characterized by moderately-large streams whose deltas form a broad intertidal flat. A fish weir and tent camp site were recently authorized to ADF&G on the Berner's River. Past uses include many recreation ventures, research, and gold mining. For much of the area vegetation is not present in any form because of the Icefield. In areas that have been deglaciated, the land is in various stages of plant colonization, including lush alpine meadows, western hemlock/Sitka spruce forests, and some cottonwood. There are populations of black and brown bear, moose, mountain goat, wolf, wolverine, some migratory waterfowl, and bald eagle. There are no known threatened or endangered species, but peregrine falcon may migrate through. There are two recreation cabins and several trails provide direct access into the area. Special attractions include the Icefield, numerous glaciers and hanging waterfalls which offer unparalleled scenery and opportunities for mountaineering, skiing, ice and rock climbing, camping, and scenic viewing. Four Research Natural Areas have been identified because of the uniqueness and scientific values of the ecosystems represented. There is a variety of use in the area, including boating and kayaking, hunting, and flight-seeing or helicopter viewing.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is generally unmodified and pristine except for two active mining claims in Berner's Bay area and occasional camps of the Juneau Icefield Research Project. There is a great opportunity for solitude depending on what part of the area one is in. The Icefield provides dramatic remoteness; along Lynn Canal there is air and water traffic; and within Berner's Bay there is much recreation activity. The area provides primarily primitive and pristine recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 22,865 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is limited due to the Icefield and glaciers. The area in the immediate vicinity of Berner's Bay was identified as Wilderness potential in Congressional legislation but, instead, 45,233 acres were designated LUD II in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. There is unparalleled opportunity for dispersed recreation. Opportunities for both moose and swan habitat enhancement have been identified. There is the possibility of building a road to the "outside". Mineral potential is generally low, except in the Berner's Bay area where two mines have re-opened.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	19,464	10,580	10,580	10,580	10,580
Special Interest Areas	80	80	260	220	300
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	1,017,180	1,035,577	977,480	818,858	970,821
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	58,913	481	66,980	0	66,840
Semi-Primitive Recreation	37,0539	104,440	104,899	327,741	103,819
Legislated LUD II	36,578	36,578	36,578	36,578	36,578
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	27,509	9,040	0	0	7,838
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	540	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	2,080	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	180	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(302) Taku-Snettisham**  
Gross acres: 722,134  
National Forest acres: 722,015

**Description**

The Taku-Snettisham roadless area is located along the Coast Range south of Juneau, from the Taku River corridor to the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror Wilderness' northern boundary. The area is bordered by Stephens Passage on the west with two major river inlets: Taku Inlet and Port Snettisham. It is mountainous with deep saltwater fiords, several glaciers, and six major freshwater lakes. The area's history is long and varied, dating from prehistoric Tlingit use. The glacial Taku River is significant for fish production on an international scale- primarily salmon. Snettisham Fish Hatchery is a major State fish hatchery adjacent to the area. Limestone Inlet has been designated a Research Natural Area and the Yehring Creek area is a potential Research Natural Area. A powerline authorized by the Forest Service which serves the City and Borough of Juneau parallels the shoreline from the Snettishma Power Plant north to Juneau. Vegetation primarily consists of typical spruce/hemlock forests. There are populations of moose, goat, brown and black bear, mink, marten, and beaver. There are 3 recreation cabins and several trails in the area. The majority of use occurs within one-quarter mile from the shoreline and is usually associated with boating, hunting, viewing scenery and wildlife, and fishing.

**Wilderness Potential**

The majority of the area appears to be untouched by human activity and there is high opportunity for solitude, except near the shoreline, and where boat traffic, flightseeing over the glaciers, and the Taku Lodge occur. The area provides primarily primitive recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 66,004 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. There is potential for timber harvest activity primarily in the Gilbert Bay-Williams Cove area. The area has high primitive and semi-primitive recreation potential. Because of the rugged terrain, use is concentrated, but additional trails and cabins would disperse, and possibly increase, use of the area. Several moose and swan habitat improvement projects are planned for the future. Proposed State land selections include the Snettisham Hydroelectric project and reservoir area and a site near Dorothy Lake. There is the possibility of building a road from Juneau to the "outside". The area has been identified as having mineral development potential and there are several claims in the area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	6,460	6,460	6,460	6,460	6,460
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	407,099	414,203	237,640	23,319	237,640
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	87,831	0	103,190	362,194	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	27,702	136,943	50,648	0	153,838
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	28,614	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	7,107	7,107	9,743	0	9,742
Stream and Lake Protection	13,844	13,904	34,483	0	34,444
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	35,405	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	56,724	50,323	46,182	25,698	47,718
Modified Landscape	83,226	79,759	216,476	9,206	214,980
Timber Production	3,407	13,315	17,194	259,732	17,194
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(303) Sullivan**  
Gross acres: 66,217  
National Forest acres: 66,217

**Description**

The Sullivan roadless area is located on the west side of Lynn Canal and extends from the Forest boundary on the north to the Endicott River Wilderness boundary to the south. The western boundary abuts Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. It includes Sullivan Island in Lynn Canal. The area is generally characterized by rugged, scoured terrain with large, vertical relief, but at two river mouths, the shoreline is flat and accessible. The four adjacent harvest units on Lynn Canal cut in the 1960's have revegetated so they are no longer a strong detractor. Any documented historical use of this area has been minimal. Native use was probably limited to some hunting and gathering. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest, with frequent alluvial deposits supporting willow and alder. Mountain goats, moose, bear and wolves, mink and lynx, and some deer are the common wildlife species. There are no improved trails or recreation cabins in the area, but an airstrip is located adjacent to the area on an alluvial fan and receives use from hunters and occasional miners. A small parcel of private land is located on the southern tip of Sullivan Island. Primary use of the area is for hunting both moose and bear.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area has very good natural integrity as it is unmodified except for some small mining claims in the area. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the area, except along the shoreline where the sights and sounds of planes, ferries, boats or cruiseships may be heard, although Sullivan Island screens much of the water traffic. Some thinning is occurring on adjacent harvest units and some drilling may be occurring on some of the current mining claims. The area provides primarily pristine and semi-primitive recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 8,285 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Sullivan Island was considered for wilderness designation in Congressional legislation but was not included in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. There is a possibility to develop public recreation cabins within the area, but because of the difficulty and cost of access, the potential remains low. Outfitter and guide services may be increased in the future, especially in relation to big game hunting. The potential remains low for fish enhancement projects within the area. The area generally has Priority Two and Three mineral development potential ratings. Numerous mining claims exist and two Plans of Operation have been submitted. Occasionally, the topic of building a road to Haines surfaces, and most potential proposals indicate the west side of Lynn Canal as the route of choice.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	36,743	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	29,074	25,650	0	66,157	3,824
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	341	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	60	580	1,662	0	1,081
Stream and Lake Protection	0	2,640	6,262	0	6,162
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	10,163	10,163	60	28,648
Modified Landscape	0	27,183	48,131	0	26,502
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(304) Chilkat-West Lynn Canal**

Gross acres: 205,682

National Forest acres: 205,501

**Description**

Chilkat-West Lynn Canal roadless area, characterized by the Chilkat Mountain Range which runs the entire north-south length of it, is bounded by the Endicott River Wilderness to the north and Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve to the west. Icy Strait into Excursion Inlet borders the southern tip of the area, where there are some small islands and documented prehistoric Tlingit sites. There are some State selected or private parcels in St. James Bay and at the north end of Excursion Inlet. Alascom has a special use permit for a repeater station in William Henry Bay. The complexities of alpine tundra, scrub and old-growth forest, numerous small lakes, snowfields, steeply-walled glacial valleys and waterfalls are all special attractions of the area. As there are no improved trails or recreation cabins, recreation activities remain primarily dispersed and along the coastline. Moose and black bear hunting are increasing in popularity. Vegetation is typical coastal southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The area commonly supports goats, black and brown bear, deer, bald eagles, wolves, and moose. Sea mammal rookeries are found throughout the area and many streams support runs of Dolly Varden, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

**Wilderness Potential**

The roadless area is unmodified and, therefore maintains the natural integrity well. There is a high opportunity for solitude within the interior, but the element of solitude is affected along the shore because of the substantial boating activities and flight corridors. Popular commercial fishing grounds are adjacent to the southern portion of this area. The possible Couverden timber sale adjacent to the area may affect the area in terms of noise and visual impacts. Recreation opportunities consist primarily of primitive and semi-primitive, non-motorized activities.

**Resources**

The area contains 38,347 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. There is great potential to provide a variety of recreation opportunities within this area. The rugged interior offers the hiker, backpacker, and mountaineer a high degree of challenge. All-weather anchorages and interesting coves and beaches offer excellent opportunities for beachcombing, camping and picnicking. Generally, the area has low mineral potential, but there are numerous known current claims. One site in the lower Endicott River area has been identified as an inventoried potential Research Natural Area, but was not recommended for designation in any alternative. Periodically the idea of a proposed highway north to Haines surfaces. If one were to be built, this roadless area would be one logical route. As populations rise in nearby communities, use of this area will undoubtedly increase.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	33,410	30,884	30,884	100	30,884
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	27,493	30,359	17,424	68,330	17,284
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	341	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	559	559	5,096	0	5,156
Stream and Lake Protection	15,840	15,840	16,500	0	16,520
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	14,720	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	72,407	72,307	67,670	57,755	6,360
Modified Landscape	54,375	54,375	67,828	57,774	129,198
Timber Production	1,078	1,178	100	6,823	100
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(305) Juneau Urban**  
Gross acres: 102,410  
National Forest acres: 102,410

**Description**

The Juneau Urban roadless area is located on the Juneau mainland and includes land from Echo Bay, north to City and Borough of Juneau land boundaries, and south to the Lemon Creek area. Glaciers and icefalls, combined with the surrounding ridges of over 3,000-4,000 feet, are the most dramatic features of the area. Tlingit Natives lived in the area long before the Gold Rush days which began in 1880 and spurred the rapid establishment of Juneau. Glacier Highway runs generally north to south and provides easy access to this entire area. There are numerous trails and two popular recreations cabins in the area. The Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area and a large campground are within and adjacent to the area. There are many special use permits associated with outfitters and guides, including helicopter landing tours on the Icefield. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. There are populations of mountain goats, furbearers, black and brown bear, and numerous waterfowl and upland birds, however deer populations are impacted because of severe winter conditions and generally high predator populations. Most of the local use is for recreation, including hunting, excellent fishing, and activities in support of tourism. There is local interest and concern regarding availability of firewood.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is modified by cabins, trails, and mining claims. In addition, regular air traffic, flightseeing tours, and helicopter landing tours all contribute to impacting the ecological processes in the area. There is not a high opportunity for solitude in this area for the previous reasons, plus noise from the Juneau road system. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 27,815 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Timber sales within this area would be controversial because of its close proximity to Juneau and the high recreation use of the area. Interest is high regarding any management decisions made for this area. Recreation potential is seemingly infinite, including both developed and dispersed projects. Several fish habitat improvement projects have been identified, as well as several waterfowl habitat improvement projects. This area encompasses much of what is known as the Juneau Gold Belt and is recognized as an area of high mineral development potential, priority one. Recently, there has been renewed interest in mineral exploration. A parcel of 48 acres has been recently selected by the State in the Eagle River area, and a larger parcel has been proposed. The Auke Cape/Lena Cove parcel of 653 acres is also under consideration.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	7,743	7,413	7,273	7,273	7,413
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	19,982	20,083	20,381	23,219	20,842
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	52,483	0	20	0	20
Semi-Primitive Recreation	11,566	47,907	39,220	47,588	38,719
Legislated LUD II	6,052	6,052	6,052	6,052	6,052
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	4,335	4,434	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	20	20	40	0	40
Stream and Lake Protection	220	1,938	3,076	0	3,036
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,157	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	7,690	7,790	7,710	19,476
Modified Landscape	280	6,871	18,557	8,410	6,811
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(306) Mansfield Peninsula**

Gross acres: 54,853

National Forest acres: 54,773

**Description**

The Mansfield Peninsula roadless area is located on Mansfield Peninsula which is the northern most portion of Admiralty Island. It is surrounded by Stephens Passage to the east and Lynn Canal/Chatham Strait to the west. The southern boundary is adjacent to the road recently constructed from Young Bay to Green's Creek Mine. Several excellent anchorages are found adjacent to the peninsula, including Funter Bay, Hawk Inlet, and Barlow Cove. Native use of the area focused on fishing and hunting. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rainforest. There is a large population of brown bear as well as Sitka black-tailed deer. Smaller animals include furbearers such as mink, marten, and beaver. Approximately 10-13 isolated hunter or recreation residence cabins are under special use permit in this area with minor trails for access, but no public recreation cabins exist. Primary attractions include good anchorages, and high-quality hunting and fishing opportunities in a location easily accessible by private boats, planes or helicopters from the capital city of Juneau.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area has been modified by mining claims, and access routes to these claims, for many years altering the natural integrity of the area. There is not a high opportunity for solitude within the area because of the numerous floatplanes, helicopters, boats, ferries, and cruiseships traveling to, near, or over this peninsula. There are primarily semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities in the area.

**Resources**

The area contains 23,082 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The area generally has a priority one high mineral development potential rating. Active mining claims and associated patented land are found here to a large extent. Recreation potential for this peninsula is moderately high because of its close proximity to a large population center. Public recreation cabins that can be accessed by saltwater are desired. Heli-hiking opportunities in the alpine may become more popular. A parcel at Hawk Inlet was nominated but not recommended for State selection, as was a parcel near Young Bay. A parcel at Funter Bay has been proposed as well as a parcel on the east side of the peninsula south of Colt Island. To date, no conveyances have taken place.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	5,141	5,141	40	2,641	40
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	25,034	25,034	60	14,922	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	2,285	2,285	4,786	0	3,805
Stream and Lake Protection	1002	1002	2463	0	2002
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1842	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	15,576	12,591	12,591	5,996	0
Modified Landscape	0	2,984	34,832	8,501	48,926
Timber Production	5,736	5,736	0	20,870	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(307) Greens Creek**  
Gross acres: 27,736  
National Forest acres: 27,716

**Description**

The Greens Creek roadless area is located on Admiralty Island and is directly north of Admiralty Island National Monument Wilderness. The northern boundary is formed by the access road to Greens Creek Mine (located in VCU 144) that traverses Mansfield Peninsula from Young Bay to Hawk Inlet. VCU 144 is designated Non-Wilderness National Monument Lands, LUD 1, with 16,710 acres. Young Bay Experimental Forest is located in VCU 133. Historically, Tlingit clans used the area as a seasonal subsistence procurement area, and seasonal camps and at least one village site have been noted. Remains of other historical buildings can still be seen. Three recreation cabins, a trail, and high-quality fishing opportunities in the streams and lakes attract considerable use from the Juneau area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Important populations of wildlife in the area are brown bear, deer, bald eagles, waterfowl/shorebirds, and furbearers such as mink, marten, otter, and beaver. Although there are no known threatened or endangered species, two species of peregrine falcon may migrate through.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area appears modified to some extent due to the cabins, trail, mining operations, and past historic activities which are all visible. Opportunities for solitude vary depending upon one's location. Away from the developed facilities or shorelines, much of the area is not accessible by boat or floatplane, and the opportunity for solitude increases dramatically. The area provides primarily a semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,960 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 18,486 acres of this area as Wilderness, calling it the Young Lake addition to the existing Kootznoowoo Wilderness. The area has been recognized for the numerous recreation opportunities and potential it provides, such as construction of a water-trail or National Recreation Trail, and public recreation cabins. The area generally has a high mineral development potential, priority-one minerals rating, in the vicinity of Greens Creek mine. The State had nominated 841 acres near Young Bay for selection but did not propose selection. This is because State ownership would be perceived as a conflict with the Greens Creek Mine non-development concept for the Hawk Inlet and Young Bay areas. This non-development concept is to last thirty years, the expected life of the mine.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Non-wilderness National Monument	15,670	15,670	15,670	15,670	15,670
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	440	440	440	440	440
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	11,047	11,047	0	10,847	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	100	100	220	0	320
Stream and Lake Protection	20	20	400	20	1,261
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	6,447	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	440	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	440	4,540	420	10,025
Timber Production	0	0	0	320	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(308) Windham-Port Houghton**

Gross acres: 165,896

National Forest acres: 165,876

**Description**

The Windham-Port Houghton roadless area is located directly south of Tracy Arm-Fords Terror Wilderness and is bordered to the west by Stephens Passage. The southern and eastern boundaries lie along the administrative boundary between the Chatham and Stikine Areas of the Tongass National Forest. Parts of four VCUs in the area are Native land selections at Hobart Bay. The topography of the area is typical of glaciated valleys in southeast Alaska. Hobart Bay is being actively logged presently by Goldbelt, Inc. There is evidence that portions of this area have been used since prehistoric times, including petroglyphs in Windham Bay. In more recent history, evidence of small homesteads, logging, mining, and fox farms from the 1800's to early 1900's can still be found. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The area supports a rich wildlife population, including black and brown bear, moose, deer, wolves, mountain goats, mink, marten, and beaver. There are two minor trails in the area, but no public recreation cabins. Most use of the area is located near saltwater or major creeks and is associated with commercial and sport fishing, hunting, beachcombing, mining, and crabbing.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area itself is unmodified, except for the abandoned fox farms, cabins, and upland mining claims. There are vast opportunities for solitude within a large portion of the area, except in the immediate vicinity of Hobart Bay. There is no regular air traffic into or over the area. The area provides primarily pristine and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 77,307 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 74,990 acres as the Chuck River Wilderness. A timber sale offering in the next 10 to 15 years is likely. Recreation potential focuses primarily on primitive and semi-primitive opportunities. There is potential for developed recreation, but because of the distance from any population center, use may be low. One fish habitat improvement project in Port Houghton has been identified. Portions of this area, especially in the Windham Bay area, are considered to have high mineral development potential, priority three. There are known current claims near Endicott Arm and Windham Bay and significant mining occurred in the 1880's. There are 481 acres of private land within the area, primarily located in Dry Bay.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	4,389	33,612	419	31,930	260
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	115,531	51,069	240	48,202	159
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	881	2,563	9,397	0	9,397
Stream and Lake Protection	3,693	7,420	13,178	0	13,158
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	7,861	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	12,727	26,998	2,725	60	39,143
Modified Landscape	18,184	3,188	39,927	340	3,529
Timber Production	10,471	41,025	99,988	77,482	100,229
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(309) Juneau Islands**  
Gross acres: 6,290  
National Forest acres: 6,290

**Description**

The Juneau Islands roadless area is comprised of the small, low-lying islands, with no significant geologic features, directly adjacent to the City and Borough of Juneau urban area in Lynn Canal and Auke Bay. The primary islands are Shelter Island, Lincoln Island, Benjamin Island, Coghlan Island, Portland Island, and Spuhn Island. The Tlingit Natives lived in the area before the Gold Rush of the 1890's. Many of the islands contained fox farms earlier in this century. Currently these islands receive heavy recreational use due to their proximity to and easy access from Juneau, usually by boat or kayak. There are no improved trails on the island or public recreation cabins, but Portland Island has a popular dispersed picnic ground (with mooring buoy) and a youth wilderness camp, organized through the City and Borough of Juneau. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Sitka black-tailed deer are found on these islands as well as small furbearers such as mink and marten.

**Wilderness Potential**

The islands in this area have been modified throughout the years by the activities occurring on them, which have compromised their natural integrity. Lynn Canal and Auke Bay are both extremely busy waterways, with cruiseships, ferries, and private and commercial boats using them regularly. The sights and sounds of air traffic and the nearby urban area are also noticeable from these islands. Roaded natural and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities are primarily provided.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,547 acres of tentatively suitable forest land, although the potential for managing timber in this roadless area is low. There is great potential for increased recreation opportunities, and for this reason, the State has proposed selection of all these islands for State acquisition. The southern tip and a portion of the northern tip of Shelter Island are privately owned. The area generally has a low minerals potential and there are no known current claims. The area has no significant fire history, although very small, human-caused fires occur occasionally throughout the summer months.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	6,031	6,031	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	260	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	6,031	3,785	6,031
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	140	140	0	140
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	20	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	120
Modified Landscape	0	120	120	2,485	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(310) Douglas Island**  
Gross acres: 28,609  
National Forest acres: 28,549

**Description**

The Douglas Island roadless area is located on a portion of Douglas Island located directly across Gastineau Channel from Juneau. City and Borough of Juneau lands border this area on all sides except to the west, along the coast, which is Native-selected land. The City and Borough-managed ski area is located directly in the center of this roadless area which is accessed by Eagle Crest Road. The history of the area is tied to Juneau since the Gold Rush days and some historical remains still exist. The area is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest, with some areas above treeline but no permanent snowfields or lakes. There are some black bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, marten, mink and ermine. Two trails are included in the area and one recreation cabin which is popular year-round. The area, with its immediate proximity to Juneau and Douglas, receives heavy use for hunting, hiking, scenery viewing, camping, climbing, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.

**Wilderness Potential**

The roadless area is essentially unmodified except in the area of the trails and cabin, but the close proximity to roads and to an urban environment affect its natural integrity as does the presence of the developed ski area in the core of the island. Due to all the urban, recreational, air and boat traffic, there is little opportunity for solitude, especially on the northeast side of the island facing the urban area. There are primarily semi-primitive recreation opportunities available.

**Resources**

The area contains 10,355 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is poor because of the extensive alpine/muskeg environment and lack of appropriate timber to make such activity financially feasible. Also, its close proximity to Juneau would most likely create controversy over such actions. There is high interest in providing recreational opportunities, on this area and Douglas Island as a whole, for the community of Juneau. Winter sports and recreation cabin use are important to local residents, with the easily-accessible alpine environment a primary attractor. A trail/hut system in conjunction with a trail circumnavigating Douglas Island has been under discussion. The island has been identified as an area of potential mineral development. Currently, there are several claims in the southwest portion of the area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	120	120	120	120	120
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	4,376	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	19,653	24,029	22,668	23,989	22,668
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	440	440	440	0	440
Stream and Lake Protection	340	340	400	0	400
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	400	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	3,620	3,620	3,620	0	3,620
Modified Landscape	0	0	1,301	40	1,301
Timber Production	0	0	0	4,000	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(311) Chichagof**  
Gross acres: 579,803  
National Forest acres: 577,001

**Description**

The Chichagof roadless area is located on Chichagof Island. The boundaries of this very mountainous area are extremely uneven, but it includes most of the central portion of Chichagof Island. There are many creeks and rivers, lakes, bays and fiords, saltwater estuaries, and a rocky shoreline. The towns of Pelican on Lisianski Inlet and Elfin Cove at Port Althorp and two logging camps are encompassed by the area. The area is rich in history, including historic and prehistoric Native sites, use by John Muir, exploration by Captain Vancouver, and fishing and homesteading use. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife in the area include brown bear, deer, marten, red squirrel, bald eagle, waterfowl, and seal. The Peale's peregrine falcon migrates through the forest, and humpback whales inhabit nearby waters. There are no recreation cabins in the area, but two trails exist. There is a wide variety of recreation use of the area, including hiking, camping, kayaking, fishing, hunting, boating, etc. There are 11 special use permits, a shelter at Little Saltery Bay, a hunter's cabin at Crab Bay, and 20 unpatented mining claims. Special features include all the above attractions, hot springs at Hoonah Sound, and marble formations at Basket Bay.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified except for isolated areas. Adjacent nearby areas have been heavily modified from roading, logging, mining, and communities, but have not had a significant influence on the overall area. The opportunity for solitude is very high, enhanced by the the proximity to the West Chichagof-Yakobi Wilderness, however logging on the adjacent Huna Totem and Sealaska private lands for the next three years will adversely affect solitude. Regular and charter airflights over the area occur, but are transitory and short term in nature. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized opportunities, but it is evident that vehicles do use the area.

**Resources Potential**

The area contains 71,415 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The area is included in the Alaska Pulp Corporation long-term timber sale contract area and some of the harvest units will be in the roadless area, accessed by existing roads. The Supplemental EIS for the 1986-90 APC long term sale approved harvest of 2,688 acres with access from the Corner Bay, False Island and Sitkoh Bay road systems in the east portion of the roadless area. A large portion of the area (301,406 acres) has become the Lisianski/Upper Hoonah Sound, Kadashan and Point Adolphus/Mud Bay Legislated LUD II areas in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. Inian and Lemesurier Island groups were designated Wilderness in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. There is very high recreation potential, and many trail and cabin projects have been identified, as well as two wildlife habitat management projects. The area is highly rated for salmon production. There are two inventoried potential Research Natural Areas, located at Upper Tenakee Inlet Hot Springs and Tonalite Creek. Tonalite Creek has been recommended for Research Natural Area designation in all alternatives.

Upper Tenakee Inlet Hot Springs is being considered for Special Interest Area status. Portions of the area have a high potential for development of locatable minerals; several mining operations are currently in operation. Subsistence use take place throughout most of the area and includes hunting, fishing, and gathering. Each community has its own emphasis issues, ranging from environmental protection to sustaining harvest for job protection and economic concerns. In the remaining roadless area outside of the Tongass Timber Reform Act designations, 15-50% would be considered for timber harvest in the range of alternatives. A long-term timber sale offering in the next 10 to 15 years is likely.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	3,298	3,278	9,795	9,755	9,915
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	60	0	0	60
Primitive Recreation	162,156	60,558	38,893	21,806	23,667
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	420	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	39,550	47,107	7,323	31,821	4,385
Legislated LUD II	234,656	234,656	234,656	234,656	234,656
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	2,600	0	0	0	3,380
Beach Fringe and Estuary	24,141	3,038	29,201	0	9,015
Stream and Lake Protection	7,842	20,574	24,575	0	28,872
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	26,776	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	44,975	35,071	5,013	200	17,991
Modified Landscape	23,382	73,766	82,331	73,436	16,656
Timber Production	15,779	79,853	136,369	169,666	223,000
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

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**(312) Trap Bay**  
Gross acres: 14,178  
National Forest acres: 14,178

**Description**

The Trap Bay roadless area, having four well-defined ridge systems and three large drainages, is located on the east side of Chichagof Island. Tenakee Inlet forms the northern boundary, and Chatham Strait borders on the east. Much of the land boundaries are timber harvest areas. Saltwater bays and estuaries are numerous and exhibit much variety. Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit villages and sites for seasonal hunting, fishing, and collecting activities were located throughout the area. Tenakee Springs and the Corner Bay logging camp are nearby logging communities. Fishing, especially for salmon, is a major, resident subsistence activity. Sport and commercial fishing in area waters is common. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include brown bear, deer, marten, mink, otter, bald eagles, and a few bird species. The American peregrine falcon migrates through and humpback whale inhabit nearby waters. There are two federal and one State research cabins in the Trap Bay area, but no recreation cabins in the area. There is one special use permit in VCU 238 for an electronic site. There are a number of outfitters and guides with special use permits operating. Special features include Trap Mountain plus the spectacular autumn colors in the alpine zone. Local uses include hunting, hiking, fishing, and boating.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

Other than the areas adjacent to timber harvest activities, the area appears natural and unmodified. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude around the shorelines because of the constant activities of the Corner Bay logging camp and Tenakee Springs. Boats and small planes use this area regularly. Due to lack of access and use, the interior would provide greater solitude. Much of the area provides semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 1,875 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area is located within the Alaska Pulp Corporation long term timber sale contract area. The potential for managing timber is high as there are large areas with operable timber and access roads, making timber harvest economical. The Supplemental EIS for the 1986-90 operating period for the APC long term sale approved harvest of 1,051 acres in the Trap Bay and Basket Bay areas; these harvest units eliminate the wilderness potential in the east half of the roadless area. The 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 6,595 acres as LUD II in the area. There are recreation opportunities at Sitkoh and Kook Lakes, including trails. There is potential for the introduction of mountain goats in the Trap Bay Mountain area and on the adjoining ridge systems. Mineral development potential is low. Local issues include environmental and economic concerns.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	20	100	20	20	60
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	279	299	0	299	0
Legislated LUD II	6,495	6,495	6,495	6,495	6,495
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	20	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	20	20	139	0	139
Stream and Lake Protection	519	519	539	0	539
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	519	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	5,828	5,748	679	20	679
Modified Landscape	997	20	179	0	439
Timber Production	0	977	6,126	6,825	5,826
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(314) Point Craven**  
Gross acres: 10,698  
National Forest acres: 10,698

**Description**

The Point Craven roadless area is located on Chichagof Island, north of Peril Strait, south of Sitkoh Creek and west of Sitkoh Bay. The community of Hoonah is about 49 miles to the north, and Sitka is about 32 miles to the south. The area is characterized by narrow river valleys, surrounded by steep mountains. Native peoples from the Sitka, Hoonah, and Angoon areas apparently used the area as there is evidence of sites and villages in and around the area. Early European entries were tied to hunting and exploration. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. There are high populations of wildlife, including brown bear, deer, marten, mink, otter, bald eagles and a few resident bird species. Sport and subsistence deer hunting is very important in this area. Four types of salmon are valuable for commercial, subsistence and sport fishing in the area's waters. The steelhead run in Sitkoh Creek is one of the few major runs on islands in southeast Alaska and is heavily used. Although the wildlife and natural beauty are attractions, there is little to distinguish this roadless area from many other areas. There are no cabins or improved trails, although the popular Sitkoh Lake cabin is adjacent to the northwestern corner of this area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

Other than the adjacent timber harvest areas, this area appears natural and unmodified. The opportunity for solitude is high once away from the coastal areas where there is heavy ferry, cruiseship, barge, and fishing boat traffic. There are high altitude overflights from commercial airliners and occasional small aircraft flights which may provide some distraction. The area provides primarily semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 3,216 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area is located within the Alaska Pulp Company long term timber sale contract area. A long-term timber sale offering is likely in the next 5 years. The potential exists to enhance primitive and/or semi-primitive recreation opportunities; however, the potential for anything other than a trail system is low. The area is commonly used by outfitter/guides and potential is high for a significant increase in permits for them in the Sitkoh Creek area. The development potential for minerals is low or non-existent in the entire area. There are two unconveyed Native allotments on Sitkoh Bay. There has been strong concern expressed about the ability to maintain subsistence use in the Sitkoh Bay area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	559	1,317	0	1,317	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	758	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	220	220	260	0	260
Stream and Lake Protection	760	760	939	0	939
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	760	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	4,143	4,143	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	3,059	0	0	0	280
Timber Production	1,200	4,259	9,499	8,622	9,219
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(317) Point Augusta**  
Gross acres: 15,319  
National Forest acres: 15,319

<b>Description</b>	<p>The Point Augusta roadless area, characterized by rounded mountains and long flowing streams, is located on the northeastern coast of Chichagof Island with Whitestone Harbor adjacent to its northwestern corner. Icy and Chatham Straits are to the north and the east respectively. False Bay and the Hoonah road system border to the south and west. There is evidence of prehistoric Native use in nearby areas indicating probable use here. At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area of Chichagof Island. Hoonah is 10 miles to the north. Anchorages have been identified in Whitestone Harbor and False Bay. Permitted outfitters and guides use this area, and there is a special use permit for a lighthouse reserve in the area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. There is important deer winter habitat in this area and bald eagles nest and roost in trees along the shoreline and into the major drainages. Iyoutug Creek is an anadromous stream for pink and chum salmon. There are no recreation cabins and no unusual features in the area. Most of the use of the area is associated with the Hoonah residents, including boating, hunting and subsistence.</p>
<b>Wilderness Potential</b>	<p>This roadless area has had little human modification to the land base and is natural appearing. Because of its size, it offers an opportunity for solitude. The possibility of meeting other people is likely around the saltwater bays. The western and southern borders are modified by roading and harvesting which would be disruptive during timber operation. The area provides primarily an opportunity for semi-primitive non-motorized recreation.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	<p>The area contains 7,859 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area falls within the APC long-term timber sale area. The existing nearby road system, log transfer facility, and the logging camp at Hoonah make the management of timber harvest economical. Harvest of 463 acres on the north side of Iyoutug Creek was approved in the 1986-90 operating period supplemental EIS for the APC long term sale. There is little recreation potential, although in 1979 there was a proposal to build an alpine trail system. A marine park is programmed for the Whitestone Harbor area. A fish pass project was completed in 1990 in Suntaheen Creek. There is no potential for mineral development. An increase in outfitter/guide use is probable. There is one Native land selection in this roadless area. Local issues concerning this area range from the economics of timber harvest to environmental issues.</p>

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	10,439	10,439	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	80	80	920	0	920
Stream and Lake Protection	140	140	760	760	760
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	80	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	4,460	2,540	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	80	1,920	0	2,200	5,039
Timber Production	120	200	13,639	12,359	8,600
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(318) Whitestone**  
Gross acres: 5,800  
National Forest acres: 5,780

**Description**

The Whitestone roadless area, a flat expanse of land about seven miles long and three miles wide, is located on the northeast side of Chichagof Island. Icy Strait borders the north, Whitestone Harbor the east, and the southern edge is bordered by harvested and roaded areas. Saltwater bays and estuaries are numerous and exhibit much variety. An anchorage is located in the northwest corner of Whitestone Harbor, a desirable harbor which receives heavy use from Hoonah boaters and transient mariners. The nearest community is Hoonah, 12 miles northwest, which provides most of the recreation, hunting and fishing activities in the area. Sites in nearby areas indicate prehistoric Native use of the area, and there are cultural resource evidence such as petroglyphs in the area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The shoreline is considered important deer habitat and the entire area is deer and brown bear habitat. Small mammals include marten and red squirrel. The Peale's peregrine falcon migrates through this area and is on the Federal Endangered and Threatened Species list. Except for permits for outfitter and guides, there are no other special use permits in the area. There are no recreation use cabins in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area has been unmodified by human development so has good natural integrity. A high opportunity for solitude exists in this area along the northern shoreline and in the interior, but along the boundaries formed by roads and harvesting, opportunity for solitude diminishes. The area provides primarily semi-primitive non-motorized and semi-primitive motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,260 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area falls within the APC long-term timber sale area. The existing nearby road systems make the management of this area for timber harvest economical. Because of the area's easy accessibility to Hoonah residents, there is increased recreational hunting and gathering potential. A marine park with outdoor recreation vehicle facilities has been proposed for Whitestone Harbor. In lower Suntaheen Creek, there are proposed log weirs for fish rearing and spawning habitat. There is no known mineral potential. Increased use by outfitter/guides is probable with an increased need. There are two Native withdrawals within this area. Local issues range from environmental issues to timber economics. Natives of Hoonah who use the area for subsistence gathering, feel that development and increased recreation are causing a scarcity of subsistence resources in their local area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	40	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	5,660	5,660	0	5,660	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	20	20	900	0	900
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	220	0	220
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	60	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	100	0	120	2,660
Timber Production	0	0	4,660	0	2,000
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(319) Pavlof-East Point**  
Gross acres: 5,8000  
National Forest acres: 5,8000

**Description**

The Pavlof-East Point roadless area is located on the east side of Chichagof Island and is bounded by Chatham Strait, Tenakee Inlet and Freshwater Bay. Timber harvest units and roads form the inland boundary. The nearest communities are the Kennel Creek logging camp and Tenakee Springs. The large Pavlof drainage includes a river and lake which have significant salmon runs, waterfalls and a bay. Prehistoric information is limited, but it is very probable that this area was used by inhabitants of the region. At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area of Chichagof Island. There are many historical Native, trading, and fishing sites. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The area contains much designated deer winter range; bald eagles roost and nest along the shoreline; Peale's peregrine falcon, which are on the Federal Endangered and Threatened Species List, migrate through the forest. The area has two recreation cabins, and several trails. Activities in the area include boating, fishing, kayaking, hiking, and hunting. Pavlof Harbor is a special feature because it offers protection from the weather on four sides, and therefore is used consistently by transit vessels. A State selection is located at Pavlof Lake and special use permits have been issued for cabins north of Pavlof Harbor and at Wachusett Cove.

**Wilderness Potential**

The natural integrity of the area has not been modified heavily by human activities. This area as a whole does not offer a high opportunity for solitude due to the Forest Service work center, road systems and logging camp, the population at Tenakee Springs, and the air and boat traffic. Only at the Pavlof Harbor and Lake would one experience a protected opportunity for solitude. The area does provide primarily semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 4,380 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area is in the APC Long Term Timber Sale area. The existing nearby road systems and logging camp make the management for timber harvest economical. The Supplemental EIS for the 1986-90 operating period for the APC long term sale approved the harvest of 91 acres an extension of the East Point Road, which will have only minor influence on the integrity of the roadless area. Recreation potential includes additional cabin and trail construction, and possibly a campground on the lake. Pavlof Lake is also being considered for a fertilization program. Wildlife habitat improvement projects are possible. The potential for increased outfitter and guide use is probable as need increases. The area was identified as having mineral development potential. Local issues range from timber economics to environmental issues.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	2,680	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	1,020	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	920	920	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	320	680	1,040	0	1,040
Stream and Lake Protection	20	60	340	0	340
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	360	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,780	2,080	320	40	1,240
Modified Landscape	80	960	2,260	2,060	3,060
Timber Production	0	80	1,840	3,340	120
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(321) Tenakee Ridge**  
Gross acres: 21,722  
National Forest acres: 21,722

**Description**

Tenakee Ridge roadless area is a narrow rugged mountainous ridge on southeastern Chichagof Island adjacent to the community of Tenakee Springs. The area is surrounded by timber harvest areas and roads on all sides. Principal features include the upper, unharvested, reaches of the Indian River, Pavlof River and Freshwater Creek drainages, which have high fishery and brown bear habitat values. The area has numerous cultural resource sites attributed to the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit. Use of the area is primarily hunting, fishing and subsistence including wood gathering. There are no recreation facilities or constructed trails. The visual character of the area is common.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is not modified by management activities, but due to adjacent harvest areas does not represent the full range of ecosystems typical of the maritime character of Chichagof Island. There is a high opportunity for solitude due in part to the lack of developed trails and features which concentrate use. Opportunity for primitive recreation is reduced by the proximity to roads and harvest areas on all sides. Although the road system offers a definable boundary, boundaries do not follow natural features.

**Resources**

The area contains 4,420 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area is within the long-term sale area of the Alaska Pulp Corporation. The existing logging road system adjacent to the area increases the economic potential of timber harvest in this area. The 1986-90 Supplemental EIS for the APC long term sale approved harvest of 189 acres in the Pavlov River drainage and extension of the existing road. The area has identified mineral potential. Potential for recreation development is limited to one identified potential trail connecting to Tenakee Springs. Use for subsistence activities and personal use wood gathering is likely to continue or increase.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	20	20	20	20	20
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	10,381	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	9,021	18,782	0	19,482	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	700	700	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	100	140	1,760	0	1,720
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	140	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	400	840	580	520	14,281
Modified Landscape	960	680	14,341	740	680
Timber Production	140	560	5,021	820	5,021
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(323) Game Creek**  
Gross acres: 55,746  
National Forest acres: 54,765

**Description**

The Game Creek roadless area, characterized by mountain ridges and drainages with wide open areas, is located in the middle of Chichagof Island. It is bounded by Huna Totem and Sealaska Corporation lands (which have been heavily roaded and harvested), the town of Hoonah, Tenakee Inlet, and Port Frederick. At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area. There are many Native sites, including petroglyphs and a burial site. The area is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The Upper Game Creek area has important wildlife habitat and there are several areas of important deer winter range in the area. Bald eagles roost and nest along the shore and Peale's peregrine falcon migrate through the forest. Game Creek is a major anadromous stream. Special features include some unusually large muskegs which provide openings for hunting and hiking, and the obviously glacially caused U-shaped valleys of Seagull Creek and Upper Game Creek. There are no recreation cabins or formal trails in the area, although recreation activities are numerous, including kayaking, dispersed camping, nature study, and saltwater boating and fishing. There is one Native selection in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area has not been heavily modified and the natural integrity is maintained. There is high opportunity for solitude in the area between centers of human activity. Even though the area is surrounded by road systems, two are not easily accessible, and much of the recreation is dispersed. Possible future logging would definitely affect this area. Recreation opportunities are primarily semi-primitive non-motorized.

**Resources**

The area contains 15,179 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Because the entire area falls into the APC Long Term Timber Sale area, the potential for managing timber is very high. The existing nearby road systems and logging camp make the management of this area for timber harvest economical. The 1986-90 Supplemental EIS for the APC long term sale approved harvest of 1,835 acres in upper Game Creek and Seagull Creek. Recreation potential includes increased hunting, fishing, dispersed camping, and possibly an alpine trail in VCU 204. Fish improvements are possible in Freshwater Creek drainage, Lake Creek, and Game Creek Drainage. An increase in outfitter/guide use of this area is predicted. There is mineral development potential in the area. One important issue to the people of the area is the maintenance of subsistence resources.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	20	9,933	20	20	20
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	3,540	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	4,819	24,048	0	6,959	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	27,060	0	27,060	0	100
Stream and Lake Protection	0	140	680	0	4,117
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,557	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	40	40	1,959	1,959	7,518
Modified Landscape	260	240	5,659	21,984	180
Timber Production	40	1,339	2,320	1,260	23,805
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(325) Freshwater Bay**  
Gross acres: 51,089  
National Forest acres: 45,286

**Description**

The Freshwater Bay roadless area is located on the northeast corner of Chichagof Island, including the northern shore of Freshwater Bay. The northern boundaries are Huna Totem and Sealaska Corporations lands which have been extensively roaded and logged; the southeast border is Chatham Strait. The area is quite mountainous with large deep stream drainages, but there are some flat areas at the head of Freshwater Bay. Nearby prehistoric sites indicate use in this area. At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit were using this area which existing sites can attest to. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, bear, Vancouver Canada geese, and bald eagle. The Peale's peregrine falcon migrate through and humpback whale inhabit nearby waters. Fishing, especially for salmon, in the abundant streams is a major source of subsistence for local residents. Sport and commercial fishing in area waters is common, too. There is an identified anchorage in False Bay, providing access to the area. There are also many identified recreation places for hiking, dispersed camping, kayaking, etc., although there are no recreation use cabins. A number of outfitter/guides use this area. The Iyoukeen Peninsula, which is four miles long and 1/8 miles wide, is a special feature. There are two Native land selections and the patented Gypsum Mines private land in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

Other than the gypsum mining operations area, the area has not been significantly modified and appears entirely natural. The opportunity for solitude is rated high because of the area's size, however there is the possibility of hearing logging operations and traffic from surrounding road systems. The area provides primarily primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 11,701 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area falls into the APC Long Term Timber Sale area. The 1986-90 operating period Supplemental EIS approved the harvest of 3,157 acres in Seal Creek, Wukuklook Creek, Gypsum Creek and along the north side of Freshwater Bay. An additional long-term sale offering is likely in the next 10 to 15 years. Recreation potential includes trail and shelter construction and increased outfitter/guide use. Various fish and wildlife projects have potential. The area was identified as having a moderate potential for mineral development. Local issues range from timber economics to environmental issues.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	100	40	40	40	40
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	7,083	7,603	0	6,324	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,579	780	1,579	0	780
Stream and Lake Protection	3,020	3,020	3,501	0	3,501
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,080	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	11,940	11,340	4,500	480	4,940
Modified Landscape	20,343	2,860	2,100	1,680	3,020
Timber Production	1,200	19,622	33,546	33,663	32,986
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(326) North Kruzof**  
Gross acres: 27,987  
National Forest acres: 27,987

**Description**

The North Kruzof roadless area is located on the northern end of Kruzof Island and also includes Partofshikof Island to the east and a number of offshore islands and rocks. The area is bounded by Salisbury Sound, the Pacific Ocean, Neva Strait and Krestof Sound, and the southern boundary is a roaded and harvested area. The area is characterized by small irregular mountains, rocky islands, reefs and rock bluffs on the coast, and numerous bays and fiords that provide sheltered anchorage for boats. This large area has a long and varied history of use dating from Tlingit use in prehistoric and historic times to the present use by a variety of Alaska residents and visitors. Use of the area has been primarily for hunting, fishing, boating, recreation, and temporary occupancy. There is one improved trail at Sealion Cove, but no recreation cabins. There are a number of authorized special uses existing in the area. The proximity of this area to the open North Pacific Ocean and the unimpeded movement of storms into the area from the southwest results in a high rainfall affecting the species somewhat, but it is primarily typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, brown bear, bald eagle, and birds and waterfowl rearing and nesting areas are abundant. Special features include a beautiful mile-long white sand beach at Sealion Cove and the often dramatic high energy seas on the outer coast.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the evidence of current and historic use, mostly near the shoreline, which have a very low impact on the natural integrity. There is a moderate to high opportunity for solitude within the area and only an occasional airplane or boat would disturb anyone. The area provides a moderate to high opportunity for primitive recreation as a result of the area's size, landscape, many recreational opportunities, and physical challenges.

**Resources**

The area contains 7,452 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods without extensive roading. Potential for recreation is mainly for cabin construction. There are some opportunities for fish and wildlife improvement projects. There is a low potential for mineral development.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	320	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	23,013	23,293	0	280	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,478	1,478	3,876	0	2,258
Stream and Lake Protection	180	180	1,398	0	839
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1,398	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	2,996	1,817	1,757	100	11,147
Modified Landscape	0	1,219	17,141	40	0
Timber Production	0	0	3,815	26,169	3,815
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(327) Middle Kruzof**  
Gross acres: 14,361  
National Forest acres: 14,361

**Description**

The Middle Kruzof roadless area is a narrow L-shaped area in the middle of Kruzof Island which wraps around a large area of road systems and timber activity. It also includes the Nedezhda Island in Krestof Sound and a number of small offshore islands and rocks. The area is bordered on two sides by saltwater, including the Pacific Ocean and Krestof Sound. Access is good due to the bays that provide sheltered anchorage for boats, and the area's proximity to Sitka. This area has a long and varied history of use dating from Tlingit use in prehistoric and historic times to the present use by a variety of Alaska residents and visitors. Use of the area has been primarily for hunting, fishing, recreation, and temporary occupancy. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer and brown bear, bald eagles, and bird and waterfowl rearing and nesting areas are abundant. There are no improved trails, recreation cabins, or attractions of special interest other than the natural features.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified except for evidence of current and historic use of the area, which has had a very low affect on the natural integrity of the area. However, the narrow shape of the area makes it hard to ignore the adjacent timber harvests. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Recreation use of the area is relatively limited and dispersed, so that encounters with others are unlikely. The sights and sounds of planes and boats can occasionally intrude on solitude, and road and off-road motorized recreation can be heard. The area provides only a moderate opportunity for primitive recreation as a result of its size, lack of screening, and physical challenges.

**Resources**

The area contains 5,287 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. Recreation potential includes building a cabin in Gilmer Bay. Its shape, size and lack of lakes or streams will restrict opportunities for managing this area for recreation in an unroaded condition. The area does not have a high mineral development potential.

### Consequences by Alternative

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	120	120	661	621	661
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	1,240	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	12,440	13,680	0	3,923	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	160	160	821	0	821
Stream and Lake Protection	20	20	280	0	280
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	120	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	240	160	0	40	8,550
Modified Landscape	0	60	8,550	0	0
Timber Production	140	160	4,048	9,656	4,048
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(328) Hoonah Sound**  
Gross acres: 93,880  
National Forest acres: 93,880

**Description**

The Hoonah Sound roadless area is located on Chichagof Island and is bounded by the West Chichagof-Yakobi Wilderness on the north and west, by Hoonah Sound to the east, and Peril Strait on the south. The large area displays a wide terrain variation, from flat river valleys to steep mountains. There is evidence of prehistoric and historic Native use; early European entries were for trade, hunting, and exploration. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include brown bear, deer, bald eagle, marten, otter, mink, beaver; there are few resident bird species. There are four salmon valuable for commercial, subsistence, and sport fishing that spawn and rear in these waters. There are no management activities beyond some fish habitat improvements. Although the wildlife and natural beauty of the area are attractions, there is little to distinguish this from other areas, although the known and suspected cultural resource sites are of interest.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified except for minor activities, including trespass cabins and early sites, which do not detract from the natural integrity of the total area. The opportunity for solitude is very high. Terrain is such that all the ferry, cruiseship, fishing, and barge traffic have little influence away from the coastline. The area provides primarily primitive recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 10,545 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area is within the APC Long Term Timber Sale area. The Ushk Bay, Poison Cove, Deep Bay area is likely to have a long-term sale offering in the next 10 to 15 years. The northern half of the roadless area was legislated LUD II in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. There is potential to build trails and cabins, especially along the coast. There is fish habitat improvement potential, but no wildlife improvements are planned. No current special use permits exist, but possible future permits would be for subsistence or recreational facilities or for outfitter/guide services. Special use permits are anticipated to rise in conjunction with the new herring pond fishery to be permitted by the State. The development potential for minerals is moderate in VCU 281, but low or non-existent in the rest of the area. There are four unconveyed Native allotments within the area. Local concerns are primarily related to subsistence uses and commercial fishing as affected by timber harvest, or the elimination of jobs due to creation of wilderness.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	659	8,669	659	659	659
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	43,243	3,699	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	49,738	49,738	49,738	49,738	49,738
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	240	619	2,757	0	2,757
Stream and Lake Protection	0	3,635	5,093	5,352	5,093
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,035	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	11,700	2,796	240	0
Modified Landscape	0	219	2,678	0	5,474
Timber Production	0	15,602	30,159	37,891	30,159
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(329) South Kruzof**  
Gross acres: 55,699  
National Forest acres: 55,699

**Description**

The South Kruzof roadless area is generally characterized by a large gently sloping shield volcano dominated by the volcanic cone named Mount Edgecumbe located on the southern half of Kruzof Island. It is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the south and east by Sitka Sound, and on the north by the road system and timber activity in the area between Shelikof Bay and Mud Bay. The area also includes a number of small offshore islands and rocks. The western and southern shores have poor boat anchorages and frequent rough water. This large area has a long and varied history of use dating from Tlingit use in prehistoric and historic times to the present use by a variety of Alaska residents and visitors. Primary use of the area has been for hunting, fishing, recreation, and temporary occupancy. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest, although several plant species have been identified that are uncommon or at edge of their range. Wildlife include deer, brown bear, and bald eagle; birds and waterfowl rearing and nesting areas are abundant in this area. The major special features are the volcanic landforms over the area; high quality fishing opportunities in the streams and lakes is also an attraction. One improved trail, the Mt. Edgecumbe Trail, and two recreation cabins are in the area.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the evidence of current and historic use of the area, which have had a very low overall effect on its natural integrity. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area, but encounters with others are unlikely. The area provides a moderate opportunity for primitive recreation as a result of its size, vegetative screening, and physical challenges. The unique landforms, diverse vegetation, streams, bays and varied coastline contribute to these opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 6,126 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. Although additional trails and cabins are possible, none are planned at present. The unique volcanic features and scenery in the area provide opportunities for increasing dispersed recreation. A portion of the area was identified as having Research Natural Area potential in order to include examples of several major volcanic landforms and a small watershed under the unique hydrological influence of volcanic ash soils. However, a Special Interest Area land use designation has been recommended instead in all alternatives, except Alternative C. The area does not have a high mineral development potential.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	39,653	44,816	0	0	42,533
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	581	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	1,610	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	3,424	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	2,042	2,042	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	240	540	2,341	0	620
Stream and Lake Protection	1,681	1,180	6,890	0	1,681
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	6,330	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	8,020	0	42,540	38,917	7,620
Modified Landscape	200	440	3,928	6,448	3,246
Timber Production	2,244	6,681	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(330) North Baranof**  
Gross acres: 337,976  
National Forest acres: 335,975

**Description**

The North Baranof roadless area is located on the northern end and northeastern side of Baranof Island and also includes Catherine Island and a number of offshore islands and rocks. It is bordered on three sides by saltwater, providing a long coastline, deeply and repeatedly scalloped by fiords and bays which provide sheltered anchorage for boats and good access. The western boundary adjoins the Sitka Urban Roadless area and part of the southern boundary adjoins the South Baranof Wilderness. In eighteen locations along its boundary, timber activities and roads have taken place substantially influencing the area. The area has a long and varied history of use dating from Tlingit use in prehistoric and historic times to the present use by a variety of residents and visitors. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, brown bear, and bald eagle; birds and waterfowl rearing and nesting areas are abundant. There are a number of authorized special uses in the area, three improved trails, two cabins, and four parcels of land within or adjacent to the area under other ownership. Three features of special interest are Kelp Bay, Baranof Warm Springs, and the Baranof Island glaciers. Most of the use of the area is for boating, hunting, fishing and nature viewing.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified except for evidence of current and historic use which has had a very low overall effect on its natural integrity. There is a very high opportunity for solitude within the area increased by its size, the topographic screening, and the limited dispersed recreation use. The sights and sounds of occasional airplanes, boats and ferries may intrude on a visitor's solitude. The area provides a very high opportunity for primitive recreation provided by the highly irregular topography, diverse vegetation, and the many lakes, streams, bays and rugged mountains.

**Resources**

The area contains 57,371 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. There are many opportunities for developed recreation such as cabins and trails and the area itself offers unlimited dispersed recreation potential. Existing special use permits would likely continue. The area does not have a high mineral development potential. The area around Lake Eva has been identified as having potential for Research Natural Area status because it represents a highly productive sockeye fishery with an active history of research.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	11,349	11,329	0	0	11,329
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	94,525	98,203	90,484	23,685	135,885
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	18,949	0	11,668	0	11,668
Semi-Primitive Recreation	36,491	48,981	7,221	90,208	7,141
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	3,401	3,401	0	3,381	3,401
Beach Fringe and Estuary	5,926	5,946	10,364	0	7,783
Stream and Lake Protection	12,574	12,974	17,995	0	12,749
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	16,334	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	49,450	49,630	29,100	660	26,521
Modified Landscape	88,586	17,970	55,564	3,361	19,741
Timber Production	13,825	87,542	113,579	198,346	99,758
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(331) Sitka Urban**  
Gross acres: 118,595  
National Forest acres: 117,495

**Description**

The Sitka Urban roadless area is located on the western side of Baranof Island just north of the center of the island. It is bounded on the west by Nakwasina Sound and Sitka Sound which are influenced by the development related to the community of Sitka. The southern boundary adjoins a roadless area and the South Baranof Wilderness; the north and eastern boundaries are also formed by a roadless area. An irregular, rugged mountain chain forms a scenic backdrop to the city of Sitka, while the west coast is characterized by rugged headwalls, cliffs and escarpments resulting from exposure to the sea wind and waves. This large area has a long and varied history of use dating from prehistoric and historic Tlingit use to present use by a variety of residents and visitors. The Russians settled in Sitka in 1799 and it has had constant use since. Although Sitka is outside this area, its residents use it intensively. Use of the area has been primarily for hunting, fishing, boating, woodcutting, recreation, and occasional temporary occupancies. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, brown bear, and bald eagle; birds and waterfowl rearing and nesting areas are abundant. The mountains east of Sitka enhance the beauty of the area and provide a watershed for the community. There are four improved trails, but no recreation cabins in the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the evidence of current and historic use which has had little effect on its overall natural integrity. There are many opportunities for solitude within the area due to size, screening, and overall limited dispersed recreation use; however, a visitor may have to work harder to find them. The sight or sound of airplanes, boats, motor vehicles, and the community of Sitka can occasionally intrude on a visitor's solitude. The area provides primarily a semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains 7,262 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. The area provides an unlimited recreation potential for dispersed recreation. Additional trails and cabins or shelters are possible. With the large numbers of visitors to Sitka, use of trails within walking distance of town or the campgrounds would be substantial. There is potential for both fish and wildlife improvement projects. The southwestern and central portions of the area both contain mineral development potential.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	140	60	0	0	20
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	6,966	4,646	880	4,565	75,106
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	4,561
Old-Growth Habitat	100	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	34,913	37,153	13,823	36,874	10,562
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	780	880	900	0	620
Stream and Lake Protection	5,563	5,723	9,185	0	1,740
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	5,723	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	15,091	14,350	10,947	11,087	4,527
Modified Landscape	52,542	38,946	54,373	39,906	20,318
Timber Production	100	14,436	26,087	18,040	40
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(332) Sitka Sound**  
Gross acres: 17,456  
National Forest acres: 17,456

**Description**

The Sitka Sound roadless area is composed of Krestof Island, Halleck Island, the Siginaka Islands, the Magoun Islands, a number of small offshore islands and rocks, and a peninsula of Baranof Island separated from the rest of Baranof Island by a road system and timber activity. The area is generally located between Sitka Sound and Salisbury Sound, and between Kruzof Island and Baranof Island. This area has a long and varied history of use dating from Tlingit use in prehistoric and historic times to the present day. The major attraction of the area is the beauty of the islands themselves, seen by many visitors to Alaska while riding the ferries through them. There is one improved trail in the area, but no recreation cabins. Most use of the area is associated with recreational boating, hunting and fishing, and viewing the wildlife and scenery. The area is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, brown bear, and bald eagle; birds and waterfowl rearing and nesting habitat are abundant. Peale's peregrine falcon migrate through the forest and the humpback whale inhabits nearby waters.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the evidence of current and historic use of the area, which has a very low overall effect on its natural integrity. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area. Only the occasional sights and sounds of airplanes and boats along the coastline can intrude on a visitor's solitude. The area provides a moderate opportunity for primitive recreation as a result of its dense vegetative screening, physical challenges, streams, bays and varied coastline.

**Resources**

The area contains 6,059 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. The varied terrain, diverse vegetation, and attractive scenery of this area provide unlimited recreation potentials for dispersed recreation. Additional trails and cabins or shelters are possible. The area does not have a high mineral development potential and there are no known claims.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	5,819
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	8,578	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	6,219	13,377	0	7,958	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,240	1,999	2,499	0	1,600
Stream and Lake Protection	80	120	1,140	0	840
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	480	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,340	660	540	820	9,198
Modified Landscape	0	1,300	13,277	1,480	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	6,719	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(333) Redoubt**  
Gross acres: 77,181  
National Forest acres: 73,360

**Description**

The Redoubt roadless area includes a main section on western Baranof Island and a secondary section composed of numerous offshore islands. It is bounded by the Pacific Ocean and Sitka Sound on the west and northwest, by Silver Bay and the Vodopad River watershed on the northeast, and it adjoins the South Baranof Wilderness on the southeast. In addition to evidence of use by the Russian settlers, fisheries activities and other occupancies have occurred throughout the area. The area is characterized by a coastline deeply indented by fiords and bays offering safe anchorages, and also by Redoubt Lake and Deep Inlet; it is further characterized by the hundreds of extremely irregular and exposed islands and rocks off the western coast which provide an opportunity for very dynamic surf waterforms. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, brown bear, and bald eagle; birds and waterfowl nesting and rearing habitat are abundant. There is only one Forest trail and one recreation cabin within the area, but there are also a few non-system trails. Most of the use of the area is associated with recreational boating, hunting and fishing, and viewing wildlife and the scenery. There are a number of authorized special uses existing within the area, including an interagency agreement with ADF&G for fisheries management facilities at Salmon Lake and at Redoubt Lake.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the evidence of current and historic uses which have a very low overall effect on the natural integrity. There is a moderate opportunity for solitude within the area provided by the area's size and its topographic and vegetative screening. Encounters with others are only likely around Redoubt Lake and its cabin. Airplanes, boats, the nearness of Sitka, and air pollution from the pulp mill could all intrude on one's solitude. The area provides a moderate opportunity for primitive recreation.

**Resources**

The area contains 19,945 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this roadless area is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. The area provides unlimited dispersed recreation potential. Additional trails and cabins or shelters are possible. There is opportunity for fertilization of Redoubt Lake to enhance fish production. Redoubt Lake offers opportunities to study unique ecological and physical phenomena related to its meromictic characteristics.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	38,418	19,570	19,570	6,116	25,387
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	13,187	32,035	22,375	16,662	22,375
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	3,007	3,007	3,027	0	1,027
Stream and Lake Protection	1,167	1,167	2,329	0	1,666
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,611	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	13,352	12,107	9,994	6,119	15,605
Modified Landscape	2,585	2,388	10,464	6,088	2,265
Timber Production	1,643	3,086	5,600	34,714	5,034
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(334) Port Alexander**  
Gross acres: 122,545  
National Forest acres: 122,165

**Description**

The Port Alexander roadless area is located on the southern tip of Baranof Island. It is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the east by Chatham Strait, and on the north by the South Baranof Wilderness. The area displays a coastline deeply and repeatedly scalloped by fiords and bays, the result of the Baranof landmass dipping down beneath the ocean surface. The area has possibly the highest rainfall zone in North America with a long-term average annual precipitation of 224 inches. This large area has a long and varied history of use dating from Tlingit use in prehistoric and historic times to the present use by a variety of Alaska residents and visitors. The vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Wildlife include deer, brown bear, and bald eagle; birds and waterfowl rearing and nesting habitat are abundant. There is one improved trail and one non-system trail in the area, but no recreation cabins. Most use of the area is associated with recreation boating, hunting and fishing, and viewing wildlife and the scenery of the area. Special features are related to water: the high precipitation and its ecological effects; the large number of lakes; and the extremely carved coastline. There are a number of authorized special uses in the area and two parcels of private land at Port Alexander and Port Armstrong.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area is unmodified except for the evidence of current and historic use of the area, such as old canneries, pipelines, prospecting and the community of Port Alexander; however, they have a very low overall effect on the natural integrity of the area. There is a very high opportunity for solitude within the area, with only the sight or sound of airplanes or boats to occasionally intrude on a visitor's solitude. The area provides a high opportunity for primitive recreation as a result of its size, topographic screening, and physical challenges.

**Resources**

The area contains 11,376 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for managing timber in this area is dependent on the development of high market values and harvest methods which do not require extensive roading. Only Alternative D considers timber harvest north of the City of Port Alexander. There is unlimited potential for dispersed recreation, and additional trails and cabins or shelters are possible. There are opportunities for fish stocking throughout the area, and for constructing a fish passage in Big Branch Bay. The area generally has no known minerals development potential, except for a historic claim on a Nickel-Copper deposit on the north side of Snipe Bay. The Lover's Creek area has been inventoried as a potential Research Natural Area in order to study the phenomena associated with its high precipitation, but was not recommended in any alternative.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	111,921	110,491	110,491	13,462	110,491
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	6,668	11,674	11,674	11,574	11,674
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	3,576	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	14,618	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	82,511	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(338) Brabazon Addition**  
Gross acres: 500,153  
National Forest acres: 500,153

**Description**

The Brabazon Addition roadless area is located on the mainland, northeast of Yakutat. The area adjoins the Russell Fiord Wilderness to the west, the Canadian border to the east, the Glacier Bay National Park to the southeast, and the Yakutat Foreland roadless area to the south. Access is by foot or by ski-equipped small plane. The area is characterized by steep, rugged mountains, interspersed with or surrounded by glaciers which moderate the terrain by providing large, relatively flat areas. The glaciated state of the entire area indicates there is no human history, other than occasional use. Vegetation is sparse and consists of lichens, mosses and grasses. Tree or brush species are unusual and infrequent. There is some fishing activity in the two lakes adjacent to the southeastern boundary. The only known use by wildlife is by mountain goats, with some possible use by bears. No Forest Service management activities have occurred or are planned. There is no known subsistence use. Attractions of the area include sightseeing (primarily from aircraft), ice climbing and possibly rock climbing. The rugged mountains, springing from massive ice fields, provide a spectacular view.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The Brabazon Addition is unmodified; the appearance is entirely wild and natural. The surrounding areas are also all roadless and unmodified and their terrain is such that development of any kind is unlikely to occur. The opportunity for solitude is very high over the whole area due to its huge size and high degree of difficulty of access, and very low visitor numbers. The area provides primarily primitive recreational opportunity.

**Resources**

The area contains no timber resources and no potential for development of such. Remoteness and rugged terrain limit recreational opportunities to the primitive. Although they would receive very little use, potential exists for trails and cabins. The opportunity for mineral development appears low. The nearest community is Yakutat, located 38 miles to the southwest; however, there is little use by local residents.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	499,973	499,973	500,153	500,153	449,973
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	180	180	0	0	180
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	161	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(339) Yakutat Forelands**  
Gross acres: 319,107  
National Forest acres: 316,950

**Description**

The Yakutat Forelands roadless area is located on the mainland, east and southeast of Yakutat. The area adjoins National Forest System, State and private lands to the west, Glacier Bay National Park to the east and the Gulf of Alaska to the south. Forest Highway 10, the Russell Fiord Wilderness and the Brabazon Range bound the area on the north. The area has very diverse geography and topography: about 80 percent is relatively flat; the northeast contains steep and highly dissected mountains with numerous streamcourses and several glaciers; the Gulf beach area is subject to drastic change due to open-water wave activity and ocean storms, and contains an extended stretch of sand dunes, one of only two in Alaska. Much of the vegetation in the lowlands is marsh and muskeg species or willows, cottonwoods and alders on the drier sites. Timbered areas are typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest species. The area has a long history of use, including prehistoric and historic Tlingit occupation, and European and Russian exploration. Annual salmon production for the area is estimated at more than 250,000. There is considerable commercial, sport and subsistence use of fish resources in the area. Wildlife include brown and black bears (including the glacier bear, a blueish color phase of the black bear), moose, wolverine, deer, and furbearers. Humpback and gray whales, seals, sealions, orcas, dolphins and porpoises can be viewed from the beach area. There are 10 recreation cabins, with airstrips associated with six locations, and 4 trails in the area. Outfitter/guide use is heavy. There is one private parcel in the area, and a strip along the Situk River has tentatively been selected by Sealaska.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area generally appears unmodified, although there have been modifications in the form of cabins and camps which are mainly scattered and unobtrusive. The opportunity for solitude is high over most of the large area which has a high degree of difficulty of access and low visitor numbers. Exceptions are locations along the western edge and along Forest Highway 10 where people tend to concentrate. The area provides for the full spectrum of recreation opportunities, including primitive opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 15,949 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area east of the Dangerous River to within 1/2 mile of Dry Bay and 1/2 mile from the ocean on the south (139,045 acres) is now legislated LUD II as a result of the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. Recreation potential includes trail and shelter construction. Sport fishing and hunting are major activities in the area. There is potential for both fish and wildlife resource improvements. There are approximately 130 special use permits for uses such as fish camps, outfitter/guides, subsistence and trapping camps, and recreation cabins. The potential for increase of number of permits is high. The opportunity for mineral development appears low. There are five inventoried potential Research Natural Areas.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	6,791	6,791	6,791	4,623	6,791
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	48,729	92,060	51,288	81,220	44,714
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	41	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	111,977	63,181	105,046	83,212	103,875
Legislated LUD II	135,294	135,294	138,689	138,689	137,668
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	8,006	8,006	0	0	8,686
Beach Fringe and Estuary	140	140	180	0	140
Stream and Lake Protection	320	400	1,100	0	1,020
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	501	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	2,778	6,842	1,917	120	7,391
Modified Landscape	0	1,281	5,994	1,422	120
Timber Production	0	0	6,006	7,224	6,006
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(341) Upper Situk**  
Gross acres: 31,334  
National Forest acres: 31,035

**Description**

The Upper Situk roadless area is located on the mainland, east of Yakutat. The area adjoins National Forest System, State and private lands to the southwest, Forest Highway 10 and National Forest lands to the south, Russell Fiord Wilderness Area to the north, and Yakutat Bay to the west. Almost all of the area is relatively flat. The far western portion contains many lakes, varying in size to over 950 acres (Lake Redfield). The Yakutat Bay beach area is subject to change due to open-water wave activity and ocean storms. The area has a long history of use, from early Tlingit occupation to present day use by a variety of Alaskans and visitors. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Fish resources include five species of Pacific salmon, valuable for commercial, subsistence and sport use; a unique species, the northern pike, is located in Pike Lakes. Wildlife include both brown and black bear, moose, wolverines and wolves, deer, and some furbearers. There are few resident bird species; however, the area is heavily used by migratory species, including the trumpeter swan and peregrine falcon. There is one maintained trail. Additional uses include sport fishing and hunting, subsistence fishing, hunting and trapping, and commercial fishing. There are several cabins and camps under special use permit.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

This area, which is a very narrow strip, is basically unmodified. However, all-terrain vehicle use is highly evident along the beaches, river bottoms, muskegs and upland trails, and the entire southern boundary has been highly modified by logging and roading. The opportunity for solitude is high over much of the area, because of the proximity of the Russell Fiord Wilderness, but some areas receive concentrated use. The area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized and semi-primitive non-motorized recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 13,910 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The potential for timber management is questionable because the mill constructed in Yakutat in the 1980s never became operational and was abandoned. Towing or barging costs are extremely high due to the long distance to any existing mill. Recreation potential includes trail corridors and increased sport fishing and hunting. There are opportunities for both fish and wildlife resource improvement projects. The potential for increased outfitter/guide permits is moderate. Mineral development potential appears low, although oil and gas development potential appears high. The general feelings of the local residents seem to favor a primitive- semi-primitive designation for the area, without it becoming a Wilderness Management Area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas					
Other Area	1,602	1,782	0	0	1,782
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	500	320	320	1,321	320
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	20	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	26,396	13,446	8,062	10,145	8,062
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	40	40	0	0	60
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	159	0	159
Stream and Lake Protection	519	2,420	3,717	0	3,417
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,980	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,958	12,947	638	0	937
Modified Landscape	0	80	359	120	0
Timber Production	0	0	17,779	16,468	16,297
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(342) Neka Mountain**  
Gross acres: 6,366  
National Forest acres: 6,306

<b>Description</b>	The Neka Mountain roadless area is located on Chichagof Island 10 miles west of Hoonah. It is bounded on the east by Huna Totem and Sealaska Corporation lands (which have been heavily roaded and harvested), and on the south by Port Frederick. At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area.
<b>Wilderness Potential</b>	The area has not been heavily modified and the natural integrity is maintained. There is high opportunity for solitude in the area between centers of human activity. Even though the area is surrounded by road systems, two are not easily accessible, and much of the recreation is dispersed. Possible future logging would definitely affect this area. Recreation opportunities are primarily semi-primitive non-motorized.
<b>Resources</b>	The area contains 1,281 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area falls in the APC Long Term Timber Sale area. The existing nearby road systems and logging camp make the management of this area for timber harvest economical. A long-term timber sale offering is likely in the next 10 to 15 years. Recreation potential includes increased hunting, fishing, dispersed camping. One important issue to the people of the area is the maintenance of subsistence resources.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	2,983	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	3,324	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	360	360	0	360
Stream and Lake Protection	0	420	420	0	420
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	561	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	5,526	5,526	5,746	1,762
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	3,764
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(343) Neka Bay**  
Gross acres: 6,487  
National Forest acres: 6,487

**Description**

The Neka bay roadless area, open areas, is located on Chichagof Island, 12 miles west of Hoonah. It is bounded by Port Frederick on the south and east, and Eight Fathom Bight on the west. At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area. There are no recreation cabins or formal trails in the area, although recreation activities are numerous, including kayaking, dispersed camping, nature study, and saltwater boating and fishing.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area has not been heavily modified and the natural integrity is maintained. There is high opportunity for solitude in the area between centers of human activity. Even though the area is surrounded by road systems, they are not easily accessible, and much of the recreation is dispersed. Possible future logging would definitely affect this area. Recreation opportunities are primarily semi-primitive non-motorized.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,222 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area falls in the APC Long Term Timber Sale area. The existing nearby road systems and logging camp make the management of this area for timber harvest economical. Recreation potential includes increased hunting, fishing, and dispersed camping. One important issue to the people of the area is the maintenance of subsistence resources. A long-term timber sale offering is likely in the next 10 to 15 years.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	6,147	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	340	1,662	1,942	0	1,662
Stream and Lake Protection	0	220	200	0	200
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	280	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	300	1,701
Modified Landscape	0	4,605	1,421	5,907	1,542
Timber Production	0	0	2,924	0	1,382
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(344) Lower Game Creek**  
Gross acres: 13,480  
National Forest acres: 12,720

**Description**

The Lower Game Creek roadless area is located on Chichagof Island eight miles southwest of Hoonah. At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area. There are many Native sites, including petroglyphs and a burial site. The area is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. Bald eagles roost and nest along the shore and Peale's peregrine falcon migrate through the forest. Game Creek is a major anadromous stream. Special features include some unusually large muskegs which provide openings for hunting and hiking, and the obviously glacially caused U-shaped valley of Seagull Creek. There are no recreation cabins or formal trails in the area, although recreation activities are numerous, including kayaking, dispersed camping, nature study, and saltwater boating and fishing.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area has not been heavily modified and the natural integrity is maintained. There is high opportunity for solitude in the area between centers of human activity. Much of the recreation is dispersed. Possible future logging would definitely affect this area. Recreation opportunities are primarily semi-primitive non-motorized.

**Resources**

The area contains 6,721 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area falls in the APC Long Term Timber Sale area. The existing nearby road systems and logging camp make the management of this area for timber harvest economical. The 1986-90 Supplemental EIS for the APC long term sale approved harvest of 1,835 acres in upper Game Creek and Seagull Creek. Recreation potential includes increased hunting, fishing, and dispersed camping. Fish improvements are possible in the Game Creek Drainage. An increase in outfitter/guide use of this area is predicted. There is mineral development potential in the area. One important issue to the people of the area is the maintenance of subsistence resources.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	5,683	9,940	0	5,683	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	6,476	580	6,576	0	980
Stream and Lake Protection	20	20	780	0	1,180
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	440	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	540	0	0	1,939	999
Modified Landscape	0	540	0	4,658	2,660
Timber Production	0	0	5,363	0	6,900
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(501) Dall**

Gross acres: 133,578

National Forest acres: 105,707

**Description**

Dall Island roadless area is on the west side of Dall Island which is the largest island off the west coast of Prince of Wales Island. The northern tip of the island is about 20 miles southwest of Craig. The area is well defined by saltwater and the visual condition has remained unaltered, except for adjacent Native owned lands on the East coast which have begun to be intensively logged and roaded. Principal features include spectacular cliffs with sea caves along the high energy coastline facing the Pacific Ocean, many bays and inlets, and numerous short drainages. Upland areas are typical of southeast Alaska temperate rainforest. There are large populations of Sitka black-tailed deer and black bear, otter and beavers. The area has a significant history in the Native culture, resulting in large blocks being selected by the Native Corporations. There is one recreation-use cabin on the southern part of the island, but no established trails.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

There has been little active management of the upland area. There is excellent opportunity for solitude, except in areas adjacent to Native lands. Primitive recreation opportunity is excellent due to the lack of trails and roads and the difficulty of access from saltwater.

**Resources**

The area contains 48,882 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Because almost all land surrounding good anchorages are Native owned, and the high energy west coast is not suitable for boat or float plane access, potential access for timber harvest, recreation facility construction, and other management activity are complicated. However, the area has high sport fish value, excellent potential for cross-island trails, and many sites for recreation-use cabins on the bays. There is some potential for mineral activity and there is one special use permit for a short power line on the northeast corner. Local subsistence use and hiking is likely to continue.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	10,443	10,763	0	0	7,210
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	47,211	80,418	14,136	5,659	15,721
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	8,286	0	0	20,776	5,728
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	4,236	4,236	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	4,333	1,916	10,224	0	10,244
Stream and Lake Protection	3,157	359	6,772	0	5,933
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	6,192	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	719	4,590	616	0	477
Modified Landscape	20,649	2,048	1,909	759	60,394
Timber Production	6,671	1,377	72,049	72,321	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(502) Suemez**  
Gross acres: 33,883  
National Forest acres: 33,524

**Description**

Suemez Island roadless area, located off the west coast of Prince of Wales Island and about 15 miles southwest of Craig, is characterized by rugged mountains on the coast and moderate to flat topography in its center. Three sides are bounded by the Pacific Ocean or large saltwater channels, while the eastern boundary is an irregularly shaped roaded and logged area. Existing timber harvest extends into the center of the island. Outstanding scenic features located primarily on the southern coast from Arena Cove to Cape Felix include a variety of beach types, volcanic rock forms, spectacular cliffs with sea caves, and unique intertidal rock forms. The island's history evolves around use by Native cultures, early 1900s commercial fisheries, and most recently, timber harvest. The State has selected one parcel of land in the Port Dolores area where a small community or recreation site may be developed. The area is used for deer and bear hunting, some subsistence use, and some offshore fishing and crabbing. There are no developed recreation facilities; however, Waterfall Resort is located across Ulloa Channel east of Port Refugio.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The timber harvest in the Port Refugio area reduces the natural appearance of a small part of the island which is typical coastal Southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. When no logging occurs, the opportunity for solitude is very good. Almost all hunting occurs in the logged area. Due to coastal recreation attractions and the Island's remote outer coast, there are outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. The recreation, scenic, and geologic values of Arena Cove-Cape Felix are recognized and protected by the Suemez Island Management Plan.

**Resources**

The area contains 17,585 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The east-central part of the island has been harvested, and two independent timber sales are being prepared. Mineral development potential is very low. Excellent potential exists for trail development, and recreation cabin or shelter sites have been identified in the Arena Cove area. There is very good deer and bear habitat. Local subsistence and recreation use would likely continue.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	9,146	10,470	0	0	9,190
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	2,354	78	1,812	1,205	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	5,214	1,624	0	2,384	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,882	1,921	2,747	0	2,280
Stream and Lake Protection	2,104	2,684	4,396	0	3,065
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	4,378	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	2,423	0	0	1,077
Modified Landscape	10,836	14,325	0	200	6,263
Timber Production	1,988	0	26,381	25,358	11,649
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(503) Outer Islands**  
Gross Acres: 100,037  
National Forest acres: 99,8761

**Description**

The Outer Islands roadless area consists of six major islands: Lulu, Noyes, Baker, San Fernando, St. Ignace, San Juan Batista, and numerous smaller islands off the west coast of Prince of Wales Island and 5-10 miles west of Craig. The islands are located next to the major commercial salmon fishing grounds and serve as shelters and anchorages for the fleet. Terrain varies from rugged mountains to flat land. Principal features include the saltwater bays and inlets, spectacular cliffs and sea caves on the outer coast, beaches, and an historic Native townsite on Baker Island being considered for an interpretive site. All the islands have deer, bear, otter, beaver, and puffins frequent the west coast of Noyes Island. These islands have a significant place in the history of Alaskan Native culture and the Natives have selected traditional-use sites on Noyes and San Juan Bautista Islands. The commercial fishing fleet is the largest user of the area, but residents and tourists use it for fishing, hunting, and subsistence.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

This island group, which is typical Southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest, possesses outstanding natural integrity, and is not seriously affected by the logged small Native block on Noyes Island. Therefore, there is excellent opportunity for solitude and primitive recreation experiences, especially on Noyes and Baker Islands.

**Resources**

The area contains 6,0018 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. There has been considerable public concern over management of the Outer Islands. The entire area, except for San Fernando Island, has been designated LUD II by the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. San Fernando Island is recommended for a Primitive Recreation land use designation in Alternatives A, B and P and a timber production land use designation in Alternatives C and D. Recreation related planning has occurred on Noyes Island, but has never been executed. The inside waters are excellent for sport salmon and halibut fishing. There are excellent recreation opportunities to develop canoe/kayak routes, cabin sites, and hiking trails. All islands are accessible by boat from Craig, providing opportunity to develop recreation in a unique offshore marine environment. Mineral potential is low. Local subsistence and dispersed recreation activities would likely continue.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	21,657	21,657	21,657	1,887	23,052
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	4,247	2,851
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	73,853	73,853	73,853	73,853	73,853
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	499	499	499	0	120
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	40	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	3,708	3,708	0	80	0
Modified Landscape	159	159	0	381	0
Timber Production	0	0	3,868	19,389	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(504) Sukkwān**  
Gross Acres: 49,621  
National Forest Acres: 46,105

**Description**

The Sukkwān roadless area, located about 30 miles south of Craig and east of Dall Island, consists of Sukkwān and Goat Islands, two small areas on Prince of Wales Island, plus a series of small islands. There is a very irregular coastline and many of the islands have low elevations with flat to rolling topography. All of this area is within the principal traditional-use area of the Haida Natives who have made extensive land selections which are being logged. Boundaries consist primarily of survey lines for the private land, or large expanses of saltwater. The notable features are the diverse clusters of islands and coves (especially in the Dunbar Inlet area), saltwater bays and inlets, and high populations of Sitka black-tailed deer, black bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Areas are typical of southeast Alaska temperate rain forests. There is occasional recreation use and some subsistence activities. Mineral development potential is very low. There are no recreation facilities or trails. The visual character of the area is common.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area has received very little resource management attention due its lack of good access and rather low potential for resource management. The opportunity for solitude is excellent and it has good opportunity for primitive recreation, particularly on the outside shores of Sukkwān Island in the Dunbar Inlet area. Native and State land selections have influenced the boundary of this area.

**Resources**

The area contains 13,044 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Both the Haida Natives and the Haida Native Corporation have a strong interest in the future of this area because of its historic occupancy and because of adjacent corporation land selections. Mineral development potential is very low. This general area is identified as the southern end of a potential kayak route along the west coast of Prince of Wales Island. Public use is minor with little potential for development, except for a few primitive campsites or shelters. The area has a few good anchorages for large boats.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	28,965	7,711	20	7,591	20
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	9,049	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	32,042	0	2,018	44,247
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	3,556	3,336	7,531	0	1,778
Stream and Lake Protection	439	240	3736	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,096	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,258	1,258	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	1,518	0	0	1,458	0
Timber Production	1,318	1,518	34,818	31,942	60
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(505) Soda Bay**  
Gross acres: 100,778  
National Forest acres: 83,629

**Description**

The Soda Bay roadless area, characterized by low elevation and gently rolling topography, is located in the central part of Prince of Wales Island midway between the communities of Craig and Hydaburg which are connected by a road along the east boundary of the area. Other boundaries consist primarily of roads or land survey lines for private land. The coast is dominated by Trocadero and Soda Bays. The area is known to have been an important site for the indigenous Native culture. The Haida Native Corporation has made large land selections in the area which have been extensively logged. Primary recreation use of the area is hunting and fishing, with significant local subsistence use. There is a Forest Service trail and interpretive signs to draw attention to the limestone formations in Soda Bay. Waterfall Resort is on private land on the west side of the area. Craig's water supply facilities, located at North Fork Lake, are under special use authorization.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

With the exception of the North Fork Lake area, the interior is unaltered. The opportunity for solitude is fair because of the possible sights and sounds of adjacent logging, and the likelihood of meeting hunters and anglers. Most of the recreation potential centers around semi-primitive opportunities of the marine attractions in Trocadero and Soda Bays.

**Resources**

The area contains 29,041 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The area has high value timber. Currently, Shelikof Island, off the south coast of the roadless area, is being logged and is visible. A Special Interest Area in the Soda Bay area is proposed in Alternatives A, B and P. Short trails from the Prince of Wales Island road system to saltwater at Trocadero Bay would support excellent fishing and waterfowl hunting, as well as provide hiking. The area has high populations of Sitka black-tailed deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Potential for mineral development is very low. Management emphasis has been on dispersed recreation and fish habitat improvements. The area receives significant local use for subsistence and recreation activity which would likely continue or increase.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	2,736	11,100	0	0	3,515
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	21,163	7,626	100	8,804	180
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	20,468	14,916	60	14,137	1,298
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	2,217	1,538	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	3,372	3,212	5,926	0	5,567
Stream and Lake Protection	3,533	5,109	9,342	0	8,743
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	6,506	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	5,468	5,648	0	0	40
Modified Landscape	18,102	20,920	20	858	4,094
Timber Production	6,569	13,559	68,180	53,323	60,191
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(507) Eudora**  
Gross Acres: 241,552  
National Forest acres: 222,837

**Description**

The Eudora roadless area is a remote area located on southeast Prince of Wales Island with rugged mountains in Cholmondeley Sound and a flat to moderate interior. Its western boundary coincides with the South Prince of Wales Wilderness, and its eastern boundary is saltwater. The east coast has a rich history of prehistoric and historic use by Native cultures and the Natives have made extensive land selections in the northern part. There is a wide variety of recreation use in the area, including cabins, mooring buoys, trails, and a number of mining claims and patents in the areas around Green Mountain, Bokan Mountain, Niblack Mountain, and all around Moria Sound. The many major sounds and bays provide bases for commercial fishing. Eudora is typical of southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forests. The Big Creek drainage is considered an excellent example of old-growth wildlife. The area remains a significant site for subsistence hunting and fishing. The visual character of the area is mostly unaltered; however, the past and future Native harvests throughout the eastern half of Cholmondeley Sound have a significant impact on this highly scenic area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

Native and State land selections, and the small mining patents, have not severely affected the natural integrity of the area. There is excellent opportunity for solitude, excluding the very northern fringe where the sights and sounds of logging and traffic may be evident. There are outstanding opportunities for primitive and semi-primitive recreation due to the high scenic quality, the vastness of the area, and the wide variety of recreation opportunities. The canoeing, kayaking and fishing opportunities are outstanding attractions.

**Resources**

The area contains 83,025 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Timber potential is very high as almost all of the suitable land has good saltwater access. An important management consideration is that the Haida Native Corporation has the right for further land selections and they have interest in the northern third of the roadless area. The Big Creek-Cholmondeley Sound area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area. There is some opportunity to increase developed recreation facilities with additional cabins and new trails, as there is good road access to its northern boundary, and good boat access from the Ketchikan area. Mineral development potential is high. There is excellent potential to enhance the salmon spawning habitat on many streams within Eudora. The substantial subsistence use would likely continue.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	60	761	60	60	100
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	52,175	100,197	12,468	12,271	12,428
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	20,894	0	24,420	0	24,420
Semi-Primitive Recreation	42,588	5,187	0	1,702	46,093
Legislated LUD II	260	260	260	260	260
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	17,818	15,233	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	8,480	10,123	16,433	0	13,347
Stream and Lake Protection	8,589	10,213	19,036	0	14,558
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	23,843	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	868	889	14,031	741	14,771
Modified Landscape	45,933	13,275	36,299	682	35,599
Timber Production	25,173	66,699	99,831	183,279	61,261
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(508) Christoval**  
Gross acres: 7,268  
National Forest acres: 7,268

**Description**

The Christoval roadless area, located on the southern tip of Heceta Island on the west coast of Prince of Wales Island, consists primarily of a single steep mountain (Bald Mountain). This extremely rugged forested area did not receive much historic development. The extensive amount of logging on Heceta Island on the opposite side of Bald Mountain ridge provided road access and is a major influence on this roadless area; however, since logging is near completion there should be less influence in the future. There are no constructed trails in the area and the only use by local residents is occasional hunting and some hiking out to the Bald Mountain ridge. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. Deer, bear, wolves, mink and bald eagles are the best known species in the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

There is good natural integrity in the area due to its coast line boundary and the rugged, mountainous terrain. Because access is difficult, an excellent opportunity for solitude exists, except that logging sights and sounds may be evident near the boundary. Due to past logging and roading, the area is more appropriate for semi-primitive motorized or semi-primitive non-motorized recreation.

**Resources**

The area contains 4,939 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The rugged terrain over much of the area limits the opportunity for management of its resources, particularly the timber. The areas which are economically feasible are included in the next five-year plan for Ketchikan Pulp Company Long Term Sale. There is potential for a trail system into the Bald Mountain area from logging roads on the opposite side of the ridge. Although there is some potential for salmon enhancement projects, the difficult access is a limiting factor. The mineral potential is low.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	2,751	2,751	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	522	522	703	0	703
Stream and Lake Protection	321	321	602	0	602
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	622	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	944	944	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	2,510	0	0	20	4,357
Timber Production	221	2,731	5,963	6,626	1,606
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(509) Kogish**  
Gross acres: 72,281  
National Forest acres: 72,261

<b>Description</b>	The Kogish roadless area is located on the west side of central Prince of Wales Island. Extensive timber harvest continues to occur on the north and west sides of the roadless area, while Native lands to the east have been completely logged over. The more scenic areas are concentrated around the relatively rugged and diverse terrain of Kogish Mountain and Staney Cone, and the intricate shorelines and island groups in Salt Lake Bay and Nossuk Bay. There is very little evidence of prehistoric or historic use of this roadless area. The area is typical of southeast Alaskan temperate rain forest. There are populations of deer, bear, wolves, mink and bald eagles and there is good alpine habitat for ptarmigan. The only use by local residents is for occasional hunting. There are no improved trails in the area.
<b>Wilderness</b>	Even though roading and logging have occurred on all sides, natural integrity of the area is very good. Because of its difficult access, there is excellent opportunity for solitude, except for logging sights and sounds near the boundaries. The fishing and solitude along the streams in the southwestern portion of the area are an attraction. There are no outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. Most recreation attractions are associated with the saltwater bays, anchorages, and channels on the west side where the experience level is primarily semi-primitive motorized.
<b>Resources</b>	The area contains 22,642 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The 1989-94 Operating Period EIS for the KPC long term sale approved the harvest of 2,026 acres near Kogish Mountain, Staney Cone, upper Staney Creek and Shaheen Creek, affecting the character of about 10% of the roadless area. An additional timber sale project is likely in the next 10 to 15 years in all alternatives. The rugged terrain and very difficult access severely constrain its recreation potential, but the western and southern boundaries which border saltwater have potential for shelter sites and boat anchorages for use by small boats and kayaks. The geology of the area indicates some potential for discovery of valuable minerals.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	9,465	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	6,082	5,380	0	2,569	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	2,710	2,710	4,416	0	4,416
Stream and Lake Protection	4,133	4,755	5,076	0	5,076
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	5,016	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	9,162	8,339	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	12,396	0	20	1,967	6,543
Timber Production	28,313	51,078	62,749	62,709	56,226
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(510) Karta**  
Gross acres: 66,7644  
National Forest acres: 63,3360

<b>Description</b>	<p>The Karta roadless area is located in the center of the east side of Prince of Wales Island and at the west end of Kasaan Bay which is the main water access route to POWI. The north, west, and south sides are accessible by road. Salmon Lake, Karta Lake, and the Karta River (a major west to east drainage) form the principal water system within the area. There are known prehistoric village sites, rock art, and other physical evidence of cultural history. More recently, there has been considerable mineral exploration and active mining. The very rugged rock forms of the Klawock Mountains are an outstanding scenic feature. The area has typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest and high populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. The area receives substantial subsistence and recreation use. There are five recreation use cabins and eight miles of trail within the area.</p>
<b>Wilderness Potential</b>	<p>The natural integrity of the area is very good. Between late June and September there is limited opportunity to find true solitude within the Karta River drainage due to heavy cabin use, floatplane traffic, and trail use. There is more opportunity for solitude on the alpine ridges that rim the Karta River basin. The Karta River drainage provides good opportunity for semi-primitive to primitive recreation, however, the extensive timber harvest on both Native and National Forest lands bordering the rest of the area limits it to roaded modified or semi-primitive motorized experiences.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	<p>The area contains 16,773 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area is within the primary sale area for the KPC Long Term Sale, and 5,647 unroaded acres in between the Karta and Thorne river drainages was approved for harvest in the 1989-94 Operating Period EIS. The 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 39,894 acres of the Karta River area as Wilderness. A portion of this roadless area is also within the Maybeso Experimental Forest. The increasing popularity and use of the area could cause some future difficulty in managing it as a wilderness. The current emphasis is to manage the area at about the present use level, emphasizing recreation, fish and wildlife habitat. Outfitters and guides would be limited and no additional cabins are planned. There are some possibilities for trails. The area has outstanding fish habitat and the Karta River is recognized as one of the outstanding sport fishing streams in southeast Alaska. There is the possibility that the Flagstaff mine could reopen or that other old claims would become viable mines in the future.</p>

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	140	0	0	0	240
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	1,840	2,119	60	1,480	400
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	220	180	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	3,736	3,696	60	4,056	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	20	20	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	140	140	420	0	420
Stream and Lake Protection	3,579	3,619	4,179	0	4,179
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	3,579	0
Experimental Forest	6,974	6,974	6,974	6,974	6,974
Scenic Viewshed	11,616	9,898	1,379	1,279	1,379
Modified Landscape	7,260	2,038	1,259	1,559	5,194
Timber Production	21,014	27,595	41,809	37,393	37,534
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(511) Thorne River**  
Gross acres: 91,530  
National Forest acres: 91,530

**Description**

The Thorne River roadless area includes a large part of the center of Prince of Wales Island and almost all of the Thorne River drainage. The southern boundary is formed by State Highway 929 and Forest Road 30 connecting the communities of Thorne Bay and Craig. Access to the interior is by floatplane or canoe for skilled boaters only. Notable features include the area around Snakey Lakes, an intricate complex of narrow, winding freshwater bodies north of the main Thorne Lake drainage, and the many areas of grassy meadows and large stands of spruce in portions of the Thorne River. Aboriginal cultures probably used the lower reaches of the Thorne River for subsistence use. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. There are high populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. The Thorne River and lakes in the areas are known resting places for migrating trumpeter swans. One recreation use cabin is located at Honker Lake. The trail/canoe system within the area is frequently used. The area receives significant local use for subsistence and recreation activities.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

Very good opportunities for solitude exist within the area, excluding the very fringe where the sights and sounds of logging and traffic may be evident. Due to the many lake and stream oriented attractions, and the remoteness of the area, the interior offers outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. The canoeing and fishing, especially along the various segments of the Thorne River, are major attractions.

**Resources**

The area contains 40,183 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Located within the KPC Long Term Sale area, it is likely that harvest entries will continue to be made into the existing unroaded area using the extensively roaded periphery in all alternatives. The 1989-94 Operating Period EIS for the KPC Long Term Sale approved the harvest of 5,135 currently unroaded acres in the vicinity of the North Thorne River and Slide Creek. Current management emphasis for Thorne River, Honker Divide, and Snakey Lakes area is for primitive recreation. Future planning is centered upon completing a system of canoe routes and portages, and identifying good campsites. However, since the area requires considerable wilderness skills, it may not be developed in the foreseeable future. This roadless area has outstanding fish habitat and with fish passes salmon could reach high quality spawning habitat that is currently unavailable. Six to 36 miles of the Thorne River and Hatchery Creek have been identified for Wild, Scenic and/or Recreation River consideration in Alternatives A,B and P. The potential for finding and developing minerals is low.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	4,919	4,899	0	0	3,059
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	3,021
Primitive Recreation	10,142	3,081	440	10,383	1,040
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	620	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	4,759	320	0	6,279	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	12,842	12,842	0	520	11,842
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	20
Stream and Lake Protection	4,422	5,222	9,223	0	5,682
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	6,683	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	6,691	22,096	13,749	0	20,591
Modified Landscape	11,265	4,041	22,153	600	16,593
Timber Production	35,869	39,028	45,965	67,065	29,681
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(512) Ratz**  
Gross acres: 6,586  
National Forest acres: 6,586

**Description**

The Ratz roadless area is located on the east side of Prince of Wales Island approximately 15 miles north of Thorne Bay. The area is characterized by very rugged terrain, which is a well-defined ridge, except for the uplands west of Ratz Harbor where the topography is flat wetlands and muskeg. Aboriginal use has not been confirmed through cultural resource investigations. The entire area is bounded by roads and timber harvest units, or saltwater. The major scenic features are the diverse alpine terrain and small lakes near the summit of Baird Peak. The area is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. There are populations of deer, bear, and a scattering of other animals and birds common to Prince of Wales Island. Alaska Telecom's electronics site on Baird Peak is authorized by special use permit. The area receives light use by local people for recreation and subsistence.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

About half of the area has been unaltered by human activity, but due to extensive timber harvest around the periphery, the rest is moderately to heavily-altered visual condition or where the alterations create glaring contrasts with the natural landscape. The area does have good natural integrity and, except for during logging season, the opportunity for solitude is good. Due to its small size and current logging activities, the potential for primitive recreation experiences is limited.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,884 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Although the area is within the primary sale area for the KPC Long Term Sale and future timber sale projects are likely in the next 10 to 15 years in all alternatives. The area is important as unaltered wildlife habitat adjacent to extensive timber harvest areas. There is relatively low potential for recreation development in the area, although some hiking trails to small alpine lakes have potential. Streams and lakes are supporting fish populations at about the optimum level. The potential for mineral development is low.

### Consequences by Alternative

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	3,942	4,062	0	1,261	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	80	80	80	0	80
Stream and Lake Protection	300	300	601	0	601
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	480	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,243	1,123	3,303	0	3,283
Modified Landscape	320	0	0	0	1,381
Timber Production	700	1,020	2,602	4,845	1,242
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(514) Sarkar**  
Gross acres: 65,076  
National Forest acres: 64,956

**Description**

The Sarkar roadless area is located on the north end of Prince of Wales Island and is bounded on three sides by extensive roaded and logged areas. A small segment of the eastern boundary is saltwater. The pending Native land selections at South Neck Lake and South Whale Pass have been excluded from this area, but do form part of its boundary. This area, used by prehistoric and historic Native cultures, contains what may be one of the larger known Native summer camps. Two traditional-use Native sites have been conveyed to Native Corporations in accordance with ANILCA. There are three recreation-use cabins and an associated trail system located at Barnes, Sweetwater, and Sarkar Lakes. The Sarkar Lake chain has a long history of subsistence and recreation use and is known for past and present use as a canoe route. The area is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest and has populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Sarkar Lake is a wintering area for trumpeter swan. The area receives significant local use for subsistence and recreation activity.

**Wilderness Potential**

The natural integrity of the area is good and most of the area has remained unaltered by human activity. There is very good opportunity for solitude within the area, except for the sights and sounds of logging on the very fringe. Other recreationists or subsistence users may be encountered during the summer. Excellent primitive recreation opportunities exist, particularly in the northern end of the Sarkar Lakes chain due to the remoteness and solitude of the area and to its outstanding canoeing, fishing and camping opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 26,943 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Although the area is in the primary sale area for the KPC Long Term Sale, it cannot be easily managed for timber production because of the large number of lakes, streams, and riparian areas, and because the timber is arranged in small dispersed stands. The area is important for wildlife as a place of unaltered habitat within a much wider area of extensive timber harvest. The area was considered for wilderness designation in Tongass reform legislation, but was not included in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. A Research Natural Area and a total of 19 miles of Wild, Scenic and Recreation river are identified in 2 of the 5 alternatives. The area has considerable potential for developed and dispersed recreation activity, including trail construction and canoe portages in the Sarkar Lakes area, and additional recreation cabins throughout this area. Currently, no mining or known prospecting is occurring within this roadless area.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	8,602	7,804	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	180	6,085	5,925	40	40
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	7,597	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	18,566	14,860	11,478	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	14,363	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	961	1,122	2,102	0	1,802
Stream and Lake Protection	2,643	5,543	6,003	0	5,523
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	10,958	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	2,663	4,323	5,545	140	19,146
Modified Landscape	861	1,221	13,472	0	16,059
Timber Production	17,121	23,201	12,627	53,818	9,342
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(515) Kosciusko**  
Gross acres: 65,598  
National Forest acres: 65,277

**Description**

The Kosciusko roadless area is within the low mountain arc of the Pacific Mountain system and is located off the northwest end of Prince of Wales Island. It is surrounded by roaded and logged areas, including its southwest boundary, while saltwater forms the rest of its boundary. The coastal area was used by prehistoric and historic Native cultures, while Russians used the west coast for trading. Outstanding features include the landscape around Mount Francis, the highly diverse terrain around the The Nipples and particularly the Odd Rock Creek drainage with its dramatic steep slopes enclosing scenic meadows. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. Sitka black-tailed deer, black bear, wolves, mink, and bald eagles are the best known species inhabiting the area. There are no trails, but there is one recreation cabin at Shipley Bay. Use by local residents is primarily for excursions into the many bays and inlets for general boating, fishing, and hunting. Subsistence use exists in the area.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

There is high opportunity for solitude within the area, except for the very fringe where the sights and sounds of logging may be evident. The rugged terrain with many isolated lake or alpine basins enhances the opportunity for solitude. Several portions of this area provide excellent opportunities for primitive recreation due to their remoteness and their many scenic and recreation attractions, including lakes, scenic alpine areas, and protected saltwater bays.

**Resources**

The area contains 12,964 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands. The entire roadless area is within the primary sale area for the KPC Long Term Sale, but the central part was legislated as LUD II in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. The remaining area could easily be managed for timber production since the existing peripheral area has an extensive logging road network and there is ample opportunity to construct log transfer facilities. The area is important unaltered habitat for wildlife within a much wider area of extensive timber harvest. Recreation use is low in the area due to its remoteness, however there is significant potential for developed and dispersed recreation activity, including trail construction, additional cabins, and anchor buoys. El Cap Pass and Dry Pass, on the eastern and northern borders, are part of an identified kayak route along the west coast of Prince of Wales Island. One inactive mining claim is located within the area and potential exists for development of the limestone and marble resources.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	100	181	201	20	161
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	4,056	40	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	12,155	5,877	181	0	703
Legislated LUD II	42,461	42,461	42,461	42,461	42,461
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	2,168	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,024	1,445	2,909	0	2,547
Stream and Lake Protection	381	1,184	1,365	0	1,345
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1,425	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,044	2,048	341	0	3,252
Modified Landscape	2,369	0	0	582	1,546
Timber Production	1,687	12,041	17,820	20,789	13,263
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(516) Calder**  
Gross acres: 11,041  
National Forest acres: 11,041

**Description**

The Calder roadless area is located on the northwest end of Prince of Wales Island and includes a number of major and minor islands in Shakan Bay. It is bounded on the north and east by roaded and harvested areas, and the Pacific Ocean and Shakan Bay form Calder's western and southern boundaries. Aboriginal peoples used the bay and its islands as a homesite. Special features include the prominent peak of Mount Calder, the numerous offshore islands, a limestone formation which may have large caves, and the overall island environment. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. There are populations of deer, bear, wolves, mink, and bald eagles in the area. There is a State selected parcel in the southeast portion of the area on the east shore of Shakan Bay. There are no improved trails or recreation-use cabins within the area. Use by local residents is primarily excursions into Shakan Bay by boat for subsistence and recreation purposes.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The extensive logging on the eastern and northern edges of this area, including the lower slopes of Mount Calder, significantly impacts the area's natural integrity. Due to the topography, the sight and sound of traffic and logging activities are not apparent from within most of the roadless area, so there is a high opportunity for solitude. Shakan Bay receives considerable use by the fishing fleet and recreation boaters. The area provides primarily a semi-primitive recreation opportunity, however, recreation use is low on land and island areas.

**Resources**

The area contains 1,285 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire roadless area is included within the primary sale area for the KPC Long Term Sale. The area could be easily managed for timber production since the existing peripheral area has an extensive logging road network and the necessary sites for log transfer facilities. The area is important for wildlife as a place of unaltered habitat within a much wider area of extensive timber harvest. Good potential exists for developed and dispersed recreation activities, including construction of trails, cabins, and saltwater buoys and docks. An identified potential kayak route goes through the islands along the west coast of Prince of Wales Island. Mineral potential may be important because of the known, but undeveloped, deposits of marble located in the south part of the area. About half of this roadless area became legislated LUD II in the 1990 Tongass Rimbber Reform Act. Most of the rest of the roadless area is proposed for Special Interest Area designation in Alternatives A, B, and P. Alternatives C and D assign it to the timber production prescription.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	622	20	0	0	602
Special Interest Areas	1,486	1,325	0	0	1,024
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	120	0	0	100
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	80	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	9,053	9,053	9,053	9,053	9,053
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	100	100	100	0	100
Stream and Lake Protection	40	20	141	0	40
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	141	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	261	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	60	261	0	0	361
Timber Production	0	60	1,747	1,847	361
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(517) El Capitan**  
Gross acres: 29,545  
National Forest acres: 29,525

**Description**

The El Capitan roadless area, located on the north end of Prince of Wales Island, is within the large limestone formation occurring on this part of POWI. The area is characterized by low elevation but rugged terrain, numerous small streams which drain into Red Lake (the largest within the area), and no saltwater shoreline. Roaded and harvested areas are on the north, west, and south sides, while a road forms the eastern boundary separating El Capitan from the Salmon Bay roadless area. The area was used by prehistoric and historic Native cultures. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. Deer, bear, wolves, mink, and bald eagles are the best known species inhabiting the area. Fishing and solitude of the Red Lake area, which has one recreation cabin at the north end, are attractions. There are no improved trails in the area. Use by local residents is primarily subsistence, and excursions into Red Lake for fishing and cabin use.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The existence of extensive timber harvest along the edge of this area is quite dominant and significantly reduces its natural integrity. Excluding the very fringe where the sights and sounds of logging and traffic may be evident, there is a high opportunity for solitude. Floatplanes are used to transport people to the Red Lake cabin. The area primarily provides semi-primitive recreation opportunities, most of which are located around Red Lake and its alpine areas, and Red Bay Mountain and El Capitan Peak.

**Resources**

The area contains 12,482 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire area is included within the primary sale area for the KPC Long Term Sale, and 3,028 unroaded acres was approved for harvest in the 1989-94 Operating Period EIS in Marble Creek, Big Creek and Alder Creek around the perimeter of the area. These new roads and harvest areas reduce the wilderness potential on about 15% of the area. The area could easily be managed for timber production since the existing peripheral area has an extensive logging road network and the necessary sites for log transfer facilities. Additional timber sale projects in the next 10 to 15 years are likely under all alternatives. A portion of this roadless area (about 14,000 acres) was legislated as LUD II under the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. The area is important for wildlife as a place of unaltered habitat within a much wider area of extensive timber harvest. Some potential for developed recreation activity exists, including trail construction and possibly another cabin at Red Lake. The caves which have been located in the limestone formations on the west side of the area may have national significance and could provide a unique opportunity to develop destination recreation facilities with interpretive and viewing experiences. There are marble formations in the southwest corner of the area, however no current mining or prospecting currently exists.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	5,290	5,151	0	0	5,071
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	462	462	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	7,271	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	1,385	4,946	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	20	20	40	0	40
Stream and Lake Protection	1,443	1,784	2,944	0	2,683
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,944	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	3,003	2,842	3,325	0	0
Modified Landscape	4,638	2,023	4,050	0	6,634
Timber Production	6,014	12,298	19,167	26,582	15,098
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(518) Salmon Bay**  
Gross acres: 25,229  
National Forest acres: 25,169

**Description**

The Salmon Bay roadless area, characterized by low elevation mountains with steep slopes, is located on the north end of Prince of Wales Island. The area is bounded on three sides by roaded and logged areas, while a road forms the west boundary separating it from the El Capitan roadless area. The coastal portion was used by prehistoric and historic Native cultures, and Salmon Bay was the site of fish canneries in the early 1900's. Fish inventories show numerous streams which are high quality salmon spawning habitat. These streams and Salmon Bay Lake also contain rainbow trout. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. Deer, bear, wolves, mink and bald eagles inhabit the area. The outstanding stream and lake fishing and solitude of the Salmon Bay Lake area are attractions. One improved trail exists in this area - from near the cabin at the outlet to Salmon Bay Lake downstream toward the bay. Use by local residents is primarily excursions into Salmon Bay Lake using the cabin as a base for fishing. Subsistence use in the area is minor.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

Most of the natural landscape remains unaltered by human activity and the natural integrity is good. There is presently a good opportunity for solitude within the area. Logging is planned for some areas near Salmon Bay Lake and the sights and sounds of it will periodically be heard from the lake. Floatplanes are used to transport people to the recreation cabin. Although there are outstanding recreation opportunities in the area, the proximity of these attractions to on-going logging does not permit a strictly primitive recreation experience. Recreation use is low in the area.

**Resources**

The 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act designated 11,200 acres of this roadless as LUD II. The remaining roadless area outside of the legislated LUD II contains 5,174 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The entire roadless area is within the primary sale area of the KPC Long Term Sale. It is likely to have timber sale projects in the next 10 to 15 years under all alternatives since the existing peripheral area has an extensive logging road network and the necessary sites for log transfer facilities. The 1989-94 Operating Period EIS for the KPC long term sale approved 1,997 acres for harvest along the west side of the area and south of Salmon Bay Lake, which will affect wilderness potential on about 20% of the area. The area is important for unaltered wildlife habitat within a much wider area of extensive timber harvest. There is potential for additional trails connecting Salmon Bay Lake to saltwater and connecting the logging road system to the southern end of Salmon Bay Lake. There is potential for one additional recreation cabin at Salmon Bay Lake and also good potential to manage for low density primitive recreation experiences. Because of the known but undeveloped deposits of rare earth minerals located in the northern part of this roadless area, mineral management may be of potential importance.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	220	0	0	220
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	4,292	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	2,639	3,859	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	10,425	10,425	10,425	10,425	10,425
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	1,915	0	0	0	80
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	158	178	0	178
Stream and Lake Protection	479	1,032	1,573	0	1,553
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1,573	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,171	1,391	1,432	0	2,689
Modified Landscape	2,385	457	8,976	0	7,439
Timber Production	1,863	7,627	2,586	13,172	2,586
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(519) Polk**  
Gross acres: 142,666  
National Forest acres: 123,950

**Description**

The Polk roadless area, which has historically been the entry to Prince of Wales Island, is located on the east-central part of Prince of Wales Island. Access is by the Alaska Marine Highway System through Hollis, by the extensive road system around the roadless area, by boat through Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm, and by floatplane. These convenient accesses to the excellent fishing and hunting grounds, and the close proximity to Ketchikan, cause the area to receive higher use by people than most other places on POWI. The shoreline of Skowl Arm and Cholmondeley Sound is very irregular and possesses many scenic coves, and there are many freshwater lakes. The Polk Inlet and Twelve-Mile Arm areas were important locales of prehistoric and historic traditional use by the Haida Natives. The Haida Native Corporation made large land selections in this area, and further ones are anticipated before 1995. There is an existing Research Natural Area in the Old Tom Creek drainage, a fishing lodge in Clover Bay, and a recreation cabin at Trollers Cove. This area is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest and also has high populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Local residents use the area for subsistence and extensively for recreation.

**Wilderness**

Because of the irregular pattern of intrusion caused by past and present logging, and by Native and State land selections, the natural integrity of the area is not ideal. The opportunity for solitude within this area is generally good to excellent on the eastern half. On the western half, because of logging, boating, and recreationists, the opportunity becomes marginal. Due to the many saltwater and upland recreation opportunities there are excellent opportunities for primitive recreation, particularly in the eastern half of the area.

**Resources**

This area contains 35,170 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. It is in the primary sale area of the KPC Long Term Sale. Timber harvest has been occurring around its perimeter for many years and plans are for harvest to continue. The 1989-94 Operating Period EIS for the Ketchikan Pulp Company Long Term Sale approved 2,187 acres of harvest around Polk Inlet and throughout the Old Frank's Creek drainage. There is great opportunity to manage this area for developed and dispersed recreation in a semi-primitive to primitive setting, including a campground at the head of Twelve-Mile Arm, trails in the west half and trails from the many protected coves along the east side to the various lake basins just east of the coastline. The potential is very good for land or water based fishing resorts. The area has excellent potential for salmon enhancement projects, such as fish passes, on several of the streams. Mineral development potential is very low.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	4,544	4,544	4,544	4,544	4,544
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	43,216	42,895	20	43,583	10,215
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	17,449	15,173	0	2,923	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	4,169	4,109	6,215	0	5,172
Stream and Lake Protection	3,986	4,266	11,544	0	10,279
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	5,364	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	10,563	10,382	4,552	1,642	5,694
Modified Landscape	19,994	4,353	2,843	10,292	4,523
Timber Production	15,914	34,113	90,117	51,488	79,409
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(520) Kasaan**  
Gross acres: 8,255  
National Forest acres: 8,114

**Description**

The Kasaan roadless area includes the mountainous southern tip of the Kasaan Peninsula and low-lying Grindall Island which are located on the east-central side of Prince of Wales Island. The area is bounded on the north by Native Corporation land, while the rest of the boundary is made up of Clarence Strait and Kasaan Bay making this a very isolated piece of National Forest. In addition, the State has nominated Grindall Island, which has sea lion rookeries off its south side, and sites on the peninsula for selection. The records show that this area did not have much in the way of prehistoric or historic human activity and continues to receive little use, although the one recreation cabin at Grindall Island is used by local people. The vegetation is typical coastal southeast Alaska temperate rain forest. The area has high populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Alpine areas are excellent ptarmigan habitat.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The entire area has remained unaltered by human activity which gives the area good natural integrity. However, once the State land selections are concluded, the area will be fragmented and the key feature, Grindall Island, will be in State ownership. The area does not provide the opportunity for solitude because the entire area is in close proximity or overlooks the shipping and marine channels of Clarence Strait and Kasaan Bay. The area provides primarily primitive recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,666 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. However, due to its rugged terrain, limited coastal access, and isolation, resource management is restricted. Timber sale projects are unlikely in the next 10 to 15 years under all alternatives. The recreation potential is limited to the one cabin, and the State is nominating all land areas suitable for any future recreation purpose. Due to the lack of freshwater streams, this area has little value for fish resources. The mineral potential within the area is considered to be low.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	1,445	1,445	0	40	502
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	1,484	1,484	1,825	0	1,624
Stream and Lake Protection	661	661	781	0	741
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	1082	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	3,304	3,304	5,508	100	4,026
Modified Landscape	1,221	1,221	0	0	1,221
Timber Production	0	0	0	6,892	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(521) Duke**  
Gross acres: 43,969  
National Forest acres: 43,908

**Description**

The Duke Island roadless area consists of Duke, Mary, and Percy Islands which are located about 10 miles southeast of Annette Island and 10 miles west of Misty Fjords National Monument across Revillagigedo Channel. The islands are exposed to the frequent severe weather out of Dixon entrance. The Judd Bay area on Duke island is used as a safe anchorage for fishing vessels, and 2,170 acres of land have been selected by the State at Judd Harbor. The islands were used by Alaska Natives in both ancient and historic times. The isolation and the rugged coastline interspersed with sandy beaches, plus the opportunity to view sea birds and mammals, are the special features of this roadless area. The islands are forested with poor quality hemlock, spruce and cedar. Duke Island has a fox population, some deer, and along the shoreline, the common sea mammals of southeast Alaska.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

With its essentially unapproachable shoreline, this area is unmodified and has excellent natural integrity. There is outstanding opportunity for solitude. There is good opportunity for primitive recreation, primarily along the coastal areas, however there are no recreation attractions inland such as lakes, streams, or alpine features.

**Resources**

The area contains 5,809 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands. The lack of quality timber, absence of fresh water, and lack of safe access preclude any active management of the resources on these islands. All alternatives assign this roadless area to a "natural setting" land use designation. A few skilled boaters do land on the island to beachcomb on the several sand beaches.

**Consequences by Alternative**

<b>Land Use Designation</b>	<b>Alt. A (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. B (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. C (Acres)</b>	<b>Alt. D (Acres)</b>	<b>Preferred (Acres)</b>
Research Natural Area	443	443	443	443	443
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	43,465	43,465	43,465	43,465	43,465
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(522) Gravina**  
Gross acres: 58,816  
National Forest acres: 37,506

**Description**

The Gravina roadless area is located on Gravina Island across the Revillagigedo Channel from Ketchikan. The area is characterized by low elevation topography, a rugged backbone ridge, and muskeg flats. Access is by boat, floatplane, or hiking through State land after taking the public airport ferry. Gravina Island is heavily influenced by the growth in the greater Ketchikan area which supports an airport on the northern end of the island. State and Native land selections extend into the area causing an irregular boundary. Gravina Island was used by prehistoric and historic Native cultures, as well as by early settlers. The vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest and also has a high population of Sitka black-tailed deer, some black bear, and some small furbearers. There is one recreation use cabin on the southwest coast, and an electronics site on High Mountain. Gravina Island has a long history of subsistence and recreation use by residents of Ketchikan.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

Because the area is surrounded primarily by large saltwater channels, the natural integrity of the area is preserved. The opportunity for solitude within the area is marginal due to the constant sights and sounds of sport and commercial fishing boats, floatplanes, and jets. However, one is not likely to meet another person within the area. There is good opportunity for primitive recreation in the interior of the island and along the southwest coast which has good fishing and a cabin. Some of these primitive opportunities may be impacted in the future by development on the extensive State and private lands in the area.

**Resources**

The area contains 14,931 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. The area has limited potential for commodity and market resource management. Potential for amenity values in terms of developed recreation, fish, and wildlife resources is also limited. A trail could be developed connecting the east side of Gravina along Tongass Narrows to Bostwick Lake and Inlet or to Blank Inlet. The State would be involved in this development. The southern end of Gravina Island has a history of mineral exploration and gold mining. Prospecting is occurring and there is potential for future mine development. Current recreation and subsistence use would likely continue.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	11,833	21,984	20,525	21,924	21,884
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	13,959	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	7,236	11,983	11,383	11,902	11,983
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	280	240	360	0	240
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	240	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	4,198	3,298	5,237	3,298	3,398
Timber Production	0	0	0	141	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(523) South Revilla**  
Gross acres: 68,979  
National Forest acres: 68,559

**Description**

The South Revilla roadless area is located on the southwest quarter of Revillagigedo Island. The boundaries of the area consist mostly of Misty Fjords National Monument and the saltwater areas of George and Carroll Inlets and Thorne Arm. The Forest Service camp, Coast Guard Loran station at Shoal Cove, the Sealevel Mine patent are excluded from the area's boundary. The area is characterized by a combination of steep mountain slopes and gentle terrain. Prehistoric and historic Native cultures used this roadless area but their primary influences are now within the private, Native and State lands. There is one recreation cabin, a mooring buoy, and a hiking trail at Fish Creek. The Fish Creek-Low Lake drainage at the head of Thorne Arm, and the cluster of lakes near the summit of Black Mountain, are scenic points. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. The area has populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Trumpeter swan use the major saltwater inlets and freshwater lakes as resting areas during migration. Primary uses of the area are for subsistence salmon fishing in Thorne Arm, some trapping, and much sportfishing in the streams and lakes.

**Wilderness Potential**

Most of the area has remained unaltered by human activity, except for some timber harvest primarily at the head of Thorne Arm. The natural integrity is good. There is excellent opportunity for solitude within most of this area, although during steelhead and salmon fishing seasons it is likely a person would encounter other individuals. The sights and sounds of aircraft can be heard almost anywhere in the area. Good opportunities for primitive recreation exist along the east shore of Thorne Arm and along potential trail corridors such as Gokachin Creek which lead into Misty Fjords National Monument.

**Resources**

The area contains 20,589 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Timber sales are currently planned in the Elf Point area in Thorne Arm. Most of this roadless area, with the exception of the LUD 2 and Fish Creek drainage areas, is being considered for future timber entry and is likely in the next 10 to 15 years under Alternatives B,C,D and P. Some potential exists for additional recreation cabins and trails within the Thorne Arm part of this area. The Gokachin Lakes area has been recognized as an outstanding canoeing opportunity. The major streams provide excellent fish habitat and are widely known for high quality steelhead and salmon fishing. The major lakes within the Fish Creek drainage have very good stocks of rainbow trout. Although no active mining is occurring at this time, there is interest in the mineral potential of the Black Mountain and Moth Bay areas. Recreation and subsistence use would likely continue.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	23,004	17,268	16,968	5,578	16,968
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	1,619	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	560	5,756	5,596	660	5,636
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	620	620	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	2,679	2,619	2,659	0	2,659
Stream and Lake Protection	4,178	4,457	4,537	0	4,537
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	6,278	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	4,098	5,877	1,119	540	3,758
Modified Landscape	15,833	5,037	15,749	80	19,788
Timber Production	15,970	26,926	21,931	55,424	15,214
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(524) Revilla**  
Gross acres: 150,769  
National Forest acres: 131,856

**Description**

The Revilla roadless area, characterized by rugged terrain, steep mountain slopes and numerous lakes, is located on the southwest quarter of Revillagigedo Island. The entire southern boundary of this area is influenced by the development associated with Ketchikan. This area is the source of Ketchikan's domestic water supply and part of its hydropower comes from the Swan Lake power generation facility. Extensive State and Native land selections north of Ketchikan, and in George and Carroll Inlets, create a very irregular boundary. Prehistoric and historic Native cultures used the area, but the main areas of influence are now within private, Native and State lands. There are two Forest Service campgrounds, picnic areas, and a trail at Ward Lake. Deer Mountain Trail is a National Recreation Trail. The Ward Lake drainage receives heavy winter recreation activity. The main attraction is that it is the only National Forest land area that is accessible by road from Ketchikan. The area is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. It has populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Trumpeter swan use the major inlets and lakes as resting areas during migration. The area receives significant local use for subsistence and recreation activity.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area has been modified by human activity connected with its close proximity to Ketchikan. There is opportunity for solitude within certain parts of the area, but along the southern edge there is noise from Ketchikan, and aircraft noise can be heard virtually everywhere. Opportunities for primitive recreation are also limited, however there are many semi-primitive attractions available.

**Resources**

The area contains 42,763 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Future timber harvest in the next 10 to 15 years is likely in the upper parts of George and Carroll Inlets under Alternatives B,C,D, and P. This area has high potential for development of roaded recreation which is a priority objective for the people in the Ketchikan area. Plans include extending Ward Lake road into the upper end of George and Carroll Inlets; a long-range plan proposes connecting Ketchikan to the mainland with a road proceeding northward to the Bradfield Canal. Any extension must be through the Revilla unroaded area. Potential exists for trail construction, additional recreation cabins, and campgrounds within the area. There is some potential for fish habitat improvement, however the best opportunities are now within State and Native selected lands. There is some hunting and trapping in the area, but much of the terrain is too rough for quality sports hunting. There are mining claims located on Mahoney Mountain.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	3,517	5,836	0	0	6,016
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	22,829	20,611	1,379	9,256	4,277
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	6,855	6,855	6,855	6,855	6,855
Old-Growth Habitat	38,878	7,317	40	4,898	4,818
Semi-Primitive Recreation	6,978	23,028	11,432	19,169	5,416
Legislated LUD II	120	100	100	100	100
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	240	240	0	220	40
Beach Fringe and Estuary	820	1,159	1,159	0	1,159
Stream and Lake Protection	5,538	6,517	12,715	0	11,115
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	9,436	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	7,419	10,794	25,729	3,219	25,270
Modified Landscape	23,130	19,492	32,066	8,757	39,343
Timber Production	15,553	29,906	40,382	69,947	27,447
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(525) Behm Islands**  
Gross acres: 5,526  
National Forest acres: 5,524

**Description**

The Behm Islands roadless area includes a chain of islands extending from Point Higgins to Naha Bay offshore of the southwest corner of Revillagigedo Island. These islands form the sheltered water known as Clover Pass which has been designated a Scenic Recreation Area by the Ketchikan Borough. Although there are no highly distinctive scenic features, the combination of waterways, islands, and the backdrop of more massive landforms around this popular fishing and boating area make this a very attractive landscape. Prehistoric and historic Native cultures used these islands. There is one recreation residence authorized by a special use permit on Betton Island and there is one parcel of private land on Grant Island. There are U.S. Coast Guard navigation aids installed on several of the islands. The Navy has recently been authorized by the Forest Service to construct support buildings and a dock on Back Island for their acoustical test range to be located in Behm Canal. The area is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. There are few land mammals on these islands, but marine mammals are occasionally seen on or near rocks along the shoreline. The area receives insignificant use by the local residents or other users.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

A few small structures scattered throughout this area are the only alterations to the natural landscape. Several homes, marinas, and resort developments can be seen on the shore of Revillagigedo Island from many portions of this area. The Navy's acoustical test site will break the apparent natural integrity of Back Island. There is practically no opportunity for solitude within this area. During the summer there are the constant sights and sounds of powerboats. The area provides primarily roaded natural and semi-primitive recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 1,161 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Since the area is made up of small islands which have limited potential for timber harvest or other resource management activities, it could easily be managed in a roadless condition. This roadless area has minor potential for recreation development and use. There is some opportunity to provide unimproved or semi-improved rest/campsites for kayakers, however this island group is projected to remain a scenic backdrop to the significant amount of charter and independent fishing that occurs in the Clover Pass area. Sea mammals and birds will continue to use the shoreline environment.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	4,419	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	1,105	5,524	5,524	4,419	5,524
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	50	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	20	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	1,055	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(526) North Revilla**  
Gross acres: 158,931  
National Forest acres: 158,831

**Description**

The North Revilla roadless area is located on the west coast of Revillagigedo Island and has a rich history in the development of southern southeast Alaska, including commercial fishing, homesteading, and a fish hatchery. Misty Fiords National Monument, Behm Canal and the Revilla roadless area form three of its boundaries, while the northwest boundary is the harvest areas of Gedney Pass, Neets Creek, and Traitors River. Mountain slopes are steep and the area is dominated by an extensive lake chain associated with the Naha River drainage which is managed for recreation use, including a boat dock, a small boat tram, the Naha Trail (which is a National Recreation Trail), and six recreation cabins. There is one cabin at the east end of Orchard Lake. Prehistoric and historic Native cultures' activities mostly centered in the Naha Bay area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. The area has populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Trumpeter swans use the major inlets and lakes as resting areas during migration. The area receives significant local use for subsistence and recreation activity.

**Wilderness**

The natural integrity is good and the 400 acres of private inholdings do not significantly impact the area. There is opportunity for solitude within certain parts of the area, however one is likely to meet other people in the Naha area, near Orten Ranch, and around the cabins which are reached by floatplane. There are outstanding opportunities for primitive or near-primitive recreation experiences due to many remote and scenic attractions.

**Resources**

The area contains 40,546 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Timber sale projects are likely in the next 10 to 15 years under Alternatives B,C,D and P. The long-term management intent for the North Revilla roadless area is to manage the Naha River drainage in its roadless condition with considerable emphasis on supporting the dispersed and developed (cabin) recreation use. In the Naha River drainage 31,365 acres were designated LUD II in the Tongass Timber Reform Act. The area has potential for additional trails. There is some hunting and trapping within the area, but in general, the terrain is too rough for quality sports hunting. A potential road corridor connecting Ketchikan with the Canadian highway system, by way of Bradfield River, passes through the eastern part of this area. The potential for mineral development is considered to be low.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	37,960	46,541	13,156	120	13,156
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	43,994	0	440	0	620
Semi-Primitive Recreation	2,446	7,579	0	22,943	7,802
Legislated LUD II	31,171	31,171	31,171	31,171	31,171
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	10,126	140	0	100	180
Beach Fringe and Estuary	380	460	861	0	560
Stream and Lake Protection	2,524	6,383	10,567	0	9,163
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	9,103	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	642	2,722	6,653	0	1,123
Modified Landscape	19,806	11,467	21,551	13,177	37,667
Timber Production	9,782	52,368	74,433	82,218	57,389
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(527) Neets**

Gross acres: 6,315

National Forest acres: 6,315

**Description**

The Neets roadless area is located on the land area separating Neets Bay from Gedney Pass on the north end of Revillagigedo Island. It is an isolated area completely surrounded by timber harvest consisting only of a moderately steep, uniform, timbered slope and ridge top. There is no evidence of prehistoric or historic human use of the area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal subalpine and alpine components of the temperate rain forest. Sitka black-tailed deer, black bear, ptarmigan and other small mammals and birds are found in the area. The area receives insignificant use by local residents and other users.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is physically unaltered, but the proximity and visibility of extensive logging negatively affects the natural integrity of the area. There is some opportunity for solitude except when logging is occurring. Due to the small size of the area, proximity to logging, and lack of scenic and recreation attractions, this area does not have much opportunity for primitive recreation.

**Resources**

The area contains 2,626 acres of tentatively suitable forest land, however the quality of timber is low. The area does not have the resource conditions or use potential to warrant the development of specific management plans. No potential exists for the development of recreation facilities. Future use is likely to be primarily for occasional deer hunting as the area provides moderate quality deer habitat. There is no mineral potential.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	882	882	882	0	882
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	882	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	5,433	3,047	1,343	0	2,084
Timber Production	0	2,387	4,090	5,433	3,349
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(528) Cleveland**  
Gross acres: 199,883  
National Forest acres: 191,430

**Description**

The Cleveland roadless area is located on the mainland on the southern end of Cleveland Peninsula which is the major land mass between Revillagigedo Island and Prince of Wales Island. The community of Meyers Chuck, which is now on State owned land, was founded as a base for the fishing fleet and a cannery. The State has selected 3,365 acres within Spacious Bay. There is Native-selected land on the southwest coast that will likely be logged in the future. Ketchikan Pulp Company owns a 160-acre parcel in Granite Creek drainage which they plan to log which will require a road over Forest to saltwater. Attractions to the area include outstanding saltwater fishing in the major bays, large tidal flats at the ends of the bays, and the upland lakes between Helm Bay and Clarence Strait. There are 3 recreation cabins, a special use right-of-way for a waterline and a powerline, an electronics site, and Coast Guide permits for navigation aids in the area. The vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. The area has a high population of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Trumpeter swan use the major inlets and lakes as resting areas during migration. The area receives significant local use for subsistence and recreation activity.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area has remained unaltered, except for Meyers Chuck, and has a high degree of natural integrity. There is excellent opportunity for solitude in all parts of the area. Except around the southwestern end of the peninsula and the shores of Helm Bay, this area offers many primitive recreation opportunities.

**Resources**

The area contains 76,837 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Most of the area is included within the contingency area for the KPC Long Term Sale. Timber sale projects are likely in the next 10-15 years under Alternatives B,C,D and P and possibly in Alternative A. The current management emphasis is on recreation use, including cabins and additional trails, and the considerable potential for fish habitat improvement. Although some hunting and trapping do occur within the area, there are no long-range plans for habitat improvement projects. There are several located and patented claims within this area and moderate potential for mineral development exists.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	57,935	61,432	20	60,167	380
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	26,032	8,714	60	7,793	8,834
Semi-Primitive Recreation	8,446	18,983	500	14,667	1,178
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	4,120	4,440	9,220	0	8,880
Stream and Lake Protection	9,785	10,365	21,062	0	19,903
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	11,305	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	25,340	21,755	41,226	2,680	16,996
Modified Landscape	20,257	2,823	200	3,924	37,846
Timber Production	39,516	62,917	119,142	90,895	97,412
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(529) North Cleveland**  
Gross acres: 112,795  
National Forest acres: 112,775

**Description**

The North Cleveland roadless area is located north of Revillagigedo Island and includes land on Cleveland Peninsula, an extension of the mainland, and the islands in Behm Canal. The east boundary coincides with that of Misty Fjords National Monument. The area is characterized by very rugged terrain with steep mountain slopes causing deeply incised drainages. There are many lakes and even a few small glaciers. Some coastal locations were occupied by prehistoric and historic Native cultures. There are two commercial lodges, on Bell Island and in Yes Bay, and other commercial recreation uses closely tied to the excellent salmon fishing in the adjacent saltwater and streams. There are 5 recreation use cabins within the area and trails to lakes in the Yes Bay and Short Bay areas. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. There are populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. Trumpeter swan use the major inlets and lakes as resting areas during their migrations. The main attraction of this area is its remoteness and outstanding scenery, plus excellent freshwater fishing. Bailey Bay Hot Springs has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area. The area receives significant local use for subsistence and recreation activity.

**Wilderness Potential**

The area has outstanding natural integrity with only one percent modified by development on Hassler Island due to an old timber harvest. All parts of the area exhibit an excellent opportunity for solitude, except possibly on the Lake McDonald, Shelokum Lake, or Reflection Lake trails. Due to the vastness of the area, the high scenic quality, and abundance of saltwater and upland lake recreation attractions, and many trail opportunities, this area has outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation.

**Resources**

The area contains 41,266 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Although the area is within the KPC Long Term Sale area, the 1989-94 Operating Plan does not include timber harvest here. Timber sale projects, however, are likely in the next 10-15 years under Alternatives B,C,D and P. Recreation potential of the area centers on continued management of the cabin system, additional trails for dispersed recreation activity, possible development of the Lake Shelokum Hot Springs. Additional mooring buoys and fishing lodges in the popular bays have some potential. There is considerable potential for fish habitat improvement and fish pass construction on several streams. There is low potential for mining development in the area. There is an electronics site at Syble Point and several lighthouse or navigational aid reserves. A potential road corridor which could link Ketchikan with the Canadian Highway system by way of the Bradfield River passes through this area.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	1,683	1,683	63,640	2,144	2,364
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	63,601	102,555	0	0	60,966
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	40,176	0	43,340	0	43,340
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	4,086	682	103,594	682
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	5,089	1,924	0	1,924	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	220	220	661	0	661
Stream and Lake Protection	241	241	421	0	421
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	441	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	1,344	1,344	3,689	80	2,406
Modified Landscape	602	602	622	0	1,905
Timber Production	120	120	0	4,872	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(530) Hyder**  
Gross acres: 124,304  
National Forest acres: 123,644

<b>Description</b>	<p>The Hyder roadless area consists of massive angular mountains and narrow saltwater fiords located east of Misty Fiords National Monument and west of the Canadian border and Hyder, Alaska. Glaciers and ice fields are prominent in the interior and several medium-sized rivers flow through or originate in it. The area has a rich history of mining which is why it was not made part of Misty Fiords. The opportunity to view glaciers and the spectacular landscape, including the vast expanse of the Salmon River Valley, are special features of the area. Alpine vegetation dominates elevations above 2,500 feet. Below that, the steep mountainsides are heavily marked with snow and landslide paths which are typically covered with grass, alder and brush. A small population of mountain goat range over the area, as do black and brown bear and a small population of moose. The area is used by locals for trapping and some recreation. The State has selected 160 acres of land at Fish Creek.</p>
<b>Wilderness Potential</b>	<p>Except for scattered evidence of past mining, the area has remained unaltered by human activity and is surrounded by vast areas of designated Wilderness, or undeveloped Canadian land, giving the area excellent natural integrity. Within the area, opportunities for solitude are excellent, although aircraft going to and from Hyder or Canadian mining operations can be seen and heard. The area has great potential for primitive recreation, however, it is only accessible by long hikes over difficult terrain, offering a high degree of physical challenge, or by helicopter. There are two potential recreation cabins in the area and it is possible that clearing an old mining road could provide easier access to a small part of the area.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	<p>The area contains 10,242 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Due to steep terrain and low timber volume, the potential for managing timber is low. The potential exists for additional outfitters and guide permits, for development of additional cabins and shelters, and for reopening of historic mining trails. The streams within the area are heavily influenced by glacier melt runoff, preventing any opportunity for fish habitat improvements. The level of mining activity has elevated, due partially to mines reopening on the Canadian side of the border near the area.</p>

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	77,753	77,753	200	9,762	67,770
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	42,550	44,010	0	5,441	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	3,241	780	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	100	1,100	1,240	0	1,240
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	3,859	0	3,161
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,039	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	8,401	8,901	49,912
Modified Landscape	0	0	18,344	11,862	1,560
Timber Production	0	0	24,507	33,388	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(531) Nutkwa**  
Gross acres: 62,158  
National Forest acres: 57,599

**Description**

The Nutkwa roadless area, characterized by mountain ridges separated by rather broad drainages, is located on the southwest corner of Prince of Wales Island and has always been considered a remote area. The major sounds and bays provide bases for commercial fishing including anchorages, fish processing facilities, and fish buying stations. Since the early 1900's there has been interest in mineral resources which resulted in several patented claims (300 acres) and numerous unpatented claims that are currently active. The Nutkwa area is one of the Haida Natives' traditional use areas. There is also evidence of considerable prehistoric use of coast sites. The Natives have made land selections in the northern part of this area and the State has made several selections scattered over the entire area. Vegetation is typical southeast Alaska coastal temperate rain forest. There are populations of deer, bear, otter, marten, mink, loon, and common waterfowl. The Big Creek drainage is considered an excellent example of wildlife habitat in the old-growth forest condition. The extensive canoeing opportunity is an outstanding attraction, as are the alpine lakes around the Lake Josephine recreation cabin.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The entire area has remained unaltered by human activity so the natural integrity is excellent. Excluding the very northern fringe where the sights and sounds of logging and traffic may be evident, the area has excellent opportunity for solitude due to its remoteness and difficult access. There are outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation in many parts of this area due to the scenic, fishing, and canoeing attractions in the Nutkwa Lagoon area, and the scenic, hiking, and camping attractions in the Lake Josephine area.

**Resources**

The area contains 17,090 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. This roadless area is so remote and difficult to access that it receives very little management emphasis other than administration of the cabin and mining claims in the area. The area has very good timber management potential as almost all the suitable timber is near saltwater. Timber sale projects would be likely during the next 10 to 15 years in Alternatives C, D and P. Mineral development potential is moderate. The area has excellent potential to enhance salmon spawning habitat on many streams in the area. The Haida Native Corporation is interested in adding much of the area in their next round of selections which must be completed by 1995.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	29,815	14,235	200	9,762	980
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	6,122	120	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	21,283	21,283	21,283	21,283	21,283
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	339	2,356	3,674	0	3,654
Stream and Lake Protection	0	1,779	3,859	0	3,819
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	2,039	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	219	2,815
Modified Landscape	40	2,075	7,428	120	4,613
Timber Production	0	15,750	21,154	24,175	20,434
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(532) Fake Pass**  
Gross acres: 179  
National Forest acres: 179

**Description**

The Fake Pass roadless area consists of a group of small, low-lying, rocky, windswept islands, including Whale Head Island, off the southern coast of Kosciusko Island in Davidson Inlet. Warren Islands Wilderness is about 15 miles to the west. These islands are inaccessible to most except the most skilled boaters. There is no prehistoric, historic, or contemporary history related to this area. Adjacent areas on the Kosciusko Peninsula have been harvested. The larger islands of this group have limited tree growth, and the smaller ones are essentially devoid of trees and other vegetation. These islands provide habitat for sea birds and mammals. Bald eagles are often seen. The area contains two somewhat exposed anchorages, but there is no freshwater, and therefore, no freshwater fish habitat. There is virtually no human use on the islands.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The entire area has remained unaltered by human activity and has excellent natural integrity. There is excellent opportunity for solitude in the area because of its difficult access. Due to limited recreation attractions, difficult access, and the proximity of small rural communities, there is not a high potential for primitive recreation.

**Resources**

The area contains 139 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. These islands do not have the basic resources to require active management plans or projects. It has no potential for recreation development or enhancement. The mineral potential is low.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Research Natural Area	0	0	0	0	0
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	20
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	179	179	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Wild, Scenic or Recreation River	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	120	0	120
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	20	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	20	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	0	0	40	159	40
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0

**(577) Quartz**

Gross acres: 139,159

National Forest acres: 139,059

**Description**

The Quartz roadless area is a part of Misty Fjords National Monument and lies in the middle of the mainland portion of it about 50 miles east of Ketchikan. ANILCA did not include this area as Wilderness because of the pending plans to develop the Quartz Hill molybdenum mine. A special use permit has been issued to U.S. Borax for the construction and operation of a road and shore-related dock facilities. The Quartz Hill patents include 647 acres. The area is extremely rugged with massive landforms and deep, narrow fjords protruding into the land mass. The natural features of the area, scenery, and the opportunity to see wildlife and to study the processes which formed the landscape are special attractions. Alpine vegetation dominates above 2,500 feet elevation. Below that the steep mountainsides are heavily marked with snowslide and landslide paths which are typically covered with grass, alder, and brush. A small population of mountain goat ranges over the area, as do brown and black bear, and a small population of moose. Local residents use the area for recreation.

**Wilderness  
Potential**

The area is virtually unaltered except for the Quartz Hill mine and its access road, providing good natural integrity. The most significant influence is the noise and sight of a large number of aircraft on flightseeing trips during the summer cruiseship season, and the helicopters going to Quartz Hill. Otherwise, there is high opportunity for solitude in the area. Due to the remoteness of the area, the minimal sights and sounds of human activity, and the great physical challenge presented by the rugged terrain and dense vegetation, there are good opportunities for primitive recreation. Because of its inland location, it does not possess the variety of recreation attractions that are found in neighboring portions of the monument.

**Resources**

The area does not contain any tentatively suitable forest land. Timber management is not a consideration because of the current LUD 1 designation (manage in a roadless condition). The area is best suited for dispersed recreation. The streams in this area are important for salmon production and there may be some opportunity for fish habitat improvement. There has been much mineral exploration activity associated with the Quartz Hill molybdenum deposit. Although it is still uncertain when mine development will occur, when it does there will be much monitoring and research into the impacts of additional road building and mine excavation on fish habitat, and the effects of dumping mine tailings into saltwater.

### Consequences by Alternative

<i>Land Use Designation</i>	<i>Alt. A (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. B (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. C (Acres)</i>	<i>Alt. D (Acres)</i>	<i>Preferred (Acres)</i>
Non-wilderness National Monument	139,059	139,059	139,059	139,059	139,059
Special Interest Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Other Area	0	0	0	0	0
Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Enacted Municipal Watersheds	0	0	0	0	0
Old-Growth Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Semi-Primitive Recreation	0	0	0	0	0
Legislated LUD II	0	0	0	0	0
Beach Fringe and Estuary	0	0	0	0	0
Stream and Lake Protection	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat & Water Quality Requirements	0	0	0	0	0
Experimental Forest	0	0	0	0	0
Scenic Viewshed	0	0	0	0	0
Modified Landscape	0	0	0	0	0
Timber Production	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals	0	0	0	0	0



## **Appendix E**

### **Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers**



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Patterson River	298
Petersburg Creek	304
Porcupine Creek	308
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Soda Creek and Lake	496
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# WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ANALYSIS

## INTRODUCTION

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 established a policy for preserving selected rivers in a free-flowing condition that would balance the development of water, power and other resources on rivers of the United States. Rivers are eligible to be considered for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System if they are essentially free-flowing (without major dams, diversions, or channel modifications) and if they possess at least one "outstandingly remarkable" scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar value. These values should be a unique or exceptional representation for the area studied, and must be related to the river or its-immediate environment. For study purposes, the Act requires that the evaluation of a river's eligibility consider, as a minimum, the area within one-fourth mile of either side of the high water mark of the river. However, features outside this corridor may be considered if their inclusion is essential for protection of the outstandingly remarkable values of the river.

Eligible rivers are "classified" as to their potential to be managed as "Wild", "Scenic", or "Recreational" rivers according to definitions in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act:

**Wild River areas:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

**Scenic River areas:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

**Recreational River areas:** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Eligible Rivers are further evaluated for "suitability"; generally this analysis considers the appropriateness of Congressional designation and classification as a wild, scenic or recreational river in light of social and economic values, other resource opportunities enhanced, curtailed or foregone, and the effect on private lands and other uses of the area. Suitable rivers may be recommended to Congress by the administration for designation. If designation occurs, a final boundary is established and a management plan developed.

The evaluation for the Tongass National Forest was conducted for the purpose of determining the eligibility, potential classification, and suitability (by alternative) of rivers. The evaluation resulted in the determination that 112 rivers with a total length of approximately 1,400 miles are eligible for consideration as components of the National Wild and Scenic River System. The determination of eligibility is the result of a judgmental process which is described in the *Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification and Management of Wild and Scenic Rivers* (U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1982). (For a more complete description of how rivers in the different classifications are managed, please see DEIS Supplement, Chapter 3, Wild and Scenic Rivers section).

The purpose of Appendix E - Wild and Scenic Rivers Analysis is to present a detailed, site-specific description of each eligible river for the purpose of receiving public comment on the findings, as well as on the suitability of individual rivers for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, during the review of the Supplement to the Draft Environmental Statement. Each river description is divided into the following sections:

**Description:** Location, length, uses, features and values present in the river corridor.

**Eligibility:** Outstandingly remarkable values that caused the river to be considered "eligible" are described.

**Classification:** The potential classification as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River designation is described, based on the amount of development and modification existing in the river corridor.

**Alternatives:** The recommended allocation of streams by classification (Wild, Scenic, or Recreational) by Alternative is displayed.

**Suitability:** The suitability analysis addresses the six factors identified in Section 4(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and includes a discussion of the consequences of designating or not designating the river as a component of the National System. The consequences, by Alternative, of designating the river as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System is discussed, and the cost of managing the river as a wild and scenic river is identified.

Appendix E also contains a map of each river showing the area one-fourth mile on either side of the high water mark of the river and the classification (Wild, Scenic, Recreational) of its segments. The map scales vary as indicated on the maps. Note that several map bases were used in preparing Appendix E; topographic maps are not always completely up-to-date and roads or other developments referred to in the text may not appear on the maps. Some maps indicate proposed roads referred to in the text.

Appendix E is organized by Administrative Area, with the applicable rivers listed alphabetically by Area. A summary of the rivers, miles, and classifications by alternative can be found on the next few pages.

## Wild and Scenic Rivers By Alternative

### Chatham Area

Eligible River	P	A	B	D
Antler River		W-13		
Benzeman River		W-14		
Berners River		W-10	W-8	
Big Branch Tributary		W-12		
Black River		W-10		
Chuck River		W-15	W-15	W-15
Dangerous River	W-7/S-16	W-7/S-16	W-7/S-16	
Eagle River		R-6	R-6	
Endicott River		W-21		
Freds Creek		W-5	W-5	
Gambier Bay Tributaries		W-14		
Gilkey River		W-9		
Glacial River	W-10	W-10	W-10	W-10
Hasselborg River	W-24	W-24	W-24	W-24
Herbert River		R-6	R-6	
Kadashan River	S-8	W-8	W-8	
Katzehin River	W-8	W-10	W-8	
King Salmon River	W-8	W-8	W-8	W-8
Kook Creek and Lake		R-2		
Lace River		W-20		
Lisianski River	W-5	W-5	W-5	
Lost River and Tawah Creek		R-10	R-10	

Chatham Area (continued)

Eligible River	P	A	B	D
Maksoutof River		W-10		
Mud Bay River		W-5 R-4		
Pavlof River		R-10	R-10	
Red Bluff Bay Tributaries		W-13		
Sitkoh Creek		S-4		
Taku River		S-17		
Trail River		W-6	W-6	
Whiting		W-25		
Total miles by Alternatve	86	349	152	57

## Stikine Area

Eligible River	P	A	B	D
Aaron, Oerns, Berg Creeks	S-21/R-16	W-37	S-37	S-21/R-16
Alecks Creek and Lake		W-5	W-5	W-5
Alpine Creek		W-3	W-3	W-3
Anan Creek	W-17.5/S-.5	W-18	W-17.5/S-.5	W-17.5/S-.5
Andrews Creek		W-18	W-18	W-9/R-9
Baird Glacier		W-20	W-20	W-20
Blind River	R-5	R-5	R-5	R-5
Bradfield River East Fork		R-19	R-19	
Bradfield River North Fork		R-27	R-27	
Cascade Creek		W-5	W-5	W-5
Castle River		W-23	W-23	W-12/R-11
Cathedral Falls Creek		R-1		
Duncan Salt Chuck Creek		W-12	W-4/S-8	W-4
Eagle River and Lake	R-12	W-12	W-12	R-12
Earl West Creek		R-9	R-9	
Fall Dog Creek	W-4	W-4	W-4	
Falls Creek and McHenry Lake		W-3	W-3	
Farragut River	W-29/S-1	W-29/S-1	W-29/S-1	
Hamilton Creek		S-20	S-20	
Harding River		W-15/S-1		
Hatchery Creek and Lake		W-2	W-2	
Irish, Keku Creeks		W-17	W-17	
Kadake Creek	R-23	W-5/R-18	R-23	
Kah Sheets Creek and Lake	W-5/S-4	W-9	W-5/S-4	

Stikine Area (continued)

Eligible River	P	A	B	D
Kunk Creek and Lake		W-2	S-2	
Kushneahin Creek		W-9		
Kutlaku Creek and Lake		W-2		
LeConte Glacier	W-6	W-6	W-6	W-6
Marten Lake and Creek		W-6	W-6	W-5 S-1
Olive Creek		W-3/R-1	W-3/R-1	
Patterson River		W-3/R-4		
Petersburg Creek	W-7	W-7	W-7	W-7
Porcupine Creek		W-2		
Santa Anna Creek and Lake	S-4	W-4	S-4	
Scenery Creek		W-8	W-8	
Shakes Slough		W-10	W-10	W-10
Stikine River		S-25	S-25	R-25
Tunehean Creek		W-8		
Virginia Lake and Creek	R-9	S-9	R-9	
Total Miles by Alternative	164	447	402	204

## Ketchikan

Eligible River	P	A	B	D
Bakewell Creek-Badger Lake		W-9		
Big Creek		W-5	W-5	
Big Goat Creek & Lake		W-5		
Blossom River		W-1/S-14		
Blue River		W-26	W-26	W-26
Canoe Point Stream		W-2		
Chickamin River	W-94/S-2	W-94/S-2	W-94/S-2	W-94
Essowah Lakes and Streams		W-13	W-13	
Fish Creek		R-4	R-4	
Gokachin, Mirror, Fish, Low Creeks		W-30	W-28/S-2	
Granite Creek-Manzoni Lake		W-8		
Harris River		R-7	R-7	
Hulakon River		W-6		
Humpback Creek and Lake		W-8		
Hunter Bay		W-19	W-19	W-10
Johnson Lake and Streams		W-6	W-6	
Karta River, Salmon Lake		W-24	W-24	
Kegan Lake and Streams		W-9	W-9	
Keta River		W-16		
Klahini River		W-27		
Klakas Lake and Streams		W-8	W-8	W-8
Marten River		W-17		
Naha River	W-17/S-2	W-17/S-2	W-17/S-2	W-17
Niblack		W-5		

Ketchikan (continued)

Eligible River	P	A	B	D
Nooya Creek		W-1		
Nutkwa River		W-12	W-12	
Orchard Creek and Lake		W-26		
Portage Creek		W-4		
Punchbowl Creek		W-1		
Rudyerd Creek		W-12	W-12	W-12
Salmon Bay Lake and Stream	W-4 S-2	W-4 S-2		
Salmon River		R-10		
Sarkar Lakes	W-14/S-3 R-2	W-14/S-3 R-2		
Shipley Creek and Lake		W-5	W-5	
Sockeye Creek, Hugh Smith Lake		W-9		
Soda Creek and Lake		W-3	W-3	
Spring Creek, Shelokum Lake		W-3	W-3	W-3
Thorne River, Hatchery Creek	S-24/R-18	S-36/R-6	S-24/R-6	R-6
Unuk River		W-23	W-23	W-23
Walker Creek and Lake		W-6	W-6	W-6
Ward Creek and Lake		R-3	R-3	R-3
Wilson River and Lake		W-9/S-3		
Wolverine Creek, McDonald Lake		W-6		
Total Miles by Alternative	182	587	363	208

Forest Summary

Forest Summary	P	A	B	D
Forestwide Totals of Rivers	24	112	69	31
Forestwide Totals of Miles	432	1,383	917	469



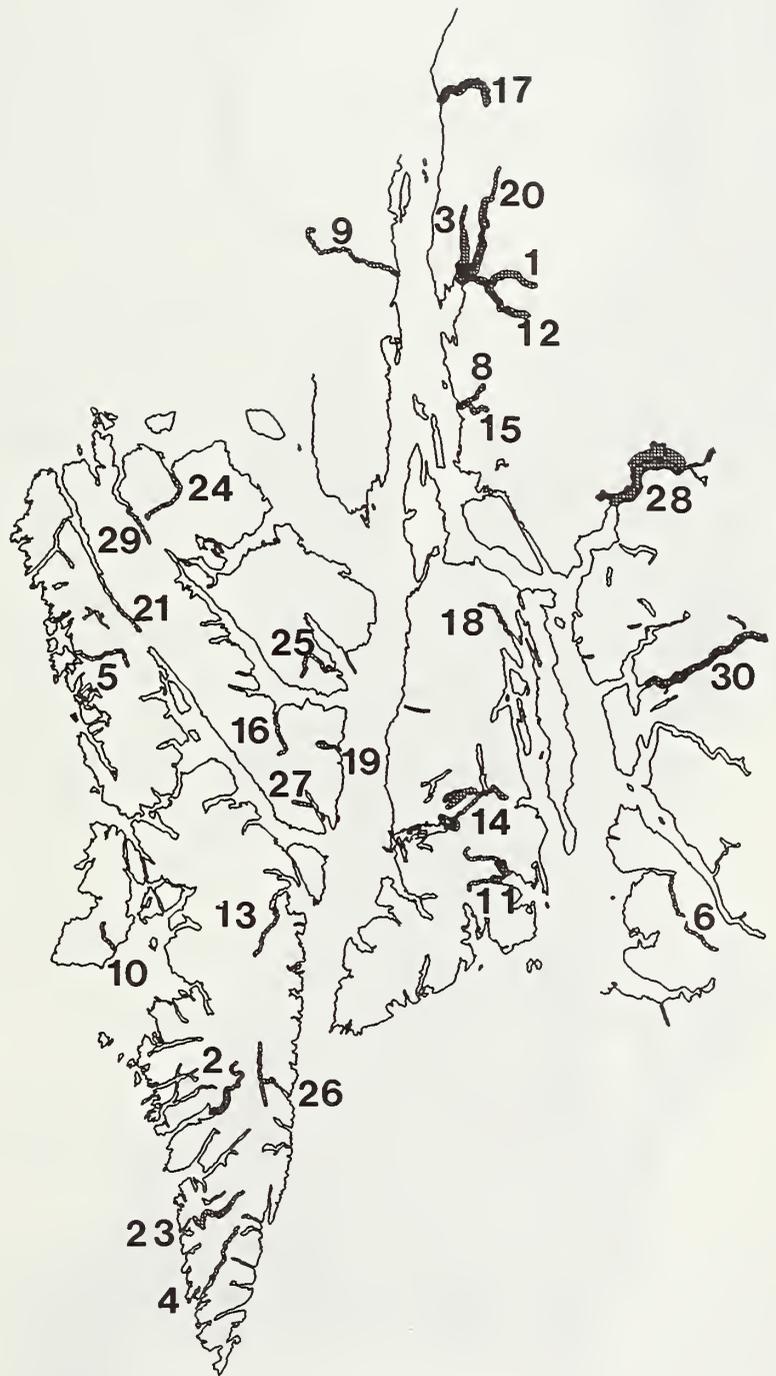




**Map Legend**

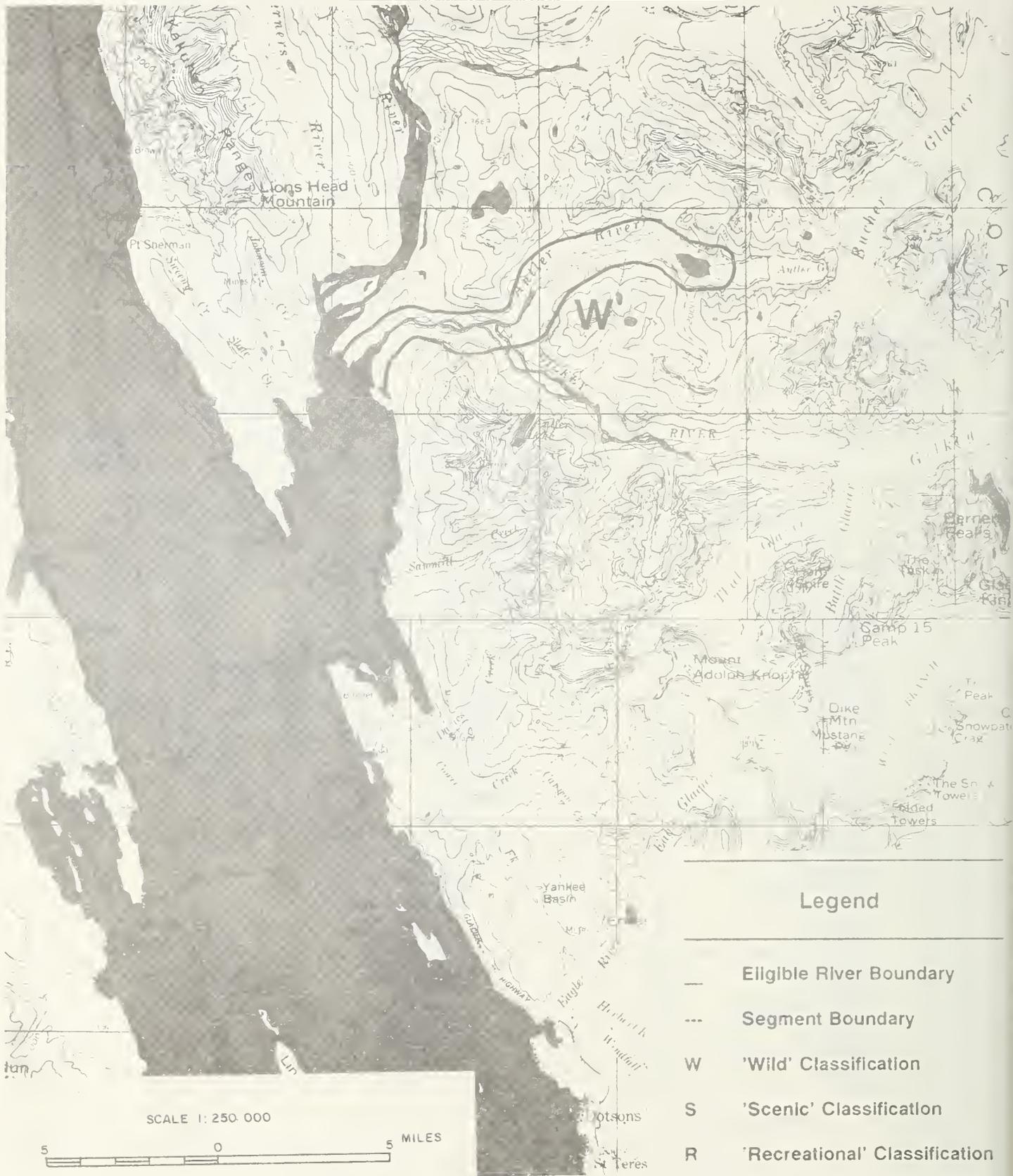
**Chatham Area**

- |                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Antler River                | 1  |
| Benzeman River              | 2  |
| Berners River               | 3  |
| Big Branch Tributary        | 4  |
| Black River                 | 5  |
| Chuck River                 | 6  |
| Dangerous River             | 7  |
| Eagle River                 | 8  |
| Endicott River              | 9  |
| Freds Creek                 | 10 |
| Gambier Bay Tributaries     | 11 |
| Gilkey River                | 12 |
| Glacial River               | 13 |
| Hasselborg River and Lakes  | 14 |
| Herbert River               | 15 |
| Kadashan River              | 16 |
| Katzehin River              | 17 |
| King Salmon River           | 18 |
| Kook Lake and Creek         | 19 |
| Lace River                  | 20 |
| Lisianski River             | 21 |
| Lost River and Tawah Creek  | 22 |
| Maksoutof River             | 23 |
| Mud Bay River               | 24 |
| Pavlof River and Lake       | 25 |
| Red Bluff Bay Tributaries   | 26 |
| Sitkoh Creek                | 27 |
| Taku River-Twin Glaciers Lk | 28 |
| Trail River                 | 29 |
| Whiting                     | 30 |



Scale 1:1,717,000

# Antler River



## ANTLER RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Antler River is on the mainland approximately thirty-six air miles north of the Juneau airport. It is within the Lynn Canal Geographic Province in VCU's 14, and 15 approximately 10 boat miles north of the road-end at Echo Cove. The river originates from a lake formed by the receding Antler Glacier at approximately 100 feet in elevation and flows southwest for thirteen miles before ending at Berners Bay. Numerous glaciers feed the river through several tributaries and the river itself is narrower than the other large rivers that terminate in Berners Bay. The corridor is primitive and undeveloped with no impoundments on the river. Wildlife characteristic to the area is similar to other coast-range rivers and includes moose, brown and black bear, wolf and mountain goat. The area receives hunting and recreational use from the Juneau population and the river receives canoe and airboat use. The lower four miles of the river are within a Legislated LUD II area which encompasses most of the north and east shoreline of Berners Bay. The State has considered building a transportation corridor between Juneau and Skagway, part of which would cross the lower stretch of the river. There are about 8,450 acres within the river corridor, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Antler River is outstandingly remarkable for its scenic, recreation, geologic and wildlife values. The open vistas in the steeply walled, glacially-carved valley attract guided whitewater canoe enthusiasts who float down from the lake to Berners Bay. Airboat and plane access allows hunting of moose and mountain goats. The tidal flats at Berners Bay attract an abundance of wildlife during the spring hooligan spawning runs.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Antler River meets the criteria for Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Wild River designation for all 13 miles</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>The Antler River has outstanding scenic and recreational values. It receives some airboat use for hunting but not as much as other nearby rivers (such as the Berners) and so is more attractive to canoeists seeking solitude. It is the only river within an easy flight from Juneau with good canoeing, a lake at the headwaters that is easy to land in, a river channel that is generally more clear and less braided, and a mouth which is within easy reach of the Juneau road system. The river is used by a commercial guide from Juneau for whitewater canoeing.</p>

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands, state selections or mining claims within the corridor. There are two trespass cabins whose owners have applied for authorization under the pre-ANILCA cabin program. Other trespass structures probably occur.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The mouth of the river is within an area being considered for a transportation corridor. The 1986 State of Alaska Department of Transportation Plan includes a road up the east side of Lynn Canal as one of several possible options for improved access between Juneau and Haines/Skagway. Alternate routes exist and public scoping has recently been conducted by the state. Designation of the entire river as Wild may preclude construction of a bridge across the river as a part of the east-side road option, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The river corridor has no identified mineral resources and is not within an area of projected mineral potential; no mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry.

*Timber:* Wild River designation would withdraw about 600 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the corridor from consideration. The adjacent land use designations would restrict timber harvest and emphasize primitive recreation values regardless of the river status.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive recreation opportunities and the outstanding scenic values. There would be no effect upon subsistence resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* Road construction across the mouth of the river may occur in the future and could alter the outstanding wildlife, primitive recreation, and

scenic values there. Access to the river would be increased and more recreational use within the corridor would occur.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

The strongest interest in this area is related to support or opposition of the road construction proposals. The State maintains an interest in the opportunities for future improvement of transportation links between Juneau and Haines/Skagway. Recent surveys have affirmed the most cost-effective and flexible option is to upgrade the marine transportation link but support for a road link remains. Ongoing studies and surveys will likely continue. The City of Skagway opposes construction of the road as do representatives of the tour ship industry. The community of Juneau is divided on the issue with supporters citing the economic opportunities and convenience of a road while opponents fear the high dollar cost and impacts upon wildlife and primitive recreation values. While not directly related to the suitability of the river, this ongoing public debate creates an atmosphere in which a proposal by the Forest Service to designate the mouth as a Wild River, possibly affecting the road opportunity, could be viewed as federal interference in a local and state government issue.

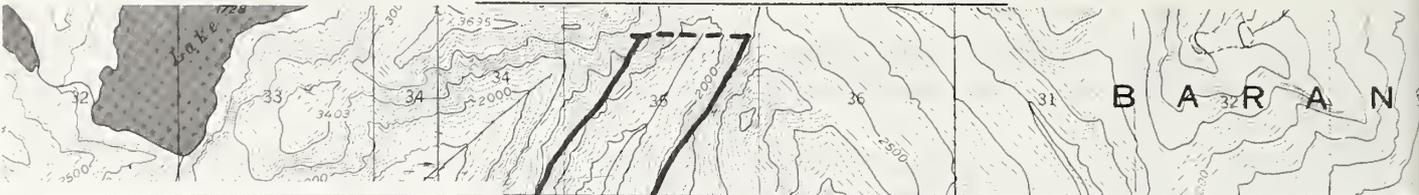
Support for designation of the river as Wild will likely come from local and national environmental groups who proposed the area as a candidate for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

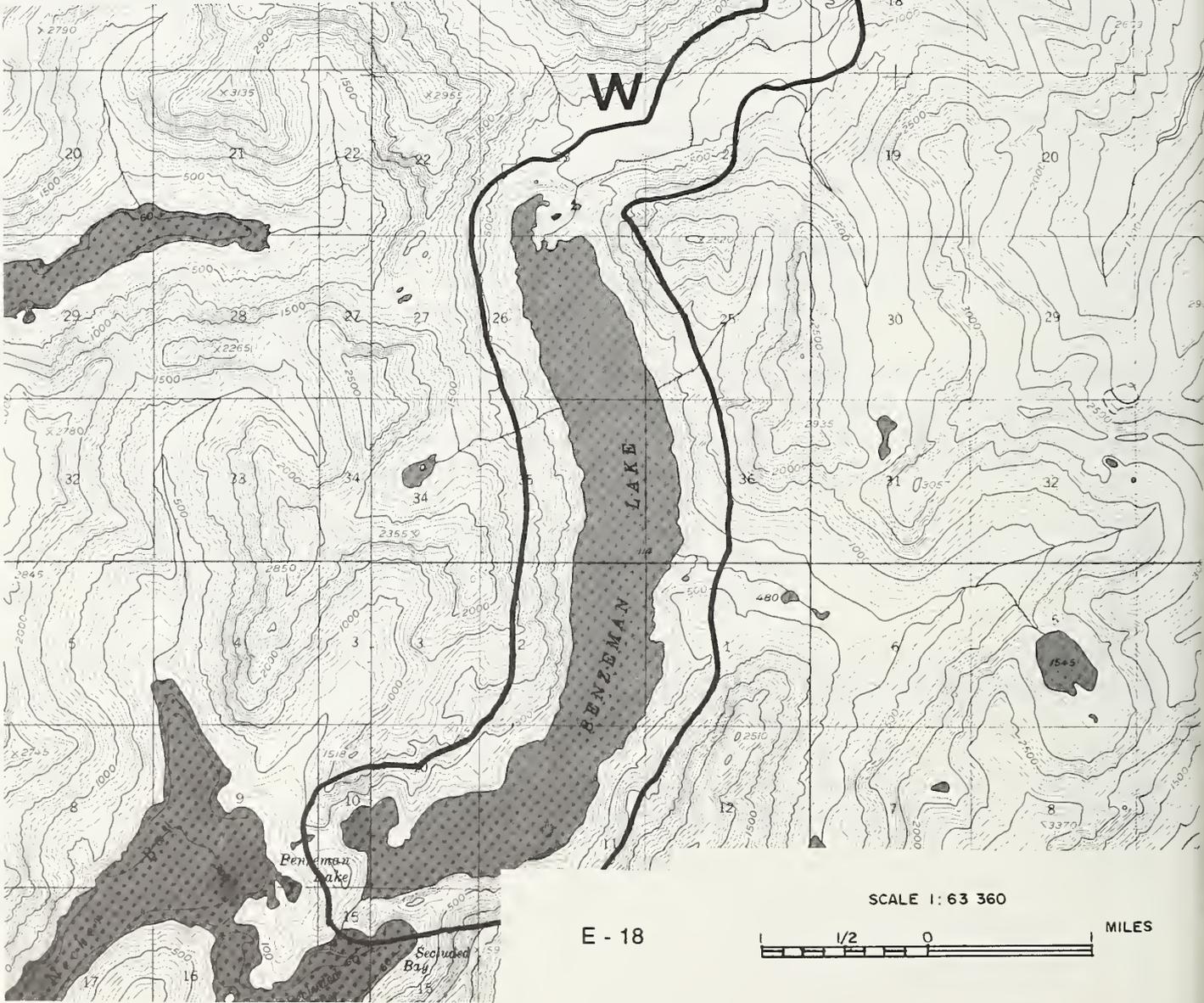
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
<b>Total - First Five Years</b>	<b>\$ 37,500</b>

# Benzeman River



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1: 63 360

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MILES

## BENZEMAN RIVER AND LAKE

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Benzeman River and Lake system is on the west side of Baranof Island in the South Baranof Wilderness and is in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The river and lake system is located in VCU 347 and there are approximately 6,410 acres in the river corridor. The river originates at approximately 1900 feet in elevation and flows for approximately fourteen miles south through Benzeman Lake. The system terminates in Secluded Bay, a part of Necker Bay. Benzeman River and Lake system is within the South Baranof Wilderness.</p> <p>The Benzeman River and Lake are extremely scenic with steep slopes rising from the lake and river. A scenic falls is located at the lake inlet. Geologically unique, the area contains granite half-dome formations which also contribute to the scenic value of the area.</p> <p>The system is rated highly valued for anadromous fisheries and the area is popular for subsistence fishing.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Benzeman River and Lake is associated with outstandingly remarkable scenic value and unique geology with the existence of the granite half domes. The highly valued anadromous fisheries make this area important and popular for subsistence purposes.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The 14 miles of the Benzeman River and Lake meet the criteria for Wild classification. The entire drainage is undeveloped, primitive, and there are no impoundments on the river.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Benzeman River and Lake are recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Benzeman River and Lake has an exceptional scenic value and unique geology with the existence of the granite half domes. The very productive anadromous fisheries make this area valued for subsistence purposes. Benzeman River and Lake is one of five river systems on Baranof Island that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p>

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and geologic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a key subsistence use area; however, subsistence has been identified as a highly-valued use of the Benzeman River. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

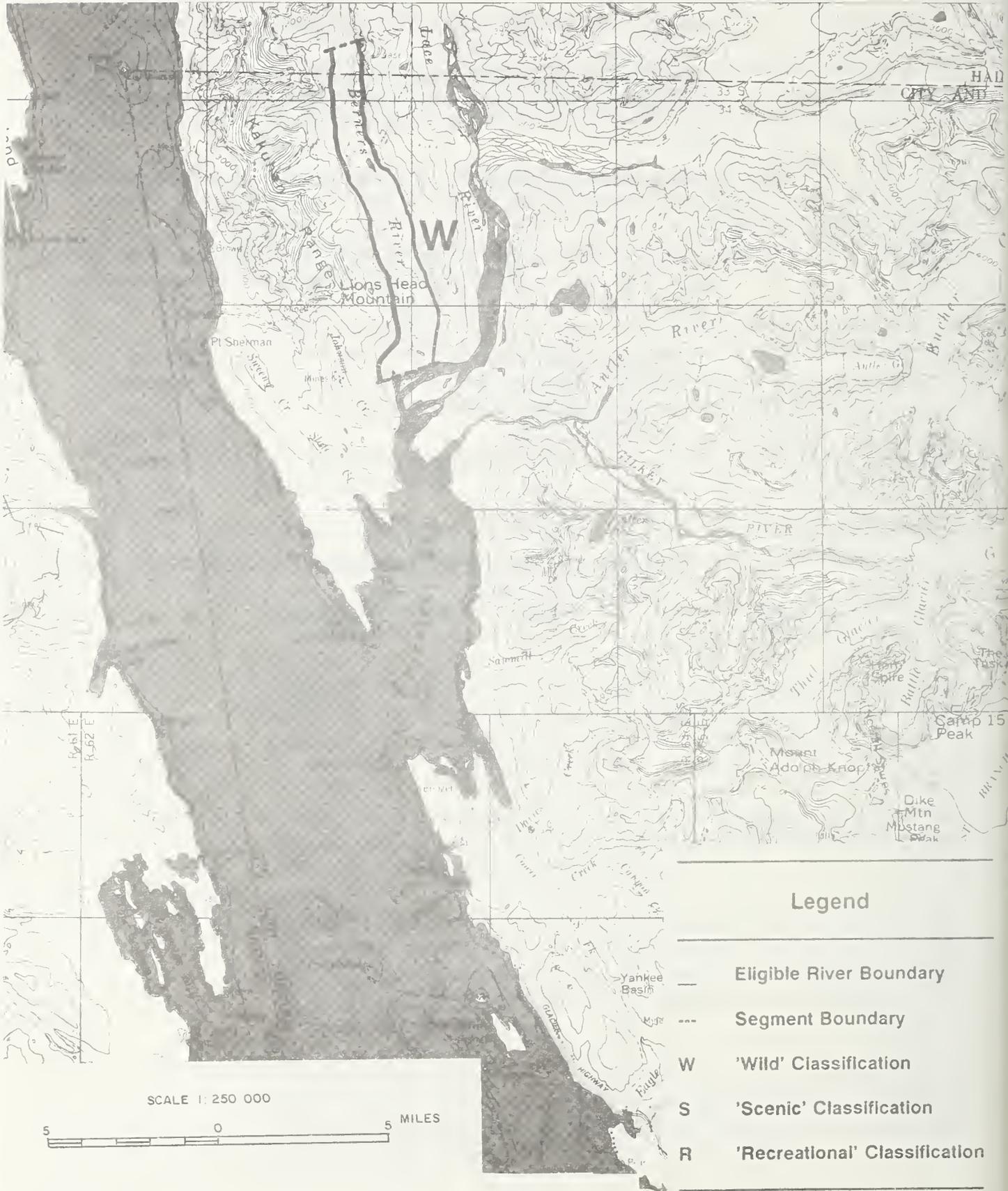
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Berner's River



## BERNERS RIVER

### Description

Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Berners River is on the mainland approximately forty miles north of the Juneau airport. The river is within the Lynn Canal Geographic Province in VCU 12, and contains approximately 6,250 acres. The headwaters of the river originate at less than 100 feet in elevation and flow south for twelve miles into Berners Bay. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped and most of the river is within a Legislated LUD II area. Although the river does not originate at a glacier numerous glaciers feed it through several tributaries. The continued buildup of sediments at the mouth of the adjacent Lace River is damming the mouth of the Berners River and as a result the broad floodplain of Berners River is a large, dynamic wetland complex. The marshy vegetation includes sedges and aquatic plants. The drainage offers outstanding scenery with large ponds and pools, broad channels, and high mountains on either side of the river. The valley is prime habitat for moose, waterfowl, and furbearers, and the area receives heavy hunting use from the Juneau population. Access is largely by airboat. Several well-worn trails along the sides of the valley attest to a large population of brown bear. The sloughs and lakes connected to the Berners River channel are excellent anadromous fish habitat and are considered exceptionally productive for salmonids.

### Eligibility

The Berners River is remarkable for its high recreation, fishery, wildlife, and scenic values. It represents a major glacial system on the Coast Range north of Juneau and has outstanding moose habitat. The river and estuary area are considered highly valuable for salmonid production. The area is outstanding for recreation and sport hunting because of the abundant fish and wildlife resources.

### Classification

The Berners River meets the criteria for Wild classification.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Designation of the entire 10 mile corridor as Wild (there are 12 miles of river within a corridor of land that is ten miles long).

Alternative B: Designation of the upper eight miles of the corridor as Wild with the lower two miles not designated.

Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

***Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.***

Taken with the Lace, the Berners River has the only significant population of moose north of the Taku River which is accessible from near the Juneau road system. The limited number of annual permits for moose hunting draw high

interest. Airboat activity on the river is relatively high and the many water channels within the corridor provide good access. The low gradient, good cover, numerous side sloughs, and marsh area provide good fish habitat and the river is rated high in the Forest Habitat Integrity Plan classification done by ADF&G in 1982. Coded-wire tag recoveries during the 1983 season indicate that an estimated harvest of 40,000 coho salmon were contributed by stocks returning to Berners River.

***Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.***

There is no State or private land within the corridor but there are several mining claims near the river mouth. There are two trespass cabins whose owners have applied for authorization under the pre-ANILCA cabin program. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has permits for two temporary tent camps associated with fish tagging studies.

***Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.***

*Transportation:* The mouth of the river is within an area being considered for a transportation corridor. The 1986 State of Alaska Department of Transportation Plan includes a road option up the east side of Lynn Canal as one of several possible options for improved access between Juneau and Haines/Skagway. Alternate routes exist and public scoping has recently been conducted by the State. Designation of the entire river as Wild may preclude construction of a bridge across the river as a part of the east-side road option, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The mouth of the river has several claims but is only partially within a mineralized area. At this time, there is no indication that future development is likely to occur. The remaining part of the river has no mining claims and is not within an area of high mineral development potential. Designation of the entire corridor as Wild (Alternative A) would withdraw the area from further mineral entry (except for valid existing rights). Designation of the upper river only (Alternative B) would leave the river mouth open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as Wild would withdraw about 660 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the corridor from consideration. Regardless of river status,

timber harvest would be considered unsuitable because primitive and semi-primitive recreation values are emphasized in all alternatives.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* A fish habitat enhancement project is being considered which would divert water now flowing into Brown's Slough (part of the Berners River). This is being considered in order to reduce the flow of colder water, which detracts from the rearing habitat capability of the slough. The proposed diversion dike would be made largely of materials extracted from the main river channel. This may be inconsistent with Wild River designation and special authorization would be required if the river is designated.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Alternative A would maintain the current primitive recreation opportunities and the outstanding scenic values. There would be no effect upon subsistence from any of the alternatives. Alternative B would allow changes to roaded and semi-primitive recreation opportunities near the mouth. Scenic values could be impacted if roads and bridges are constructed.

*Effects of non-designation:* Road construction across the mouth of the river may occur in the future and would alter the outstanding wildlife, primitive recreation and scenic values there. Access to the river would increase and more recreational use within the corridor would occur.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

A strong interest in this area is related to support of or opposition to the road construction proposals. The State maintains an interest in the opportunities for future improvement of transportation links between Juneau and Haines/Skagway. Recent surveys have affirmed the most cost-effective and flexible option is to upgrade the marine transportation link but support for a road link remains. Ongoing studies and surveys will likely continue. The City of Skagway opposes construction of the road as do representatives of the tour ship industry. The community of Juneau is divided on the issue with supporters citing the economic opportunities and convenience of a road while opponents fear the high dollar cost and impacts upon wildlife and primitive recreation values. While not directly related to the suitability of the river, this ongoing public debate creates an atmosphere in which a proposal by the Forest Service to designate the mouth as a Wild River, possibly affecting the road opportunity, could be viewed as federal interference in a local and state government issue. Support for designation of the river as Wild will likely come from local and national environmental groups who proposed the area as a candidate for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

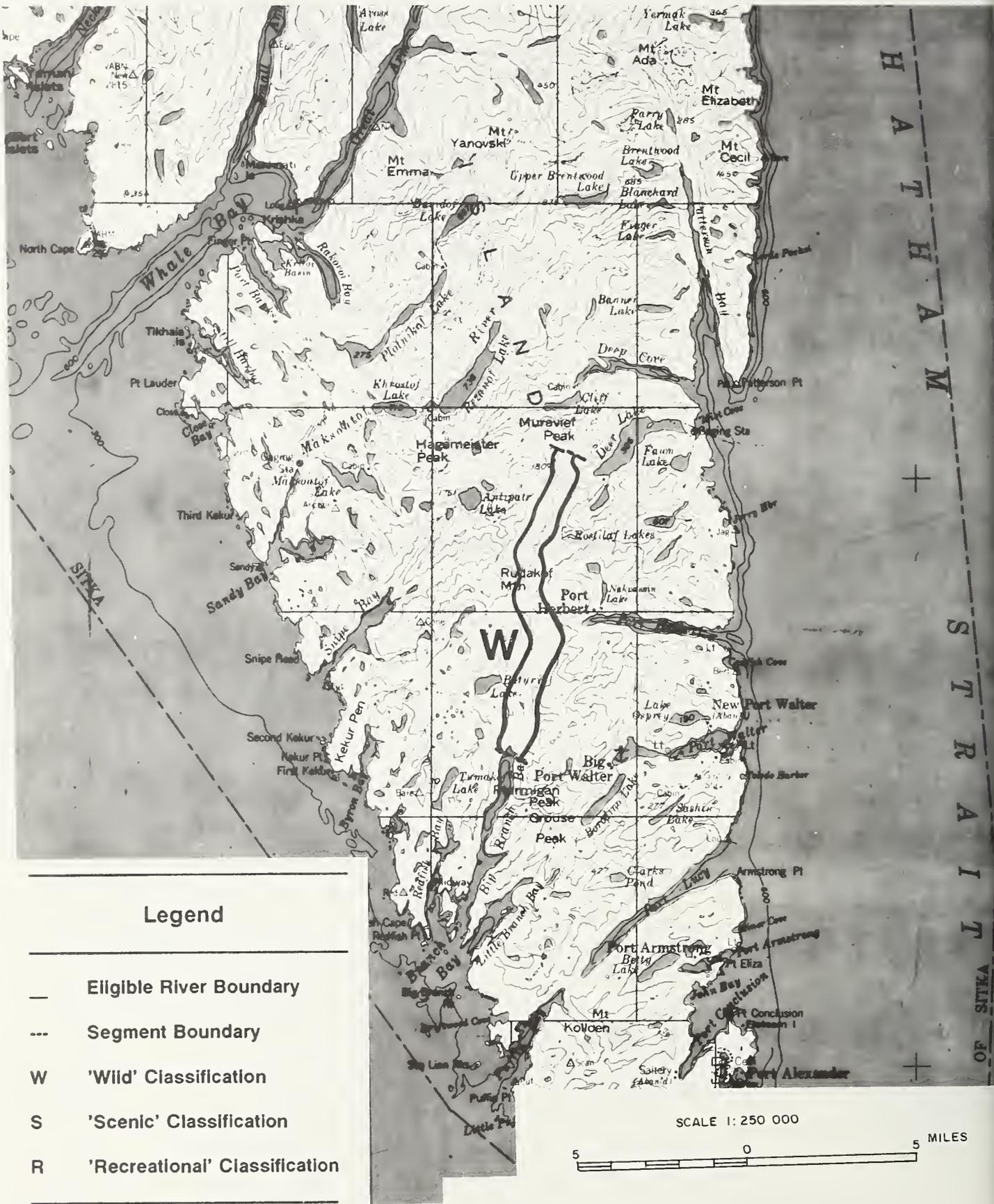
#### **Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 25,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 55,000

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# Big Branch Inlet Stream



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:250 000



## BIG BRANCH INLET STREAM

**Description** Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the unnamed inlet stream to Big Branch Bay is on the southern end of Baranof Island in VCU 341, and is in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The area is allocated in the 1979 Tongass Plan to LUD II. The stream is located approximately 50 miles south of Sitka. The stream is approximately 12 miles long, originating at a glacier at about 1900 feet in elevation and located on the southwest slope of Muravief Peak. The corridor contains about 3,600 acres. The stream terminates at Big Branch Bay. Access is by boat or floatplane.

The stream is unusually long for southern Baranof Island, especially for one uninterrupted by lakes. It is rated as highly-valued for commercial and sport fisheries by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Ecologically, the stream is of interest for the wide variety of ecosystems and glacial origin. In addition, it is of interest because of important habitat for Sitka black-tailed deer and brown bear.

**Eligibility** The inlet stream to Big Branch Bay is considered exceptionally scenic, with a series of narrow canyons, a small lake and high peaks on both sides. The higher elevations above the stream are among the highest on the southern end of Baranof Island. The exceptional length and elevation of origin provides an unusually wide variety of ecosystems, including a highly productive estuary and an unique, very large grass flat and tidal meadow. The large grassy bottoms along the length of the river are unique in the region.

**Classification** The inlet stream to Big Branch Bay meets the criteria for Wild classification.

**Alternatives** The stream is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.

**Suitability** ***Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.***

Narrow canyons, a small lake and high peaks on both sides contribute to the inlet stream to Big Branch Bay being considered exceptionally scenic. The peaks above the stream are among the highest on the southern end of Baranof Island. A wide variety of ecosystems, including a highly productive estuary and a very large grass flat and tidal meadow, are provided by the exceptional length and elevation of origin. The large grassy bottoms along the length of the river and the large meadow are unique in the region. The stream and estuary are considered highly productive for fisheries as rated in the ADF&G Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. As one of five rivers in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province and on Baranof Island, it would be representative of the rivers in the province.

***Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.***

There is no private or state land within or adjacent to the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* There are no known transportation corridor plans which would be curtailed by designation. Designation as a Wild River will generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The corridor is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* No identified fish habitat improvement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Recreation use of the river may increase with designation. There would be no effect on scenic or subsistence resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* Little change in the outstanding values of the area are expected since probable land use allocations would emphasize maintaining the wildland character.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental Interests.**

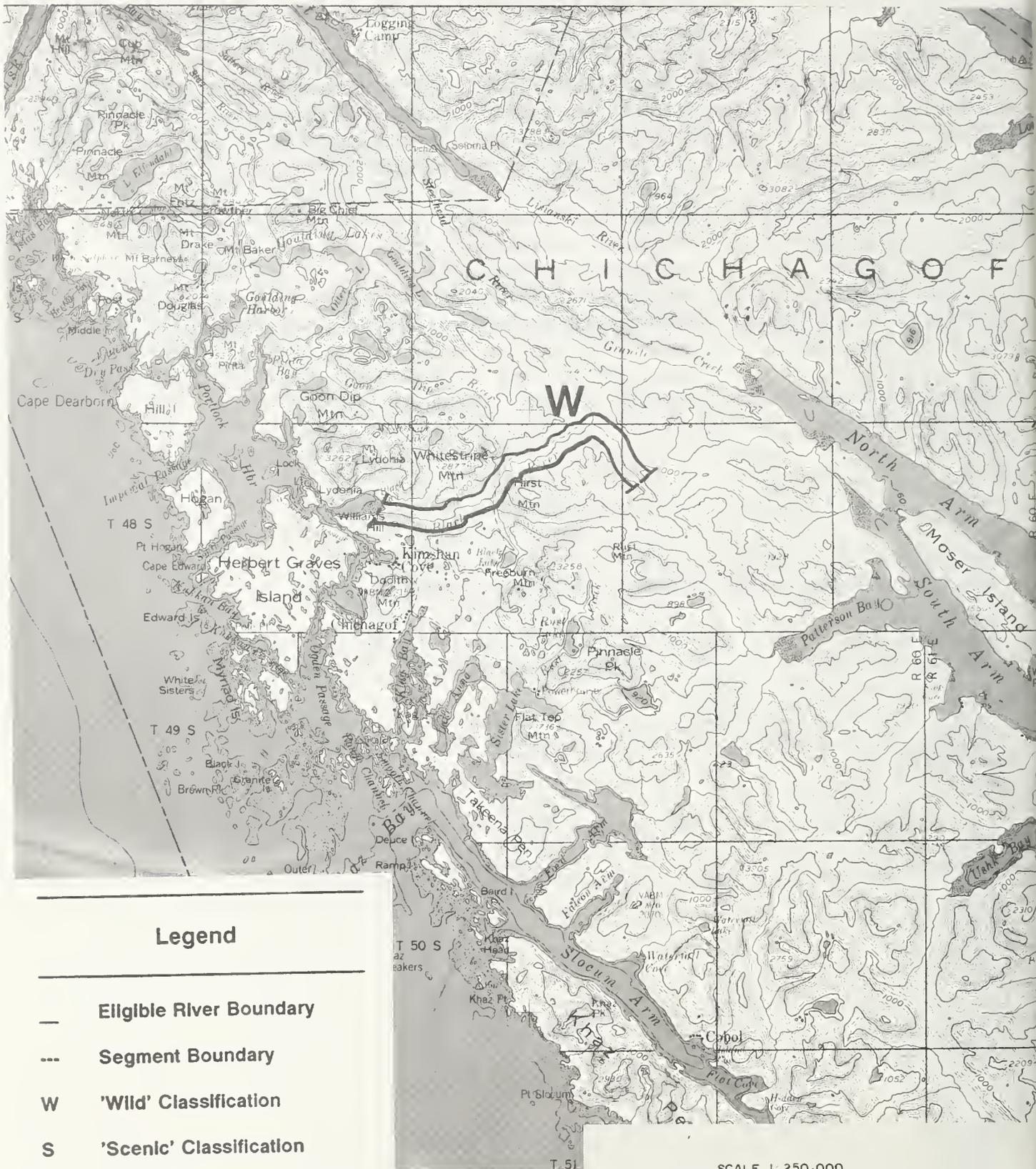
Local subsistence and recreation users of the river corridor support maintenance of its primitive character.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would be proposed. Development of recreation facilities would likely occur. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 50,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 87,500

# Black River



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:250,000



## BLACK RIVER

### Description

Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Black River is located on Chichagof Island in VCU 272. The river corridor contains about 3,430 acres all within the West Chichagof-Yakobi Wilderness and in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The river originates at approximately 800 feet in elevation and flows primarily east for ten miles where it enters Black Bay. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped with diverse scenic qualities. Large flats of old-growth Sitka spruce and the unusual geologic formation of a black marble bedrock channel contribute to these scenic qualities. Black Bay is a popular anchorage and the mouth of the river is navigable for a short distance upstream. A fisheries enhancement "steep pass" has been proposed for the river.

### Eligibility

The Black River is outstandingly remarkable for its scenery, geology, ecology and fisheries values. The scenery is diverse with black marble streambeds of geologic interest. The old-growth spruce stands are important ecologically and the fishery production and potential of the river is outstanding.

### Classification

The Black River meets the criteria for Wild classification.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Designation of the entire 10 miles as Wild.

Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

***Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.***

The Black River has been rated among the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska in the 1979 Tongass Land Management Plan for fisheries values. The enhancement opportunity (steep pass) is considered one of the best on the Sitka District. The river is unusual for this region in that small craft can navigate upstream for a short distance.

***Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.***

There is no private or state land in the corridor.

***Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.***

*Transportation:* There would be no known effects upon transportation since no facility has been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area was withdrawn from mineral entry at the time of Wilderness designation and no mining claims exist within the river corridor.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the corridor because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* A steep pass (fish ladder) has been proposed for the river which would greatly expand its salmon production. The pass could be constructed to not significantly obstruct the free flow of the river but it may affect the primitive character, thus designation as Wild could be used as an argument against construction of any pass, and limit options. A steep pass is important to the local fishery and is, therefore, a priority for management. For this reason the river is considered unsuitable for designation as Wild in all but Alternative A.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation would not affect the scenic or subsistence resources. Some increase in recreational use may occur, especially if plans for trail construction are given higher priority as a result of designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* There would be no significant impact to the river if not designated as a part of the system since it is already within the Wilderness Preservation System.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

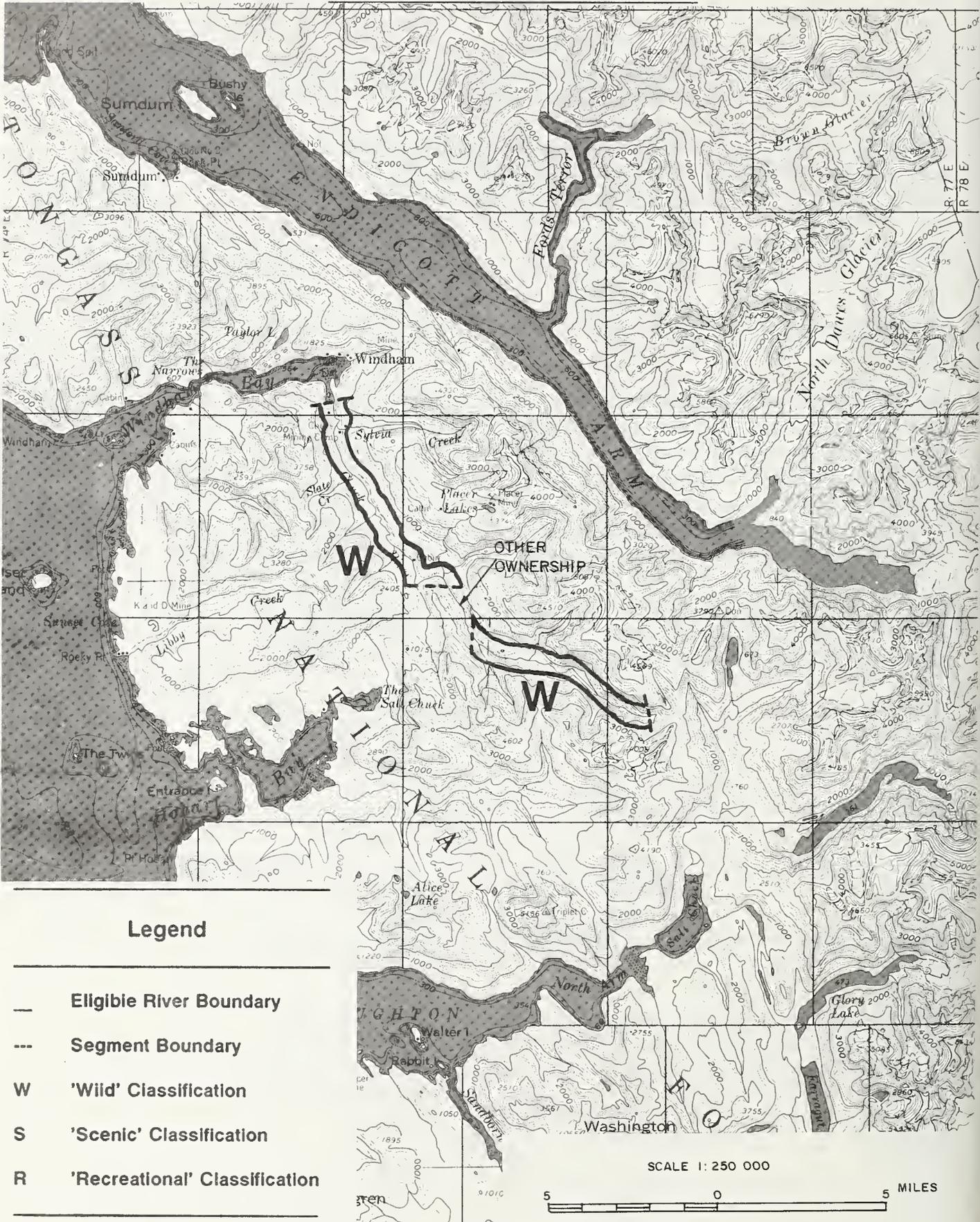
No comments specific to the Black River have been received and the degree of support or objection to designation is not known.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# Chuck River



## CHUCK RIVER

### Description

Located in the Chuck River Wilderness on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Chuck River is on the mainland south of Endicott Arm and is in the Coast Range Geographic Province. The river originates at an elevation of approximately 2100 feet east of the Salt Chuck in Hobart Bay, and flows south for 16.5 miles to terminate in Windham Bay. The river corridor, found in VCU's 71 and 76, contains approximately 4,590 acres. The lower 0.75 mile is in private ownership. There is a 1.5 mile section northeast of Hobart Bay that is owned by Goldbelt Native corporation and has been heavily modified by logging activities. This segment, which begins approximately 8 miles upstream, is not evaluated for Wild or Scenic Rivers classification.

The Chuck River is exceptionally scenic for the region and contains highly-valued wildlife habitat. The river contains an exceptionally productive fisheries for salmonids and is rated highly valued for sport and commercial fisheries. The estuarine zone is also highly rated. The Chuck River was identified as a potential Research Natural Area because it represented one of the last northern mainland stands of riparian spruce forest along a major river that had not been entered with roads and harvest activities.

The river corridor encompasses a historical mining area with 48 existing mining claims, including seven placer mines.

### Eligibility

The Chuck River is associated with exceptional scenic, fishery, and wildlife values and has a high ecological value because of the exemplary northern mainland stands of riparian spruce forests. The river and estuary are considered productive for anadromous fisheries. The Chuck River provides a less common example of a moderately-sized, non-glacial river within the Coast Range region.

### Classification

Fifteen miles of the Chuck River meet the criteria for Wild classification.

### Alternatives

The Chuck River was considered recommended as a Wild River in Alternatives A, B, and D.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

The Chuck River is exceptionally scenic for the region. The river was identified representing one of the last northern mainland stands of riparian spruce forest along a major river that does not exhibit extensive development and, as such, contains highly-valued wildlife habitat. The river and estuary are exceptionally productive fisheries for salmonids and are rated highly-valued for sport and commercial fisheries. The Chuck River is one of three rivers on the mainland lying in

the Coast Range Geographic Province that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of that province.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor studied. However, there are private lands at the mouth of the river and from approximately river mile 8.0 to 9.5. The upstream holdings are owned by Goldbelt Native corporation and have primarily been used for timber production. Wilderness under ANILCA permits limited transportation access that would be precluded by designation; this may have an indirect effect on the private ownership.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would probably not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights. There are 48 existing mining claims within the river corridor. Although development of these claims is not precluded, development can be regulated to prevent degradation of the characteristics that made the Chuck River eligible for a Wild classification.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would likely restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.



## DANGEROUS RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Yakutat Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Dangerous River is on the mainland in VCU's 377, 378 and 380. It is in the Yakutat Forelands Geographic Province approximately 24 miles southeast of the community of Yakutat. The river originates at Harlequin Lake at approximately 100 feet in elevation and flows 23 miles (including seven miles of Harlequin Lake) to the south before terminating in the Gulf of Alaska. Access to the river is via Forest Highway 10 (a two-lane road) from Yakutat, which terminates immediately after crossing a bridge about one-half mile below Harlequin Lake. A trail connects the lake with the road. Icebergs from the surrounding glaciers fall into the lake and flow down the river. The river channel is braided and deeply incised into the sandy banks which block views of distant peaks. There are four public recreation cabins (three structures) along the river; two of them have a dirt airstrip. The area is used for subsistence and recreation hunting, largely for moose on the lower river and brown bear and goat on the upper river and lake. Moose are abundant on the Yakutat Forelands. The ADF&amp;G Forest Habitat Integrity Plan rated the river low in fisheries values but the mouth and Harlequin Lake were rated very high. Harlequin Lake, the largest lake in SE Alaska, is within the Russell Fiord Wilderness and the east bank of the river is within a Legislated LUD II area. The river/lake corridor contains approximately 25,190 acres.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The upper Dangerous River (especially Harlequin Lake) is remarkably scenic. The Yakutat Forelands have outstanding populations of wildlife, especially moose. The river is one of two representing the Yakutat Forelands Geographic Province.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Dangerous River (Segment 1) meets the criteria for Scenic classification and the Harlequin Lake portion (Segment 2) meets the criteria for Wild.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A, B, and P: Designate the 16 mile long Dangerous River (Segment 1) as Scenic and the seven mile wide Harlequin Lake portion (Segment 2) as Wild.</p> <p>Alternatives C, and D: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>The Dangerous River is a good representative of the Yakutat Forelands Geographic Province and is one of two in the province considered eligible. Harlequin Lake and the surrounding area is very scenic, and the lake is the largest in SE Alaska. The river is readily accessible by road, off-highway vehicle or plane but it is used less than other rivers on the Forelands because it does not have large fish populations. The river is silty and glacial in origin, which is unusual for the Yakutat Forelands.</p>

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There is no private or state land in the corridor but the state manages Forest Highway 10 and the bridge over the Dangerous River by easement from the Forest Service.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The existing road and bridge would continue to be maintained for access to the area. The Wild portion of the corridor would begin about ¼ mile north from the bridge. Additional transportation corridor plans east of the river would not be precluded by designation.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist.

*Timber:* Harlequin Lake and its tributaries are within the Russell Fiord Wilderness and the east bank of the Dangerous River is within a Legislated LUD II area. All of the corridor lands which intersect these areas are not tentatively suitable forest lands. The west bank of the Dangerous contains about 150 acres of tentatively suitable forest land but it will not contribute to the annual allowable sale quantity. All alternatives emphasize primitive or semi-primitive recreation values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Scenic and subsistence values would be unaffected by designation. Subsistence use of the river is largely moose hunting and (to a lesser degree) for seal. There would be no change in the access to these resources or competition for them. Recreation use of the river may increase somewhat but the semi-primitive and primitive opportunities are not expected to change significantly.

*Effects of non-designation:* The outstanding values of the river are not likely to be affected by non-designation since all action alternatives manage adjacent lands to protect the outstanding river values.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

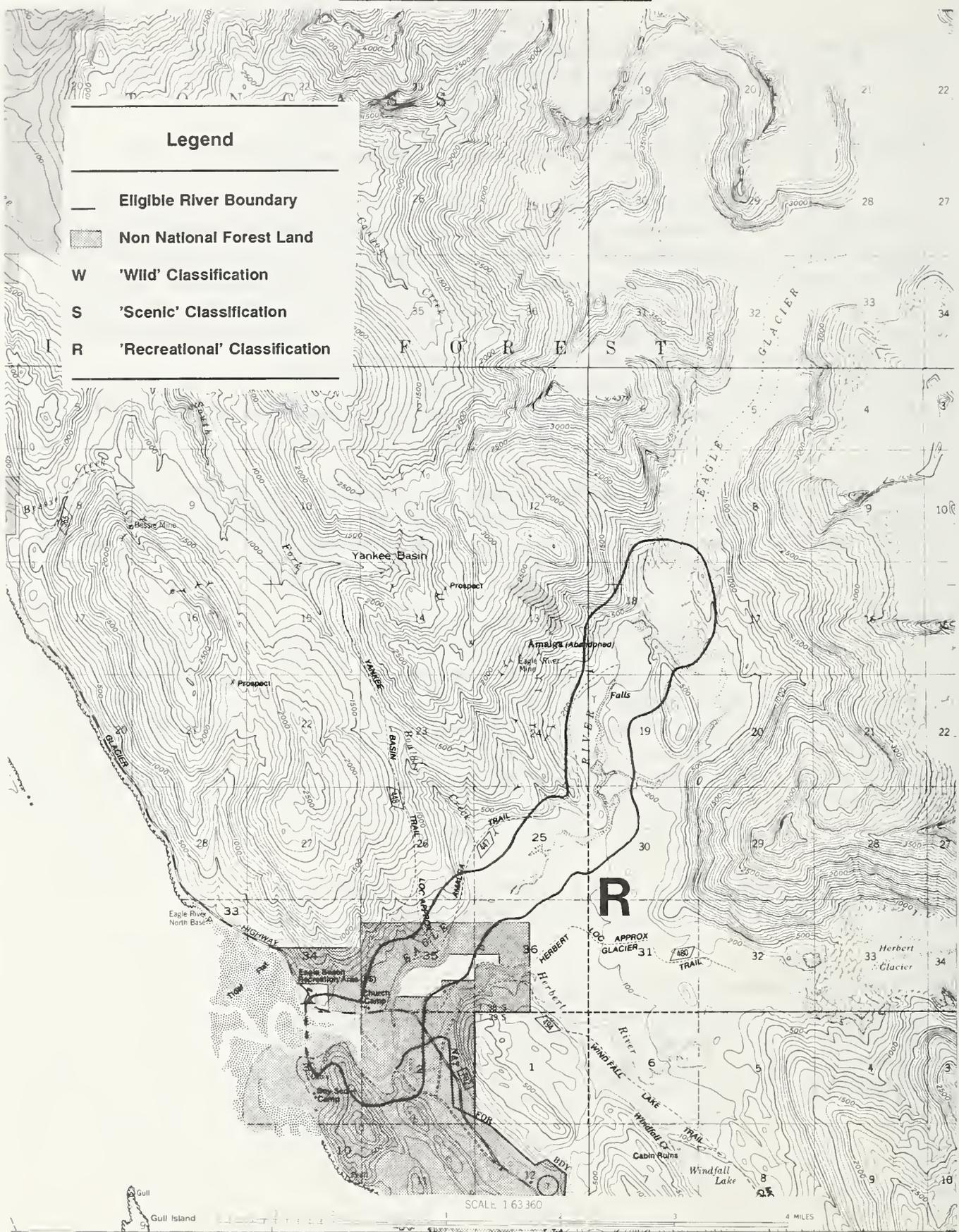
The State has an interest in maintaining Forest Highway 10. In the early 1980's the City of Yakutat opposed the designation of the Situk River (another river on the Yakutat Forelands) for Wild and Scenic status because they did not wish it to receive increased attention and use. They feared that designation for the Situk would have increased the competition for fish and wildlife resources unacceptably. The Dangerous River is likely to be better accepted by the City because it is not intensively used for subsistence fishing.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired and no recreation or other developments proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 25,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 42,500

# EAGLE RIVER



## EAGLE RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Eagle River is in the Lynn Canal Geographic Province in VCU 26. The river is on the mainland approximately 28 miles (by road) north of the city of Juneau. The Eagle River originates from a moderate-sized lake at the Eagle Glacier (at approximately 200 feet in elevation), and flows approximately five miles to the confluence with the Herbert River and then another mile on to Favorite Channel. The river receives high recreation use because of the proximity to Juneau. Use includes sport fishing and hunting, driftboating/kayaking, hiking and camping. The Glacier Highway bridge crosses the lower portion of the river and provides access to a hiking trail that parallels the river. The Eagle Beach Picnic Area is adjacent to the highway bridge and is a popular destination for day-use. Several private cabins and a church camp are located in the lower mile of river corridor. The corridor contains approximately 2,100 acres.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Eagle River is very scenic with the moraine lakes, the large waterfall just below the lakes, and the large valley shared with the Herbert River. The corridor is of geologic interest due to the presence of a recently glaciated stream channel and the Eagle Glacier. A Forest Service recreation cabin is proposed for construction near the lake and the future recreation potential of the river corridor is outstanding.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Eagle River meets the criteria for Recreational classification. The upper portion of the river could be eligible as Scenic but the lower portion has a bridge, houses, picnic area and other developments.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Designation of all six miles as a Recreational River.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>Similar to the Herbert River, the Eagle is unique because of its proximity to the largest population center on the Tongass Forest. The two rivers are the most accessible and have the best potential for future recreation development of all tentatively eligible rivers. The Eagle also has outstanding scenery at the glacier moraine lakes and nearby waterfall.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>The lower portion of the corridor which is shared with the Herbert River has approximately 1,280 acres of non-National Forest land. The private land includes</p>

a summer camp owned by the Boy Scouts of America with several rustic cabins and a large lodge. The 955 acres of State lands were recently conveyed and include a church camp near the bridge and other undeveloped lands. The original intention of the state selection was for a park but since the conveyed lands do not include the Eagle Beach Picnic Area the state is unsure how its lands will be managed. The 45 acres of City and Borough of Juneau lands are classified as open space/public use, which would be compatible with designation as Recreation River.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation would not affect the current or future transportation needs of the corridor. The current highway would continue to provide access to the lower river and a Recreational River designation would not preclude other road construction.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The river basin is considered a Priority 1 for mineral development potential and would remain open to mineral entry. Over 35 mining claims are within or adjacent to the corridor and many others are located in the nearby Yankee Basin. A plan of operations was submitted in 1990 by one claim owner for exploration work within the river corridor. Designation may result in higher operating costs for mineral development activities to mitigate effects on recreation and scenic values.

*Timber:* Designation as a Recreational River in Alternatives A and B would not withdraw the 400 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands from consideration but timber harvest will not be considered because it's not compatible with adjacent land use designations which emphasize semi-primitive recreation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered but in 1990 a project was completed which established several small rearing ponds adjacent to the river. Ongoing monitoring of the ponds will continue and designation will not affect these types of projects.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation would not affect subsistence resources. Recreation use would likely increase, especially if the cabin is constructed and more attention is paid to trails and facilities as a result of designation.

The current semi-primitive, and primitive opportunities in the corridor would remain unless a road is constructed for access to mining areas. Scenic resources would not be negatively affected by designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Minerals activities that result in ground disturbance would continue to be managed so as to minimize effects upon recreation and scenic values, but the mitigation measures may be less stringent. Recreation potential of the river would continue but would receive less management attention.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

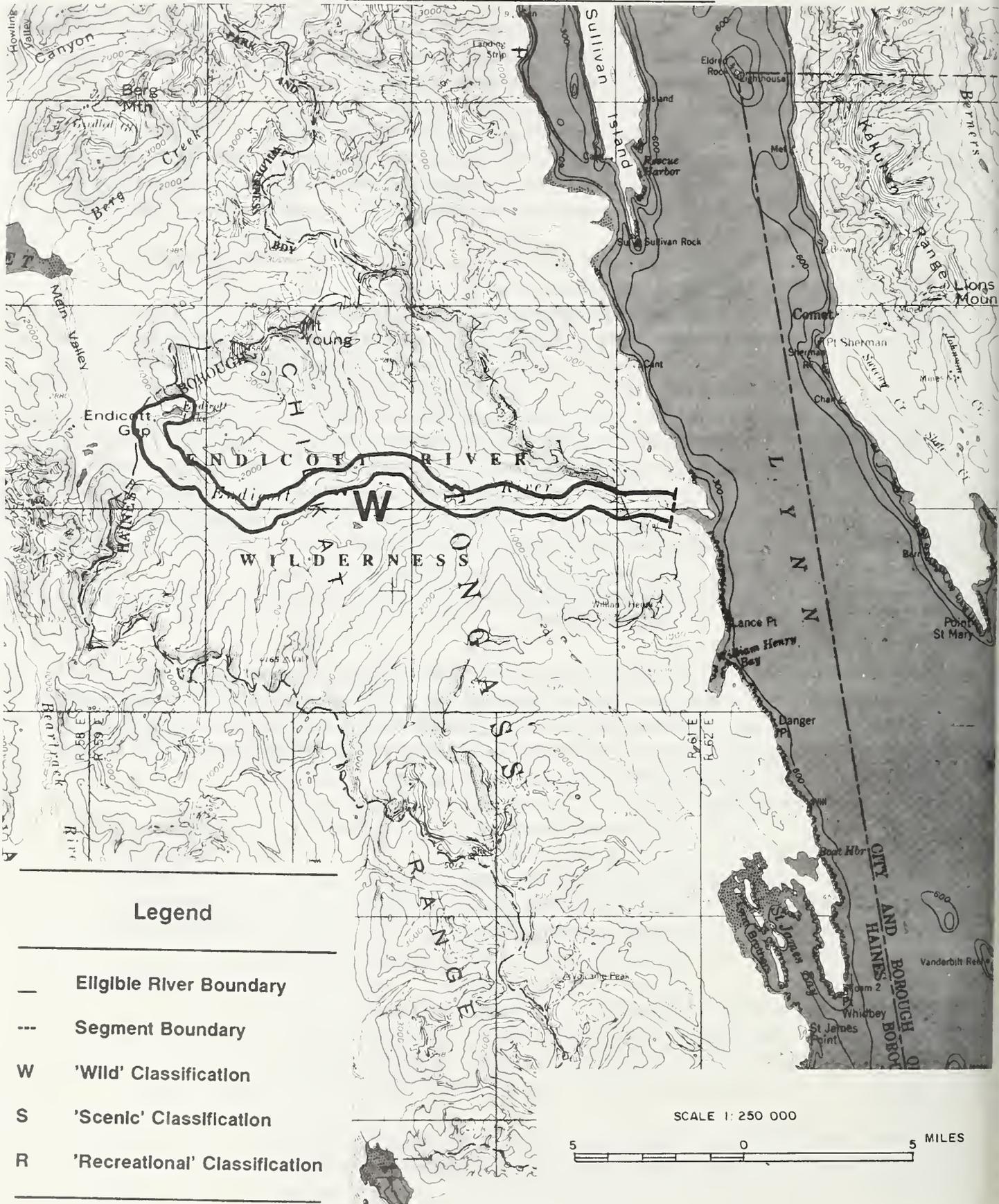
An environmental assessment for the proposed recreation cabin construction has brought attention to the ongoing controversy between mining development and recreation use. The Eagle and Herbert Rivers are popular destinations and several local environmental groups and individuals consider them important and sensitive recreation areas. Mining activity in the area has a long history dating to the old Amalga mine and tram and active interest in further exploration continues. At least one active miner opposes the construction of a recreation cabin in the corridor and would likely oppose designation as a Recreational River. Although designation would not withdraw the corridor from mineral entry, there is a perception that a greater emphasis on recreation values would inhibit mineral exploration plans.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would occur. Recreation cabin plans currently proposed would continue and other new developments would likely be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 30,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 90,000

# Endicott River



## ENDICOTT RIVER

### Description

Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Endicott River is located on the mainland on the west side of Lynn Canal in VCU's 102 and 107. All but the lower 2.5 miles of river is within the Endicott River Wilderness. The river is within the Lynn Canal Geographic Province. There are approximately 7,600 acres in the river corridor. The river originates near the Glacier Bay National Park boundary at Endicott Lake near the 1900 foot elevation. The drainage originally served as an outlet for glacial meltwater flowing eastward from Glacier Bay when the Grand Pacific Glacier filled the bay 200 years ago. As the glacier thinned and retreated, a low ridge at the head of Endicott River emerged and rerouted the water and cold air southward down Glacier Bay. Vegetation of the Endicott River watershed has thus developed under both ice-affected and ice-free conditions during the last several centuries. The river flows 21 miles east and terminates in Lynn Canal. The lower reach of the river was identified as a potential Research Natural Area.

The Endicott River drainage is unroaded and undeveloped although there are over 500 mining claims and eight mill sites identified within or in the area of the lower river corridor. A potential highway corridor connecting Juneau with Haines crosses the river downstream from the Wilderness boundary. This drainage has remarkable scenic values with precipitous side walls, narrow gorges, and high mountains providing exceptional viewsheds. The upper third of the drainage is a wide, broad river valley. High numbers of moose utilize the entire area; the lower stretches of the river contains key wildlife habitat.

### Eligibility

The Endicott River was determined to have outstandingly remarkable wildlife and scenic values. The steep and narrow gorges of the lower reaches and spectacular surrounding mountains along with the high probability of viewing wildlife contributes to this remarkable scenic value. The river is free of impoundments, and the watershed remains primitive and undeveloped.

### Classification

Twenty-one miles of the Endicott River meet the criteria for Wild classification.

### Alternatives

Endicott was recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

The Endicott River, one of eight mainland rivers in the Lynn Canal Geographic Province that is considered eligible. It has outstandingly remarkable wildlife and scenic values. The steep and narrow gorges of the lower reaches and spectacular surrounding mountains along with the high probability of viewing wildlife contributes to this remarkable scenic value.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads within that portion of the river corridor in the Wilderness are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. A potential transportation corridor connecting Juneau and Haines lies in that portion of the river corridor outside the Wilderness. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within this part of the corridor, except as provided in ANILCA Title XI. Designation may affect future transportation system opportunities, depending on the provisions of enabling legislation.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area within the Endicott Wilderness is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA, except for valid existing rights. There are more than 500 mining claims and eight mill site claims identified within or adjacent to the lower 2-1/2 miles of the river corridor. Designation as a Wild classification would not preclude development of these existing rights; however, all development is subject to regulation to prevent the degradation of the characteristics that made the river eligible. Designation would prohibit the establishment of new claims outside of the Wilderness.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor within the Wilderness because that area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA. The river corridor below the Wilderness has 260 acres of land tentatively suitable for timber management, however in Alternative A these acres would not contribute to the allowable sale quantity because the area would be managed for semi-primitive recreation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river within the Wilderness would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States. The portion outside the Wilderness would be subject to mineral development, timber harvest and transportation development, all of which could adversely affect the Wild classification, but would not preclude a less restrictive classification.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

A transportation corridor has been identified as an alternative for a route to connect Juneau with an outside road system. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

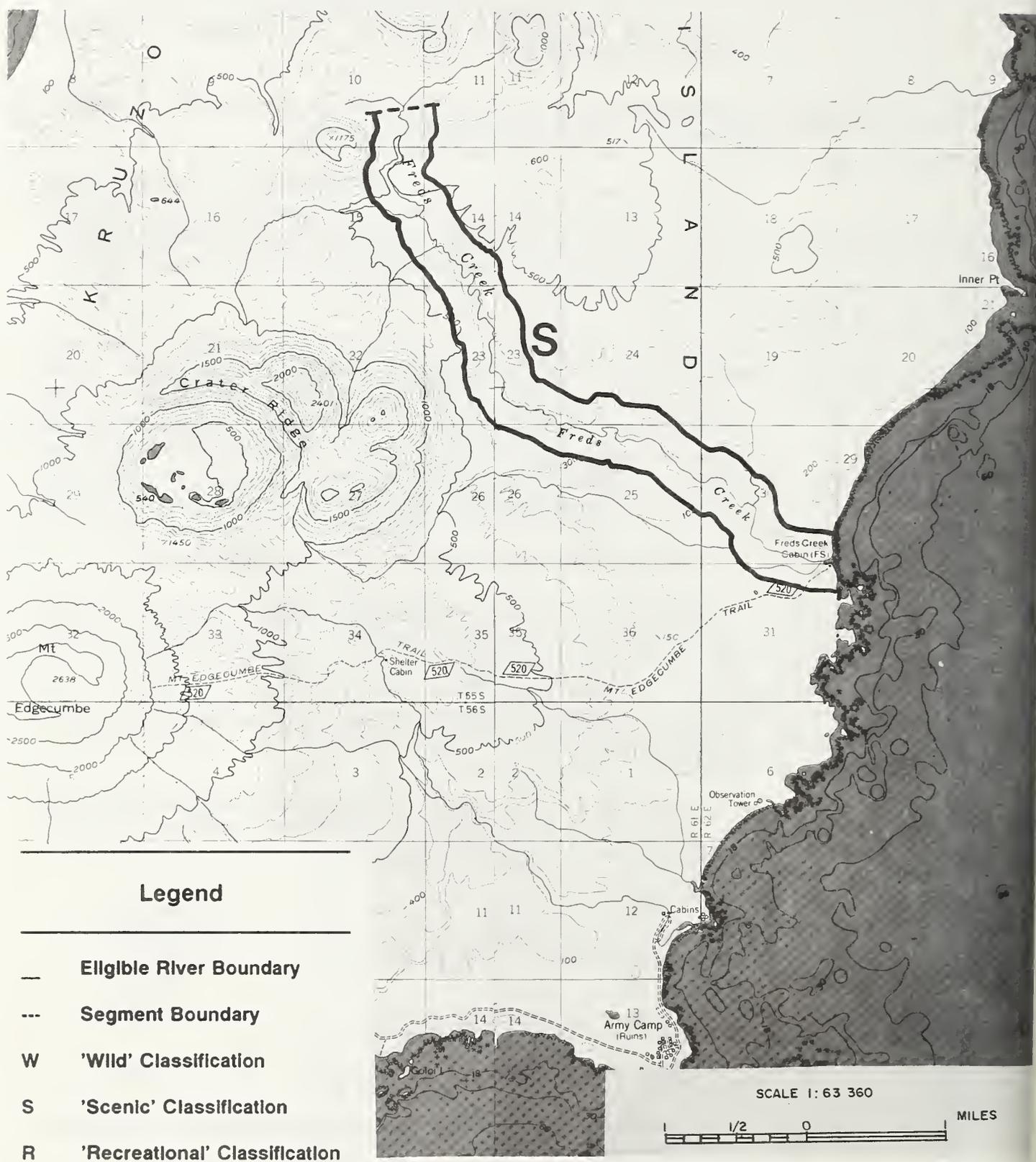
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Fred's Creek



## FRED'S CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, Fred's Creek is on Kruzof Island in VCU 308. The creek corridor is in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province and contains approximately 2,000 acres. Fred's Creek originates below and northeast of Crater Ridge (a caldera or collapsed volcanic summit) at the 600 foot elevation and flows southeast for five miles into Sitka Sound. It is within the Alaska Pulp Corporation long-term sale area but is unroaded and generally undeveloped except for a trailhead and public recreation cabin adjacent to the mouth of Fred's Creek. A trail parallels the creek for about a mile then turns to the west toward the summit of Mt. Edgecumbe. The drainage is geologically interesting because of ash canyons and cliffs, lava falls, and unique basalt bedrock control channels. The creek has examples of several major volcanic landforms. The scenic values include a highly sculpted bedrock channel and views of the nearby extinct Mt. Edgecumbe volcano and Crater Ridge. Wildlife includes brown bear and deer.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Fred's Creek and the surrounding volcanic terrain have outstanding geologic, ecologic and scenic values. The cabin and trail to Mt. Edgecumbe are popular recreation attractions.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Fred's Creek meets the criteria for Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Designate the five mile corridor as Wild.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>The volcanic history of the surrounding landscape and the resulting geologic features make Fred's Creek ecologically unique among the tentatively eligible rivers. The entire southern portion of Kruzof Island is proposed as a Special Interest Area in recognition of these geologic values. The sandy beach and cabin at the mouth of Fred's Creek are popular sites to visit. The trail to the volcanic crater summit of Mt. Edgecumbe (which starts at Fred's Creek) is unique for Southeast Alaska.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>There is no private or state land in the corridor and no unconveyed state selections exist.</p>

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* There are no known transportation corridor plans near the creek which would be affected by designation as Wild. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry.

*Timber:* The 300 acres of tentatively suitable forest land would be withdrawn from consideration under Alternatives A and B by designation as a Wild River and also by the Special Interest Area designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Scenic and subsistence resources would be unaffected. Some increase in recreation use may occur but would not be expected to change the current recreation opportunities available.

*Effects of non-designation:* Alternatives A, B, and P would create a Special Interest Area on southern Kruzof Island which would emphasize geologic and scientific opportunities as well as other outstanding values of the river. Alternative D would manage the area in a Scenic Viewshed prescription which limits timber harvest activities to those compatible with visual resource objectives.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

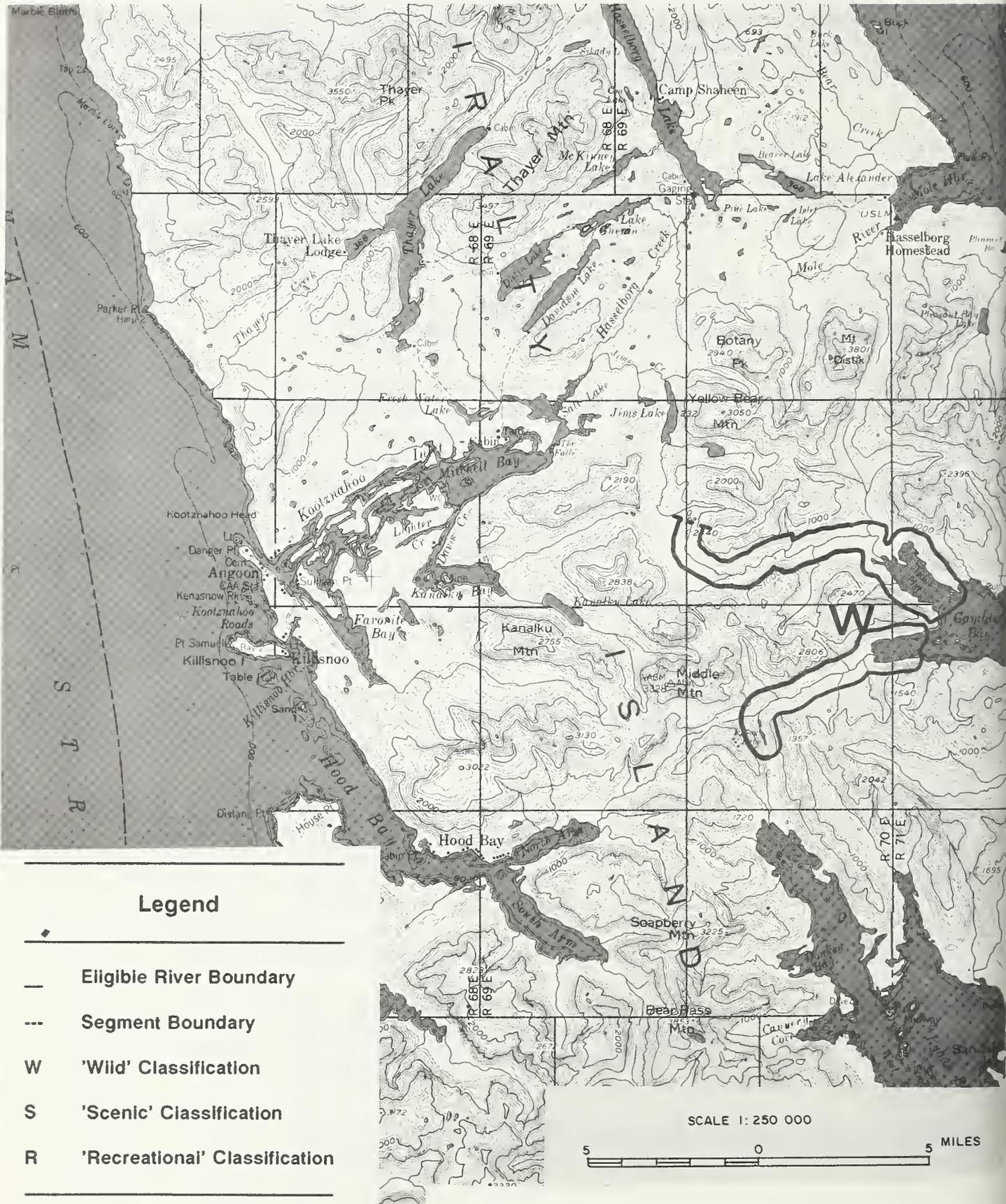
There is strong interest by the Sitka Conservation Council in designation of southern Kruzof Island as a Special Interest Area for protection of its geologic features. They would also likely support designation of Fred's Creek as Wild for similar reasons.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# Gambier Bay Tributaries



## GAMBIER BAY TRIBUTARIES

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Admiralty Island National Monument, Tongass National Forest, Gambier Bay and its tributaries are located in VCU 170 on Admiralty Island and within the Kootznoowoo Wilderness. The island is located in the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province. One tributary originates from the small Pybus Lake at approximately 300 feet in elevation and flows for five miles down to sea level at the southern tide flat in Gambier Bay. The second tributary originates at approximately 1000 feet in elevation and flows nine miles into the northern tide flat of Gambier Bay. Together, the system totals 14 miles, with approximately 6,320 acres in the river corridor. The streams tributary to Gambier Bay are highly valued because of their contribution to the very large and exceptionally productive estuarine environment for anadromous fish.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The stream tributaries to Gambier Bay have high ecological value because of the large and productive estuarine environment. Significant fisheries values also contribute to the importance of this stream system. The river and estuary are considered unusually productive for anadromous fisheries. This watershed was rated as important by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
<b>Classification</b>	The stream tributaries of Gambier Bay meet the criteria for Wild classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Fourteen miles of the streams, and the Gambier Bay estuaries are recommended as a Wild River area in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The tributaries to Gambier Bay are highly-valued because of their contribution to the unusually productive estuarine environment for anadromous fish. The tributary system to Gambier Bay is one of three systems on Admiralty Island that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use In the area Including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p>

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would probably not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and geologic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area receives substantial subsistence use from Kake and Petersburg residents; however, no effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

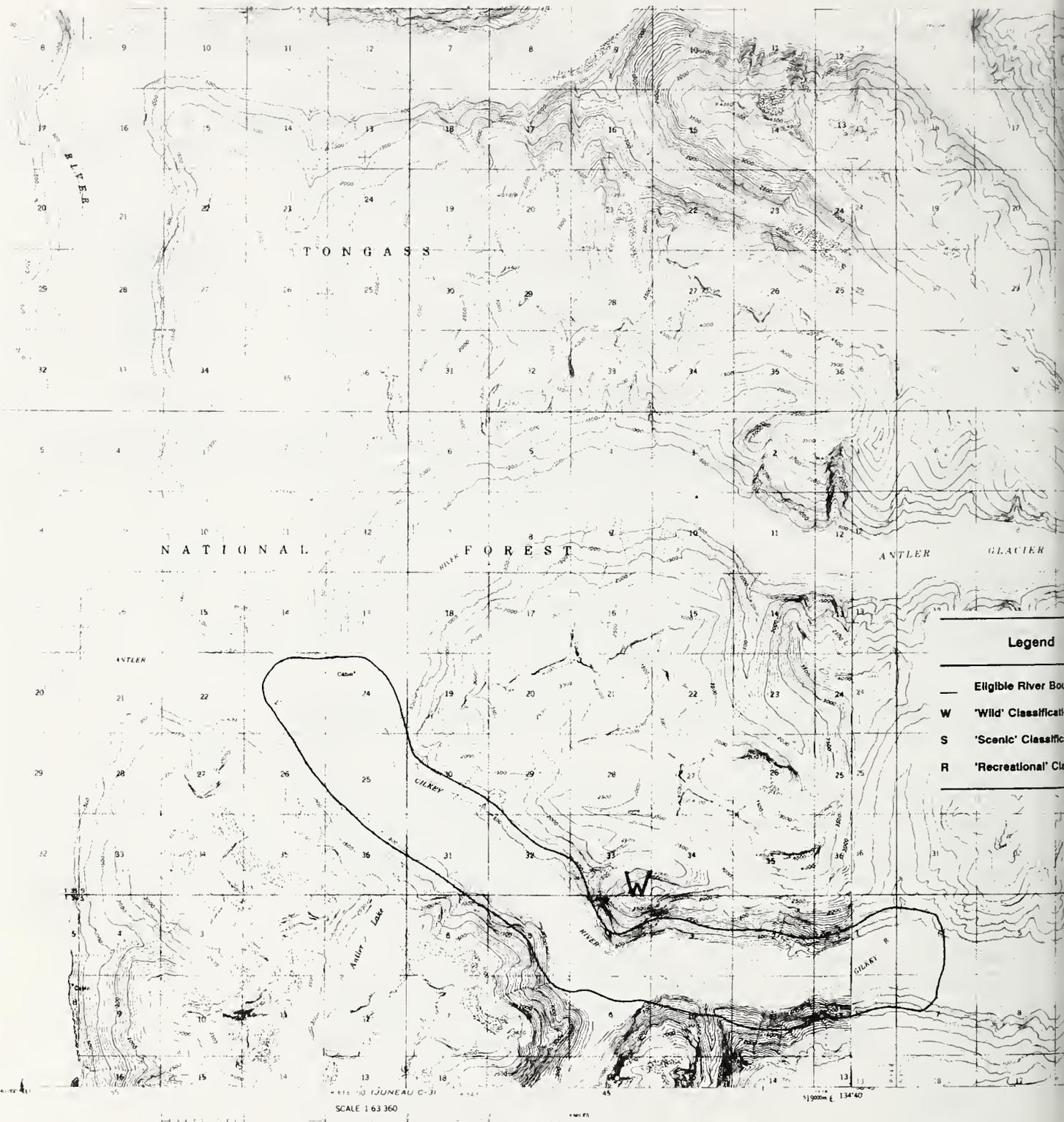
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

GILKEY RIVER



## GILKEY RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Gilkey River is on the mainland approximately thirty-one miles north of the Juneau airport. It is within the Lynn Canal Geographic Province in VCU 15. The river originates from the receding Gilkey Glacier at approximately 100 feet in elevation and flows west, then north, for nine miles before terminating at its confluence with the Antler River. The river corridor contains approximately 7,270 acres. Numerous glaciers feed the river through several tributaries and the Gilkey is of geologic interest because of current glacial activities. This river is a highly braided stream channel and a classic example of a glacial outwash system. The river corridor is primitive and undeveloped with no impoundments on the river. The area receives some recreational use from the Juneau population. Wildlife characteristic to the area is similar to other coast-range rivers and includes moose, brown and black bear, wolf and mountain goat. Fishery values in the drainage are considered moderate.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Gilkey River is remarkable for its geologic and scenic values. It is very picturesque and is a good example of a glacial river in the Lynn Canal Province.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Gilkey River meets the criteria for Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Designation of the entire nine miles as Wild.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>The Gilkey is typical of glacial rivers with braided channels, silty water and adjacent rugged scenery. Antler Lake, which feeds the Gilkey and is itself just outside the river corridor, contains the only known naturally reproducing population of arctic grayling in northern Southeast Alaska. If taken in combination with the Antler River, which it empties into, the Gilkey would be an outstanding example for the province.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>There are no private lands, state selections or mining claims within the corridor. There is one trespass cabin on the Antler River at the northern edge of the corridor whose owner has applied for authorization under the pre-ANILCA cabin program.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which</i></b></p>

would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.

*Transportation:* The river corridor is not within the area being considered for construction of the Juneau to Skagway transportation corridor. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. There would be no effects upon known transportation opportunities due to designation.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River in Alternative A would withdraw about 520 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands from consideration, however timber harvest would not be considered anyway as land use designations would emphasize semi-primitive and primitive recreation regardless of the river status.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* There would be no affect upon subsistence. The high quality scenic resource would be maintained by designation. Recreation use of the river would likely increase as a result of designation due to more information about the river being available to the public.

*Effects of non-designation:* The characteristics of the river are not likely to change if the river is left undesignated, since the adjacent land use designation would emphasize primitive and semi-primitive recreation values.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

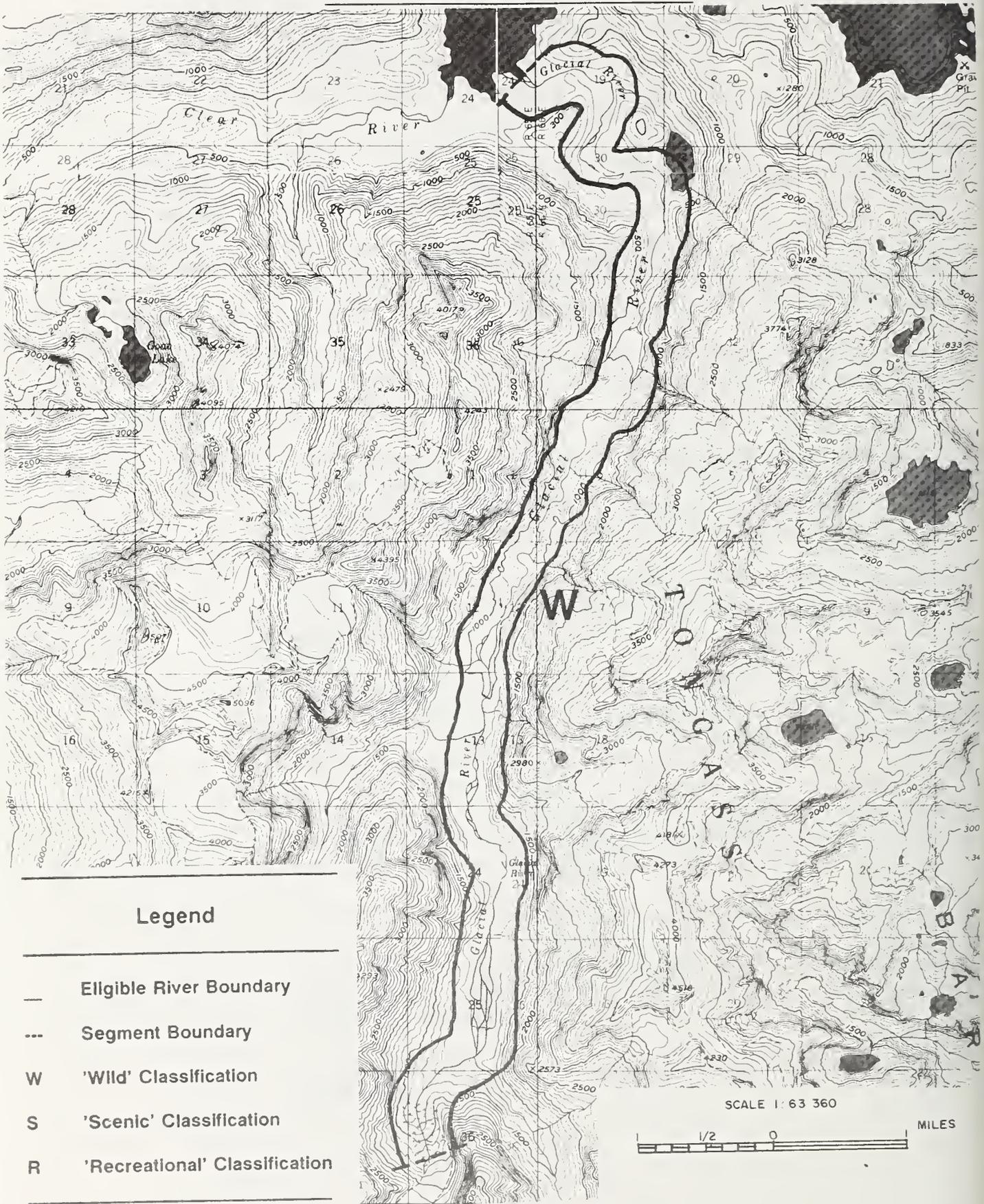
No specific comments related to the Gilkey River have been received and the river issues appear less controversial than others nearby (which intersect proposed transportation corridors).

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 37,500

# Glacial River



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

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## GLACIAL RIVER

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Glacial River is on Baranof Island in VCU 314. It contains approximately 3,400 acres and is within the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The river originates at a glacier high on the east side of Baranof Island at approximately 1800 feet in elevation and flows north for ten miles into the South Arm of Kelp Bay. The river passes through a steeply walled, glacial valley with impressive views of glaciers before terminating at a large estuary. Its valley contains a wide variety of ecotypes as the river drops 1800 feet in elevation. The area's characteristic wildlife includes brown bear, deer, and mountain goat. The ADF&G Forest Habitat Integrity plan rated fishery values as low-moderate. Although the drainage is in the APC Long-term Sale Area it is currently unroaded and undeveloped.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The Glacial River has outstanding scenic value because of the diverse terrain it crosses and the active glaciation occurring there. The geology and ecology of the drainage are remarkable because of the variety of landforms represented.
<b>Classification</b>	The Glacial River meets criteria for Wild classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A, B, D, and P: Designate the entire ten miles as Wild River.  Alternative C: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b>  The Glacial River is a good representative of the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province and is one of only three rivers in the province. It is largely inaccessible and is visited infrequently.  <b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b>  There are no private or state lands within the corridor.  <b><i>Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</i></b>  <i>Transportation:</i> There are no proposed plans for transportation corridor development in the drainage. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* There are no existing power site withdrawals and no identified potential for water or power development. Designation as a Wild River would probably not affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The river corridor is not within an area of identified high mineral potential for known resources. The upper half of the river is in a Class 3 tract of undiscovered mineral resources as mapped by the USGS. This means the USGS predicts there might be minerals with a Gross In Place Value of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any expenses of development). Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry.

*Timber:* Wild River designation would withdraw about 620 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands from alternative A, B, and D. Timberlands would be unsuitable in alternative P because of primitive land use designations.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* No identified fish habitat enhancement projects are being considered. Wild River designation would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Due to difficult access to much of the drainage, a significant recreation use increase is not likely. Scenic and subsistence values would be unaffected.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated as a Wild River the tentatively suitable forest lands in the corridor could be considered for timber harvest under Alternatives A, B, C and D. Alternative P would not allow consideration of timber harvest and would instead emphasize primitive recreation values.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

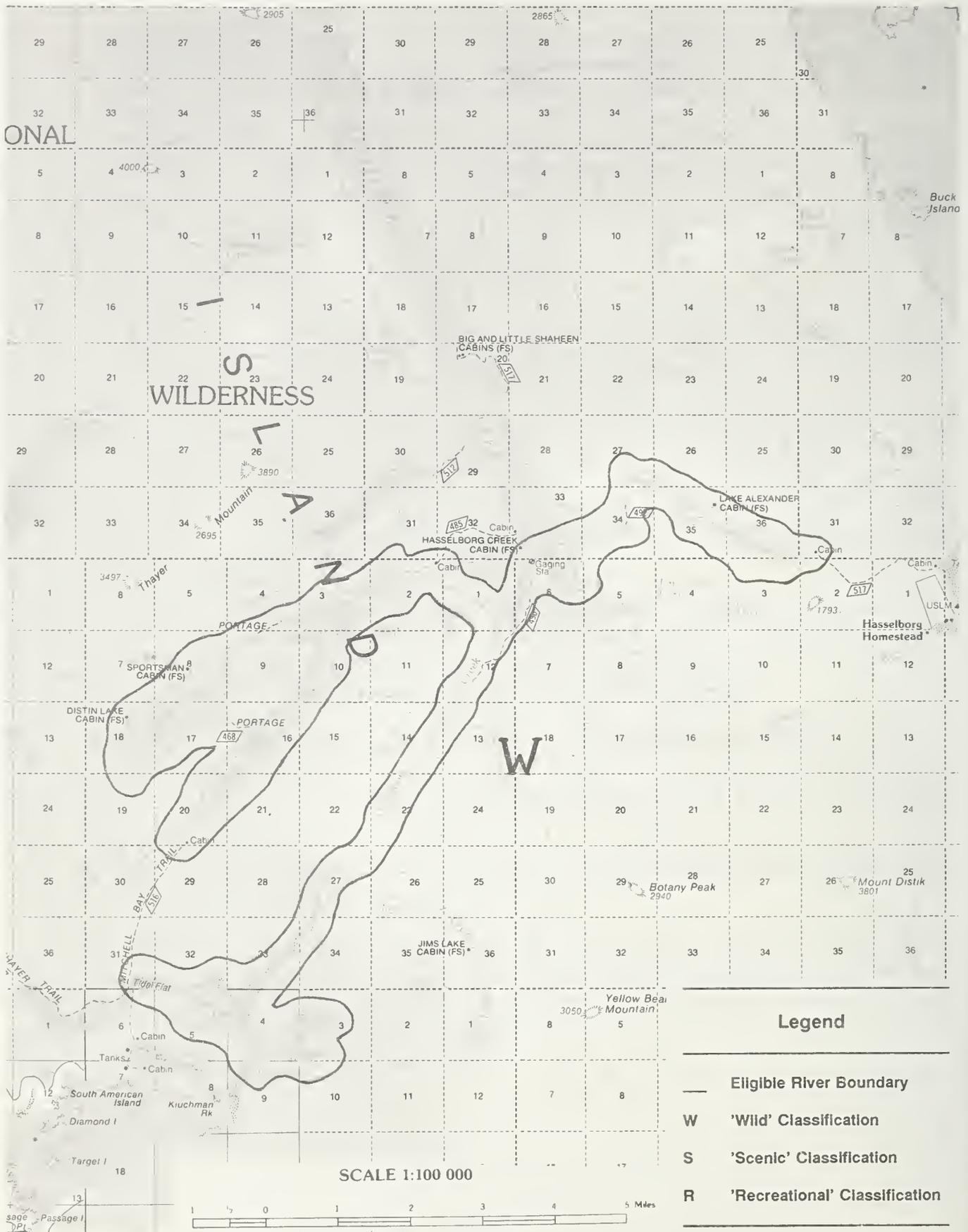
No comments specific were received and the degree of support or objection to designation is not known.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# HASSELBORG RIVER AND LAKES



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

## HASSELBORG RIVER and LAKES

### Description

Hasselborg River and its associated lakes are located in the center of Admiralty Island National Monument within the Kootznoowoo Wilderness, Tongass National Forest, and in the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province. The river and lakes contain approximately 12,800 acres and are within VCU 163. Hasselborg River originates from Hasselborg Lake at an elevation of 300 feet and flows about seven miles into saltwater at a salt chuck known as Salt Lake (in Mitchell Bay east of Angoon). Other associated lakes (Distin, Davidson, Guerin, Beaver and Alexander) are included with the Hasselborg River and Lake as they form collectively the Cross-Admiralty Canoe Route. This paddle and portage route contains about 33 miles of waterways and seven miles of puncheon or planked portage trails and includes six recreation cabins and about 15 dispersed campsites (three of the cabins are not within the Wild River corridor). The route is nationally known, well used, and is featured by outfitters and guides. Hunting for deer and fishing for trout and salmon is popular for both subsistence and sport users, especially at Salt Lake and the recreation cabins. Salt Lake is closed to sport hunting of brown bear and is attractive for wildlife viewing. Trumpeter swans winter in Salt Lake. Documented cultural sites exist in the lower river; the area is considered very important to the Native community of Angoon for cultural and subsistence values.

Salt Lake contains some tidelands which belong to the State of Alaska; the Coastal Zone Management Planning process is currently underway for this area. Other lands are within the National Forest System with direction provided by the TLMP and the Admiralty National Monument Plan.

### Eligibility

Hasselborg River and the associated lakes have outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, cultural, and recreational values of national significance. Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists this among the 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fish production. Admiralty Island contains outstanding habitat for brown bear and deer and the area under consideration has dense populations of both species. Salt Lake is remarkable for the overwintering habitat it provides for trumpeter swans. Cultural resources in the area include a weir site, fish camp and other occupancy sites which have been documented and are of regional significance. Angoon Natives consider Salt Lake and the lower river area to be essential for their subsistence fishing and deer hunting. National attention has been paid to this area through magazine and news articles which have featured the canoe route, the cabins, the outstanding sport fishing and the Angoon subsistence lifestyle.

### Classification

The Hasselborg River and associated lakes meet the criteria for Wild classification. None of the area has existing road access; development is limited to the trails and three recreation cabins.

## Alternatives

Alternatives A, B, D and P: Designation of the (approximately) 24 miles as Wild.

Alternative C: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

## Suitability

### ***Suitability Factor #1. Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.***

This area would be a worthy addition to the National System. for several significant reasons. The river and lake system forms an exceptional example of the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province. The watershed is large, undeveloped, diverse in character and no other river being considered in the geographic province has a similar lagoon and tidal falls. Outstanding habitat for brown bear and deer occurs throughout the watershed. The river mouth at Salt Lake is remarkable within the region because it is closed to the hunting of brown bear (only 2 percent of the brown bear habitat in Southeast Alaska is closed to hunting of bear). The Hasselborg River system is considered the best coho salmon producer on Admiralty Island. The lower river and Salt Lake are considered essential by Angoon natives for their subsistence fishing needs (especially coho salmon) and this area provides important swan habitat in winter. The canoe portage trail on the lakes and the river offer a unique recreation opportunity in Southeast Alaska. They have national recognition, extensive use, and are a feature trip of a Juneau based outfitter and guide.

### ***Suitability Factor #2. Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.***

There are no private lands within the corridor and no active mining claims. The state owns the intertidal lands in Salt Lake and is responsible for permitting use on such lands; there are currently no plans for state authorization of land uses which would conflict with a Wild River designation. The Angoon coastal district is now revising the AMSA (Area Meriting Special Attention) for this area (see factor 4).

### ***Suitability Factor #3. Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.***

*Transportation:* As a part of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness the river would not be considered for a transportation corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA.

*Water Resources:* If designated as a Wild River there would be no effect on water resources. Hasselborg Lake was withdrawn by the USGS in 1929 for power development but the lake is not on the current list of projects being considered by

the Alaska Power Authority and power development within the Kootznoowoo Wilderness is unlikely to be proposed.

*Mineral Resources:* The Kootznoowoo Wilderness is withdrawn from mineral entry subject to valid existing rights

*Timber:* Tentatively suitable forest land is not considered for timber harvest in the Wilderness.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no current plans for fish habitat enhancement projects in the area. Designation as a Wild River would maintain the existing high quality habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

*Recreation, Scenic and Subsistence:* The current primitive recreation opportunities, scenic qualities, and important subsistence values would be maintained by designation. It is not expected that designation would increase visitation beyond current projected levels since the area is already widely known and is part of a Wilderness and a National Monument. Competition for subsistence resources would not likely be increased by designation any more than they would have as a Wilderness and National Monument.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated as a Wild River the outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, subsistence, cultural and recreational values of the corridor would not be adversely affected. Current protection resulting from Wilderness and National Monument status is adequate to protect these values.

***Suitability Factor #4. Public, state and local governmental interests.***

The community of Angoon has traditionally supported designation of wilderness and other classifications which are compatible with their subsistence lifestyle; designation as a Wild River would likely be well accepted. Angoon is recommending that Salt Lake and Mitchell Bay be protected as an "Area Meriting Special Attention" in the current Coastal Zone Management Plan. Salt Lake tidal lands have not been "classified" in the State Tidelands Area Planning process. There are no leases or applications for permits on these state lands.

***Suitability Factor #5. Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.***

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no special developments would be proposed for the area. Management costs would not significantly increase above the current level. The planning costs would increase if a special river plan were to be written. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

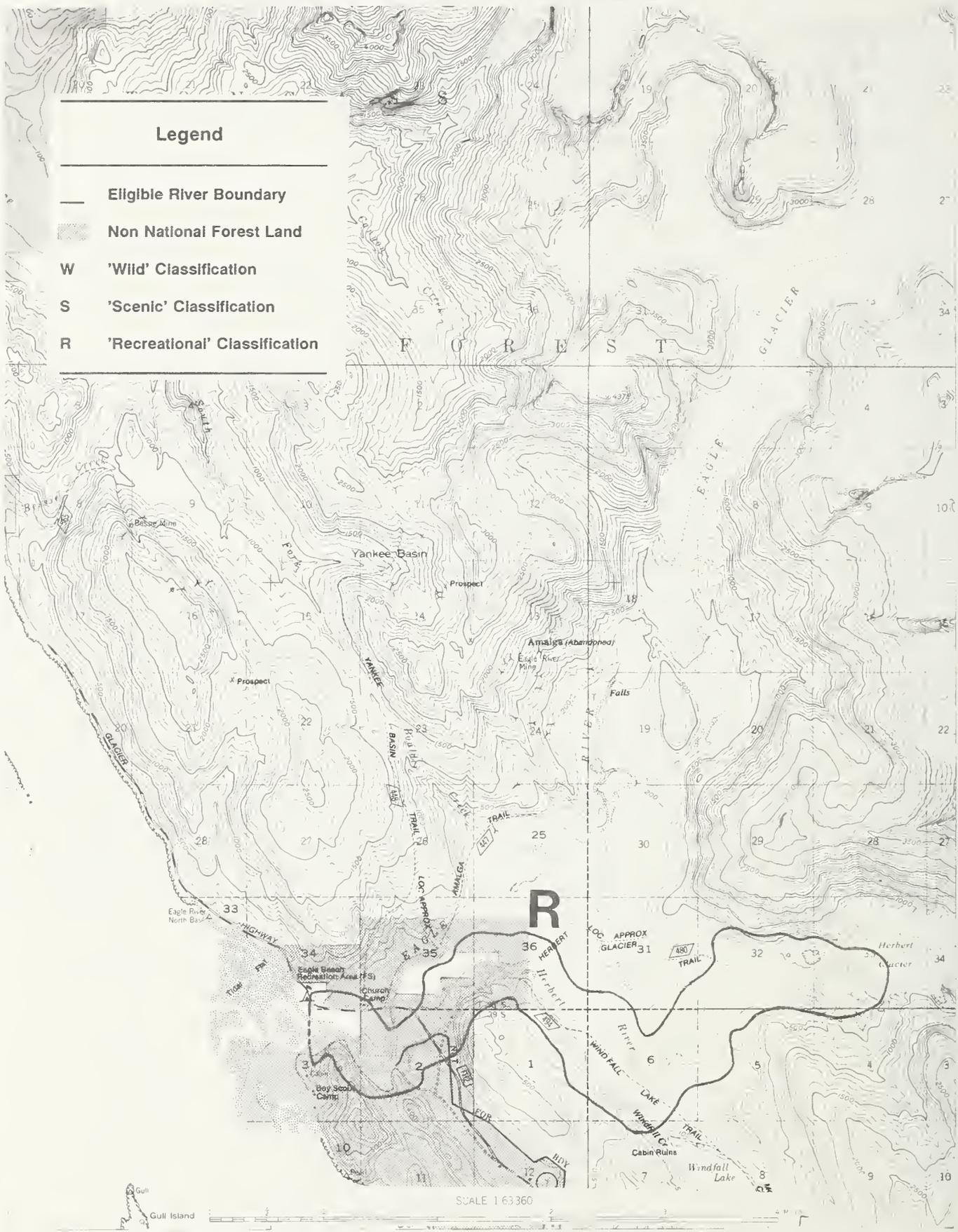
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 1,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 31,000

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# HERBERT RIVER

## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Non National Forest Land
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:63,360

## HERBERT RIVER

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Herbert River is in the Lynn Canal Geographic Province in VCU 26. The river is on the mainland approximately 28 miles (by road) north of the city of Juneau. The Herbert River originates at the base of the Herbert Glacier (at about 200 feet in elevation), and flows five miles to its confluence with the Eagle River and then another mile on to Favorite Channel. The river receives high recreation use because of the proximity to Juneau. This includes sport fishing, hunting, driftboating, kayaking, hiking and camping. The Glacier Highway crosses the lower portion of the river and provides access to two hiking trails that parallel the river. The Eagle Beach Picnic Area is adjacent to the river mouth and is a popular destination for day-use. Several private cabins and a church camp are located near the lower mile of river corridor. The corridor contains approximately 2,600 acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The river corridor has outstanding scenery, especially at the glacial terminus and waterfall that forms the headwaters. The recreation opportunities and use are remarkable. The trail is a popular hiking area and the sand bars below the glacier provide very good campsites. Nordic skiing is popular on the river in winter.
<b>Classification</b>	The Herbert River meets the criteria for Recreational classification. While the upper river could qualify for Scenic designation the lower river contains several developments.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A and B: Designation of the entire six miles as a Recreational River.  Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b>  Similar to the Eagle River, the Herbert is unique because of its proximity to the largest population center in Southeast Alaska. The two rivers are the most accessible and have the best potential for future recreation development of all the tentatively eligible rivers. The Herbert River is the most popular river in Juneau for nordic skiers. There are also continuing studies of glacial revegetation in the river corridor sponsored by the University of Alaska and the Alaska Discovery Foundation.  <b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b>  The lower portion of the corridor which is shared with the Eagle River has approximately 1,280 acres of state, private and City and Borough of Juneau lands. The private land includes a summer camp owned by the Boy Scouts of America with

several rustic cabins and a large lodge. The 955 acres of State lands were recently conveyed and include a church camp near the bridge and other undeveloped lands. The original intention of the state selection was for a park but since the conveyed lands do not include the Eagle Beach Picnic Area the state is unsure how its lands will be managed. The 45 acres of City and Borough of Juneau lands are classified as open space/public use, which would be compatible with designation. There is also a pending application for a patent on a mining claim at the base of the Herbert Glacier.

***Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.***

*Transportation:* Designation would not affect the current or future transportation needs of the corridor. The current highway would continue to provide access to the lower river and Recreational designation would not preclude other road construction.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The drainage is considered a Priority 1 for mineral development potential and would remain open to mineral entry. Over 50 mining claims are within or adjacent to the corridor and many others are located nearby. Plans of operations have been submitted for exploration drilling and for site developments. Designation may result in higher operating costs for mineral development activities to mitigate affects on recreation and scenic values.

*Timber:* Designation as a Recreational River in Alternatives A and B would withdraw 900 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands from consideration for timber harvest, however these lands would not be considered anyhow because of the adjacent land use designation (which emphasizes primitive recreation values).

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. A habitat improvement project was completed in 1990 which introduced large woody debris into the Windfall Creek channel. This project would be consistent with designation as a Recreational River.

*Recreational, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation would not affect subsistence resources. Recreation use would likely increase, especially if more attention is given to trails and facilities as a result of designation. The current semi-primitive, and primitive opportunities in the corridor would remain unless a road is construct-

ed for access to mining areas. Mining activity could also impact scenic resources (depending upon the nature and extent of the development).

*Effects of non-designation:* Minerals activities that result in ground disturbance would continue to be managed to minimize effects upon recreation and scenic values, but the mitigation measures may be less stringent. Recreational potential of the river would continue but would receive less management attention.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

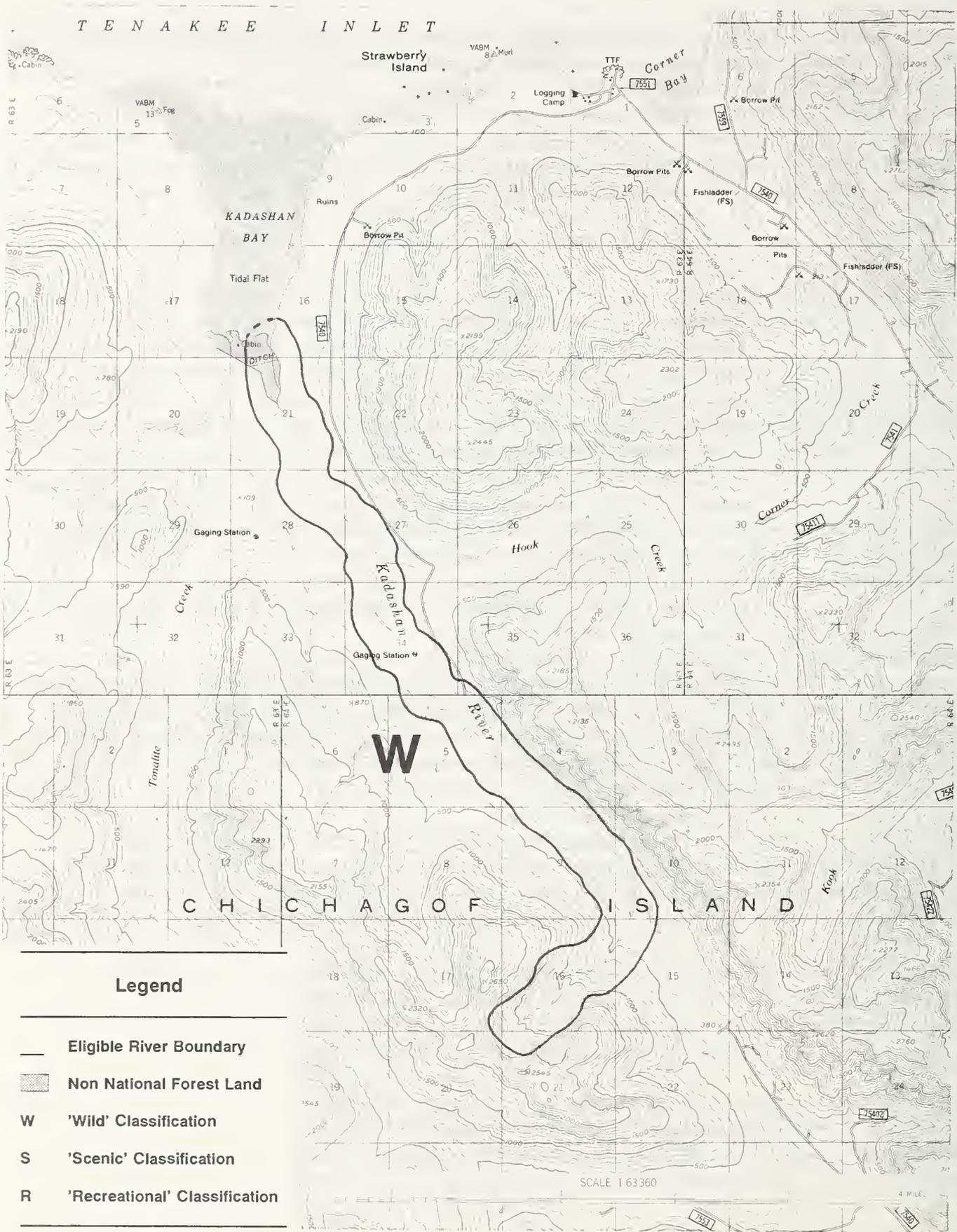
An environmental assessment for proposed mineral exploration drilling has identified the ongoing controversy between mining development and recreation use. The Eagle and Herbert Rivers are popular destinations and several local environmental groups and individuals consider them important and sensitive recreation areas. Mining activity in the area has a long history dating to the old Amalga mine and tram and active interest in further exploration continues. Local environmental groups oppose mining activity in these areas and would likely support designation in order to highlight the importance of the drainage for recreation. Mining groups will likely oppose designation. Although designation would not withdraw the corridor from mineral entry there is a perception that a greater emphasis on recreation values would inhibit mineral exploration plans.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would occur. Recreation developments may be proposed as a result of designation. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 15,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 75,000

# KADASHAN RIVER



### Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Non National Forest Land
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

## KADASHAN RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Kadashan River is on Chichagof Island in the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province. The Kadashan River originates at approximately 1500 feet in elevation and flows nine miles to the north to terminate in Kadashan Bay in Tenakee Inlet. The community of Tenakee Springs is located four miles to the north across Tenakee Inlet. The river corridor is in VCU 235 and contains approximately 2,600 acres. The entire Kadashan drainage is a Legislated LUD II area. The drainage is roadless and undeveloped but a low standard gravel road parallels the river (about 1/4 to 1/2 mile from the river) for approximately three miles upstream from the bay. The road is closed to vehicle traffic but is used for recreation and subsistence access as it connects to the logging camp at Corner Bay and is the easiest trail into the drainage. The Kadashan drainage contains large stands of old-growth trees dominated by Sitka spruce and western hemlock. Wildlife includes large populations of brown bear and deer. The river contains important pink salmon runs, as well as Dolly Varden char, chum salmon, and steelhead. The estuary is also extremely productive. Portions of the estuarine zone and mouth of the river are private lands. ADF&amp;G fisheries cabins and a Forest Service research cabin are located within the river corridor.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The fish and wildlife values of the Kadashan River are outstanding and the ecological value of the large riparian old-growth spruce/hemlock stand is remarkable. Scenic values of this drainage are very important to the community of Tenakee Springs.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Kadashan River meets the criteria for Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Designate eight miles of the corridor (not including private lands near the estuary) as Wild.</p> <p>Alternative P: Designate eight miles of the corridor (not including private lands near the estuary) as Scenic.</p> <p>Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>The Kadashan River has one of the larger old growth Sitka spruce stands on Chichagof Island and is of considerable ecological interest. There are unusually large numbers of both brown bear and deer along the river and the drainage has been identified as key deer winter range. The river is considered among the most productive pink salmon streams in Southeast Alaska. It is also extremely produc-</p>

tive for Dolly Varden char and for chum salmon, and it includes a steelhead run. The drainage is rated high in the Forest Habitat Integrity Plan prepared by ADF&G. The estuary contributes to the unusually productive anadromous fisheries and is among the largest grassflats in northern Southeast Alaska. The drainage is valued as a subsistence use area because of the abundant fish and wildlife resources.

***Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.***

There is no state land within the river corridor but the north end of the corridor includes 159 acres of private land. This private land is not included as suitable because of the general sensitivity of Alaskan landowners to federal encroachment on ownership rights and because the State of Alaska is now selecting lands from federal ownership for disposal into private ownership.

***Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.***

*Transportation:* Forest Road 7540 currently ends about one mile south of Hook Creek and another three miles of connecting road were originally proposed for construction. This potential road was to connect the Sitkoh Bay road system with Corner Bay (See Factor 4). Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The river corridor is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no known mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry, subject to valid existing rights. Designation as Scenic would be consistent with the Legislated LUD II land classification.

*Timber:* The drainage is in a Legislated LUD II area which precludes consideration for commercial timber harvest.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation would maintain existing habitat conditions. The weir on the river was discontinued by ADF&G in 1987 but designation would not preclude re-establishment of the weir studies in the future.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Recreation use of the corridor would likely increase as a result of designation, especially if trails or other facilities are con-

structed to attract visitors. If the proposed road were to be constructed in the upper river (which could be allowed with a Scenic designation) scenic resources might be affected. Subsistence use of the estuary would not be affected.

*Effects of non-designation:* Transportation corridor planning has the largest potential impact upon the river corridor. Non-designation would have the largest effect upon the scenic values of the upper river if the road is constructed near the river.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

Kadashan had recently been proposed for Wilderness in the House version of the Tongass Timber Reform Act but was instead declared a permanent legislated LUD II. The strongest interest in this area is now related to support or opposition of road construction proposals. The Tongass Timber Reform Act (Section 203) mandates the Secretary of Agriculture to "complete, as part of the Tongass Land Management Plan revision process, in consultation with the State of Alaska, the City of Tenakee Springs, and other interested parties, a comprehensive study of the Kadashan LUD II Management Area...which shall include, but not be limited to: a) an assessment of the natural, cultural, environmental, fish and wildlife (including habitat) resources and values of such area; and b) an assessment of the need for, potential uses, alternatives to and environmental impacts of providing a transportation corridor route through the Kadashan River valley." This study will be appended to the Tongass Revision Final EIS.

One comment received during public hearings on the Draft Tongass Forest Plan Revision supported designation as Wild.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would occur. Recreation developments may be proposed as a result of designation. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 30,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 90,000

# Katzehin River



## Legend

- Ellgible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1: 250 000



## KATZEHIN RIVER

### Description

Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Katzehin River is on the mainland in VCU 9. The river mouth is approximately six miles southeast of Haines on the east side of Lynn Canal and is within the Lynn Canal Geographic Province. The river originates directly from the Meade Glacier at approximately 500 feet in elevation and flows twelve miles to the west before terminating in Chilkoot Inlet. There are about 9,560 acres within the river corridor. The Katzehin is of geologic interest due to the sedimentation from meltwater at the terminus of Meade Glacier which is causing the river to aggrade (or build up its bed). This leads to the active development of a braided stream channel. The river contains a productive run of chum salmon which contributes significantly to the commercial fishery in the inlet. The river is exceptionally scenic. From the origin at the Meade Glacier it flows through a very broad and highly braided stream channel surrounded by high mountains. A significantly large stand of coniferous forest exists on the south-facing slopes which is unusual for a site so far north on the Tongass National Forest. Except for a public recreation cabin located near the mouth of the river, the entire drainage is unroaded, undeveloped, and is considered inaccessible and wild for this region. The mouth of the river has been suggested as a crossing for a transportation corridor linking Juneau with Skagway.

### Eligibility

The Katzehin River is outstandingly remarkable for its exceptional scenery, active geology, pristine condition and the productive chum salmon run.

### Classification

The Katzehin River meets the criteria for Wild classification.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Designation of the entire corridor (10 miles) as Wild.

Alternatives B and P: Designation of eight miles of the upper river as Wild with the lower two miles not designated.

Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

***Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.***

The ecology of the Katzehin is unique for the Tongass because it represents significantly different climatic and ecologic conditions found at the extreme north end of the forest. The river is very scenic and the pristine condition of the valley is remarkable since there is no evidence of past development such as mining trails or timber harvest.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There is no private land but the state has selected lands on the north bank of the river at the mouth (which includes the Forest Service recreation cabin). The land has not yet been conveyed but it was selected for community recreation. The state has no established management guidelines for this selection.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The mouth of the river is within an area being considered for a transportation corridor. The 1986 State of Alaska Department of Transportation Plan includes a road up the east side of Lynn Canal as one of several possible options for improved access between Juneau and Haines/Skagway. Alternate routes do exist and public scoping has recently been conducted by the state. Designation of the river mouth as Wild (Alternative A) might preclude construction of a bridge across the river as a part of the east-side road option, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The river is not within an area of discovered high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. The upper river is in a Class 3 tract of undiscovered mineral potential as projected by USGS. This means there might be minerals with a Gross In Place Value (which does not include any development costs) of \$4,000 to \$40,000 per acre. Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation of the entire 10 mile corridor as a Wild River would withdraw about 1,600 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands from consideration, however forest lands would be considered unsuitable because of primitive and semi-primitive allocations in all alternatives.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* There would be no effect upon subsistence. Scenic resources would be maintained by designation and the primitive recreation opportunities would remain unchanged.

*Effects of non-designation:* Road construction across the mouth of the river may occur in the future and could alter the outstanding scenic and primitive recreation values there. Access to the river would be easier and recreation use would increase.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

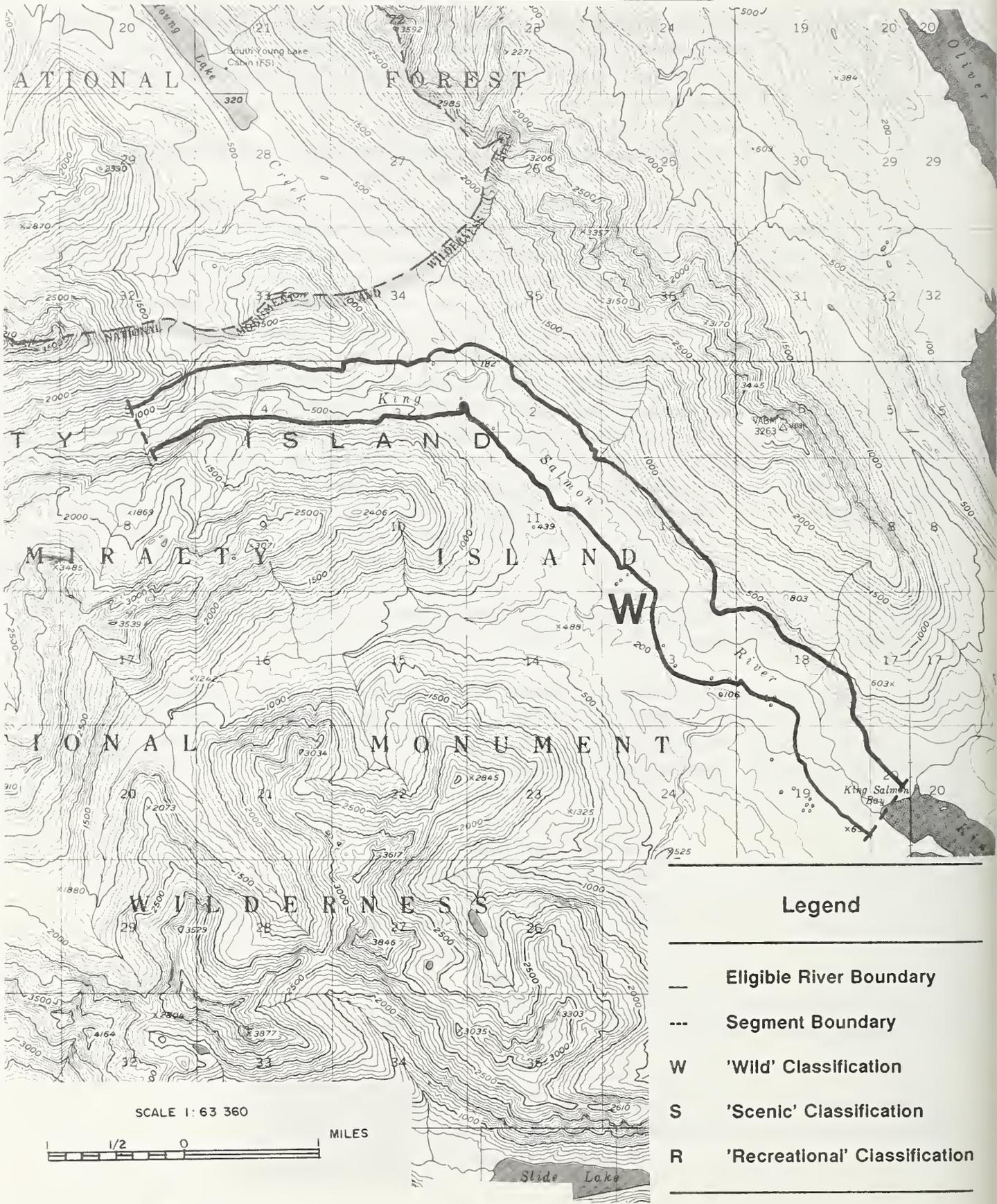
The strongest interest in this area is related to support or opposition of the road construction proposals. The State has an interest in the future improvement of transportation links between Juneau and Haines/Skagway. Recent surveys have affirmed the most cost-effective and flexible option is to upgrade the marine transportation link but support for a road link remains. Ongoing studies and surveys will likely continue. The City of Skagway opposes construction of the road as do representatives of the tour ship industry. Haines and Juneau are divided on the issue with supporters citing the economic opportunities and convenience of a road while opponents fear the high dollar cost and impacts upon wildlife and primitive recreation values. While not directly related to the suitability of the river, this ongoing public debate creates an atmosphere in which a proposal by the Forest Service to designate the mouth as a Wild River, possibly affecting the road opportunity, could be viewed as federal interference in a local and state government issue. The designation of the upper river as Wild with the lower river not designated would allow construction of this transportation corridor.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# King Salmon River



SCALE 1:63 360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## KING SALMON RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>The King Salmon River is located in the Admiralty Island National Monument, Tongass National Forest, in VCU 143. It is about 20 air miles south of the City of Juneau and is in the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province. The river originates at approximately 800 feet in elevation and flows eight miles into a large tidal estuary in King Salmon Bay, Seymour Canal. Wildlife characteristic of the area include brown bear and deer as well as high numbers of nesting bald eagles nearby. The estuary supports Canada geese and other waterfowl. The river has the only island run of king salmon and has pink, chum and coho salmon and Dolly Varden char. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped and is entirely within the Kootznoowoo Wilderness. Recreational use of the river corridor is largely for deer and brown bear hunting.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The King Salmon River is outstanding for its wildlife and fish values. It has the only substantial run of king salmon on an island in Alaska. The outstanding habitat in the drainage supports an abundant population of brown bear and deer.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The King Salmon River meets the criteria for Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A, B, D, and P: Designation of the entire eight mile corridor as Wild.</p> <p>Alternative C: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>The river has the only island run of king salmon in Alaska. The genetic strain of king salmon is unique because the salmon seem to rear in the waters of the Inside Passage instead of the Pacific Ocean. ADF&amp;G collects eggs from the run for the Snettisham fish hatchery and considers this a vital part of their hatchery program. ADF&amp;G has listed the river among the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska. Brown bear are abundant in the drainage; Admiralty Island contains the most dense population of brown bear known.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>No private or state lands are within or adjacent to the river corridor. There are several special-use permit cabins in King Salmon Bay outside the river corridor. ADF&amp;G has a permit for a weir and temporary camp on the river.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which</i></b></p>

would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.

*Transportation:* Designation would not affect transportation plans since no plans for transportation corridors exist. Roads would generally be considered inconsistent with the management of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness, except as provided for in ANILCA.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The river is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. The Kootznoowoo Wilderness is already withdrawn from mineral entry subject to valid existing rights.

*Timber:* As part of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness there is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and allow continuation of the egg-take permit by ADF&G.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* There would be no known effect upon these resources. There is no known subsistence use of the river and scenic values would remain unchanged. Recreation use is not expected to significantly change as a result of designation since the river is largely managed for its wildlife and fish values and since the area is already part of a National Monument and Wilderness.

*Effects of non-designation:* As a part of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness the King Salmon River fish and wildlife values are managed to insure continued viability of the wild strains of salmon and the population of brown bear. The opportunity foregone by non-designation would simply be the chance to further highlight the value of the fishery.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental Interests.**

Opposition to designation is not expected since the river is already managed with an emphasis similar to Wild River designation.

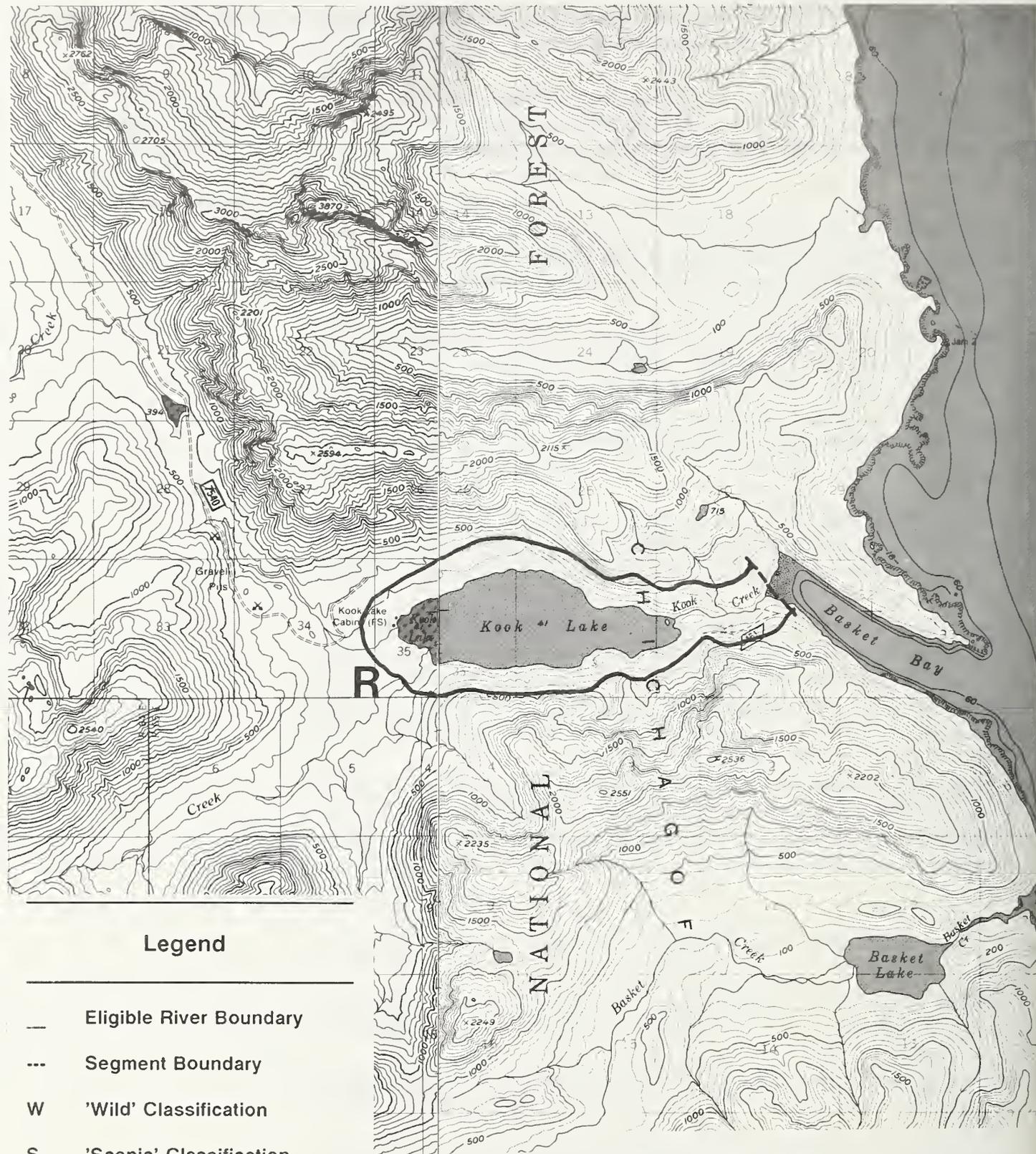
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels.

The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 35,000

# Kook Lake & Creek



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1 : 63 360



## KOOK LAKE AND CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, Kook Lake and Creek are in VCU 239 on Chichagof Island , and within the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The creek departs the lake on the east side at approximately 100 feet in elevation and flows a short distance into Basket Bay on Chatham Strait. Total length including the lake is two miles, and there are approximately 1,600 acres within the corridor. Road development and timber harvesting has occurred in the area around the lake and creek; timber harvest unit boundaries come within 200 feet of the lake at some points. The Kook Lake and Creek area is used for recreational hunting and fishing and a popular public recreation cabin is located on the northwest shore of the lake. The creek flows underground through caves that can be entered by boat from Basket Bay. Basket Bay has historically been used for fishing and sealing by Angoon natives and others. The lake and creek are located within the contingency area of the Alaska Pulp Corporation long-term sale contract.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Kook Lake and Creek has remarkable geology in the underground stream. The fishery and subsistence values of Basket Bay and the lake system are outstanding.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Kook Lake and Creek system meets the criteria for Recreational classification. Harvest which occurred in the 1986-90 operating period was considered in the evaluation of eligibility and the classification. Since the roads and harvest units were located adjacent to previous harvest units and roads they did not, in themselves, alter the classification or eligibility of the lake and creek.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Designation of the two mile corridor as Recreational River.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>Kook Lake and Creek has been listed as among the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fish values by ADF&amp;G. Basket Bay is an important subsistence area for Angoon. Recreation use of the cabin, lake and bay is not unique but is popular for this area.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>A 14.5 acre parcel of private land is found at the mouth of Kook Creek where it enters the estuary at Basket Bay. It is undeveloped and owned by the Sealaska Corporation.</p>

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The existing Forest road along the north side of the lake and creek would continue to provide access to Kook Lake and the drainages north of Kook Lake. The road provides for transportation of timber scheduled for harvest in the Alaska Pulp Corporation long-term timber sale. Designation as a Recreation River would allow for continued future use of this road and would allow consideration of future new roads within the lake/river corridor if compatible with visual quality objectives and natural-appearing landscapes.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The west edge of Kook Lake is within a Class 3 tract of undiscovered mineral potential as mapped by the USGS. This means the mineralized area might have a Gross In Place Value of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including extraction expenses). There are many abandoned mining claims in the corridor. Designation as a Recreational River would leave the corridor open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* The 740 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the corridor would continue to contribute to the allowable sale quantity, but the adjacent land use prescriptions emphasize recreation and scenic values. Timber harvest would likely be restricted to salvage, small group selection or single tree harvest methods; natural-appearing landscapes would be emphasized.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Recreational River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Timber harvest would continue to be evident from the lake and creek in the near future. Long-term objectives would emphasize maintenance of natural-appearing landscapes. Recreation use of the cabin and lake may increase somewhat as a result of increased attention brought by designation. Subsistence use of Basket Bay would be unaffected by designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Timber harvest would continue to occur around the lake and creek with an emphasis on maintaining scenic quality objectives. Recreation use of the cabin and lake would continue much as it is now. The outstanding fish values would be managed with the normal stream protection standards.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

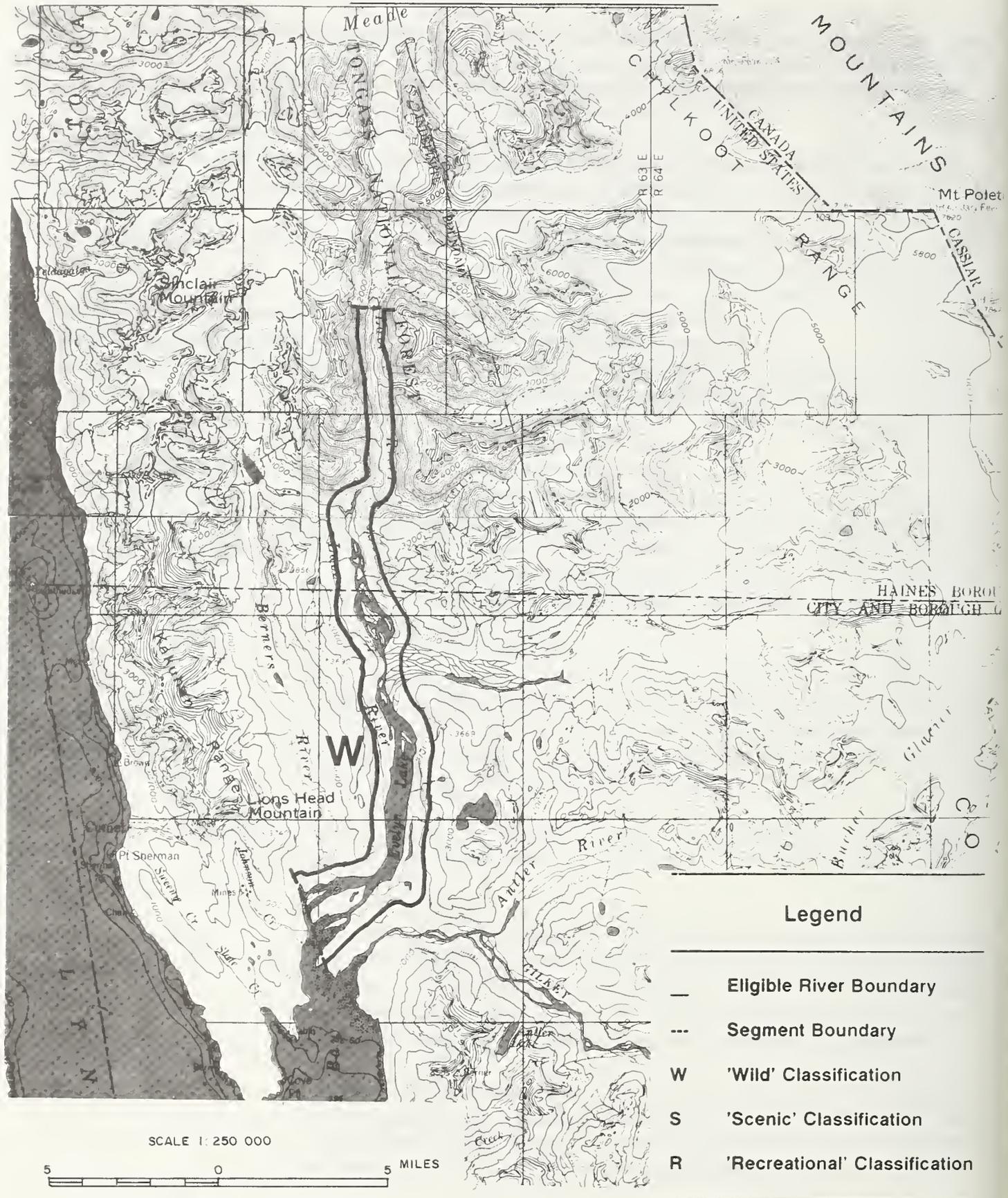
Representatives of American Rivers, Inc. commented during a flight over the lake in 1990 that the main focus of the corridor is the lake, since the creek is so short, and that nearby timber harvest detracted from the lake and river values. Subsistence users might oppose designation as a Recreational River if they view recreational fishing as competing with their subsistence priority.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 37,500

# Lace River



## Legend

- 
- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## LACE RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located in VCU 13 on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Lace River is on the mainland within the Lynn Canal Geographic Province. The river corridor contains approximately 13,050 acres. The river originates from an arm of the Meade Glacier at approximately 800 feet in elevation and flows south for twenty miles into Berners Bay. The river mouth is approximately forty miles north of the Juneau airport. Numerous glaciers feed the river through several tributaries. The continued buildup of sediments at the mouth of the Lace River forms a broad, meandering floodplain that is a part of the poorly vegetated, braided river channel. This river corridor is scenic with large ponds and pools, extremely broad channels, and high mountains on either side of the river. The valley is prime moose, waterfowl, and furbearer habitat and the area receives hunting use from the Juneau population. The area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area in conjunction with the Berners River. The lower two-thirds of the river is part of a Legislated LUD II area and the mouth of the river has been considered for construction of a transportation corridor between Juneau and Skagway.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Lace River is remarkable for its high recreation, geologic, wildlife, and scenic values. The area is highly valued as a recreation and sport hunting use area because of the abundant wildlife resources, especially moose.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Lace River meets the criteria for Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Designation of the entire 20 mile corridor as Wild.</p> <p>Alternative B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>In combination with the Berners, the Lace River has the only significant population of moose north of the Taku River which is accessible from the Juneau road system. Moose hunting permits are limited and draw high interest. The delta contains braided channels typical of larger rivers and the area is often used by people with airboats. The scenery is typically rugged and glacially formed, like other coast range and Lynn Canal rivers.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>There is no state or private land within the corridor and there are no known trespass cabins.</p>

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The mouth of the river is within an area being considered for a transportation corridor. The 1986 State of Alaska Department of Transportation Plan includes a road up the east side of Lynn Canal as one of several possible options for improved access between Juneau and Haines/Skagway. Alternate routes do exist and public scoping has recently been conducted by the state. Designation of the entire river as Wild might preclude construction of a bridge across the river as a part of the east-side road option, except as provided for in ANILCA.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The mouth of the river has several claims but is not within a mineralized area likely to be developed. The remaining part of the river has no mining claims and is not within an area of high mineral development potential. Designation as Wild would withdraw the area from further mineral entry (except for valid existing rights.)

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would withdraw about 520 acres of tentatively suitable forest land from consideration, although all alternatives emphasize primitive and semi-primitive recreation, thus making the lands unsuitable.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* There would be no effects upon scenic or subsistence resources but recreation use may increase as people become more aware of the river.

*Effects of non-designation:* If road construction occurs along the mouth of the river the outstanding wildlife, primitive recreation and scenic values would be altered. Access to the river would be easier and recreation use would increase.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

The strongest interest in this area is related to support or opposition of the road construction proposals. The state maintains an interest in the opportunities for future improvement of transportation links between Juneau and Haines/Skagway.

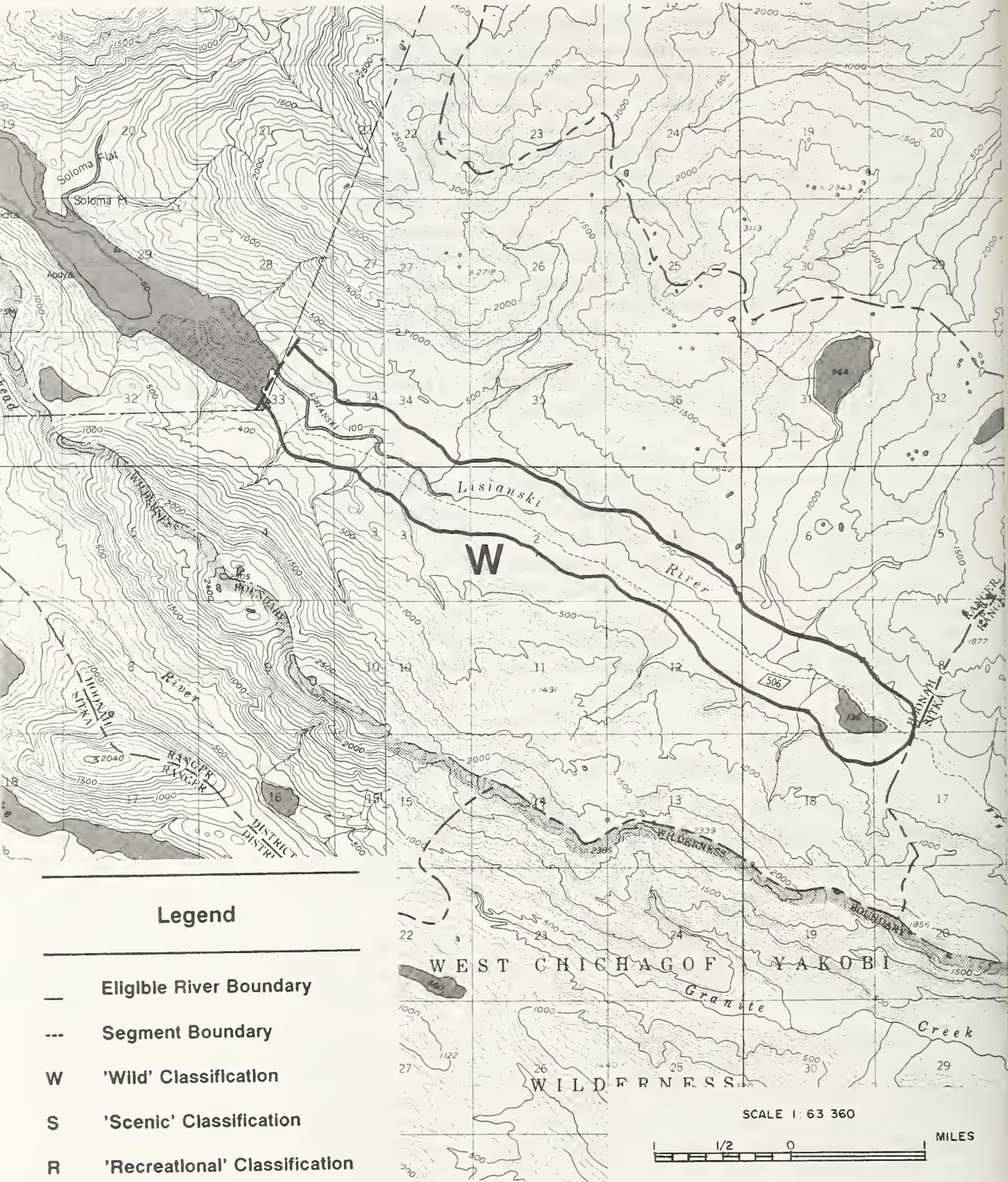
Recent surveys have affirmed the most cost-effective and flexible option is to upgrade the marine transportation link but support for a road link remains. Ongoing studies and surveys will likely continue. The City of Skagway opposes construction of the road as do representatives of the tour ship industry. The community of Juneau is divided on the issue with supporters citing the economic opportunities and convenience of a road while opponents fear the high dollar cost and impacts upon wildlife and primitive recreation values. While not directly related to the suitability of the river, this ongoing public debate creates an atmosphere in which a proposal by the Forest Service to designate the mouth as a Wild River, possibly affecting the road opportunity, could be viewed as federal interference in a local and state government issue. Support for designation of the river as Wild will likely come from local and national environmental groups who proposed the area as a candidate for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 25,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 55,000

# Lisianski River



## LISIANSKI RIVER

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Hoonah Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Lisianski River is on Chichagof Island in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The river originates with a small lake at approximately 800 feet in elevation on the divide between Lisianski Strait and the Northern Arm of Hoonah Sound (VCU's 262 and 249). It flows five miles to the west before terminating in Lisianski Strait about ten miles from the community of Pelican. An old trail along the river connects Hoonah Sound to Lisianski Strait. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped and is within a legislated LUD II area. The drainage provides habitat for brown bear and Sitka black-tailed deer among other species. The river corridor contains approximately 2,040 total acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The Lisianski River is outstanding for its wildlife and ecologic values. The narrow band of old-growth spruce and hemlock along the river offers important deer habitat and is a likely travel corridor for brown bears.
<b>Classification</b>	The Lisianski River meets the criteria for Wild classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A, B and P: Designation of the five mile corridor as Wild River.  Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b>  The Lisianski River has large numbers of both brown bear and deer. The river and estuary are considered moderately productive for fisheries as rated in the ADF&G Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. There are unique quartzite formations visible in the bedrock along the river channel. It is one of four rivers in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province and would be considered typical of rivers in the province.  <b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b>  There is no private or state land within or adjacent to the river corridor.  <b><i>Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</i></b>

*Transportation:* There are no known transportation corridor plans which would be curtailed by designation. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The corridor is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would close the corridor to mineral entry.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in a legislated LUD II.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* No identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Recreation use of the river may increase, especially if more attention is paid to upgrading the trail or constructing other facilities. There would be no effect on scenic or subsistence resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* Little change in the outstanding values of the area are expected since management as a legislated LUD II area would emphasize maintaining the wildland character.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental Interests.**

Local subsistence and recreation users of the river corridor support maintenance of its primitive character.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would be proposed. Development of recreation facilities would likely occur. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 50,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 87,500

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# Lost River/Tawah Creek



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## LOST RIVER/TAWAH CREEK

### Description

Located on the Yakutat Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Lost River and Tawah Creek are on the mainland in VCU 367, and are in the Yakutat Forelands Geographic Province. The two streams are in the immediate vicinity of Yakutat, east of the airport. These streams total ten miles (three and one-half miles of Tawah Creek and six and one-half miles for the Lost River), and total approximately 2,180 acres. Both streams start at about 50 feet in elevation; Tawah Creek terminates at the Lost River and the Lost River in the Gulf of Alaska. Access to the both streams is via the Yakutat road system.

The streams are considered exceptionally productive for four of the five of the Pacific salmon and are heavily fished by area residents. In addition, it provides important habitat for moose. The river corridor is unusual in that it supports a large population of moose relatively close to Yakutat. This results in a very high recreational and subsistence use for moose.

The area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area. The key features are an unusual February coho run, providing food for predators at a critical time of the year, and the unique shrub associations on the former Russell Lake overflow channels.

### Eligibility

Lost River and Tawah Creek are considered outstandingly scenic. They are low-gradient, meandering streams, located in wide, shallow valleys with marshy bottoms. The scenic values are tied to grassy flats, meandering streams with much instream vegetation (including waterlilies) and streamside hardwoods, combined with an unrestricted view of the mountains to the north. This, associated with the high probability of observing all types of wildlife, including moose, brown bear and many different bird species (including the harlequin duck) provide an unique scenic quality that is enhanced by its accessibility. The exceptionally productive fisheries cause the area to be highly-valued as a sport fishing area. The exceptional fisheries resource and the associated hunting qualities make the area outstanding for subsistence use.

### Classification

The Lost River and Tawah Creek meet the criteria for Recreational classification. They were classified as Recreational because of the evidence of humans' activities and outside disturbances: a road along portions of Tawah Creek and a bridge across the creek; old timber harvest activities; and their proximity to the airport (one-quarter to one half mile away). In addition, a bridge crosses the upper portion of the Lost River and a radio tower immediately adjacent to the river.

### Alternatives

Ten miles of the Lost River Tawah Creek system are recommended for Recreation River Classification under Alternatives A and B.

## Suitability

### ***Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.***

The low-gradient, meandering streams, located in wide, shallow valleys with marshy bottoms have outstanding values tied to grassy flats, meandering streams with much instream vegetation (including waterlilies) and streamside hardwoods, and a panoramic view of the mountains to the north. In addition, the high probability of observing all types of wildlife, including moose, brown bear and many different bird species (including the harlequin duck) provide an unique scenic quality that is enhanced by its accessibility. The exceptional fisheries resource and the hunting qualities make the area outstanding for sport and subsistence use. It is one of two rivers in Yakutat Forelands Geographic Province that is considered eligible and would add to the representation of the rivers in the province.

### ***Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.***

There is no private or state land within or adjacent to the river corridor.

### ***Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.***

*Transportation:* There are no known transportation corridor plans which would be curtailed by designation. The designation as a Recreation River would not preclude expansion of the existing system.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Recreation River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The corridor is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Recreation River would not close the corridor to mineral entry. Development would be subject to regulation.

*Timber:* There are 740 acres of tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor. Designation as a Recreation River would not remove this land from availability for harvest and the land would be used in the calculation for allowable sale quantity.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* No identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Recreation River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Recreation use of the river may increase, especially if there is additional development for trails or other facilities. There would be no effect on scenic or subsistence resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* There is no anticipated effect on the outstanding values of the area; probable management activities would not preclude a Recreation River classification.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

Local subsistence and recreation users of the river corridor support maintenance of its natural character.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would be proposed. Development of recreation facilities would likely occur. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 50,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 87,500

# MAKSOUTOF RIVER COMPLEX



## MAKSOUTOF RIVER COMPLEX

**Description** Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Maksoutof River complex is in VCU 330 on Baranof Island and is in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The complex consists of a chain of lakes including Rezanof, Khvoslof and Maksoutof Lakes in the South Baranof Wilderness. The stream system begins at approximately the 1100 foot elevation just northeast of Rezanof Lake and flows southwest through the chain of lakes for ten miles to the outlet of Maksoutof Lake. The river corridor contains approximately 6,200 acres. The river downstream from the lake outlet is modified and is not considered for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System.

The Maksoutof River complex has exceptional scenic value which is considered outstanding for the region. Subalpine slopes rise from the river system and provide exceptionally scenic viewsheds. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped except for remains of three Forest Service cabins - one on Maksoutof Lake and two on Rezanof Lake.

**Eligibility** Regionally, the Maksoutof River complex possesses outstanding scenic characteristics. The subalpine nature of the drainage combined with the extremely scenic lakes and waterways make this river corridor eligible.

**Classification** Ten miles of the Maksoutof River complex meet the criteria for Wild classification.

**Alternatives** The Maksoutof River complex is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.

**Suitability** **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

The Maksoutof River complex is one of five river systems on Baranof Island that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. This three-lake chain, combined with the subalpine nature of the drainage provides outstanding scenery for the region.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and geologic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

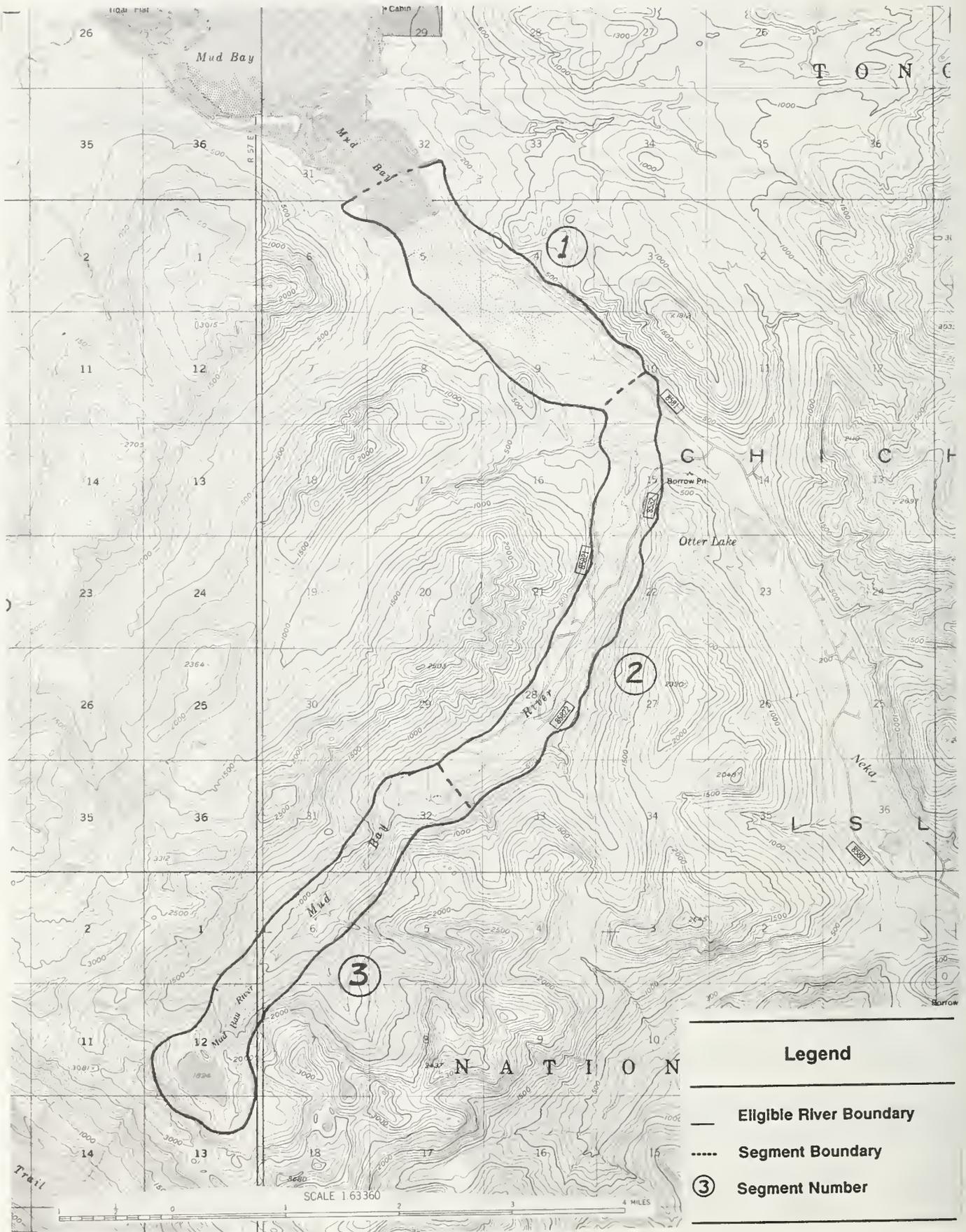
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# MUD BAY RIVER



## MUD BAY RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Hoonah Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Mud Bay River is on Chichagof Island in VCU 193. The river corridor is within the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province and contains approximately 4,170 acres. The river originates with a small lake at about 1900 feet in elevation and flows northwest for ten miles to saltwater in Mud Bay off Icy Strait. A road system from Port Frederick (which now exists) accesses timber harvest units along four miles of the middle portion of Mud Bay River (segment 2); the river corridor lies within the Alaska Pulp Corporation long-term timber sale contract area. The four miles of river above the road in Segment 3 and the two miles downstream from the road (Segment 1) are undeveloped. The lower part of the river is within a legislated LUD II area. Wildlife characteristic to the area includes brown bear and deer and fishery ratings for the river are moderate to high in the ADF&amp;G Forest Habitat Integrity Plan.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Mud Bay River has outstanding wildlife, fish and scenic values. Excellent brown bear and deer habitat occurs throughout the drainage and the stream is remarkable for its anadromous fish values. The lower river and large estuary have outstanding scenery.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Mud Bay River meets the criteria for Wild classification from the mouth upstream to the road (approximately two miles, Segment 1) and from the road-end upstream to the headwaters (about four miles, Segment 3). The section of river that parallels the road (approximately four miles, Segment 2) meets the classification for a Recreational River.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Designation of the lower river (Segment 1, two miles) and upper river (Segment 3, four miles) as Wild and the middle portion of the river (Segment 2, four miles) as Recreational River.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>Exceptional salmon runs are found in Mud Bay River and the watershed was included among the 19 "High Quality" watersheds by Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The estuary and flat, grassy valley bottom is scenic and has outstanding views of the Fairweather Mountains. Brown bear feed extensively off the abundant salmon. The river is accessible to the logging camps of Port Frederick and is hunted for deer.</p>

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There is no private or state land within the corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Open road access to the middle portion of the river in segment 2 would continue. The lower portion of the river (segment 1) is within a legislated LUD II area where roads would only be considered if needed for access to adjacent areas. Designation as Wild might foreclose the option to construct roads within segments 1 and 3 of the river, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild and Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The river is not within an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River in Segments 1 and 3 would close the corridor to mineral entry, but the Recreational River portion in Segment 2 would remain open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation of the Wild River segments would withdraw about 800 acres of tentatively suitable forest land from consideration. Designation of the Recreational River segment would allow continued contribution of the 1,220 acres of tentatively suitable forest land toward the allowable sale quantity. Adjacent area land use designations would, however, emphasize management of natural-appearing landscapes which would reduce timber yields in these areas.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild and Recreational River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Some increase in recreation use of the corridor would likely result. Scenic resources in the middle and upper river would be managed to emphasize the existing natural-appearing landscape. Subsistence use would not be affected.

*Effects of non-designation:* The outstanding values of the lower river (segment 1) would not change since it is within a LUD II area. Additional roads are unlikely to

be constructed there. The remaining portion of the river would likely be scheduled for timber harvest, thereby altering the natural appearance of the landscape.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental Interests.**

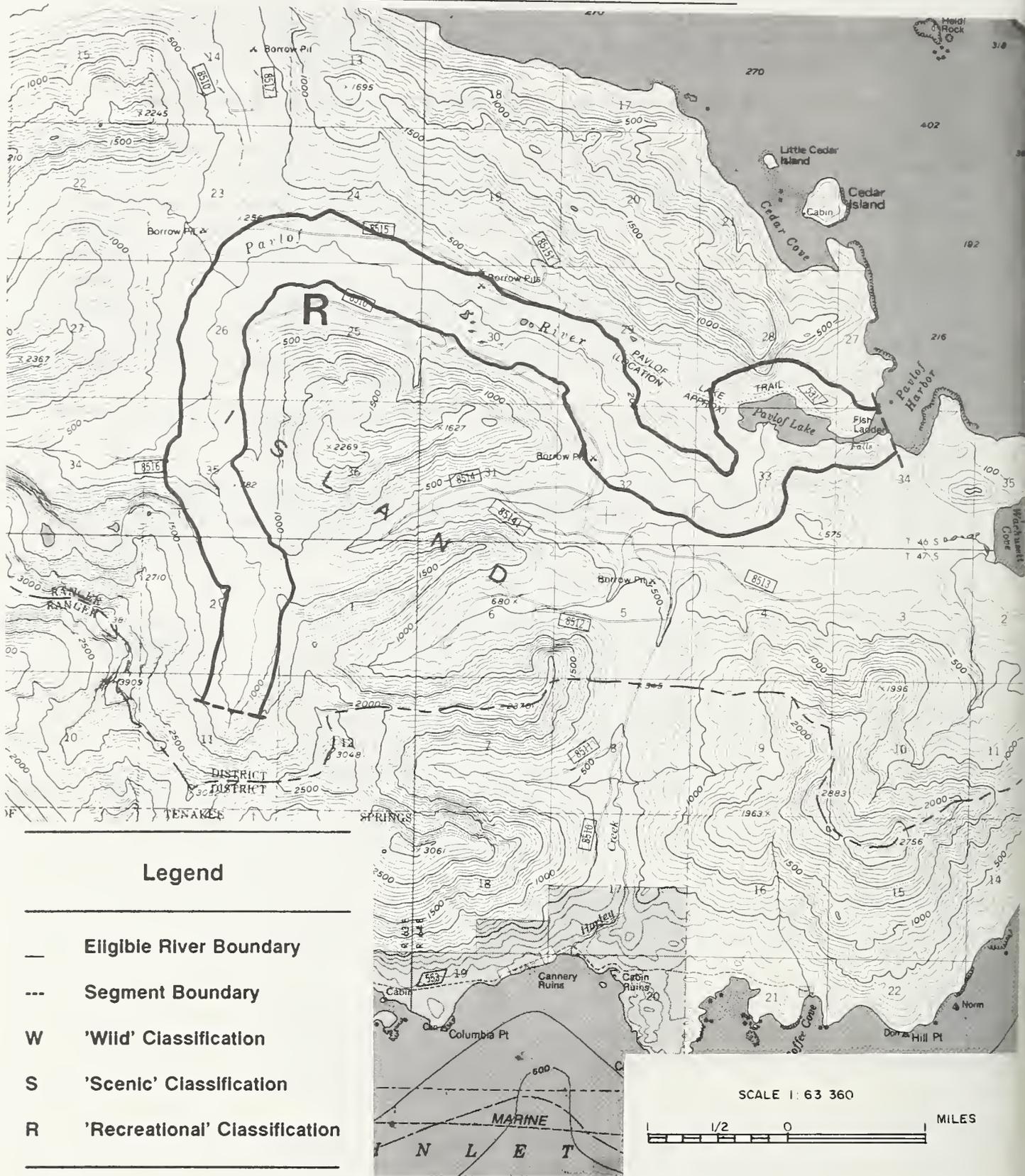
The Mud Bay River was proposed for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System but was instead declared, in part, a legislated LUD II area in 1990. Support for designation would likely come from those who proposed the area for Wilderness and from those Hoonah residents who are concerned about impacts of timber harvest on subsistence. At a public meeting on Tongass Land Management Plan Revision issues a proposal to include the Mud Bay River in the preferred alternative as Wild River was received. Residents of logging camps connected to the river by road would likely oppose designation as would those residents of Hoonah who depend on employment opportunities in the local logging industry.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# Pavlof River



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

## PAVLOF RIVER AND LAKE

<b>Description</b>	<p>The Pavlof River is located on Chichagof Island 40 miles southeast of Hoonah in VCU 218. It is within the Hoonah Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, and in the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province. The river originates at an elevation of approximately 1000 feet in a high mountain basin north of Tenakee Springs and flows to the north and east through Pavlof Lake to Pavlof Harbor in Freshwater Bay. There are a total of about 3,500 acres within the river corridor. The old Pavlof Lake Trail lies along the river from Forest Road 8515 to Pavlof Harbor. Forest Roads 8515 and 8510 parallel the river for approximately four miles. The drainage is roaded and has had significant timber harvest as a part of the Alaska Pulp Corporation long-term sale contract area. The river is rated as highly valued for fisheries production and has been identified by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as one of 19 "high value" watersheds. The river is easily accessed by the Hoonah road system and receives very high (for the region) recreation and subsistence use. Of historical interest are the saltery ruins at the mouth of the river and the fish pass constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Pavlof River is outstanding for sport fishing. Access to the river is much easier than other rivers in the region because of the adjacent road from Hoonah; as a result the recreation and subsistence use is significant.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The river best meets the criteria for Recreational classification. Harvest which occurred in the 1986-90 operating period was considered in the evaluation of eligibility and the classification. Since the roads and harvest units were located adjacent to previous harvest units and roads they did not, in themselves, alter the classification or eligibility of the lake and creek.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Designation of the 10 mile segment as Recreational River.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>The Pavlof River and Lake have considerable importance within the region for recreation and subsistence use related to the valuable fishery. It is one of the few rivers under consideration with road access along much of the corridor and the harbor is a popular boat anchorage. The lake is easy to access via the short trail and has high fish, wildlife and recreation values.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p>

There is no private or state land in the area but the state has selected the lake and harbor area for community recreation (See Factor #4).

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Recreational River would not preclude the construction of additional roads within the river corridor, but adjacent land use designations would emphasize scenic and recreation values.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals.

*Minerals:* The river corridor is not within an area of high mineral development potential and no mining claims exist, yet the area would remain open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* The 1,000 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor would not contribute to the allowable sale quantity since management of adjacent areas would emphasize scenic and recreation values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Continuation of fish habitat monitoring and maintenance of the fish ladder would be allowed and other projects, such as the proposal for rearing pond enhancement, would be permitted. Management of wildlife habitat would be similar to other areas available for timber harvest with an emphasis on scenic resources.

*Recreation, Scenic and Subsistence:* The designation as a Recreational River would likely bring some increased attention to the river. Current plans for construction of a recreation shelter and fishing access trails would be encouraged and would likely receive more funding. Scenic resources would likely be unaffected by designation. Some conflicts with subsistence use may result from increased recreational use which is focused on fishing opportunities.

*Effects of non-designation:* The decision to designate or to not designate the river is not likely to affect the outstanding fish and wildlife values since management activities allowed within a Recreational River corridor are similar to what is now occurring. Recreation opportunities would remain but they would not receive as much attention as they would if the river were designated.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

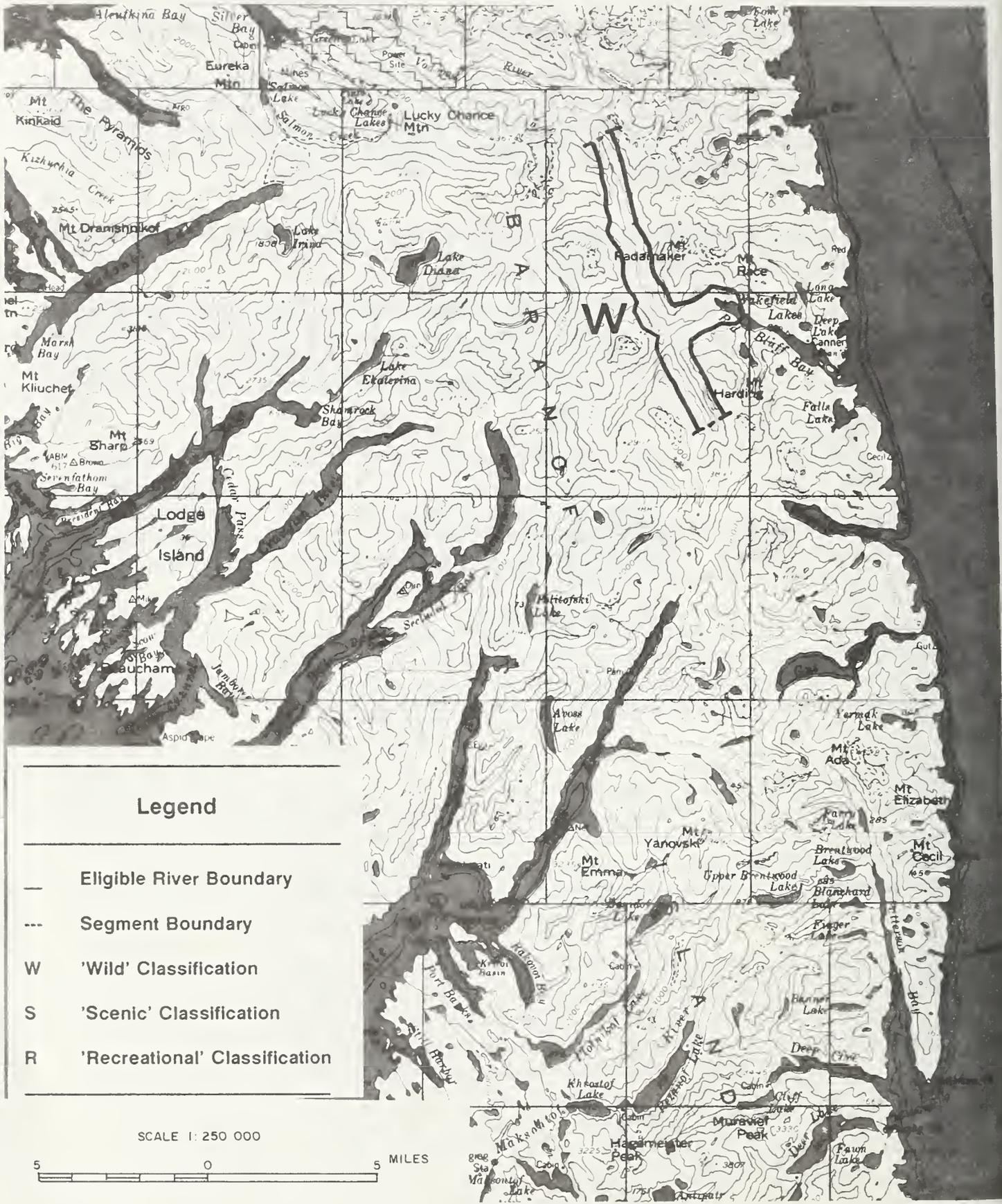
Pavlof Lake and Harbor have been selected by the State of Alaska and the selection has been approved by the Regional Forester. The selection was made with the intent of community recreation. No recent plans for this land have been made by the state but designation appears consistent with the original intent of the selection.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would occur. Management costs would increase above current levels if construction of a shelter and trails become priorities. The planning costs would increase if a special river plan were to be written. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$100,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5000 annually
 Total - First Five Years	 \$150,000

# Red Bluff Bay Tributaries



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:250 000



## RED BLUFF BAY TRIBUTARIES

### Description

Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the streams which flow into Red Bluff Bay are located in VCU 329 on Baranof Island and are in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. This stream complex is located within the South Baranof Wilderness. The north branch begins at approximately 2300 feet in elevation and flows south then east for eight miles. The south tributary originates at approximately 1500 feet and flows northeast for five miles where it meets the north branch and continues to termination in Red Bluff Bay. Total river mileage equals thirteen and there are approximately 4,320 acres in the river corridor.

This stream complex is exceptionally scenic for the region and offers a wide range of ecosystems. The unique tidal meadows and large estuarine area contribute to the range of ecosystems as does the river corridor as it rises into the higher elevations. The stream and tributary have been rated highly-valued as a watershed by Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the 1979 Forest Plan and is significant for anadromous fish production. A unique geologic occurrence in the form of serpentine mineralization is found in this watershed. The drainage has better than average recreational bear hunting and the area is used for this purpose.

### Eligibility

The stream and tributary that flow into Red Bluff Bay are outstandingly remarkable for their fishery, recreation, scenic, geologic, and ecologic values. There are unusually large numbers of brown bear. The river and estuary are considered unusually productive for anadromous fisheries. The geologically unique serpentine mineralizations, along with the diverse range of ecosystems and exceptional scenery, contribute to the high value of this river system. The system is free of impoundments and remains primitive and undeveloped.

### Classification

The stream and tributary of Red Bluff Bay meet the criteria for Wild classification, for a total of 13 miles.

### Alternatives

Red Bluff Bay and the designated tributaries are recommended as a Wild River area in Alternative A.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

The Red Bluff Bay complex contains a wide range of ecosystems, including a unique tidal meadows and large estuarine area. The stream and tributary have been rated as a highly-valued watershed by Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the 1979 Forest Plan and are significant for anadromous fish production. There is an exceptionally large concentration of brown bears in the drainage. A unique geologic occurrence in the form of serpentine mineralization is found in this

watershed. The Red Bluff Bay and Tributaries system is one of five systems on Baranof Island that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and geologic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. Howev-

er, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

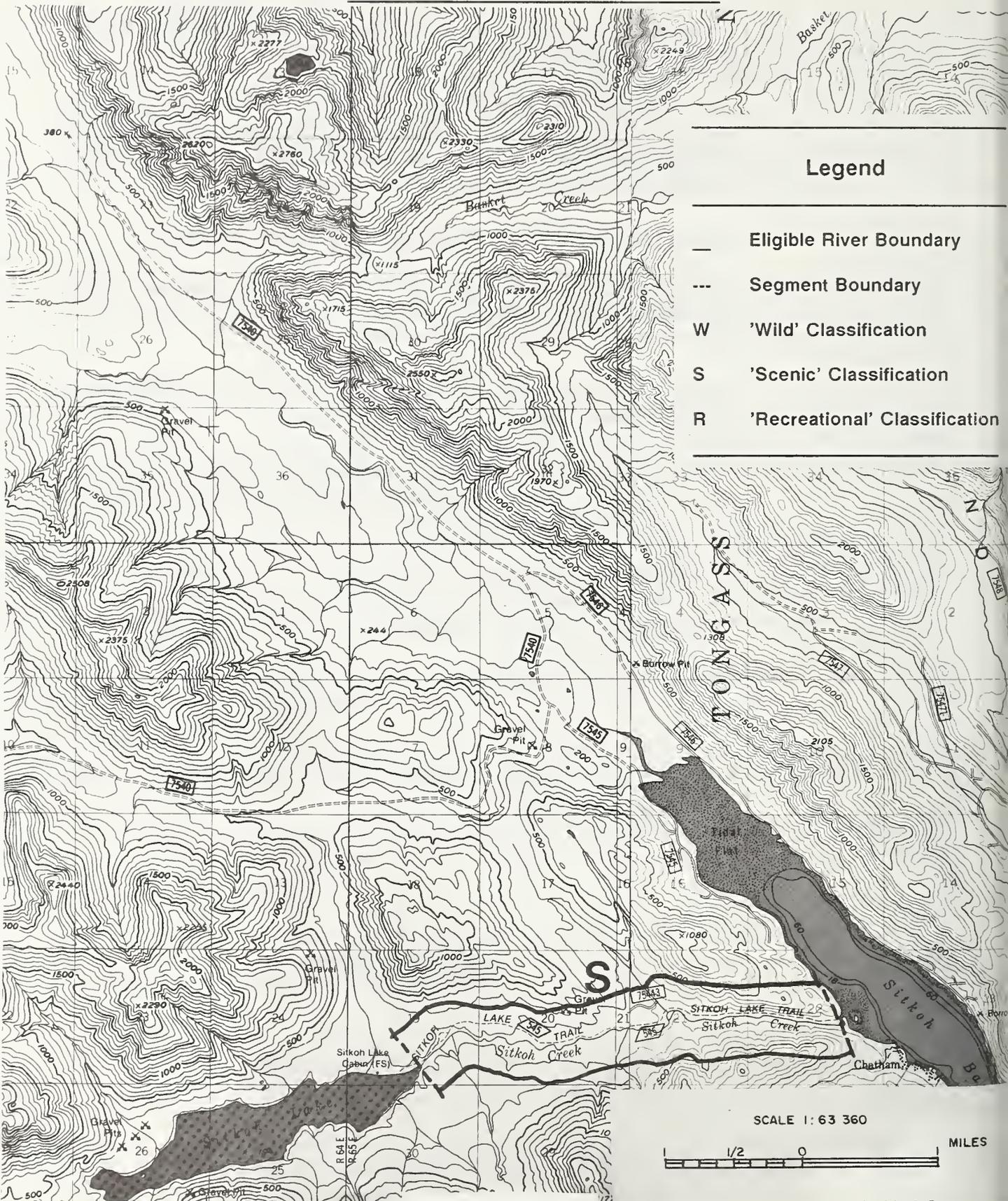
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Sitkoh Creek



SCALE 1:63 360



## SITKOH CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Sitka Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, Sitkoh Creek is on Chichagof Island in VCU 244. The creek corridor is in the Northern Interior Islands Geographic Province and contains approximately 1,150 acres. The creek originates at Sitkoh Lake at about 200 feet in elevation and flows east for four miles before entering Sitkoh Bay. A trail parallels the full length of the creek and a very popular public recreation cabin is located on the lake just outside the river corridor. There is an extensive road system within ¼ mile of the creek which parallels the creek for much of its length. The area is within the Alaska Pulp Corporation long-term sale area and has been extensively harvested in the past. The drainage provides habitat for brown bear and Sitka black-tailed deer, and the creek supports pink, chum, sockeye and coho salmon as well as steelhead trout, Dolly Varden char, and anadromous cutthroat trout. The area is used for both sport and subsistence hunting and fishing.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Sitkoh Creek is outstanding for its fishery and recreation values. The stream contains an exceptional steelhead run valued by sport anglers. The sockeye salmon are sought by subsistence users. The nearby recreation cabin is very popular.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Sitkoh Creek meets the criteria for Scenic classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Designation of the four mile corridor as Scenic.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>Sitkoh Creek has been listed among the 65 "Important" watersheds by ADF&amp;G for its fish values. It also received an extremely high rating in the ADF&amp;G Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The creek is important to both subsistence, commercial, and sport fish users and is well known within the region for its steelhead and cutthroat trout fishing.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>There is a 17.5 acre parcel of private land across the mouth of Sitkoh Creek owned by Sealaska Corporation.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which</i></b></p>

would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.

*Transportation:* The existing road near the creek would remain open. Other new roads within the creek corridor could be considered with an emphasis on maintaining the recreation opportunities there.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Sitkoh Creek is not an area of identified high mineral potential and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Scenic River would leave the creek corridor open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* The 700 acres of tentatively suitable forest land in the corridor would continue to contribute to the allowable sale quantity but timber harvest would be limited by adjacent land use prescriptions to those harvest practices which maintain visual quality objectives.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There is a watershed improvement fish habitat enhancement project being considered for the head of Sitkoh Bay which would not interfere with designation as Scenic. The fish weir in Sitkoh Creek would continue to be authorized for ADF&G.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Recreation use of the trail, creek and lake would likely increase, especially if trail improvements are made. Scenic qualities would be maintained or enhanced. Subsistence use of the sockeye run could be affected if competition with sport users increases significantly.

*Effects of non-designation:* The creek corridor would be subject to timber harvest under the preferred alternative but would be managed for semi-primitive recreation under Alternatives B and D.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

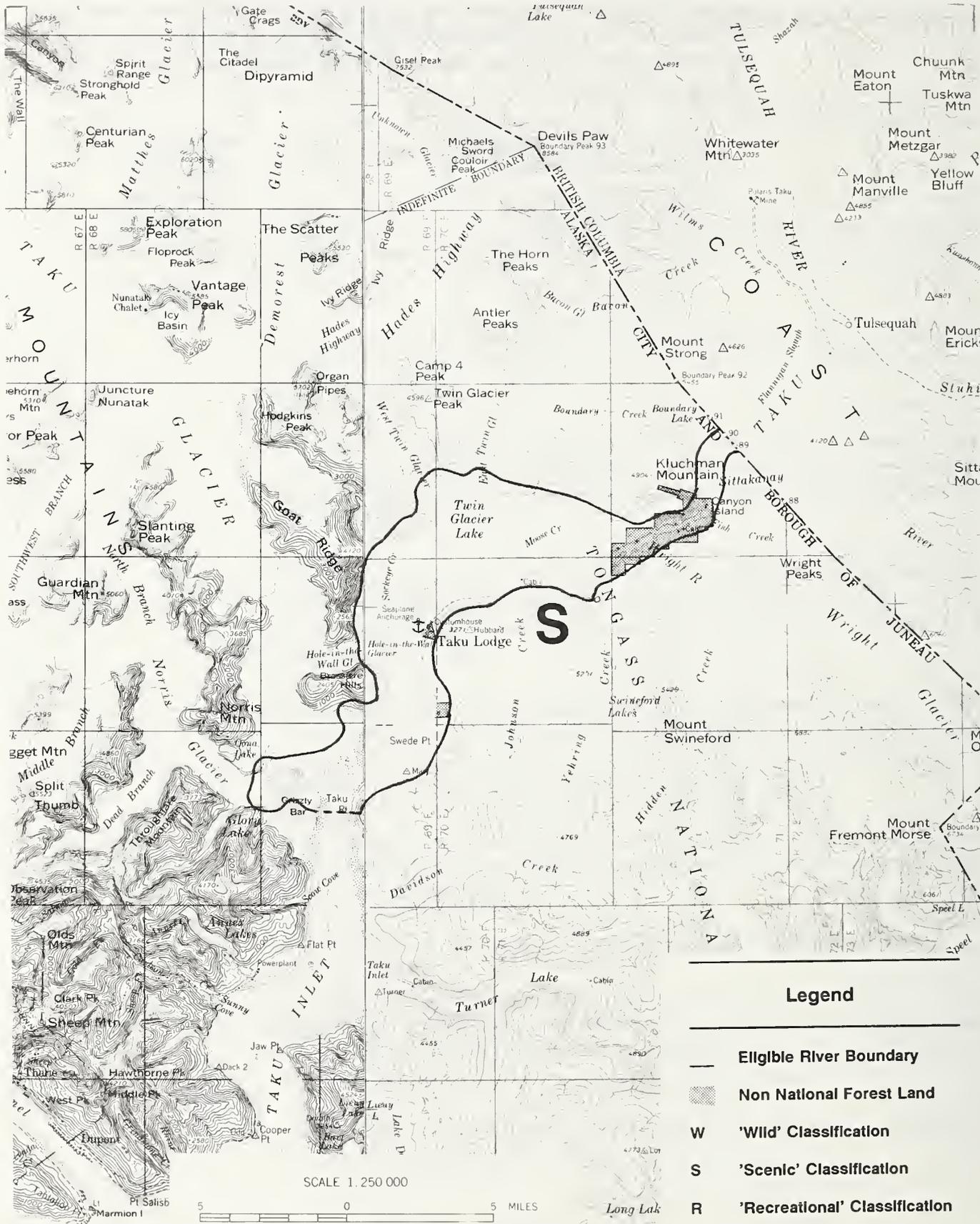
Sitkoh Creek is an important subsistence use area. Subsistence users may object to designation if the number of guided and sport anglers are allowed to increase without constraint. This sensitive issue would need to be addressed in the management plan for the area, if designated as a Scenic River.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 3,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 40,000

# TAKU RIVER



## TAKU RIVER/TWIN GLACIERS LAKE

### **Description**

Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Taku River is on the mainland in VCU 46. It is within the Coast Range Geographic Province and contains approximately 23,780 acres. From Juneau, the south end of the Taku is about 14 air miles or 26 boat miles northeast. It is a large, long river which originates in Canada and has only the lower 25 miles located in the United States. This section is fed by several silty, glacial outwash streams similar to the Twin Glacier Lake/stream, and other clear tributaries. The Taku Glacier (easily seen on the north bank) and its associated mudflats form a significant barrier to upstream boat traffic for all but shallow draft vessels. The glacier is advancing and could eventually block the river. There is a lodge just up the river from the glacier and further north on the river there are several private cabins on private lands, a Forest Service recreation cabin, an ADF&G fish wheel camp on Canyon Island, and other temporary or historic camps and cabins scattered throughout the area. The river corridor contains key moose habitat as well as supporting populations of brown and black bear, goat, deer, and wolf. Fish include all five species of salmon as well as cutthroat and rainbow trout, steelhead, Dolly Varden char, arctic grayling, and eulachon. Access to the river is primarily by jet-boat and airplane, and less-commonly by skiff with propeller. Sport hunting for moose is very popular in the fall, while fishing, boating, and some canoeing occur throughout the season. The lodge operates a flight-seeing excursion and salmon bake up the river which attract large numbers of tourists. Helicopter services also operate scenic flights which land at the base of Hole-In-The-Wall Glacier.

The State of Alaska is considering a transportation corridor along the Taku River as one of several possible links between Juneau and the Alaskan Highway in British Columbia.

### **Eligibility**

The Taku River is considered extraordinarily productive for fish, especially pink salmon, and is an extremely valuable commercial fishery for Canada and Alaska. The river corridor is outstandingly scenic with a wide, meandering river, high mountains on either side and several glaciers. The Taku is highly valued as a sport hunting and fishing area. The river is very unique for its glacial, hydrologic, geologic and ecologic values. The riparian zone provides important habitat for moose.

### **Classification**

The Taku meets the criteria for Scenic River.

### **Alternatives**

Alternative A: Designation of 17 miles (not including the private or State lands) as a Scenic River.

Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

## Suitability

### ***Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.***

The Taku has one of the most productive overall fisheries in Southeast Alaska and has been given the highest rating in the ADF&G Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. Moose Lake, near the river, is rated among the 65 "important" watersheds in the 1979 Tongass Land Management Plan. The Taku is also the most important moose habitat in the Juneau area. The Taku glacier is one of the few glaciers born in the Juneau icefield that is advancing. It has long been, and continues to be, the subject of glaciological studies. The scenery is diverse with dramatic views of background mountains, foreground glaciers, lakes, clear streams and waterfalls. The river is popular and easily accessed from Juneau.

### ***Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.***

There are approximately 250 total acres of private land along the river, most of them with historic or current cabins (one 88 acre parcel has an operating lodge). The State has been conveyed a 1995 acre selection from Canyon Island south. Much of this land has been (or will likely be) developed with private cabins. There are two special-use authorizations for private cabins on National Forest System lands. There is one ANCSA 14 (h)(1) site south of Taku Lodge. There is a permit for an ADF&G weir camp at Yehring Creek and there is a fish-wheel camp near Canyon Island on state land. The National Marine Fisheries Service has a permit for a camp north of Canyon Island. The state and private lands are not considered suitable for inclusion because they are developed and because the state land was only recently transferred from federal ownership. It would be inappropriate at this time to attempt to influence the private ownership rights of those lands given the sensitivity of landowners to (what they would perceive as) unnecessary federal encroachment.

### ***Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.***

*Transportation:* The Taku corridor continues to be studied for a transportation link between Juneau and Atlin, British Columbia. The option now being studied includes a highway up the west side to Grizzly Bar, a bridge or ferry connection to Taku Point and a highway continuing along the east bank to Canada. There are two sections near Taku Point and Taku Lodge which have very steep slopes along the east bank. Road constructed along both of these three mile sections would be easily seen from the river. If other segments of the road were to be constructed outside the river corridor not within sight of the river, designation as Scenic would not preclude this construction. Direction for Scenic Rivers states "the presence of

short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous and well-screened roads or railroads will not necessarily preclude Scenic River designation." The road location being considered, however, is not detailed at this time and there are other less expensive, more feasible options being considered (See also Factor 4).

*Water Resources:* There are existing power withdrawals south of the river corridor but not within the corridor. This area has no known identified potential for water or power development.

*Mineral Resources:* The area around Grizzly Bar has over 70 claims, some where exploration work has been done in recent years. A small cabin exists on one claim. The USGS has also mapped a Class IV tract of undiscovered mineral potential in the upper river near the Canadian border. This means there might be a mineralized zone with Gross In Place Value (which does not include any development costs) of less than \$4,000 per acre. Designation as Scenic River would not preclude further mineral entry but may impact the nature of developments which could occur.

*Timber:* The 3,080 acres of tentatively suitable forest land would not be considered in the allowable sale quantity because adjacent land use designations would emphasize semi-primitive recreation and scenic values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are ongoing fish monitoring projects being conducted but no enhancement projects are being considered at this time. Designation as a Scenic River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Subsistence resources would not be affected by designation. Scenic resources might be better maintained by designation if development proposals are implemented. Recreation would be less likely to change from the existing semi-primitive and primitive opportunities.

*Effects of non-designation:* Transportation corridor plans would likely alter the outstanding values of scenery, primitive recreation, and moose habitat. Recreation use would likely increase dramatically in the roaded areas and the opportunities would change there. Potential mining developments may have a greater impact upon river values than if the river were designated.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

The state maintains an interest in the opportunities for a future transportation link between Juneau and the Alaskan highway. Recent surveys have affirmed the most cost-effective and flexible option is to upgrade the existing marine transportation link between Juneau and Haines but support for a road link remains. Ongoing studies and surveys will likely continue. The community of Juneau is divided on

the issue with supporters citing the economic opportunities and convenience of a road, while opponents fear the high dollar cost and impacts upon wildlife and primitive recreation values. While not directly related to the suitability of the river, this ongoing public debate creates an atmosphere in which a proposal by the Forest Service to designate the Taku as a Scenic River, possibly affecting the road opportunity, could be viewed as federal interference in a local and State government issue.

State management of the conveyed 1,995 acre parcel is for community development and expansion. The lands are being sold in parcels for development of cabins. State land use objectives are not compatible with Scenic River designation.

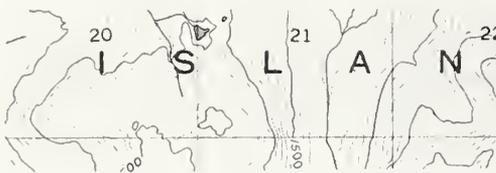
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private lands would occur, especially since the state has recently been conveyed a large selection of land which they intend to sell to private individuals. No recreation or other developments are proposed at this time. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 40,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 70,000

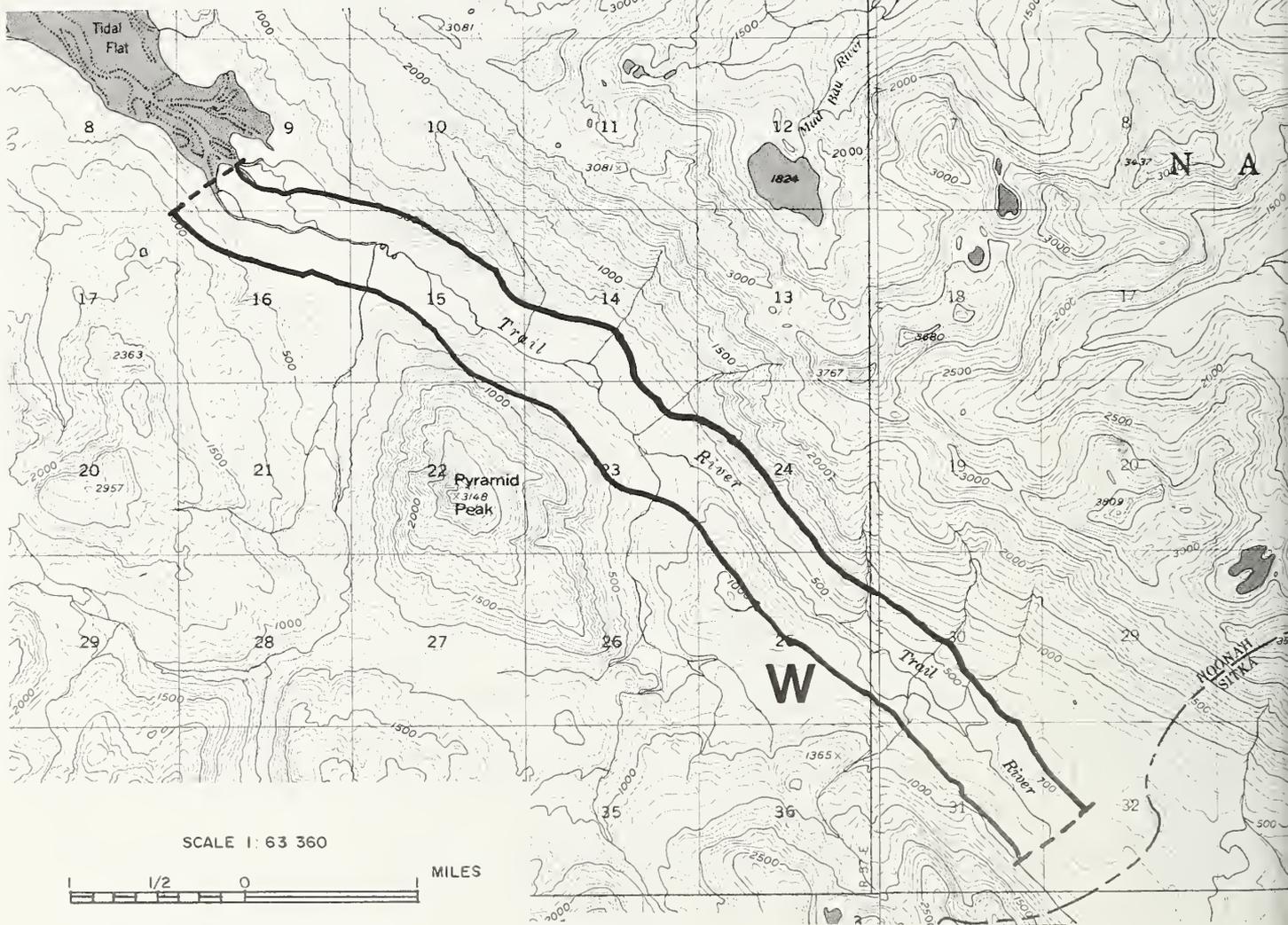
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# Trail River



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:63 360



## TRAIL RIVER

### Description

Located on the Hoonah Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Trail River is in VCU 190 on Chichagof Island and is in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province. One major tributary of the Trail River starts in some of the highest country on northwest Chichagof Island originating in a small cirque lake north of Tarn Mountain near 2200 feet in elevation. The main channel of Trail River begins at approximately 600 feet. The river flows six miles in a northwest direction and terminates at a tidal flat at the head of Idaho Inlet. There are approximately 2,340 acres in the river corridor. The entire drainage is roadless and was designated as a LUD II area by the Tongass Timber Reform Act.

The Trail River drainage contains one of the largest remaining stands of old-growth Sitka spruce on Chichagof Island and provides important brown bear and Sitka black-tailed deer habitat. The very large pristine system provides several unique ecosystems.

### Eligibility

The Trail River is associated with one of the few large remaining pristine old-growth Sitka spruce stands on Chichagof Island and is therefore of great ecological interest. There are large numbers of both brown bear and black-tailed deer along the river. The area is highly valued as a subsistence use area because of these abundant wildlife resources. The river is free of impoundments and the watershed remains primitive and undeveloped.

### Classification

The six miles of the Trail River meet the criteria for Wild classification.

### Alternatives

The Trail River is recommended in Alternatives A and B as a Wild River.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

The Trail River area was legislated as part of the 138,538 acre Lisianski/Upper Hoonah Sound LUD II area by the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. As one of four rivers on Chichagof Island in the Northern Outer Islands Geographic Province, it would add to the representation of that province. The Trail River is associated with a very large stand of pristine old-growth Sitka spruce stands on Chichagof Island and is therefore of great ecological interest. This ecosystem provides habitat for large numbers of both brown bear and black-tailed deer. The area is highly valued as a subsistence use area because of these resources.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities as the land within the river corridor is to be managed in a roadless state to maintain its wildland character.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* Designation as a Wild River would withdraw it from future mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the timber resource as there are no suitable timber lands in the Legislated LUD II allocation, nor are commercial timber sales permitted.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have some effect on these resources as it would be more restrictive than the LUD II allocation. Costs of future fish habitat enhancements may be affected due to the restricted access and design requirements.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and geologic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would likely result in increased public use, due to the attention drawn from designation. Increased recreational harvest has the potential of adverse impact to subsistence use.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Tongass Timber Reform Act. Water resource projects could occur only if consistent with the LUD II designation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

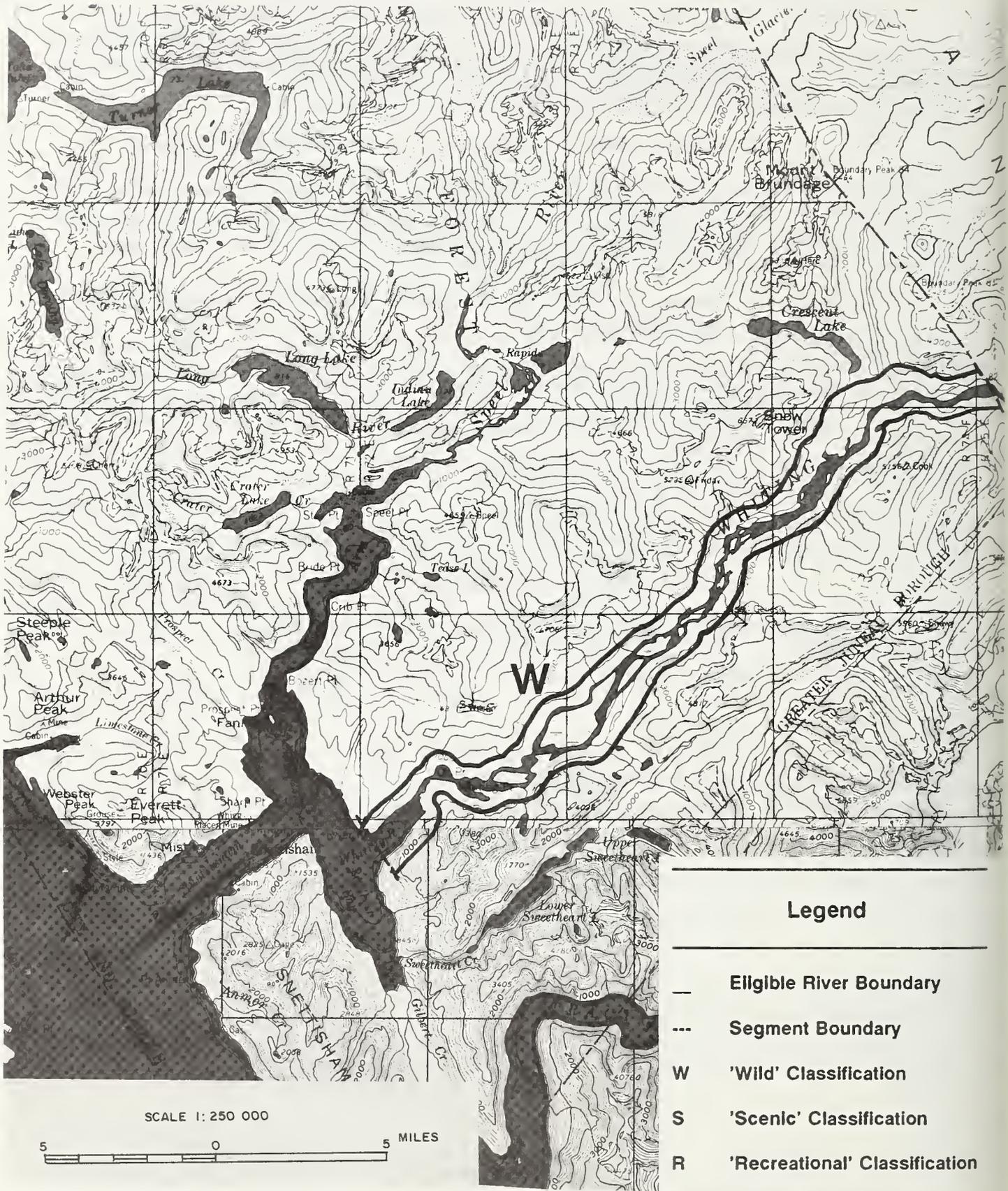
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. Public comment on the DEIS principally preferred the Trail River area to be managed, in a roadless state, for fish and wildlife habitat.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000

# Whiting River



SCALE 1: 250 000



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## WHITING RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, the Whiting River is on the mainland in VCU 61 about 35 air-miles southeast of Juneau. It is within the Coast Range Geographic Province and contains approximately 15,070 acres. The river originates in British Columbia, Canada at about 1500 feet in elevation and flows southwest for twenty-five miles before ending at Port Snettisham, east of Stephens Passage. The Whiting is a highly braided stream channel with a wide, wandering river valley, 6,500 feet high mountain ridges capped with glaciers and a large lake (Crescent Lake) near the headwaters. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped. Wildlife characteristic of the area include brown and black bear, mountain goat and wolf. Fishery ratings in the ADF&amp;G Forest Habitat Integrity Plan are moderate-high for the Whiting. The river has been used by commercial guides for rafting trips.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Whiting River valley is outstanding for its scenery, geology, pristine character and is remarkable for its recreation potential and fishing. The large mountains, glaciers and lake provide diverse scenery and the river has challenging whitewater. The river is generally inaccessible to jet-boaters and offers solitude and primitive recreation experiences.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Whiting River meets the criteria for Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Designation of the entire 25 mile corridor as Wild.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b><i>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</i></b></p> <p>The Whiting River has some of the most challenging whitewater of any of the tentatively eligible rivers on the Tongass; it has been rafted by individuals as well as commercial whitewater guides. This remote and pristine river has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Crescent Lake has a good population of rainbow trout and provides for unique access to the upper river by floatplane.</p> <p><b><i>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</i></b></p> <p>There is a two-acre parcel of private land on the north bank at the mouth of the river, but no other private or state land. There is no development on the private land. ADF&amp;G has a permit for a temporary camp near Crescent Lake.</p>

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The area has not been considered for a transportation corridor and is not likely to be proposed for one. Designation as a Wild River might preclude construction of a transportation corridor near the river, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI..

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The south bank of the river at the mouth is on the very north edge of the Sumdum mineralized zone. This zone is a Priority 3 area for mineral development potential. There are four mining claims in the small part of the mineralized zone that intersects the river corridor. The claims are not currently active with no plan of operations filed. The upper part of the river has tracts of Class 3 and 4 potential on the USGS map of undiscovered mineral resources. This means there might be a mineralized zone with a Gross In Place Value (which does not include any development costs) of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre for the Class 3 and less than \$4,000 per acre for the Class 4 tract. Designation as Wild would close the area to further mineral entry subject to valid existing rights.

*Timber:* Designation as Wild would remove approximately 3,330 acres of tentatively suitable forest land from consideration in alternative A, but would be considered unsuitable anyway because of the primitive allocation in that alternative..

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* No fish habitat enhancement projects are being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Scenic and subsistence resources would not be affected by designation. Recreation use may increase as a result of designation, but this would not significantly change the primitive recreation opportunities now available.

*Effects of non-designation:* Alternatives A, B and P would emphasize management of the primitive and semi-primitive recreation values. Mineral development could occur along the river. Alternative D would allow consideration of timber harvest.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, state and local governmental interests.**

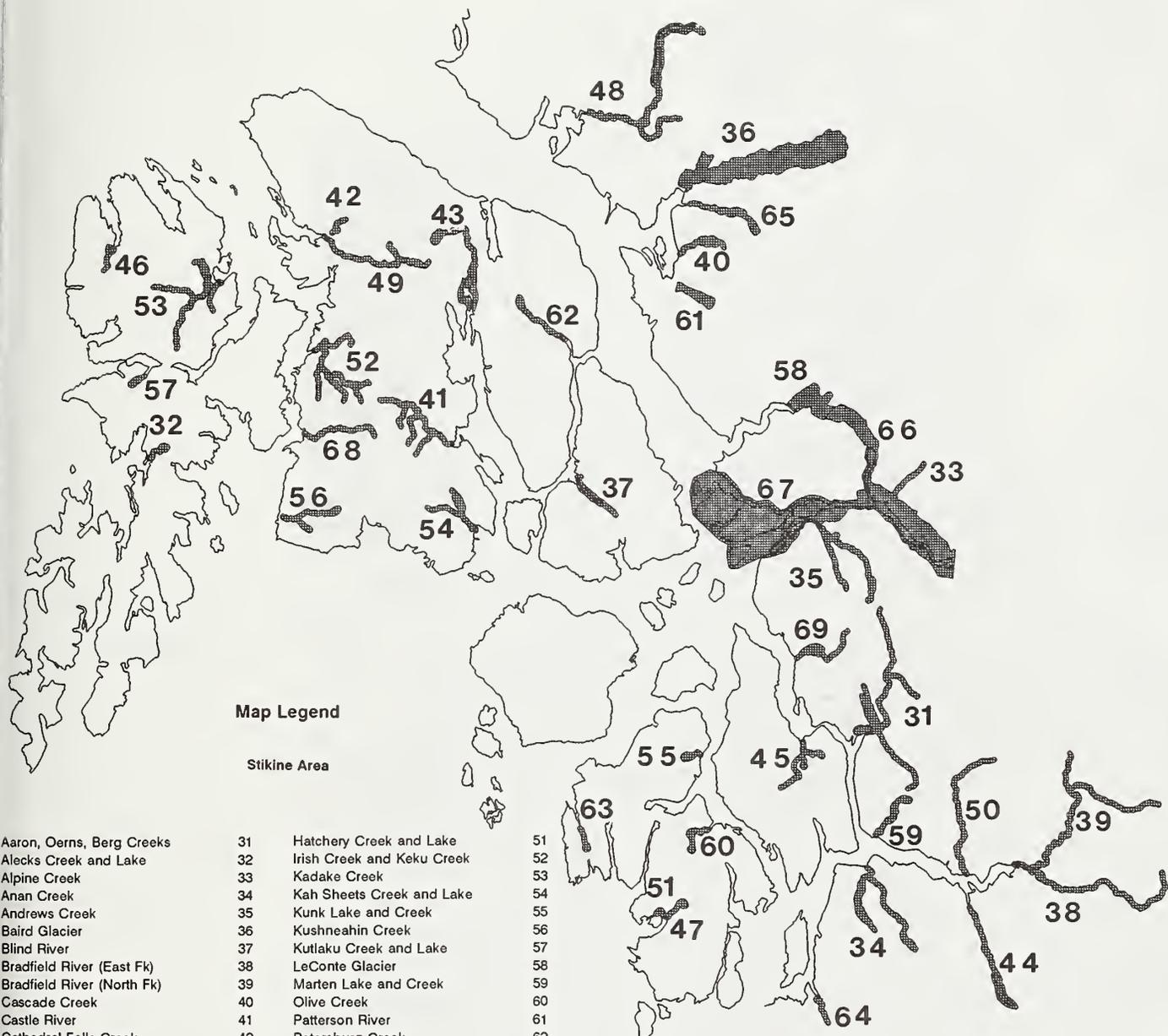
Support for the designation of the Whiting River as Wild would likely come from commercial rafting guides and environmental groups.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

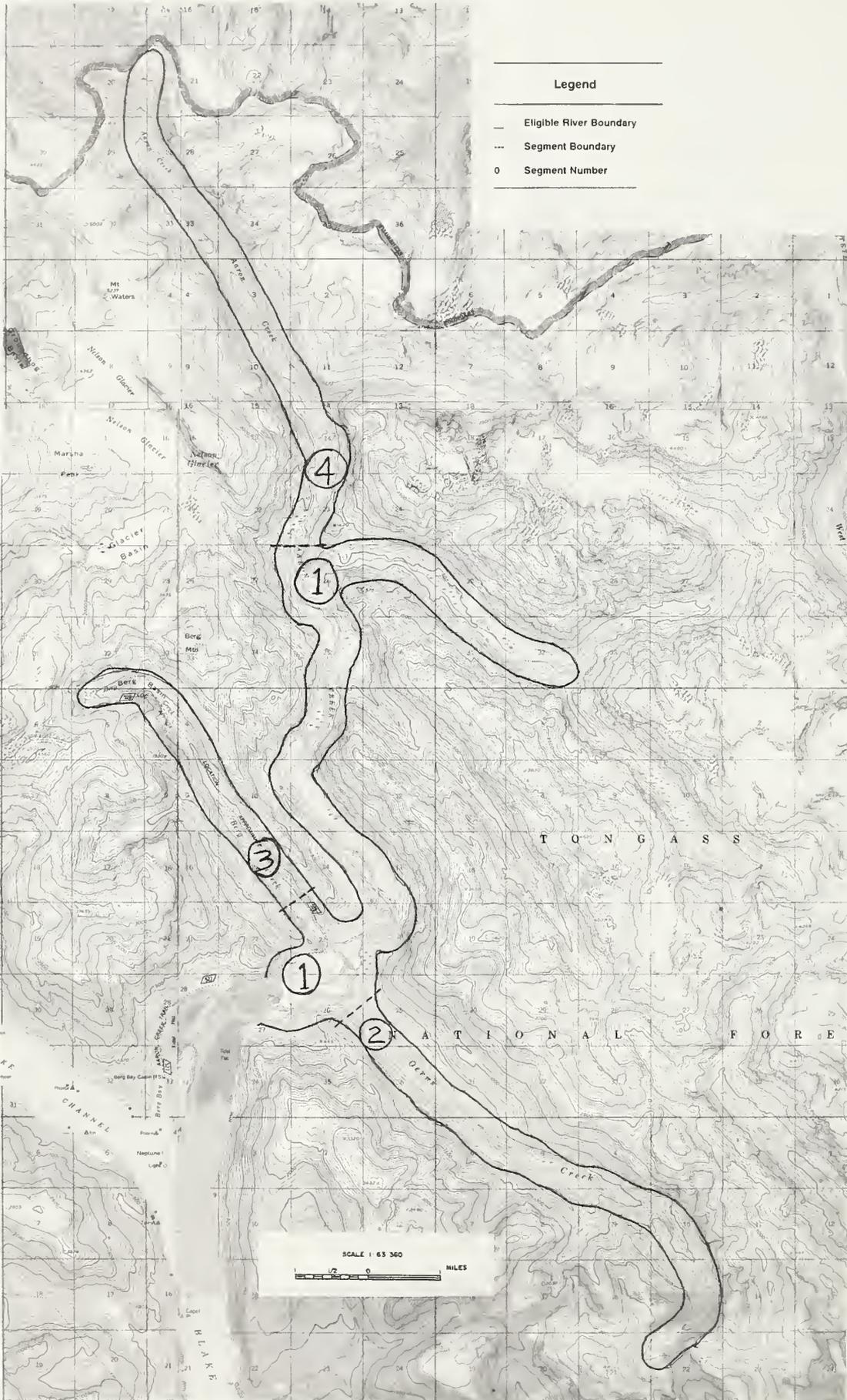
No acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments would be proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 47,500

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AARON, ORNES and BERG CREEKS



## AARON, OERNS, and BERG CREEKS

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District in VCU's 503 and 508, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, these streams form a single stream system which flows into Blake Channel about 20 miles southeast of Wrangell. Originating on the mainland, these streams form a 37-mile system of moderate gradient valleys which support a very diverse variety of resources and provide a spectacular setting for recreation. The area is roadless and timber harvest in the area is limited to two 30-year old clearcuts (an eight acre and a 60 acre unit) in the bay that have regenerated to spruce and alder. The timber within the river corridor has never been harvested. There is a Forest Service trail along Berg Creek, a Forest Service recreation cabin in Berg Bay, and a historic site (mining) on upper Berg Creek. The streams have high commercial and sport fish value including king salmon and small to moderate steelhead runs, a wide variety of hunting opportunities (moose, wolves, black bear, brown bear, mountain goat, waterfowl), old-growth forest, and high scenic qualities. The bay is an area used by overwintering Canada geese. This watershed has active mining claims but no patented mining claims. The river corridor contains approximately 12,900 acres, all of which is National Forest System land. Aarons Creek is one of several transportation corridors identified by the State of Alaska for a possible road link connecting Wrangell to Canada.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Aaron, Oerns, and Berg Creeks have outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreation values of regional significance. The exceptional combination of resources available in one watershed, the number of species of large wildlife, the presence of king salmon, and the existing recreation access were important considerations in the determination of eligibility.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The main streams of Aaron, Oerns, and Berg Creeks meet the guidelines for Wild classification for 37 miles. For analysis, Oerns Creek and Berg Creek are considered as tributaries of Aarons Creek and were divided into four segments: Segment 1 from saltwater up Aaron Creek and along the east branch of Aaron Creek for 16 miles, Segment 2 includes eight miles of Oerns Creek, Segment 3 includes five miles of Berg Creek, Segment 4 includes the upper eight miles of Aaron Creek.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Wild River designation for 37 miles of main stream and tributaries, includes all Segments.</p> <p>Alternative B: Scenic River designation for 37 miles of main stream and tributaries, includes all Segments.</p> <p>Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>

Alternative D and P: Scenic River designation for 21 miles for Segments 2, 3, and 4 and Recreational River designation for 16 miles of Segment 1.

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Aaron, Oerns, and Berg Creek provides a good representation of smaller rivers originating on the mainland. Its fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreation values are of regional significance. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers in this province, it is similar to the Farragut River and Andrews Creeks and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Aarons, Oerns and Berg Creek are readily accessible for recreation, located only 15 air miles or 22 miles by boat from Wrangell, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or valid existing mining claims within the river corridor.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Segment 1 has been identified by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for a potential road link that would connect Wrangell to Canada. Designation as a Wild River would likely foreclose this route and prevent development of roads to access other resources such as timber, minerals, and recreation, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. Designation as a Scenic River would allow road development to the extent that rivers could be crossed with infrequent bridges but would prohibit roads from running for extended distances along the river shorelines. This would likely prevent development of a Wrangell to Canada highway as the valley is narrow and it would be difficult to locate roads away from the river corridors. Designation of Segment 1 as a Recreational River would allow for road development within this river corridor. Even though there are no valid mineral claims within the river corridor, access to valid claims on adjacent lands could require authorization of roads in the road corridor to allow "reasonable" access.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild, Scenic, or Scenic/Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor has known mineral potential for zinc, copper, silver, and lead. The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists this area's potential for mineral development at its highest level. Access to existing claims, including road development, would be permitted under designation as a Wild River. However, these roads would affect the primitive character of the area, even though they would not be available for public access or other resource management activities. Existing mineral claims are located at upper elevations and could possibly be accessed through roading of the Virginia Lake valley but this would require building longer roads. Virginia Lake and Creek is also being considered for designation as a Scenic or Recreation River and roading would have to be compatible with that designation if it is selected. Designation of Aaron, Oerns, and Berg Creek as Wild would withdraw the area from mineral entry within the river corridor. Designation as a Scenic or Scenic/Recreational River would allow for mineral prospecting and mining, and could allow limited development of road access to other resources such as recreation and timber where compatible with the outstandingly remarkable values of the river.

*Timber:* The 3,800 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor would either be removed from consideration by designation as a Wild River or by designation as a Scenic and Recreation River since the adjacent land would be managed with an emphasis on old growth, primitive recreation, or semi-primitive recreation values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would require appropriate access and design at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Scenic or Scenic/Recreational designation would allow for some development as well.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around lower reaches of the rivers because of the difficulty of access by both boat and foot. The trail up Berg Creek is currently in a primitive condition, and future plans for it may enhance foot access. Scenic or Scenic/Recreational designation may increase access to fish and wildlife resources if roads are constructed.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations. Conflicts with visual quality and other resources outside the river corridor would be unlikely as designation would effectively prevent road access into the watershed and proposed Land Use Designations for the area would maintain primitive/semi-primitive

conditions. An exception to this would occur if mining activity is initiated on existing claims. Scenic or Scenic/Recreational designation would not affect the scenic resources as all activity would require management in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreation, fish and wildlife values would not likely be affected if the river were not designated as Wild River or Scenic River. The proposed Land Use Designations in Alternatives A, B, D, and P would protect the scenic and recreational values since timber harvests would not be permitted. Non-designation or Recreational River designation of Segment 1 would allow for a road corridor through this Segment to connect Wrangell to Canada. While the possibility of this road being built exists, there are no immediate plans for construction of this transportation link. Furthermore, the most preferred corridor for this road appears to be up the North Fork of the Bradfield River.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view a designation as unacceptable. The possibility of constructing a road which connects Southeast Alaska to Canada has been a subject of discussion in the Wrangell area for years. This drainage is one of several that was studied for a road corridor. Currently, the most favored road link to Canada would be along the North Fork of the Bradfield River. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Aaron, Oerns, and Berg Creeks has been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild, Scenic, or Scenic/Recreational River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated:

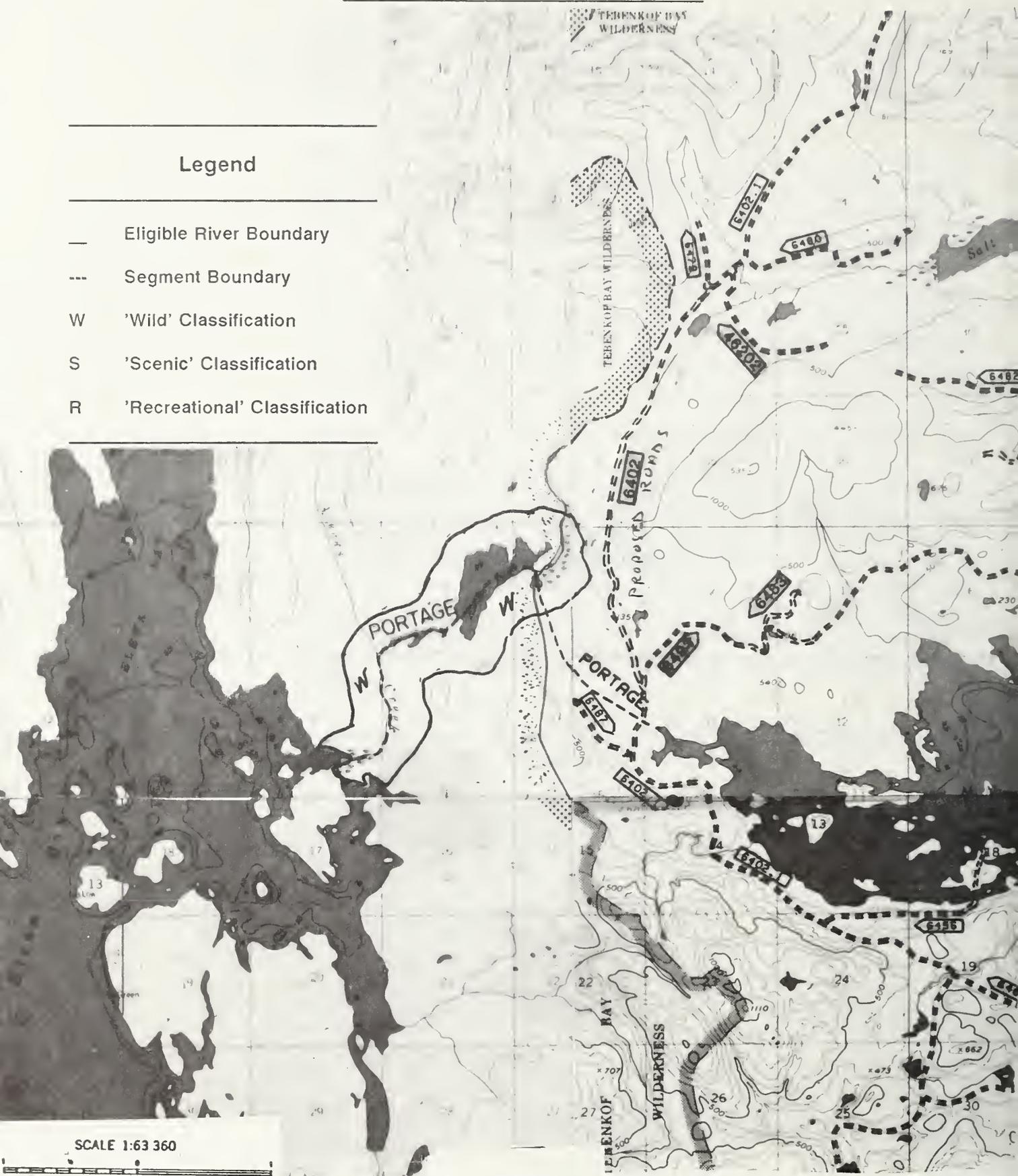
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 47,500

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# ALECKS CREEK and LAKE

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:63 360

## ALECKS CREEK and LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 405, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Alecks Creek and Lake originate from elevations below 1000 feet and flow approximately five miles into saltwater in Elena Bay on Kuiu Island. The entire watershed lies within the Tebenkof Bay Wilderness Area. The stream has high fish values for steelhead, silver and sockeye salmon, and cutthroat trout. Alecks Creek and Lake also have high cultural and recreation values. Near the mouth of the stream is the site of an old native village and fishing camp and remnants of old fish traps are present. Alecks Creek and Lake are part of a recreation canoe portage route from Tebenkof Bay to No Name Bay. The river corridor contains approximately 600 acres, all of which is in National Forest System lands.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Alecks Creek and Lake have outstandingly remarkable fish, recreation, and historic values of national significance because of its location in the Tebenkof Bay Wilderness Area. Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists this stream among the 65 important watersheds for salmon in Southeast Alaska.
<b>Classification</b>	Alecks Creek and Lake meet the guidelines for Wild River classification for five miles.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A, B, and D: Wild River designation for five miles.  Alternatives C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Alecks Creek and Lake is typical of small streams with lakes on Kuiu Island, but its historic, fish, and recreational values are of national significance. A native village and fish camp were once present near the mouth of the stream and evidence of old fish traps are present. Tebenkof Bay, including Alecks Creek and Lake, was heavily used by Alaskan Natives prior to the arrival of the Russians. Natives were attracted to the abundant fishery resources of the bay and streams. Alecks Creek and Lake has a significant run of steelhead that is estimated at 250 fish per year. It is listed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as one of 65 important watersheds in Southeast Alaska. It has significant runs of pink salmon, red salmon, and coho salmon and a lesser run of chum salmon. The pink salmon run averages 27,000 fish per year. The stream is also listed by the Alaska Department and Game as an important cutthroat trout stream and as an important stream for the overwintering of Dolly Varden. A grass flat is present at the mouth of the stream and black bear are often seen, especially when fish are present during late summer and fall. The main recreational use of the stream centers around fishing and bear observa-

tion but its setting contributes to the wilderness experience of visitors to the Tebenkof Bay Wilderness Area. It is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers in the Central Interior Island Geographic Province, it is similar to Kutlaku Creek and Lake on Etoin Island and to Porcupine Creek, Hatchery Creek and Lake and Olive Creek on Kuiu Island and in that context would not be considered unique. The mouth of the creek is approximately 110 miles by boat or 50 miles by air from Petersburg, which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The closest settlement, the logging community of Rowan Bay, is about 24 miles by water from the creek.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvests.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would not affect road development as Wilderness designation forecloses the area to road construction, except as provided for in ANILCA. The river corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect mineral resources as the area is closed to mineral development because of Wilderness designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the timber resource since timber harvest is foreclosed because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on fish and wildlife habitat as these values are already protected by the Wilderness designation of the area.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Recreation and subsistence values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Wild River designation would

not affect these values. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and the designation for this area is Wilderness.

*Historic Resources:* Historic resources are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area since timber harvests, road development, and mineral extraction are foreclosed in Wilderness. Wild River designation would not affect the historic resources of the area.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, historic, and recreational values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. These values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area and by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Timber harvest, road development and mineral entry are already foreclosed because of Wilderness, except as provided for in ANILCA. Water impoundment could occur with Presidential approval. This is unlikely since the area has not been identified as having potential for hydroelectric power generation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. No public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Alecks Creek and Lake were received. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected *additional* funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 27,500

# ALPINE CREEK (LOCAL)



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63 360



## ALPINE CREEK (LOCAL)

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 493, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Alpine Creek originates on the mainland at approximately 4000 feet elevation and flows approximately three miles into the Stikine River. The creek has high scenic values, and lies within the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area. The stream drainage is unroaded and undeveloped. The lower part of the stream can be navigated using a small boat. The canyon contains exceptional alpine and rock formation scenery. The river corridor contains approximately 1,000 acres, all of which is in National Forest System lands.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Alpine Creek has outstandingly remarkable scenic values of national significance because of its close association with the Stikine River and its presence in the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area.
<b>Classification</b>	Three miles of Alpine Creek meet guidelines for Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A, B, and D: Wild River designation for three miles.  Alternatives C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Alpine Creek is typical of small streams on the mainland with steep gradients. It forms a narrow canyon that has outstandingly remarkable views of rock formations and alpine scenery. Because of its close association with the Stikine River and its location in the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area, its scenic values are of national significance. It is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the mainland, it is similar to Cascade Creek and, in that context, would not be considered unique. The creek can be reached by boat from the Stikine River. It is approximately 24 miles by boat from Wrangell which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.  <b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b>  There are no private lands within the corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvests.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would not likely affect road development as Wilderness designation forecloses the area to road construction, except as provided for in ANILCA. The corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect mineral resources as the area is closed to mineral development because of Wilderness designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the timber resource since timber harvest is foreclosed because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on fish and wildlife habitat as these values are already protected by the Wilderness designation of the area.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Recreation and subsistence values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Wild River designation would not affect these values. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and the designation for this area is Wilderness.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. These values are adequately protected since the entire drainage lies within the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area and timber harvest, road development and mineral entry are already foreclosed because of Wilderness, except as provided for in ANILCA. Water impoundment could occur with Presidential approval. This is unlikely since the area has not been identified as having potential for hydroelectric power generation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

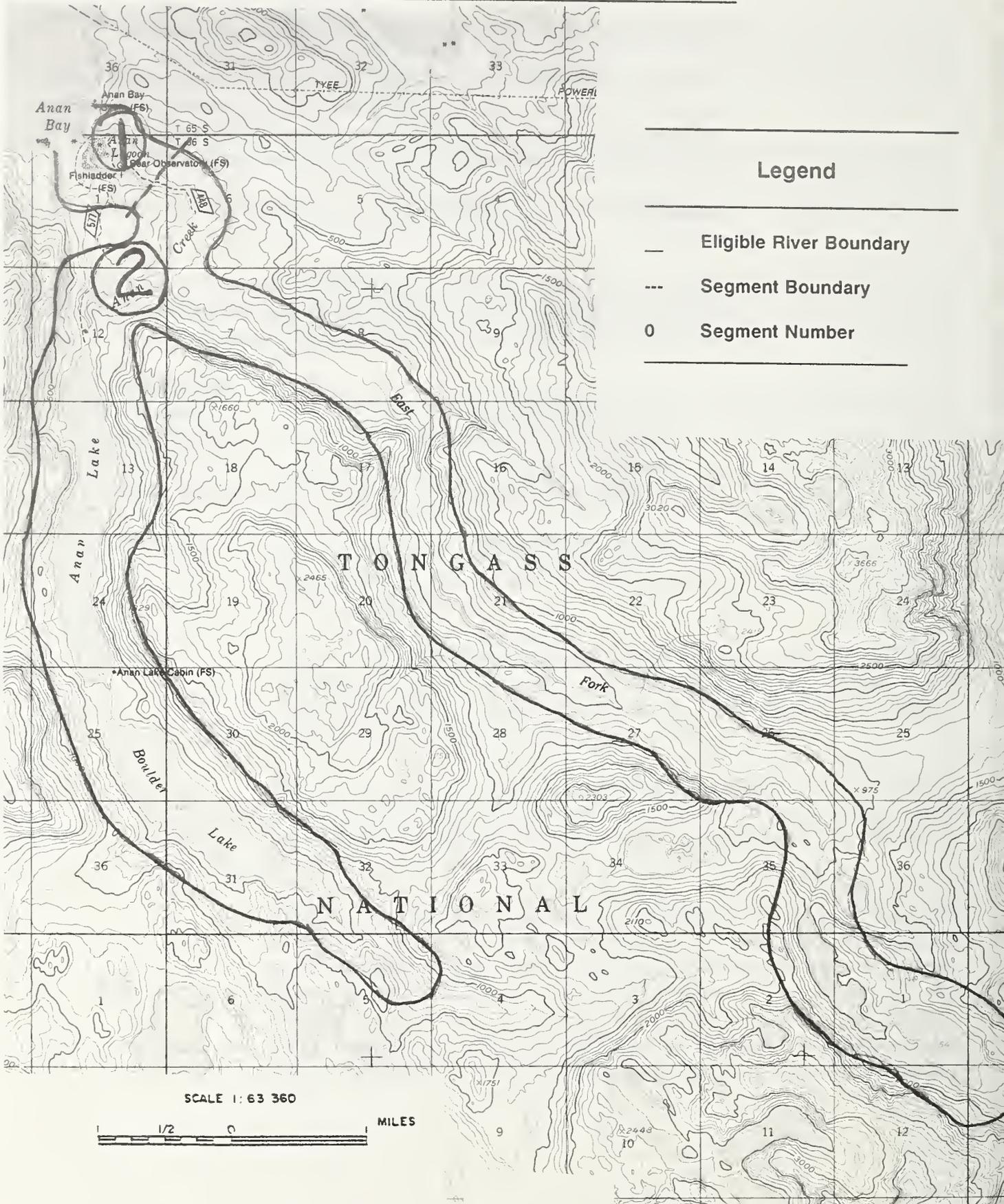
The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. No public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Alpine Creek and Lake were received. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected *additional* funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 27,500

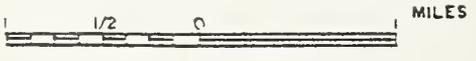
# ANAN CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- - - Segment Boundary
- 0 Segment Number

SCALE 1: 63 360



## ANAN CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District in VCU 522, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Anan Creek originates on the mainland at approximately 3000 feet elevation, and flows approximately eighteen miles saltwater in Anan Bay. The river has high fish, wildlife, and recreation values. An intertidal lagoon, salt chuck, is present at the mouth of the creek. The area is roadless and has never been harvested for timber. There are Forest Service recreation cabins at Anan Bay and at Anan Lake. A trail and bear observatory are present along the lower portion of the stream. Both black and brown bears may be viewed here in large concentrations. The stream has high sport fish and commercial fish values. Anan Creek has one of the largest spawning runs of pink salmon in Southeast Alaska, and was considered as a Research Natural Area. Steelhead, and silver, chum, and sockeye salmon also spawn in Anan Creek. The river corridor contains approximately 7,200 acres, all of which is National Forest System land. This stream lies entirely within a Legislated LUD II allocation.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Anan Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish, recreation, and wildlife values of regional and national significance because of the intense concentration of fish, the number of bears and the certainty of viewing bears during salmon runs. The area's values are well known throughout Southeast Alaska. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Anan Creek as one of the 19 high quality watersheds in Southeast Alaska with salmon escapement averaging about 165,000 fish per year. Anan Creek has also been proposed as a Research Natural Area.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Eighteen miles of Anan Creek meet guidelines for Wild River classification. This includes both tributaries. For analysis purposes, the creek has two segments: Segment 1 includes the lower 0.5 miles of the creek, Segment 2 includes the creek for 17.5 miles above Segment 1.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Wild River designation for all 18 miles.</p> <p>Alternatives B, D and P: Scenic River designation for the lower 0.5 miles and Wild River designation for the upper 17.5 miles.</p> <p>Alternative C. No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Anan Creek is typical of smaller rivers originating on the mainland. However its fish, wildlife, and recreation values are of regional and national significance. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Coast Range Geo-</p>

graphic Province. As a representative example of rivers in this province, Anan Creek is similar to Eagle River and Lake, Harding River, Martin Lake and Creek, and Virginia Lake and Creek and in that context would not be considered unique. It does differ from these creeks in that it has a salt chuck and a much larger pink salmon run, as well as higher concentrations of brown and black bears. Anan Creek is about 28 miles by air and about 31 miles by boat from Wrangell, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The recreation cabin on Anan Lake is 31 air miles from Wrangell. It is well known for its concentration of bears and is visited by people from both Southeast Alaska and from outside Alaska.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There is one small parcel of native corporation land near the mouth of the Creek. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor and none would be affected by designation.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities. There are no plans for transportation corridors within the drainage and the land adjacent to the corridor will be managed in a roadless state to maintain its wild land character in all alternatives. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor has no mineral claims. Neither the U.S Bureau of Mines nor the USGS list this area as having potential for mineral development. Claims adjacent to the river corridor in other drainages would not be affected. Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would not affect establishment of any new mineral claims in adjacent areas as Legislated LUD II lands are open for mineral entry, but they may be subject to greater exploration and development costs due to stringent access, mitigation and reclamation requirements. Wild River designation would prohibit mineral exploration and development within the river corridor.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would have no effect on the timber resource within or adjacent to the corridor as timber resources are unsuitable in Legislated LUD II lands.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would have little effect on this resource in a Legislated LUD II area. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would require appropriate access and design, at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Bear populations would be unaffected by either designation as bear hunting is prohibited in the Anan Creek drainage.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around lower reaches of the rivers. In the context of a Wild River for Southeast Alaska, designation as a Wild River may affect future development of recreation trails and structures that could be built to accommodate or encourage visitors for bear observation. Plans to develop a boat dock and ramp in the salt chuck and interpretive aids along the trail would likely not be compatible with Wild River designation. Anan Creek receives a daily average of 20-25 visitors during weekdays and about 75 visitors per day on weekends during peak use periods, mostly to observe bears feeding on pink salmon. Designation as a Wild River may require reducing the number of visitors allowed to maintain infrequent interaction among users. Scenic designation would allow for more extensive recreational development, primarily at the lower end of the river where bear observation and fishing are the primary uses. Scenic designation of Segment 1 in a Legislated LUD II area would prohibit scheduled timber harvest, most road construction, and major recreation facilities. However, construction of the dock and ramp in the salt chuck and further trail development would be allowed.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River or Scenic River designation would have no effect on the visual resource within the river corridor. Visual quality within the river corridor would be managed in accordance with Legislated LUD II designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, and recreation values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild or Scenic River. These values are protected since the entire drainage is managed under guidelines for a Legislated LUD II area.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view a Wild or Scenic designation as unacceptable. Public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically asked that Anan Creek be given Wild River designation.

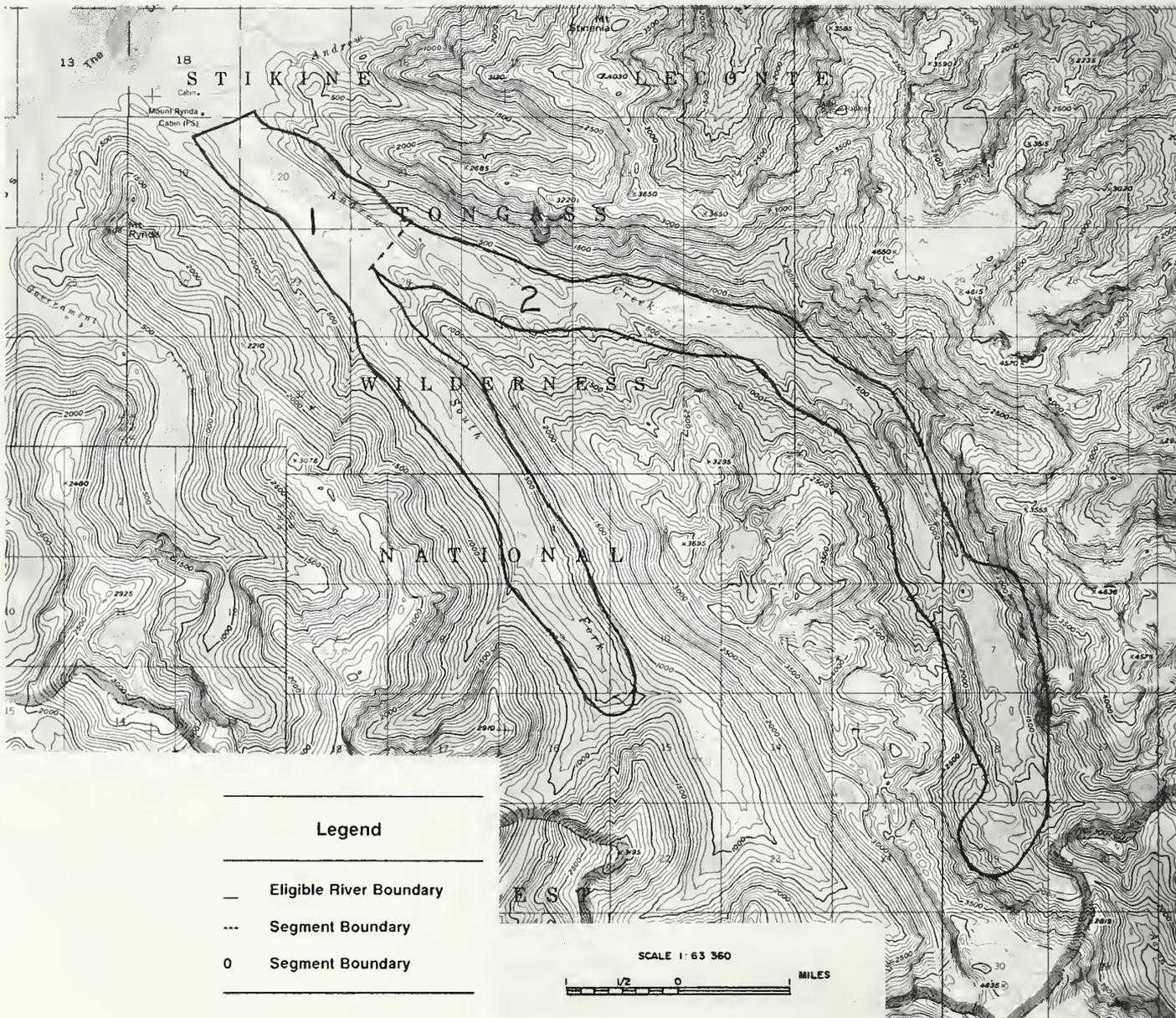
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. Several recreation developments are proposed for the area. They include upgrade of the present trail, a boat dock in the salt chuck for small boats, and a ramp from the dock. Another bear observation area was considered a short distance up stream from the present observation area, but is not in any plans to date. A trail connecting Anan Creek to Frosty Bay has been proposed, along with relocation of a recreation cabin and construction of a shelter. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 10,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$520,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$575,000

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ANDREWS CREEK



## ANDREWS CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU's 493 and 498, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Andrews Creek originates on the mainland at approximately 2000 feet elevation and flows approximately 17 miles into the Stikine River. The river has high commercial and sport fish values. It also has high wildlife, scenic, and recreation values. Both forks of Andrews Creek lie within the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area. The stream drainage is unroaded and undeveloped except for minor recreation and salmon roe taking structures below the forks of the stream. Andrews Creek water is significantly more clear than that of the Stikine River. It hosts a king salmon spawning run in the South Fork, and contributes clear (non-glacial) water quality to the Stikine River. The river corridor contains approximately 5,300 acres, all of which is in National Forest System lands.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Andrews Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish, scenic, and wildlife values of national significance.
<b>Classification</b>	Andrews Creek and Lake meet the guidelines for Wild River classification for eighteen miles. For analysis, the river was divided into two segments: Segment 1 includes the lower river and South Fork tributary for eight miles and one mile of the lower north fork; Segment 2 includes the upper nine miles of the north fork of the river.
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation of Segments 1 and 2 for eighteen miles.</p> <p>Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p> <p>Alternative D: Recreational River Designation for nine miles of Segment 1 and Wild River designation of Segment 2 for nine miles.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Andrews Creek is typical of streams on the mainland. Its fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreational values are of national significance because of its association with the Stikine River and its location in the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area. Andrews Creek has small runs of steelhead, king, coho, and red salmon and a good run of pink salmon that averages about 6,000 fish per year. Moose, brown bear, and black bear are present and the area is used for moose hunting. Scenic values include views of meadows and forest communities along the stream with a backdrop of rugged mountains. Andrews Creek is used for fishing, big game hunting and scenic viewing. A Forest Service recreation cabin is located near the mouth</p>

of the creek. It is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers in the Coast Range Geographic Province, it is similar Anan Creek, Aaron, Oerns, and Berg Creek, and, in that context, would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Andrews Creek is readily accessible for recreation. The mouth of the creek is approximately 18 miles by boat from Wrangell, which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. Access by air, 15 air miles from Wrangell, is operator dependant and is limited to periods of high water.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use In the area Including the amount of prlvate land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvests. A special use permit for a tent platform for moose hunting is located where the two forks come together. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has a special use permit for a fish weir on the south fork of the creek for the purpose of taking salmon eggs. The Forest Service cabin at Rynda Mountain is just outside and down river from the corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminlshed If the area Is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation might foreclose the corridor to road development, except as provided for in ANILCA. The south fork of Andrews Creek has been identified by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities as a potential transportation link that would connect Wrangell to Petersburg. This link is dependent on construction of a road from Petersburg to Canada along the Stikine River, requiring congressional approval. Recreational River designation of Segment 1 would permit construction of the Wrangell to Petersburg link along this segment. Other road construction within the corridor would likely be foreclosed because the area is in Wilderness.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River or as a Wild/Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River or Wild/Recreational River designation would not affect availability of mineral resources as the area is closed to mineral development because of Wilderness designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River or Wild/Recreational River would not affect the timber resource since timber harvest is foreclosed because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River or as a Wild/Recreational River would have no effect on fish and wildlife habitat as these values are already protected by the Wilderness designation of the area.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Recreation and subsistence values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Wild River or Wild/Recreational River designation would not affect these values. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower few miles of the creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River or Wild/Recreational River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and the designation for this area is Wilderness.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, scenic and recreational values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River or as a Wild/Recreational River. These values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area, except as provided for in ANILCA. In the event that the road link were to be built through the river corridor in Segment 1, the surrounding area would likely be managed for Wilderness and, therefore, for preservation. Even though the area is in Wilderness, the creek is open to water impoundment with Presidential approval. Impoundment is unlikely since the area has not been identified as having potential for hydroelectric power generation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has identified this area as having potential for a transportation link connecting Wrangell to Petersburg and may oppose designation. No public comments to the Revision DEIS were received specifically referring to Andrews Creek. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected *additional* funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

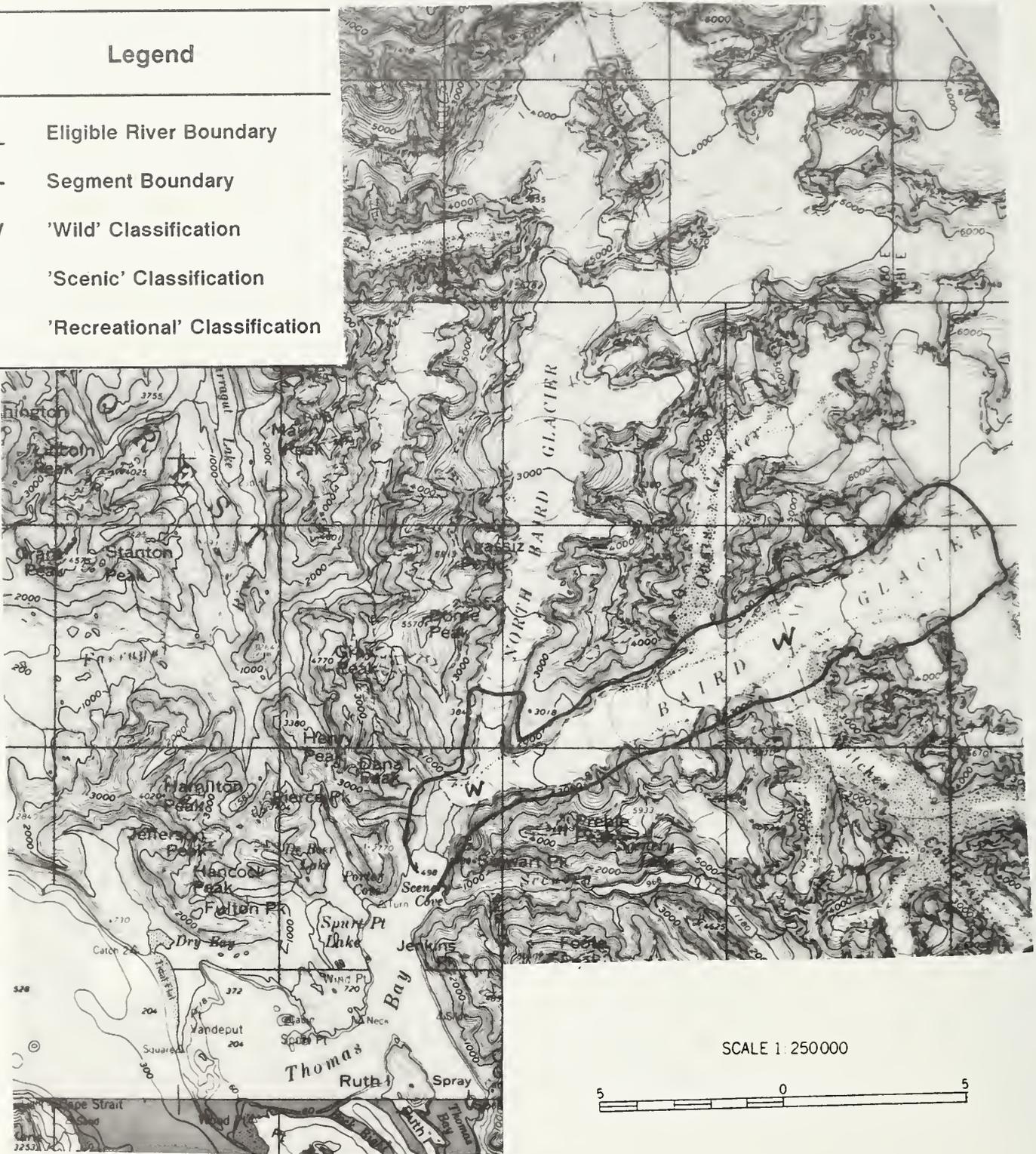
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 27,500

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# BAIRD GLACIER

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



## BAIRD GLACIER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU 481 and 482, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Baird Glacier originates from ice fields above 5000 feet elevation, and flows twenty miles in two major tributaries to near saltwater in Thomas Bay on the mainland. The glacier is accessible to hikers from saltwater and provides an avenue to hike and ski the ice fields, or climb Devil's Thumb. The glacier is visited by flightseers from tour boats. There is a significant arctic tern nesting area near tidewater on the terminal moraine. Baird Glacier has high scenic, wildlife, and recreation values. The drainage is undeveloped and unroaded. The river corridor contains approximately 27,500 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Baird Glacier has outstandingly remarkable recreation, wildlife, and scenic values of national significance. This is the Stikine Area's only saltwater access to ice fields for hikers. The arctic tern colony is the southern most permanent tern colony in Alaska. Mountain goats are present on the slopes around the glacier.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Baird Glacier meets the guidelines for Wild classification for 20 miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A, B, and D: Wild River designation for all 20 miles</p> <p>Alternative C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Baird Glacier is typical of glaciers originating on the mainland. Its wildlife, scenic, and recreation values are of national significance. The glacier is one of two eligible glaciers and 41 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of glaciers in this province, it is similar to the the LeConte Glacier but it does not reach saltwater. It differs from the LeConte Glacier in that its gradient is less steep near the terminus and therefore more accessible for hiking and as a corridor to the ice fields. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Baird Glacier is readily accessible for recreation. Its moraine is 18 air miles or 20 miles by boat from Petersburg, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. From saltwater, it is about one mile to the glacier.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor.</p>

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities. The area has not been identified as a suitable transportation link by the State of Alaska or the Forest Service. Wild River designation generally limits road construction within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has no valid mineral claims. The area is not listed by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as an area with mineral development potential.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect timber harvest levels as land within and adjacent to the corridor is classified in all alternatives for primitive and semi-primitive recreation and the timber resource is therefore considered as unsuitable.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There is no fishery resource associated with the river. Wildlife values would remain unchanged with or without designation as the river is in a primitive/semi-primitive prescription in all alternatives.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Subsistence use would not be affected.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations for primitive or semi-primitive recreation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable wildlife, scenic and recreation values will not be adversely affected if the river is not designated as Wild River. All the land within and adjacent to the corridor is recommended for primitive or semi-primitive recreation in all alternatives.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

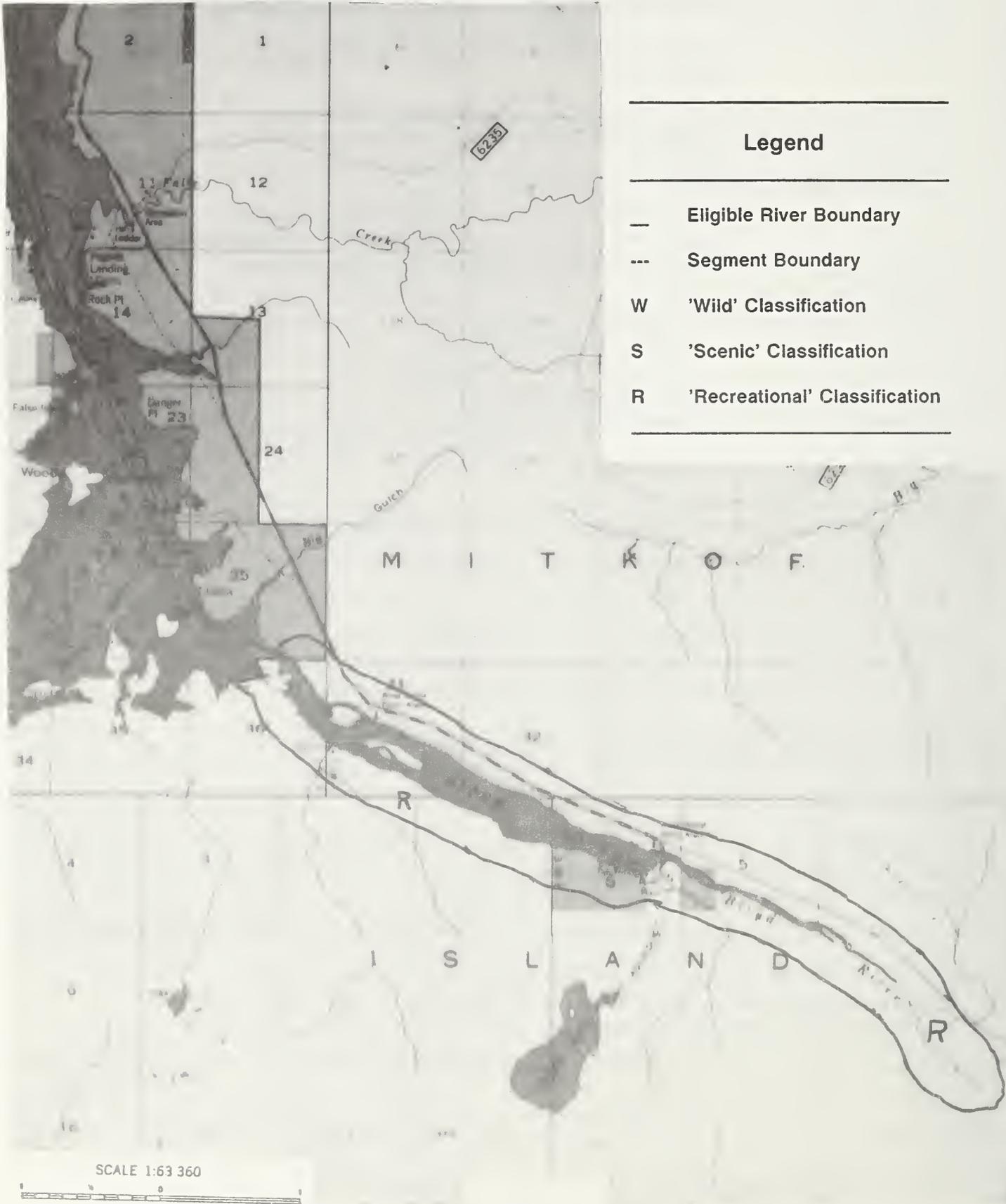
No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Baird Glacier has been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 47,500

# BLIND RIVER



## BLIND RIVER

### Description

Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU 451, Tongass National Forest, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Blind River originates from elevations below 500 feet and flows approximately 5 miles into saltwater in the Wrangell Narrows on Mitkof Island. The stream has high fish values for steelhead, silver, king, and chum salmon, and cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout. Blind River also has high wildlife, and recreation values. The State of Alaska operates a fish hatchery on the stream that produces an excess of returning fish including king salmon, coho salmon, and steelhead. Sport fishing and personal use are usually encouraged to utilize the excess fish. The Petersburg Municipal Power and Light Company operates a hydroelectric generating plant next to the fish hatchery. The State of Alaska owns some of the land occupied by the hatchery but is prevented from acquiring the remainder by a federal withdrawal for power generation. The State of Alaska also owns land near the mouth of Blind River. The Forest Service manages a picnic ground along the bank opposite the hatchery. Swimming is popular on warm summer days and the area is sometimes crowded. Canoeing is also popular at this site. About one mile from the lower end of the corridor, a Forest Service recreation trail leads from the highway to Blind Rapids. This area is a major sport fishing area where visiting tourists can fish from the streambank. There is a small picnic shelter here. At Blind Island there are a few picnic tables for solitary picnic opportunities. A bird observation blind is located along the road about one mile down river from the hatchery. Blind River remains ice free longer than most freshwater areas, so it is used as important winter habitat by trumpeter swans. Much of the area is closed by a Forest Supervisor's closure to outboard motors and off-road vehicles to prevent harassment of the birds. The State of Alaska has closed part of the stream to hunting. Much of the area is roaded and developed. The river corridor contains approximately 1,600 acres, most of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Blind River has outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, recreation, and ecological values of regional and national significance. Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists this stream among the 65 "important" watersheds for salmon in Southeast Alaska. This stream is one of a few places in Southeast Alaska where sport fishing in fresh water for king salmon is permitted. It is also one of the few wintering areas in Southeast Alaska for Trumpeter Swans. Blind River has a wide variety of resources close to a population center and is utilized by many people. Blind River was considered as a Research Natural Area.

### Classification

Five miles of the Blind River meet the guidelines as a Recreational River.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A, B, D and P: Recreational River designation for 5 miles.

Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Blind River is unique among the 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. Its fish, wildlife, ecological, and recreation values are of regional and national significance. As a representative example of rivers in this province, Blind River is the only one with extensive marsh and meadows associated with most of its corridor. Because of its wide banks and low gradient, it is influenced by high tides from Wrangell Narrows to above the hatchery. A wide shallow salt chuck is present above Blind River Rapids. The associated vegetation provides a diversity of plant life that is available for waterfowl, including trumpeter swans. The flushing action of high tides break up ice and remove it from the river maintaining ice free conditions for much of the winter, making plant and animal food sources available for wildlife during winter. During severe winters when tides do not break up the ice, an ice free area is usually present near the hatchery where Crystal Creek enters the river. During most years, about 50 swans winter on Blind River. Numbers may be greater or lesser depending on the severity of the winter. The area is also a significant feeding and resting area for migrating swans and other waterfowl. The river is about 15 miles from Petersburg along the Mitkof Highway. The highway is maintained to the hatchery throughout the year.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are private and State lands within the river corridor. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor and none would be affected by designation. The State of Alaska operates a fish hatchery on the river at the mouth of Crystal Creek. The State of Alaska owns land on the river adjacent to and including some of the land occupied by the hatchery. The State also owns land within the river corridor at the mouth of the river. Two adjacent, small landholdings are present north of the river (NE1/4, SW1/4, Sec 5, T61S, R81E). An aqueduct from Crystal Lake passes into the river corridor to a hydroelectric generating plant located next to the hatchery and operated by the Petersburg Municipal Power and Light Company. Two special use recreational cabins are present on the south side of the river opposite Blind Island.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Recreation River would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities since a state highway currently runs parallel with the river for the entire length of the river corridor. A Forest Service road

along the south side of the river has been proposed to access timber and to tie in with the Woodpecker Cove Road, completing a loop road around the southern portion of Mitkof Island. The proposal encountered considerable opposition from local residents and was dropped from further consideration. Designation as a Recreation River would not affect the potential use of the south side of the river as a transportation corridor.

*Water Resources:* Designation as a Recreation River would not affect water and power development. An existing hydroelectric generating plant in the corridor draws water via an aqueduct from Crystal Lake which is outside the river corridor. No source of water within the corridor is suitable for power generation and no power withdrawals are present.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has no mineral claims. Neither the U.S. Bureau of Mines nor the USGS list this area as having potential for mineral development. Designation as a Recreational River would allow for mineral exploration and development as long as activities minimized effects to other resources.

*Timber:* Designation as a Recreation River would allow potential harvest on approximately 1,600 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor in alternative D. However no harvest would occur in alternatives A, B, and P due to the special interest area designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as Recreation River would not prevent maintenance or development of fish enhancement projects. Projects may be identified and implemented which create or improve angling opportunities or meet the objectives of the Interagency Regional Salmon Plans. Wildlife populations would be unaffected by designation as hunting is prohibited in important swan habitat and the area is closed to motorized vehicle use during the time when swans are present.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Recreation River would maintain the current recreation and subsistence opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around currently used areas. Designation as a Recreation River would not affect future development of recreation trails and structures that could be built to accommodate or encourage visitors.

*Scenic Resources:* Recreation River designation would have no effect on the visual resource within the river corridor. Visual quality management within and adjacent to the corridor is compatible with Recreational River designation for all alternatives.

*Ecological Values:* Ecological values would not be affected by designation as a Recreation River. Ecological values are associated with the unique marsh and meadows plant communities that are along most of the river's banks and their value for wildlife, especially waterfowl.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, recreation, and ecological values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as Recreational River. The river corridor is already well developed and roaded. Timber harvesting has occurred on the north side of the river within the river corridor. Additional timber harvest and recreational development on lands within and adjacent to the river corridor may require that roads be built on the south side of the river. Fish habitat values, sport fishing, and ecological values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Forest Plan Revision Alternatives C and D that timber would be harvested within the corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection land use designation. Timber harvest would be limited to small group selections or small clearcuts of approximately 20 acres.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

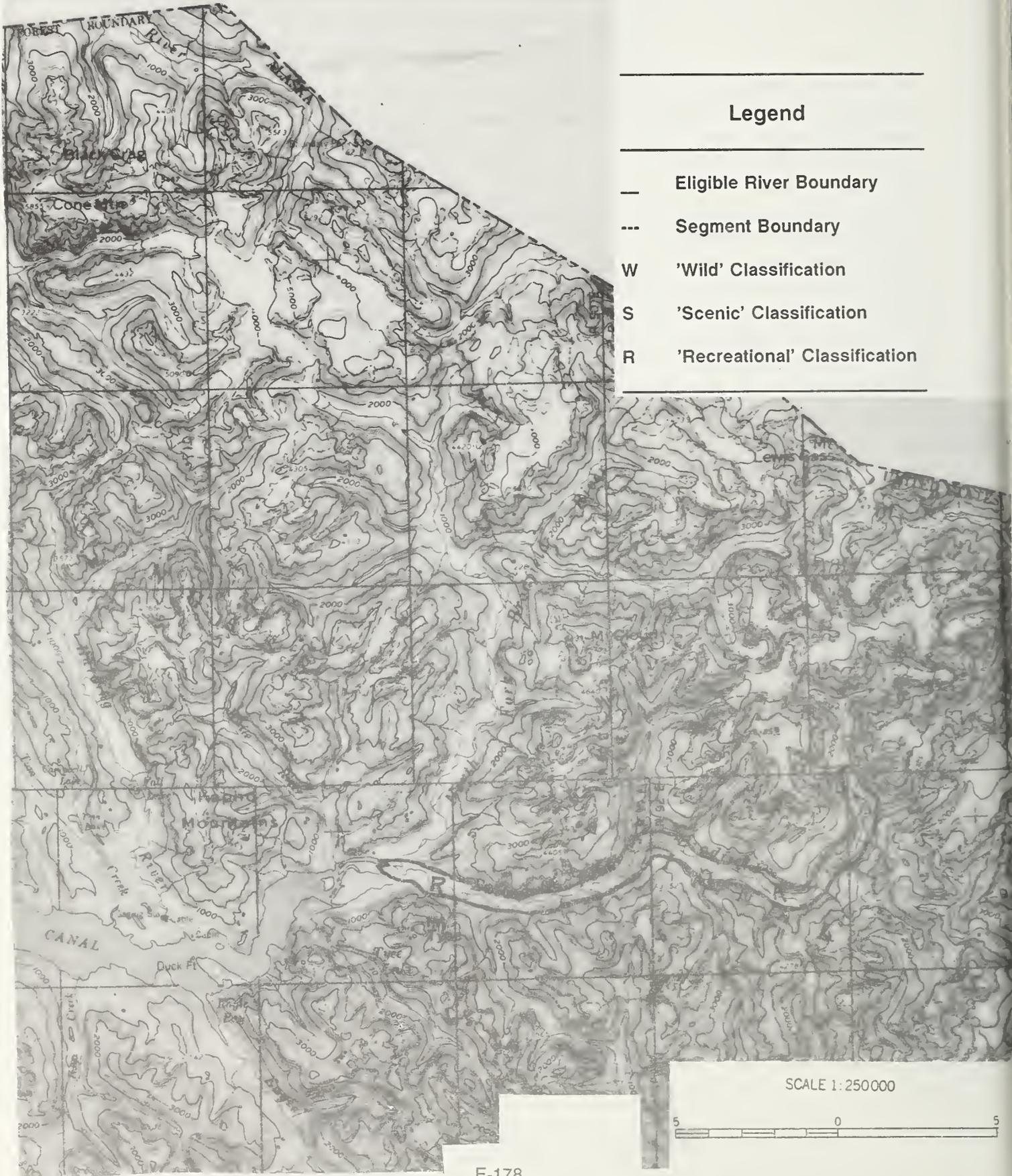
The State of Alaska maintains the Mitkof Highway and a fish hatchery along the river. The City of Petersburg maintains a hydroelectric power plant near the hatchery. Designation as a Recreation River would have no effect on these developments. Public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically asked that Blind River be managed as a Special Interest Area because of its warm-water salt chuck estuary, trumpeter swans, fishery, and its botanical/zoological and public interpretive values. Other comments suggest that Blind River be managed for Old-Growth, Primitive Recreation, or Semi-Primitive Recreation on the river, and that the remaining uncut drainages that flow into the river be managed to protect the river for its fishing, hunting, and recreation values.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Recreational River.**

No private lands would be acquired. Expansion and enhancements to the existing trails, parking areas and facilities at the blind River Rapids and Blind Slough recreation sites are planned. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$360,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$420,000

# BRADFIELD RIVER (EAST FORK)



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:250000



## BRADFIELD RIVER (EAST FORK)

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District in VCU 514 and 517, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, the East Fork of the Bradfield River originates from glaciers at elevations of approximately 5000 feet and flows approximately 19 miles into saltwater in the Bradfield Canal on the mainland. It is considered a major river because of its flow volume. The stream has potentially high fish values for steelhead and king salmon. Coho, pink, and chum salmon are also present. The East Fork of the Bradfield River has high scenic values and wildlife values for brown bear and mountain goat. A temporary road was constructed up the East Fork in the early 1970's and timber was harvested along the river. Portions of the road are still evident but most of the bridge crossings have been washed away, and motorized use is infrequent. Past timber harvest units and gravel borrow areas in the stream channel are still evident. The forest lands suitable for timber harvest in the drainage are mainly confined to the uncut and second-growth stands adjacent to the river, while higher elevations are generally non-forested. The river corridor contains approximately 7,700 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>East Fork of the Bradfield River has outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, and scenic values of regional significance. The exceptional combination of scenic resources, the presence of king salmon, and the presence of a number of species of wildlife were important considerations in the determination of eligibility.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Nineteen miles of the East Fork of the Bradfield River meet the guidelines for Recreational River classification. The amount of roading and timber harvest has modified the drainage sufficiently so that it no longer meets the guidelines for Wild or Scenic classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A and B: Recreational River designation for all 19 miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>East Fork of the Bradfield River is typical of rivers on the mainland. Its wildlife, fish, and scenic values are considered of regional significance. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers of this province, it is similar to North Fork of the Bradfield River and the Farragut River, and in that context would not be considered unique. The East Fork of the Bradfield River has an anadromous fish run that includes steelhead and king salmon. The drainage supports both brown</p>

and black bear and has a small moose population. The steep mountains surrounding the river support mountain goats and provide scenic views from the river corridor. The river is located about 35 air miles or 46 miles by boat from Wrangell, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor. Other claims in adjacent lands would not be affected by designation. The Thomas Bay Power Authority operates a hydroelectric power generation plant that is located about two miles west of the river corridor. A road connects the power plant to the river but the bridge crossing is out. The power withdrawal is outside the river corridor. The State of Alaska has selected several thousand acres of land at the head of Bradfield Canal, part of which encompasses the lower two miles of the corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of the East Fork of the Bradfield River as a Recreational River would have no effect on present or future transportation system opportunities. The area is already roaded from previous timber harvests. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities of the State of Alaska have proposed the North Fork of the Bradfield River for a road corridor and powerline corridor to connect Southeast Alaska to Canada. The lower portion of the East Fork of the Bradfield River is in a proposed road link that would connect Ketchikan to the Southeast Alaska to Canada road. It is likely that the lower portion of the East Fork of the Bradfield River would be crossed if either the road or the powerline were built. Designation as a Recreational River would allow for road and powerline construction. Even though there are no valid mineral claims within the river corridor, access to valid claims on adjacent lands could require authorization of roads in the river corridor to allow for access.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Designation as a Recreational River would not affect mineral entry. Neither the U.S Bureau of Mines nor the USGS list this area as having potential for mineral development. However, a iron rich sand deposit is present at the mouth of the Bradfield River. New mining claims would be permitted but

mineral exploration and development activities would have to be mitigated to be compatible with management emphasis for the area.

*Timber:* The approximately 3,500 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor would not contribute to the allowable sale quantity in alternatives A and B, since adjacent land would be managed for semi-primitive recreation values. They would be scheduled for limited harvest in alternatives C, D and P.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Recreation River would maintain existing habitat conditions for the fishery resource. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would not be adversely affected. Road development, allowed under this designation, could increase access for sport fishing. King salmon stocks would not be affected as fishing for natural runs of king salmon is prohibited in fresh water in Southeast Alaska. Roading or other development that would increase access in this area could increase hunting pressure on brown bear, goats, and possibly moose.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Recreational River would maintain the current recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources could increase if roads or other development increased access to the river.

*Scenic Resources:* The scenic values within the river corridor would be protected by Recreational River designation. In Alternatives A and B scenic values of adjacent land would be managed for primitive and semi-primitive recreation and would be unaffected by designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic values could be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Recreational River. Timber harvest on lands within and adjacent to the corridor would likely be visible from the corridor. In Alternatives C, D and P, the lower nine miles are managed for intensive timber harvest and the scenic values would be unprotected. Harvest in this segment would reduce the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and other uses. The upper 10 miles would be managed for primitive recreation and would be protected. Fish habitat and sport fishing values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view a designation as unacceptable despite allowance for location of transportation and utility corridors within Recreation River Systems. The possibility of constructing a powerline or road which connects Southeast Alaska

to Canada as identified in the Southeast Alaska Corridor Plan has been the subject of local controversy, with some residents in the area opposed to a power and road link and others in favor. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to the East Fork of the Bradfield River has been received.

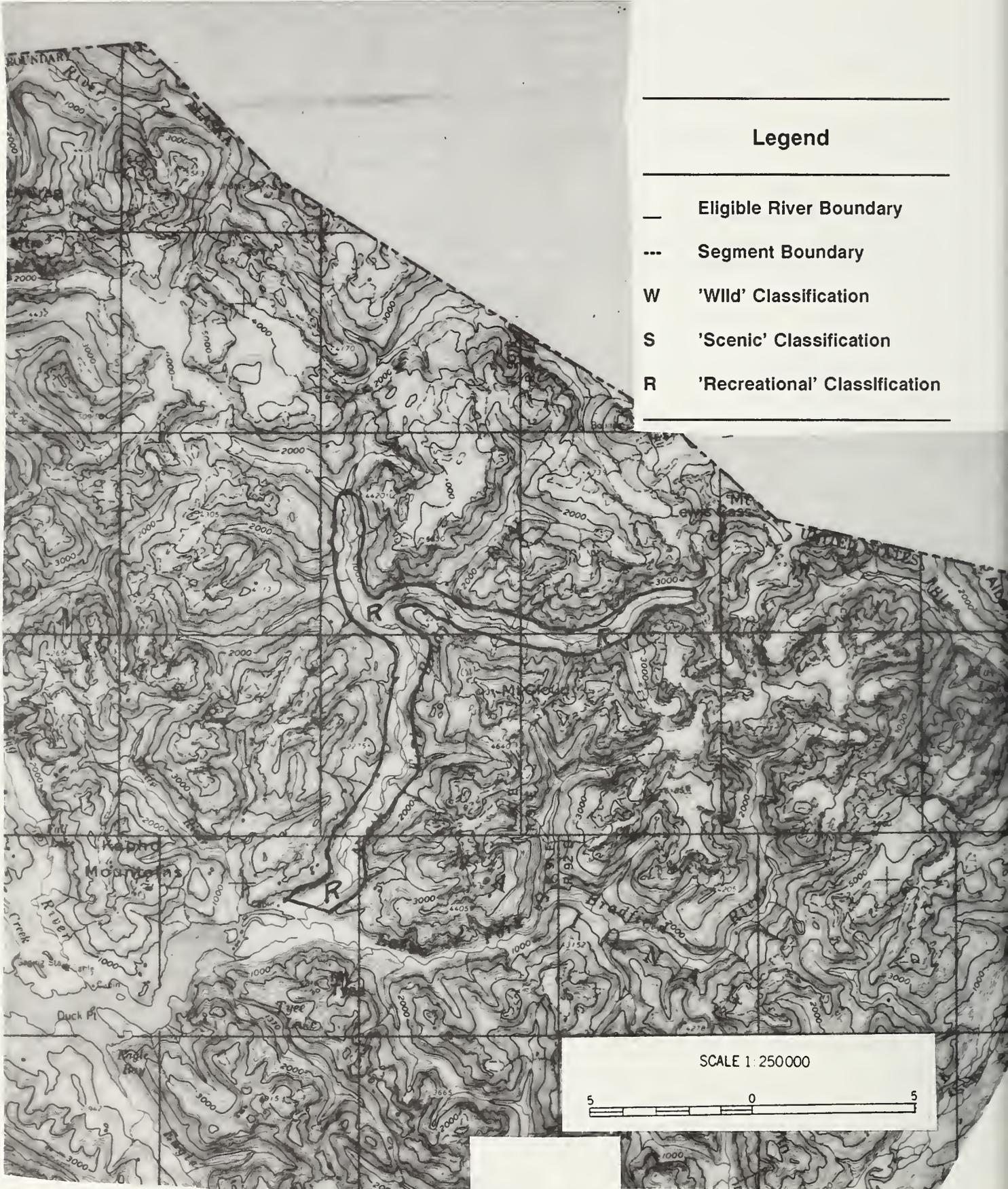
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Recreational River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands, no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area, and planning and management costs are relatively low. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 47,500

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# BRADFIELD RIVER (NORTH FORK)



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## NORTH FORK of the BRADFIELD RIVER

### Description

Located on the Wrangell Ranger District in VCU 514, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, the North Fork of the Bradfield River originates from glaciers at elevations of approximately 5000 feet and flows approximately 27 miles into saltwater in the Bradfield Canal on the mainland. The stream has high fish values for steelhead and king salmon. Coho, chum, pink, and sockeye salmon are also present. The North Fork of the Bradfield River also has high scenic and wildlife values. The drainage provides many views of glaciated alpine areas and numerous small glaciers and hanging valleys. The area has mountain goat and brown bear. Roding and timber harvest have occurred all along the North Fork. The temporary road used to harvest the area is no longer passable in many locations and bridges have been destroyed by floods. This drainage is being considered as a possible route for a road connecting Wrangell and Canada. The river corridor contains approximately 9,300 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

North Fork of the Bradfield River has outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, and scenic values of regional significance. The outstanding scenic values in combination with the variety of wildlife and fish values, including brown bear and king salmon, were important considerations in the determination of eligibility.

### Classification

North Fork of the Bradfield River meets the guidelines for Recreational River classification for 27 miles. The amount of roding and timber harvest has modified the drainage sufficiently so that it no longer meets the guidelines for Wild or Scenic River classification.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A and B: Recreational River designation for all 27 miles.

Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

North Fork of the Bradfield River is typical of rivers on the mainland. Its wildlife, fish, and scenic values are considered of regional significance. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers of this province, it is similar to East Fork of the Bradfield River and the Farragut River, and in that context would not be considered unique. The North Fork of the Bradfield River has an anadromous fish run that includes steelhead and king salmon as well as pink, chum, coho, and sockeye salmon and cutthroat trout. The drainage supports both brown and black bear and has a small moose population. The steep mountains surrounding the river support mountain goats and provide scenic views from the river corridor of

glaciers, hanging valleys, and alpine areas. The river is located about 35 air miles or 46 miles by boat from Wrangell, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor. One old claim for gold is present within the river corridor. Other claims in adjacent lands would not be affected by designation. The Thomas Bay Power Authority operates a hydroelectric power generation plant that is located about two and a half miles west of the lower end of the river corridor. The power withdrawal is located outside the river corridor. A road connects the power plant to within about a quarter mile of the corridor but access is barred as the bridge crossing is out on the East Fork of the river. There is an existing special use permit for a powerline from the power plant to the Canadian border that follows the North Fork drainage. The State of Alaska has selected several thousand acres at the head of the Bradfield Canal but title has not been transferred. This selection includes approximately one mile of the lower end of the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of the North Fork of the Bradfield River as a Recreational River would have no effect on present or future transportation system opportunities. The area is already roaded from previous timber harvests. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities of the State of Alaska have proposed the North Fork of the Bradfield River for a road corridor and powerline corridor to connect Southeast Alaska to Canada. This proposal is currently considered the most favorable access route from Southeast Alaska to Canada and if the road were built, it would be part of a road system that would connect Wrangell to Canada. Designation as a Recreation River would allow for road and powerline construction.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having potential for mineral development. However, an iron rich sand deposit is present at the mouth of the Bradfield River. The USGS also estimates the undiscovered, mineral resource potential of parts of the upper river to have a Gross In Place Value

of \$40,000 - \$400,000 per acre (not including any development costs). Designation as a Recreational River would not affect mineral entry. New mining claims would be permitted, but mineral exploration and development activities would have to be compatible with land use designation for the area.

*Timber:* The approximately 3,200 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor would not continue to contribute to the allowable sale quantity since the area would be managed for primitive and semi-primitive recreation in alternatives A and B. They would contribute to the timber base in the other alternatives.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Recreational River would maintain existing habitat conditions for the fishery resource. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would not be adversely affected. Road development, allowed under this designation, could increase access for sport fishing. King salmon stocks would not be affected as fishing for king salmon is prohibited in fresh water in Southeast Alaska. Roading or other development that would increase access in this area could increase hunting pressure on brown bear, black bear, goats, and moose.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Recreational River would maintain the current recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources could increase in the event that a road were built into Canada.

*Scenic Resources:* Scenic values of the river corridor and the adjacent land seen from the corridor would be managed for primitive and semi-primitive recreation and would not be affected by designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic values in the lower 13 miles could be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Recreational River. Timber harvest on lands within and adjacent to the river corridor would likely be visible from the corridor. Alternatives C, D and P would allow potential timber harvest throughout most of the river corridor since adjacent land use designations would emphasize timber production. They would allow potential harvest on approximately 3,200 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. Harvest activities within the corridor would be limited to the lower 13 miles of river and would utilize silvicultural treatments which would ensure compatibility with visual objectives of the area within the river corridor. Ground conditions may require restrictive harvest and helicopter logging may be required to remove the timber in some areas. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected in all alternatives by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the Forest Plan standards and guidelines. Harvest would also reduce the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view Recreational River designation as unacceptable despite allowance for location of transportation and utility corridors within Recreational River systems. The possibility of constructing a powerline or road which connects Southeast Alaska to Canada (identified in the Southeast Alaska Corridor Plan) has been the subject of local controversy, with some residents in the area opposed to a power and road link and others in favor. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to the North Fork of the Bradfield River has been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Recreational River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands, no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area, and planning and management costs are relatively low. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
<b>Total - First Five Years</b>	<b>\$ 47,500</b>

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# CASCADE CREEK

SCALE 1:63 360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



## CASCADE CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU 486, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Cascade Creek originates from glaciers above 5000 feet elevation, and flows five miles to saltwater in Thomas Bay on the mainland. Tour boats, charter boats, and individuals visit the mouth of the stream where a short walk upstream allows viewing of a waterfall. Forest Service recreation cabins located nearby on Thomas Bay (Cascade Creek) and on Swan Lake house visitors enjoying the area. There is a Forest Service trail from Cascade Creek Cabin to the creek and the falls. A very difficult trail leads from the falls upstream to Swan Lake. The canyon has exceptional scenic values with rock formations, two alpine lakes, and many waterfalls. Swan Lake, Falls Lake, and Cascade Creek have an abundant population of rainbow trout. The area lies within a withdrawal for hydroelectric power generation. Cascade Creek has high recreation, fish, and scenic values. The drainage is undeveloped and unroaded. A small area was harvested near saltwater, but the harvest area is screened from the stream and has regenerated to the extent it is not obvious to the casual observer. The river corridor contains approximately 2,700 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Cascade Creek has outstandingly remarkable scenic, fish, and recreation values of national significance due to the exceptional trout fishing and alpine scenery including waterfalls. Swan and Falls Lakes have some of the best rainbow trout fishing on the Stikine Area. The recreational cabin at Swan Lake is one of the most popular on the Stikine Area and is occupied for most of the ice free season. The exceptional recreational opportunities associated with the scenic and fishing resources were important considerations in the determination of eligibility.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Cascade Creek meets the guidelines for Wild classification for five miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A, B, and D: Wild River designation for all five miles.</p> <p>Alternative C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Cascade Creek is not typical of smaller rivers on the mainland that originate from glaciers and have an associated lake system. It differs in that it has a very steep gradient for the lower two and a half miles and consequently has a narrow canyon and many associated waterfalls. Its fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreation values are of national and regional significance. The river is one of 40 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Cascade Creek is readily accessible for recreation, located only</p>

14 air miles or 19 miles by boat from Petersburg, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The recreation cabin on Swan Lake is accessible by air and is 18 miles from Petersburg.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities. The terrain is steep and any road construction would be extremely difficult. Steep cliffs adjacent to the river corridor prevent road connections from the road systems at Delta Creek or along the Patterson River in Thomas Bay. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resource:* The area has been identified for its potential for water and power development. The Thomas Bay Power Authority holds a power site withdrawal. Once considered as a likely site for hydroelectric power generation, interest has diminished since construction of the Tyee Power Plant at the Bradfield Canal to provide power to Wrangell and Petersburg. Development of hydroelectric power from Cascade Creek is uncertain but could occur if demands for electric power increase.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has not been identified as an area with high potential for mineral extraction by either the USGS or the U.S. Bureau of Mines. No valid mining claims exist within or adjacent to the corridor.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove from consideration approximately 260 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. In all alternatives except for C, the adjacent area would be managed for primitive and semi-primitive recreation therefore timber resource would be unsuitable for harvest.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Designation would not affect the fishery resource

as the creek has no significant anadromous fish run and no enhancement potential.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access would remain unchanged. Most recreational activity would continue to center around lower creek and Swan Lake. The area receives low subsistence use, although the cabin at Swan Lake is used by mountain goat hunters.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations which emphasize primitive and semi-primitive recreation and scenic values.

*Effects of non-designation:* There is a potential in Alternative C that timber would be harvested within the corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Timber harvest or mining activity would reduce the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

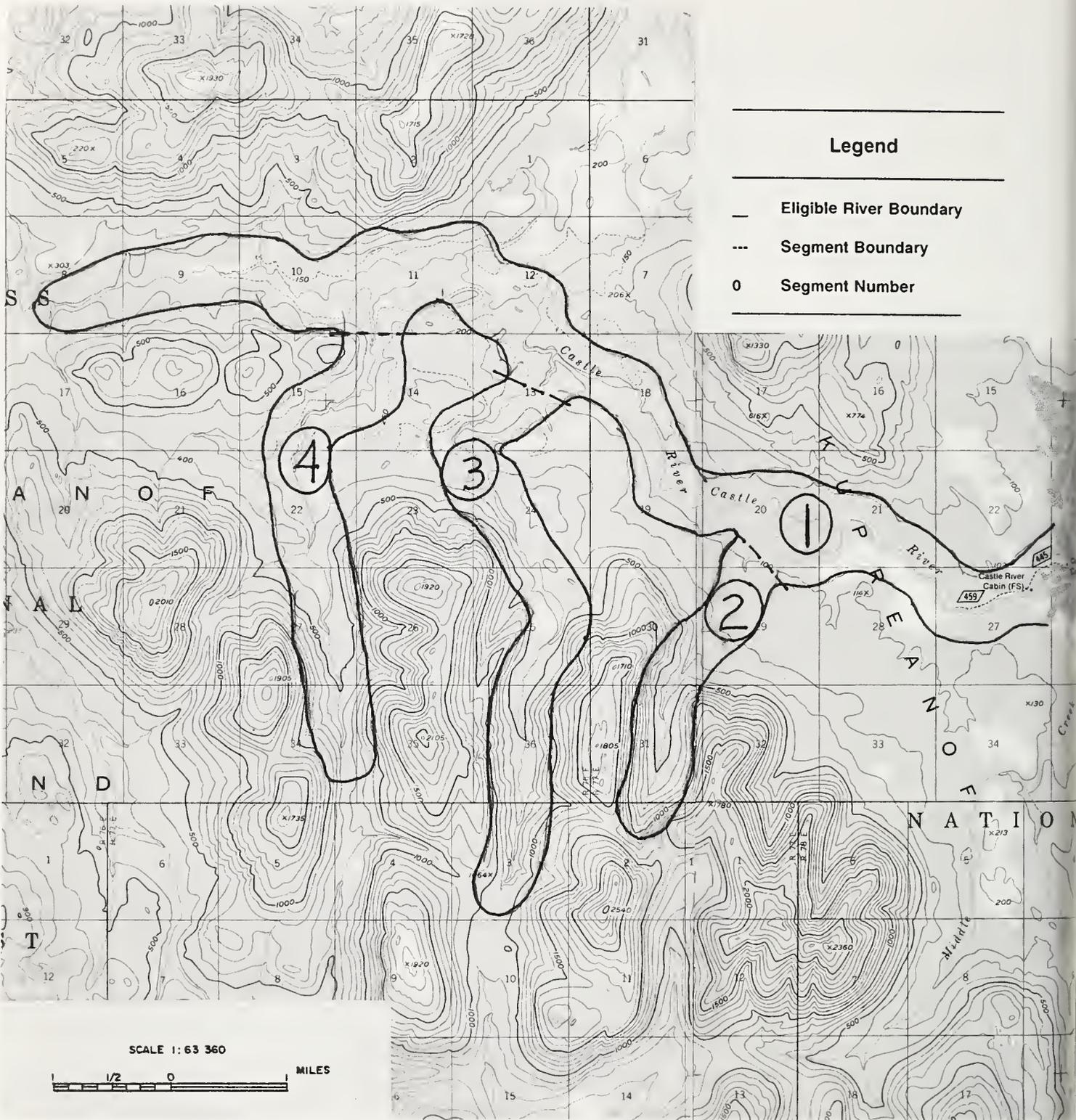
No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Cascade Creek been received, although comments referring to Thomas Bay in general stated that this is one of Southeast's most beautiful corridors and that the area should receive "no logging". Another requests that Thomas Bay be given Special Interest Area Status because of its recreational and wildlife values.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

No private lands would be acquired. Reconstruction of the trail along the creek is planned with a completion date of 1992. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$310,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$370,000

# CASTLE RIVER



## CASTLE RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU 435, Tongass National Forest, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Castle River originates from elevations below 1000 feet and flows approximately twenty-three miles into saltwater in Duncan Canal on Kupreanof Island. The stream has high commercial and sport fish values for steelhead, silver salmon, and cutthroat trout. Castle River also has high wildlife (waterfowl), and recreation values. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped. There are three Forest Service recreation cabins within the vicinity of the mouth of the river. Approximately half of the cabin use occurs during the silver salmon season, and is by people from outside Alaska. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Castle River as one of the top 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska. There is cultural site near the mouth of the stream. The river corridor contains approximately 7,000 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Castle River has outstandingly remarkable fish, recreation, and wildlife values of national significance because of the combination of recreation cabins, sport fishing, and waterfowl hunting opportunities. Castle River also has outstandingly remarkable commercial fish values because of the large area of spawning and rearing stream available.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Castle River meets the guidelines for Wild classification for 23 miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for all 23 miles of all segments.</p> <p>Alternative C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p> <p>Alternative D: Wild River designation for the twelve miles of Segment 1 and Recreational River designation for the eleven miles of Segments 2, 3, and 4.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Castle River is typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof lowlands. Its fish, wildlife, and recreation values, considered in combination, are of regional significance. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of the rivers of the Kupreanof lowlands, it is similar to Kadake Creek, Petersburg Creek, and Duncan Salt Chuck Creek and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Castle River is readily accessible for recreation, located only 16 air miles or 30 miles by boat from Petersburg, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. Extensive</p>

mudflats at the mouth of the stream require high tides for both boat and plane access.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor has not been identified as a transportation route by the State of Alaska. Alternatives C and D allow for timber harvest in some of the corridor and adjacent lands and designation as a Wild River would prohibit construction of access roads. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. Designation of Segments 2-4 as a Recreational River would permit road access.

*Water Resources:* The area has not been identified as an area with potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Wild/Recreational designation would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor has been identified as an area with high potential for mineral extraction for gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper, and barite. The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists this area's potential for mineral development at its highest level. No existing claims or patented claims exist within the corridor, but Pacific NW Resource Co. of Sherwood, Oregon filed a claim on January 8, 1991 adjacent to the corridor. Designation as a Wild River would withdraw the corridor from mineral entry and could affect the access to mineral resources outside the corridor. Designation of Segments 2-4 as a Recreational River would allow mineral entry in these segments and would not affect access to minerals in the adjacent lands.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River in alternatives A and B would eliminate potential timber harvest on approximately 1,900 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. Designation of Segments 2-4 as Recreational River and Segment 1 as Wild River (Alternative D) would withdraw only the 800 acres in Segment 1 from consideration for timber harvest. The lands adjacent to the Recreational River segments would be suitable for timber production in Alternative D.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old growth dependent species. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would require appropriate access and design at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Recreational River designation of Segments 2-4 would allow for mineral extraction and some timber harvest when compatible with fish and wildlife values. Road construction within these Segments could increase access for fishing and hunting.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access would remain unchanged. Most recreational activity would continue to center around mouth of the creek near the recreational cabins. Subsistence activities would likely remain unchanged. With Recreational River designation of Segments 2-4, the area would be open for development and if logging or mining activity were initiated the primitive character would change. Subsistence and recreational access could increase if roads were built into the area.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would protect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor in Segments 2-4. Scenic values in Segment 1 are protected in Alternatives A, B, and D by the segment's land use designation. Designation as a Recreational River would protect the scenic resources within the river corridor in Segments 2-4 as seen from the river. However, land outside of the river corridor would be managed for other resources and the scenic values in these lands would for the most part be unprotected.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable recreation values could be adversely affected if the river were not designated as Wild or Wild/Recreational River. Timber harvest, and perhaps mining activity, on lands within and adjacent to the river corridor would require that roads be built within and across the river corridor. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. A potential exists in Alternatives C, D, and P that timber would be harvested within the corridor of Segments 2-4 subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Timber harvest or mining activity would reduce the primitive character of the area and possibly increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

One public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Castle River has been received. It suggests that Castle River along with Duncan and West Duncan Canals be protected for their locally important fisheries, hunting, and recreational values.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic river.**

No private lands would be acquired. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 50,000

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# CATHEDRAL FALLS CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- 0 'Segment Boundary

SCALE 1:63 360



## CATHEDRAL FALLS CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU 425, Tongass National Forest, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Cathedral Falls Creek originates below 1000 feet elevation, and flows approximately 10 miles into saltwater in Hamilton Bay on Kupreanof Island. The area surrounding the lower portion of the stream is roaded, and extensive timber harvest has occurred. The area in the immediate vicinity of Cathedral Falls contains high scenic values. The waterfall is accessed by a Forest Service trail connecting to the road system. The remainder of the stream contains no other high resource value. The river corridor contains approximately 1,000 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Cathedral Falls Creek has outstandingly remarkable scenic, and recreation values of regional significance due to the falls and access for recreation.
<b>Classification</b>	Cathedral Falls Creek meets the guidelines for Recreational River classification for one mile.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternative A: Recreational River designation for one mile.  Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Cathedral Falls Creek is typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof lowlands. Its scenic and recreation values are considered of regional significance due to the falls and access for recreation. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of the rivers of the Kupreanof lowlands, it is similar to Kadake Creek, Petersburg Creek, and Duncan Salt Chuck Creek and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Cathedral Falls Creek is readily accessible. The creek is only 12 miles by road or 12 miles by boat from Kake, which is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.  <b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b>  There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor.  <b>Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which</b>

**would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The area within the river corridor is an unlikely candidate for road construction as the area adjacent to the river corridor has a well-developed road system that was constructed for timber harvesting. This road system is currently used to access timber harvest units and to administer resource activities. Designation as a Recreational River would not affect road access to resources within the river corridor.

*Water Resources:* The area has not been identified as an area with potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has been identified as an area with potential for mineral extraction of sedimentary uranium by the U. S. Bureau of Mines. No existing claims or patented claims exist within or adjacent to the corridor. Designation as a Recreational River would not withdraw the area from mineral entry but mineral exploration and development activities may require restrictions to be compatible with Recreational River designation.

*Timber:* Designation would allow consideration of timber harvest with reduced yields likely on approximately 400 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. Harvest activities within the river corridor would have to meet a partial retention visual quality objective. Harvest activities outside the river corridor would not be affected.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Recreation River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would likely require access and design at potentially higher cost.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation would maintain the current scenic and recreation opportunities. Access and subsistence use would remain unchanged even with further development as the area outside the river corridor is largely accessed by roads.

*Scenic Resources:* Recreation River designation would protect the scenic values within the river corridor. Land outside of the river corridor would continue to be managed for other resources and the scenic values in these lands would for the most part be unprotected.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable recreation and scenic values could be adversely affected if the river were not designated as Recreational

River. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in all alternatives that timber would be harvested within the river corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Timber harvest or mining activity would reduce scenic quality of the area.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

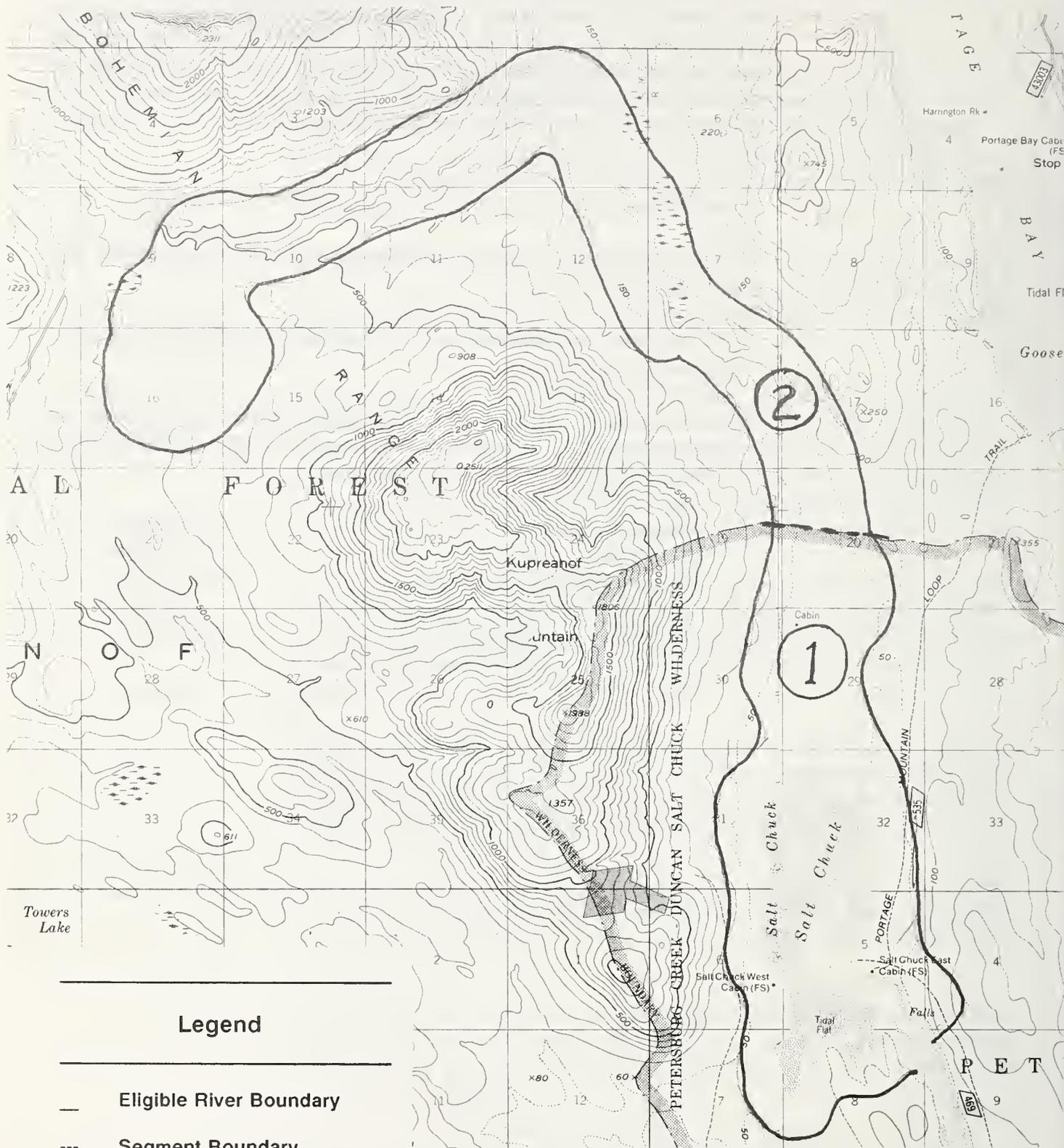
No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Cathedral Falls Creek been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic river.**

No private lands would be acquired. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,000 annual
<b>Total - First Five Years</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>

# DUNCAN SALTCHUCK CREEK



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
-  Segment Boundary

SCALE 1:63 360



## DUNCAN SALT CHUCK CREEK

### Description

Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU's 441, 14, and 426, Tongass National Forest, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Duncan Salt Chuck Creek originates from elevations below 1000 feet at two small lakes and flows approximately 12 miles into saltwater at the outlet of the salt chuck in Duncan Canal on Kupreanof Island. The stream has high fish values for steelhead, silver salmon, and cutthroat trout. Duncan Salt Chuck Creek also has high wildlife (waterfowl and black bears), scenic, and recreation values, centered around the salt chuck. There are two Forest Service recreation cabins near the mouth of the creek on the salt chuck. There is a proposal for road construction and timber harvest in the headwaters of Duncan Salt Chuck Creek which includes considering an arterial road from Kake to Portage Bay. The segment west of the stream is already constructed. The lower 4 miles of the stream lie within the Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness Area. The river corridor contains 6,300 acres and is entirely on National Forest Lands, with the exception of intertidal lands around the salt chuck owned by the State.

### Eligibility

Duncan Salt Chuck Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish, recreation, wildlife, and scenic values of regional significance due to the concentration of these values in a small area. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists this stream as one of 19 "high value" watersheds in Southeast Alaska. A significant amount of the cabin use is by people from out of state. The outstandingly remarkable visual resource is related primarily to views from the salt chuck, which include snow-capped peaks of the Portage Mountains outside the river corridor as a backdrop to the placid salt chuck water and the open grass flats. The rapids at the outlet of the salt chuck that flow both directions as the tide reverses are a characteristic feature of rivers in Southeast Alaska, but would be considered uncommon in other parts of the United States.

### Classification

Duncan Salt Chuck Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for 12 miles. For analysis, two river segments were considered; Segment 1 from the falls at the outlet of the salt chuck upstream to the Wilderness boundary and Segment 2 from the Wilderness boundary upstream to Bohemia Lake.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Wild River designation for all 12 miles

Alternative B: Wild River designation in Wilderness (4 miles) and Scenic River designation upstream from Wilderness boundary for 8 miles

Alternative C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System

Alternative D: Wild River designation for four miles in the Wilderness and no designation for the river above the Wilderness.

The Alternative of recommending Segment 2 as a Recreation River was not studied. There is no foreseeable development that would render the river ineligible for consideration as a Scenic River.

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Duncan Salt Chuck Creek is typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof lowlands. Its wildlife and fish values, scenic value associated with the views in an from the salt chuck, and recreation values associated with the salt chuck and lower river, considered in combination, are of regional significance. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the Kupreanof Lowlands, it is similar to Castle River, Kadake Creek, and Petersburg Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. It is one of three eligible rivers in the Interior Islands that includes an intertidal lagoon (salt chuck), a feature relatively common in Southeast Alaska but not well represented in the National System.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. Valid existing mining claims west of the river corridor would not be affected by designation. There is no private land and no effects on private land use. The State owns the intertidal lands within the salt chuck and is responsible for permitting use on such lands; there are currently no known plan for State authorization of land uses which would conflict with a Wild River designation in Segment 1.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of Segment 1 as a Wild River has no effect on present or future transportation system opportunities. Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River would likely foreclose the opportunity for future construction of a State Highway within the corridor connecting Kake and Petersburg, identified by the State in 1973, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. It would also foreclose transportation opportunities by the Forest Service, which has identified the corridor as a vital transportation link. Alternate routes, if available, would likely have higher construction costs, and could increase environmental impacts, particularly on soil and water, associated with road construction on steeper slopes and less suitable soil types outside the river corridor. Designation of Segment 2 as a Scenic River would allow for the future construction of the State Highway on the planned location, with one road bridge across the river.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Segment 1 (Wilderness) is currently withdrawn from mineral entry. As a Wild River, Segment 2 would be withdrawn from mineral entry; the absence of existing claims or known mineral resources indicate the withdrawal would likely have no significant effect on the availability of mineral resources. As a Scenic River, Segment 2 would remain open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation of Segment 1 as a Wild River would have no effect on timber production because the area is currently in Wilderness. Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River would increase the cost of access to timber resources on the Bohemia Range north and west of the river corridor, and may foreclose access to timber on the west side of Portage Bay from the Hamilton Creek road. Access to timber resources from other locations east of the river corridor in Portage Bay would also require construction of additional roads and log transfer facilities at higher cost. Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River would remove approximately 800 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration. Designation of Segment 2 as a Scenic River would allow timber harvest with reduced yields using small clearcuts or group selections.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements in Segment 2 would require appropriate access and design at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Designation of Segment 2 as a Scenic River would allow typical fish habitat enhancement projects, increasing the potential for increased fish production. Stocking and fertilization of the small lakes in Segment 2 to enhance recreation opportunity would be allowed in either designation.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the salt chuck and lower reach of the river within the Wilderness. Designation of Segment 2 as a Scenic River could increase access for some subsistence uses and enhance semi-primitive and roaded recreation opportunities if the road extension from Kake were to be constructed. Competition for subsistence resources could increase.

*Scenic Resources:* Because Segment 1 is within the Wilderness, designation as a Wild River would not alter the current visual quality objective of preservation, which allows only ecologic changes to the landscape. Designation of Segment 2

as a Wild River would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and the visual quality objective for these adjacent lands would allow timber harvest and other activities that may dominate the landscape. Designation of Segment 2 as a Scenic River would retain the visual character within the river corridor as seen from the river, while areas outside the river corridor would be subject to the visual quality objectives of adjacent Land Use Designations.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreation and wildlife values, concentrated in Wilderness in Segment 1, would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. Timber harvest on lands adjacent to the river corridor in Segment 2 would likely be visible from the river corridor; however, since scenic values were not considered outstandingly remarkable in this segment, this would not affect river values. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected in Segment 2 by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Alternatives C, D, and P that timber would be harvested within the corridor in Segment 2 subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Harvest in this segment would reduce the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view a designation as unacceptable despite ANILCA allowance for location of transportation and utility corridors within conservation system units. The possibility of constructing a road which connects Kake and Petersburg (identified in the Southeast Alaska Corridor Plan) has been the subject of local controversy, with some residents in and near these communities opposed to a road link and others in favor. This issue was a factor in determining the present boundary of the Duncan Salt Chuck-Petersburg Creek Wilderness so that the road corridor was excluded from the Wilderness. While not directly related to the suitability of the river, this ongoing public debate creates an atmosphere in which a proposal by the Forest Service to either extend the road on this alignment connecting Kake and Portage Bay, or designate Segment 2 as a Wild River, possibly affecting the road opportunity, could be viewed as Federal interference in a local and State government issue. The city of Kake has recently expressed its support for the road connection. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Duncan Salt Chuck Creek has been received, although one national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic river.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. Reconstruction or relocation of an existing cabin in segment 1 is being considered for the area. Planning and management costs are relatively low because the portion of the river with significant public uses is within the Wilderness. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 30,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 67,500

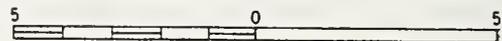
# EAGLE RIVER and LAKE



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

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## EAGLE RIVER and LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District in VCU 519, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Eagle River originates on the mainland at approximately 500 feet elevation and flows approximately 12 miles into saltwater in Eagle Bay. The river has high fish and recreation values. There is a Forest Service recreation cabin on Eagle Lake. The watershed is unroaded and undeveloped. The area offers brown bear hunting, kokanee fishing in the lake, and steelhead and cutthroat trout fishing in the river. Fishing for steelhead is a major activity and the river receives heavy use by outfitters and guides whose clients are generally from outside Alaska. A powerline crosses Eagle River at Eagle Bay. There is a proposal to construct an additional powerline from Tyee to Ketchikan in this area. The river corridor contains approximately 5,300 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Eagle River has outstandingly remarkable fish and recreation values of national significance. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Eagle River as one of the 65 "important" watersheds and as an important cutthroat trout stream in Southeast Alaska. The river system has all five species of Pacific salmon with pink salmon runs averaging over 25 thousand per year.
<b>Classification</b>	Eagle River meets the guidelines for Wild classification from its mouth upstream for 12 miles ending at the head of Eagle Lake where tributaries become insignificant.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for all 12 miles.  Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.  Alternative D and P: Recreational River designation for all 12 miles.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Eagle River and Lake are typical of smaller rivers with a lake system that originate on the mainland. Its fish and recreation values are of regional significance. Eagle River supports runs of pink, chum, red, silver, and king salmon as well as Dolly Varden, cutthroat, rainbow and steelhead trout and contributes a significant portion of pink and chum salmon to the commercial purse seine fishery in Ernest Sound. Eagle Lake is known for its high quality cutthroat trout fishing, producing trophy sized fish. The lake is also used for hunting access for big game hunting, especially for bear and mountain goats. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers in this province, it is similar to the Anan Creek, Harding River,

Martin Lake and Creek, and Virginia Lake and Creek and, in that context, would not be considered unique. Eagle River is located about 33 air miles or 45 miles by boat from Wrangell. The cabin on Eagle Lake is 44 air miles from Wrangell and about the same distance from Ketchikan. Both cities have jet air service and are terminals on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The Eagle River Valley has been identified as a transportation corridor by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for a link from Ketchikan to Bradfield Canal where it would connect with a highway linking Wrangell to Canada along the North Fork of the Bradfield River. Designation as a Wild River would likely prohibit any future transportation system opportunities within the valley as the steep topography of the area would require that roads be placed within the river corridor. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. Recreational River designation would allow for road development through the river corridor.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. There is an existing special use permit for a power transmission line that connects the Tyee Power Plant to the city of Wrangell, but the powerline crosses Eagle Bay and is just outside of the river corridor. The State of Alaska has proposed Eagle River Valley for a power transmission line to connect the city of Ketchikan to the Tyee Power Plant. The powerline would follow the valley for most of its length. Designation as a Wild River would prevent powerline development and could affect future electric power supplies to Ketchikan. Recreational River designation would be compatible with powerline construction and would not affect the future availability electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The U. S. Bureau of Mines lists this area as having potential for mineral development. The USGS estimates the undiscovered mineral resource potential to have a Gross In Place Value of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any development costs). There are no mining claims in the area. Wild River designation would prohibit mineral exploration and subsequent development

within the corridor and road access to any new claims adjacent to the corridor. Recreational River designation would allow for mineral exploration and development as long as activities reduced impacts to be compatible with management emphasis for the area.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild or Recreational River would not affect the timber resource; timber is not suitable in all of the alternatives because of the old-growth or semi-primitive land use designations.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Eagle River has been identified as having potential for fish enhancement by construction of a ladder for fish passage at a barrier falls about five miles upstream from saltwater. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would require appropriate access and design at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Recreational River designation would not affect fish enhancement projects but modification of designs may be required to maintain compatibility with recreational objectives.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild or Recreational River would not affect the primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities. These are already protected by land use designations in all of the alternatives. Subsistence activity would remain unchanged with Wild River designation but could increase with Recreational River designation if roads were built along the river.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations. Conflicts with visual quality and other resources outside the river corridor would be unlikely as designation would effectively prevent road access into the watershed. Designation as a Recreational River would allow for road and powerline development. Road construction would modify the river corridor and reduce the scenic values of the area. If a powerline is built, it will be visible from the river corridor and the scenic quality would be diminished.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as Wild or Recreational River. However, the primitive recreation values could be reduced without Wild River designation. The primitive and semi-primitive recreation values outside the river corridor would be protected in all alternatives regardless of designation by their land use designations. Non-designation would allow for road and powerline construction along the river valley and could greatly modify the scenic and recreational values.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view a designation as unacceptable. The possibility of constructing a road link between Ketchikan and Bradfield Canal has been proposed by the State of Alaska. Also, the State has proposed construction of a powerline that would connect Ketchikan to the Tyee Power Plant as part of a power grid for the State of Alaska. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Eagle River and Lake has been received.

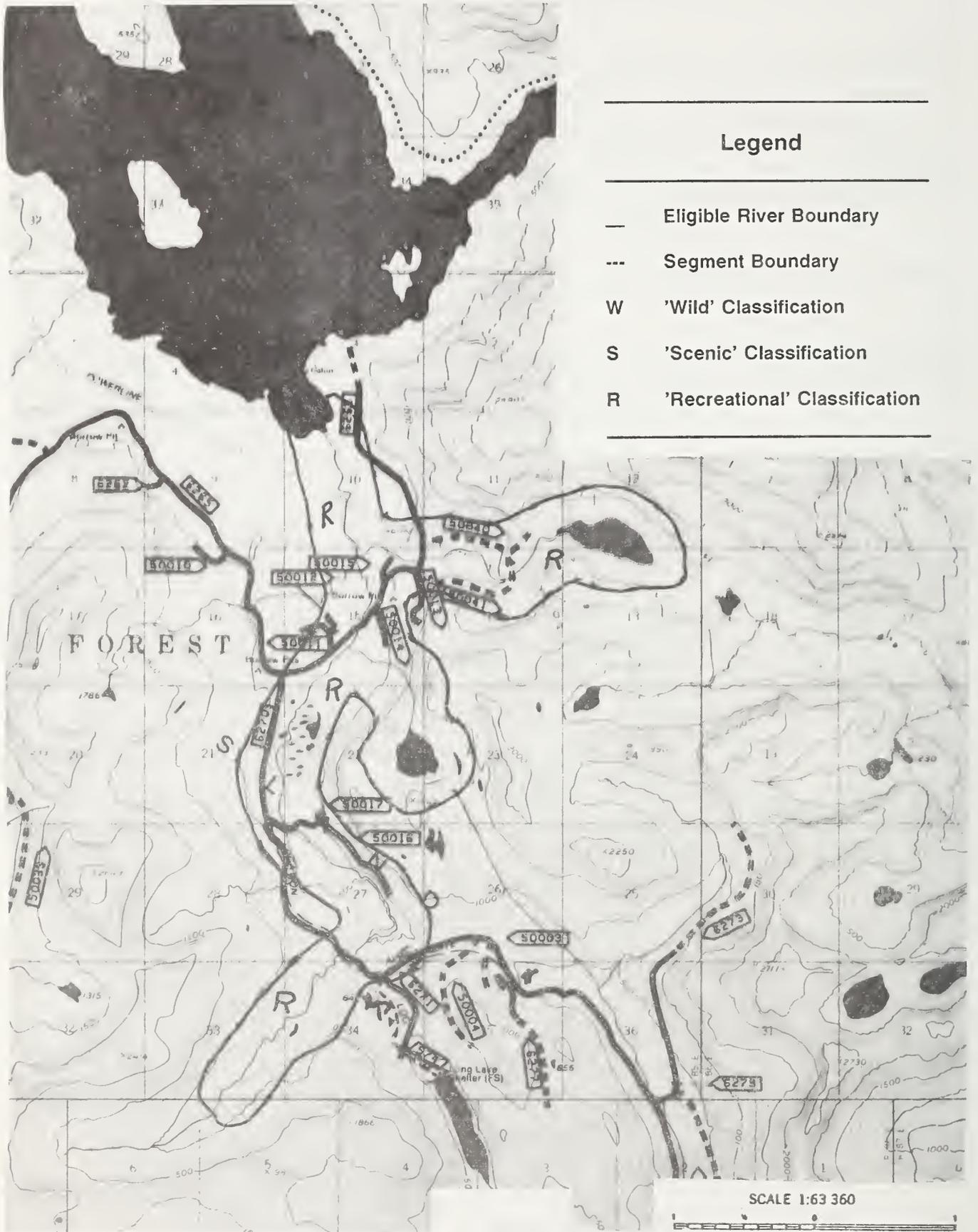
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild or Recreational River.**

No private land would be acquired. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 50,000

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# EARL WEST CREEK (LOCAL)



## EARL WEST CREEK (LOCAL)

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District in VCU 478, Tongass National Forest, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Earl West Creek originates from elevations of approximately 2000 feet and flows approximately nine miles into saltwater at Blake Channel on Wrangell Island. The stream has two significant tributaries flowing from lakes. The Southern Regional Aquaculture Association maintains net rearing pens in the saltwater bay for rearing king salmon. The fish are imprinted with the stream's water characteristics, and depend upon the water quality to facilitate their return to the bay. One of the lakes, locally known as Highbush Lake, has a road within 300 feet, vehicle parking, and a recreation trail to the lake. There are trout in Highbush Lake. The entire drainage is accessible by road. There is a log transfer facility and boat ramp at saltwater with recreation parking and a picnic area. A powerline crosses and parallels parts of the stream. The Earl West Marsh is a popular area for viewing birds and wetlands. The river corridor contains approximately 3,500 acres, all of which is currently in National Forest System land. A State land selection on the lower portion of the river will probably change land ownership on the lower third of the drainage.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Earl West Creek has outstandingly remarkable commercial fish and recreational values of regional significance because of the unique dependence of the aquaculture project upon the water quality and established public use of the area.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Earl West Creek meets the guidelines for Recreational River classification for nine miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Recreational River designation for all nine miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Earl West Creek is typical of smaller non-glacial streams in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. It is one of 28 eligible rivers that potentially represent this province. Its commercial fish and recreation values are of regional significance. As a representative example of the rivers of the province, it would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Earl West Creek is readily accessible for recreation, located 22 miles by road and about 20 miles by boat from Wrangell.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p>

There are no private lands within the river corridor. The State of Alaska under terms of the Statehood Act has selected 3,565 acres (NFCG Selection 287) along Blake Channel that includes approximately three miles of the creek from the mouth upstream. The selection has been approved by the Regional Forester but title has not been transferred. No valid existing mining claims occur within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor is extensively roaded and designation would not affect future transportation routes.

*Water Resources:* The area has not been identified as an area with potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has no existing claims and no known mineral potential (by neither the USGS nor the U.S. Bureau of Mines). Recreational River designation would allow for mineral exploration and development as long as activities reduced impacts so that they were compatible with management emphasis for the area.

*Timber:* Designation as a Recreational River would allow for timber harvest within the corridor on approximately 1,100 acres of tentatively suitable forest land. Timber harvest yields would likely be reduced and harvest methods limited to selection cuts or small clearcuts since adjacent areas would be managed with an emphasis on scenic values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Recreational River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Water quality of the creek that is essential for aquaculture project would be protected. Recreational River designation would allow for mineral extraction and some timber harvest when compatible with fish and wildlife values.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Recreational River would maintain the current recreation opportunities. Access would remain unchanged. Subsistence activities would likely remain unchanged as the area is easily reached by road or by boat.

*Scenic Resources:* Designation would protect the current scenic values within the river corridor. Land outside of the river corridor would be managed for both restricted and unrestricted scenic designations.

*Effects of non-designation:* It is unlikely that non-designation as a Recreational River would adversely affect the recreational values of the creek. The area is well roaded and developed. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. The commercial fish value of the creek is dependent on aquaculture projects and would not be affected. There is a potential in all alternatives that timber would be harvested within the river corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

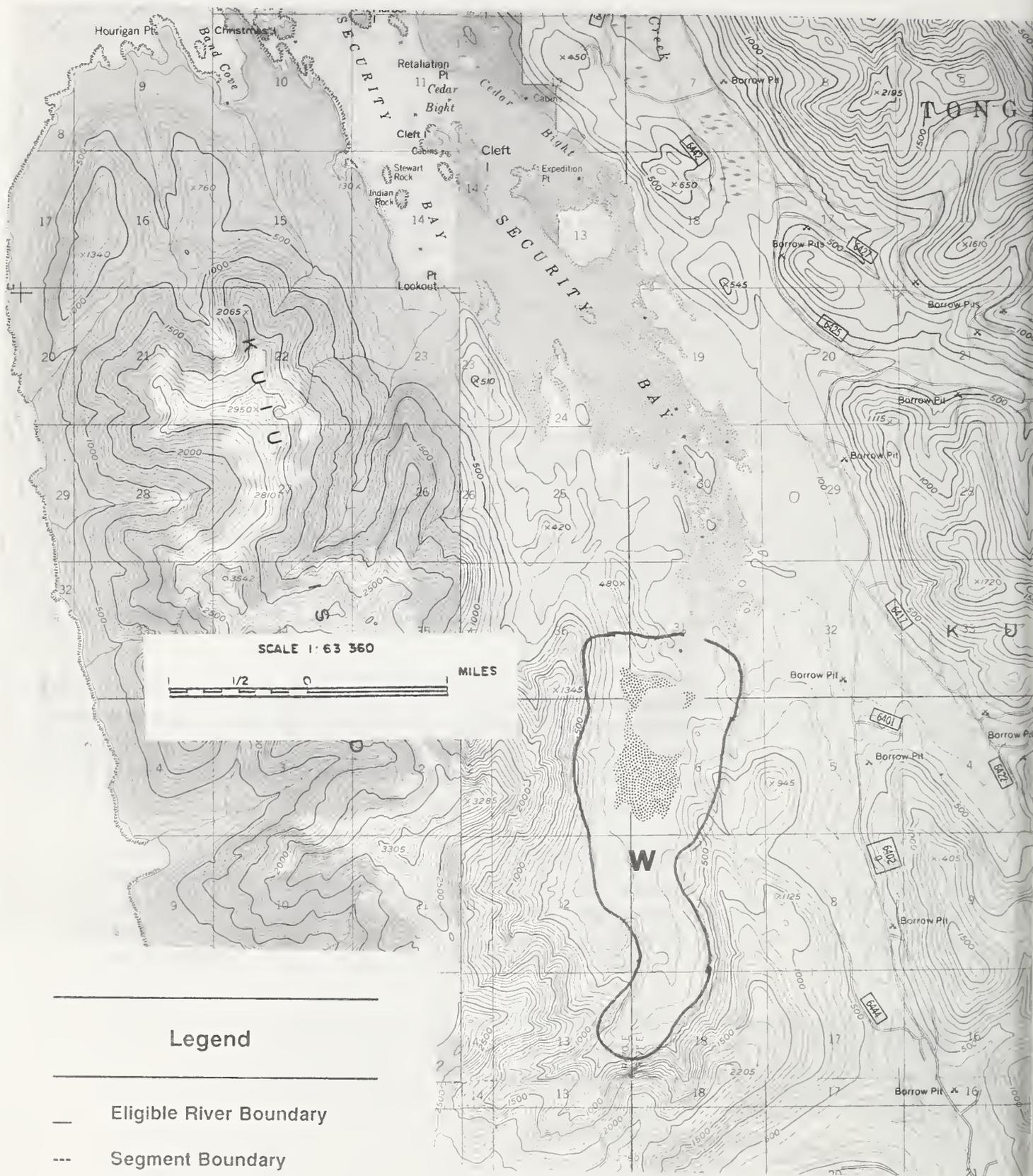
The State of Alaska has selected 3,565 acres of land along Blake Channel that includes about three miles of the river corridor. This land will likely be conveyed to the State. The State of Alaska in cooperation with the Southern Regional Aquaculture Association maintains interest in continuing with king salmon enhancement project. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically mentioned Earl West Creek.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Recreational River.**

No private lands would be acquired. Transfer of State land selections to private hands would not affect eligibility as private residences are compatible with recreational designation. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 37,500

# FALL DOG CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- 0 Segment Boundary

## FALL DOG CREEK (LOCAL)

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU 400, Tongass National Forest, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Fall Dog Creek originates from elevations below 1000 feet and flows approximately four miles, including its salt chuck, into saltwater in Security Bay on Kuiu Island. A large grass flat is present along the creek above the salt chuck. The stream has high commercial and historic values for chum salmon. The remains of a large number of fish traps are present at the mouth of the creek. Fall Dog Creek has a unique November spawning run of chum salmon that Natives use for subsistence. The salmon also attract a large number of black bears and eagles. The drainage is unroaded, and undeveloped. The river corridor contains approximately 1,000 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Fall Dog Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, scenic, and cultural values of regional significance. Scenic values are concentrated around the salt chuck where open views of the salt chuck and grass flat are contrasted to the glacial box canyon that confines the upper creek and the alpine ridges in the distance. The wildlife and cultural resources are dependent on the unique salmon run. Fall runs of chum salmon are uncommon in Southeast Alaska and they attract large numbers of black bears and eagles. Alaska Natives from Kake currently utilize the resource for subsistence and large numbers of old fish traps attest to long historical use of the fish resource.
<b>Classification</b>	Fall Dog Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for four miles.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A, B, and P: Wild River designation for all four miles.  Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Fall Dog Creek is unique when compared to streams of similar size on the islands of Southeast Alaska. In addition to having a salt chuck, it has a number of artesian springs in its bed that provide an upwelling of water into the stream and keep portions of it ice free late into the year. The ice free conditions provide fall spawning habitat and for chum salmon and protect the eggs during winter. A grass flat at the mouth of the stream and the fall run of chum salmon attract large numbers of black bears to the area. Kake natives have utilized the fish resource for traditional and subsistence uses. Part of the bay north of the creek is in a State Marine Park. The creek is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. Fall Dog Creek is relatively inaccessible for

recreation, located about 20 air miles or 25 miles by boat from Kake. Kake is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The area to the east of the river corridor is roaded with connections to a log transfer facility at Rowan Bay, while the area west of the river corridor and Security Bay is unroaded and undeveloped. A potential road crossing of the creek has been identified to connect the present road system to the undeveloped area west of Security Bay. Designation as a Wild River would likely foreclose this transportation opportunity and require construction of an isolated road system and log transfer facility on the west side of Security Bay, at potentially higher costs, to access timber.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there is no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor has not been identified as an area with high potential for mineral extraction by either the USGS or the U.S. Bureau of Mines. Wild River designation would foreclose the corridor to mineral exploration and extraction subject to valid existing rights. No valid mining claims exist within or adjacent to the corridor.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would eliminate approximately 780 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration. However all alternatives except C assign the area to a semi-primitive recreation allocation, so there is no affect.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. The creek has not been identified as having fish enhancement potential.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access would remain

unchanged. Most recreational and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek and salt chuck. The extensive, subsistence activity would remain unchanged with designation.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations. The visual quality objective in Alternative A for these adjacent lands could allow timber harvest and other activities that may dominate the landscape. The preferred alternative would better preserve existing visual conditions.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic and recreation values could be adversely affected if the rivers were not designated as Wild River. Timber harvest or other activity on lands adjacent to the river corridor would require that roads be built within and across the river corridor. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Alternatives C that timber would be harvested within the corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Timber harvest would reduce the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

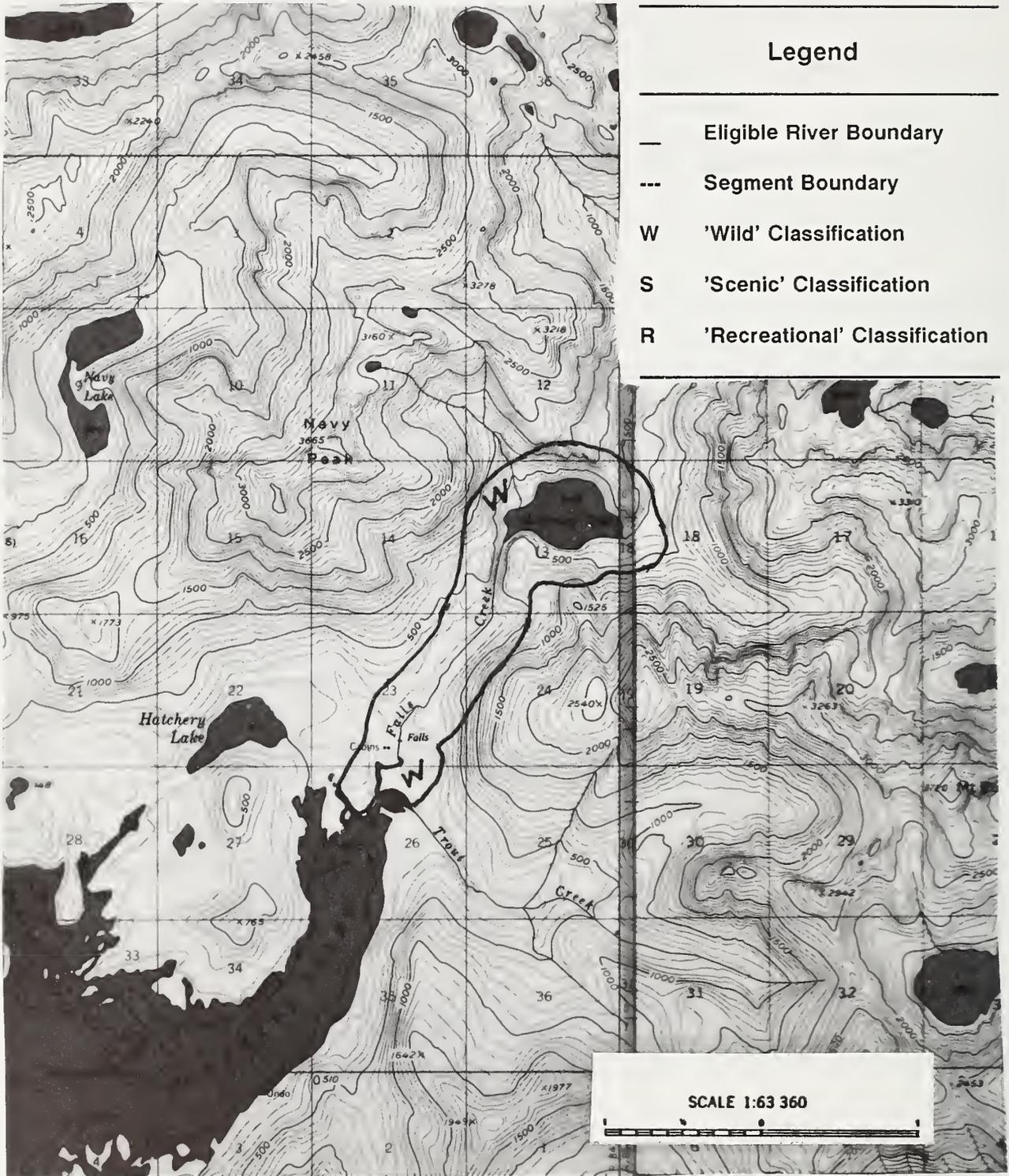
Public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Fall Dog Creek suggests that Fall Dog Creek be added to the Wild and Scenic River system and that it be given Wild River status because of its unique salmon run.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

No private lands would be acquired. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# FALLS CREEK and MCHENRY LAKE



## FALLS CREEK AND MCHENRY LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 472, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Falls Creek originates at approximately 1000 feet elevation on Etolin Island, flows two miles through McHenry Lake and into saltwater in McHenry Inlet. This stream lies within the South Etolin Wilderness Area. Falls Creek has high commercial fish and scenic values. The stream drainage is unroaded and undeveloped. The river corridor contains approximately 950 acres, all of which are National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Falls Creek and McHenry Lake have outstandingly remarkable fish and scenic values of local significance.
<b>Classification</b>	Falls Creek and McHenry Lake meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for three miles.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for three miles.  Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Falls Creek and McHenry Lake are typical of small streams with lakes on Etolin Island, but its fish and scenic values are of local significance. Falls Creek and McHenry Lake has a small run of chum salmon and a significant run of pink salmon that averages about 13,000 fish per year. Scenic views are concentrated at the grass flat at the mouth of the stream and at McHenry Lake where alpine peaks rise quickly from the lake. It is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on Etolin Island, it is similar to Hatchery Creek and Lake, Porcupine Creek, and Olive Creek and, in that context, would not be considered unique. The mouth of the creek is approximately 55 miles by boat or 32 miles by air from Wrangell, which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvests.</p>

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would not affect road development as Wilderness designation forecloses the area to road construction, except as provided for in ANILCA. The corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect mineral resources as the area is closed to mineral development because of Wilderness designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the timber resource since timber harvest is foreclosed because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on fish and wildlife habitat as these values are already protected by the Wilderness designation of the area.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Recreation and subsistence values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Wild River designation would not affect these values. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would be managed for preservation in accordance with Wilderness.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish and scenic values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. These values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area which prohibits timber harvest, road development and mineral entry, except as provided for in ANILCA. Without designation, the creek is open to water impoundment with Presidential approval even though the area is in Wilderness. Impoundment is unlikely since the area has not been identified as having potential for hydroelectric power generation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

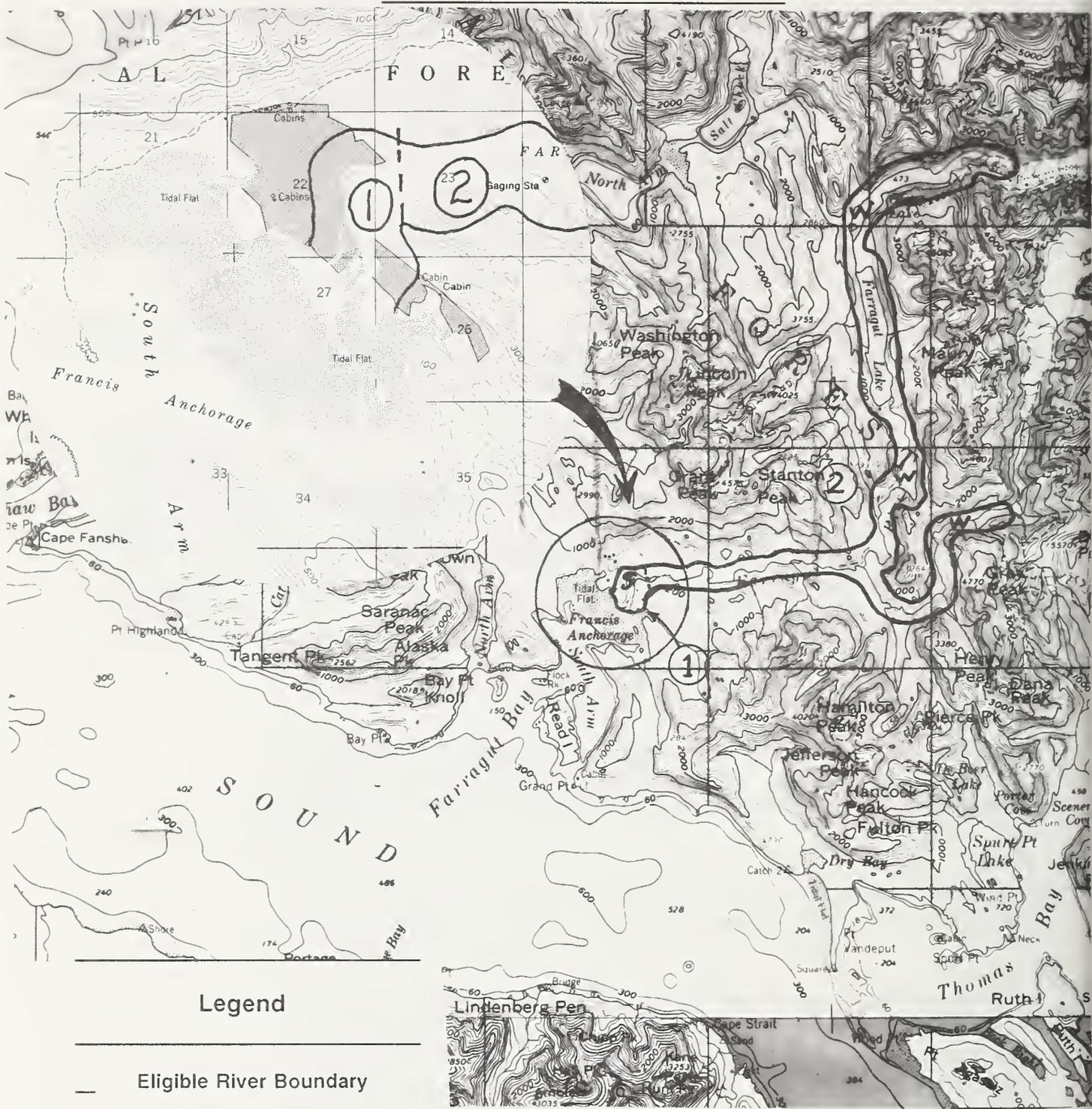
The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. No public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Falls Creek and McHenry Lake were received. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected *additional* funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 27,500

# FARRAGUT RIVER



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:250000



## FARRAGUT RIVER

### Description

Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU's 90S, 91S and 92S, Tongass National Forest, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, the Farragut River originates from glaciers above 1000 feet elevation and flows 30 miles from two major tributaries into saltwater in Farragut Bay on the mainland. A large grass flat is present along the north side of the river near its mouth. The main tributary includes two large lakes, Farragut Lake and Glory Lake, that are accessible by floatplane. A glacier flows into the upper end of Glory Lake and icebergs are present in that lake. There is private and State land near the mouth of the river. Farragut River has high commercial and sport fish values, high scenic, and wildlife values. The drainage is undeveloped and unroaded. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has a temporary king salmon roe taking camp which they access by helicopter and boat. The U. S. Geological Survey has a water gauging station. The lower floodplain of the river supports a population of moose. The river corridor contains approximately 12,800 acres, most of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Farragut River has outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, and scenic values of regional significance because it is a large mainland river with a broad variety of resources. It has a significant king salmon run. It supports a variety of other fish species including coho, pink, chum, and red salmon as well as cutthroat, steelhead, rainbow trout, and Dolly Varden. Black bear occur in high numbers; brown bear, moose and wolves are also present. The lower river and estuary are heavily used by waterfowl and as a resting stop for migrating sandhill cranes. Because of its wildlife habitat values the lower 10 miles of the river is considered to have a high rating in the Forest Habitat Integrity Program.

### Classification

Farragut River meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for 29 miles and Scenic River classification for one mile. For analysis, two river segments were considered: Segment 1 from the outlet for one mile upstream and Segment 2 from one mile upstream to the headwaters.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A, B, and P: Wild River designation for 29 miles (Segment 2) and Scenic River designation for one mile (Segment 1).

Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The Farragut River is typical of larger rivers originating on the mainland. Its fish, wildlife, and scenic values are of regional significance. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Coast Range Geographic Province.

As a representative example of rivers in this province, it is similar to the North Fork or East Fork of the Bradfield River and in that context would not be considered unique. It differs from these rivers in that it has two lakes associated with the headwaters. Extensive mudflats limit access to the river to periods of high tides. The Farragut River is 28 air miles or 32 miles by boat from Petersburg, which has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. Farragut Lake is 35 air miles and Glory Lake is 41 air miles from Petersburg.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are private and state lands within the corridor near the mouth of the river. The State of Alaska has 83.02 patented acres on the north side of the river (USS 1523). Around 180 acres of private land exist, including one resident. All private and state lands are in Segment 1. Above the private and state land, Segment 2, the area is unroaded and undeveloped. Other private lands and a special use cabin that are present in the bay are outside of the river corridor. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River for Segment 2 would likely prohibit transportation system opportunities within the river corridor to access timber or mineral resources adjacent to the river corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. Road costs to access resources adjacent to the river corridor would be increased and some areas within the valley could not be accessed because the steep topography and high ridges that surround the area are not suited for road development. The State of Alaska has not identified this area for any transportation links. Scenic River designation of Segment 1 would not affect transportation opportunities as this segment is in private and State lands and is confined to the grass flats and not suitable for road construction.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists this area as having potential for mineral development but no sites have been identified that possess extractable quantities. Designation as a Wild River would withdraw Segment 2 of the river corridor and much of the surrounding area from mineral extraction as road access would be blocked. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor.

*Timber:* Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River would eliminate potential timber harvest on approximately 3,300 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. However in Alternatives A and B, designation would not affect the timber resource since the area would be in old-growth, primitive recreation or semi-primitive recreation and the timber would be classified as unsuitable. Harvest activities outside the river corridor would require that roads be built at potentially higher costs. Ground conditions and lack of road access may require that helicopter logging be used to remove the timber in some areas. Designation of Segment 1 as a Scenic River would not affect potential harvest as the area is mostly State and private and the area within the river corridor is primarily grass flats and not tentatively suitable forest land.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Development of fish habitat enhancements would require higher cost access and design or preclude development.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around lower reaches of the rivers.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild/Scenic River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations. Conflicts with visual quality and other resources outside the corridor would be unlikely as roads and timber harvests would not be visible from the river because the steep topography along the river would block views of the area outside of the corridor.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic and recreation values could be adversely affected if the rivers were not designated as Wild/Scenic River. Timber harvest, and perhaps mining activity, on lands adjacent to or within the corridor would require that roads be built within or across the corridor. Fish habitat values and sport fishing would be adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. If Alternatives C or D were selected, timber would be harvested in the corridor, subject to the Stream and Lake Protection prescription's stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines. Timber harvest or mining activity would reduce the area's primitive character and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses. Moose numbers could increase after timber harvest as they did in the Thomas Bay drainages. Other wildlife habitat values might not change or be diminished.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

Public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referred to the area of Farragut Bay and Thomas Bay stating that this is one of Southeast's most beautiful corridors of the premier mainland/coast range outside of Misty Fiords and should receive no logging.

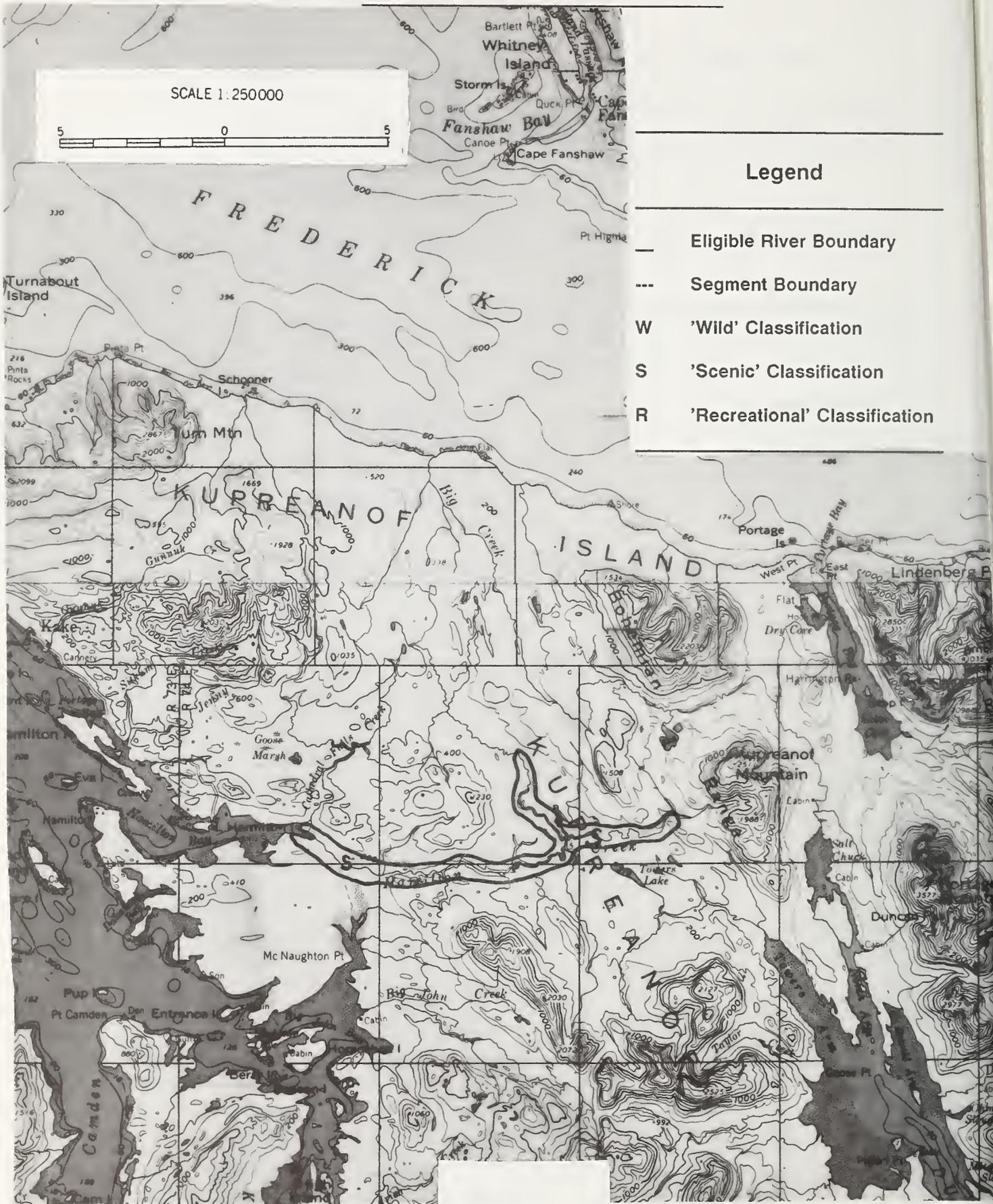
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic river.**

No private land would be acquired. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

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# HAMILTON CREEK



## HAMILTON CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 425 and 426, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Hamilton Creek originates from elevations below 1000 feet and flows 20 miles into saltwater in Hamilton Bay on Kupreanof Island. The stream has high sport fish values for coho salmon and steelhead. The lower part of the stream drainage is roaded and timber harvesting has occurred. The creek receives moderate sport fishing use, with most users being Kake residents. The Natives of Kake utilize Hamilton Creek chum and silver salmon for subsistence. A road leading from Kake towards Portage Bay parallels the stream for most of its length. Although the road is mostly outside the 1/4 mile stream corridor, timber harvest of some areas within the river corridor has occurred. The road provides access to the stream for sport fishing and subsistence activities, and makes it one of a relatively small number of streams in Southeast Alaska with potential for float fishing. The lower creek can be accessed by the Hamilton Creek trail. The river corridor contains approximately 5,360 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Hamilton Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish values of regional significance due to the steelhead run, the length of the stream, and amount of the stream accessible for sport fishing.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Hamilton Creek meets the guidelines for Scenic River classification for 20 miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Scenic River designation for all 20 miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Hamilton Creek is typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof Lowlands. It has a good run of coho salmon and a steelhead run of about 550 adult fish. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the Kupreanof lowlands, it is similar to Castle River, Kadake Creek, Duncan Salt Chuck Creek, and Petersburg Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. It is located 15 miles by road or 12 miles by boat from Kake which is a terminal for the Alaska Marine Highway.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p>

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Scenic River would have no effect on present or future transportation system opportunities. The area is accessed by a significant road system with one bridge crossing of the river and logging roads that parallel the river (mostly outside the corridor), for several miles. Proposals for construction of a highway connecting Kake and Petersburg favor a route north of the river corridor.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Scenic River designation would allow for mineral exploration and development within the river corridor and for reasonable access to mineral claims. Designation would likely have no significant effect on the availability of mineral resources since the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the USGS do not list this area as having potential for mineral extraction.

*Timber:* Designation as a Scenic River would affect reduce timber harvest yields on approximately 2,010 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. Moderate harvests using group selections or small clearcuts could be used. Scenic River designation would not affect access to timber resources outside of the river corridor.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Scenic River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Typical fish habitat enhancement projects would be allowed.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Scenic River would maintain the current subsistence and recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower reaches of the river from the bridge down river to saltwater. The possibility of building a barrier-free trail to access the creek for Kake residents and visitors has been proposed. It would be compatible with Scenic River designation.

*Scenic Resources:* Designation as a Scenic River would retain the visual character within the river corridor as seen from the river, while areas outside the river corridor would be subject to the visual quality objectives of adjacent land use designations.

*Effects of non-designation:* Timber harvest on lands within and adjacent to the river corridor would likely be visible from the corridor; however, since scenic values were not considered outstandingly remarkable, this would not affect river values. Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Scenic River. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in all alternatives that timber would be harvested within the river corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Timber harvest could reduce the scenic quality of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified the area for development of transportation and other infrastructure. Residents of the City of Kake use the area for subsistence use and may view designation as a threat to the subsistence resource if it attracts tourists to the area. Some Kake residents feel that the area has already been made too accessible as a result of road construction by the Forest Service. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Hamilton Creek has been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. Developments proposed for the area include reconstruction of an existing trail to an easy standard. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 73,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$123,000

# HARDING RIVER



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- - - Segment Boundary
- 0 Segment Boundary

## HARDING RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 511, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Harding River originates from elevations below 4000 feet and flows approximately 16 miles into saltwater in the Bradfield Canal on the mainland. The stream has high fish values for chum salmon. Pink, coho, and king salmon are also present as are steelhead and Dolly Varden char. Harding River also has high recreation and wildlife values. Black bear and brown bear are common. Mountain goats are found at upper elevations. There is a United States Geological Survey stream gauging station on the stream. The Forest Service and Alaska Department of Fish and Game cooperate on studies of the salmon using helicopters for transportation. Alaska Aquaculture has a special land use permit to gather salmon roe for hatchery production. The Forest Service is planning streambed modification for fishery enhancement, with one project scheduled and others to be scheduled in the future. There is a Forest Service recreation cabin at the mouth of the river. The watershed is unroaded and undeveloped. The river corridor contains approximately 5,620 acres most of which is in National Forest System lands.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Harding River has outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, and recreation values of national significance. This stream produces trophy-size chum salmon. It is also an excellent place to hunt brown bear. The combination of fish and wildlife values led to the drainage receiving a high rating in the Forest Habitat Rating Program and contribute to the outstandingly remarkable recreational opportunities.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Harding River meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for 16 miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A: Wild River designation for 15 miles and Scenic River designation for one mile.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>The Harding River is typical of smaller rivers originating on the mainland. Its fish, wildlife, and recreation values are of regional significance. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers in this province, it is similar to Aaron Creek and Andrews Creeks and in that context would not be considered unique. The recreation cabin at the mouth of the creek and the associated fish and wildlife values provide recreational opportunities for fishing, hunting, and wildlife observation. Harding River is located 31 air miles or 40 miles by boat from Wrangell, which</p>

has jet air service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The cabin is accessible at any tide.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

The University of Alaska has 4.76 patented acres (USS 2623) along the river just upstream from the cabin. This land is currently being offered for sale by the University of Alaska and will likely go into private ownership in the near future. The State of Alaska has an approved land selection (NFCG 288), approved August 28, 1989 near the river but title has not been transferred. Part of the selection lies within the river corridor below the cabin. There is no development on either of these lands. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The lower mile of the river is within a road corridor proposed by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities that would connect the city of Wrangell to Canada. Designation of Segment 1 as a Scenic River would permit a bridge crossing of the river in this Segment. Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River might foreclose road access within or across the river corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA. This would probably have minimum effect on present or future transportation system opportunities as the area is to be managed for primitive or semi-primitive recreation or old growth in all alternatives. Designation could foreclose access for mineral exploration and extraction outside the river corridor or make access more difficult.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would prevent power development but would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor has known mineral potential but no valid claims exist. The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists the area adjacent to the corridor as having potential for mineral development. The USGS estimates there may be undiscovered minerals with a Gross In Place Value (not including any development costs) of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre. Access for mineral development, including road development, might be limited in Segment 2 if it were designated as a Wild River but would be permitted in Segment 1 with Scenic River designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would not affect timber resources as the timber is considered as unsuitable in all alternatives because of old-growth, primitive recreation, or semi-primitive recreation designations.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. An opportunity for a fish ladder for fish enhancement has been identified in the Strategic Salmon Plan for the Harding River. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would require appropriate access and design at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around lower reaches of the river.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild/Scenic River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations. Conflicts with visual quality and other resources outside the river corridor would be unlikely as land use designations in all alternatives would effectively prevent road access into the watershed.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, and recreation values would not be adversely affected if the rivers were not designated as Wild/Scenic River. Timber harvest is excluded in all alternatives on lands within and adjacent to the corridor. Mining activity could occur on adjacent lands but land use designations in all alternatives would require that development be compatible with primitive and semi-primitive character of the area. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by land use designation. Wildlife habitat values would likely remain unchanged.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has selected land along Bradfield Canal adjacent to the river corridor. The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view a designation as unacceptable. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Harding River has been received.

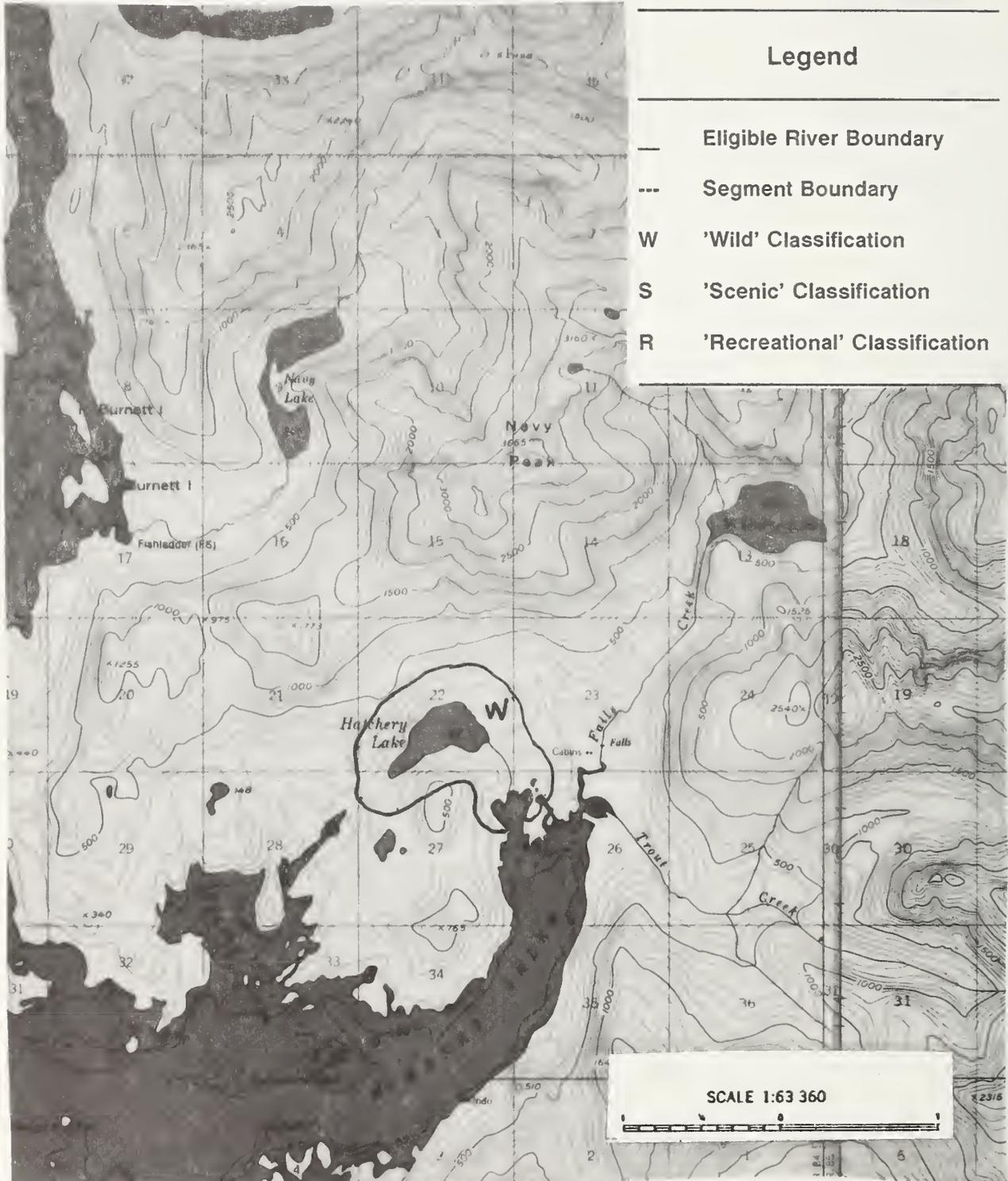
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild/Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 50,000

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# HATCHERY CREEK and LAKE



## HATCHERY CREEK AND LAKE

### Description

Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 472, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Hatchery Creek and Lake originates at approximately 100 feet elevation on Etolin Island, flows two miles through Hatchery Lake and into saltwater in McHenry Inlet. This stream lies within the South Etolin Wilderness Area. Hatchery Creek and Lake has high historic, and recreational values. The watershed is unroaded and undeveloped. Hatchery Creek was the site of the first commercial fish hatchery in Alaska, built prior to 1900. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists this stream as a significant Dolly Varden overwintering stream. The river corridor contains approximately 1,900 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Hatchery Creek and Lake have outstandingly remarkable fish, historic, and recreational values of regional significance.

### Classification

Hatchery Creek and Lake meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for two miles.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for two miles.

Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Hatchery Creek and Lake are typical of small streams with lakes on Etolin Island, but its historic, and recreational values are of regional significance. Hatchery Creek and Lake were the site of the first commercial fish hatchery in Alaska. The original hatchery was built in 1892 and was located near the mouth of the stream. It was later moved to a site on the north side of the lake to take advantage of better water sources and operated there from 1893 to 1900. Dams were built across the stream near saltwater to capture breeding stock and to prevent predatory fish from entering the lake. The lake was cleared of most predatory fish to ensure survival of the red salmon and coho salmon fry. Fish produced at the hatchery were transplanted into Hatchery Lake and other lakes with barriers to fish passage to increase commercial fish production. During the period of operation, over 21 million red salmon and 3.5 million coho salmon were planted into Hatchery Lake and other lakes. Recreational use of the area is mostly for sportfishing. The stream has a small run of steelhead and small runs of coho, pink, and red salmon. It is listed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as a significant overwinter stream for Dolly Varden. It is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of

rivers on Etolin Island, it is similar to Falls Creek and McHenry Lake, Porcupine Creek, and Olive Creek and, in that context, would not be considered unique. The mouth of the creek is approximately 55 miles by boat or 32 miles by air from Wrangell, a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvests.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would not likely affect road development as Wilderness designation forecloses the area to road construction, except as provided for in ANILCA. The corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect mineral resources as the area is closed to mineral development because of Wilderness designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the timber resource since timber harvest is foreclosed because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on fish and wildlife habitat as these values are already protected by the Wilderness designation of the area.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Recreation and subsistence values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Wild River designation would not affect these values. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would

be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and the designation for this area is Wilderness.

*Historic Resources:* Historic resources are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area since timber harvests, road development, and mineral extraction are foreclosed in Wilderness. Wild River designation would not affect the historic resources of the area.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, historic, and recreational values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. These values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area and by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Timber harvest, road development and mineral entry are already foreclosed because of Wilderness, except as provided for in ANILCA. Water impoundment could occur with Presidential approval. Impoundment is unlikely since the area has not been identified as having potential for hydroelectric power generation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. No public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Hatchery Creek and Lake were received. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

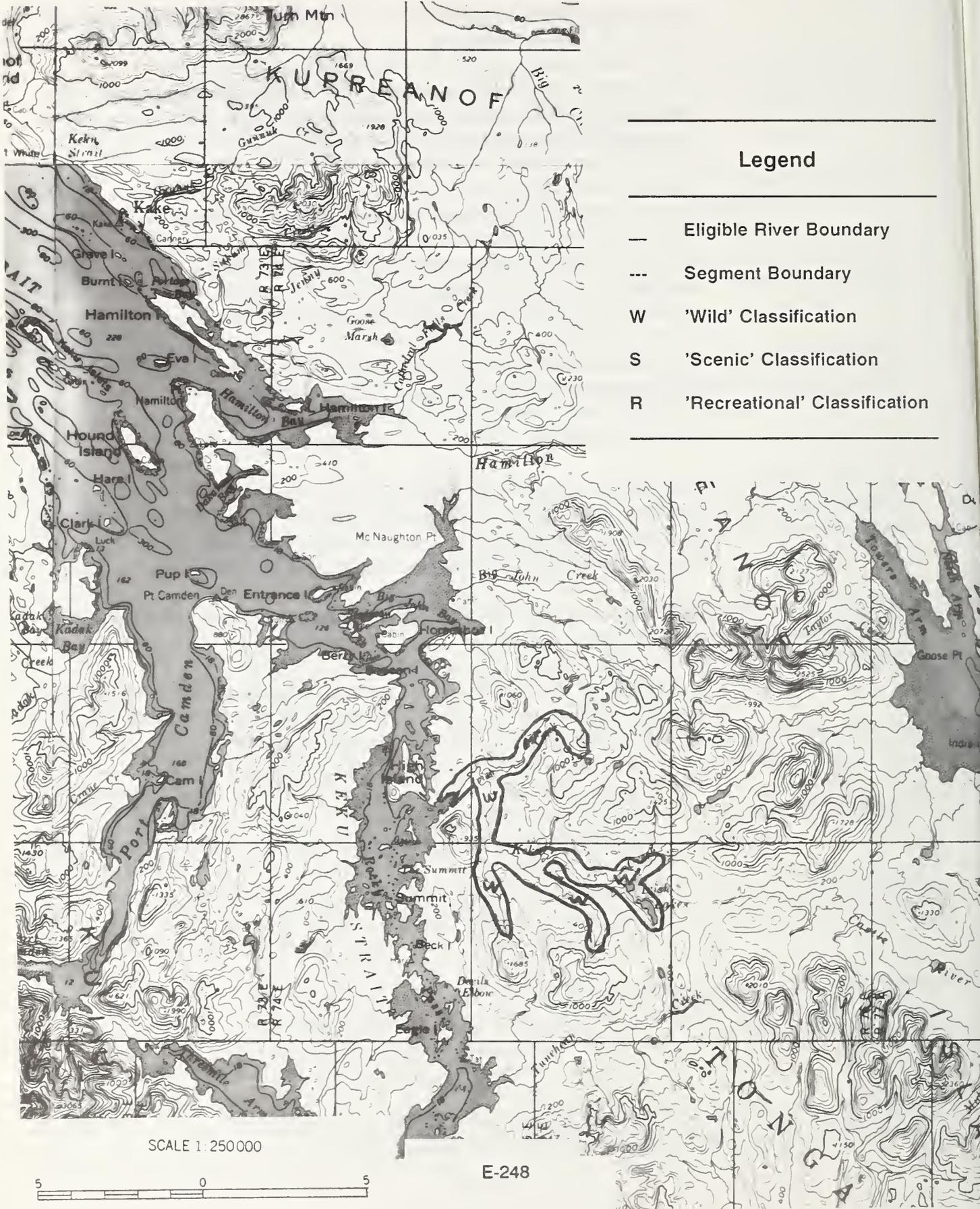
There would be no acquisition of private lands. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected *additional* funding needs for a five-year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 27,500

# IRISH CREEK and KEKU CREEK

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:250000

E-248

## IRISH CREEK and KEKU CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU's 428 and 429, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Irish Creek and Keku Creek originate from elevations below 1000 feet on the west side of Kupreanof Island. They join for two miles before flowing into saltwater at Rocky Pass, a popular area for waterfowl hunting. The streams have high commercial fish values for coho salmon and sport fish values for steelhead. Three major fish enhancement projects including two ladders have been constructed on the stream system. A cultural site approximately 3,000 to 3,500 years old is located near the mouth of the stream. North of the river corridor the area is managed for timber production and a timber harvest contract has been awarded. The remainder of the area is unroaded and undeveloped. Sport fishing use of the streams is relatively low, consisting mostly of a few people fishing for steelhead. The river corridor contains approximately 8,300 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The Irish Creek and Keku Creek system has outstandingly remarkable fish values of regional significance due to the size of the stream system and the potential to produce large numbers of fish. The cultural site is of outstandingly remarkable value because it is the oldest known cultural site on the Stikine Area.
<b>Classification</b>	Irish Creek and Keku Creek meet the guidelines for Wild classification for 17 miles. For analysis Keku Creek is considered as a tributary of Irish Creek.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for 17 miles.  Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Irish Creek and Keku Creek are typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof lowlands. It has a good run of coho salmon and a small steelhead run. The cultural site is one of a few that represent the oldest known evidence of human activity in Southeast Alaska. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the Kupreanof Lowlands, it is similar to Castle River, Hamilton Creek, Kadake Creek, Duncan Salt Chuck Creek, and Petersburg Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. It is located 15 miles by road or 12 miles by boat from Kake which is a terminal for the Alaska Marine Highway.  <b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b>

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid existing mining claims exist within the river corridor.

**Sustainability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would likely foreclose road development options in the river corridor and could affect timber harvesting and possibly mineral extraction, except as provided for in ANILCA. The river corridor has not been identified as having potential as an important transportation link. Proposals for construction of a highway connecting Kake and Petersburg favor a route north of the river corridor.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would foreclose the area for power withdrawals but would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would withdraw the river corridor from mineral exploration and development. No valid claims exist within the area. The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists this area as having potential for mineral extraction. Designation would not affect mineral development outside the corridor but could increase extraction costs since road construction costs may be higher.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove from consideration up to 1,700 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. Adjacent lands would be managed for primitive recreation in the lower portion and a mix of semi-primitive recreation and timber production in the upper portion.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Designation would allow for fish habitat enhancement projects similar to those that currently exist on the creeks.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current subsistence and recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower reaches of the river from the first fish ladder down river to saltwater.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would retain the visual character within the corridor as seen from the river, while areas outside the river corridor would be subject to the visual quality objectives of adjacent land use designations. In

Alternatives A and B, designation would have minimal effect in protecting the scenic resource as it is already protected by the land use designations.

*Cultural Resources:* Wild River designation would protect any additional cultural sites that may be present. The known cultural site and its importance has been identified and measures have been taken to prevent further disturbance.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. Timber harvest on lands within and adjacent to the river corridor would likely be visible from the river corridor; however, since scenic values were not considered outstandingly remarkable, this would not affect river values. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Alternatives C, D and P, that timber could be harvested within the corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Harvest could reduce the character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses. Timber harvest or other activities would not adversely affect the cultural site. This site is adequately protected by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified the area for development of transportation and other infrastructure. Residents of the City of Kake use the area for subsistence use and may view designation as a threat to the subsistence resource if it attracts tourists to the area. No public comment on the Revision DEIS has been received specifically referring to Irish Creek and Keku Creek, although comments referring to Rocky Pass ask that the area be managed in equivalent LUD II status because of the fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreational values. Reference is made to Rocky Pass identifying it as an exceptional kayak route. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

No private land would be acquired, no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

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# KADAKE CREEK

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- 0 Segment Number



## KADAKE CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Petersburg Ranger District in VCU 421, Tongass National Forest, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Kadake Creek originates from elevations below 500 feet and flows approximately twenty-three miles into saltwater in Kadake Bay on Kuiu Island. The stream has high fish values for steelhead, silver salmon, and cutthroat trout. Kadake Creek also has high wildlife (waterfowl and black bears), historic (native use), scenic and recreation values. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Kadake Creek as one of the 19 "high value" watersheds in Southeast Alaska. There is a Forest Service recreation cabin at the mouth of the creek. A significant amount of the cabin use is by people from out of state. Much of the area surrounding the headwaters of Kadake Creek is roaded and timber has been harvested. A long-term timber sale contract has an approved Environmental Impact Statement permitting additional roading and timber harvest in the drainage. The river corridor contains approximately 7,830 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Kadake Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish, historic, recreation, wildlife, and scenic values of regional significance because of the combination of high values.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Kadake Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for five miles and Recreational River classification for 18 miles. For analysis, three river segments were considered; Segment 1 from the outlet up stream along the main creek for about eight miles and the two tributaries west of the main creek for an additional nine miles, Segment 2 includes two miles of the main stream above Segment 1, Segment 3 includes one mile of the main stream above Segment 2, and Segment 4 includes 3 miles of the tributary east of the main creek.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Wild River designation for two miles of Segments 2 and three miles of Segment 4, and Recreational River designation for 18 miles of Segments 1 and 3.</p> <p>Alternative B and P: Recreational River designation for 23 miles for all segments.</p> <p>Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Kadake Creek is typical of rivers on north Kuiu Island. Its wildlife, fish, scenic, recreational, and historic values considered in combination, are of regional significance. Most of the values are concentrated along the lower portion of the stream, although the absence of barriers to fish passage permits utilization of most of the stream for spawning and rearing of coho salmon and steelhead. The river is one</p>

of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic province. As a representative example of rivers in the vicinity, it is similar to Irish Creek, Fall Dog Creek, and Hamilton River, and in that context would not be considered unique. Kadake Creek is accessible for recreational use. The recreation cabin near the mouth of the river is 15 miles by boat and 14 miles by air from Kake, a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The upper reaches of the creek can be reached by road, being about 15 miles from the logging camp at Rowan Bay.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor and none would be affected by designation. Much of the area within and adjacent to the river corridor is roaded and contains past timber harvest activity and planned future harvest.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of Segments 2 and 4 as a Wild River would preclude road development, except as provided for in ANILCA. It would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities as the area outside these river corridors is already a transportation network that connects to Rowan Bay. Recreational River designation of Segments 1 and 3, or Recreational River designation of all Segments would not affect transportation links for timber or mineral extraction as road development is compatible with Recreational River designation.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild/Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having potential for mineral development. The USGS has also estimated the potential undiscovered mineral resources could have a Gross In Place Value (not including any development costs) of up to \$400,000 per acre in the north part of the river corridor. Wild River designation would limit Segments 2 and 4 to mineral exploration and extraction, except as provided for in ANILCA. Recreational River designation of these segments or of all segments would not foreclose the corridor to mineral development or extraction but development may require design modifications to be compatible with the

emphasis of the management area. No valid claims currently exist within the river corridor or in the adjacent lands.

*Timber:* Designation of Segments 2 and 4 as a Wild River would remove from consideration approximately 1,500 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. Designation of these segments as a Wild River may restrict timber harvest or decrease access, at potentially higher costs, to timber east of the main creek. Designation of Segments 1 and 3 as a Recreational River would allow timber harvest with reduced yields on approximately 3,160 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands. Designation of all segments as a Recreational River would allow timber harvest with reduced yields on approximately 4,160 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands. Timber harvest within the river corridor would likely use small clearcut or group selection methods.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Wild River designation for Segments 2 and 4 would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species in these Segments. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would require appropriate access and design at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. However, this stream has not been identified as having potential for fish enhancement so Wild Designation would be unlikely to affect enhancement opportunities. Designation of Segments 2 and 4 or designation of all segments as a Recreational River would allow typical fish habitat enhancement projects if their need was identified. Stream rehabilitation projects that place large woody debris into streams to improve fish habitat are planned in tributaries where logging has removed streamside trees. This practice would be unaffected by designation.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild/Recreational River would maintain the current recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower reach of the river near the cabin and tide flat. Designation of all segments as a Recreational River could increase access to the area east of the main creek if roads were constructed into this area, possibly increasing use of this area for recreation and subsistence use.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor for Segments 2 and 4. Visual quality outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and the visual quality objective for these adjacent lands would allow timber harvest and other activities that may modify the landscape. Designation of all segments as a Recreational River would retain the visual character within the river corridor as seen from the river, while areas outside the corridor would be subject to the visual quality objectives of adjacent Land Use Designations.

*Historic Values:* Historic values of long-term Native use of the area would not be affected by either designation. Traditional subsistence use centered around fishing and trapping would still be allowed. Native garden sites are present in the bay but are outside of the river corridor.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable historic, recreation, fish, wildlife, and scenic values, concentrated near the mouth of the creek would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild/Recreational River. In alternative P and alternative D, the lands adjacent to Segment 4 and the lower portion of Segment 1 would be managed for semi-primitive recreation and timber harvest would be foreclosed. In other parts of the river corridor, however, (Segment 2, 3 and the remainder of 1) roading and mineral entry would be permitted. Lands adjacent to the corridor and outside of the semi-primitive designation would be managed for timber production. Up river, scenic, historic, wildlife, and historic values diminish and would not be affected by non-designation. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected in all tributaries by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. Some members of the community of Kake have used this area for many years for subsistence activities and may view designation as a threat to the subsistence resources if designation attracts more visitors to the area. Conversely, other Kake residents are interested in developing tourism for the community and may favor designation. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Kadake Creek has been received, although one comment suggested that Kadake Bay be given semi-primitive status.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild or Recreation River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 20,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 70,000

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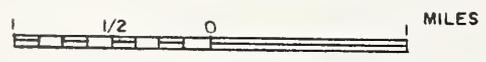
# KAH SHEETS CREEK and LAKE



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- 0 Segment Number

SCALE 1: 63 360



## KAH SHEETS CREEK and LAKE

### Description

Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 434, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Kah Sheets Creek and Lake originate from elevations below 500 feet and flow approximately nine miles into saltwater in Kah Sheets Bay on Kupreanof Island. The stream has high fish values for steelhead, silver and sockeye salmon, and cutthroat trout. A partial barrier falls about one and a half mile upstream concentrates migrating salmon providing a unique sport fishing opportunity for sockeye salmon. Kah Sheets Creek and Lake also have high cultural, wildlife, and recreation values. The mouth of the stream is the site of historic and prehistoric activity and is an excellent area for waterfowl and black bear hunting. There is a Forest Service recreation cabin at the mouth of Kah Sheets Creek and another at Kah Sheets Lake. A Forest Service recreation trail leads from saltwater to the lake, connecting the two cabins. The river corridor contains approximately 3,600 acres, all of which is in National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Kah Sheets Creek and Lake have outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, recreation, and cultural, values of regional significance. Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists this stream among the 65 "important" watersheds for salmon in Southeast Alaska.

### Classification

Kah Sheets Creek and Lake meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for nine miles. For analysis the river was divided into two segments. Segment 1 includes the main stream from saltwater upstream for five miles and includes the lake. Segment 2 includes four miles of the tributary to the west of the main stream.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Wild River designation for both segments for nine miles.

Alternative B and P: Wild River designation for five miles for Segment 1 and Scenic River Designation for four miles for Segment 2.

Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Kah Sheets Creek and Lake is a fine example of rivers on the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof lowlands. Its wildlife, fish, recreational, and historic values are of regional significance. Most of the historic and wildlife values are concentrated along the lower portion of the stream. Fish and recreational values are present throughout the drainage but are most important from the head of the lake to saltwater. The sockeye salmon run provides one of the few sport fishing opportunities for this fish for Petersburg residents. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative

example of rivers on the Kupreanof Lowlands, it is similar to Petersburg Creek, Castle River, and Duncan Salt Chuck Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Kah Sheets Creek and Lake are readily accessible for recreational use. The recreation cabin near the mouth of the river is 24 miles by boat and 24 miles by air from Petersburg, a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The cabin on the lake is 22 miles by air and 24 miles by boat with a 2 3/4 mile walk by trail. This cabin is being reconstructed for barrier free accessibility.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor and none would be affected by designation. Timber has not been harvested in the stream corridor or surrounding lands except for an area near the mouth of the river, which has since grown up to be natural appearing.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would foreclose the river corridor to road development, except as provided for in ANILCA, and affect access to timber resources on adjacent lands. The corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas. Scenic River designation of Segment 2 would allow for limited road crossings of the river corridor of this segment and would permit access to timber and other resources.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having potential for mineral development. The USGS has also estimated the Gross In Place Value of undiscovered minerals to be \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre in parts of the river corridor (not including any development costs). Wild River designation would withdraw the river corridor from mineral exploration and extraction and could limit access to mineral resources in adjacent lands. Scenic River designation of Segment 2 would leave the corridor open to mineral development or extraction but development may require design modifications to be compatible with the emphasis of the management area. No valid claims currently exist within the river corridor or in the adjacent lands.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove from consideration approximately 300 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor. Wild River designation may restrict timber harvest or decrease access, at potentially higher costs, to timber on the adjacent lands. Designation of Segment 2 as a Scenic River would allow timber harvesting with reduced yields within the river corridor of this segment. Harvests within the river corridor would be limited to small clearcuts or group selections. Scenic River designation would also allow for limited road access through the river corridor to timber resources on adjacent lands.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Kah Sheets Creek has been identified as having potential for fish enhancement. Construction of fish ladders at the two falls in Segment 1 has been proposed to permit fish passage during periods of low water flow. Wild River designation of this segment would require that development of potential fish habitat enhancements conform to appropriate access and design, at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Scenic River designation of Segment 2 could result in some road development into the corridor from adjacent areas with the potential for timber harvest and increased access but these developments would be unlikely to affect wildlife populations as most of the wildlife values are concentrated near the mouth of the river.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower river and along the trail to the lake. Designation of Segment 2 as a Scenic River could increase access to the western tributary if roads were built into this area. This may increase use of this area for recreation and subsistence use.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Scenic River designation of Segment 2 would preserve the scenic views as seen from the river. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and in Alternative D, the visual quality objectives for these adjacent lands would allow timber harvest and other activities that may modify the landscape.

*Cultural Values:* Cultural values which include old fish camps and fish traps would not be affected by either designation. Traditional subsistence use centered around fishing and trapping would still be allowed.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable cultural, fish, and wildlife values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River. Cultural sites are adequately protected by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. In Alternatives A and B, the

adjacent lands would be managed for primitive and semi-primitive recreation and road development and timber harvest would be foreclosed. Limited roading for mineral entry would be permitted with modifications to protect recreational values. There is a potential in Alternatives C, D, and P that timber would be harvested within the river corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. Harvest would reduce the primitive character of the area and diminish the primitive recreational values. Harvest may increase access for non-primitive recreation and subsistence use.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. Several public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Kah Sheets Creek and Lake and to its watershed have been received. They suggest that the creek and lake be given Wild River designation and that the VCU 434 be given LUD II-type prescriptions or primitive recreation prescriptions.

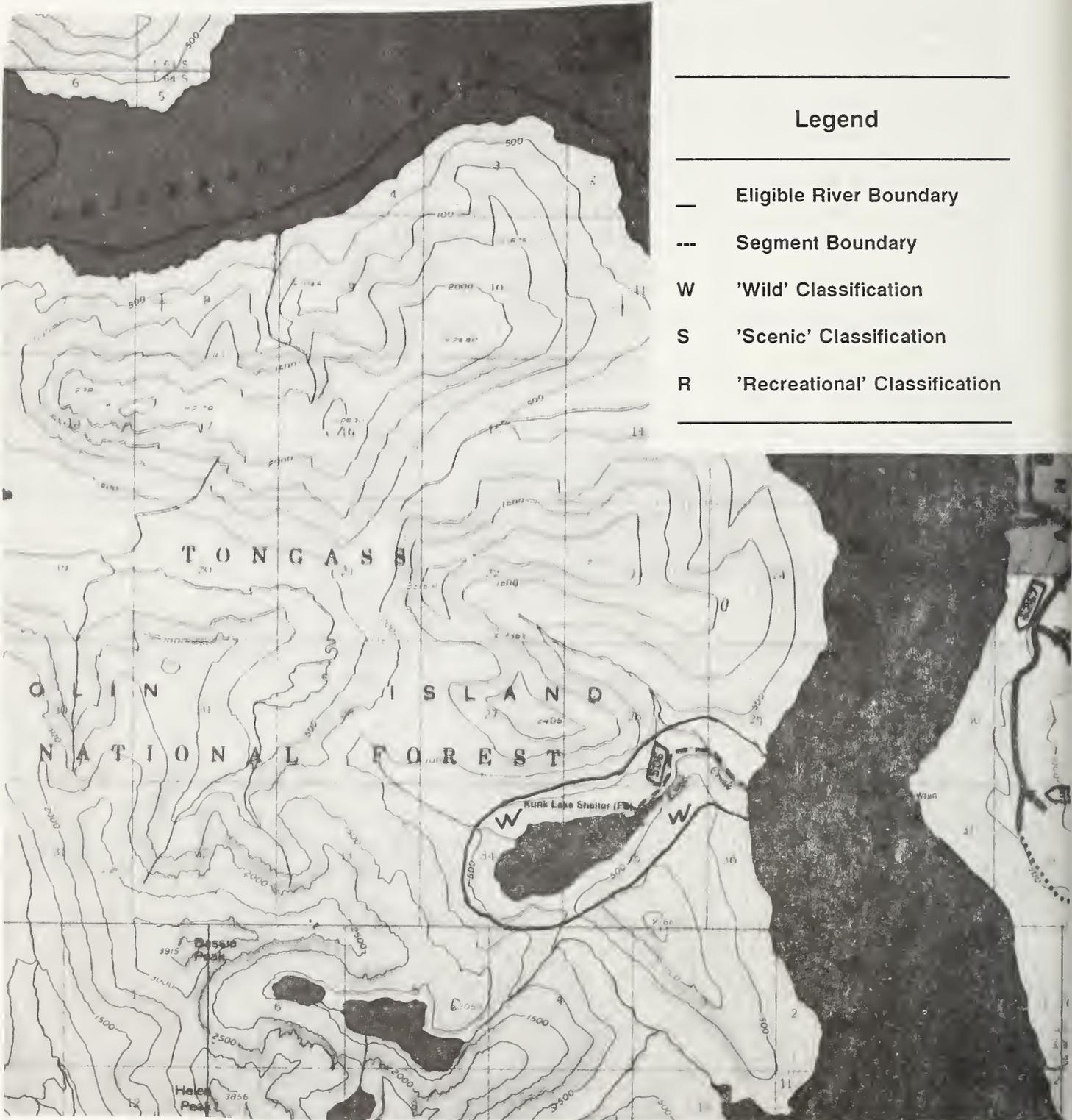
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 20,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 70,000

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# KUNK LAKE and CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63 360



## KUNK LAKE and CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 463, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Kunk Lake and Creek originate on Etolin Island at approximately 1000 feet elevation and flows approximately two miles into saltwater in Zimovia Straits. The river has high fish (wide diversity of species), wildlife, scenic, and recreation values. There is a Forest Service recreation shelter on the lake with a trail leading a short distance to saltwater. The watershed is undeveloped and unroaded. The river corridor contains approximately 1,000 acres, all of which is in National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Kunk Lake and Creek have outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreation values of regional significance. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Kunk Lake and Creek as one of the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska.
<b>Classification</b>	Kunk Creek and Lake meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for two miles.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternative A: Wild River designation for two miles.  Alternative B: Scenic River designation for two miles.  Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Kunk Creek and Lake are typical of small streams on Etolin Island. Their wildlife, fish, recreational, and scenic values are of regional significance. Wildlife, fish, and recreational values are distributed throughout the drainage while the scenic values, which include views of talus slopes and alpine ridges, are concentrated at the lake. Although the stream has no exceptional run of any one species fish, it has a good diversity of species that include pink, chum, coho, and sockeye salmon as well as steelhead, rainbow trout, cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden. The area once supported a good population of deer, but numbers are now at low levels. Its proximity to Wrangell provides recreational opportunities for local residents. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on Kuiu Island, it is similar to Falls Creek and McHenry Lake, Porcupine Creek, and Olive Creek and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Kunk Creek and Lake is readily accessible for recreational use. The mouth of the creek is 12 miles by boat or air from Wrangell, a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The lake is not suitable for landing most aircraft but can be

reached by a one-mile walk by trail from the mouth of the creek. Since there is no good anchorage at the mouth of the stream, boat access is limited to canoes, kayaks, and small powered boats.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any past timber harvesting.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would preclude road development, except as provided for in ANILCA, and could affect access to timber or other resources on adjacent lands. The river corridor has been identified by the Forest Service as a potential transportation link between adjacent undeveloped areas. Scenic River designation would allow for a road crossing of the creek to access timber on the north end of Etolin Island.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has not been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having potential for mineral development. The USGS has estimated the Gross In Place Value of undiscovered mineral resources to be less than \$4,000 per acre (not including any development costs). Wild River designation would withdraw the river corridor from mineral exploration and extraction and could limit access to mineral resources in adjacent lands. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect future mineral supplies. No valid claims currently exist within the river corridor or on the adjacent lands. Designation as a Scenic River would allow mineral exploration and extraction within the river corridor.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 300 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands from consideration within the river corridor. Wild River designation may restrict timber harvest by decreasing access to timber on north Etolin Island. Scenic River designation would normally allow for limited harvest within the river corridor likely utilizing small clearcut and group selection methods, however, since the lands adjacent to the river corridor are in old-growth

and semi-primitive designations in Alternatives A, B, and D, forested lands in the river corridor will be considered unsuitable for timber harvest in these alternatives.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would maintain existing habitat conditions and might serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Wild or Scenic River designation would require that development of potential fish habitat enhancements conform to appropriate access and design, at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Kunk Creek and Lake has not been identified as having potential for fish enhancement.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek and along the trail to the lake. Scenic River designation would allow for a road corridor across the creek and (if a road were constructed) could increase recreation and subsistence use of the area.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Scenic River designation would affect the scenic values since they are concentrated at the lake and any road crossing would not be seen from the lake. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations and in Alternatives A, B, and D, visual quality is protected by the old-growth and semi-primitive designations.

*Effects of non-designation:* In Alternative D the outstanding values of the river would be protected by management of adjacent lands for semi-primitive recreation values. Construction of roads for mineral entry or as a vital transportation link is permitted with semi-primitive designation, when modifications to protect recreation and scenic values are utilized. Since the area has no known mineral potential, the possibility of road development is diminished. In Alternative C and the P alternative there is a possibility of timber harvest within and adjacent to the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. Public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Kunk Creek and Lake suggest that the creek and lake be given Wild River designation since the stream is listed as one of the 65 important watersheds by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

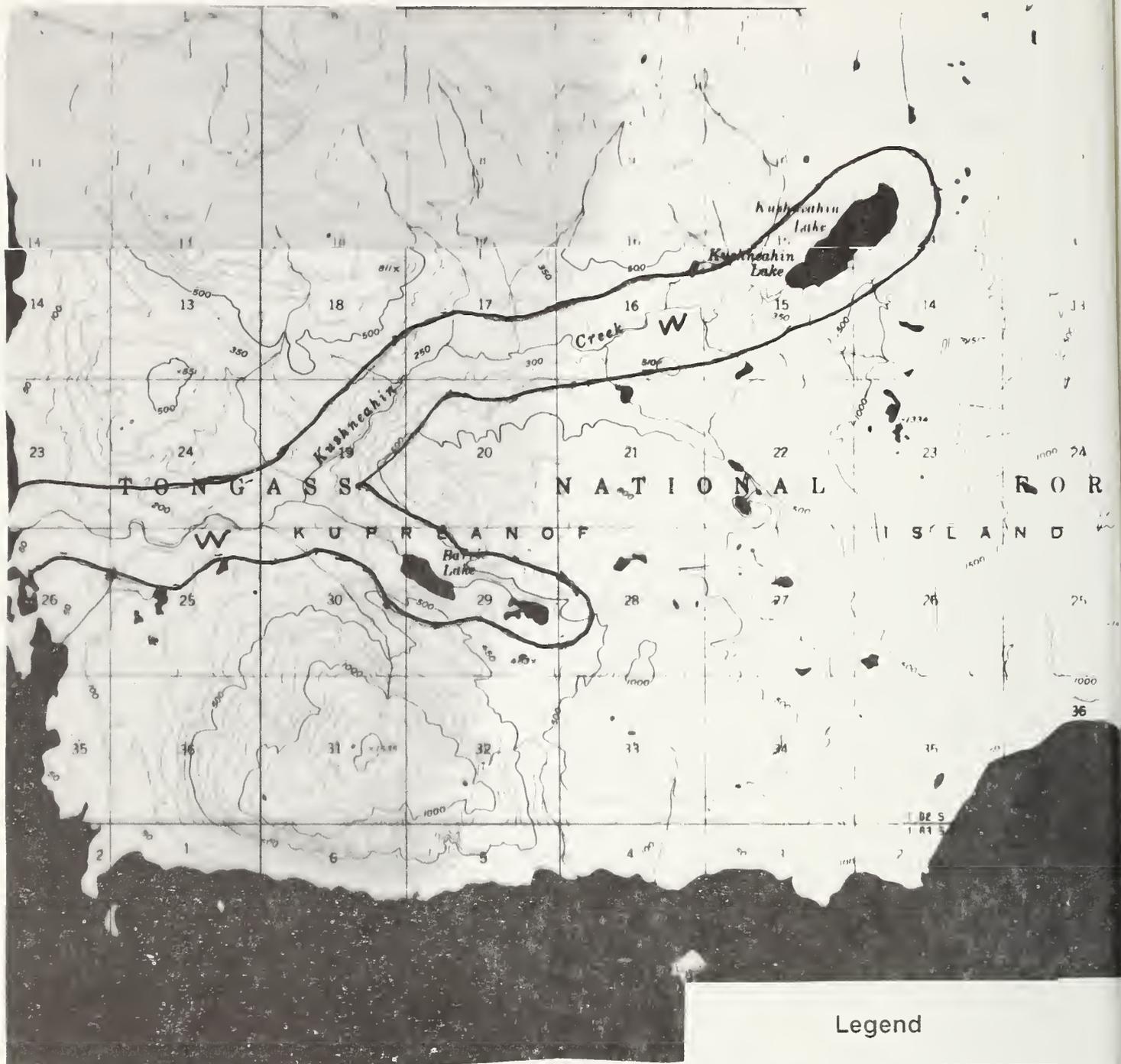
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild or Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired. Recreation and other developments proposed for the area include trail and shelter reconstruction. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 77,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$127,000

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# KUSHNEAHIN CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63 360



## KUSHNEAHIN CREEK

### Description

Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 431, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Kushneahin Creek originates below 500 feet in elevation and flows nine miles into saltwater on Kupreanof island. Kushneahin Creek has high sport fish value for sockeye and steelhead. A 7.9 foot three-step falls is a partial barrier to steelhead and coho and sockeye salmon and a complete barrier to chum and pink salmon. The Kushneahin Creek drainage is undeveloped and unroaded. The river corridor contains approximately 3,300 acres, all of which is in National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Kushneahin Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish values of regional significance as a steelhead fishing stream. The area has a significant black bear population and is used for bear hunting. Recreation use is light, but the remoteness of the area provides a high degree of solitude for visitors.

### Classification

Kushneahin Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for nine miles.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Wild River designation for all nine miles.

Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Kushneahin Creek is typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof Lowlands. Its wildlife and fish values are of regional significance because of the sockeye salmon and steelhead runs and because of the black bear population of the area. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the Kupreanof Lowlands, it is similar to Castle River, Kadake Creek, and Petersburg Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. Kushneahin Creek is about 45 miles by air and 60 miles by water from Petersburg which has jet air service and is a terminal for the Alaska Marine Highway. It can also be reached from the small community of Point Baker, ten miles away by air or water.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist. There is no private land and no effects on private land use adjacent to the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would preclude road development and could affect access to timber, minerals, and other resources on adjacent land, except as provided for in ANILCA. Designation would be unlikely to affect future transportation opportunities between communities as no settlements are present on south Kupreanof Island.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* As a Wild River, the corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry. The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists the area as having potential for mineral extraction for copper and molybdenum. The USGS estimates the Gross In Place Value of undiscovered mineral resources to be \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any development costs). Wild River designation could affect access for mineral exploration and extraction in adjacent lands since road development within the corridor would be foreclosed.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 700 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration. There is potential in all alternatives that timber would be harvested outside of the river corridor. Designation would affect access to timber resources and may require additional roads, at potentially higher costs.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Development of potential fish habitat enhancements would require appropriate access and design at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Fertilization of Kushneahin Lake to enhance sock-eye salmon would be allowed. Designation would be unlikely to affect bear numbers.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower reach of the river.

*Scenic Resources:* Designation of as a Wild River would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would

be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations, and the visual quality objective for these adjacent lands would allow timber harvest and other activities that may dominate the landscape.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish and wildlife values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. Timber harvest on lands adjacent to the corridor would likely be visible from the corridor; however, since scenic values were not considered outstandingly remarkable, this would not affect river values. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Alternatives B, C, D, and P that timber would be harvested within the corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Harvest would diminish the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

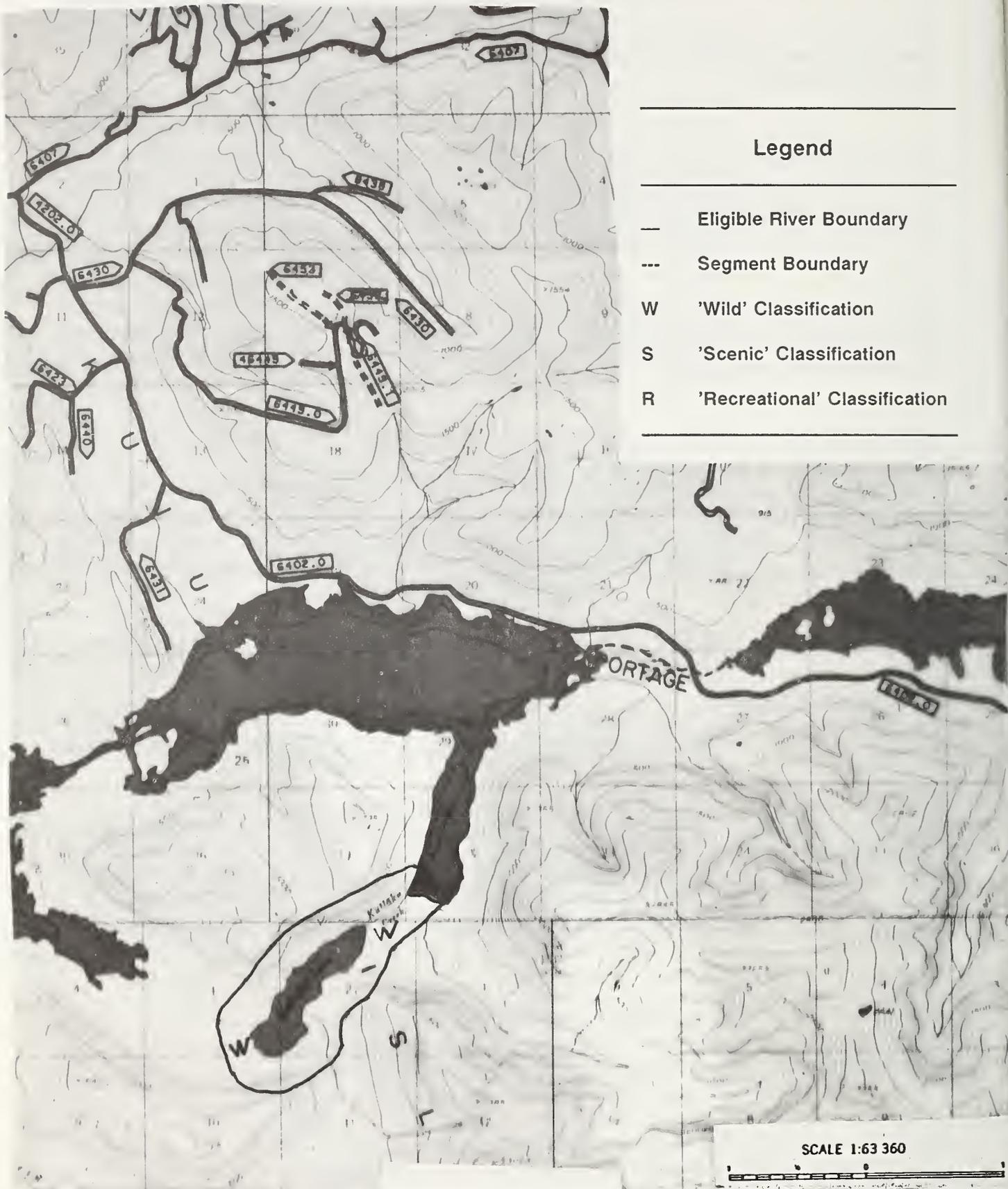
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No communities are present. Public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Kushneahin Creek was received suggesting that it be given Wild River designation since it was identified by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as one of 65 "important" watersheds.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 37,500

# KUTLAKU CREEK and LAKE



## KUTLAKU CREEK and LAKE

### Description

Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 403, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Kutlaku Creek and Lake originate from elevations below 500 feet and flows approximately two miles into saltwater in Bay of Pillars on Kuiu Island. The stream has high commercial and historic values for sockeye salmon. Kutlaku Creek and Lake have been a subsistence area for sockeye. Historically, a fish hatchery and saltery were located near this stream. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped. The area east of the creek was selectively logged for large Sitka spruce about 70 years ago. Evidence of the logging is not visible from the creek and, except for the presence of some old stumps, is not evident to the casual observer. Forest Service and State of Alaska fish biologists are interested in expanding the commercial fish productivity of the area. The river corridor contains approximately 900 acres, all of which are National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Because of the important Sockeye salmon run and high quality spawning and rearing habitat, Kutlaku Creek and Lake have outstandingly remarkable fish values of regional significance

### Classification

Kutlaku Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for two miles.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Wild River designation for all two miles.

Alternatives B, C, D and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Kutlaku Creek and Lake are typical of small streams with lakes in Southeast Alaska. Its fish values are of regional significance because of the sockeye salmon and steelhead runs and because of the potential for sockeye enhancement. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers within the province, it is similar to Kunk Creek and Lake, Falls Creek and Lake, and Olive Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. Kutlaku Creek is about 50 miles by air and 100 miles by water from Petersburg, which has jet air service and is a terminal for the Alaska Marine Highway. The creek is about 30 miles by water from Kake using a kayak route with a one mile portage at Port Camden and about 12 miles by water from the logging camp at Rowan Bay.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within or adjacent to the river corridor, thus, no effects on private land. No valid mining claims exist. A Native claim (about 40 acres) between the lake and the salt chuck has been applied for and is in interim conveyance.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would preclude road development and could affect access to timber, minerals, and other resources on adjacent land, except as provided for in ANILCA. Designation would be unlikely to affect links between current roads because north Kuiu Island is well roaded and the main transportation networks have been developed.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* As a Wild River, the corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry and access to minerals on adjacent lands could be affected. The U.S. Bureau of Mines and the USGS do not list the area as having potential for mineral extraction so it is unlikely that Wild River designation would affect the availability of mineral resources.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 300 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration in alternative D. Designation would affect access to timber resources on the west side of the creek and lake and might require additional roads, at potentially higher costs. Timber resources east of the creek and lake could be accessed by extension of existing roads.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. The creek has no potential for fish habitat enhancement structures, but the lake has been identified as having potential for fertilization to increase sockeye salmon production. Fertilization of Kutlaku Lake would be allowed with Wild River designation.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsis-

tence activity would continue to center around the lower reach of the river where sockeye salmon concentrate before migrating up to the lake and its tributaries.

*Scenic Resources:* Designation as a Wild River would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations which would emphasize semi-primitive recreation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. Alternative P would manage the drainage for an emphasis on primitive recreation values. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Alternatives C and D that timber would be harvested within the corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Timber harvest on lands adjacent to the river corridor would likely be visible from the river corridor; however, since scenic values were not considered outstandingly remarkable this would not affect river values. Harvest would reduce the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No communities are present in the area, but a logging camp is present at Rowan Bay. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Kutlaku Creek and Lake was received. However, several comments relating to south Kuiu and the Bay of Pillars were received indicating that these areas should be preserved to protect the fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreational opportunities. Other comments suggest that VCU 403 be placed in LUD II status and that the Bay of Pillars be protected because of its exceptional kayak route. One comment suggested that VCU 403 be placed into LUD IV designation to maximize timber harvest.

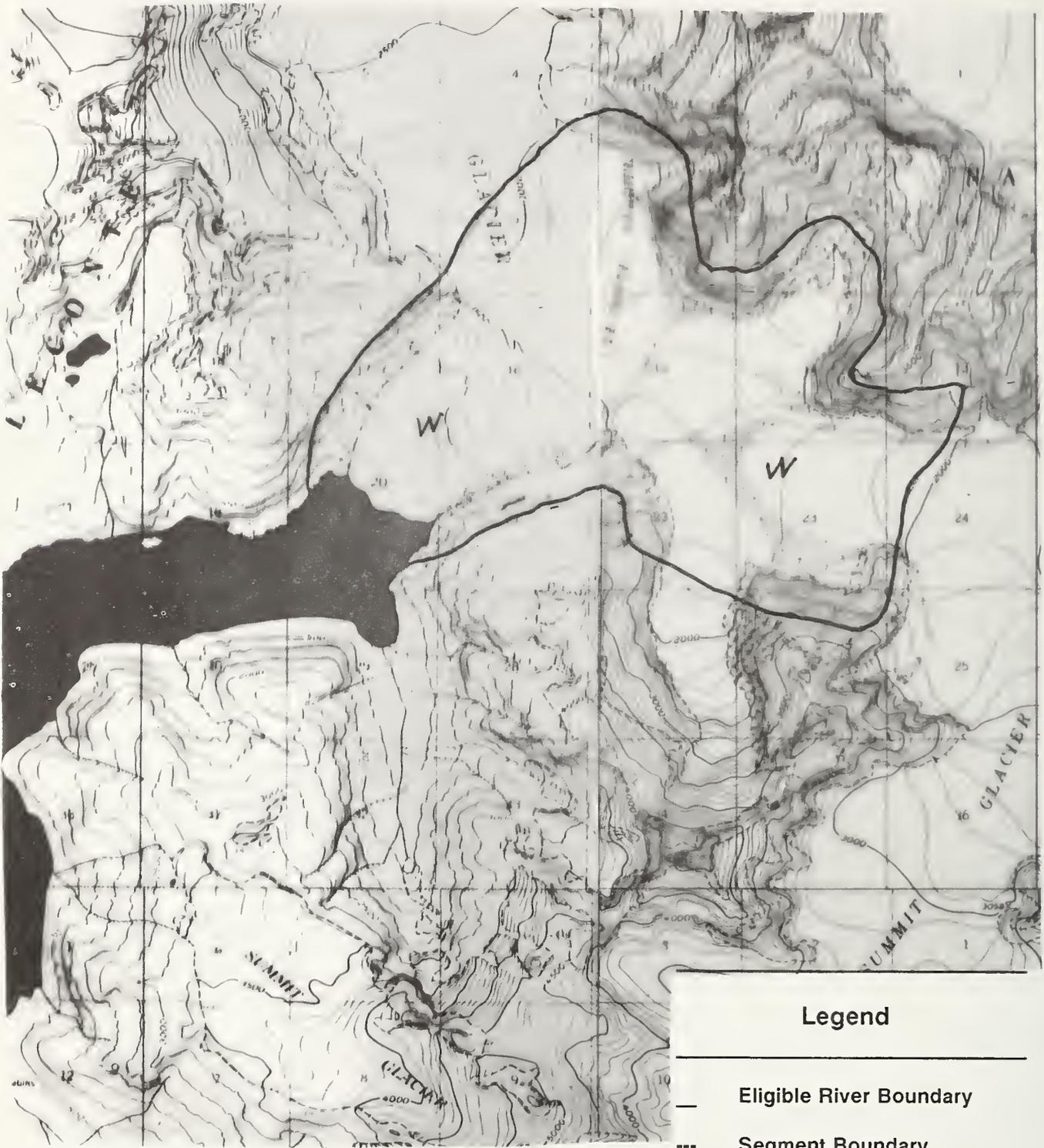
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

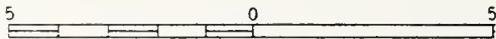
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

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# LECONTE GLACIER



SCALE 1:250000



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## LECONTE GLACIER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 491, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, the LeConte Glacier originates on the mainland at elevations of approximately 5000 feet in the ice fields on the Canadian border and flows approximately six miles into saltwater in LeConte Bay. The glacier has high scenic values. LeConte Glacier is located in the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness, and is visited regularly by tour boats, charter boats, kayakers, personal recreation powerboats, and flightseers. The area is natural, unroaded, and fiord-like below the glacier. Although the land adjacent to LeConte Bay is National Forest land designated as Wilderness, the waters of the bay are owned by the State of Alaska. Regulation of boaters in the bay to preserve the Wilderness experience, or to charge commercial users is under State jurisdiction. Access to the glacier for hiking is extremely difficult from saltwater, consequently, except for occasional helicopter landings, few people hike on this glacier. The glacial ice floating in the bay is a significant resting and pupping area for seals. The LeConte corridor has approximately 5,800 acres.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>LeConte Glacier has outstandingly remarkable scenic values of national significance. It is the southern-most glacier in North America that terminates in saltwater; and the most rapidly flowing (calving frequently) glacier in Alaska.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>LeConte Glacier meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for six miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A, B, D, and P: Wild River designation for all 6 miles.</p> <p>Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>LeConte Glacier is typical of small glaciers in Southeast Alaska that reach saltwater. It is unique in that it is the southern-most glacier in North America that reaches saltwater. The glacier is one of two eligible glaciers and 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers within the province, it is similar to Baird Glacier but unlike Baird Glacier it reaches saltwater. From a national perspective, Wild River designation would add the first glacier to the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. In the context of Southeast Alaska, LeConte Glacier is readily accessible being about 20 miles by air and 28 miles by water from Petersburg. LeConte Glacier is also visited by residents and visitors from Wrangell. It is about 28 miles by air and about 30 miles by water from Wrangell. Both Petersburg and Wrangell have daily jet service and are terminals for the Alaska Marine Highway.</p>

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would likely have no effect on road development as there are no roads planned for the area. Wilderness and Wild River designation generally limit road development, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* No valid mineral claims exist within or adjacent to the corridor. Designation would not affect future mineral exploration and development as Wilderness status of an area withdraws it from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on timber production as the area is currently in Wilderness and timber harvest is prohibited in Wilderness.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on fish or wildlife. There are no fish associated with the glacier as it reaches saltwater. Wildlife habitat is protected by the Wilderness status of the surrounding land which prohibits development.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on the current primitive recreation opportunities since the area is already in Wilderness. Subsistence use in the area is limited to some harvest of seals by Alaska Natives. This use would remain unchanged with Wild River designation.

*Scenic Resources:* Because the glacier is within the Wilderness, designation as a Wild River would not alter the current visual quality objective of preservation which allows only ecologic changes to the landscape.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River since the area is in Wilderness.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

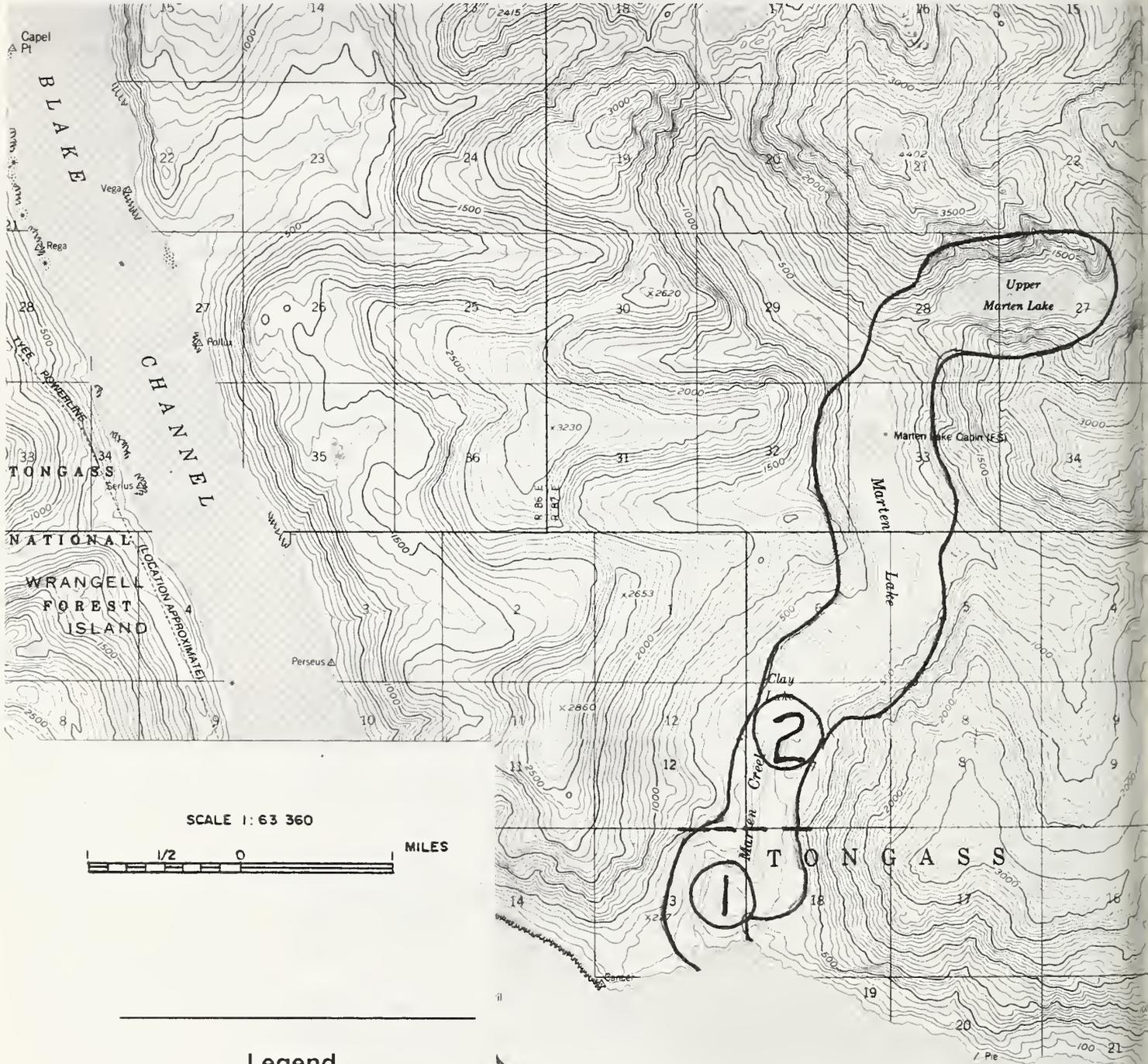
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No communities are present in the area. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referred to LeConte Glacier. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

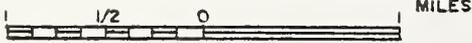
No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# MARTEN LAKE and CREEK



SCALE 1:63 360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- 0 'Segment Boundary

BRADFIELD  
TABLE AREA

Rad Δ  
E - 212 25 30 29

## MARTEN LAKE and CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 509, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Marten Lake and Creek originate on the mainland at approximately 2000 feet elevation, and flow approximately six miles into saltwater in Bradfield Canal. The creek has high fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreation values. The creek has moderate runs of pink and chum salmon and steelhead. A 40 foot falls, located 0.7 miles upstream from saltwater, is a barrier to migration of anadromous fish. Cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char are found above the barrier falls. Brown bear are present in good numbers and are hunted in the area. Goats are present on the slopes above the lakes. Scenic values are concentrated near the lakes where alpine views are unobstructed. There is a Forest Service recreation cabin on Marten Lake. The watershed is unroaded and undeveloped. The area offers exceptional waterfalls and alpine scenery. The river corridor contains approximately 2,600 acres, all of which is in National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Marten Lake and Creek have outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreation values of regional significance. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Marten Lake and Creek as one of the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska. Marten Creek is popular for steelhead fishing.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Marten Lake and Creek meet the guidelines for Wild River classification for six miles. For analysis the river was divided into two Segments; Segment 1 includes the river from saltwater upstream for one mile, Segment 2 includes the river for five miles upstream above Segment 1.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for all six miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p> <p>Alternative D: Wild River designation for all five miles of Segment 2 and Scenic River designation for the one mile of Segment 1.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Marten Lake and Creek is typical of small rivers on the mainland with a lake system. Its wildlife and fish values are of regional significance because of the steelhead runs and because of the good brown bear population of the area. Goats are present on the adjacent slopes above the lakes. The area is used by outfitter/guides for steelhead fishing and brown bear hunting. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the mainland, it is similar to Anan Creek, Eagle</p>

River and Lake, and Virginia Lake and Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. Marten Lake and Creek is about 23 miles by air and 32 miles by water from Wrangell which has jet air service and is a terminal for the Alaska Marine Highway. The recreation cabin on the lake is 25 air miles from Wrangell.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would preclude road development and could affect access to timber, minerals, and other resources on adjacent land, except as provided for in ANILCA. The lower portion of the creek is within a proposed road corridor identified by Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities that would connect Wrangell to Canada along the North Fork of the Bradfield River. Wild River designation of Marten Creek and Lake might block this route. Scenic River designation of Segment 1 would allow road construction across the river corridor.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* As a Wild River, the river corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry. The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists the area as having potential for mineral extraction. The USGS estimates the extreme upper and lower ends of the river corridor may have undiscovered mineral resources with a Gross In Place Value of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any development costs). Since road construction within the river corridor would be limited, wild designation could affect access for mineral exploration and extraction in adjacent lands. Scenic River designation of Segment 1 would keep the lower one mile of river corridor open to mineral exploration and extraction.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 800 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration. However, timber is unsuitable because the area is recommended for primitive and semi-primitive recreation in all alternatives.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Development of fish habitat enhancements would not be prevented with Wild River designation. Construction of a fish passage at the 40-foot barrier falls has been determined to be currently infeasible. Designation would have no effect on brown bear numbers.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower reach of the river and at the recreation cabin on the lake.

*Scenic Resources:* Designation of as a Wild River would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations, and the visual quality objective for these adjacent lands would be for primitive and semi-primitive recreation. Scenic River designation of Segment 1 could result in visual modification in the river corridor if the Wrangell to Canada road link were constructed.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish and wildlife values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River. Timber harvest is not allowed on lands adjacent to the river corridor by current and proposed alternative land designations. Scenic and recreation values are protected in all alternatives. If the proposed road from Wrangell to Canada were built, access to the area would increase recreation opportunities along the lower portion of the stream. This could result in increased sport fishing, hunting, and subsistence use. Although there would be little or no effect on fish and wildlife habitat, increased hunting and fishing pressure could reduce steelhead and brown bear numbers unless regulated by the State.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view designation as unacceptable as it would affect road development from Southeast Alaska into Canada. No communities are present in the area. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Marten Lake and Creek was received.

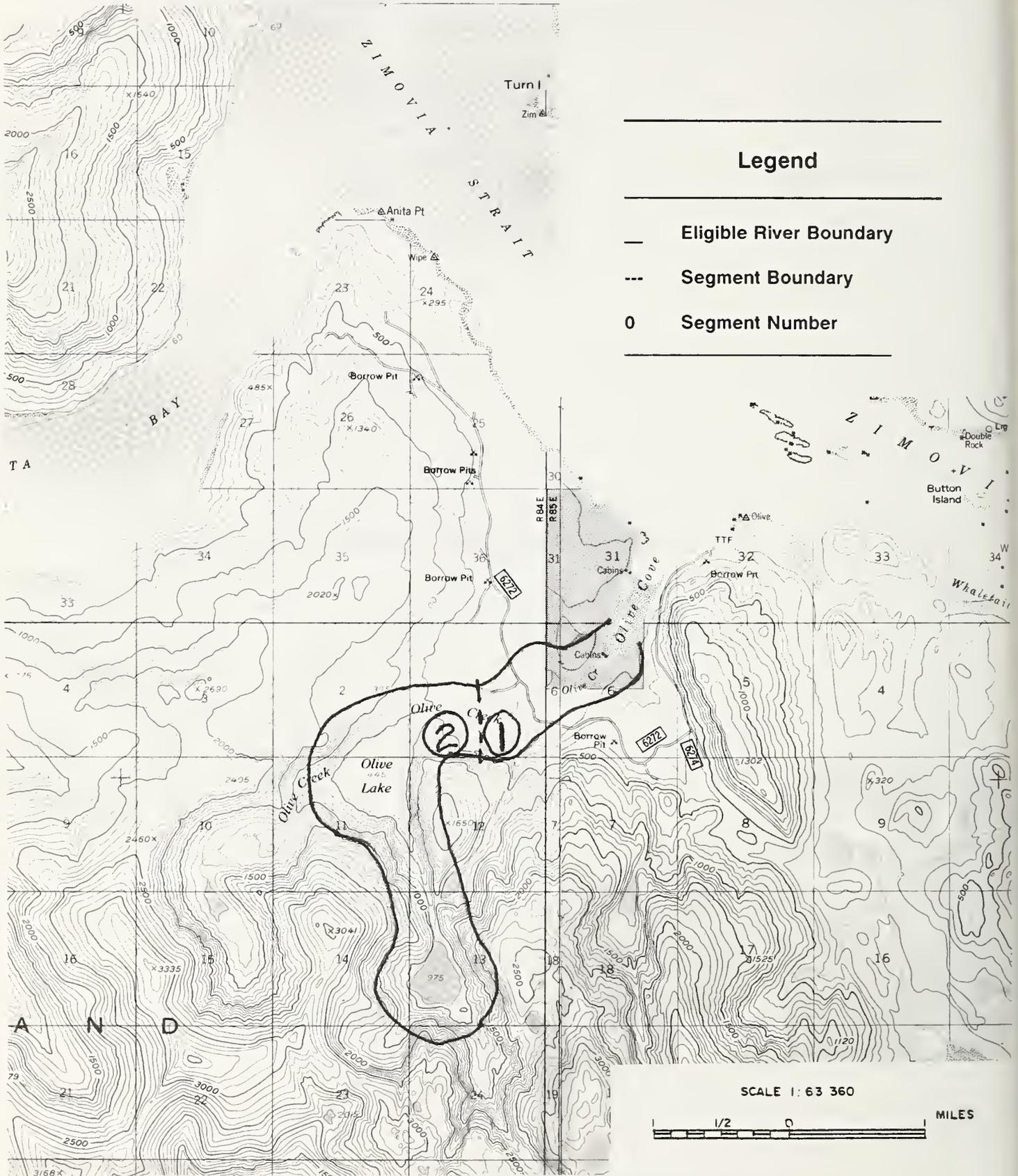
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild or Wild/Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 50,000

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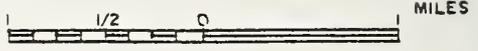
# OLIVE CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- - - Segment Boundary
- 0 Segment Number

SCALE 1:63 360



## OLIVE CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 469, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Olive Creek originates on Etolin Island at approximately 2000 feet elevation, and flows approximately four miles into saltwater in Olive Cove. The river has two important lakes that contribute to its high fish and recreation values. The lower one mile of the watershed is roaded and some timber harvest has occurred. There is one private landholding and a state selection at the mouth of the stream. Public access to the upper three miles of stream is possible by hiking the road. The area surrounding the upper stream is unroaded and undeveloped. The river corridor contains 1,500 acres, most of which is in National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Olive Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish and recreation values of regional significance. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Olive Creek as one of the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska. Olive Creek is popular for steelhead and rainbow trout fishing.
<b>Classification</b>	Olive Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for three miles and Recreational River classification for one mile. For analysis, two river segments are considered: Segment 1 from the outlet upstream for about one mile and Segment 2 upstream from Segment 1 to above the second large lake.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for 3 miles and Recreational River designation for one mile.  Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Olive Creek is typical of small streams on Etolin Island. Its fish and recreational values are of regional significance. The creek has a good steelhead run, estimated at about 400 fish per year, and a pink salmon run that averages about 35,000 fish per year. Its proximity to Wrangell provides recreational opportunities for local residents. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on Etolin Island, it is similar to Falls Creek and McHenry Lake, Porcupine Creek, and Kunk Creek and Lake and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Olive Creek is readily accessible for recreational use. The mouth of the creek is 20 miles by boat or air from Wrangell, a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The lakes are not suitable for landing most aircraft.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

In Segment 1 there are 5.87 patented acres (USGS 1966) in one private holding. Also present is a State of Alaska land selection of 524 acres, TA 11-4-81. Both holdings are at the lower end of the creek. The remainder of Segment 1 and all of Segment 2 have no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor. Forest Service Road 6272 crosses the creek in Segment 1 and some timber harvest has occurred.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation of Segment 2 would preclude road development and could affect access to timber or other resources on adjacent lands, except as provided for in ANILCA. Recreational River designation of Segment 1 would allow for additional road development within this river corridor to access resources within the river corridor and lands adjacent to both segments.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has not been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having potential for mineral development. The USGS has estimated the undiscovered mineral resources to have a Gross In Place Value of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any development costs). Wild River designation of Segment 2 would withdraw that portion of the river corridor from mineral exploration and extraction and could limit access to mineral resources in adjacent lands. Recreational River designation of Segment 1 would permit mineral exploration and extraction within this river corridor, but measures to reduce impacts may be required. No valid claims currently exist within the river corridor or in the adjacent lands.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would remove approximately 200 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands from consideration within the river corridor of Segment 2 and could restrict timber harvest or decrease access, at potentially higher costs, to timber on the adjacent lands. Recreational designation of Segment 1 would allow for small clearcuts or group selections on approximately 100 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor in Alternatives A and B.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild/Recreational River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Wild/Recreational designation would require that development of potential fish habitat enhancements conform to appropriate access and design, at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Olive Creek has not been identified as having potential for fish enhancement.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would maintain the current primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities in Segment 2. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Recreational River designation of Segment 1 would be unlikely to affect recreation and subsistence activities as the area is already roaded and access would not be changed. Road development outside of the river corridor could increase recreation opportunities on adjacent lands. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek and the larger lake.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild/Scenic River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor for Segment 2. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations of Scenic Viewshed in the lower river and either Old-growth, Primitive Recreation, or Timber Production in the upper river. Some of the lands outside the river corridor near Segment 1 would be managed to allow timber harvesting where compatible with the Scenic Viewshed prescription. Recreation designation of Segment 1 would allow for resource development within the river corridor and could result in some modification of the visual quality. However, since scenic values were not considered to be outstandingly remarkable, this would not affect river values.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild/Scenic River. There is a potential in Alternatives C, D, and to a lesser extent, in P, that timber would be harvested within the corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. Harvest would reduce the primitive character of the area and diminish the primitive scenic and recreational values in Segment 2. Harvest may increase access for non primitive recreation and subsistence use.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. Public comments on the Revision DEIS specifical-

ly referring to Olive Creek suggest that the creek be given Wild River designation because the system is important for steelhead and rainbow trout.

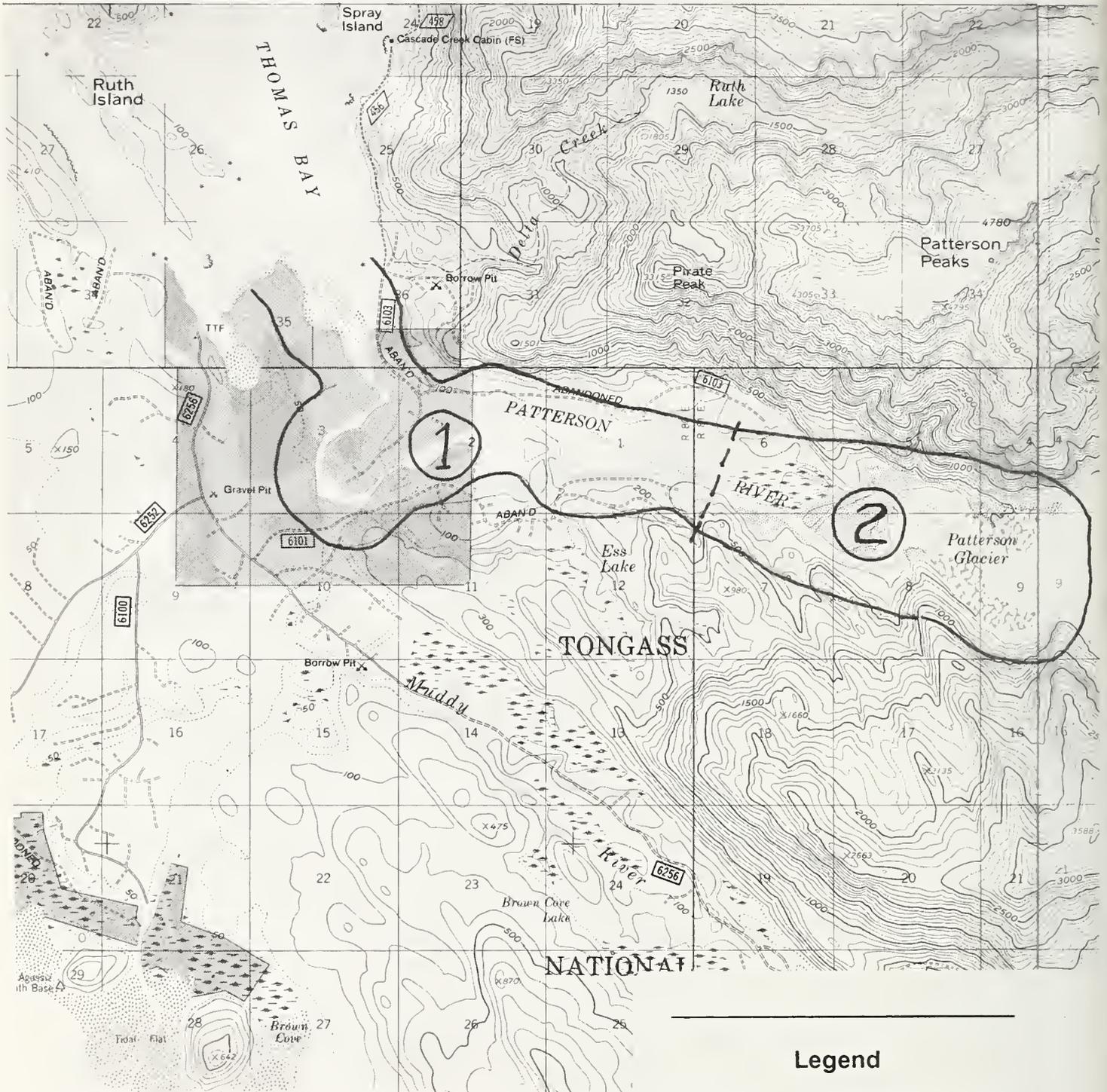
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild/Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

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# Patterson River



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
-  'Segment Boundary

SCALE 1:63 360



## PATTERSON RIVER

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 487, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Patterson River originates from glaciers above 5000 feet elevation, and flows seven miles into saltwater in Thomas Bay on the mainland. The lower four miles are roaded and timber harvest and management activities are common. The upper three miles are natural, unroaded, and recently glaciated. There is good moose hunting along the river. Deer and black bear are also present and mountain goats occur in the upper elevations along the river. Scenic views of glaciers, alpine areas, and rugged mountains are seen from the upper river. Below the glacier, remnant stumps from pre-glacier forests have been exposed as the glacier retreated. The land along the lower two and one half miles of the river is part of a land selection by the State of Alaska. The river corridor contains approximately 2,700 acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Patterson River has outstandingly remarkable scenic, wildlife, and recreation values of regional significance. The recently glaciated scenery and moose hunting opportunities provide an attraction drawing people from outside the local area.
<b>Classification</b>	Patterson River meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for three miles and Recreational River classification for four miles. For analysis, two river segments are considered: Segment 1 from the outlet upstream for about four miles and Segment 2 upstream from Segment 1 for three miles to the glacier.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternative A: Wild River designation for three miles and Recreational River designation for four miles.  Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Patterson River is typical of small rivers on the mainland that originate from glaciers. Its scenic, wildlife, and recreation values are of regional significance. Past flooding from outbursts of glacial dams has created a meandering river with islands and sandbars from which scenic views of the surrounding mountains and the Patterson Glacier can be seen. The area supports the highest density of moose in Southeast Alaska and attracts a large number of moose hunters from Petersburg and other areas. The river is suitable for rafting, but access to the upper river is limited to floatplanes and powerboats. A recreation cabin is present at saltwater at Cascade Creek, about two miles from the river. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the mainland, it is similar to Farragut River and the East and North Bradfield Rivers and in that context would

not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Patterson River is readily accessible for recreational use. The mouth of the river is 21 miles by boat and 13 miles by air from Petersburg, which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

In Segment 1 at the mouth of the river there is a State of Alaska land selection of 2,215 acres, TA 8-11-80. Part of this selection was recommended for transfer to private land through State of Alaska land lottery and sales. It was withdrawn from transfer following opposition by Petersburg residents who wanted to maintain the current recreational opportunities, especially moose hunting. The State land contains about two miles of the river corridor. The remaining land is National Forest System land.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild/Scenic River designation would preclude road development in Segment 2 and could affect access to timber or other resources on adjacent lands, except as provided for in ANILCA. Recreational designation of Segment 1 would allow for additional road development within the river corridor to access resources within the river corridor and lands adjacent to both segments. The river corridor has not been identified as a connecting link between the roads in Segment 1 and other roads in Thomas Bay.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor has been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the USGS as having potential for mineral development. Wild/Scenic designation would limit the corridor of Segment 2 to mineral exploration and extraction and could limit access to mineral resources on adjacent lands. Segment 1 would be open to mineral exploration and extraction but measures to reduce impacts may be required. No valid claims currently exist within either corridor or in the adjacent lands.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild/Scenic River would remove approximately 75 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor of Segment 2 from consideration. Designation may restrict timber harvest or decrease access, at

potentially higher costs, to timber on the adjacent lands. Recreational designation of Segment 1 would allow for small clearcuts or group selections on approximately 800 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild/Recreational River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Wild/Recreational designation would require that development of potential fish habitat enhancements conform to appropriate access and design, at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development. Patterson River has not been identified as having potential for fish enhancement. Recreational River designation of Segment 1 would not affect moose habitat improvement projects that are planned for the area. These projects generally involve planting of willow to increase moose browse or vegetation removal to favor establishment of willow, cottonwood, and other early successional species that are preferred by moose.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access for hunting and other recreational use would remain unchanged. Recreational River designation of Segment 1 would be unlikely to affect recreation activities as the area is already roaded and access would not be changed, even with increased development. Road development outside of the river corridor could increase recreation opportunities on adjacent lands. Patterson River receives very little subsistence use since it lacks significant fish runs and since the moose herd is of recent origin and is not considered a subsistence resource in Thomas Bay. Subsistence use would be unlikely to change with designation.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild/Scenic designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor in Segment 2. Visual quality as seen from the river corridor of Segment 2 would be protected by Scenic Viewshed designation. Some of the lands outside the river corridor would be managed to allow for some timber harvests where compatible with Scenic Viewshed prescription. Recreation River designation of Segment 1 would allow for resource development within the corridor and could result in some modification of the visual quality. However, since scenic values in this segment are not considered to be outstandingly remarkable, this would not affect river values.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic values in Segment 2 could be adversely affected without Wild River designation. There is a potential in Alternatives C and D that timber would be harvested within the corridor of both segments subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection and Use Designation. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. Harvest would reduce the character of the area and diminish the

primitive scenic and recreational values in Segment 2. Harvest may increase moose numbers since the currently high density of moose in this area is due, in part, to past timber harvests that created favorable moose habitat. Construction of additional roads would increase access and could result in increased recreational use, especially for moose hunting.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. However, since the State has a large tract of land at the mouth of the river and since the river corridor is contained within State land for about two miles, the State may not favor designation as it could place restrictions on land use. The current recommended use of the State lands is for recreation. No public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Patterson River were received. However, comments referring to Thomas Bay were received that requested that the area be managed to protect scenic and primitive recreational values of the remaining undisturbed areas. The Petersburg Fish and Game Advisory Committee requested that Thomas Bay be given special status for recreation because of its value for moose hunting, fishing, and cycling.

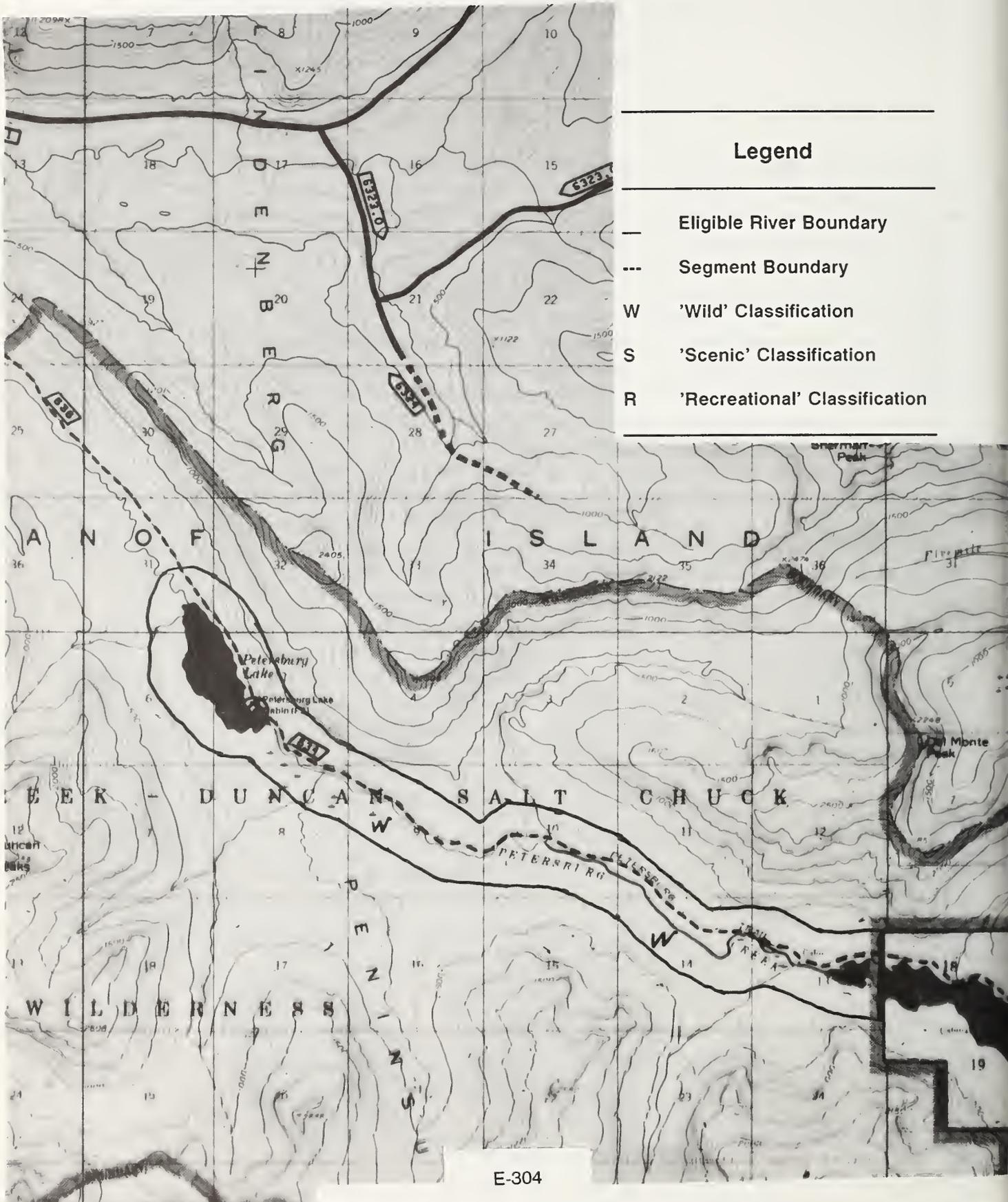
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild/Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired and no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

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# PETERSBURG CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

E-304

SCALE 1:63 360



## PETERSBURG CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 445, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Petersburg Creek originates from elevations below 500 feet and flows approximately seven miles into saltwater in the Wrangell Narrows on Kupreanof Island. The stream has high fish values for steelhead, silver, sockeye, and pink salmon, and Dolly Varden. Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Petersburg Creek as one of the top 19 "important" salmon streams in Southeast Alaska. The stream also has high scenic and recreation values. Petersburg Creek lies entirely within the Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness. A Forest Service recreation trail parallels the creek from saltwater to a Forest Service recreation cabin at Petersburg Lake. There is a historic site near the mouth of the creek. The river corridor contains approximately 2,500 acres, all of which is in National Forest System lands.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Petersburg Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish, historic, recreation, and scenic values of national significance because of the combination of high values that prompted Wilderness designation, and the convenient access from being close to Petersburg.
<b>Classification</b>	Petersburg Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for seven miles.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A, B, D, and P: Wild River designation for all 7 miles.  Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Petersburg Creek is typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof Lowlands. Its fish, recreation, scenic, and historic values are of national significance because of the combination of values and the Wilderness setting. Average fish runs are 800 steelhead and 18,000 pink salmon with lesser but significant runs of sockeye, coho, and chum salmon. In the past, these fish runs supported a small native settlement near the mouth of the stream. Today, fish runs are the main recreational attraction as they provide good fishing from April through September. A Forest Service recreation cabin at the lake can be reached by floatplane or by trail from saltwater. Scenic views are concentrated at the lake where vision is unobstructed and alpine areas can be seen against the background of the lake. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the Kupreanof lowlands, it is similar to Castle River, Kadake Creek, and Kushneahin Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Petersburg Creek is readily accessible for recreational use. The mouth of

the creek is only four miles by boat from Petersburg, which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. A six and one half mile trail from saltwater leads to the recreation cabin on Petersburg Lake. The cabin can also be reached by float plane and is nine air miles from Petersburg.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. Three special use permit recreation cabins are present near the mouth of the creek. The permits are held by local Petersburg residents. No valid mining claims are present.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would likely have no effect on road development as no future road corridor has been identified, and the area is designated Wilderness.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* No valid mineral claims exist within or adjacent to the river corridor. Designation would not affect future mineral exploration and development as Wilderness status of the area withdraws it from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on timber production as the area is currently in Wilderness and timber harvest is prohibited.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on fish or wildlife. There are no potential fish enhancement projects identified for Petersburg Creek. Fish and wildlife habitat is protected by the Wilderness status of the surrounding land which prohibits development.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on the current primitive recreation opportunities since the area is already in Wilderness. Recreation and subsistence use in the area would not be likely to increase greatly with designation as access would remain unchanged.

*Scenic Resources:* Because the creek is within Wilderness, designation as a Wild River would not alter the current visual quality objective of preservation which allows only ecologic changes to the landscape.

*Historic Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect the historic resource as the Wilderness designation protects the area from development.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, historic, recreation, and scenic values would not be adversely affected if the creek were not designated as a Wild River since the area is in Wilderness and not subject to development.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

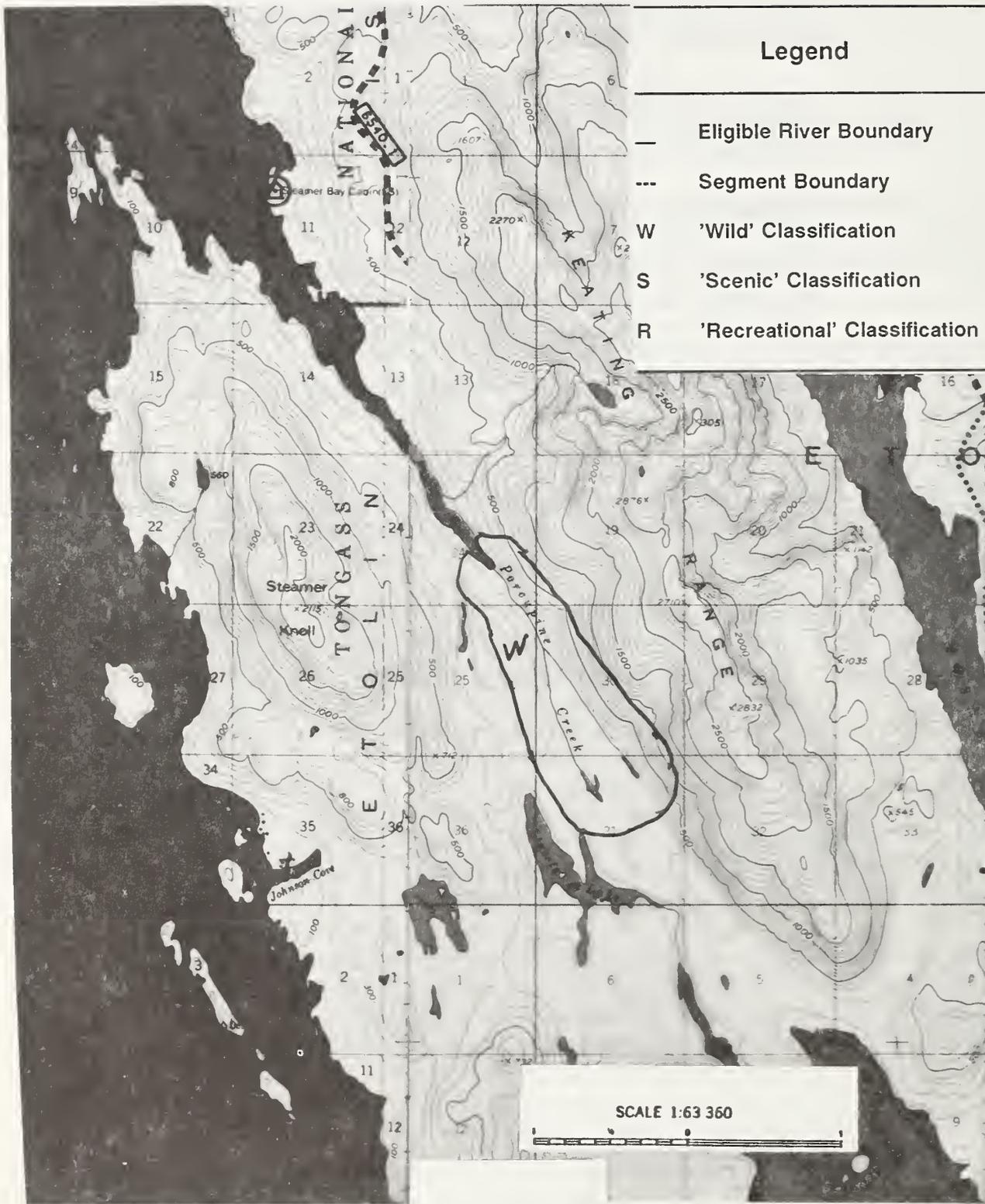
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. Public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referred to Petersburg Creek suggested that it be given the strongest possible protection.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

No private lands would be acquired. Recreation and other developments proposed for the area include reconstruction of the trail from saltwater to Petersburg Lake. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$150,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$200,000

# PORCUPINE CREEK



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63 360

## PORCUPINE CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 466, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Porcupine Creek originates at low elevation and flows two miles into saltwater in Steamer Bay on Etolin Island. There is a Forest Service recreation cabin at Steamer Bay about three miles from the mouth of the stream with good tidal access to the stream for boats. Porcupine Creek has high sport fish value for cutthroat trout, steelhead, and Dolly Varden. The creek has a good coho salmon run and a pink salmon escapement that averages 6,500 fish. A grass flat is present at the mouth of the creek and contributes to the wildlife (black bear) and recreation values. The drainage is undeveloped and unroaded. The river corridor contains approximately 1,000 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Porcupine Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, and recreation values of regional significance.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Porcupine Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for two miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Wild River designation for all two miles.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Porcupine Creek is typical of small low gradient streams in Southeast Alaska. Its sport fish values are of regional significance because of the steelhead runs and because of the good cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden fishing. The grass flat provides habitat for black bears and makes them visible for hunting and viewing. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers within the province, it is similar to Kunk Creek and Lake, Falls Creek and Lake, and Olive Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. Porcupine Creek is about 28 miles by air and 30 miles by water from Wrangell, which has jet air service and is a terminal for the Alaska Marine Highway. The recreation cabin in Steamer Bay is about three miles from the mouth of the creek enhances the recreational use of the area.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p>

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would likely preclude road development and could affect access to timber, minerals, and other resources on adjacent land, except as provided for in ANILCA. Designation would be unlikely to affect links between existing roads.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists the area as having potential for mineral extraction although there are no valid claims within the river corridor or on adjacent lands. The USGS estimates there are no undiscovered mineral resources in the drainage. As a Wild River, the river corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry and access to minerals on adjacent lands could be affected.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 500 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration. Designation would affect access to timber resources on the west side of the creek and lake and may require additional road construction, at potentially higher costs. Timber resources east of the creek and lake could be accessed by extension of existing roads.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Designation would not affect fish enhancement as no fish habitat enhancement opportunities are present.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower reach of the river.

*Scenic Resources:* Designation as a Wild River would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations. In Alternatives C and D, visual quality objective for these adjacent lands would allow timber harvest and other activities that may dominate the landscape.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Alternatives C, D, and P that timber would be harvested within the river corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection and Use Designation. Timber harvest on lands adjacent to the river corridor would likely be visible from the corridor; however, since scenic values were not considered outstandingly remarkable this would not affect river values. Harvest would reduce the primitive character of the area and may increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

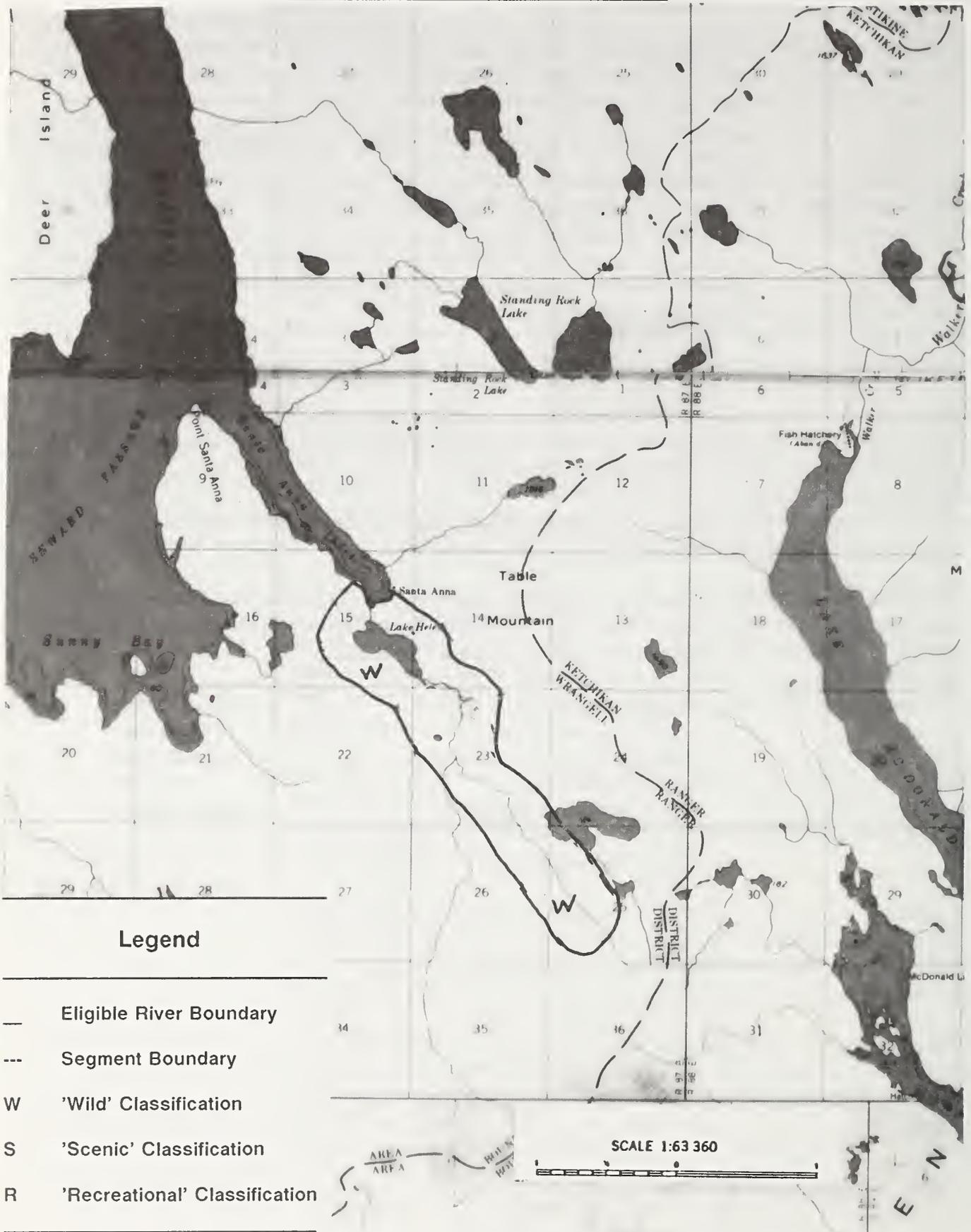
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Porcupine Creek was received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,000 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 35,000

# SANTA ANNA CREEK and LAKE HELEN



## SANTA ANNA CREEK and LAKE HELEN

### Description

Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 526, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Santa Anna Creek originates at approximately 500 feet elevation on the mainland and flows four miles through Lake Helen and into saltwater in Santa Anna Inlet. Santa Anna Creek has high sport fish values. The drainage is unroaded and undeveloped. Santa Anna Creek is unique because Lake Helen lies at such a low elevation that boaters can travel into the lake on extreme high tides by kayak or canoe. The river corridor contains approximately 1,300 acres, all of which is in National Forest System lands.

### Eligibility

Santa Anna Creek and Lake Helen have outstandingly remarkable sport fish and recreation values of regional significance due to high quality steelhead fishing and the unique low elevation lake that can be entered by boat from saltwater at high tide.

### Classification

Santa Anna Creek and Helen Lake meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for four miles.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Wild River designation for four miles.

Alternatives B and P: Scenic River designation for four miles.

Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Santa Anna Creek and Helen Lake are typical of small creeks with a lake on the mainland. It is unique in that the lake can be entered at extreme high tide by kayak or canoe from saltwater providing access to the lake and creek for recreational use. Its fish and recreational values are of regional significance. Most of the recreation values are concentrated along the lower portion of the stream and in the lake. Sport fish values are present throughout the drainage but are most important from the head of the lake to saltwater. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of small rivers with lakes, it is similar to Kunk Creek and Lake, Kutlaku Creek and Lake, and Olive Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. Santa Anna Creek and Helen Lake is about 45 miles by boat and 40 miles by air from Wrangell a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor and none would be affected by designation. Timber has not been harvested in the stream corridor or surrounding lands.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would preclude road development and affect access to timber resources on adjacent lands, except as provided for in ANILCA. The river corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas. Scenic River designation would allow for limited road crossings of the river corridor and permit access for timber and other resources.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would withdraw the river corridor from mineral exploration and extraction and could limit access to mineral resources in adjacent lands. Scenic River designation would not withdraw it from mineral development or extraction but development may require design modifications to be compatible with the emphasis of the land use designation. No valid claims currently exist within the corridor or in the adjacent lands and none would be affected by designation. Designation as a Wild or Scenic River would be unlikely to affect mineral resources since the area within and adjacent to the corridor has not been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines or the USGS as having potential for mineral development.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 400 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration. Wild River designation may reduce timber harvest yields or decrease access, at potentially higher costs, to timber on the adjacent lands. Designation under Alternative B as a Scenic River would allow timber harvest with reduced yields on lands within the river corridor. Timber harvest would be limited to small clearcut or group selection methods. Scenic River designation would also allow for limited road access through the river corridor to timber resources on adjacent lands. In alternative P timber harvest would be allowed within and adjacent to the river corridor with an emphasis on timber production.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and

old-growth dependent species. Neither Wild nor Scenic River designation would affect fish enhancement projects as Santa Anna Creek and Helen Lake have not been identified as having fish enhancement potential. Scenic River designation could result in some road development into the river corridor from adjacent areas with the potential for timber harvest and increased access to fish and wildlife resources.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower river and lake. Designation as a Scenic River could increase access to the creek and lake if roads were built into this area. This may increase use of this area for recreation and subsistence use.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Scenic River designation in Alternative B would preserve the scenic views as seen from the river. In alternative P the visual quality objective for these adjacent lands would allow timber harvest and other activities that may modify the landscape.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild or Scenic River. In Alternatives A and B, the adjacent lands would be managed as a scenic viewshed, while in Alternatives C, D, and P the adjacent land would be managed for intensive resource use and there is potential that timber would be harvested within the river corridor. Timber harvests would be subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. Timber harvest would reduce the primitive character of the area and diminish the primitive recreational values. Timber harvest may increase access for nonprimitive recreation and subsistence use.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. Public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Santa Anna Creek and Helen Lake suggest that the creek and lake be given Wild River designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild or Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

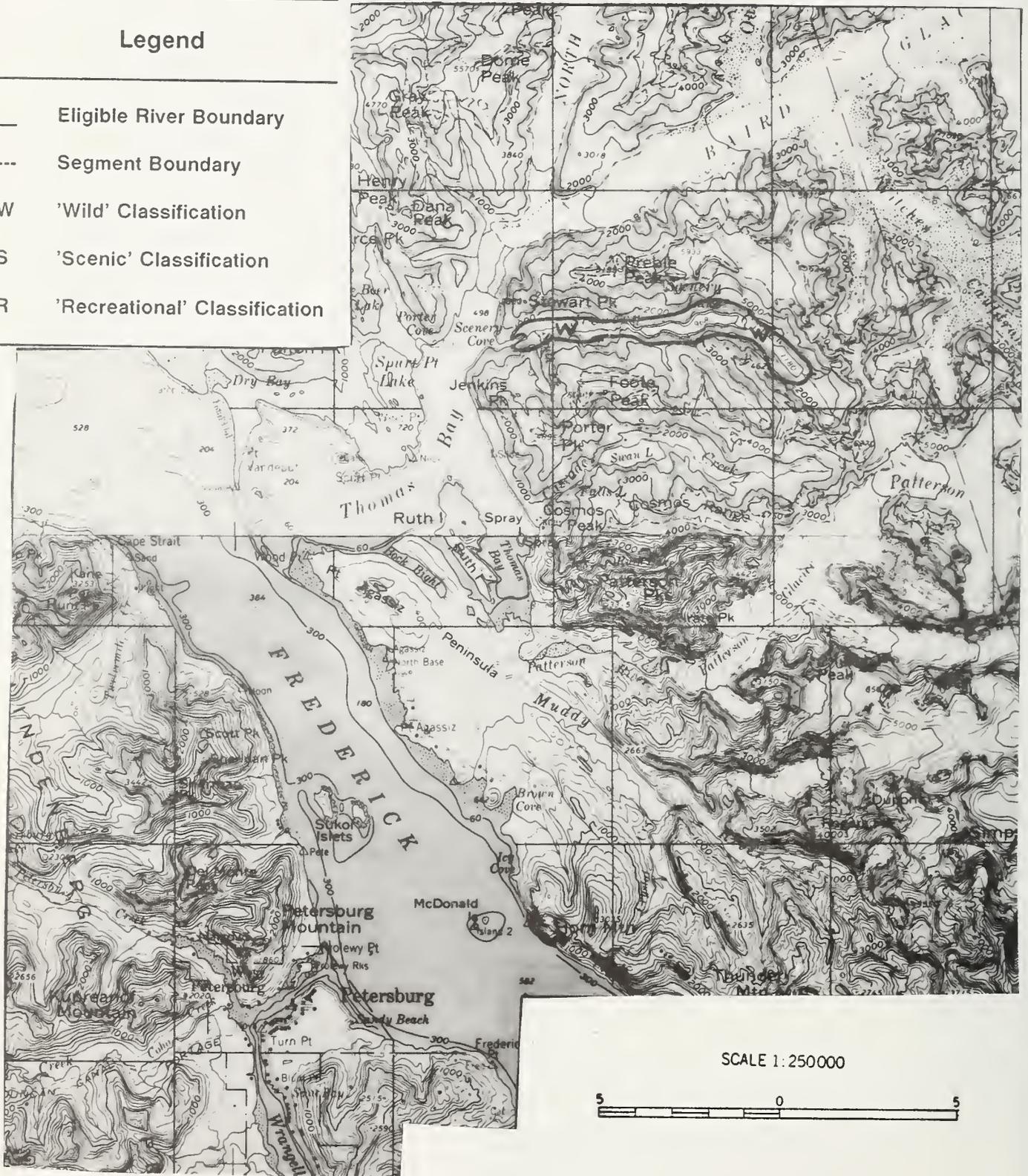
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

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# SCENERY CREEK

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



## SCENERY CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 485, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Scenery Creek originates from glaciers above 4000 feet elevation and flows eight miles into saltwater in Thomas Bay on the mainland. Scenery Cove at the mouth of the creek is fiord-like, scenic, and an excellent anchorage and it is visited by charter boats. Scenery Creek has two lakes on the stream. One lake is large enough for landing floatplanes. There is a withdrawal for power generation on the drainage. This area has been studied for many years as a source of hydroelectric power for Petersburg. However, since the construction of the Tye Lake hydroelectric project, interest in this area is significantly lower. Scenery Creek has high scenic values. The drainage is undeveloped and unroaded. The river corridor contains approximately 3,700 acres, all of which is in National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Scenery Creek has outstandingly remarkable scenic values of national significance. The area is used extensively for major charter boat tours which attract primarily non-resident tourists. The views up the fiord and canyon from saltwater are outstanding.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Scenery Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for eight miles.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for eight miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Scenery Creek is typical of small streams on the mainland. Its scenic values are of national significance, owing to its use by non-resident tourists on charter boats. Scenic values are concentrated near the mouth of the stream where the topography rises steeply with fjord-like views. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the mainland, it is similar to Eagle River and Lake and Marten Lake and Creek, and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Scenery Creek is readily accessible being about 24 miles by boat or 20 miles by air from Petersburg, a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The lower lake is suitable for landing by floatplane.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p>

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the river corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvesting.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would preclude road development and could affect access to resources on adjacent lands, except as provided for in ANILCA. The river corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas.

*Water Resources:* Wild River designation would preclude hydroelectric power development. Currently the area has been identified for its potential for water and power development. The Thomas Bay Power Authority holds a power site with-drawal. Once considered as a likely site for hydroelectric power generation, inter-est has diminished since construction of the Tyee Power Plant at the Bradfield Canal to provide power to Wrangell and Petersburg. Development of hydroelectric power from Scenery Creek is uncertain but could occur if demands for electric power increase.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would withdraw the river corridor to mineral exploration and extraction and could limit access to mineral resources in adjacent lands. The area within and adjacent to the river corridor has not been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines or the USGS as having potential for mineral development. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect future mineral supplies. No valid claims currently exist within the river corridor or in the adjacent lands.

*Timber:* The lands within and adjacent to the river corridor are in Primitive or Semi-primitive land use designations for all alternatives and the timber is unsuit-able. Therefore, Wild River designation would not affect the timber resource.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Wild designation would require that development of potential fish habitat enhancements conform to appropriate access and design, at potentially higher cost, or could preclude development.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competi-tion for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around lower creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations, and in all alternatives the visual quality objective for these adjacent lands is for primitive and semi-primitive recreation.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. In all alternatives the river corridor and adjacent lands would be managed for primitive and/or semi-primitive recreation and timber harvest would be prohibited. The area would remain open to mineral exploration and extraction and it is possible that limited road development could occur. However, since the area has no known potential for mineral extraction, it is unlikely that mineral development would occur.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The Thomas Bay Power Authority has identified this creek as having potential for hydroelectric power and has a power withdrawal for this area. The State of Alaska and the cities of Petersburg and Wrangell may view designation as a threat to future sources of hydroelectric power. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Scenery Creek been received, although comments referring to Thomas Bay in general stated that this is one of Southeast's most beautiful corridors and that the area should receive "no logging". Another requests that Thomas Bay be given Special Interest Area status because of its recreational and wildlife values.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

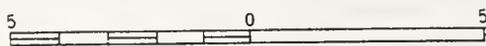
No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# SHAKES SLOUGH



SCALE 1:250000



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## SHAKES SLOUGH

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 493, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Shakes Slough originates on the mainland in the icefields as a branch of the LeConte Glacier, and flows ten miles into the Stikine River. Shakes Glacier creates a unique local climate around Shakes Lake with typical alpine vegetation found near sea level. Several species of plants uncommon to Southeast Alaska occur here. The stream corridor is unroaded and undeveloped. Shakes Slough is located within the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area, and is a popular recreation place. The river has high, scenic, wildlife (moose), and recreation values. The river corridor contains approximately 7,700 acres, all of which is in National Forest System lands.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Shakes Slough has outstandingly remarkable, scenic, wildlife, and recreation values of national significance due to the combination of values, and its close association with the Stikine River and its location within the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area.
<b>Classification</b>	Shakes Slough meets the guidelines for Wild River classification for ten miles.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A, B, and D: Wild River designation for ten miles.  Alternatives C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Shakes Slough is unique for its wide diversity of scenic views. Along the lower slough, forests and meadows are found. At the lake, the influence of the glacier become evident with alpine vegetation found near the lake's outlet. The lake is characterized by steep partially vegetated rock walls that surround the lake. At the upper end of the Shakes Lake, Shakes Glacier reaches the lake. Icebergs are commonly seen in the lake and concentrated at the outlet where the moraine prevents many from leaving the lake. Scenic views are most spectacular at the lake with exceptional views of the glacier and the surrounding peaks. Boat access to the lake is dependent on the water level of the Stikine River which backs water into Shakes Slough. Because of the outstanding scenery, Shakes Slough is a popular recreation area. Moose are present in the area and are part of the Stikine River herd. The area below the lake is used by moose hunters. Two Forest Service recreation cabins are located at the mouth of Shakes Slough, outside of the corridor. Shakes Slough is one of 41 rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. It is unique among those nominated in this province in that it is the only system that contains a low elevation glacier, a lake, and a stream with boat access from saltwater to the glacier. Shakes Slough can be

reached by boat from the Stikine River. It is approximately 25 miles by boat or 20 air miles from Wrangell which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the corridor. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor and none would be affected by designation. One special use permit for a tent platform for moose hunting is present in the corridor near the outlet of the lake. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvests.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation would not affect road development as Wilderness designation forecloses the area to road construction, except as provided for in ANILCA. The corridor has not been identified as a potential transportation link between any developed areas.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect mineral resources as the area is closed to mineral development because of Wilderness designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the timber resource since timber harvest is foreclosed because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on fish and wildlife habitat as these values are already protected by the Wilderness designation of the area.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Recreation and subsistence values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Wild River designation would not affect these values. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower creek and lake.

*Scenic Resources:* Wild River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would

be managed for preservation in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations of Wilderness.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable scenic, wildlife, and recreation values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. These values are adequately protected since the entire drainage lies within the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area and timber harvest, road development and mineral entry are already foreclosed because of Wilderness, except as provided for in ANILCA. Water impoundment could occur with Presidential approval. Impoundment is unlikely since the area has not been identified as having potential for hydroelectric power generation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has not identified this area for future development of transportation or other infrastructure. No public comments on the Revision DEIS were received specifically referring to Shakes Slough. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected *additional* funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 27,500



## STIKINE RIVER

### Description

Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU's 492, 493, 495, 496, 497, and 499, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, the Stikine River originates in Canada on the mainland and flows 25 miles through National Forest land into saltwater in Dry Strait. The Stikine River passes entirely through the Coast Range providing a transportation route to the interior, and a unique ecological area due to the climate of the interior influencing the Stikine Valley. Wildlife and plants uncommon to Southeast Alaska are found here. The area near Twin Lakes has been nominated as a Research Natural Area in all alternatives.

The local climate associated with the river produces good flying visibility and the river is a popular flight path between Canada and Wrangell. Telegraph Creek in British Columbia, and timber and mining interests in the province, result in steady, but low volumes of boat traffic. Historically, the river was used as access for several gold rushes in British Columbia. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game conducts fish tagging and escapement studies on the river using helicopters for transportation.

The Stikine River drainage is unroaded, but the water access has produced a significant amount of dispersed development along the stream banks, consisting of small cabins, hunting camps, boat landings and other structures.

The Stikine River is located within the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area, and is popular for recreation. There are 12 Forest Service recreation cabins along the river. A treaty with Canada protects the use of the Stikine River as a boat access route to Canada. The State of Alaska claims the water surface of the Stikine as State land as a navigable river. They have issued a land use permit for commercial gravel dredging below Shakes Slough.

The Stikine River Valley has been identified as a possible route for a highway connecting Wrangell or Petersburg to Canada. The legislation that established the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness recognized this road opportunity by calling for a study. Additional legislation would be needed for its approval. There is private land near the mouth of the river. Three miles east of Shakes Slough is a hot spring and hot tub.

The Stikine River has a large spawning run of king salmon which is commercially significant, and Canadian Natives depend upon the fish for subsistence. The river has high fish, scenic, wildlife (moose), and recreation values. The river corridor contains approximately 44,000 acres, most of which are National Forest System lands.

### Eligibility

The Stikine River has outstandingly remarkable fish, scenic, wildlife, and recreation values of national significance due to the combination of values, and the

large magnitude of the values, and its presence in the Stikine-LeConte Wilderness Area.

**Classification**

The Stikine River meets the guidelines for Scenic River classification for 25 miles. It was not eligible for Wild River classification due to the frequency of seeing other boaters or structures along the river.

**Alternatives**

Alternatives A and B: Scenic River designation for 25 miles.

Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Alternative D: Recreational River designation for 25 miles.

**Suitability**

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The Stikine River is unique among rivers in Southeast Alaska because of its size and the volume of water that flows through its channel. The river reaches peak flows in early summer from snow and ice melt in Alaska and Canada and in fall from heavy rains along the Coast Range. Periodic high waters and flooding erode banks and deposit silt and sand in backwaters creating new channels and forming new islands. Vegetation on many of the islands is maintained in early stages of succession and forms excellent moose habitat. Brown bear, black bear, and wolves are also present. The river and its tributaries support many important commercial, sport, and subsistence fish runs in Alaska and Canada. Because the river cuts through the Coast Range, it offers spectacular views from the river of peaks that rise quickly from the valley floor to alpine and rock faces. Brush communities maintain themselves on many of the lower slopes as a result of the high winds that blow down river during periods of high pressure and the silt that is picked up by these winds from the sandbars and deposited on the slopes. The lower portion of the river forms a much braided channel that flows into salt water in Dry Strait. A large delta is present at the mouth of the river and is an important resting and feeding area for migratory waterfowl, shore birds, and sandhill cranes. The lower few miles of the river has a significant spawning run of candlefish that attracts up to 1,600 bald eagles in April. The Stikine River offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities that include hunting, fishing, boating, kayaking, wildlife viewing, and scenic viewing. The 12 Forest Service recreation cabins along the river as well as 12 special use cabins and 12 special use tent platforms attest to the recreation use of the area. The Stikine River is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers in the Coast Range Geographic Province, it is similar to the Taku River, but is larger and more dynamic. In the context of Southeast Alaska, the Stikine River is readily accessible for recreation. The mouth of the river is approxi-

mately 10 miles by boat from Wrangell, which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway.

**Sustainability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are several private lands holdings within the corridor near the mouth of the river on Sergief and Farm Islands, totaling around 1,020 acres. Many of the private land holdings were former homesteads and are now used for recreation and hunting camps.

The Forest Service issues, or has issued, Special Use Permits for recreation cabins, administration cabins for government agencies, and recreation tent platforms for hunting. New permits for recreation cabins are no longer issued but permits can be renewed. Recreation cabins are present within the corridor: one along King Slough on Dry Island, one at lower Farm Island, one on Sergeif Island, two on Limb Island, one above Kakwan Point, one along Shakes Slough, one on lower Andrews Island along Andrews Slough, and three on an island near the Canadian border.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has administration cabins at Farm Island, Kakwan Point, the upper end of Andrews Slough, and on the north side of the river behind Shakes Slough. U.S.G.S. has two administrative cabins on the north side of the river below Shakes Slough and a gauging station on Goat Creek. Several tent platforms are present within the corridor with one on upper Farm Island along the North Arm of the Stikine River, four on Limb Island, one near North Arm Creek, two between Kakwan Point and the U.S.G.S. administrative cabins, one about a mile above Shakes Slough, and four along Ketili Slough.

The Forest Service has several recreation cabins in the river corridor. There are two on Sergief Island, one on Farm Island, one at Rynda Mountain along Andrews Creek, one near Twin Lakes, two along Shakes Slough, and one at Mount Flemer. The Forest Service also maintains two hot tubs, and a short trail at Shakes Hot Springs.

No valid mining claims exist within the corridor and none would be affected by designation. The stream corridor and surrounding lands have not had any timber harvests.

**Sustainability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has identified the area along the Stikine River as a potential transportation link that would connect Petersburg to Canada. The route would connect Mitkof Island across Dry Strait to Farm or Dry Island and then up to Limb Island where the road would cross to the south side of the river and continue up the south side to Canada. Wilderness designation forecloses the river corridor to this road link. Any other road development would be prohibited with either Scenic or Recreational River designation because of the Wilderness designation of the surrounding land, except as provided for in ANILCA.

*Water Resources:* The river has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Scenic or Recreational River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* Scenic or Recreational River designation would not affect availability of mineral resources as the area is closed to mineral development because of Wilderness designation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Scenic or Recreational River would not affect the timber resource since timber harvest is foreclosed because of Wilderness designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Scenic or Recreational River would have no effect on fish and wildlife habitat as these values are already protected by the Wilderness designation of the area.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Recreation and subsistence values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Scenic or Recreational River designation would not affect these values.

*Scenic Resources:* Scenic or Recreational River designation would not affect the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality within and outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent Land Use Designations, and the designation for this area is Wilderness.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, scenic and recreational values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Scenic or Recreational River. These values are adequately protected by the Wilderness designation of the area. Timber harvest, road development (except for the Petersburg to Canada link), and mineral entry are already foreclosed because of Wilderness, except as provided for in ANILCA. In the event that the road link were to be approved by congress and subsequently built through the river corridor, the surrounding area would likely be managed for Wilderness and, therefore, for preservation. The creek is open to water impoundment with Presidential ap-

proval even though the area is in Wilderness. This event is unlikely since the area has not been identified as having potential for hydroelectric power generation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State of Alaska has identified this area as having potential for a transportation link connecting Wrangell to Petersburg and may oppose designation. No public comments on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to the Stikine River were received. One national environmental organization has indicated an interest in the potential for designation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Scenic or Scenic/Recreational River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. No recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected *additional* funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 20,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 50,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 75,000

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# TUNEHEAN CREEK

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SCALE 1:63 360



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## Legend

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- Eligible River Boundary
  - Segment Boundary
  - W 'Wild' Classification
  - S 'Scenic' Classification
  - R 'Recreational' Classification
-

## TUNEHEAN CREEK

Description	Located on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU's 428 and 429, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, Tunehean Creek originates from elevations below 1000 feet and flows approximately twenty miles into saltwater in Keku Straits on Kupreanof Island. The stream has high commercial and sport fish values for coho salmon and steelhead. Outfitter/guides take clients to Tunehean Creek for steelhead fishing, but the overall use of the stream for sport fishing is relatively low. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists this stream as a significant Dolly Varden overwintering stream and a significant steelhead stream. The spruce flats along the lower two miles of the creek were harvested for timber with tractors about 30 years ago and skid roads are evident; otherwise, the watershed is unroaded and undeveloped. The river corridor contains 3,100 acres, all of which is in National Forest System lands.
Eligibility	Tunehean Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish values of regional significance because of the variety of fish, including steelhead.
Classification	Tunehean Creek meets the guidelines for Wild River classification from its mouth upstream for eight miles. Above that the significance of the stream or any of its tributaries diminishes.
Alternatives	Alternative A: Wild River designation for eight miles.  Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
Suitability	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Tunehean Creek is typical of rivers in the rolling terrain of the Kupreanof Lowlands. Its fish values are of regional significance because of the variety of fish including steelhead. The river is one of 28 eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers on the Kupreanof Lowlands, it is similar to Castle River, Kadake Creek, Kushneahin Creek, and Petersburg Creek, and, in that context, would not be considered unique. Tunehean Creek is about 35 miles by air and 70 miles by water from Petersburg, which has jet air service and is a terminal for the Alaska Marine Highway. It can also be reached from the small community of Point Baker, about 21 miles by air or water.  <b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b>

There are no private lands within the river corridor. No valid mining claims exist. There is no private land and no effects on private land use adjacent to the river corridor.

**Sustainability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would preclude road development and could affect access to timber, minerals, and other resources on adjacent land, except as provided for in ANILCA. Designation would be unlikely to affect future transportation opportunities between communities as no settlements are present on south Kupreanof Island.

*Water Resources:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would be unlikely to affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Mineral Resources:* As a Wild River, the river corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry. The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists the area as having potential for mineral extraction for copper and molybdenum. The USGS estimates the potential Gross In Place Value of mineral resources to be \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any development costs). Wild River designation could increase access costs for mineral exploration and extraction in adjacent lands since road development within the river corridor would be limited.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 800 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration. There is potential in Alternative A (and other alternatives) that timber would be harvested adjacent to the upper river corridor. Designation could affect access to timber resources and may require additional roads, at potentially higher costs.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and may serve as a travel corridor for movement of riparian and old-growth dependent species. Tunehean Creek has been identified as having potential for stream rehabilitation where timber harvest has occurred. Designation would not affect the proposed enhancement project of placing large woody debris into the stream to improve fish habitat.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive/semi-primitive recreation opportunities. Access and competition for subsistence resources would remain unchanged. Most recreation and subsistence activity would continue to center around the lower reach of the creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Designation as a Wild River would preserve the unmodified landscape within the river corridor. Visual quality outside the river corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations, and the visual quality objective for these adjacent lands in the upper river corridor would allow timber harvest and other activities. However, it is unlikely that the harvest units would be visible from the creek because of the low relief of the surrounding lands.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable fish values would not be adversely affected if the river were not designated as a Wild River. Timber harvest on lands adjacent to the river corridor would not likely be visible from the river corridor and since scenic values were not considered outstandingly remarkable, this would not affect river values. Fish habitat values and sport fishing are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is a potential in Alternatives B, C, D, and P that timber would be harvested within the upper river corridor subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines specified in the Stream and Lake Protection Land Use Designation. Timber harvest would reduce the primitive character of the area. Because of the remoteness of the area, it is unlikely that road development would increase recreation and subsistence use.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

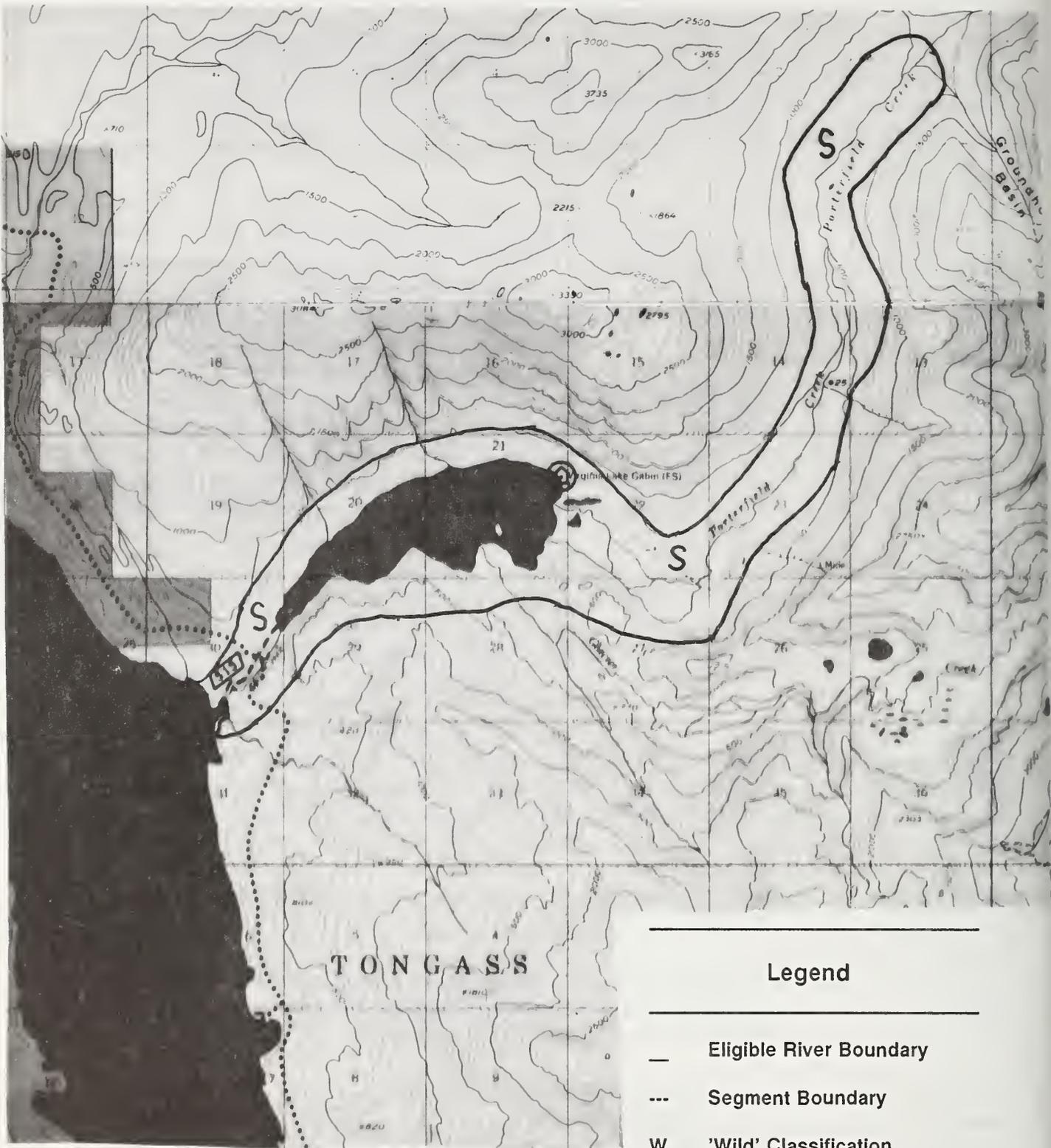
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No communities are present in the area. Public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Tunehean Creek was received suggesting it be given Wild River designation because of its high fish values and importance to the Rocky Pass ecosystem. Several other comments refer to all of Rocky Pass and suggest that the area be given special protection from logging or be placed in equivalent LUD II status to protect the fish, wildlife, scenic, and recreational values and further identify the area as an exceptional kayak route.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no recreation or other developments are proposed for the area. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 37,500

# VIRGINIA LAKE and CREEK



SCALE 1:63 360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## VIRGINIA LAKE and CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest in VCU 502, in the Coast Range Geographic Province, Virginia Lake and Creek originate on the mainland at approximately 2000 feet elevation and flows approximately nine miles into saltwater in Eastern Passage. The river has high fish and recreation values. A small moose population is present in the drainage. There is a Forest Service recreation cabin on the upper end of the lake and a short trail from the lower end of the lake to saltwater. A fish ladder is present on the lower stream near saltwater. A State land selection is present from the mouth of the creek upstream to and including part of the lake. The river corridor contains 3,400 acres all of which is in National Forest System lands.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Virginia Lake and Creek has outstandingly remarkable fish and recreation values of regional significance because of trophy-sized cutthroat trout in Virginia Lake. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Virginia Lake and Creek as one of the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska.
<b>Classification</b>	Virginia Lake and Creek meet the guidelines for Scenic River classification from its mouth upstream for nine miles. It does not meet guidelines for Wild River designation because it is under the flight path for the Wrangell Airport and in summer months the frequent aircraft noise prevents users from having a Wild River experience.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternative A: Scenic River designation for all nine miles  Alternatives B and P: Recreational River designation for all nine miles.  Alternatives C and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Virginia Lake and Creek are typical of smaller rivers with a lake system that originate on the mainland. Its fish and recreation values are of regional significance. Virginia Lake and Creek supports runs of red salmon, Dolly Varden char, and cutthroat trout. Virginia Lake and Creek are known for their high quality cutthroat trout fishing, producing trophy-sized fish. Moose hunters use the lake and recreation cabin, although use is not great owing to the limited moose habitat. The river is one of 41 eligible rivers which potentially represents the Coast Range Geographic Province. As a representative example of rivers in this province, it is similar to the Anan Creek, Harding River, Martin Lake and Creek, and Eagle River and Lake and in that context would not be considered unique. In the context of Southeast Alaska, Virginia Lake and Creek is readily accessible for recreation,

being only eight air miles or 12 miles by boat from Wrangell, which has daily jet service and is a terminal on the Alaska Marine Highway. The cabin on Virginia Lake is 10 air miles from Wrangell.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor but the lower portion of the stream and part of the lake are in a state land selection. The State Selection has not been tentatively approved because of Public Land Order 1731, which designates the land for an industrial site, remains in effect until rescinded. A powersite withdrawal existed, but was vacated in 1986. No valid mining claims exist within the corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the National System.**

*Transportation:* The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has identified part of the river corridor of Virginia Lake and Creek as being in a potential transportation link between Wrangell and Petersburg. This link is dependent on construction of a road from Petersburg to Canada along the Stikine River to which it would connect. Support and opposition to construction of these roads is present in both cities. The current preferred transportation link to Canada is from Wrangell along the North Fork of the Bradfield River so it is unlikely that the Petersburg to Wrangell link would be built. A Forest Service Road is also proposed that would cross the lower portion of Virginia or Mill Creek to access timber in the Crittenden Creek drainage. Designation as a Scenic River would allow road crossing of the river corridor but would likely prevent using the river corridor as the route for the road. Recreational River designation would allow for road development within the river corridor.

*Water Resources:* The area has been identified as having potential for water and power development. Interest in developing hydroelectric power from Virginia Lake and Creek has diminished since construction of the Tyee Power Plant which now supplies hydroelectric power to Petersburg and Wrangell. A power withdrawal for Virginia Lake and Creek was vacated in 1986. Designation as a Scenic or Recreational River would be unlikely to affect future power or water supplies.

*Mineral Resources:* The area within the river corridor has no existing claims. The USGS estimates the undiscovered mineral resource to have a potential Gross In Place Value of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any development costs). The U.S. Bureau of Mines lists this area as having potential for mineral development and one patented claim exists just outside of the river corridor at the upper

end. Other claims exist in an adjacent drainage and the Virginia Lake and Creek Valley has been proposed as an access route to these claims. Scenic or Recreational River designation would allow for mineral exploration and subsequent development within the river corridor and road access to any new claims adjacent to the river corridor. Existing and new activity must minimize surface disturbance, sedimentation, and visual impairment to be compatible with management emphasis for the area.

*Timber:* The 1,000 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands in the corridor would not contribute to the allowable sale quantity since adjacent lands would be managed for semi-primitive and primitive recreation values in alternative A, and to a lesser extent in alternative B. Recreation designation would allow timber harvest on approximately 1,000 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor in alternative P. Harvest units would likely be limited to small clearcut or group selection methods with emphasis on recreation and visual objectives.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Scenic or Recreation River would not affect the fish and wildlife resources. No additional fish enhancement projects have been identified for the creek.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* Designation as a Scenic or Recreational River would not affect the primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities that exist. Road construction within the corridor to access timber in alternatives B, C, D and P might change the primitive and semi-primitive character of the existing recreation experience. Subsistence activity would remain unchanged with either designation and would continue to be concentrated around the lake and lower portion of the creek.

*Scenic Resources:* Scenic River designation would protect the scenic resources within the river corridor above the lake. Scenic values are already protected from saltwater to the upper lake by Primitive and Semi-primitive land use designation in Alternatives A and B. Recreational River designation would allow for road development and timber harvest within the corridor above the lake and scenic values could be diminished. Visual quality outside the corridor would be managed in accordance with adjacent land use designations which allow for timber harvest in alternative P.

*Effects of non-designation:* Outstandingly remarkable recreation values might be affected whether or not the river were designated as Scenic or Recreation River, if road construction were to occur in the corridor to access timber, in alternatives B, C, D, and P. Recreation values are concentrated around the lake and from the lake to saltwater, and depending on road location, the setting attributes could be affected despite Primitive and Semi-primitive allocations in alternatives A and B. Above the lake, the corridor is open for timber harvest in Alternatives B, C, D, and P. Timber harvest activities would modify the landscape and increase access to the area for hunting and other recreation uses. Moose numbers could increase

following timber harvest as they did in Thomas Bay. The outstanding remarkable fish values would not be diminished as fish habitat is adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirement of the Tongass Timber Reform Act.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the opportunities for future development of transportation and other infrastructure to support orderly growth and viability of communities and may view a designation as unacceptable. Since the proposed road links between Petersburg and Wrangell and Petersburg to Canada would not be foreclosed with either designation, state and local governmental objections to designation are unlikely. No public comment on the Revision DEIS specifically referring to Virginia Lake and Creek has been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Scenic of Recreational River.**

No private lands would be acquired. Recreation or other developments proposed for the area include reconstruction of the recreation cabin and dock facilities for barrier free access. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 70,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$120,000





## BAKEWELL CREEK-BADGER LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Located in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness, Bakewell Creek-Badger Lake is located on the mainland and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province in VCU's 826, 827 and 828. Seven miles of the stream are within the Wilderness; two miles are within the non-Wilderness portion of the National Monument. The river corridor contains approximately 4,700 acres. The stream flows out of Badger Lake, and through Bakewell Lake before entering saltwater in Bakewell Arm, about 40 air miles from Ketchikan.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Bakewell Creek-Badger Lake is outstandingly remarkable for fishery and recreation values of regional significance. The stream system is one of the few sockeye fisheries in Misty Fiords and has been enhanced with a fish pass. Steelhead, Dolly Varden char, cutthroat, and pink, chum, and coho salmon are also present. The area was identified by ADF&G as one of the 19 "high-quality" watersheds in the 1979 Forest Plan. A Forest Service trail leads from Bakewell Arm to Bakewell Lake but does not access the public recreation cabin on the east side of the lake. A mooring buoy is located in Bakewell Arm.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire river meets the criteria for the Wild River classification, including that portion of the river within the non-Wilderness part of the National Monument. The Forest Service cabin is rustic in appearance and is compatible with the classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	All nine miles of the Bakewell Creek-Badger Lake is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Bakewell Creek-Badger Lake is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p>

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable recreational resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

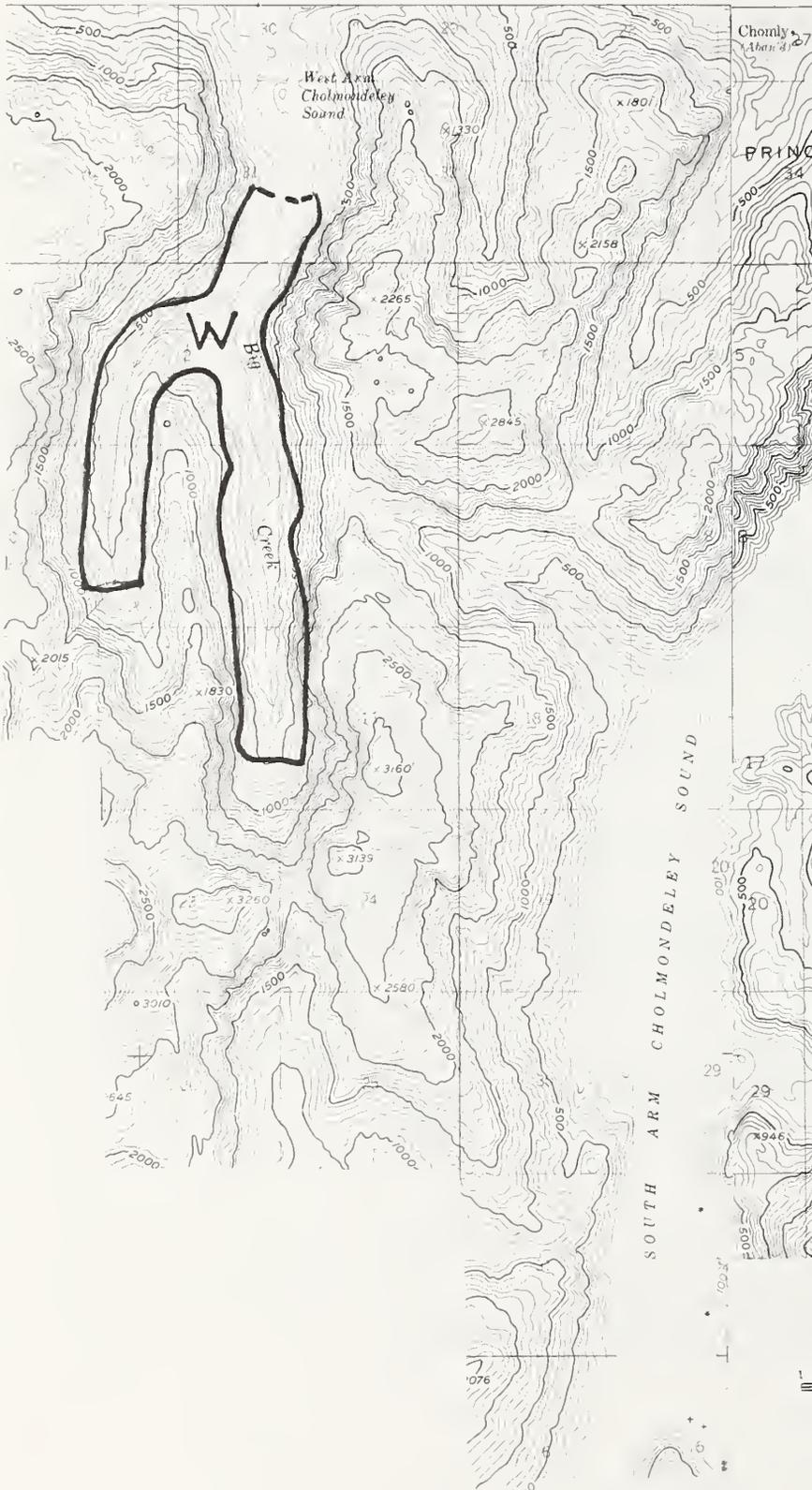
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Big Creek



Chomly  
Aban 3 27

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## Legend

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— Eligible River Boundary

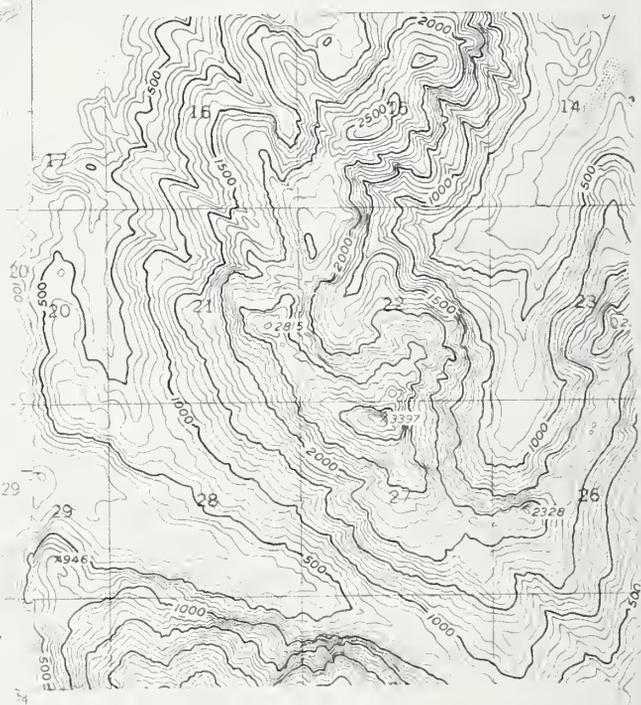
--- Segment Boundary

W 'Wild' Classification

S 'Scenic' Classification

R 'Recreational' Classification

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SCALE 1 63360

0 1 MILES

## BIG CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Craig Ranger District, Big Creek is on Prince of Wales Island in the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The stream flows through VCU 674 into the West Arm of Cholmondeley Sound. Big Creek is well known regionally for excellent fishing and hunting opportunities. The stream has a notable riparian spruce forest. The system is located on the east side of Prince of Wales Island and is about 20 miles southeast of Hollis. The Big Creek area is accessible only by boat and floatplane. The river corridor contains approximately 1,800 acres, all of which is National Forest System lands.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Big Creek is a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable and is regionally significant for its fisheries, wildlife, recreation, and scenic values. Big Creek is an important producer of coho, sockeye, chum, and pink salmon. The stream also has a significant steelhead run. The braided channel of the stream provides excellent spawning habitat. Black bears and waterfowl are abundant. Recreation activities are primarily fishing and hunting. The steep-sided "bowl" at the head of the stream provides outstanding scenery.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire system meets the criteria for Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A and B: Wild River for all 5 miles.  Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  Big Creek is one of 16 river systems which potentially represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The river is somewhat similar to Harris River in that it is not a combination lake and stream system. The outstandingly remarkable values are similar to those found in other river systems within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province and would therefore not be considered unique. In 1991, the Forest Service received one request for a commercial outfitter/guide special use permit for fishing activities within the river corridor.  <b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b>  There are no private lands or mining claims within the river corridor. However, a Haida Corporation Native land selection encompasses the mouth of Big Creek drainage and extends along the west side of West Arm Cholmondeley Sound. Approximately 570 acres of the river corridor are within the area encumbered by

the Native selection. It is probable that the selection will be conveyed to the Haida Corporation and timber harvesting would commence.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The Big Creek drainage has been identified as a Forest Service transportation corridor. Designation as a Wild River would likely preclude road access to part of the southern extremity of West Arm Cholmondeley Sound. Approximately 600 acres of commercial forest lands would become inaccessible with a Wild designation. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The forest land between Big Creek and South Arm of Cholmondeley Sound has been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high potential for minerals development. Over 47 mining claims are found near (but outside) the creek corridor. The USGS has mapped the region around Big Creek as a Class III tract for potential, undiscovered mineral resources. This means they estimate the undiscovered mineral potential to have a Gross In Place Value (which doesn't include any development costs) of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre. Designation of Big Creek as a Wild River would withdraw the river corridor from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 1,000 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the river corridor from consideration for timber harvest.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects planned. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive recreation opportunities and the scenic values within the river corridor. Recreational use would likely increase due to the attention resulting from designation. Big Creek has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. Therefore, no adverse effect to subsistence resources would be anticipated from designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* The fisheries values would not likely be affected. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guide-

lines. There are no timber harvest activities planned for the Big Creek area during the next 10 years. However, when considering long-term management, there is potential in Alternatives C and P that timber harvest and road construction could occur within the river corridor. These activities would reduce the primitive character of the area, cause apparent changes in the landscape, and may increase access for recreation and subsistence use. In Alternatives A and D, these effects would potentially occur only in the southern part of the river corridor. The remainder of the corridor would be managed under a Primitive Recreation Land Use Designation in these alternatives. In Alternative B the entire corridor would be managed for primitive recreation values which preclude timber harvest.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

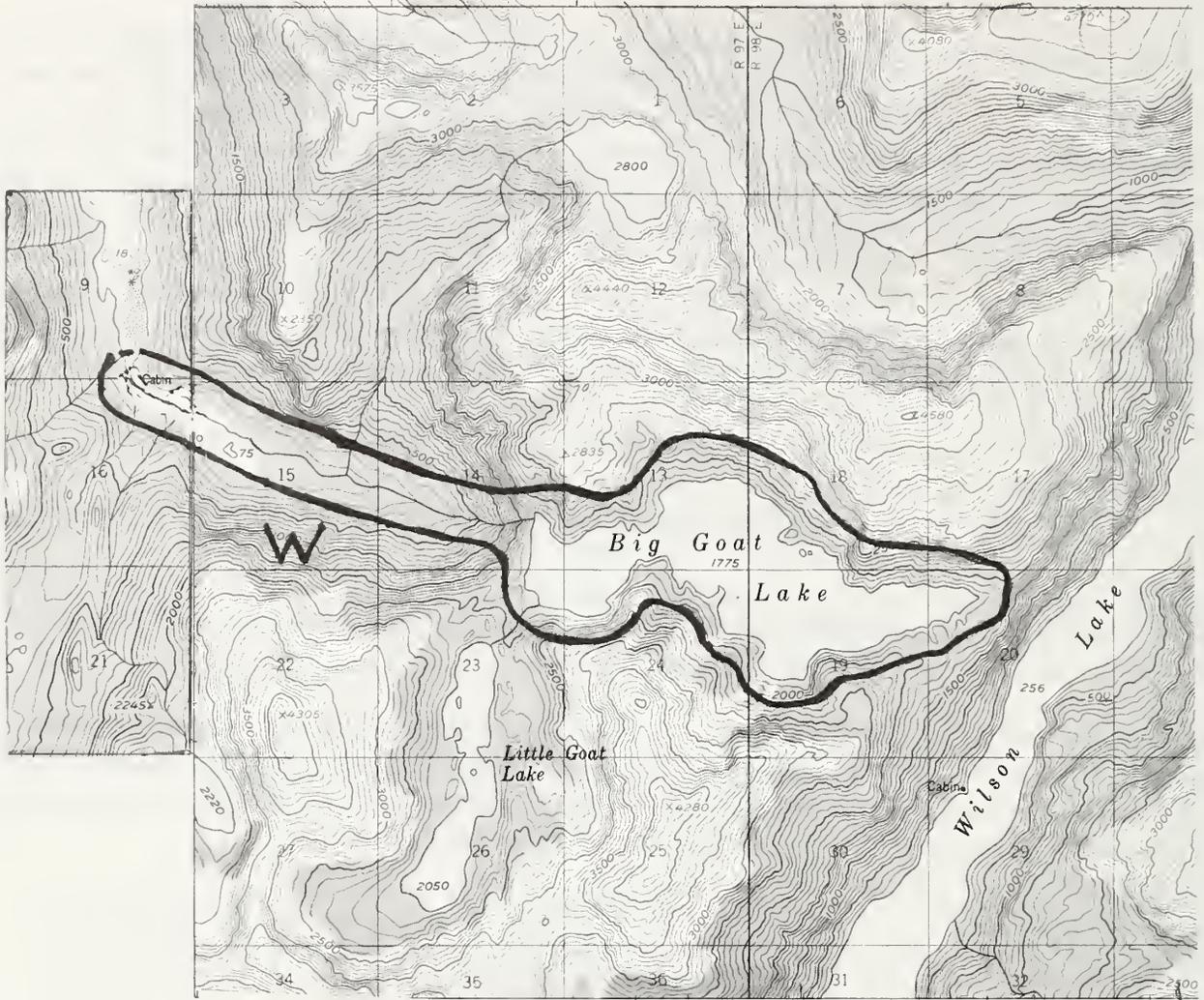
No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS have been received referring specifically to Big Creek.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

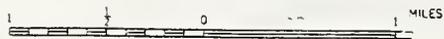
There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 37,500

# Big Goat Creek and Lake



SCALE 1:63,360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## BIG GOAT CREEK AND LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Big Goat Creek and Lake are located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness on the mainland in VCU 802 and are in the Coast Range Geographic Province. Total length is 5 miles. The river corridor contains approximately 2,440 acres. The stream flows out of Big Goat Lake and enters saltwater in the east arm of Rudyerd Bay, about 45 air miles from Ketchikan.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Big Goat Creek and Lake are outstandingly remarkable for wildlife, recreation, and scenic values of regional significance. The area has an unusually high concentration of brown bear. Sitka black-tailed deer are abundant and goat hunting is excellent. Big Goat is known for its recreation opportunities; the cabin on Big Goat Lake is one of the most popular in the Monument. The area is also known for its scenic beauty. The stream drops 500 feet over a spectacular falls as it flows out of the lake. The area is a popular stop on flightseeing tours.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire stream and lake meet the criteria for the Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Big Goat Creek and Lake is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Big Goat Creek and Lake is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA, therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p> <p><i>Water:</i> The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the</p>

future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and recreational resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

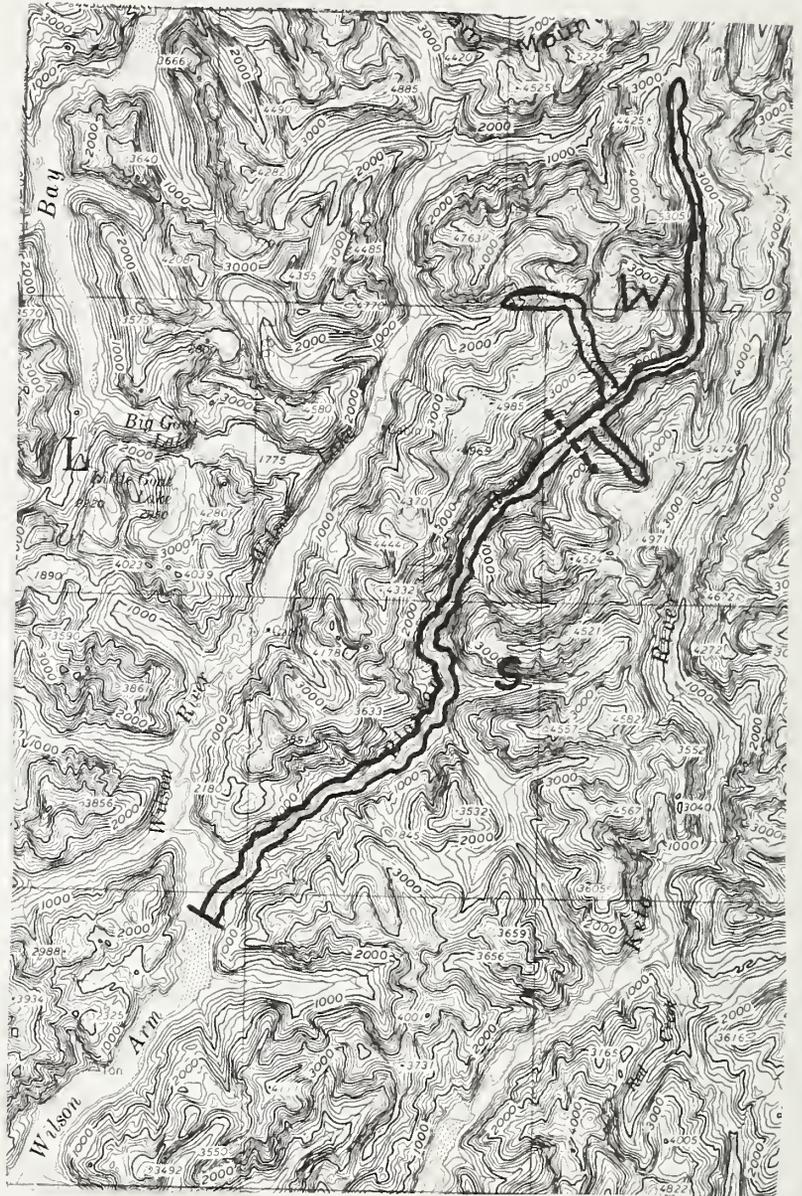
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Blossom River

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:250 000



## BLOSSOM RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>The Blossom River is located within Misty Fiords National Monument on the mainland in VCU's 815, 816 and 818, and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. Eleven miles of the stream are within the Wilderness, and 14 miles are within the non-Wilderness portion of the National Monument. The river corridor contains approximately 8,220 acres. The river originates at about the 3000 foot level and flows in a southwesterly direction until it joins with the Wilson River. The joined rivers flow into Wilson Arm, about 44 air miles from Ketchikan. The river is known for its productive fishery. The access road for the planned U.S. Borax mine at Quartz Hill parallels the lower Blossom in places.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Blossom is outstandingly remarkable for fishery values of regional significance. The stream is highly productive for king salmon.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Eleven miles of the river meet the criteria for the Wild River classification. Of the 14 miles of river within the non-Wilderness portion of the National Monument, that part adjacent to the road, and any other mine-related development would not meet the criteria for Wild River. This 14-mile section was classified as Scenic.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>In Alternative A, Segment 1 (11 miles) is recommended as a Wild River and Segment 2 (14 miles) is recommended as a Scenic River.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Blossom River is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are generally prohibited in Wilderness subject to ANILCA exceptions. The existing road in the lower Blossom River, the nonwilderness portion of the Monument, is the only transportation need identified for the Quartz</p>

Hill Mine thus far. Therefore, designation would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act, ANILCA, and land use designations. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The area is a potential powerline intertie corridor to Canada. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

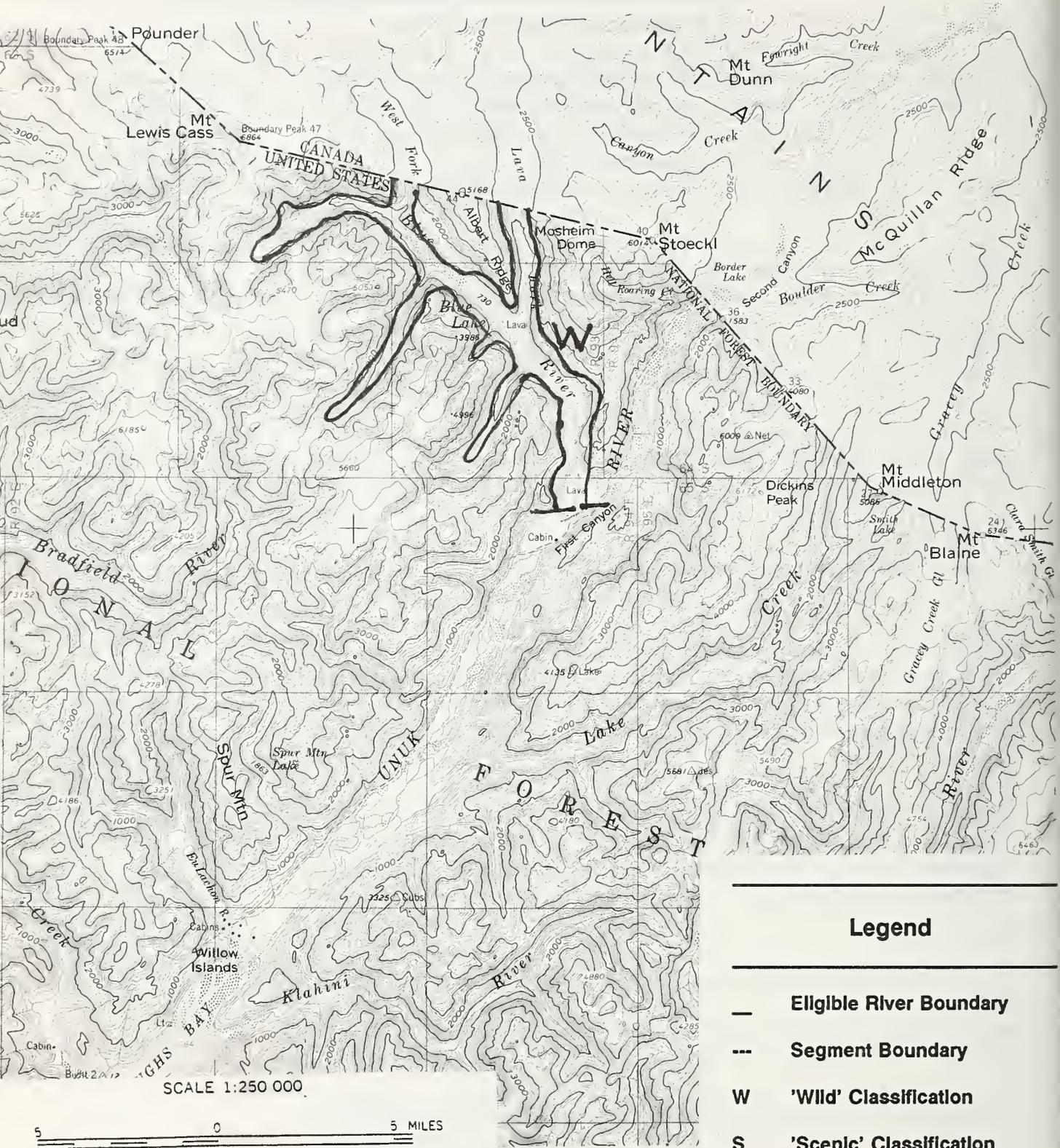
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Blue River



## Legend

- Elligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## BLUE RIVER

### Description

Located in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness, the Blue River is on the mainland in VCU's 786 and 787 and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. The Blue River is a tributary of the Unuk River System but is considered separately because of its unique geologic features. Two of the Blue River tributaries originate in Canada. The river corridor contains approximately 10,360 acres. The Blue River flows into the Unuk River about 18 miles above Burroughs Bay.

The area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area because of recent lava flows and the associated plant communities.

### Eligibility

Blue River is outstandingly remarkable for its wildlife, scenic, geologic, and ecological values of national significance. Brown bears are abundant along the stream. The area is very scenic, as is the entire Unuk valley.

The Blue River is outstandingly remarkable for its geologic values due to recent volcanic activity and lava flows. The volcanic vent is in British Columbia, about 3 miles north of the U.S. border. The vent erupted near the terminus of a small valley glacier; lava flowed down the Lava Fork River, continued across the border and spread into a fan at the confluence with Blue River, damming it to form Blue Lake. The lava continued down Blue River valley for another 6 miles. The volcanic activity occurred about 300 years ago and then again more recently.

### Classification

The entire river meets the guidelines for the Wild River classification.

### Alternatives

The entire 26 miles of the Blue River are recommended as a Wild River in Alternatives A, B and D.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

The Blue River is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which**

would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and geologic resources.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

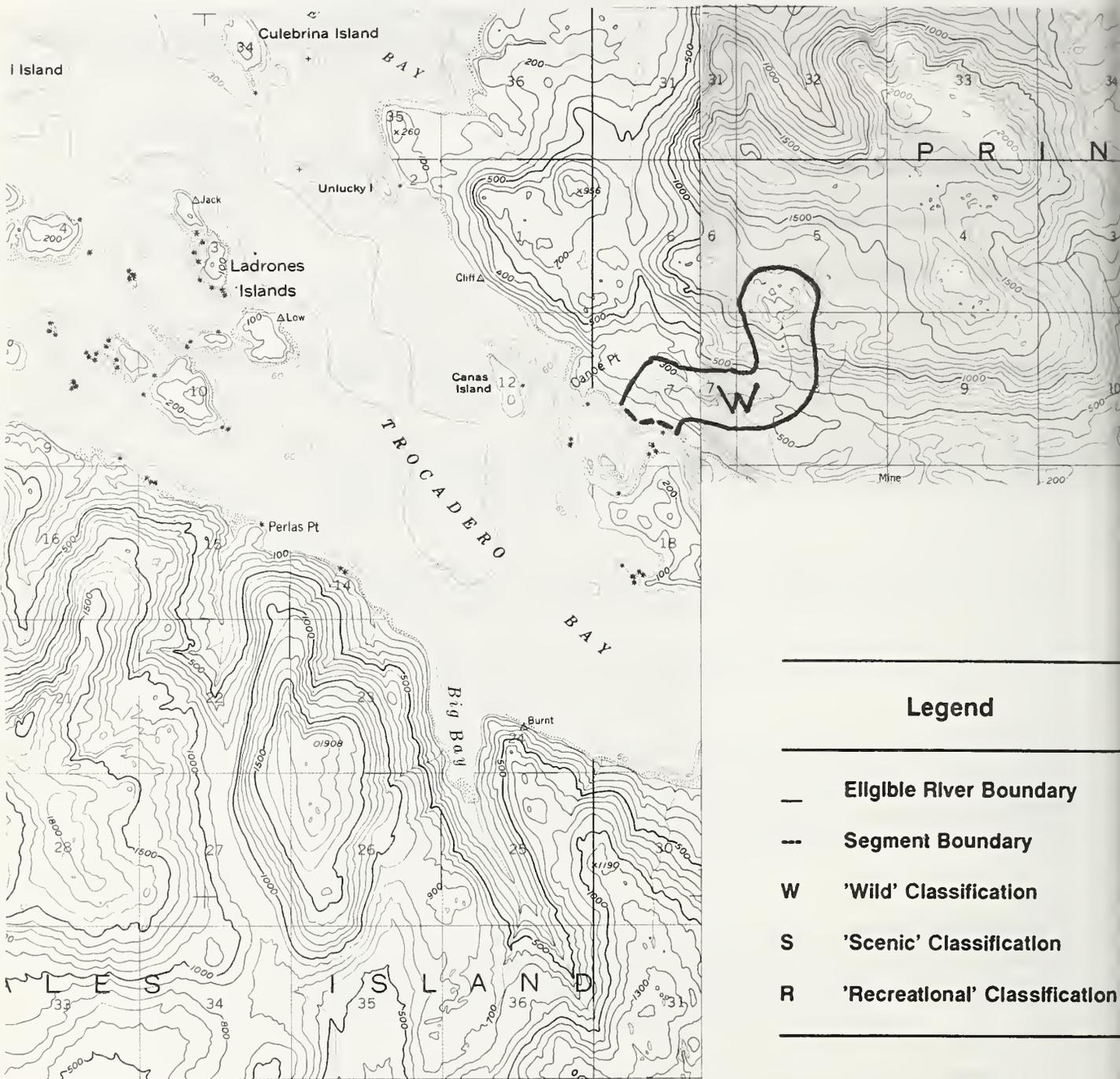
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Canoe Point Stream



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63360



## CANOE POINT STREAM

<b>Description</b>	<p>Canoe Point Stream is located on the Craig Ranger District, Prince of Wales Island, and is within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The stream flows through VCU 625 into Trocadero Bay approximately 12 miles south of Craig. Originating in a small lake just above 1000 feet in elevation, the stream traverses two miles of undisturbed forest land before it falls to saltwater. The outstanding feature of Canoe Point stream is the spectacular 200-foot high waterfall, which is close to saltwater but screened by heavy vegetation. Forest Service recreational facilities provided to enhance recreational use of the area include a picnic table, grill, and hiking trail. The 1/4-mile long trail begins at saltwater and terminates at the base of the waterfall. Visitors to the area primarily originate from nearby Craig, and travel to the river by boat. The river corridor contains approximately 700 acres, all of which is National Forest System lands.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Canoe Point Stream is a free-flowing river system. The river is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant scenic values. Slightly upstream from saltwater is a spectacular waterfall estimated to be about 200 feet in height.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The entire river meets the criteria for Wild River classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Wild River designation for all two miles.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic River System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Canoe Point Stream is considered exceptionally scenic when compared to other rivers within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The 200-foot high waterfall, located approximately 1/4 mile from saltwater, is the highest known waterfall on Prince of Wales Island. Access to the waterfall along the trail takes visitors through a beautiful stand of old-growth forest as they hike from saltwater. The waterfall would make this river system unique when compared to others within this geographic province.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>The entire river corridor and all adjacent land is encumbered by a Sealaska Native land selection. If the land is conveyed to Sealaska Corporation timber harvest is likely. There are no private lands or mining claims within the corridor.</p>

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities. The area has not been identified as a necessary transportation link by the State or the Forest Service. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would likely have no affect on the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* Designation would likely have no significant effect on the availability of minerals resources since the U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for mineral extraction and no mining claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would withdraw the corridor from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 120 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the corridor from consideration, however the area is designated semi-primitive recreation in alternative A, and is therefore unsuitable in that alternative.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions and provide a corridor for movement of old-growth dependent species.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* The current semi-primitive recreation opportunities and scenic qualities would be maintained by designation. Recreational use of the river would likely increase due to the attention resulting from designation. With designation, additional emphasis would be placed on the recreation amenities located in the corridor. Trail maintenance would likely be improved and the toilet facility, which is currently in disrepair, would be rehabilitated. If visitation to the river increased significantly due to designation, subsistence use may be affected. The river corridor is used primarily for deer hunting by residents of Craig.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned for the Canoe Point area during the next 10-year period. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur. Under alternatives P and C, timber harvest could be considered in both the lower and upper part of the drainages. Under Alternatives B and D the lower drainage would be managed for semi-primitive recreation values while the upper drainage could be considered for timber harvest. Timber harvest would change the semi-primitive character of the

area and may impact the scenic values within the river corridor. Wildlife species dependent upon old-growth forest may also be affected. Road development in the area would likely increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

Canoe Point Stream and surrounding forest land is encumbered by a Sealaska Native land selection. The selection was made with the likely intent for timber harvest. No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to the Canoe Point Stream have been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private land. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

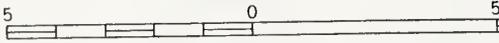
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 30,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 3,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 70,000

# Chickamin River System

## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
-  Segment Number
-  Non National Forest Land

Scale 1:250,000



## CHICKAMIN RIVER

### Description

Located in the over 2 million acre Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness, the Chickamin River is on the mainland and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province in VCU's 793-797. One of the Chickamin tributaries, the Leduc River, originates in Canada. The Chickamin is one of the few glacial-fed rivers in southern Southeast Alaska, with most of its tributaries originating at glaciers. The river's recreational use comes primarily from river rafting. Being located in the Wilderness, the river corridor is very primitive and essentially undeveloped, with no impoundments. There is a small parcel of private land with 3 cabins near the mouth of the river. The Chickamin and its tributaries flow for approximately 96 miles before entering saltwater at Behm Canal, about 40 air miles from Ketchikan. The river corridor contains approximately 57,400 acres, of which about 80 are private land.

### Eligibility

The Chickamin River is a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its nationally significant fishery, wildlife, recreation, scenic, historical/cultural, and geologic values. It is one of the few king salmon rivers in southern Southeast and is well-known for its high productivity. The river system has 67 miles of anadromous fish habitat. Brown bears are abundant, along with a rich diversity of other wildlife species including marten, wolves, river otters, and other smaller furbearers. Moose may also be found in the Chickamin drainage. The estuarine plants in the Chickamin are important to trumpeter swans, a sensitive species. The swans, as well as Canada geese, use the area for wintering habitat. The Chickamin also serves as a migratory stopover for snow geese, sandhill cranes, ducks, and a variety of shorebird species. The Chickamin is one of the few raftable rivers in Southeast Alaska. In the past, the area was heavily used by Natives for hunting and fishing, and there are numerous traditional use sites along the river. The Chickamin is mentioned in several Tlingit legends. Probably the most significant value of the Chickamin is the existing glacial activity and dramatic evidence of past glacial periods.

### Classification

The lower 2 miles (Segment 1) meet the criteria for Scenic River classification. The remaining 94 miles of the river (Segment 2) meet the criteria for Wild River classification.

The Forest Plan Revision DEIS indicated the lower 2 miles of the Chickamin River corridor as eligible for Wild River designation. This was in error. Due to the private land with existing structures located in this area, this portion of the corridor does not meet the criteria for Wild River classification.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A, B, and P: Designation of 2 miles (Segment 1) as Scenic River and 94 miles (Segment 2) as Wild River.

Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Alternative D: Designation of 94 miles (Segment 2) as Wild River with the lower 2 miles (Segment 1) not designated.

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The Chickamin River has outstanding values when compared to other rivers in the Coast Range Geographic Province. Its scenic and geologic values associated with past and current glacial activity, wildlife and fish values, recreational values associated with river rafting and flightseeing, and cultural/historical values, considered in combination, are of national significance. The Chickamin Glacier area contains the largest interconnected group of glaciers within and adjacent to Misty Fjords National Monument. From the Chickamin River, visitors can view many spectacular active glaciers scouring out u-shaped valleys, including ice falls and hanging valley glaciers. The breathtaking scenery provides a unique opportunity to understand glacial processes. The geomorphology of the valley in which the Chickamin flows exhibits evidence of both continental and more recent alpine glaciers. The Chickamin is one of the few glacially fed rivers in southern Southeast Alaska and is an excellent example of a larger braided river system. The river has a rich cultural history. The river valley was extensively used by Natives for hunting and fishing, and there are numerous known seasonal campsites and cabins which are identified with these and other traditional uses (such as paint gathering and eulachon processing). The Chickamin is mentioned in Tlingit legends as one of the routes they used to colonize Southeast Alaska. The Forest Service has received one request for an outfitter/guide special-use authorization for 1991. The request is for flightseeing excursions which would include the Chickamin River drainage.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

With the exception of a small parcel of private land near the mouth, the entire Chickamin River is within the Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness. The approximately 80 acres of private land is minimally developed with three rustic cabins (this is in the Scenic River portion, Segment 1). The Leduc River, a tributary of the Chickamin, continues into British Columbia after crossing the Canadian border.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* No transportation corridors potentially affecting the Chickamin River area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation is not expected to affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* A fish pass structure is planned for the river which will greatly expand access for salmon to spawning habitat. The design will be rustic and visually unobtrusive to insure compatibility with Wilderness and/or Wild and Scenic River designation.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic and geologic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The Chickamin River drainage has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No affect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on the outstandingly remarkable historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* There would be no significant impact to the resources since the river is already within the Wilderness Preservation System.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

No formal public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to the Chickamin River have been received. However, representatives from American Rivers, Inc. have expressed interest in designation of the river as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

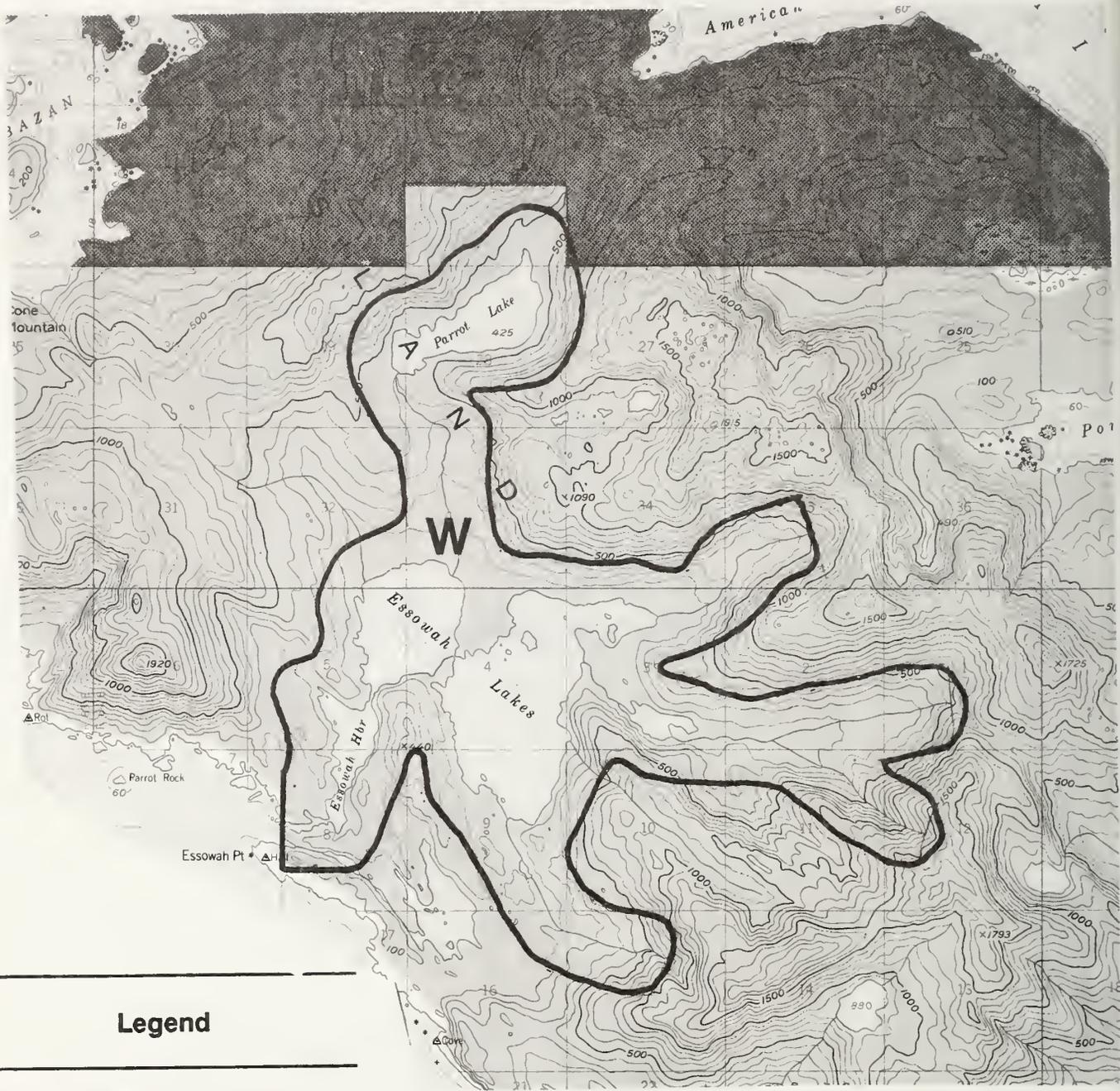
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There are no current plans for acquisition of private lands. However, should the opportunity arise in the future, acquisition may be considered. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 40,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 3,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 60,000

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# Essowah Lakes and Streams



## Legend

— Eligible River Boundary

W 'Wild' Classification

■ Non National Forest Land

SCALE 1:63 360



## ESSOWAH LAKES AND STREAMS

<b>Description</b>	<p>Essowah Lakes and Streams are located on the Craig Ranger District, Prince of Wales Island, and are within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The Essowah system includes five major lakes, several smaller lakes, and five streams, and is situated on the west coast of Dall Island in VCU 659. Access is essentially limited to air, as the mouth of the Essowah Lakes system empties directly into the Pacific Ocean, making boat access difficult and dangerous. However, during periods of high tide, boats can enter and exit Essowah Lake through Essowah Harbor. The river system originates at Parrot Lake (elevation 425 feet) then meanders about four miles through Essowah Lakes to saltwater. Additional tributary streams, also part of the river system, feed Essowah Lakes from the east and the south. The Essowah Lakes system is approximately 50 air miles from Craig. The Forest Service maintains a public recreation cabin on Essowah Lake. Fishing opportunities are excellent for trout and four species of salmon. Hunting is also a popular activity for deer and bear. The river corridor contains approximately 4,400 acres, all National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Essowah Lakes and Streams is a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fisheries, wildlife, and scenic values. The Essowah system is known for its excellent fishing, with abundant cutthroat trout, and pink, chum, coho, and sockeye salmon. Essowah was identified by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&amp;G) as one of the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. Due to its significance, it was also rated as a Class 2 stream system in ADF&amp;G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The system contains 13 miles of anadromous fish stream. The Essowah Lakes system is considered a high-value waterfowl wintering area and serves as a stopover for migratory birds. The scenic values associated with the river system are attributable to the unique stream and lake system.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The Essowah Lakes and Streams system meets the criteria for Wild River classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for all 13 miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic River System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>The Essowah Lakes and Streams system is considered significant for wildlife as it provides winter habitat for the trumpeter swan, a sensitive species. The system is one of 16 eligible rivers which represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The lakes and streams have outstanding scenery. Although it is similar</p>

to the Sarkar Lakes, Niblack Lakes, and Kegan Lakes systems on Prince of Wales Island, it is unique in that it is the only stream and lake system considered eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System which is located on the outer islands within this geographic province. Due to remoteness, public use of this area is relatively low, which is reflected in the visitor records for the Forest Service recreation cabin located at Essowah Lake. This is likely due to the high cost of air transportation from Ketchikan.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the river corridor. However, the northern 1-1/2 mile of river corridor, including Parrot Lake, are included in a Native land selection. This area and adjacent forest land is encumbered by a Klukwan and Sealaska Corporation selection. If this land is conveyed, timber harvest is likely. The State owns the intertidal lands within Essowah Harbor and is responsible for permitting use on these lands. However, there are currently no known plans for State authorization of land uses which would conflict with Wild River designation.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of the Essowah Lakes and Streams system as a Wild River would foreclose the opportunity for future construction of a Forest Service road to access suitable forest lands in the area. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. The planned transportation system includes road access from a log transfer facility in Datzkoo Harbor, located on the east side of Dall Island, through reserved right-of-way across Haida and Sealaska Corporation Native selections. The road is planned to access the Essowah Lakes area through the Parrot Lake valley.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would likely have no effect on the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The USGS has mapped all of Dall Island as a Class III tract for potential, undiscovered mineral resources. This means they estimate the undiscovered mineral potential to have a Gross In Place Value (which does not include any development costs) of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre. The U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for minerals extraction and no mining

claims exist. Designation as a Wild River would withdraw the corridor from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 1,500 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration for timber harvest, however all alternatives except for C, allocate the area to Primitive and Semi-primitive recreation, therefore the area is unsuitable.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the existing high quality habitat conditions for both fish and wildlife. There are no current plans for fisheries enhancement projects in the river corridor.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Recreational use of the river corridor, particularly in the vicinity of the Forest Service recreation cabin, may increase with designation as a Wild River. Designation would maintain the current primitive recreation opportunities and the outstanding scenic values. The Essowah system has not been identified as a subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence is foreseen.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned for the Essowah Lakes area during the next 10 years. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur. The outstandingly remarkable scenic and wildlife values would not be affected in Alternative B as the river would be designated Wild and adjacent areas would be managed under a Primitive Recreation land use designation. In alternative A and P most of the area would be managed for primitive recreation values but the portion surrounding Parrot Lake (just north of the lake corridor) could be considered for timber harvest. In Alternative C the entire area could be considered for timber harvest. Alternative D would have a portion of the drainage managed with an emphasis on semi-primitive recreation values with the rest managed for timber production. Timber harvest activities would reduce the primitive characteristics of the area, but would likely provide the opportunity for increased recreation and subsistence use access. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to Essowah Lakes and Streams have been received.

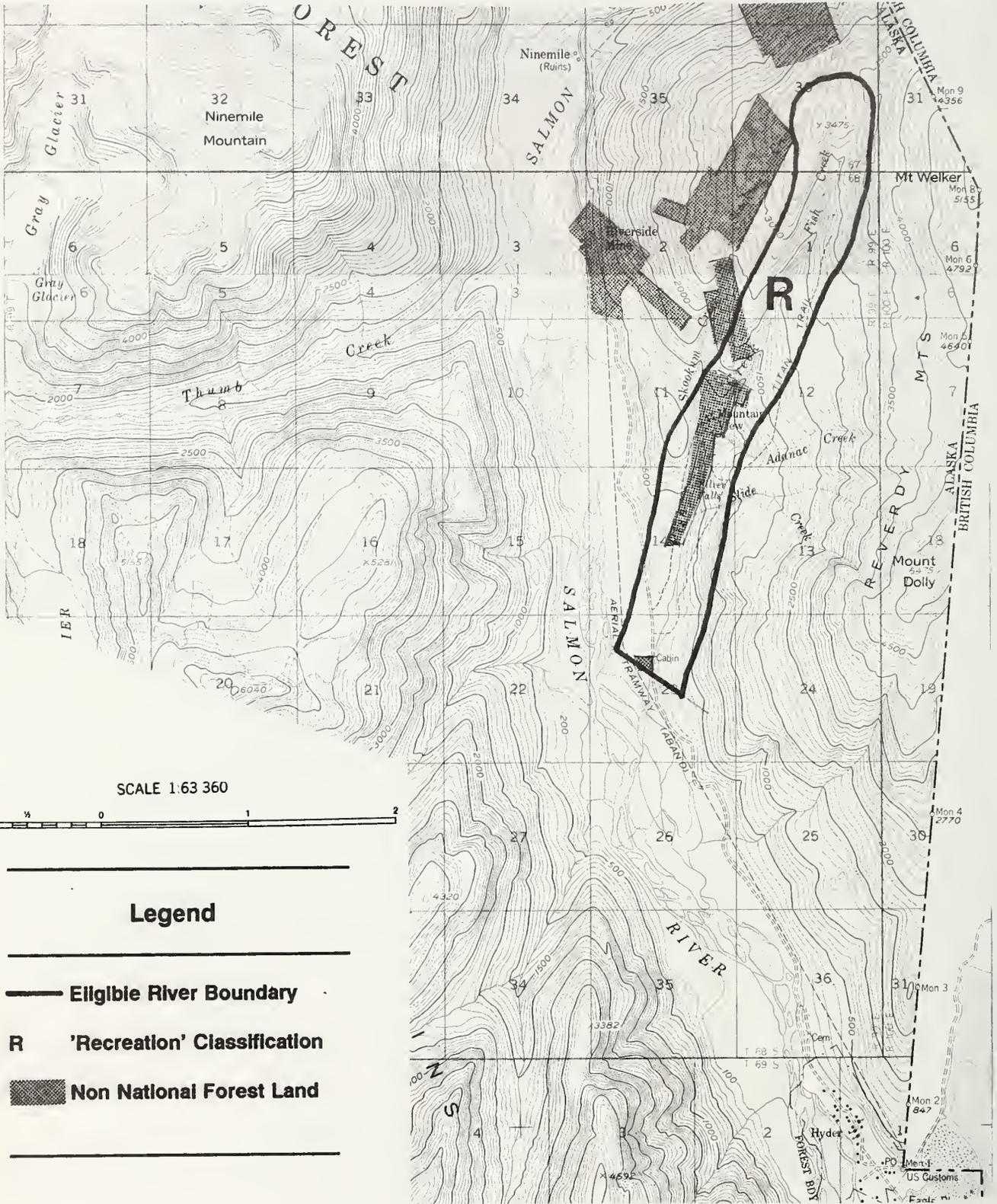
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently planned. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 60,000

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# Fish Creek



SCALE 1:63 360

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- R** 'Recreation' Classification
- Non National Forest Land

## FISH CREEK

### Description

Fish Creek, near Hyder, is on the Misty Fiords Ranger District and is on the mainland within the Coast Range Geographic Province in VCU 806. Fish Creek is a tributary of the Salmon River and is about four miles in length. The creek has high fisheries values due to the unusual genetic strain of chum salmon that spawn there. The area near the mouth of Fish Creek has become a popular recreation site, as visitors are attracted to the bear viewing opportunities during the spawning season. The Forest Service recently constructed a viewing platform for visitor use, and has plans to develop fisheries and wildlife interpretive displays. The Titan Trail, which was developed by miners in the early 1900's, parallels practically the entire length of Fish Creek and offers spectacular views across the glacially scoured Salmon River valley. The Salmon River Highway crosses Fish Creek approximately 1/4 mile from its mouth. There are several parcels of private land with ruins of houses and other structures along Fish Creek. A road parallels much of the creek. The entire Fish Creek drainage has a rich mining history. There are many patented and unpatented mining claims throughout the drainage. The river corridor contains approximately 1,100 acres, of which about 150 acres are private land.

### Eligibility

Fish Creek is a free-flowing stream system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for regionally significant fisheries values. The largest recorded genetic strain of chum salmon inhabit the stream. There are approximately two miles of anadromous fish stream in Fish Creek.

### Classification

All four miles meet the criteria for Recreational River classification.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A and B: Recreational River for all four miles.

Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Fish Creek is typical of small rivers and streams originating on the mainland. The creek is easily accessible by road and the Alaska Marine Highway. The Marine Highway provides convenient access to Hyder, Alaska through Stewart, British Columbia. Fish Creek is accessible three miles from Hyder via the Salmon River Highway. The unusual genetic strain of chum salmon found in Fish Creek is the unique feature associated with this river system.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are numerous encumbrances throughout the Fish Creek drainage. Within the river corridor there are approximately 13 acres of state right-of-way along the Salmon River Highway, 3.5 acres of Bureau of Land Management homesite withdrawal, 77 acres of state-selected land, 150 acres of patented mining claims, and 227 acres of unpatented mining claims. In addition, there are numerous patented and unpatented mining claims throughout the drainage which are adjacent to the river corridor. A powerline right-of-way special use permit covers approximately four acres within the corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Recreational River would not preclude the construction of additional roads within the river corridor.

*Water:* The corridor has not been identified for potential water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Water and power development would be permitted under Recreational River designation.

*Minerals:* The river corridor is in an area identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high priority for mineral development. Within and immediately adjacent to the river corridor there are several patented and unpatented mining claims. Any exploration and development activities would be subject to the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture to minimize surface disturbance, sedimentation, and visual degradation. As a Recreational River, the corridor would be open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* The approximately 560 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the corridor would not continue to contribute to the allowable sale quantity in alternatives A and B since the forest land adjacent to the river corridor would be managed with an emphasis on semi-primitive recreation values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Recreational River would allow access for future development of fish habitat enhancement projects. During salmon spawning season, a significant number of bear utilize the lower reaches of Fish Creek for feeding. Increased public use which might occur due to Recreational River designation may result in conflicts between the recreation user and the bear population.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation of Fish Creek as a Recreational River would likely bring increased use of the river corridor. Forest Service plans to enhance parking facilities for visitors, rehabilitate the Titan Trail, and provide interpretive facilities would likely be implemented. Scenic resources would essen-

tially be unaffected by designation. There would be no known effect on subsistence resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned for the Fish Creek area during the next 10 years. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur with implementation of Alternatives C, D, or P. The outstandingly remarkable fisheries values of Fish Creek would not be adversely affected. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and current land management standards and guidelines.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to Fish Creek have been received. However, the Hyder Fish and Game Advisory Commission requested that scenery and recreation be emphasized in management of the Salmon River drainage. Fish Creek is located within the Salmon River drainage.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no plans for acquisition of private lands. Recreation improvements currently being planned include trail rehabilitation, visitor parking, and interpretive facilities. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 75,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 8,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$150,000



## GOKACHIN--MIRROR--LOW--FISH CREEK

### Description

This stream and lake system is on Revillagigedo Island within the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province in VCU's 754 and 755. Included in the system are Gokachin Creek, Mesa Lake, Gokachin Lakes, Ella Lake, Mirror Lake, Fish Creek, Big Lake, Basin Lake, and Low Lake, as well as several smaller lakes. The system ranges in elevation from sea level to about 600 feet. Except for two short stream segments totaling approximately three miles along Fish Creek and Gokachin Creek on the Ketchikan Ranger District, this 30 mile system of streams and connected lakes with short portages is within the Misty Fiords Monument Wilderness. Fish Creek and Gokachin Creek flow into saltwater in Thorne Arm about 18 air miles from Ketchikan.

The Gokachin area is very popular for both hunting and fishing. The Forest Service provides and maintains 3 recreation cabins along this river system. One cabin is located on saltwater at Thorne Arm and two are located on Ella Lake. During 1990, the cabins received 1,666 recreation visitor days use. In addition, 2 mooring buoys are provided to enhance recreational access to the area. The buoys are located at the mouth of Fish Creek and near Gokachin Creek. The Forest Service also maintains hiking trails which access Big Lake and Granite Lake from Fish Creek. A trail also parallels Gokachin Creek. The river corridor contains approximately 14,900 acres, 80 acres of which is private land.

### Eligibility

The streams and lakes of the Gokachin area combine to form a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable and has regional significance for its fishery, wildlife, recreation, scenic, and historical/cultural values. Fishing is excellent in Low Lake and Fish Creek for cutthroat, rainbow, Dolly Varden char, sockeye, and coho. Fish Creek is well-known for its steelhead fishery, with an annual run of approximately 500 adult fish. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game lists Ella, Low, and Mirror Lakes as three of the 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. The river system contains approximately two miles of anadromous fish stream. The system also offers a diversity of wildlife including Sitka black-tailed deer, wolves, black bear, beaver, mink, eagles, and marten. Trumpeter swans, a sensitive species, also utilize the river system for wintering habitat. The variety of available recreation opportunities make the area extremely popular. Activities include outstanding fishing, hunting, hiking, and viewing a variety of cultural resource sites. The Forest Service is also planning to develop a 30-mile long canoe trail through the river system. The area is scenic, with such features as large grassy tidal meadows at the mouth of Gokachin Creek and a waterfall adjacent to the saltwater cabin. Cultural/historical values in the river system are significant. Several prehistoric use sites are located along Fish Creek and a fish weir and campsite are nearby. Evidence indicates that Fish Creek has been utilized by humans for perhaps as long as five thousand years. These sites are likely to yield information important to regional history. This entire area is rich in mining history. At one time, the town of Sealevel, which was established during

the 1890's gold rush, was located near the mouth of Gokachin Creek. Remains of the town and artifacts from other mining operations are still apparent in the area. Ruins of the dock are visible near the mouth of Gokachin Creek.

**Classification**

The entire river meets the criteria for the Wild River classification.

**Alternatives**

Alternative A: Designation of Segment 1 (2 miles) and Segment 2 (28 miles) as Wild River.

Alternative B: Designation of Segment 1 (2 miles) as Scenic River and Segment 2 (28 miles) as Wild River.

Alternatives C, D and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

**Suitability**

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The Gokachin River system is somewhat typical of other eligible rivers which potentially represent the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. It is similar to the Naha River system as an interconnected series of lakes and streams. The fisheries, wildlife, and scenic values, when considered in combination, are of regional significance but they are not unique. However, the recreational values and cultural/historical values found here would be defined as unique. The 30-mile canoe trail, being planned by the Forest Service, is the only one of that length within this geographic province. The diversity of cultural/historical resources, such as the old mining town of Sealevel, are of significance as they are representatives of events which made important contributions to the broad patterns of Alaskan history. Use of the Fish Creek area is frequently requested by commercial outfitter and guide services, some from as far away as Cordova. In 1991, the Forest Service received three requests for outfitter and guide special use permits for steelhead fishing within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are several encumbrances associated with the Gokachin river system. The Ketchikan Pulp Company owns two tracts of land adjacent to Gokachin Creek. The larger tract, approximately 44 acres, lies entirely within the river corridor. The smaller tract, which is approximately 25 acres in size, contains about 15 acres within the river corridor. Timber harvest is likely to occur at both tracts in 1992. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough owns a tract approximately 20 acres in size which also lies within the river corridor. There are no current plans for utilization of this property by the Borough. There are also about 150 unpatented mining claims in the Gokachin Creek area.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Currently, a log transfer facility is being developed at Elf Point on the east side of Thorne Arm. Ketchikan Pulp Company is planning a temporary log transfer facility at Gokachin Creek. However, periodic violent weather conditions make log rafting and associated timber harvest activities in Thorne Arm hazardous. Designation of either the Fish Creek or Gokachin Creek area as a Wild River would likely preclude the option of a transportation corridor to Shoal Cove. Ketchikan Pulp Company is also planning to build a road into private land adjacent to Gokachin Creek. Designation of Gokachin Creek as Wild River would preclude that access road. In general, Wild River designation would limit road development within the corridors, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The Alaska Power Authority (APA) has a powersite withdrawal that begins at saltwater and extends up Fish Creek to include Big Lake, Mirror Lake, and Ella Lake. This site has not been identified by APA or by scoping as having potential for development. Therefore, designation as a Wild or Wild and Scenic River would likely have no affect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The area within and adjacent to the corridor in the vicinity of Gokachin Creek has been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high priority for minerals development. The estimated gross value of the mineral resources in this area is \$51,668,000. Within and adjacent to the corridor there are several unpatented mining claims. Any exploration and development activities would be subject to the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture to minimize surface disturbance, sedimentation, and visual degradation. The remainder of the corridor outside of the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness, where no claims exist, would be withdrawn from mineral entry under Wild River designation. The river corridor within the wilderness was withdrawn from mineral entry by ANILCA, subject to existing valid claims.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River in Alternative A would remove approximately 680 acres of tentatively suitable forest land (which is the portion of the river corridor outside of wilderness) from consideration for timber harvest. Designation of segment 1 as a Scenic River in Alternative B would allow only about 5 acres of the tentatively suitable forest land outside of wilderness to contribute to the allowable sale quantity, since the adjacent areas would be managed for scenic and semi-primitive recreation values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are currently no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered. Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River would maintain the existing high quality habitat conditions for fish and wildlife. Designa-

tion of Segment 1 as a Scenic River would allow typical fish habitat enhancement projects, increasing the potential for fish production. Wildlife habitat enhancement projects would also be allowed, but would have to be compatible with other resource values. Designation of Segment 1 as a Wild River would allow fish habitat enhancement projects, but access limitations and design requirements would likely result in higher costs or preclude development. Existing wildlife habitat conditions would be maintained.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation of Segment 1 as a Scenic or Wild River and Segment 2 as a Wild River would maintain the existing semi-primitive and primitive recreation opportunities within the corridor. With designation of Segment 1 as a Scenic River, some evidence of landscape alterations within the corridor may be seen. The outstandingly remarkable scenic resources would be maintained with designation of Segments 1 and 2 as Wild River. The river system has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area and no effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on the outstandingly remarkable historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effect of non-designation:* On forest land inside Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness there would be no effect on the outstandingly remarkable resource values. Outside of the wilderness area there would be no effect on the outstandingly remarkable fisheries and historical/cultural values. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There are no timber harvest activities planned during the next 10 years on National Forest in the Gokachin Creek area. The Ketchikan Pulp Company plans to harvest timber on their private land. However, over the long-term there is a potential in all Forest Plan Revision alternatives that timber would be harvested within the corridor along Gokachin Creek, resulting in a reduction of the areas semi-primitive character and visually evident changes in the landscape. Timber harvest activities would likely increase access for recreation and subsistence uses.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to the Gokachin system have been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No acquisition of private or Borough lands is planned at this time. The Forest Service has tentative plans to develop a 30-mile canoe trail through the river system. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 50,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 30,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 20,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$185,000

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## Granite Creek--Manzoni Lake

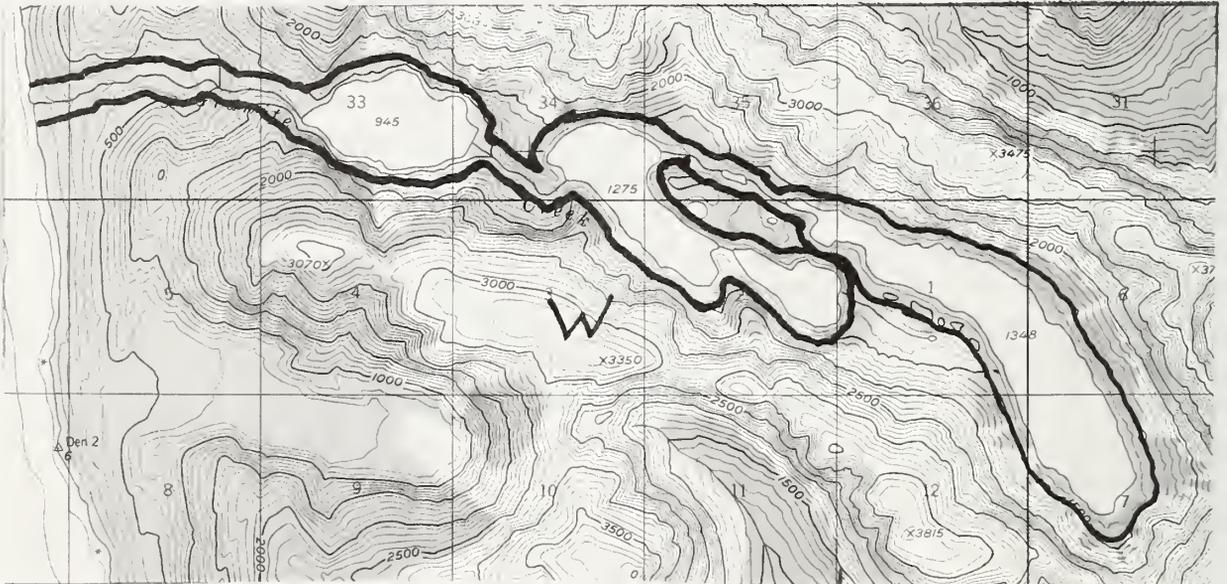
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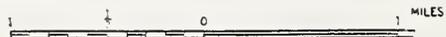
### Legend

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- — Eligible River Boundary
  - Segment Boundary
  - W 'Wild' Classification
  - S 'Scenic' Classification
  - R 'Recreational' Classification
- 



SCALE 1:63,360



## GRANITE CREEK-MANZONI LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Granite Creek-Manzoni Lake is located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness on the mainland in VCU 800, and is in the Coast Range Geographic Province. The stream flows out of Manzoni Lake, and through several smaller lakes before entering saltwater in Behm Canal between Rudyerd Bay and Walker Cove, about 42 air miles from Ketchikan. The river corridor contains approximately 3,550 acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Granite Creek-Manzoni is outstandingly remarkable for Scenic values of regional significance. The area is renowned for its spectacular scenery, and is a common flightseeing destination.
<b>Classification</b>	All eight miles of the stream meet the criteria for the Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Granite Creek-Manzoni Lake is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Granite Creek-Manzoni Lake corridor is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p> <p><i>Water:</i> The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.</p>

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Harris River



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
- R** 'Recreation' Classification
-  Non National Forest Land

SCALE 1:63 360



## HARRIS RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Craig Ranger District, Prince of Wales Island, the Harris River flows into Twelvemile Arm of Kaasan Bay near the town of Hollis. The stream is in the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province in VCU 622. Because of its proximity to Hollis, and convenient access, the Harris River is heavily used by the public. Several bridges cross the river, and there are frequent access points along the road which are within easy walking distance from the river. Primary use of the river includes recreational fishing and viewing of spawning salmon in August and September. The river drainage has a known wolf population, and is used for both trapping and subsistence hunting. Logging activities are very noticeable from the stream corridor. The Harris River corridor contains approximately 2,400 acres, of which about 410 acres have been conveyed to the State of Alaska. A corridor approximately 1/8 mile wide along the river through the State land remains as National Forest System land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Harris River is a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant recreational values. The river is heavily fished by residents of Hollis and serves as one of the primary recreation areas for local residents. The Harris River corridor contains seven miles of anadromous fish stream and offers excellent fishing for pink, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead. The river has an annual steelhead run of approximately 300 adult fish.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Seven miles of the river meet the criteria for the Recreational River classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A &amp; B: Recreational River for all 7 miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>The Harris River has considerable importance within the region for recreational use related to the valuable fishery. The river has excellent accessibility as it is located close to the Alaska Marine Highway terminal at Hollis and has convenient road access. The Forest Service has received requests in 1991 for three outfitter and guide special use permits for fishing activities within the river corridor. However, the Harris River would not be considered unique as it is similar to the Thorne River, also within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province, with regard to recreational fishing opportunities and vehicular access.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p>

There are no mining claims within the Harris River corridor. There are, however, approximately 410 acres of state-selected land which has been conveyed. This property is currently being used for private resident lots and undeveloped recreation. There are also two tracts of state-selected lands with approximately 50 acres within the river corridor, which have not been conveyed.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Recreational River would not preclude the construction of additional roads within the river corridor.

*Water:* The majority of the Harris River corridor has been withdrawn by the Alaska Power Authority (APA) for water and power development. However, it is not among the sites identified by APA or by scoping as likely for development.

*Minerals:* The lower portion of the river corridor is within an area identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high potential for minerals development, however no mining claims exist. The USGS has mapped the region around Harris River as a Class III tract for potential, undiscovered mineral resources. This means they estimate the undiscovered mineral potential to have a Gross In Place Value (which does not include any development costs) of \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre. The portion of the river corridor within the APA withdrawal would be open to mineral entry only by APA approval. The corridor outside the APA power withdrawal would, however, remain open to mineral entry.

*Timber:* The 820 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the corridor could continue to contribute to the average annual allowable sale quantity. However, in Alternatives A and B timber harvest would have reduced yields as the forest land adjacent to the river corridor would be managed with an emphasis on scenic values.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Recreational River would allow access for future development of fish habitat enhancement projects. The Forest Service currently has plans to install log drop structures for fish habitat improvement in 1991, 1992, and 1993. Increased public use which might occur from Recreational River designation would likely result in some conflicts with wildlife species that utilize the habitat within the river corridor.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation as a Recreational River may bring increased attention and use to the river, particularly due to the easy access available. Requests from outfitter and guide commercial services for use of the river for fishing and related activities would likely increase. Scenic resources would

likely be unaffected by designation. Some conflicts with deer hunting and fishing subsistence uses may result from increased recreational use within the river corridor.

*Effect of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities proposed for the Harris River area during the next 10 years. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur. The outstandingly remarkable recreation values would likely not be adversely affected with implementation of Forest Plan Revision Alternatives A and B. Under both alternatives, the river corridor would be managed under a Scenic Viewshed land use designation where the visual resources associated with recreational use along the river would be protected. Under Alternatives C, D, and P however, it is likely that the outstandingly remarkable recreation values would be affected. The emphasis along the corridor in both of these alternatives would be timber production. The activities associated with harvesting and road construction may detract from the recreational experience of the visitor.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

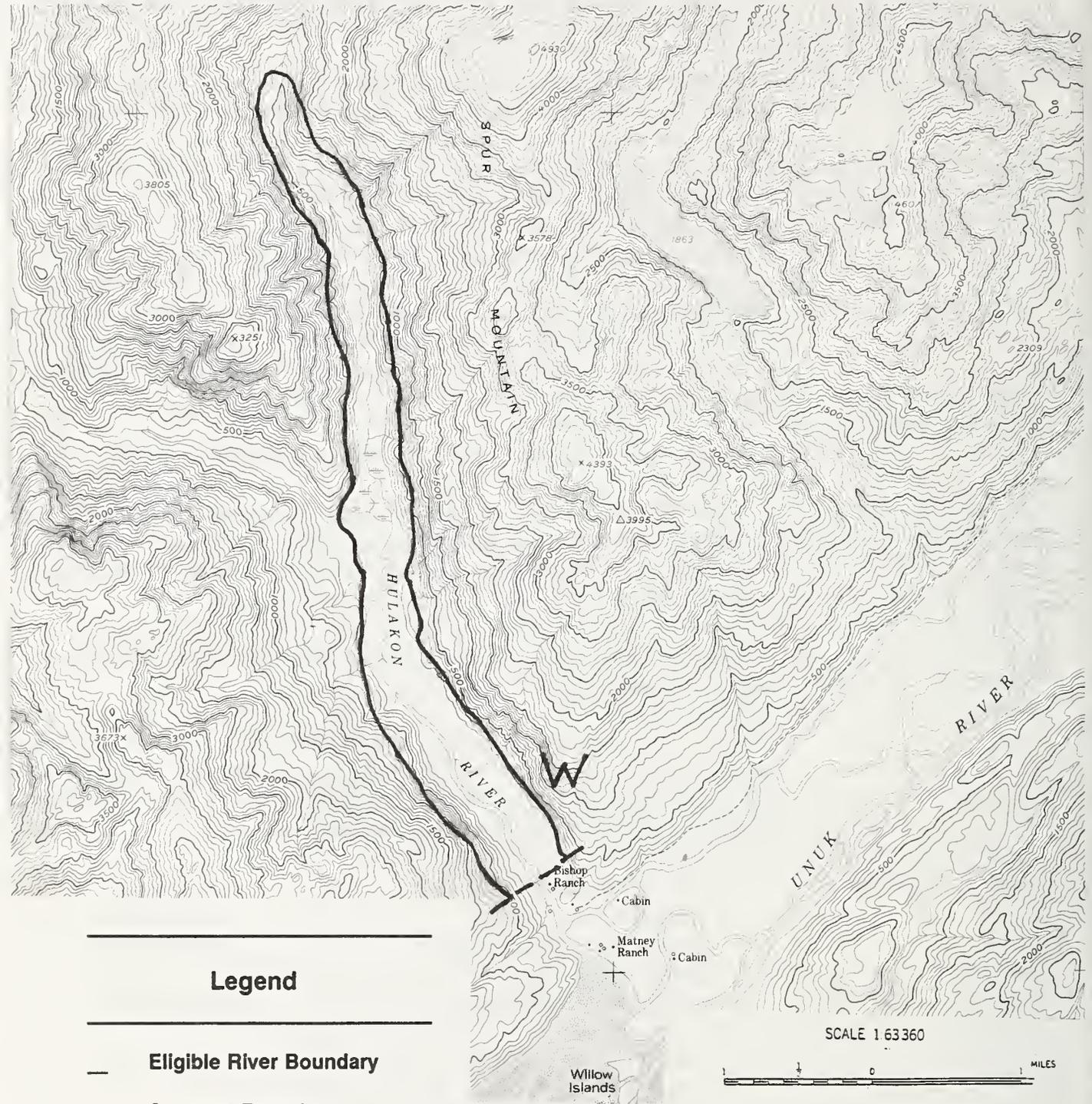
No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to the Harris River have been received. The two parcels of state-selected land which have not been conveyed, according to the intent of the withdrawal, are planned for commercial and industrial development and public recreation.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There are no plans for acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 60,000

# Hulakon River



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## HULAKON RIVER

<b>Description</b>	Hulakon River is located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness, is on the mainland in VCU's 784 and 786, and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. The river originates at about the 1800 foot elevation and flows 6 miles to saltwater at Burroughs Bay, near the mouth of the Unuk River, about 55 air miles from Ketchikan. There is a small parcel of private land with one lodge and two cabins near the mouth of the stream. The river corridor contains about 2,560 acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Hulakon River is outstandingly remarkable for its fishery, wildlife, and scenic values of regional significance. The Hulakon has the only run of hooligan (candlefish) in Misty Fiords. Wildlife and scenic values are very similar to those of the Unuk River. Brown bears are abundant, and the area is very scenic.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire river meets the criteria for the Wild River classification. Existing structures are rustic in appearance and are compatible with the classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	The Hulakon River was recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Hulakon River is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There is one parcel of private land located at the mouth of the Hulakon River consisting of 84.07 acres.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p> <p><i>Water:</i> The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the</p>

future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

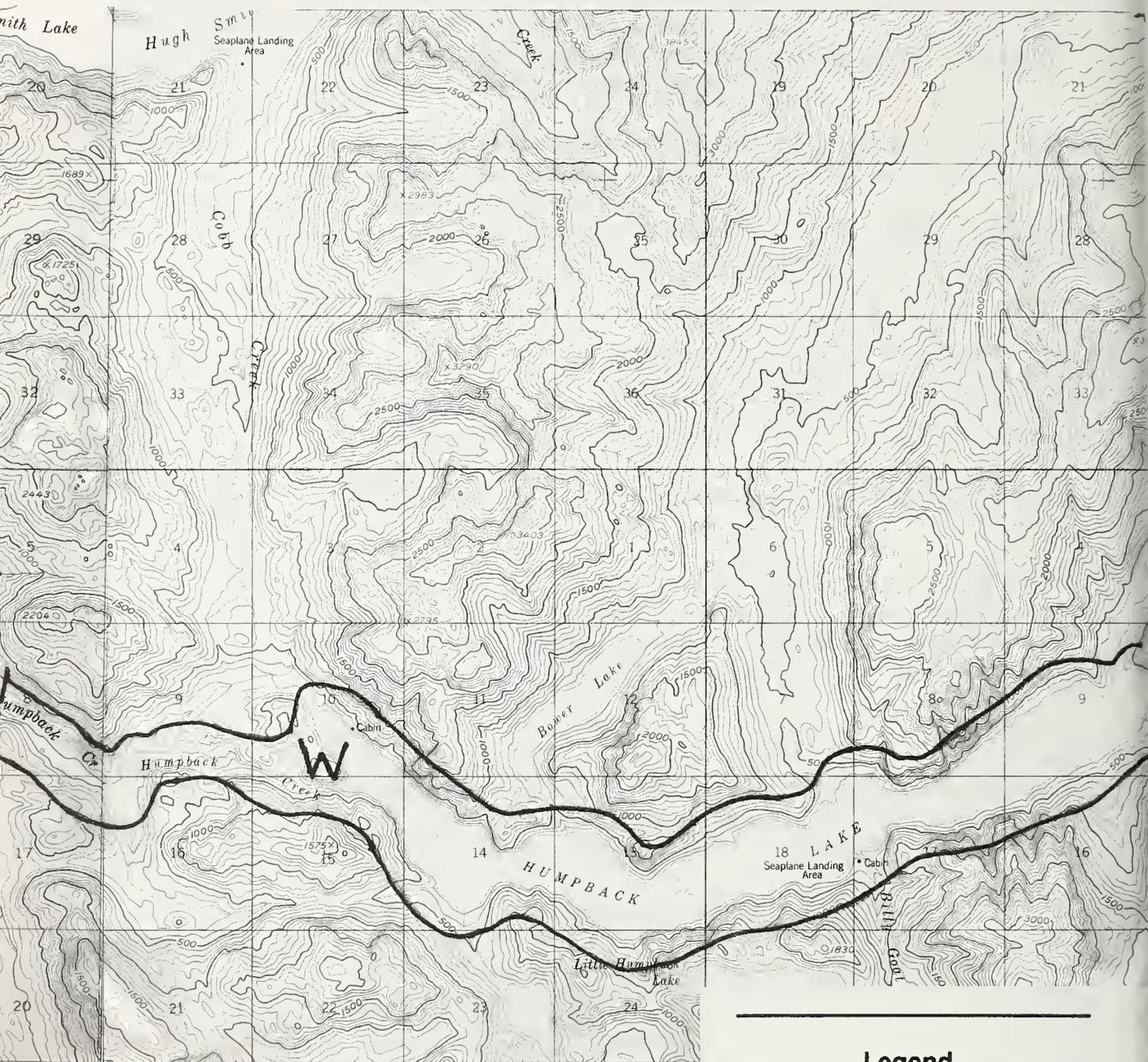
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

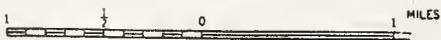
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Humpback Creek and Lake



SCALE 1:63360



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

## HUMPBACK CREEK AND LAKE

**Description** Humpback Creek and Lake is located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness, is on the mainland in VCU's 835 and 834, and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. Humpback Creek flows from Humpback Lake and into saltwater at Mink Bay, about 48 miles from Ketchikan. The eight miles of river contain about 4,600 acres within the corridor. The area is known for its fishing opportunities. A public recreation cabin is located at the lake; a 3-mile trail leads from Mink Bay to the lake, but does not access the cabin. There is also a commercial cabin, rustic in appearance, under special use permit on the lake. A mooring buoy is anchored in Mink Bay.

**Eligibility** Humpback Creek and Lake are outstandingly remarkable for their fishery and wildlife values of regional significance. The stream is known for its steelhead fishery. Cutthroat and Dolly Varden char are also present. The area was identified by ADF&G as one of the 19 "high-quality" watersheds in the 1979 Forest Plan. The area has a very high concentration of brown bear.

**Classification** The entire 8-mile river meets the criteria for Wild River classification. The existing structures are rustic in appearance and are compatible with the classification.

**Alternatives** Humpback Creek and Lake is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.

**Suitability** **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

Humpback Creek and Lake is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No affect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
<b>Total - First Five Years</b>	<b>\$ 15,000*</b>

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Hunter Bay Lakes and Streams



SCALE 1:63 360



## HUNTER BAY LAKES and STREAMS

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Craig Ranger District, Prince of Wales Island, the Hunter Bay system is within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province in VCU's 692, 696, and 698. This system includes several lakes and six streams totaling 19 miles in length. The Hunter Bay system flows into Hunter Bay about 50 miles southeast of Craig. Ten of the stream system's 19 miles are within the South Prince of Wales Wilderness. The area is popular for its fisheries and recreation values. The river corridor contains approximately 7,900 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Hunter Bay Lakes and Streams combine to form a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fish and recreation values. Fishing is excellent with pink, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon present. Cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char are also present. The Hunter Bay Lakes and Streams system has 14 miles of anadromous fish stream. While current recreation use focuses on fishing, the Hunter Bay area is relatively flat and has good potential for hiking and cross-country skiing.
<b>Classification</b>	All 19 miles of the Hunter Bay system meet the criteria for Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Alternatives A and B: Wild River for all 19 miles.  Alternative C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.  Alternative D: Wild River for only the ten miles within the South Prince of Wales Wilderness.
<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b>  The Hunter Bay Lake and Streams is one of 16 eligible rivers which represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. When compared with the other rivers, this system does not have any features which would be considered unique. The Forest Service has received requests in 1991 for two commercial outfitter and guide special use permits for fishing activities within the river corridor.  <b>Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b>  Approximately ten miles of the Hunter Bay Lakes and Streams system are located in the South Prince of Wales Wilderness. There are no mining claims, private lands, or state land selections within the river corridor. However, there are numerous mining claims adjacent to the river corridor east of the Wilderness boundary.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Wild River designation of the corridor outside the wilderness boundary would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities. The area has not been identified as a suitable transportation link by the State or the Forest Service. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would likely have no effect on future availability of water supplies and electric power.

*Minerals:* The river corridor inside the South Prince of Wales Wilderness is withdrawn from mineral entry and development. The corridor located outside the wilderness is within an area identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high potential for mineral development, which is evidenced by the adjacent 121 unpatented mining claims. Designation as a Wild River would withdraw the corridor from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation of the river corridor inside the South Prince of Wales Wilderness would have no effect on the timber resource as timber harvest is prohibited within the wilderness. Designation of the corridor outside of the wilderness boundary would remove approximately 520 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the river corridor from consideration in alternative D. Alternatives A and B assign the area to a Primitive land use designation which is unsuitable for timber harvest.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing high quality habitat conditions for both fish and wildlife. There are no current plans for fish enhancement projects within the river corridor.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* The current primitive recreation opportunities and scenic qualities would be maintained by designation. Recreational uses, including those provided by outfitter and guide commercial services, may increase with designation. However, increases in use would probably not be significant due to the remote location of the Hunter Bay Lakes and Streams system and difficult access. Competition for subsistence resources, primarily deer and shellfish, could increase if designation resulted in an increase in recreational use.

*Effects of non-designation:* For the river corridor within the South Prince of Wales Wilderness, current protection afforded by the wilderness status is adequate to protect these resources. The river corridor outside the Wilderness boundary

would be managed with an emphasis on primitive recreation values in the preferred alternative and Alternative C. In Alternative D this same area could be managed for timber harvest, although there is none scheduled at this time. Alternative P and D also would manage the north part of the corridor near Hessa Lake for minerals production.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to Hunter Bay Lakes and Streams have been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

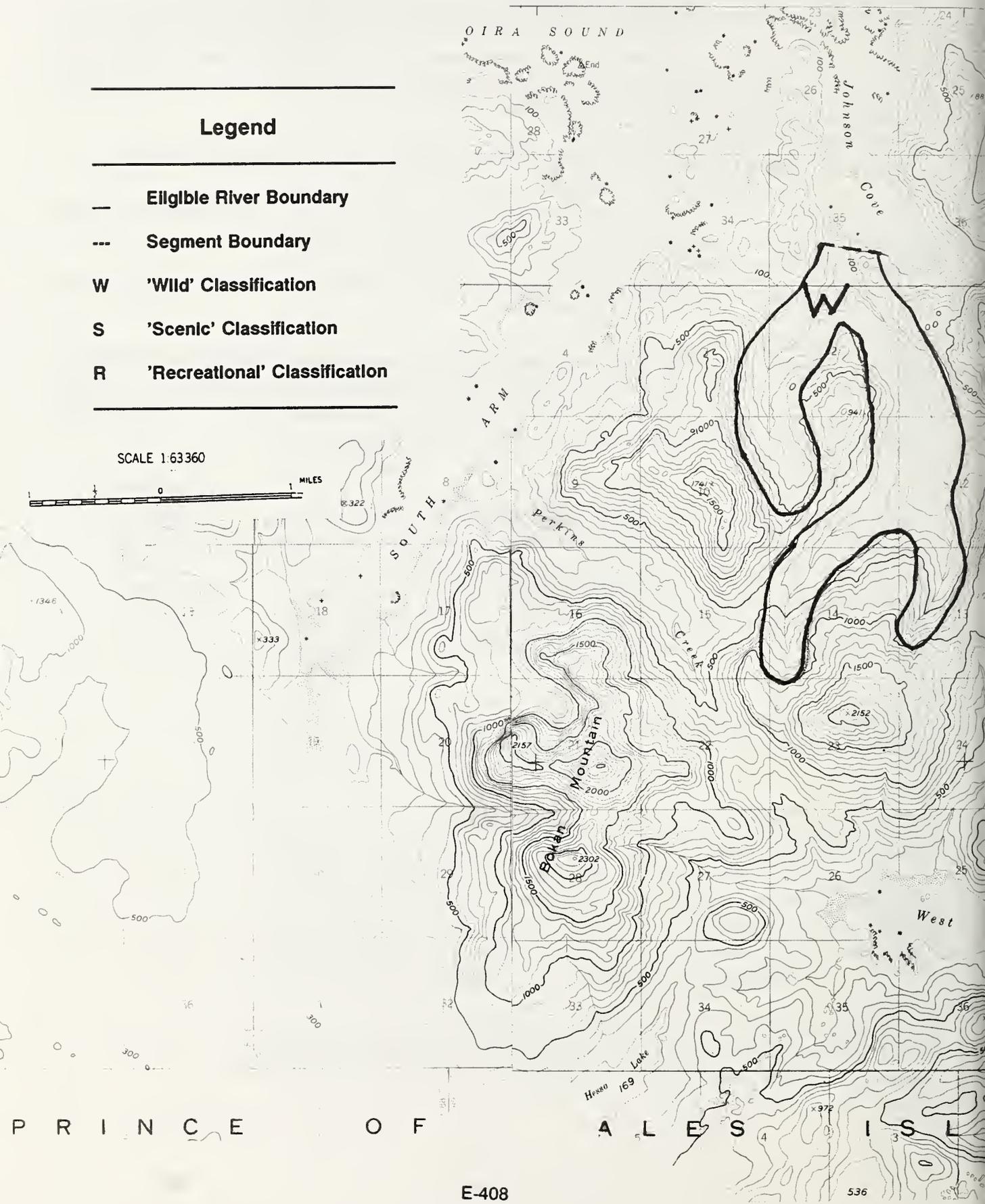
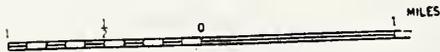
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 35,000

# Johnson Lake and Streams

## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63360



P R I N C E O F A L E S I S L

## JOHNSON LAKE and STREAMS

### Description

Located on the Craig Ranger District, the Johnson Lake area is on Prince of Wales Island within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province in VCU 692. Two streams originating at approximately 800 feet in elevation flow into Johnson Lake, which is located just above 100 feet in elevation. The outlet stream flows into saltwater at Johnson Cove on Moira Sound, about 40 miles southeast of Craig. Johnson Lake has exceptional riparian spruce habitat and high fisheries values. The extensive floodplain contains large spawning areas and the lake is a major producer of sockeye salmon. Commercial outfitter and guide services utilize the river system for fishing. Black bear are found in the area, particularly during salmon spawning season. The river corridor contains approximately 3,100 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Johnson Lake and Streams is a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fisheries and ecological values. Johnson Lake and Streams are a major sockeye salmon producer. Chum, coho, and pink salmon are also present. This lake and stream system contains five miles of anadromous fish stream. The area is ecologically significant as it contains one of the few remaining pristine riparian spruce forests left in southern Southeast Alaska. Huge floodplain spruce along the streams have grown to over nine feet in diameter and over 200 feet in height. Johnson Lake also contains a wide variety of aquatic plant species.

### Classification

The entire system meets the criteria for Wild River classification.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for all six miles.

Alternatives C, D and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The Johnson Lake and Stream system is typical of rivers found on Prince of Wales Island. Its fisheries values and ecological values associated with the riparian area of the river corridor are considered regionally significant. The Forest Service has received a request in 1991 for one commercial outfitter and guide special use permit for fishing within the corridor. Expected use is approximately 40 service days. The river system is one of 16 which potentially represents the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. It would be considered unique within the province as it is the only river with an extensive riparian spruce forest.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the river corridor. The State has proposed a land selection west of Johnson Cove on South Arm. The primary long-term management intent for this area is community development. Interim management over the next 20 years would allow commercial, industrial, recreational, and fish and wildlife uses consistent with the long-term management intent.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The Johnson Lake and Streams system is within an area being considered for a Forest Service transportation corridor. The forest area between South Arm and Ingram Bay, which includes the Johnson Lake and Streams system, is being considered for timber harvest. At the request of the Forest Service, the state selected lands outside of Johnson Cove to avoid conflicts with resource development activities in this area. Designation of the system as a Wild River would likely result in multiple log transfer facilities. From a timber resource standpoint this would be undesirable as multiple log transfer facilities would adversely affect development economics. The Forest Service has made a commitment with the State of Alaska to emphasize consolidation of log transfer facilities where possible.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would likely have no effect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for mineral extraction. The USGS has estimated that the region around Bokan Mountain and the south end of the corridor is a Class I tract of minerals and the area near Johnson Cove is a Class II tract. This means the USGS has estimated there may be undiscovered mineral resources with a Gross In Place Value of \$400,000 - \$4,000,000 in the Class I and \$40,000 - \$400,000 in the Class II tract. Neither figure includes any of the costs of development. Wild River designation would withdraw the corridor from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 1,100 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the river corridor from consideration for timber harvest, however in Alternatives A and B the area is designated primitive recreation and would be considered unsuitable anyway.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing high quality habitat conditions for both fish and wildlife. There are no fisheries enhancement projects currently planned for the Johnson Lakes and Streams system.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* The current primitive recreation opportunities and scenic qualities would be maintained by Wild River designation. Recreational use, including that provided by commercial outfitter and guide services, would likely increase. The Johnson Lake and Streams system has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effects to subsistence use are foreseen.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities proposed during the next 10 years for the Johnson Lakes area. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur. The outstandingly remarkable fisheries would likely not be affected. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the current standards and guidelines. The outstandingly remarkable ecological values would not be adversely affected by implementation of Alternative A as the river corridor area would be managed under a Primitive Recreation land use designation. Under Alternatives C and P the drainage would be managed for scenic values with reduced timber harvest. Under Alternative D the drainage would be managed for timber production. Also under the preferred alternative and Alternative D the drainage would be managed with an emphasis on mineral production.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

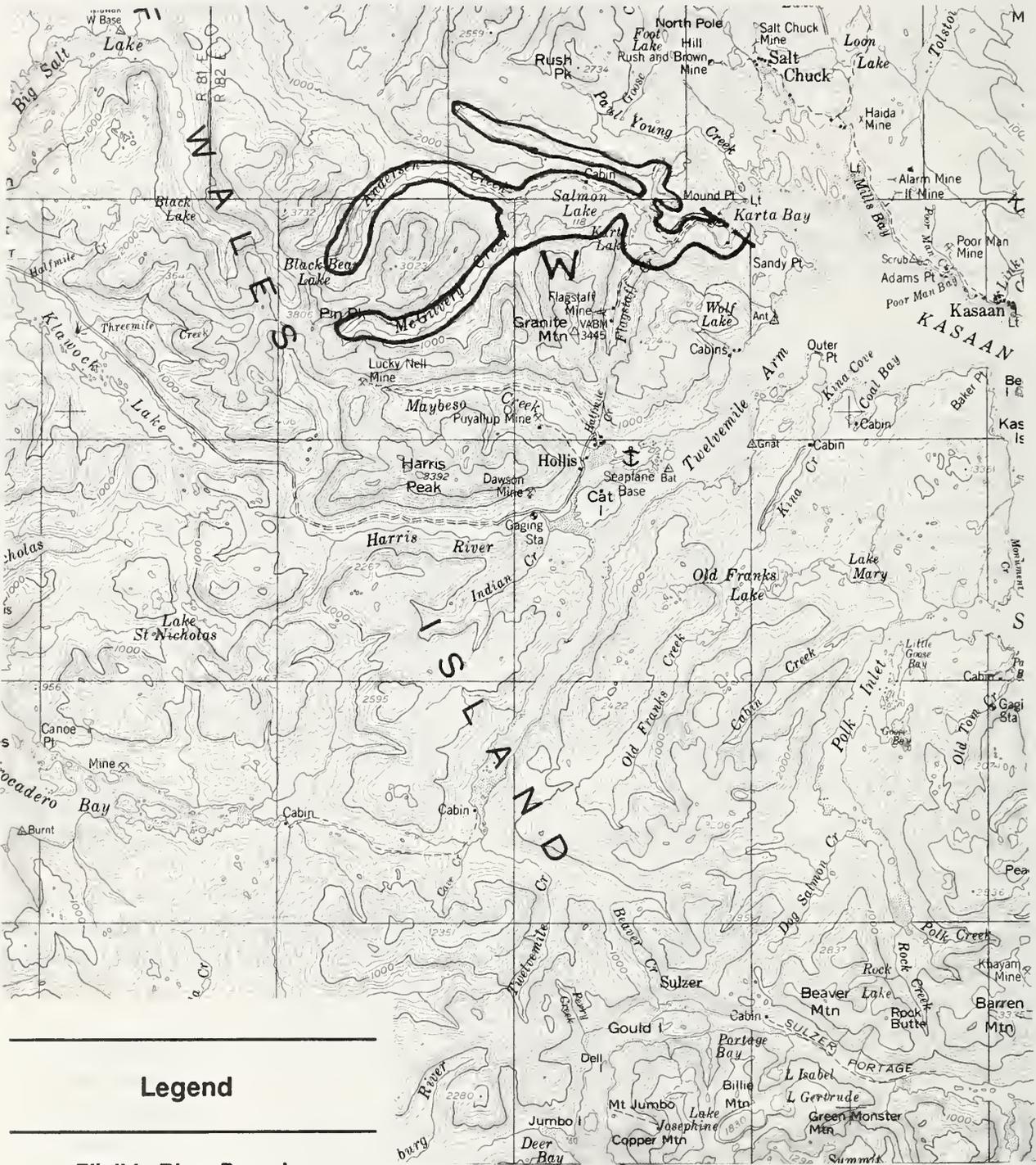
There were no public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to potential Wild River designation for the Johnson Lakes and Streams system. However, written comments were received requesting an immediate halt to planned timber harvest in the Johnson Lake area.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 35,000

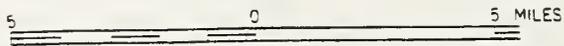
# Karta River--Salmon Lake



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:250 000



## KARTA RIVER-SALMON LAKE

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located in the Karta Wilderness on the Thorne Bay Ranger District, Karta River-Salmon Lake system is on Prince of Wales Island in the Southern Islands Geographic Province. It is located in VCU's 505, 606, 607 and 608. Andersen and McGilvery Creeks join at Salmon Lake, flow through Karta Lake, and become the Karta River. The Karta enters saltwater at Karta Bay, about 22 air miles east of Craig. The Karta River system is exceptionally rich in fish and game and is used by the residents of Kasaan and Hollis for recreation and subsistence. There is potential for mining and mineral development on valid existing claims. The river corridor contains about 10,750 acres.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Karta River-Salmon Lake system is outstandingly remarkable for fishery, wildlife, recreation, and historical/cultural values of regional significance. The stream system contains high-value fish habitat for coho salmon. The two major lakes, Salmon Lake and Karta Lake, are important spawning sites for sockeye salmon. The Karta also has runs of pinks and chum as well as resident populations of Dolly Varden char and cutthroat and large runs of steelhead in the fall and spring. The Karta River system is one of the most productive on Prince of Wales Island. The drainage has been identified by ADF&amp;G as one of the 19 "high-quality" watersheds in the 1979 Forest Plan and the area was given a rating of "1" for sportfish values in the ADF&amp;G Sportfish Habitat Integrity Program. Black bear are abundant, as are deer, wolves, mink, marten, and river otters.</p> <p>Four public recreation cabins are located in the area. Trails lead from Karta Bay to the Salmon Lake Cabin, and from Karta Bay to the Karta Lake Cabin. The four Karta cabins are the most heavily used on the Thorne Bay Ranger District. The area is rich in cultural/historical values. There are petroglyphs along the creek and a smokehouse was located nearby.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Karta River-Salmon Lake system meets the criteria for the Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>In Alternatives A and B, all 24 miles of the system are recommended as a Wild River.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Karta River-Salmon Lake is the only river in the Karta Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Southern Islands Geographic Province.</p>

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would likely not affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as a Wild River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable recreation values. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on the outstandingly remarkable historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

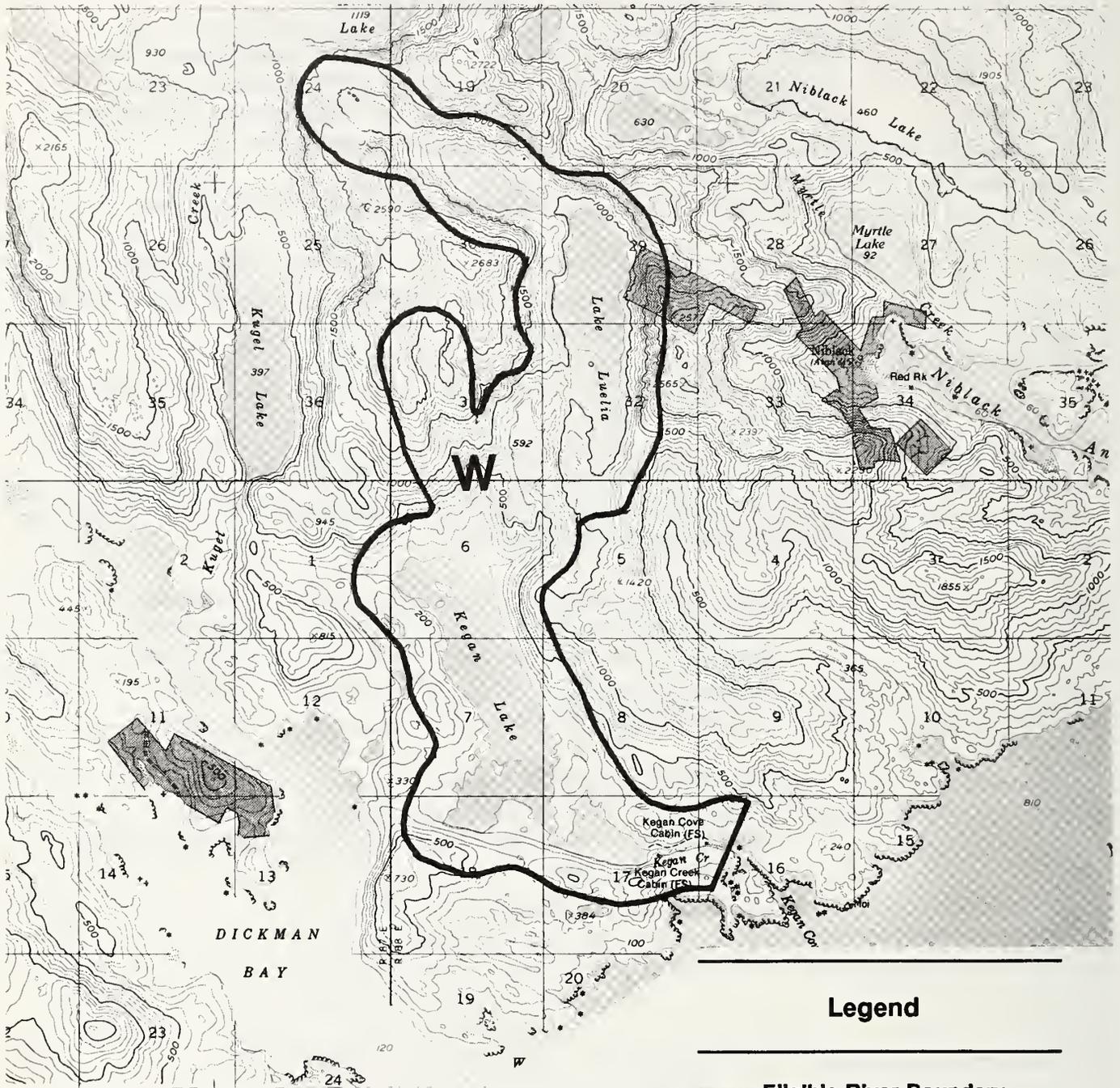
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Kegan Lake and Streams



SCALE 1:63 360



## Legend

**—** Eligible River Boundary

**▨** Non National Forest Land

**W** 'Wild' Classification

## KEGAN LAKE and STREAMS

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Craig Ranger District, Prince of Wales Island, the Kegan System flows into Moira Sound about 45 miles southeast of Craig. Kegan is within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province in VCU 684. The system includes two major lakes, several small lakes, and streams. The Kegan Lake and Streams system originates in a small lake at about 1,000 feet in elevation. The water course then travels nine miles as it falls through four additional lakes before emptying into saltwater at Kegan Cove in Moira Sound. The area is extremely popular for sport fishing and gets significant use by visitors from across the nation. The system is also an important subsistence fishery. During 1990, seven subsistence permits were issued by the state for sockeye salmon. The Forest Service maintains two recreation cabins in the area, one on saltwater and the other adjacent to Kegan Lake. During 1990, the cabins received over 1,000 visitor days of use. A Forest Service trail provides visitor access from Kegan Cove to Kegan Lake. In addition, the Forest Service maintains a mooring buoy to accommodate boat access to the area. The river system is very popular for hunting and includes high value habitat for black bear and deer. Migratory waterfowl are also found here in large numbers. The river corridor contains approximately 5,300 acres, 25 of which are private land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Kegan Lake and Streams combine to form a free-flowing river system. Kegan is outstandingly remarkable for its nationally significant fisheries, recreation, and scenic values. The system has been featured in fishing magazines as a destination area for recreational sportfishing, due to the large quantities and diversity of fish available. Kegan Lake and Streams are known as a world class recreational fishery for coho, steelhead, and rainbow trout. Cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden char, and pink salmon are also present. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&amp;G) lists this system among the 65 "most important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class 1 stream system, recommended to be preserved permanently for fish and wildlife, in ADF&amp;G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The corridor contains four miles of anadromous fish stream. The two Forest Service public recreation cabins, Kegan Cove and Kegan Lake, are so popular that they are reserved through a special drawing. The Kegan system is nationally known, and people call from all across the nation to inquire about the cabins and recreation opportunities. The Kegan system is scenic; there is a cascading waterfall adjacent to the saltwater cabin, and both cabins are located in an old-growth forest setting.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The entire system meets the criteria for Wild River classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for all nine miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Kegan Lake and Streams support all salmon species except king salmon. The system is considered significant because it is one of only a few outstanding sockeye and coho producers in southern Southeast Alaska. Due to the outstanding fishing, the area receives extensive recreational use and national recognition. The Forest Service has received one request in 1991 for an outfitter and guide special use permit to utilize the Kegan system. The request is for approximately 40 service days associated with freshwater fishing.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are several encumbrances associated with Kegan Lakes and Streams. At the mouth of Kegan Creek, there is a 160 acre withdrawal for a Native Allotment application. On the east side of Lake Kuella, there is a patented mining claim which includes approximately 25 acres within the river corridor.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of Kegan Lakes and Streams as a Wild River would likely foreclose opportunities for future Forest Service transportation systems in the area, and eliminate roaded access to approximately 25 million board feet of timber. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would likely have no affect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The Kegan Lakes and Streams area has been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high potential for minerals development. The USGS map shows it as a Class II tract of estimated mineral potential. This means it could have an undiscovered mineral potential with a Gross In Place Value of \$40,000 - \$400,000 per acre (not including any development costs). There are mining claims on the east side of Lake Luelia and access to them would be permitted under Wild River designation. Although one mining claim is located at an upper elevation away from the lake, road construction and other mining activities could adversely affect the area's primitive character. Access to the mining claim within the river corridor would likely be from Niblack Anchorage.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 1,700 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the river corridor from consideration for timber harvest in alternative D. In alternatives A, B, and P the corridor is considered unsuitable for timber harvest because of primitive and old growth habitat designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing high quality habitat conditions for fish and wildlife. There are no fisheries enhancement projects currently planned for the system.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* The current primitive recreation opportunities, scenic qualities, and subsistence values would be maintained by designation. It is anticipated that designation would not significantly increase visitation beyond current levels since the Kegan system is already widely known. Thus, competition for subsistence resources would not likely be increased by designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities proposed for the Kegan Lake area during the next 10 years. However, when long-term management is considered, some timber harvest may occur. In Alternatives C, D and P, management of the drainage would emphasize timber production. Harvest in the corridor would adversely affect the area's primitive character. Alternative P and D would also emphasize management of minerals production in the drainage.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

In the written public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS, the Forest Service received specific requests to preserve the prime recreation area of the Kegan Lakes and Streams system.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

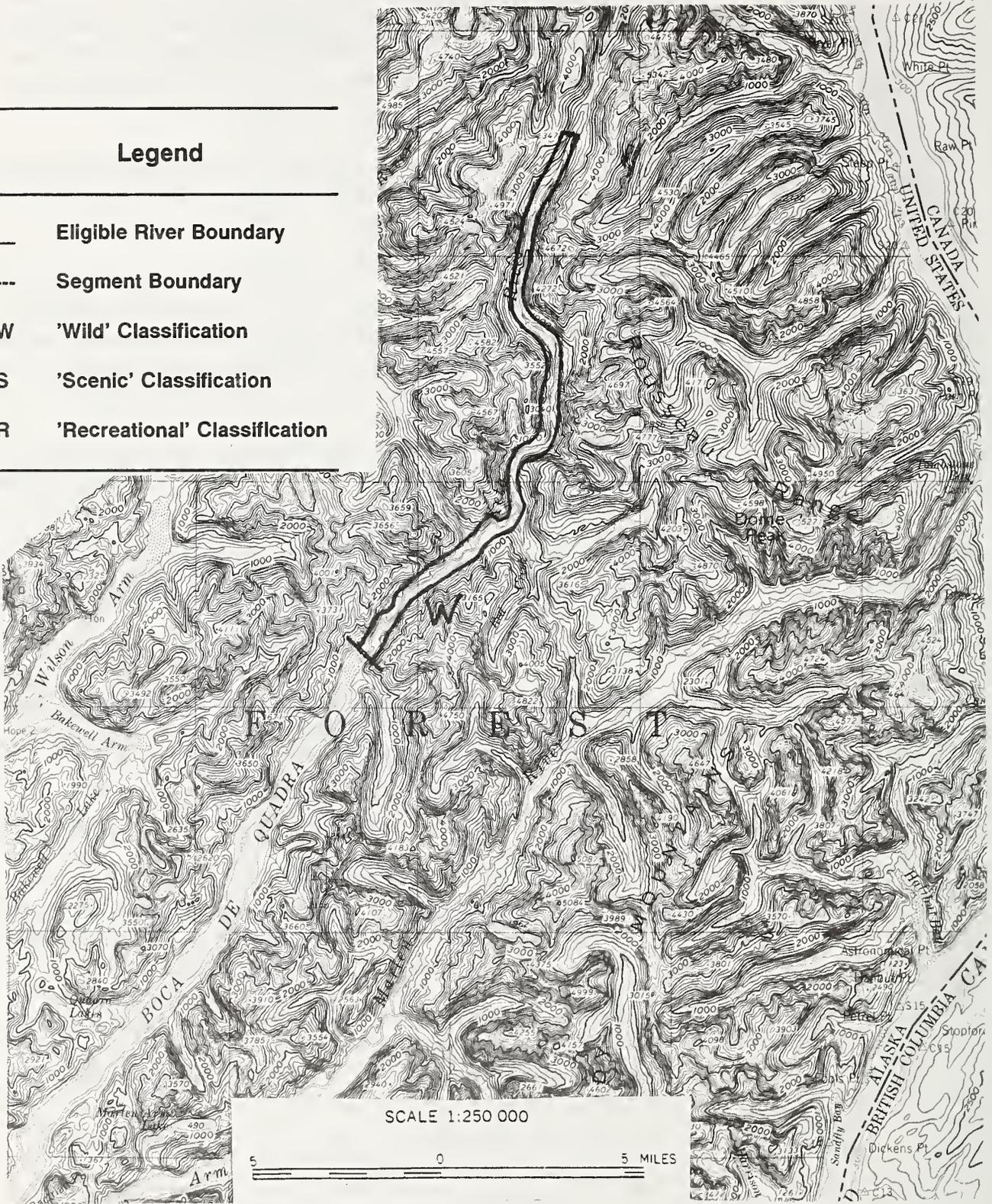
There would be no acquisition of private lands. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 35,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 15,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 80,000

# Keta River

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



## KETA RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>The Keta River is located within Misty Fiords National Monument on the mainland in VCU's 841 and 842, and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. The upper four miles of the stream are within the Wilderness portion of the Monument; the remainder of the stream is within the non-Wilderness portion of the Monument. The total river corridor contains about 5,200 acres. The river originates at about the 2800 foot level, flows in a southwesterly direction and enters saltwater in the northern end of Boca de Quadra, about 47 air miles from Ketchikan. The river is known for its highly productive fishery.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Keta is outstandingly remarkable for fishery values of regional significance. The stream is highly productive for king salmon.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>Sixteen miles of the river meet the criteria for the "Wild" classification, including that portion of the river that is within the non-Wilderness part of the National Monument. There are no roads or other development along this stream.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>All 16 miles of the Keta are recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Keta River is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are generally prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. The draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Quartz Hill Mine did not identify any transportation needs in this area. Therefore, designation would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p> <p><i>Water:</i> The corridor has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. The Quartz Hill Mine Envi-</p>

ronmental Impact Statement did propose a small dam on one of the tributaries of the Keta River in one of the alternatives, as a water supply for the mine. However, its location was several miles from Keta River corridor, and thus is not likely to have any effect on the river. Water resource projects within the corridor could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act, ANILCA, and proposed land use designations. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The area is a potential powerline intertie to Canada. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

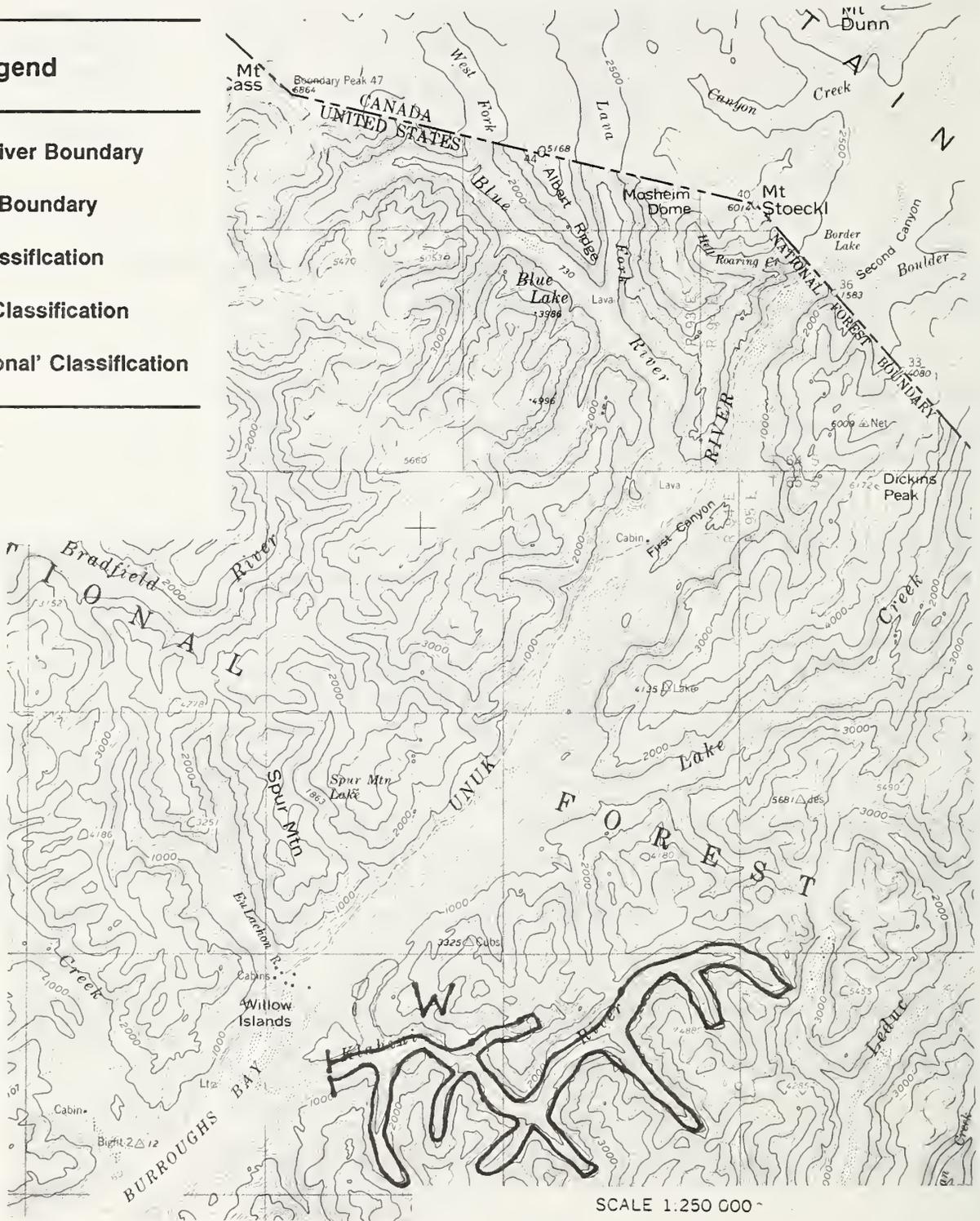
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Klahini River

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- 'Wild' Classification
- 'Scenic' Classification
- 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:250 000



## KLAHINI RIVER

<b>Description</b>	The Klahini River is located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness on the mainland in VCU 790, and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. The river originates at about 3000 feet in elevation and flows 27 miles into saltwater at Burroughs Bay, near the mouth of the Unuk River, about 55 air miles from Ketchikan. The river corridor contains about 10,300 acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The Klahini is outstandingly remarkable for its wildlife and scenic values of regional significance. These values are very similar to those of the Unuk River. Brown bears are abundant, and the area is very scenic.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire river meets the criteria for the Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	The entire 27 miles of the Klahini River is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Klahini River is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p> <p><i>Water:</i> The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.</p>

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish improvement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

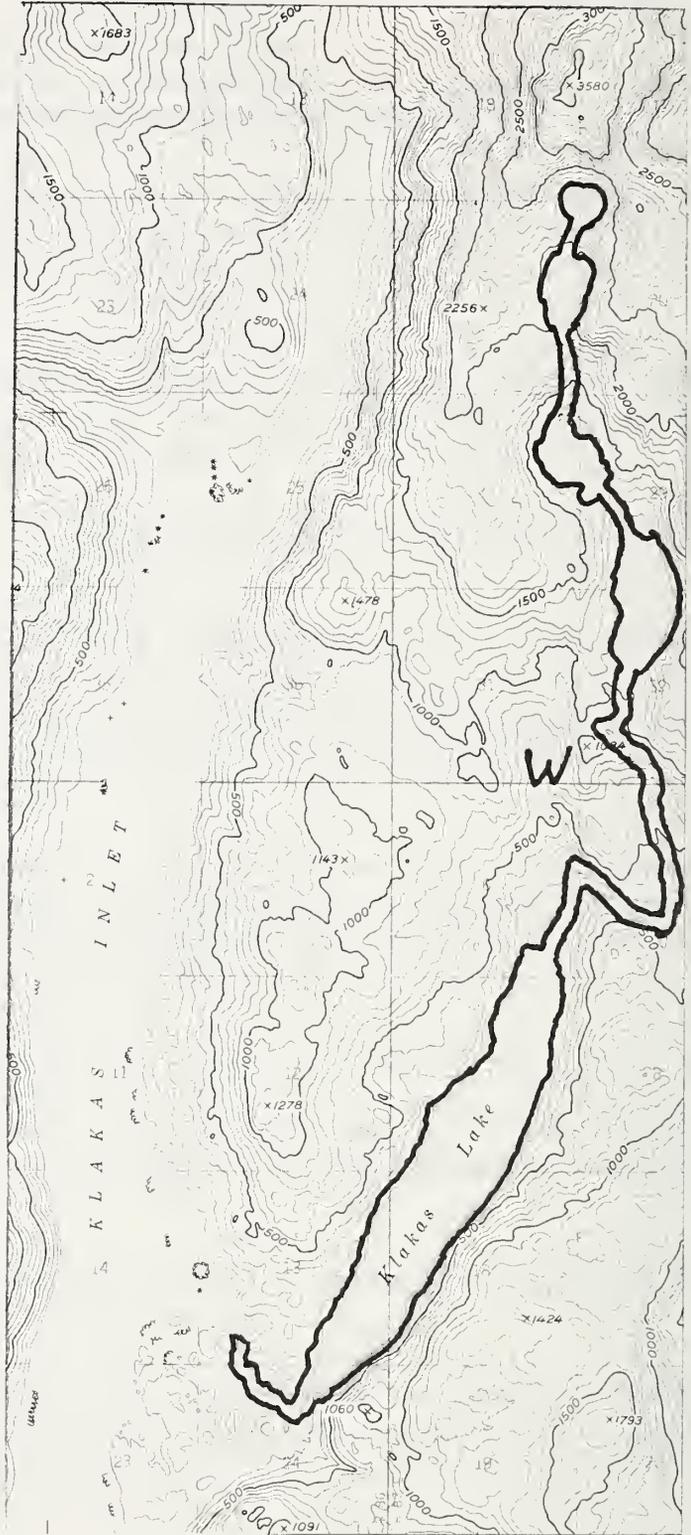
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Klakas Lakes and Streams

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:63360



## KLAKAS LAKES AND STREAMS

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Craig Ranger District VCU 687, Prince of Wales Island, Klakas Lake and streams flow into Klakas Inlet. This area is within the South Prince of Wales Wilderness and is in the Southern Islands Geographic Province. The system originates at about 2500 feet in elevation and consists of a chain of small lakes, Klakas Lake, and 2 streams that flow into Klakas Inlet about 45 air miles southeast of Craig. The river and lake corridors contain about 3,460 acres. Klakas has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area because of the riparian spruce forest.
<b>Eligibility</b>	This system is outstandingly remarkable for its fisheries, wildlife, and scenic values of regional significance. Klakas was identified by ADF&G as one of the 65 "important" watersheds in the 1979 Forest Plan. The system is an important producer of pink, chum, coho, and sockeye salmon in addition to steelhead. Waterfowl and deer are plentiful and the area is very scenic.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire system meets the criteria for the Wild classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	In Alternatives A, B, and D, the entire system (8 miles) is recommended as a Wild River.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Klakas Lakes and Streams is the only river corridor in the South Prince of Wales Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Southern Islands Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p>

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Sustainability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Sustainability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

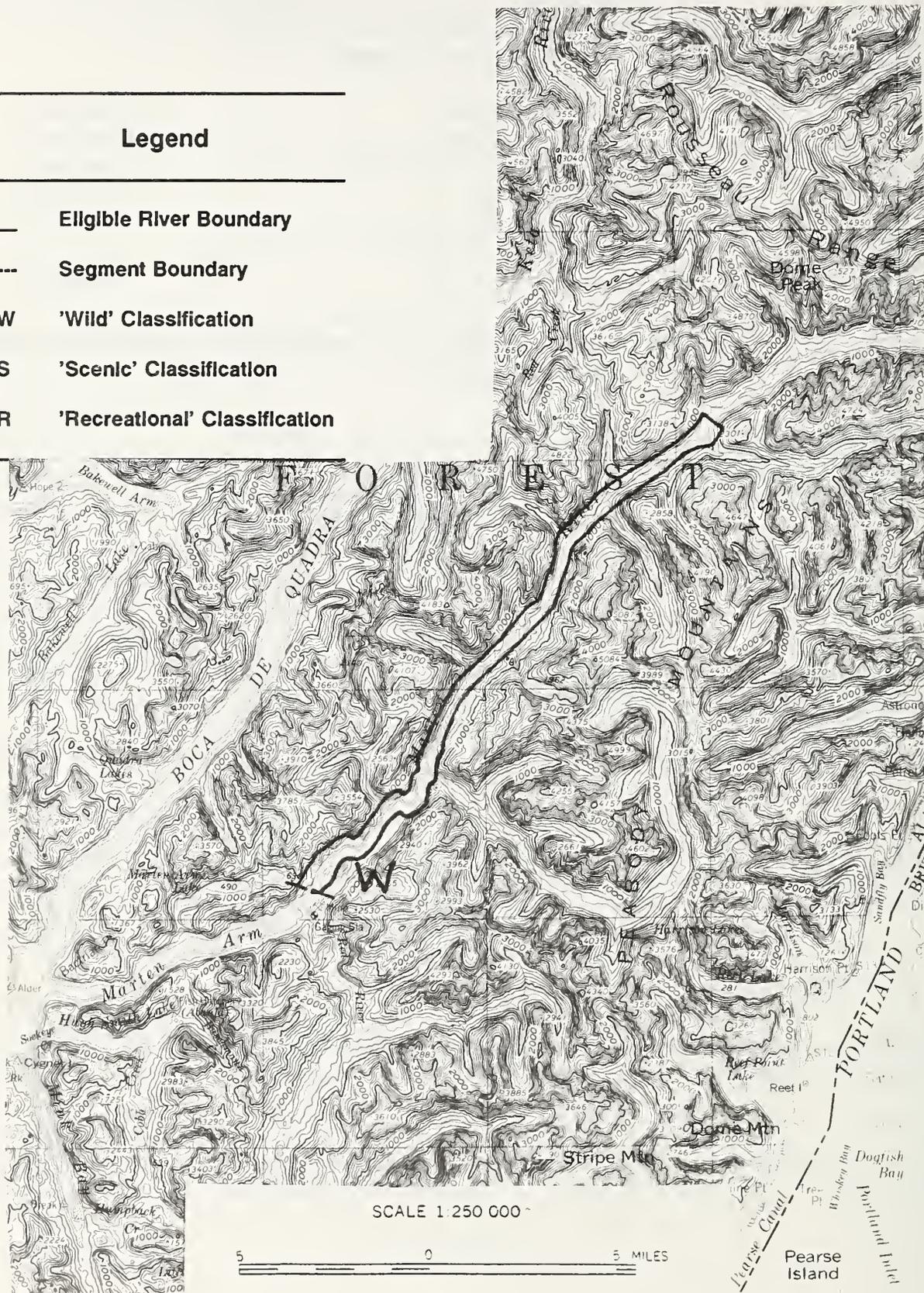
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Marten River

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



## MARTEN RIVER

<b>Description</b>	Located in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness, Marten River is on the mainland in VCU 838, and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. The stream originates at the 4000 foot level near the Canadian border and flows 17 miles before entering saltwater in Marten Arm about 55 miles from Ketchikan. The river corridor contains about 3,140 acres. The area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Marten River is outstandingly remarkable for its fishery and wildlife values of regional significance. The stream is highly productive and is one of the few king salmon streams in southern Southeast; coho, chum, and pink salmon are also present. Brown bears are very common along the lower Marten River.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire river meets the guidelines for classification as a Wild River. There are no structures or other development along the river corridor. The entire river is in a designated Wilderness.
<b>Alternatives</b>	All 17 miles of the Marten River are recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Marten River river is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p>

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

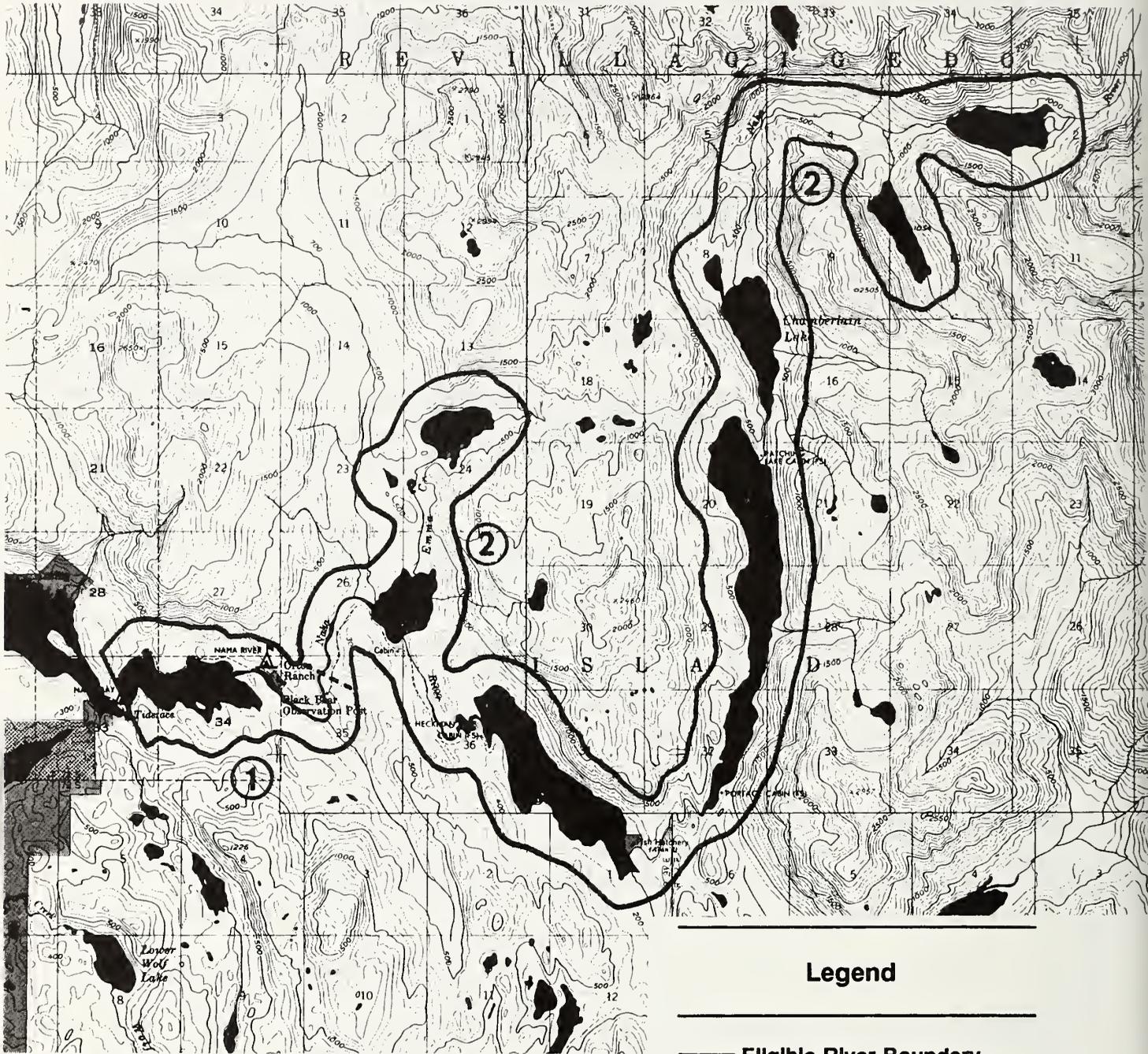
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Naha River



## Legend

— Eligible River Boundary

- - - Segment Boundary

○ Segment Number

▨ Non National Forest Land

SCALE



## NAHA RIVER

### Description

Located on the Ketchikan Ranger District in VCU 742, the Naha River is on Revillagigedo Island, in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. The Naha originates in Orton and Snow Lakes at about the 950 foot elevation and flows 14 miles through Chamberlain, Patching, Heckman, and Jordan Lakes before reaching saltwater at Roosevelt Lagoon by Naha Bay. The entire drainage is roadless and is covered with old-growth spruce and hemlock forest. The area is well known for its excellent sport fisheries and recreation opportunities and receives heavy use from both local residents and visitors. The Forest Service provides and maintains five recreation cabins and two picnic areas with shelters in the Naha drainage. During 1990, four of the cabins received over 2,000 visitor days use. One cabin is scheduled to be removed due to disrepair and low use. The Forest Service also maintains six miles of hiking trail, which begins at saltwater in Naha Bay and terminates at Heckman Lake. In 1990, a new trail bridge was installed over the Naha between Roosevelt Lagoon and Jordan Lake. The Naha system is located approximately 20 miles from Ketchikan, and may be accessed by either floatplane or boat. During 1990, the Forest Service installed a new dock facility in Naha Bay to enhance access to the area for recreational use. The river corridor contains approximately 8,200 acres, 14 of which are private land. The entire river corridor is located within a Legislated LUD II area.

### Eligibility

The Naha River is a free-flowing river system. The Naha is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fishery, wildlife, recreation, and historical/cultural values. The Naha system provides an excellent trout and coho sport fishery and is a major producer of all commercial species of salmon except kings. The area is especially well known for its spring and fall steelhead fishing, with an annual run of approximately 500 adult fish. Grayling are found in the lakes of the upper Naha. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) lists this system among the 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It also is rated as a Class 1 stream system, recommended to be preserved permanently for fish and wildlife, in ADF&G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The river system has approximately six miles of anadromous fish stream. The Naha has a high population of black bear and, at one time, had a bear observatory along the lower Naha. Other wildlife species include Sitka black-tailed deer, marten, eagles, beaver, and otter. The Naha system also serves as a nesting ground and wintering area for the trumpeter swan, considered a sensitive species. The Naha River recreation opportunities are many-faceted and include sportfishing, hiking on a National Recreation Trail, canoeing, boating, photography, wildlife viewing, and hunting. Historically the Naha is significant for its place in the early fishing industry of Southeast Alaska. One of the first hatcheries in the region was established on Heckman Lake. Prehistoric evidence indicates that the Naha River has been utilized by humans for hundreds, and perhaps thousands of years. Several prehistoric use sites are located along the river and there is evidence of prehistoric fortification.

**Classification**

The Naha system is divided into two segments. Segment 1, which includes Roosevelt Lagoon, is two miles long and meets the criteria for Scenic River classification. Segment 2, which extends from Roosevelt Lagoon to Emma Lake and Orton Lake, is 17 miles long and meets the criteria for Wild River classification.

The Forest Plan DEIS did not include the lower two miles (Segment 1) of the Naha River, which encompasses Roosevelt Lagoon. Being an intertidal area, it was previously not considered eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

**Alternatives**

Alternatives A, B, and P: Scenic River designation for all two miles of Segment 1 and Wild River designation for all 17 miles of Segment 2.

Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers system

Alternative D: Wild River designation for all 17 miles of segment 2.

**Suitability**

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Due to the river's close proximity to Ketchikan, its fisheries and wildlife values, diverse recreation values, and historical/cultural values, the river is considered to have regional significance. The Forest Service has received requests in 1991 for 6 commercial outfitter and guide special use permits for hunting, fishing, picnicking, and photography activities within the corridor. The river system, being a series of lakes connected by river segments, is somewhat similar to the Gockachin system, also located in the Interior Islands Geographic Province. However, the Naha River is the only system within this geographic province which contains an intertidal lagoon, a feature relatively common in Southeast Alaska but not well represented in the National System.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are two parcels of private land within the river corridor. Orton Ranch, an approximately five-acre tract owned by the First Baptist Church, is located on the east side of Roosevelt Lagoon. The ranch is used primarily as a summer camp for church groups. The Forest Service has issued permits to the church for a boat dock and water line. A nine-acre tract of private land, which once served as a fish hatchery site, is located at the east end of Heckman Lake. Should this land ever be developed, it would likely be used for a recreation residence or a small commercial resort. A large portion of the river corridor, from Naha Bay to the upper end of Heckman Lake, has been withdrawn for recreational uses by the Forest Service. The withdrawal prohibits minerals entry and power development. The State owns

the intertidal lands in Roosevelt Lagoon and is responsible for permitting use on such lands. There are currently no plans for state authorization of land use which would conflict with a Scenic River designation. The State has issued a lease to First Baptist Church for a dock.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Scenic River would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities as the land within the river corridor is within a legislated LUD II which permits transportation systems. Designation as a Wild River would preclude any transportation corridor consideration, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The lower portion of the Naha system, from Naha Bay to the upper end of Heckman Lake, has been withdrawn from water and power development. The portion of the system outside the withdrawal has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as Wild River would withdraw this portion of the corridor from development.

*Minerals:* Designation would likely have no significant effect on the availability of mineral resources since the U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for mineral extraction. The lower portion of the Naha River system, from Naha Bay to the upper end of Heckman Lake, has been withdrawn from mineral entry. Designation of Segment 2 as a Wild River would withdraw the remainder of the corridor from mineral development.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the timber resource as timber harvest is prohibited on Legislated LUD II forest land.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would have little effect on these resources due to the existing LUD II allocation. Costs of fish habitat enhancements in the future may be affected due to the restricted access and design requirements.

*Recreation and Subsistence:* The current primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities would be maintained by designation of the Naha as a Wild and Scenic River. Attention resulting from designation may increase public use of the river, particularly in the lower portions accessible by trail. Competition for cabin use would likely increase. The Naha system has not been identified as a subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use would be anticipated from designation.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use, which could result from designation, may have adverse effects on the outstandingly remarkable historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* The outstandingly remarkable resource values would not be adversely affected. These values are protected by the Legislated LUD II allocation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to the Naha River have been received. In 1980, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game requested that the Naha system be withdrawn for a park to protect the valuable fish, wildlife, and recreation values.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There is no planned acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

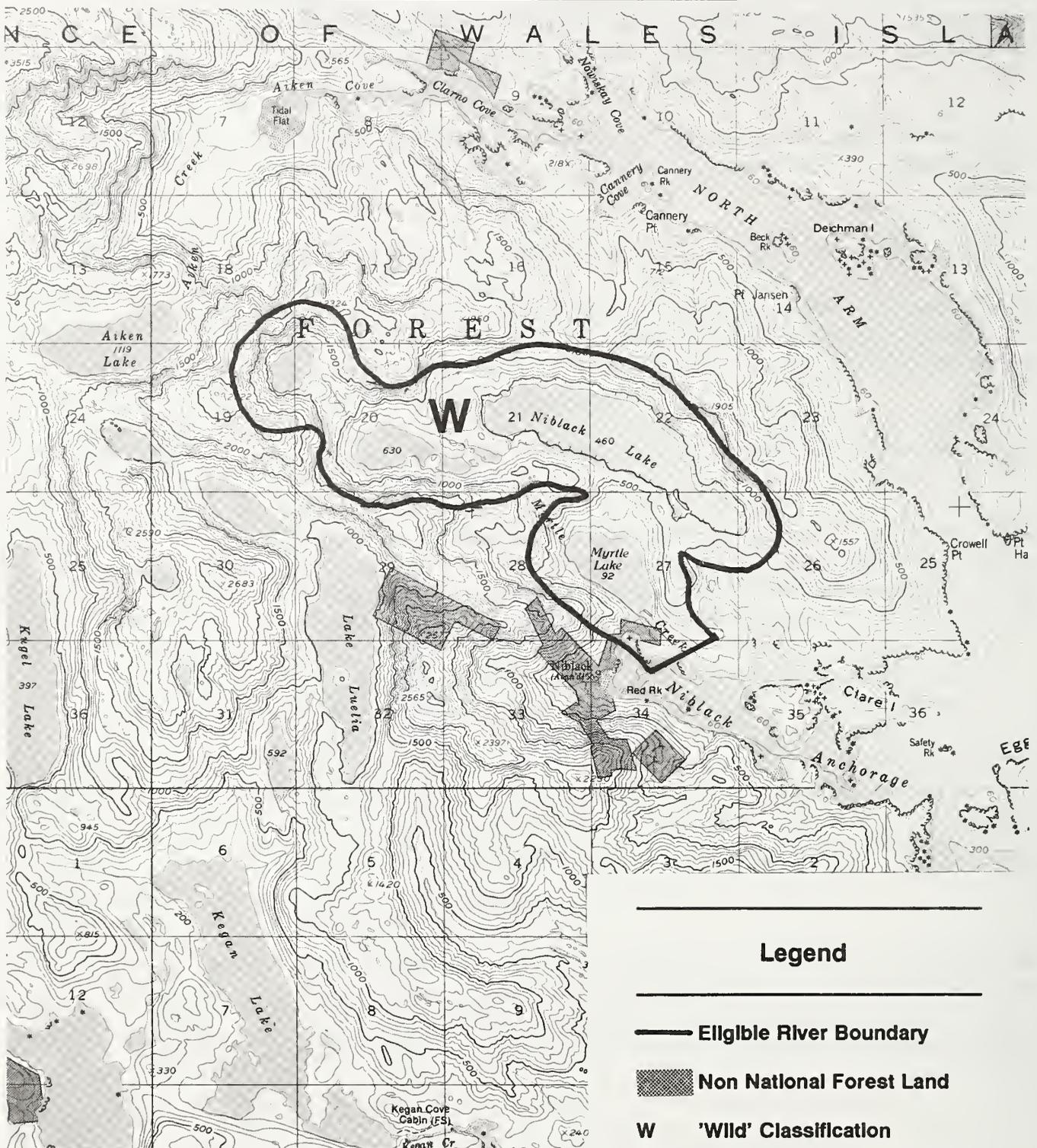
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 75,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 73,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 20,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$253,000

**6. Other Issues and concerns**

The lower two miles of the Naha River system were not considered eligible for Wild River designation due to the development at Orton Ranch and the recreational use associated with it. If designated as a Scenic River, the LUD II allocation would prohibit timber harvest, road construction, and concentrated recreation facilities.

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# Niblack Lakes and Streams



## Legend

 Eligible River Boundary

 Non National Forest Land

**W** 'Wild' Classification

SCALE 1:63 360



## NIBLACK LAKES and STREAMS

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Craig Ranger District in VCU 683, the Niblack system is on Prince of Wales Island within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. Originating at a lake with an elevation of approximately 1400 feet, the water course flows five miles as it meanders through three major lakes and several smaller lakes and several streams before it enters Moira Sound at Niblack Anchorage. The Niblack Lakes and Streams system is well known for its excellent fisheries values. Both pink and coho salmon can be found in the anadromous streams. In addition, both Myrtle and Niblack Lakes contain Dolly Varden char. Current public use of the Niblack system for fishing and recreation is low. The Niblack area has high mineral potential for precious metals and strategic minerals. Numerous active mining claims have been located in the area, and there is currently active mineral exploration taking place. The river corridor contains approximately 2,600 acres, of which about 20 acres are private land.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Niblack Lakes and Streams combine to form a free-flowing river system. The Niblack system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fisheries values. It is an important producer of pink, chum, and coho salmon. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&amp;G) lists this system among the 65 "most important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class 1 stream system, recommended to be preserved permanently for fish and wildlife, in ADF&amp;G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The system has less than one mile of anadromous fish stream.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The entire system meets the criteria for Wild River classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Wild River designation for all five miles.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>The Niblack Lakes and Streams system is considered significant due to the valuable fishery. The system is one of 16 tentatively eligible rivers which represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. It is similar to Sarkar Lakes, Essawah Lakes, and Kegan Lakes as a combination lakes and streams system and would not be considered unique.</p> <p><b>Suitability Factor # 2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p>

There are several encumbrances associated with the Niblack Lakes and Streams system. Within the corridor between Myrtle Lake and Niblack Anchorage there are approximately 20 acres of patented mining claim and one acre of unpatented mining claim. In addition, there are five patented and 245 unpatented mining claims in the Niblack Anchorage area.

**Suitability Factor # 3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect present or planned future transportation system opportunities. The area has not been identified as a suitable transportation link by the State or the Forest Service. However access to existing mining claims, including road development, would be permitted under a Wild River designation as provided by ANILCA.

*Water:* The river system has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would likely have no effect on the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The Niblack Lakes area has been identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high potential for minerals development. Within and immediately adjacent to the corridor there are several patented and unpatented mining claims. Any exploration and development activities would be subject to the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture to minimize surface disturbance, sedimentation, and visual degradation. However, minerals development would have an adverse effect on the primitive character of the area. Designation as a Wild River would withdraw the corridor from further mineral entry, subject to valid existing rights.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 700 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the river corridor from consideration for timber harvest in alternatives B, D, and P. The corridor is unsuitable for timber harvest in Alternative A because of an old growth habitat designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing high quality habitat conditions for fish and wildlife. There are no fisheries enhancement projects currently planned for the system.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Current primitive recreation opportunities and scenic quality would be maintained by designation. The Niblack system has not been identified as a subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned for the Niblack Lakes area during the next 10 years. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur. The outstandingly remarkable fisheries values of the Niblack Lakes and Streams system would not be adversely affected. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. Some reduction in the primitive character of the corridor would likely occur from potential timber harvest and road construction in Forest Plan Revision Alternatives B, C, D and P. Alternatives D and P would also emphasize minerals production within the drainage.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

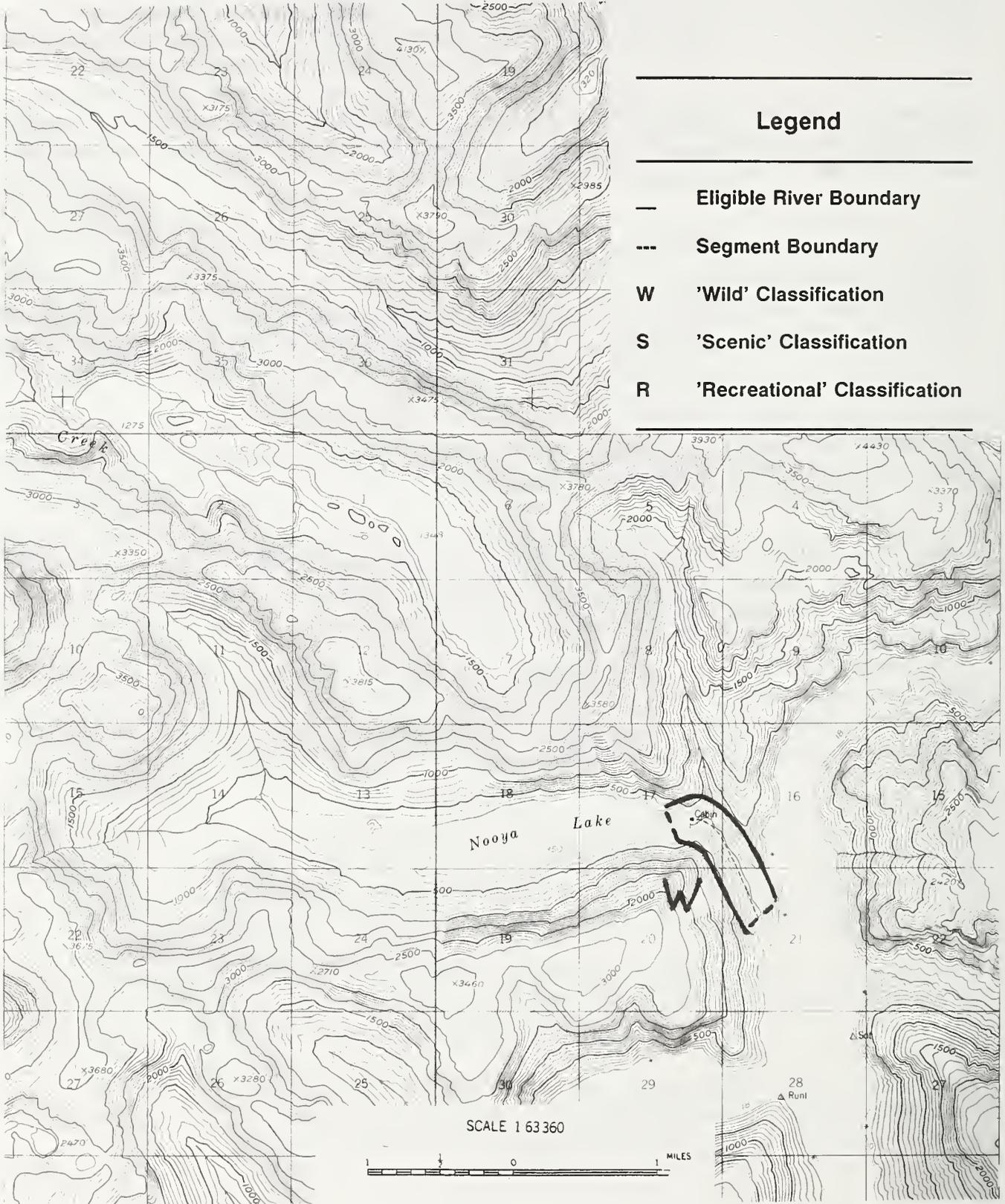
Specific comments related to management of the Niblack Lakes area were received on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS. Prime consideration for the protection of water quality and fisheries was requested. However, no comments specifically referring to the eligibility or suitability of the river system as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System were received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,500 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$37,500

# Nooya Creek



## NOOYA CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Nooya Creek is located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness on the mainland in VCU 801 and is in the Coast Range Geographic Province. The stream flows out of Nooya Lake and enters saltwater in the east side of Rudyerd Bay, about 42 air miles from Ketchikan. The corridor contains about 340 acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Nooya Creek is outstandingly remarkable for its fisheries, wildlife, recreation, and scenic values of regional significance. The stream is well-known for its run of pink salmon and as a good place to view brown bear. Black bear are also present. A trail, .8 mile in length, leads from Rudyerd Bay to Nooya Lake. A three-sided shelter is at the lake outlet. The area is very scenic; the stream drops 200 feet over a spectacular cascade.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire stream from the lake to saltwater (1 mile) meets the criteria for the Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Nooya is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Nooya Creek is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p> <p><i>Water:</i> The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the</p>

future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

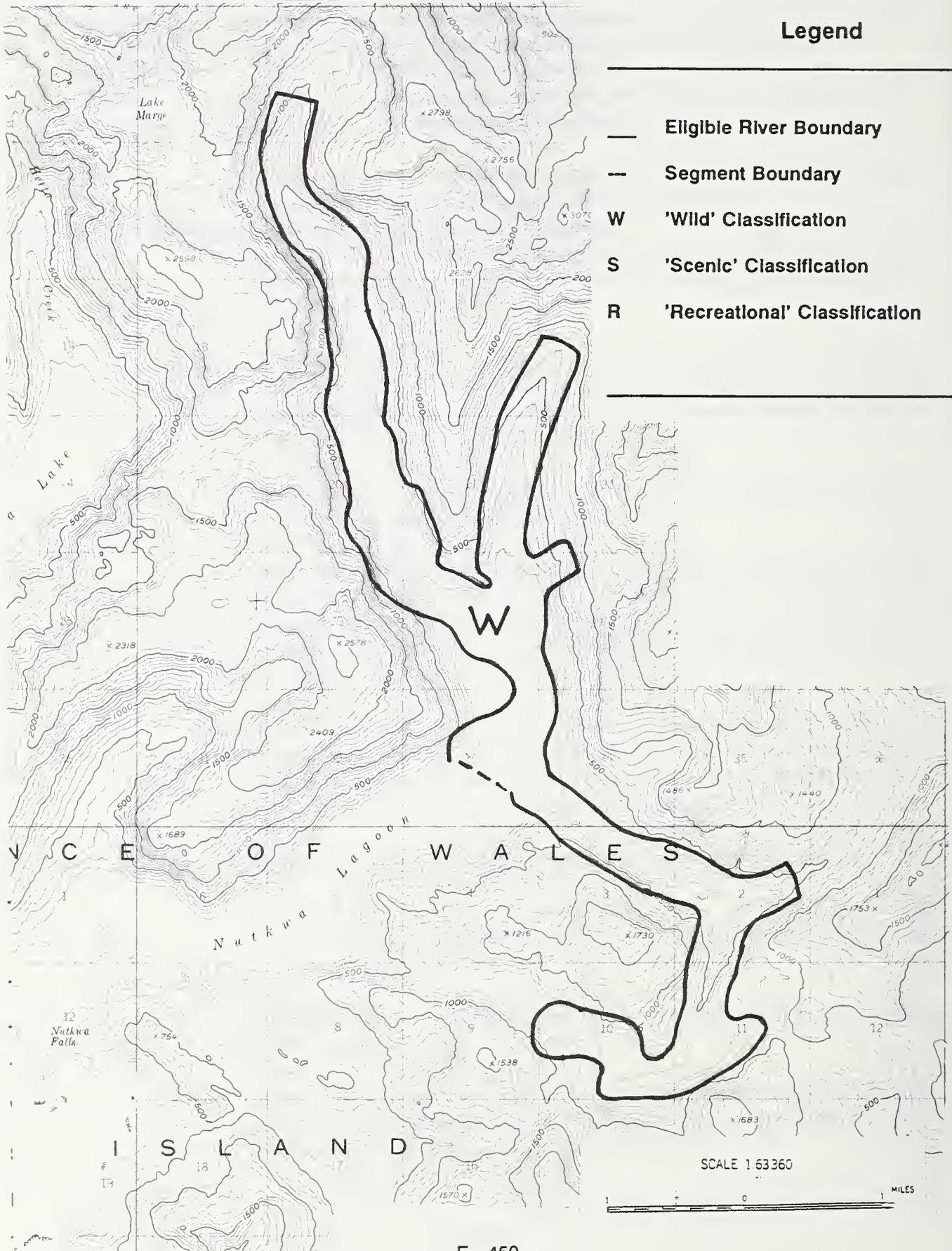
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Nutkwa Streams

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- - - Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification



## NUTKWA STREAMS

<b>Description</b>	Located on the Craig Ranger District VCU 686, the Nutkwa area is on Prince of Wales Island in the Southern Islands Geographic Province. It is within the Nutkwa LUD II area designated by Congress in the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act and is adjacent to the South Prince of Wales Wilderness, about 15 miles from Hydaburg. This twelve-mile system contains about 4,600 acres within the corridor. The area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area because of the outstanding riparian spruce and excellent stream fisheries. The area is mineralized; copper and gold occurrences are known and a formerly producing mine is within the area.
<b>Eligibility</b>	This system is outstandingly remarkable for its fisheries, wildlife, recreation, and scenic values of regional significance. The area is an important producer of coho and sockeye and is reportedly one of five \$1 million fisheries in Southeast Alaska. Significant subsistence use of sockeye occurs. The primary recreation activities are fishing and hunting. Black bears are abundant and the area is very scenic.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire system meets the criteria for the Wild classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	In Alternatives A and B, the entire system (12 miles) is recommended as a Wild River.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Nutkwa Streams area was legislated as the Nutkwa LUD II area by the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. It would add to the representation of the Southern Island Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities as the land within the river corridor is to be managed in a roadless state to maintain its wildland character.</p>

Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* Designation as a Wild River would withdraw it from future mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the timber resource as commercial timber harvest is not permitted on Legislated LUD II forest land.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have little effect on these resources due to the existing LUD II allocation. Costs of fish habitat enhancements in the future may be affected due to the restricted access and design requirements.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would likely result in increased public use, due to the attention drawn from designation. Increased recreational harvest has the potential of adverse impact to subsistence use.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values, and primitive and free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the LUD II allocation. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

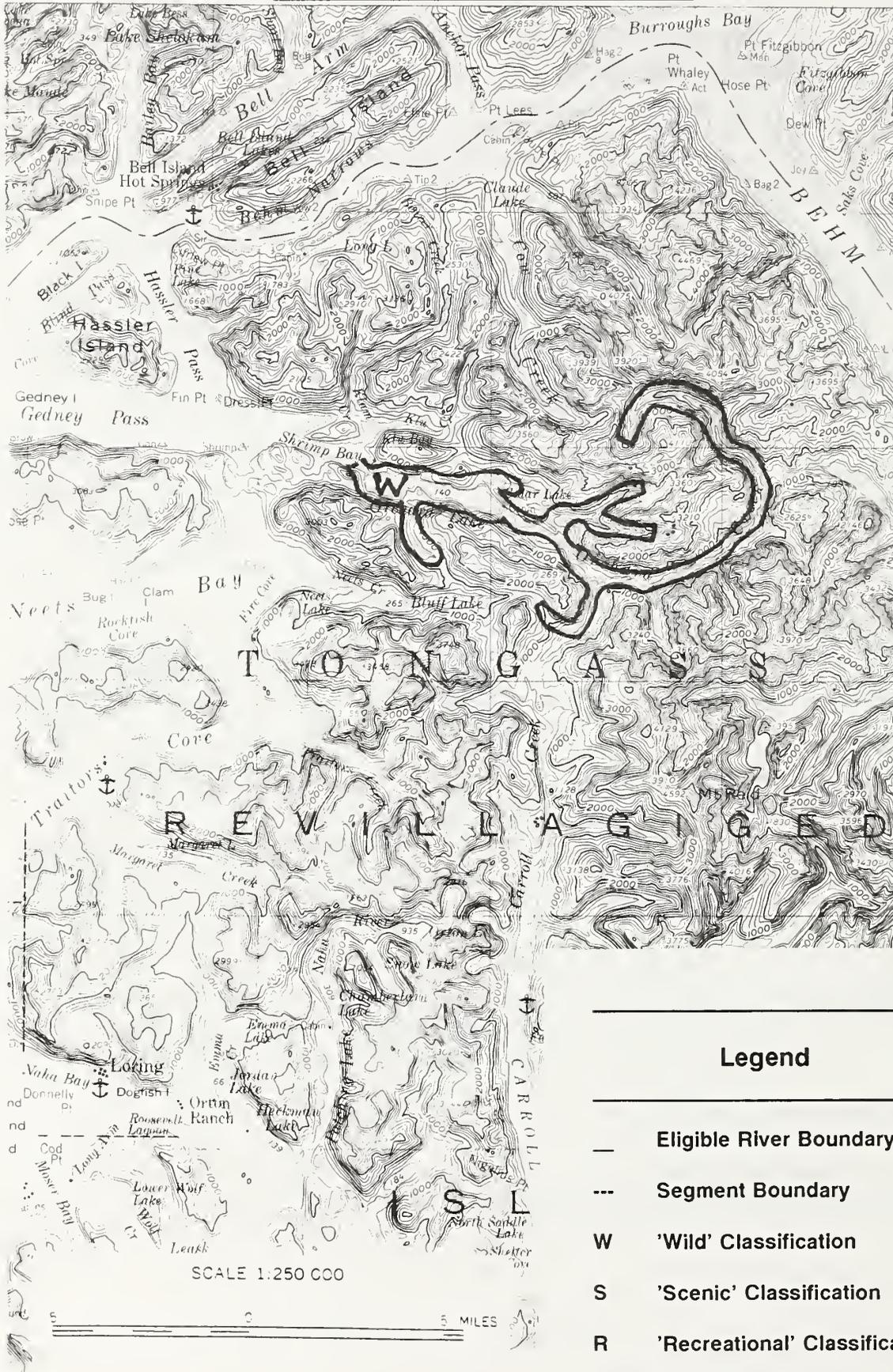
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000

# Orchard Lake and Creek



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## ORCHARD CREEK AND LAKE

### Description

Located on the Ketchikan Ranger District in VCU's 733 and 734, Orchard Creek and Lake are on Revillagigedo Island and are within the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. Orchard Creek originates at about 2000 feet in elevation. It then meanders 26 miles, passing through Orchard Lake before it empties into saltwater. There is a beautiful double waterfall where the creek drops into Shrimp Bay. The waterfall is a barrier that prevents anadromous fish from using Orchard Creek for spawning habitat. The area is well-known for its fishing and recreation opportunities. The Forest Service maintains two recreation cabins on Orchard Lake, and a .8 mile long trail from Shrimp Bay to the lake. During 1990, the two cabins received 432 visitor days of use. A mooring buoy is also provided and maintained by the Forest Service to enhance public use and access to the Orchard Lake facilities. The Orchard Creek and Lake system is accessible by either boat or floatplane, and is located approximately 35 air miles from Ketchikan. The corridor contains approximately 10,000 acres, all of which are National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Orchard Creek and Lake combine to form a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fishery, wildlife, recreation, scenic, and ecologic values. Cutthroat and Dolly Varden fishing is excellent, with unofficial reports of near-record trout caught at stream inlets. Kokanee salmon are also present. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) lists this system among the 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class 2 stream system in ADF&G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The area is rich in wildlife with high concentrations of black bear, Sitka black-tailed deer and furbearers. Moose have also been sighted in the river corridor. The Orchard Lake system also serves as a wintering area for trumpeter swans, a sensitive species. The outstanding recreation values are associated with the scenery and the excellent cutthroat trout fishery. A spectacular double waterfall, approximately 125 feet high, is found where Orchard Creek drops into Shrimp Bay. The creek valley is scenic with large spruce in the bottomland along braided channels, with steep hillsides. The river system is ecologically significant as it contains one of the few remaining pristine floodplain spruce forest types left in southern Southeast Alaska. Some of the trees found here are over seven feet in diameter and exceed 200 feet in height.

### Classification

All 26 miles of Orchard Creek and Orchard Lake meet the criteria for the Wild River classification.

### Alternatives

Alternative A: Wild River designation for all 26 miles.

Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1. Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The outstandingly remarkable fishery, wildlife, recreation, and scenic values are not truly significant when compared to other potentially eligible rivers in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. However, the unique spruce forest found along the floodplain is significant.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the river corridor or on nearby adjacent forest lands. The Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association has proposed placing a fish hatchery on a barge in saltwater adjacent to Orchard Creek. If developed, the hatchery would use water from Orchard Creek for operating the facility.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of Orchard Creek and Lake as a Wild River would preclude inter-island road and utility corridors, except as provided for in ANILCA. The State has indicated interest in developing a transportation corridor through this area which would link Ketchikan with the mainland, and access British Columbia. There are no alternative transportation routes through this area, as the river corridor begins adjacent to Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness and terminates at saltwater.

*Water:* The Alaska Power Authority (APA) has a power site withdrawal which includes approximately seven miles of the lower river corridor. However, the site has not been identified by APA or by scoping as having potential for development. Designation as a Wild River may not have an effect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* Designation would likely have no significant effect on the availability of mineral resources since the U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for mineral extraction, no mining claims exist, and there are no estimated undiscovered mineral resources in the drainage. Designation as a Wild River would withdraw the corridor from mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would remove approximately 4,300 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the river corridor from consideration for

timber harvest in alternatives C, D, and P. Timber harvest is unsuitable in alternative A because of the primitive recreation designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are currently no plans for fish enhancement projects in the river corridor. Designation as a Wild River would maintain the existing high quality habitat conditions for fish and wildlife.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* The current primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities and scenic values would be maintained by designation. Recreational use of the river corridor, particularly in the vicinity of Orchard Lake, would likely increase with designation. The Orchard Lake and Creek area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No affect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Effects of non-designation:* Timber harvest is being planned for the Orchard Creek area during the next 10 years. With implementation of Alternatives A and B, the outstandingly remarkable wildlife, recreation, scenic, and ecological values would likely not be affected as the river corridor would be managed under a primitive and semi-primitive recreation land use designation. However, under Alternatives C, D, and P, these resource values would likely be affected from timber harvest and road construction activities within and adjacent to the river corridor. These activities could change existing wildlife habitats, reduce the primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities currently available, cause visually evident changes in the landscape, and alter the existing riparian spruce forest ecology.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

Specific comments related to designation of Orchard Lake and Creek as a Wild River were not received during public review of the Forest Plan Revision DEIS. The Tongass Conservation Society requested that the area be given special consideration to protect the fish, wildlife, recreation, and old growth values.

The State and the City of Ketchikan maintain strong interest in having the Orchard Creek and Lake drainage managed to provide opportunities for future development of transportation and utility corridors through the area.

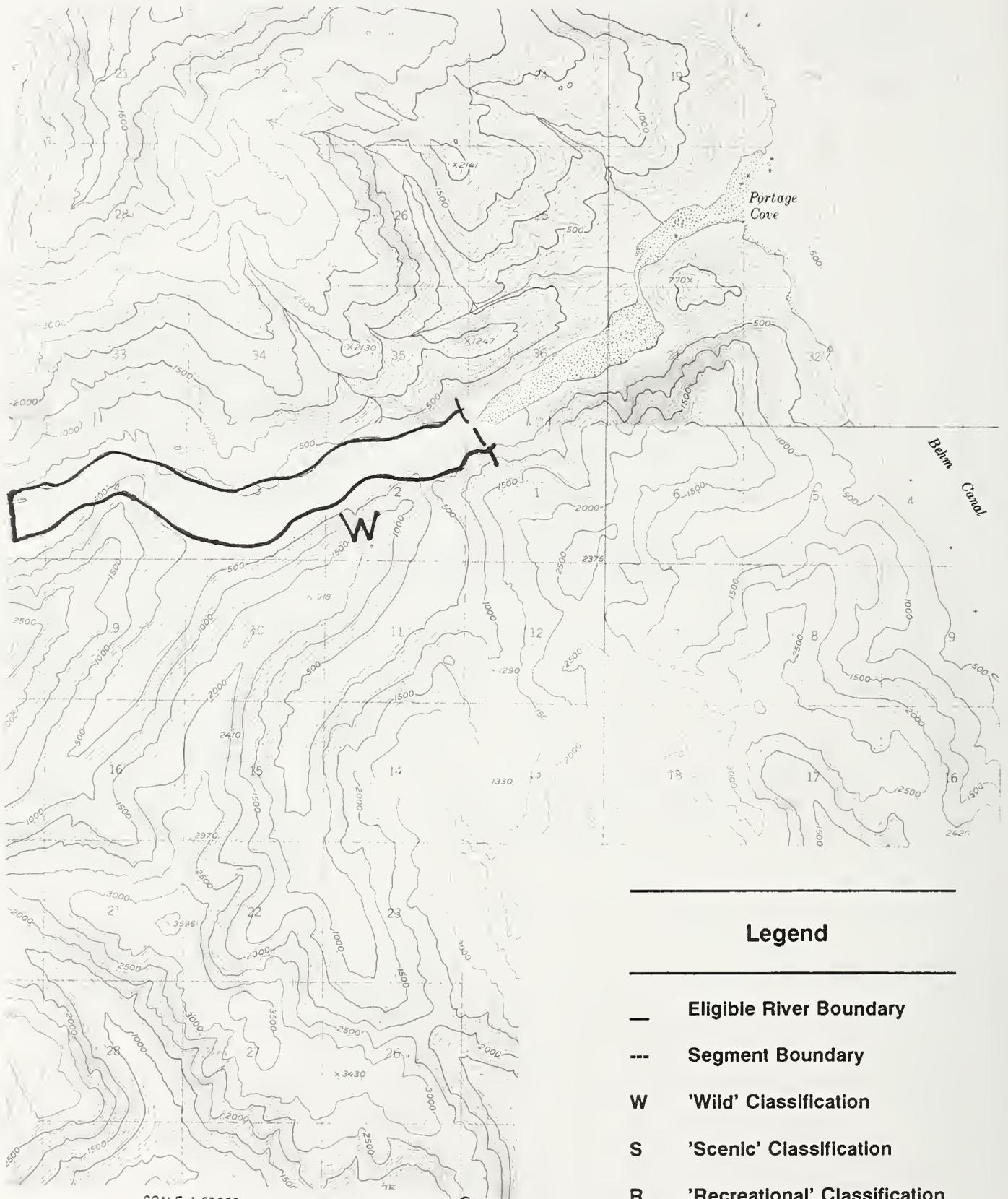
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 8,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 75,000

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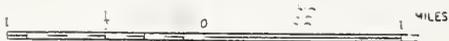
# Portage Creek



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- - - Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63,360



## PORTAGE CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Portage Creek is located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness in VCU 778 on Revillagigedo Island, and is in the Interior Islands Geographic Province. The stream originates near Mt. Reid at about the 3900 foot level and enters saltwater in Portage Cove, Behm Canal, about 35 air miles from Ketchikan. The four mile river corridor contains about 1,160 acres. The river is of historical significance.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Portage Creek is outstandingly remarkable for its historical/cultural values of regional significance. The stream was part of a land and water transportation route from Hyder to Ketchikan. From Hyder, hardy individuals traveled up the Salmon River and Texas Creek, crossed the Chickamin Glacier, boated down the Chickamin River, crossed Behm Canal to Portage Cove, traveled up Portage Creek into the Carroll River country, and either continued overland to Ketchikan or boated to town.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>All four miles of the river meet the criteria for the Wild River classification. There are no roads or other development along this stream.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Portage Creek is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Portage Creek is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Interior Islands Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p>

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on the outstandingly remarkable historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

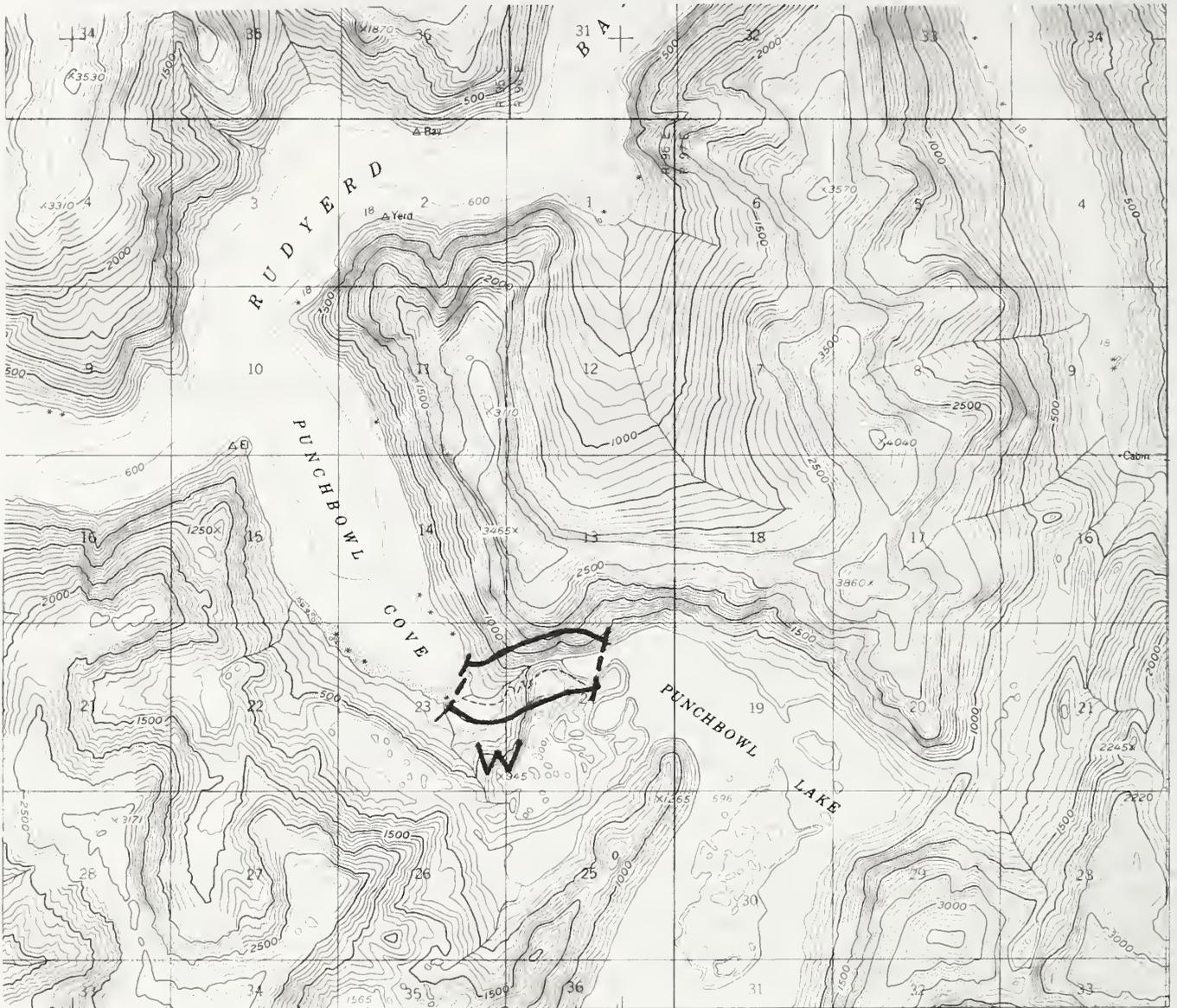
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

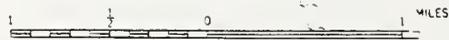
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Punchbowl Creek



SCALE 1:63360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

## PUNCHBOWL CREEK

<b>Description</b>	<p>Punchbowl Creek is located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness on the mainland in VCU 803 and is in the Coast Range Geographic Province. The stream flows out of Punchbowl Lake and drops 75 feet over a falls into saltwater in Punchbowl Cove, about 37 miles from Ketchikan. The one-mile creek contains about 220 acres within the river corridor. Punchbowl Lake and the falls are one of the most photographed places in Misty Fiords National Monument. A trail parallels the stream and provides vantage points for viewing the falls from above. A mooring buoy is anchored at saltwater and a three-sided shelter is located at Punchbowl Lake.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Punchbowl Creek is outstandingly remarkable for its scenic values of regional significance. The stream is the outlet of a classic example of a "hanging lake" carved by glacial action. Tour boats frequent the area and stop near the falls.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The entire stream (1 mile) from the lake to saltwater meets the criteria for the Wild classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Punchbowl Creek is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Punchbowl Creek is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p>

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

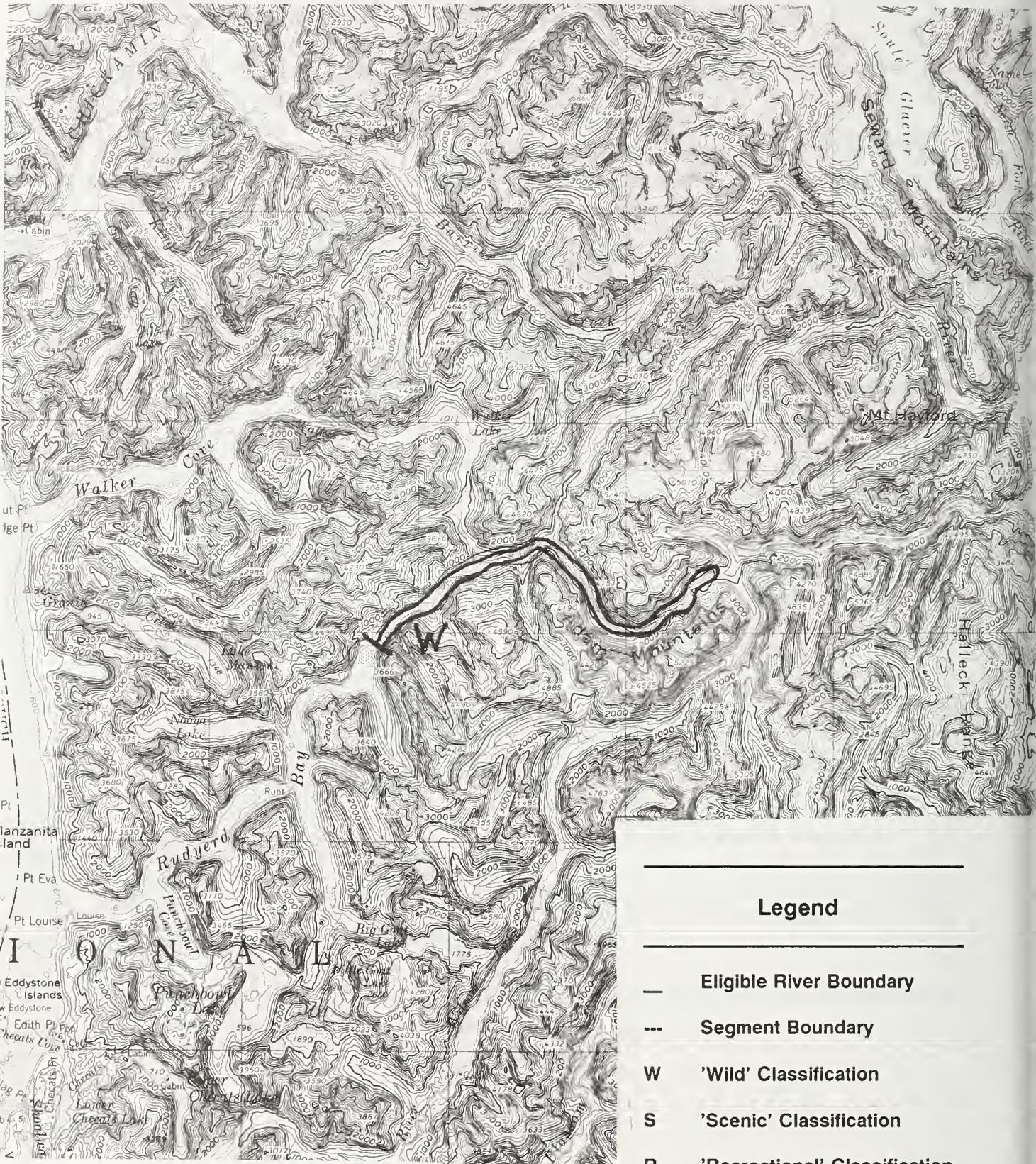
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Rudyard Creek



SCALE 1:250 000

5 0 5 MILES

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

## RUDYERD CREEK

<b>Description</b>	Rudyerd Creek is located within Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness on the mainland in VCU's 798 and 802 and is in the Coast Range Geographic Province. The stream originates at about the 2000 foot elevation and flows into saltwater at the northern end of Rudyerd Bay, about 46 miles from Ketchikan. The twelve miles of creek contain about 4,320 acres within the corridor.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Rudyerd Creek is outstandingly remarkable for wildlife, recreational, and scenic values of national significance. Brown bear and mountain goats are abundant in the area. Visitors walk up the creek to view the goats. The area is spectacularly scenic.
<b>Classification</b>	All 12 miles of the stream meet the criteria for the Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Rudyerd Creek is recommended as a Wild River in Alternatives A, B and D.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Rudyerd Creek is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p> <p><i>Water:</i> The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.</p>

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

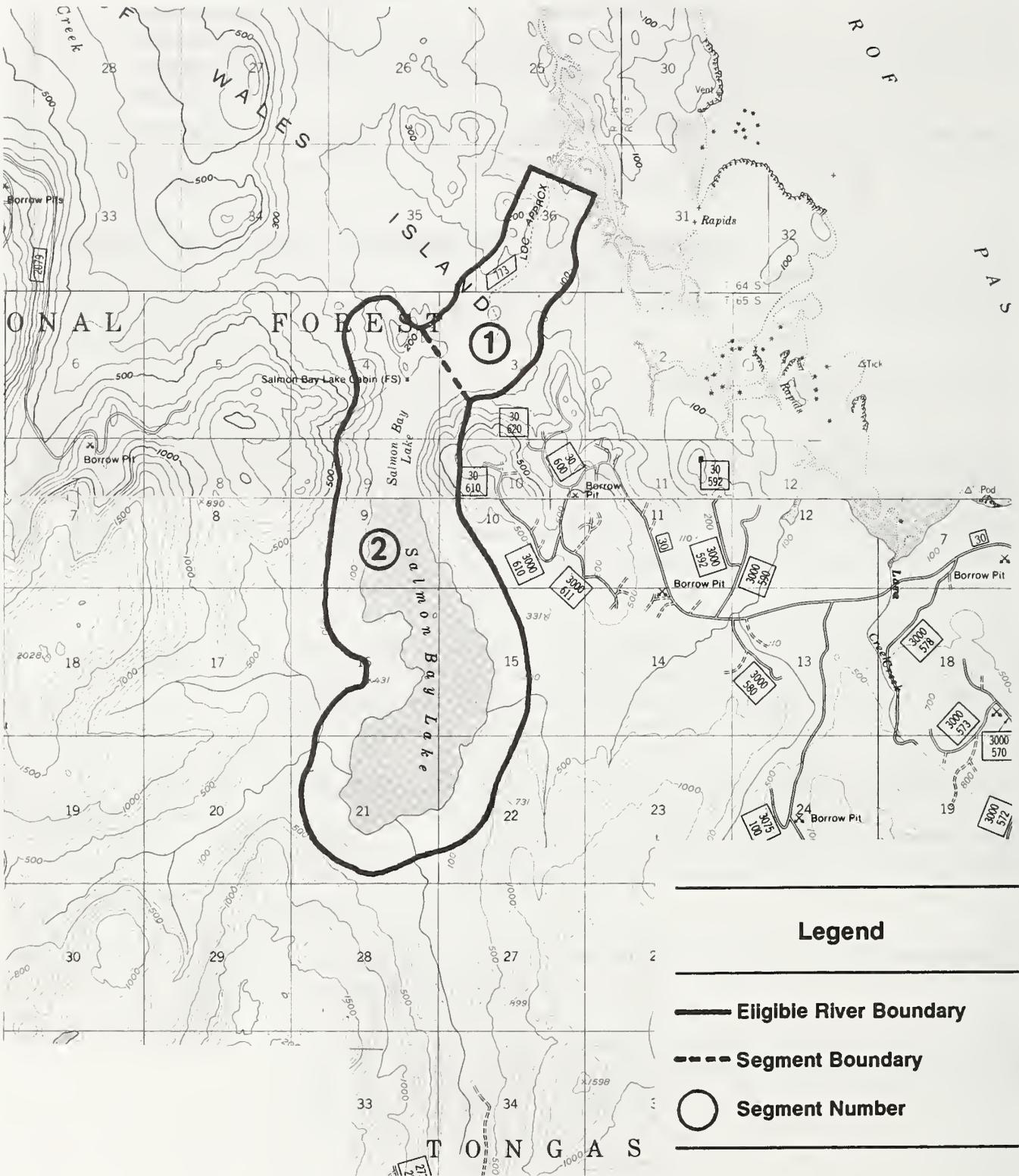
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

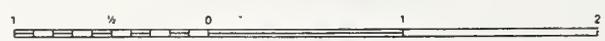
# Salmon Bay Lake and Stream



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
-  Segment Number

SCALE 1:63 360



## SALMON BAY LAKE AND STREAM

### Description

Located on the Thorne Bay Ranger District in VCU 534, the Salmon Bay Lake and Stream area is on Prince of Wales Island within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. This area is in the extreme northeast corner of Prince of Wales Island and is about 55 air miles from Craig. The Forest Service provides and maintains a recreation cabin on the north end of Salmon Bay Lake. The cabin received moderate use during 1990 with 404 visitor days recorded. A trail leads from Salmon Bay to the outlet of Salmon Bay Lake, but does not access the public recreation cabin on the lake. The area between Salmon Bay Lake and saltwater contains a major intertidal grass flat, which is frequented by wintering waterfowl and black bear. Waterfowl hunting in the area is a popular activity for residents from both Ketchikan and Wrangell. Salmon Bay Lake may be accessed either by boat to saltwater and then trail or floatplane. The majority of the river corridor is located within a Legislated LUD II allocation. The corridor contains approximately 8,400 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Salmon Bay Lake and Stream is a free-flowing river system. This system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fishery, wildlife, and scenic values. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) lists this system among the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class I stream system, recommended to be preserved permanently for fish and wildlife, in ADF&G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The system has approximately six miles of anadromous fish stream. The Salmon Bay Lakes and Streams possesses a spring steelhead run of approximately 100 adult fish. All salmon species except king, Dolly Varden char, and cutthroat and rainbow trout are also found in the river system. The area provides important wintering waterfowl habitat and serves as a wintering site for trumpeter swans, a sensitive species. Black bear are abundant during the salmon runs, and Sitka black-tailed deer, beaver, mink, marten, and river otters are common. The area is scenic with stands of very large old-growth forest.

### Classification

Salmon Bay Lake and Stream are divided into two segments. Segment 1, which begins at saltwater, is two miles long and meets the criteria for Scenic River classification. Segment 2, which includes Salmon Bay Lake, is four miles long and meets the criteria for Wild River classification.

The potential river corridor identified in the Forest Plan Revision DEIS has been revised. The tributary streams feeding into Salmon Bay Lake have been dropped from consideration due to both existing and planned timber harvest activities, which include road construction and clearcut harvest units. The planned activities are defined and documented in the Record of Decision for the 1989-94 Operating Period for the Ketchikan Pulp Company Long-term Sale Area Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The tributary streams northwest of Salmon Bay Lake were originally considered potentially eligible for Recreation River classification and the tributary stream south of the lake was considered potentially eligible for Wild River classification. These portions of the corridor were dropped after further analysis due to the effects of both existing and planned roads and clearcut harvest units within the corridor. Existing timber harvest units lie very close to the stream channel. Also, additional roads will be built and timber will be harvested within the corridor in the near future.

The tributary streams to the southwest of Salmon Bay Lake, originally considered potentially eligible for Wild River classification, have also been dropped from consideration. Although there are no past timber harvest activities within these portions of the river corridor, existing contractual commitments will result in construction of roads and clearcut harvest units within the corridor in the near future.

Segment 1 was identified in the DEIS as meeting the criteria for Recreation River classification. Initially, this portion of the river corridor was not considered eligible for either Wild or Scenic River classification due to the visual impact of the timber harvest activities on the northeast corner of Salmon Bay Lake. After additional analysis, it has been determined that the impact is less than originally thought, thus resulting in this portion of the corridor becoming potentially eligible for Scenic River classification.

#### Alternatives

Alternative A and P: Scenic River for all two miles of Segment 1 and Wild River designation for all four miles of Segment 2.

Alternatives B, C, and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

#### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Salmon Bay Lake and Streams is one of 16 river systems which potentially represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. This system is similar in character to Shipley Creek and Lake, Canoe Point Stream, Johnson Lake and Stream, and Soda Creek and Lake. However, this river system stands out from the others due to its outstanding fishery. The watershed of the Salmon Bay Lake system provides extensive spawning and rearing habitat for salmon. A large number of coho, pink, and chum salmon are produced which have a positive impact on commercial fisheries. The river receives a significant amount of subsistence fishing use. During 1990, the State issued 10 permits for sockeye and chum salmon fishing in the river corridor. In 1991, the Forest Service has received requests from two commercial outfitter and guide services for special use permits allowing fishing within the corridor.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the river corridor. However, there is a 170-acre State land selection at the mouth of the north entrance to Salmon Bay. If this tract is conveyed, the State will manage the area for undeveloped recreation, emphasizing the important anchorage located there. This selection was made to potentially enhance recreation opportunities for residents of Point Baker, Port Protection, Labouchere Bay, Wrangell, and Whale Pass.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities. The river corridor is within a Legislated LUD II allocation and the area has not been identified as a suitable transportation link by the State or the Forest Service. Designation of Segment 2 as Wild River would preclude the construction of roads within this portion of the river corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI. Although Scenic River designation for Segment 1 would allow limited road construction, there are no present or future plans to develop roads through this portion of the river corridor.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild and Scenic River, which would preclude water and power development, would likely have no effect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* Designation would likely have no significant effect on the availability of mineral resources since neither the U.S. Bureau of Mines nor the USGS list this area as having known or undiscovered potential for mineral extraction. While Segment 1 would remain open to mineral entry under Scenic River designation, Segment 2 would be withdrawn from development under Wild River designation. Any minerals development activity in Segment 1 would be subject to regulations in 36 CFR 228 which the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe to protect the outstandingly remarkable values of the river. Development activities would be conducted in a manner which would minimize disturbance, sedimentation and pollution, and visual resource degradation.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the timber resource as timber harvest is prohibited in Legislated LUD II forest land. Only salvage operations would be permitted where necessary to prevent significant damage to other resources.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Wild and Scenic River designation would have little effect on these resources due to the existing LUD II allocation. Costs of fish habitat enhancements in the future may be affected due to the restricted access and design requirements.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* The current semi-primitive recreation opportunities would be maintained by designation since the river corridor is located within a Legislated LUD II allocation. Attention from designation may result in an increase in public use of the river corridor, and would likely increase competition for use of the Forest Service recreation cabin on Salmon Bay Lake. The scenic resources associated with the river system would not be affected by designation. The Salmon Bay Lake and Stream system has been identified as a fisheries subsistence use area. Some conflicts with subsistence use could result from increased recreational use which is focused on fishing.

*Effects of non-designation:* The outstandingly remarkable resource values would not be adversely affected. These values are protected by the Legislated LUD II allocation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No written public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to the Salmon Bay Lake and Stream system eligibility for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System have been received. However, several comments were received during public hearings. Seven individuals from Whale Pass expressed opposition to Wild and Scenic River status for Salmon Bay River. Several residents from Labouchere Bay requested better trails in the Salmon Bay Lake and Stream area. The Tongass Conservation Society requested that Salmon Bay Lake area receive special protection.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 15,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 10,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 60,000

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## SALMON RIVER

<b>Description</b>	<p>The Salmon River, near Hyder in VCU 806, is on the Misty Fiords Ranger District and the mainland within the Coast Range Geographic Province. One tributary of the Salmon River flows out of the small Texas Lakes, while another tributary flows from the Salmon Glacier in British Columbia. The river flows into Portland Canal at Hyder, near the U.S and Canadian border. The Salmon River is a typical glacial river, with wide constantly changing braided channels. The river channel and banks have been modified in some areas and are no longer entirely natural in appearance. Dikes and rip-rap line the bank in many places. The river corridor is easily accessible, as the Salmon River Highway parallels the entire length of the river from Hyder to the Canadian border. The highway continues into British Columbia up the Salmon River to access the Westmin Mine, and further up river to offer visitors a spectacular view of the Salmon River Glacier. At the confluence of the river with Fish Creek, the Forest Service is developing facilities to accommodate public viewing of bears as they feed on salmon in Fish Creek during spawning season. The Forest Service has constructed a viewing platform and has plans to provide parking and fisheries and wildlife interpretive displays. Adjacent to the Salmon River, the Forest Service has implemented several off-channel fisheries enhancement projects to improve salmon spawning and productivity. The Salmon River corridor is ten miles long and contains approximately 4,800 acres, of which about 900 acres are either patented mining claims, State selected lands which have been conveyed, or lie within the unincorporated town of Hyder.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>The Salmon River is a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant geologic values. The river flows through a valley carved and formed by continental glaciation. The difference in elevation between the top and the bottom of the canyon wall is 5000 feet. Glaciers and overwhelming glacial topography are visible from within the corridor.</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>The entire ten miles of the Salmon River meet the criteria for Recreational River classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternative A: Recreational River designation for all ten miles.</p> <p>Alternatives B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>The Salmon River has outstandingly remarkable geologic values which are unique. While there are many glacial rivers, none are this accessible. The river itself is controlled by the Salmon Glacier in British Columbia. The glacier dams the river channel forming a glacial lake. As the glacier-dammed lake deepens beyond the</p>

glacier terminus, a point is reached where the glacier floats. Water then surges from beneath the glacier and scours the Salmon River drainage. The violent history of the river is evidenced by its high bedload and constantly changing channels. This seasonal flooding phenomena is rare in Southeast Alaska.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are numerous encumbrances throughout the Salmon River drainage. Within the river corridor there are a 3.5 acre Bureau of Land Management homesite withdrawal and approximately 307 acres of patented and 172 acres of unpatented mining claims. There are also approximately 420 acres of State selected land which has been conveyed and 160 acres of land within the unincorporated town of Hyder. Approximately 23 acres of the Westmin Power Line right-of-way under special use permit and 84 acres of the Salmon River Highway right-of-way are also within the corridor. In addition, there are numerous patented and unpatented mining claims adjacent to the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Recreational River would not preclude the construction of additional roads within the river corridor.

*Water:* The corridor has not been identified for potential water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals.

*Minerals:* The Salmon River corridor is in an area identified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as having high potential for minerals development. Within and immediately adjacent to the corridor there are several patented and unpatented mining claims. USGS also estimates the undiscovered mineral resources to have a Gross In Place Value of \$400,000 - \$4,000,000 per acre. Any exploration and development activities would be subject to the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture to minimize surface disturbance, sedimentation, and visual degradation. Under Recreational River designation, the entire river corridor would remain open for mineral entry.

*Timber:* The 1,300 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the corridor would not contribute to the allowable sale quantity since the adjacent area would be managed to emphasize semi-primitive recreation values in alternatives A and B.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Recreational River would allow access for future development of fish habitat enhancement improvements. The Forest Serv-

ice currently has plans to develop off-channel improvements within the river corridor in fiscal year 1992 to enhance salmon spawning habitat. Increased public use which might occur from Recreational River designation could result in some conflicts with wildlife species, such as the bear population which utilizes the Fish Creek area during spawning season.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation of the Salmon River as a Recreational River would likely increase use of the river corridor, particularly due to the easy access. The Forest Service has received some interest from outfitter/guide commercial services in using the Salmon River for river rafting and related activities. Designation would likely encourage outfitter/guide services to use the river. Scenic resources would essentially be unaffected by designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned for the Salmon River area during the next 10 years. However, if long-term management is considered, some timber harvest may occur. The outstandingly remarkable geologic values of the river would not be affected. Under Forest Plan Revision Alternatives A and B, the river corridor area would be managed under a Semi-primitive Recreation land use designation. However, with implementation of Alternatives C, D, or the preferred alternative timber harvest and road construction activities within and adjacent to the corridor may occur.

**Suitability Factor # 4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

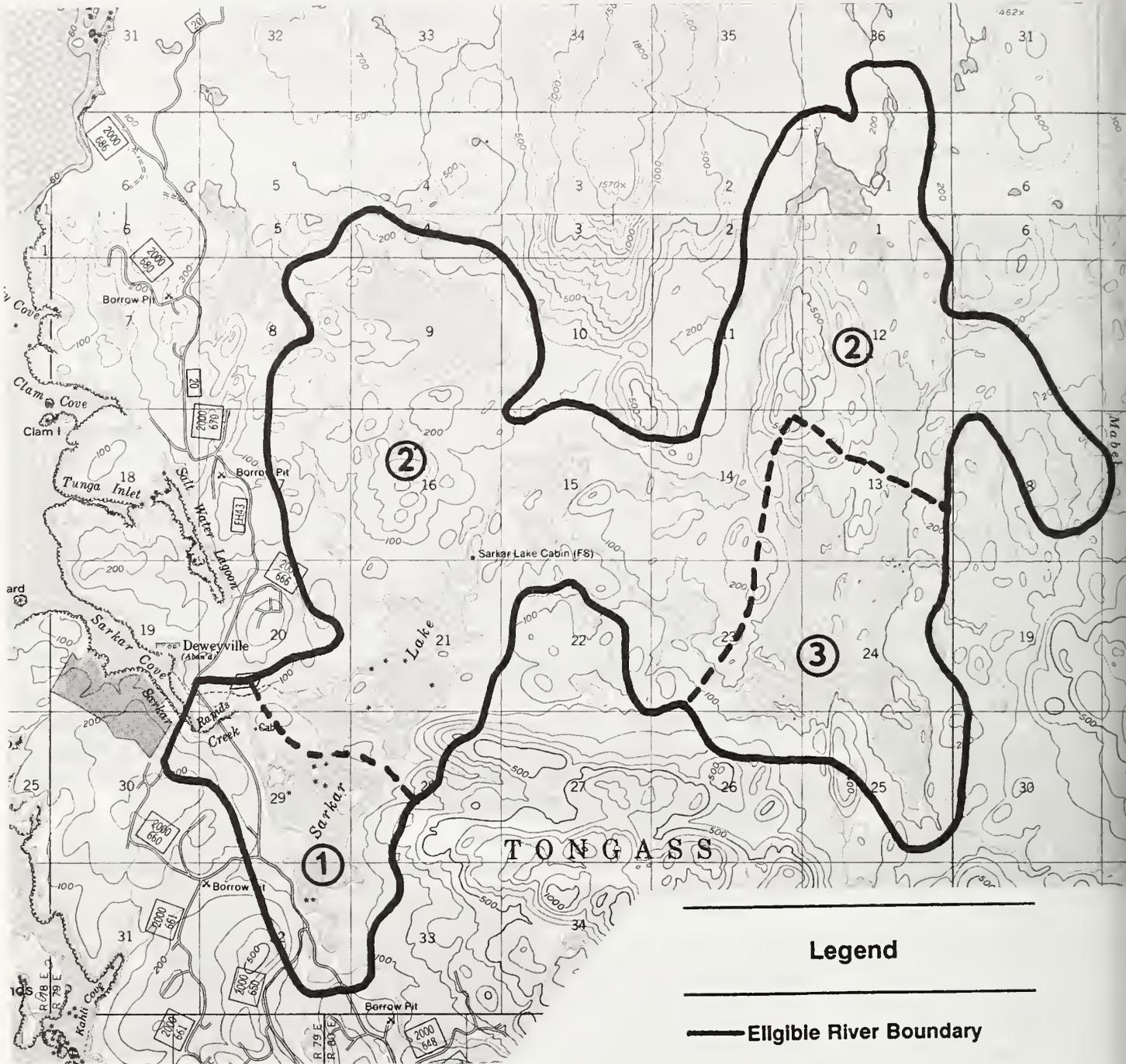
Written comments related to management of the Salmon River were received during public review of the Forest Plan Revision DEIS. The Hyder Fish and Game Advisory Commission requested that recreation and scenery be emphasized in management of the Salmon River drainage.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There are no plans for acquisition of private lands. Recreation improvements within the corridor adjacent to Fish Creek include visitor parking and interpretive facilities. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 75,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 8,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$150,000

# Sarkar Lakes



SCALE 1:63 360



## Legend

**—** Eligible River Boundary

**- - -** Segment Boundary

**○** Segment Number

**▨** Non National Forest Land

## SARKAR LAKES

### Description

Located on the Thorne Bay Ranger District in VCU 554, the Sarkar Lakes area is on Prince of Wales Island within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. Sarkar is on the west side of Prince of Wales Island and is about 34 air miles from Craig. The Sarkar River watershed, about 47 square miles in size, is relatively large when compared to others on Prince of Wales Island. A series of in-channel lakes make up this river system, including five major lakes, plus at least six others over ten acres in size. The interconnected lake pattern of the river system is caused by the very shallow gradient of the drainage and the geologic/geomorphic channel controls at the outlet of each lake that regulate the outflow level. The Sarkar Lakes area is extremely popular for recreational activities, with an emphasis on fishing. Access is made convenient by an adjacent road which is part of the Prince of Wales Island transportation system. The Forest Service provides and maintains a recreation cabin at Sarkar Lake, as well as a parking area and boat launching ramp to enhance recreational access and use of the river system. During 1990, the cabin received 526 recreation visitor days use. A 15-mile canoe trail for the river system, with a series of boardwalk portages and camping sites, is being designed by the Forest Service in 1991 with construction planned to begin in 1992. The river corridor contains approximately 9,240 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Sarkar Lakes is a free-flowing river system. Sarkar Lakes is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fish, wildlife, scenic, and historical/cultural values. The system has high populations of pink and coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden char. The watershed also supports a significant run of sockeye salmon which is important for both commercial and sport harvest. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) lists this system among the 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class 1 stream system, recommended to be preserved permanently for fish and wildlife, in ADF&G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The river system has approximately 25 miles of anadromous fish stream. The diversity of wildlife habitats offered by the Sarkar system is high. The broken shoreline, small islands, and extensive land/river system with a high volume salmon run make it a choice area for black bear, a variety of furbearers, and waterfowl. The system has high populations of wolves, marten, otter, beaver, weasels, mink, and deer. The Sarkar Lakes area is a primary stopover for migrating waterfowl. The area also serves as wintering habitat for trumpeter swans, a sensitive species. The Sarkar Lakes area is outstandingly scenic due to the intricate system of interconnecting lakes and streams, scattered low mountains, muskegs, rock outcrops, expansive grass flats, and small cascading waterfalls. Although there are two areas of timber harvest which can be seen from several locations in the lake corridor, the majority of viewshed is unaltered. The Sarkar Lakes is very rich in historical/cultural values, representing a microcosm of Southeast Alaska prehistory. Along the banks of Sarkar Creek are an historic fish weir, a canoe run, the earliest house forms found

in Southeast Alaska (ca. 3,000 years old), and a shell midden. Along the shores of Sarkar Lake, some of the most extensive semi-permanent Native village sites in the region have been recorded. These sites have yielded and are likely to continue to yield information important to regional prehistory.

#### **Classification**

The river system is divided into three segments for classification. Segment 1 (two miles) meets the criteria for Recreational River, Segment 2 (14 miles) meets the criteria for Wild River, and Segment 3 (three miles) meets the criteria for Scenic River.

The potential river classification identified in the Forest Plan Revision DEIS has been revised. After further analysis, eligibility classifications have been adjusted to reflect the presence of existing roads, recreation developments, and timber harvest activities within or adjacent to the river corridor. Segment 1 contains existing road corridor, a bridge, parking area, and boat ramp within the river corridor, resulting in this portion of the corridor becoming eligible for Recreational River. Segment 3 is considered eligible for Scenic River rather than Wild River classification due to the visual impacts from clearcut harvest units outside the river corridor.

#### **Alternatives**

Alternative A and P: Designation of fourteen miles (Segment 2) as Wild River, three miles (Segment 3) as Scenic River, and two miles (Segment 1) as Recreational River.

Alternatives B, C, and D: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

#### **Suitability**

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The Sarkar Lakes system is one of 16 eligible rivers which represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. It is similar to Essowah Lakes and Streams, Kegan Lake and Streams, and Niblack Lakes and Streams as a combination lakes and streams system. However, this system would be considered unique for its fisheries values. Due to the shallowness and low elevation of the lake system, it is considered the most productive on Prince of Wales Island. These conditions especially favor coho salmon and cutthroat trout production. The Forest Service has received requests in 1991 for four commercial outfitter and guide special use permits for fishing activities within the corridor. A portion of the Sarkar Lakes corridor has also been proposed as a Research Natural Area due to the outstanding swan habitat and unique tidally influenced lake.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the corridor. Immediately adjacent to the river corridor, on the south side of Sarkar Cove, there is one patented mining claim. On the north side of Sarkar Bay there is one Bureau of Land Management homesite withdrawal and a Native allotment withdrawal.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of Segment 1 as Recreation River would not preclude construction of additional roads within the river corridor. Although Scenic River designation for Segment 3 would allow limited road construction, there are no present or future plans to develop roads through this portion of the river corridor. Designation of Segment 2 as Wild River, would preclude construction of roads within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA. It would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities as this area has not been identified as a suitable transportation link by the State or the Forest Service.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild, Scenic, and Recreation River would likely have no affect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The area on the south side of Sarkar Cove is known to have potential for minerals development. USGS estimates the general region to have a potential, undiscovered, mineral resource with a Gross In Place Value of less than \$4,000 per acre (not including any development costs). The river corridor is not in an area identified by the Bureau of Mines as having a high potential for minerals development and no mining claims exist. If designated Recreation and Scenic River in Segments 1 and 3, these segments would remain open to mineral entry, subject to the regulations in 36 CFR 228 which the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe to protect the outstandingly remarkable values of the river. Any mineral development activity would be conducted in a manner which would minimize surface disturbance, sedimentation and pollution, and visual impairment. The remainder of river corridor, in Segment 2, would be withdrawn from mineral entry (subject to valid existing rights) if designated Wild River.

*Timber:* The approximately 4,000 acres of tentatively suitable forest land around the lakes would not contribute to the allowable sale quantity since the adjacent land would be managed with an emphasis on recreation and scenic values in Alternative A. In Alternative P the tentatively suitable lands would contribute to the allowable sale quantity.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish habitat enhancement projects being considered in the river corridor. Designation of Segments 1 and 3 as Recreation and Scenic River would allow typical fish habitat enhancement projects, increasing the potential for fish production. Wildlife habitat enhancement projects would also be allowed, but would be compatible with other resource values. Designation of Segment 2 as Wild River would allow fish habitat enhancement projects, but access limitations and design requirements would likely result in higher costs or preclude development. Existing wildlife habitat conditions would be maintained.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation of Segment 1 as Recreation River would allow for development of recreation facilities to enhance public access and use of the river system. Some visual evidence of development could occur. Designation of Segment 3 as Scenic River would allow limited development of recreation facilities to enhance public use of the river. However, the only development planned for this portion of the corridor is a primitive camping area as part of the Sarkar Canoe Trail. Designation of Segment 2 as Wild River would preserve the existing semi-primitive and primitive recreation opportunities in the area and maintain the scenic values around the lakes. Some increased recreational use of the Sarkar system would likely occur with designation. The system receives significant subsistence use. During 1990, 63 permits were issued by the State for sockeye fishing in the area. It is likely that some competition with subsistence use may result from increased recreational fishing activities associated with designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned within the forest land immediately adjacent to the Sarkar Lakes system during the next 10 years. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur. The outstandingly remarkable fish, wildlife, scenic, and historical/cultural values would not be adversely affected in Alternatives A, B, and C and P. Under these alternatives the lakes would be managed with an emphasis on recreation and scenic values, or (in Alternative B) as a Research Natural Area. However, implementation of Alternative D could result in effects to the outstandingly remarkable wildlife and scenic values from road construction and timber harvest activities on lands within and adjacent to the river corridor. Also, the existing primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities would likely be reduced by an increase in development activities.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

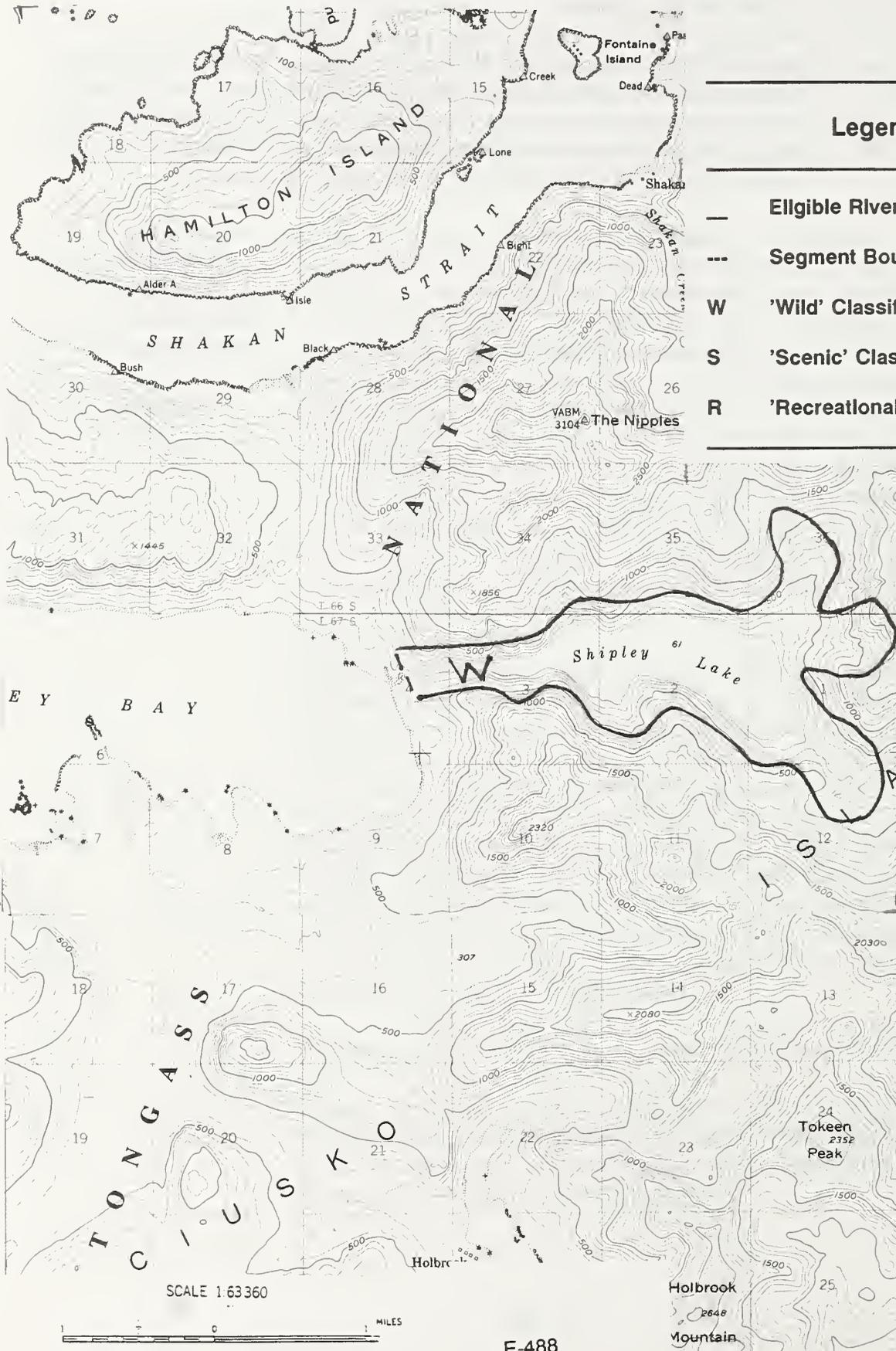
During public review of the Forest Plan Revision DEIS, the Forest Service received only one written comment specifically referring to the Sarkar system. American Rivers, Inc. requested more explicit rationale for including Sarkar Lakes in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private land would be acquired. The Forest Service is currently planning to develop a 15-mile canoe trail through the Sarkar Lakes System. Included will be boardwalk portage trails and tent camping pads. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 50,000 total
Development Costs	\$233,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 8,000 annual
<b>Total- First Five Years</b>	<b>\$328,000</b>

# ShIPLEY Creek and Lake



## Legend

- Ellgible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## SHIPLEY CREEK AND LAKE

### Description

Located on the Thorne Bay Ranger District VCU 541, Shipley Creek and Lake are on Kosciusko Island in the Southern Islands Geographic Province. Shipley Creek originates above Shipley Lake, flows through the lake and enters saltwater in Shipley Bay, about 46 air miles from Craig. The five-mile length contains about 2,170 acres within the corridor. The entire drainage is unroaded and is within the Calder-Holbrook LUD II area designated by the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990. The area is used by residents of Craig, Edna Bay, Point Baker, and Klawock for both recreation and subsistence.

A public recreation cabin is located near the mouth of Shipley Creek and a .75 mile trail leads from the cabin to Shipley Lake.

### Eligibility

Shipley Creek and Lake are outstandingly remarkable for fishery, wildlife, scenic, and historical/cultural values of regional significance. The stream system supports a subsistence sockeye fishery. Fishing is also good for cutthroat, rainbow, Dolly Varden char, and pinks and chum. Steelhead are also present. Sitka black-tailed deer, black bear, and waterfowl are abundant and are hunted in the area. Marine mammals frequent the area. One of the largest concentrations of petroglyphs is nearby.

### Classification

Shipley Creek and Lake meet the criteria for the Wild classification.

### Alternatives

In Alternatives A and B, all 5 miles of the system are recommended as a Wild River.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

Shipley Creek and Lake was legislated as LUD II by the 1990 Tongass Timber Reform Act. It would add to the representation of the Southern Islands Geographic Province.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities as the land within the river corridor is to be managed in a roadless state to maintain its wildland character. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* Designation as a Wild River would withdraw it from future mineral entry.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild and Scenic River would not affect the timber resource as commercial timber harvest is not permitted on Legislated LUD II forest land.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would have little effect on these resources due to the existing LUD II allocation. Costs of fish habitat enhancements in the future may be affected due to the restricted access and design requirements.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would likely result in increased public use, due to the attention drawn from designation. Increased recreational harvest has the potential of adverse impact to subsistence use.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on the outstandingly remarkable historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the LUD II allocation. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

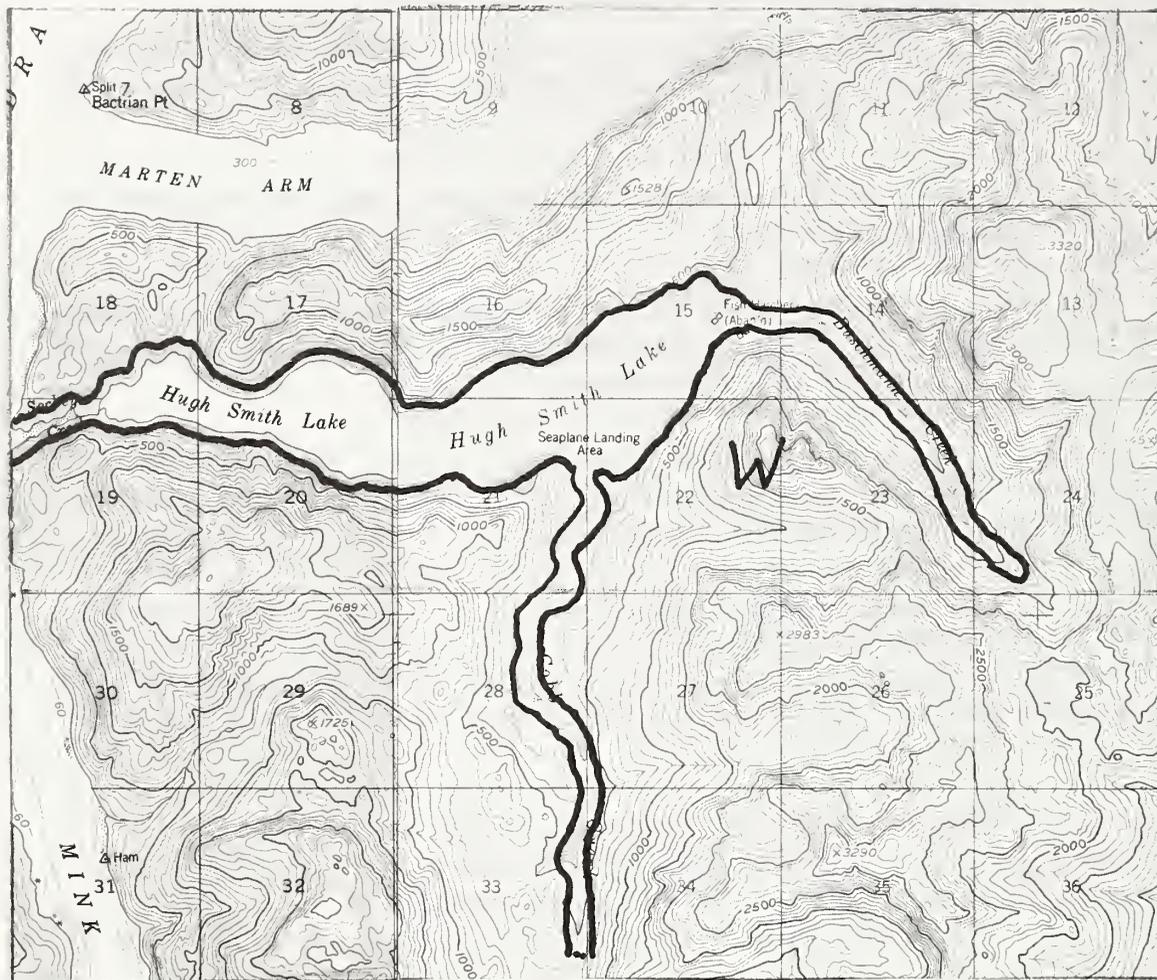
The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000

# Sockeye Creek--Hughsmith Lake



SCALE 1:63360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## SOCKEYE CREEK-HUGH SMITH LAKE

### Description

Sockeye Creek-Hugh Smith Lake are located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness, are on the mainland in VCU 836 and are within the Coast Range Geographic Province. This stream system includes Buschmann Creek and Cobb Creek which flow into Hugh Smith Lake, and Sockeye Creek which flows from the lake into saltwater near Mink Bay about 55 miles from Ketchikan. The nine miles of creek and lake contain about 3,820 acres within the corridor. The area is known for fishing, hunting, and other recreation opportunities. A public recreation cabin is located at the lake. A short trail leads from saltwater to the lake but does not access the cabin. Other structures include an ADF&G cabin and fish weir on the west end of the lake; an abandoned hatchery is on the east end of the lake.

### Eligibility

Sockeye Creek-Hugh Smith Lake system is outstandingly remarkable for its fishery values of regional significance. The stream system is one of the few sockeye fisheries in Misty Fiords and it is being intensively studied by ADF&G. Cutthroat and Dolly Varden char are also present. The area was identified by ADF&G as one of the 19 "high-quality" watersheds in the current Forest Plan.

### Classification

The entire river (9 miles) meets the criteria for Wild River classification. The structures are rustic in appearance and are compatible with the classification.

### Alternatives

Sockeye Creek-Hugh Smith Lake system is recommended as a Wild River in Alternative A.

### Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.**

Sockeye Creek-Hugh Smith Lake is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.

**Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands within the river corridor.

**Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied

under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Soda Creek and Lake



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## SODA CREEK AND LAKE

<b>Description</b>	<p>Located on the Craig Ranger District in VCU 632, the Soda Creek area is on the Prince of Wales Island within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. Soda Creek originates at an approximate elevation of 200 feet and then meanders over three miles of forest, passing through Soda Lake, before emptying into saltwater at Soda Bay. The area is well known for the unique carbonate mineral springs found along Soda Lake and Creek. The Forest Service recently constructed a 2.5 mile long trail which provides convenient access from the Prince of Wales Island road system. Local residents from Craig, Klawock, and Hydaburg frequent the springs to collect water for drinking. Black bear and deer are commonly found in the area. The Forest Service is considering the Soda Springs for Special Interest Area designation, where it would be managed with emphasis on geologic and recreation values. The river corridor contains approximately 1,400 acres, all of which is National Forest System land. Soda Creek and Lake are located about 18 miles south of Craig.</p>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Soda Creek and Lake combine to form a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant geologic values. The areas most significant feature is the carbonate mineral springs. The springs are found along Soda Creek within 1/4 mile of saltwater, and also around Soda Lake and the Creek flowing into the lake. The mineral deposits and formations associated with the springs are so unique that Soda Lake is frequently referred to by local residents as the "Mono Lake of Southeast Alaska."</p>
<b>Classification</b>	<p>All three miles of Soda Creek and Lake meet the criteria for the Wild River classification.</p>
<b>Alternatives</b>	<p>Alternatives A and B: Wild River designation for all three miles.</p> <p>Alternatives C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.</p>
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.</b></p> <p>Soda Creek and Lake is one of 16 river systems which potentially represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. This system is similar in character to Shipley Creek and Lake, Salmon Bay Lake and Stream, Canoe Point Stream, and Johnson Lake and Stream. However, the carbonate mineral springs and associated tufa deposits and formations make this system unique, as they are not known to exist elsewhere within the geographic province. The river system is close to three major communities on Prince of Wales Island and road access is nearby.</p>

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the corridor or on adjacent forest lands. The entire river corridor lies within a Sealaska Native land selection. If these lands are conveyed, timber harvest is likely to occur. In addition, the east end of Soda Bay has a State selection. Approximately 60 acres of the river corridor lie within the state selection. It is likely that the state selection will be conveyed. Under state administration, the area would be managed for at least 20 years with an emphasis on enhanced recreation access, anchorages, and ecological values.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* The river corridor is within an area being considered by the Forest Service as a transportation corridor to access forest lands for timber harvest. Due to land ownership patterns in the Trocadero Bay/Soda Bay area, access to areas under consideration for resource development would likely have to cross the river corridor area. Thus, designation as a Wild River may preclude roaded access to forest lands for timber harvest, subject to ANILCA exceptions.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would likely have no effect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The USGS estimates the Gross In Place Value of undiscovered minerals in the area as \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre (not including any development costs). The corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry if designated as Wild River.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the approximately 500 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the corridor because of the surrounding Special Interest Area designation, which makes the area unsuitable for timber production.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* The Forest Service has plans to install a log drop structure in Soda Bay Lake during fiscal year 1992 to enhance fisheries habitat in the river system. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing habitat conditions for both fish and wildlife.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* The current semi-primitive recreation opportunities and scenic values of the area would be maintained with designation as a Wild River. The Soda Creek and Lake system has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No adverse effects to subsistence resources are foreseen.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned in the Soda Creek and Lake area during the next 10 years. However, when considering long-term management, some timber harvest may occur. If not designated as a Wild River, road construction across Soda Creek would be likely in the future. However, adverse effects to the outstandingly remarkable geologic features would be unlikely. Access to the river corridor would be enhanced and recreational use in the area may increase. With implementation of Alternatives A, B and D, there is potential for timber harvest within the northern half of the river corridor, subject to stream buffer requirements and standards and guidelines. Under Alternative C, timber harvest may occur throughout the river corridor area. Timber harvest activities would reduce the semi-primitive recreation opportunities within the corridor. In alternative P there would not be timber harvest since the area would be managed to emphasize semi-primitive recreation values and the Special Interest Area would encompass the lower drainage.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

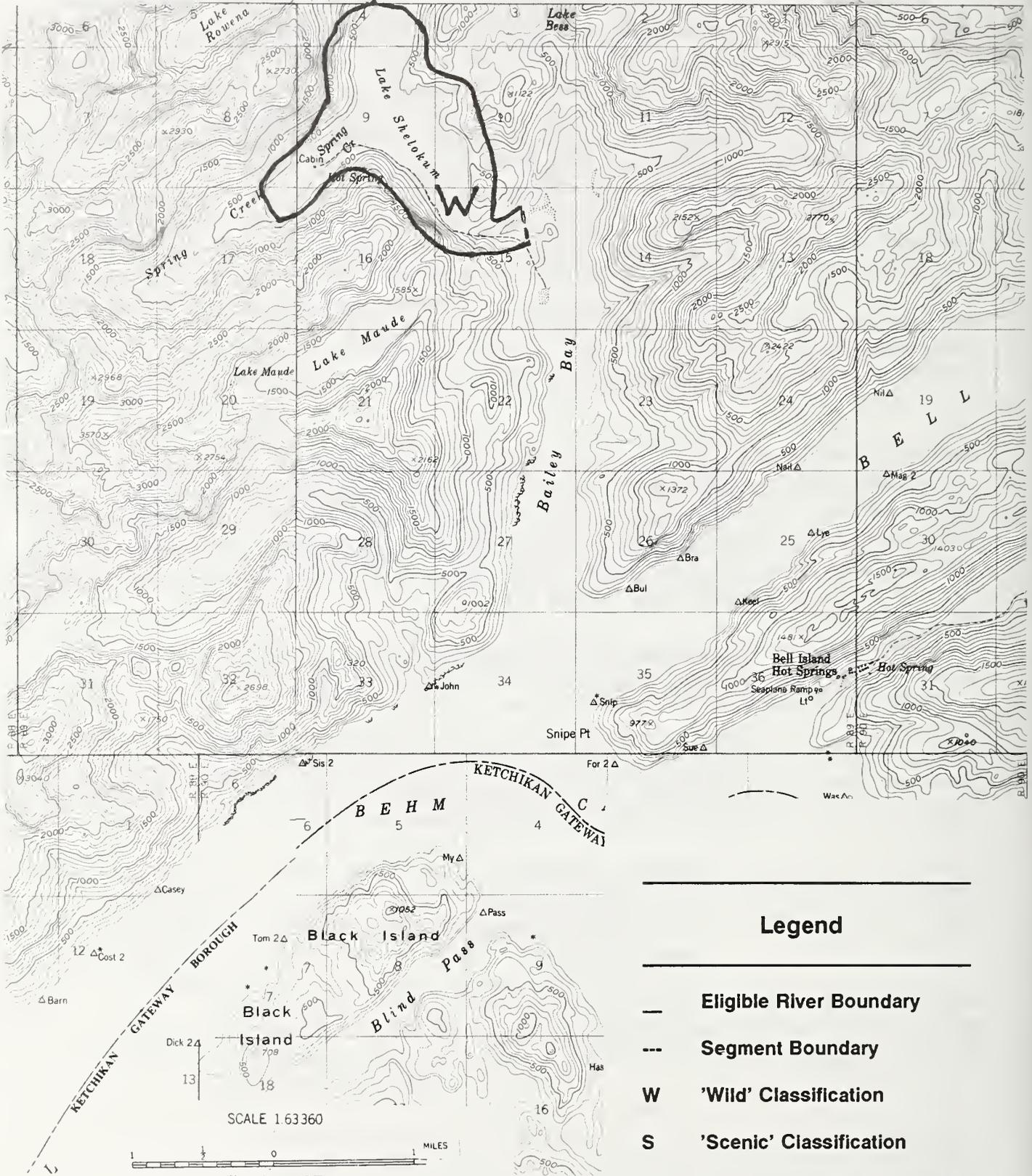
During public review of the Forest Plan Revision DEIS, the Forest Service received written comments specifically requesting that Soda Creek and Lake be designated a Wild River due to the unique geologic features. The State has selected a tract of land at Soda Bay which includes the springs close to the beach. In the State's Southwest Prince of Wales Island Area Plan, acknowledgement is made that Soda Springs are a unique resource and the area would be managed for undeveloped recreation over the next 20 years.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 20,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 2,000 annual
 Total - First Five Years	 \$ 35,000

# Spring Creek--Shelokum Lake



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

## SPRING CREEK--LAKE SHELOKUM

### Description

Located on the Ketchikan Ranger District in VCU 726, the Spring Creek--Shelokum Lake area is on Cleveland Peninsula and the mainland. The Shelokum area is within the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. Spring Creek originates at about 1500 feet in elevation and flows into Lake Shelokum, located at approximately 350 feet in elevation, before reaching saltwater at Bailey Bay. The area is known for its hot springs, cascades and waterfalls, and outstanding scenery. The Spring Creek drainage contains diverse rock faces, numerous avalanche paths, and a variety of water and vegetation features along the valley floor. Grassy meadows, with abundant wildflowers throughout the summer months, lie along the shore of Lake Shelokum near the hot springs. From Shelokum valley, visitors can see nearby peaks rising to 3000 feet, some with small year-round snowfields. The area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area because of the hot springs and rare plants that are found nearby. The Forest Service provides and maintains a mooring buoy in Bailey Bay to enhance recreation access to the area. A trail leads from Bailey Bay to a Forest Service three-sided shelter on Lake Shelokum. The river is located approximately 45 air miles from Ketchikan. The river corridor contains approximately 1,900 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Spring Creek and Lake Shelokum combine to form a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant scenic, geologic, and ecologic values. The scenery include views of nearby cliffs and peaks and the hot springs, ringed with abundant algal growths and topped with clouds of steam rising from the hillside. The outlet stream from Lake Maude drops into Lake Shelokum over a spectacular 70-foot high cascading falls. The outlet stream from Lake Shelokum drops about 200 feet over another falls before entering Bailey Bay.

The area has been identified as a potential Research Natural Area because of the hot springs and unusual algae and wetland plants. At least 10 major seeps and several minor seeps issue from the bedrock along Spring Creek and drain into Lake Shelokum. These hot springs have the highest surface temperature of any hot springs in Southeast Alaska and are one of the few undeveloped hot springs sites. The seeps are surrounded by growths of algae. Very rare freshwater plants have been collected near the hot springs and in the marshy area along Lake Shelokum.

### Classification

The entire stream and Lake Shelokum meet the criteria for Wild River designation.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A, B and D: Wild River designation for all three miles.

Alternative C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The geologic value associated with the hot springs, ecological values of the hot springs and wetlands, and the scenic values associated with the surrounding landscape, when considered in combination, are of regional significance. The Spring Creek-Lake Shelokum system is typical of the rivers found in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. However, it is the only river system in the geographic province that contains a unique, undeveloped hot springs.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands, mining claims, or state selections within the corridor.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would probably not affect present or future transportation system opportunities. The area has not been identified as a suitable transportation link by the State or the Forest Service. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The Alaska Power Authority (APA) has a power site withdrawal which encompasses Lake Shelokum and the outlet stream down to saltwater at Bailey Bay. However, this is not among sites identified by APA or by scoping as having potential for development.

*Minerals:* Designation would likely have no significant effect on the availability of mineral resources since neither the U.S. Bureau of Mines nor the USGS list this area as having known or undiscovered potential for mineral extraction and no mining claims exist within or adjacent to the corridor. The river corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry if designated as a Wild River.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect about 700 acres of tentatively suitable forest lands within the corridor from consideration for timber harvest because it will be unsuitable as a result of Semi-primitive Recreation and Special Interest Area designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are no identified fish enhancement projects currently planned within the river corridor. Designation as a Wild River would maintain existing fish and wildlife habitat conditions for a variety of species.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current primitive recreation opportunities and the outstanding scenic values. Recreational use would likely increase somewhat due to the attention resulting from designation. The Spring Creek-Lake Shelokum system has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No adverse effect to subsistence use would be anticipated from designation.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned in the Spring Creek-Lake Shelokum area during the next 10 years. The outstandingly remarkable scenic, geologic, and ecological values would likely not be affected. There is potential in Forest Plan Revision Alternative D that motorized recreation opportunities would occur, thus adversely affecting the existing primitive recreation values of the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to Spring Creek-Lake Shelokum have been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands and no recreation or other developments are currently proposed. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 85,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$145,000



## THORNE RIVER--HATCHERY CREEK

### Description

Located on the Thorne Bay Ranger District, the Thorne River and Hatchery Creek on Prince of Wales Island are within the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. The river is in VCU's 552, 573-75, and 586. This river system, including the North Thorne and the interconnected lakes, extend for approximately 42 miles from Thorne Bay northwest through Barnes Lake to Lake Bay and Whale Passage. The lower six miles near Thorne Bay are developed with roads, including one major bridge crossing. Within the river corridor, the Forest Service provides and maintains the Gravelly Creek Picnic Area which offers several picnic sites, a picnic shelter, and convenient river access. The Forest Service also provides and maintains three recreation cabins along this river system. The cabins are located at Barnes Lake, Sweetwater Lake, and Lake Galea. During 1990, these cabins received 1,440 visitor days use. An additional recreation value associated with this river system is a 32-mile long canoe trail which extends from saltwater in Thorne Bay to saltwater at either Whale Passage or Lake Bay. While currently largely undeveloped and quite challenging, the Forest Service plans to develop portage trails and other amenities along the route to enhance recreational use. The river system is extremely popular for recreational fishing, with the lower Thorne River and Sweetwater Lake area receiving the most use due to convenient roaded access. The river corridor contains about 26,000 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Thorne River and Hatchery Creek combine to form a free-flowing river system. This system is outstandingly remarkable for its nationally significant fisheries, wildlife, recreation, and scenic values. The river system offers excellent fishing opportunities throughout most of the year. Sport species include coho, sockeye, chum, and pink salmon, as well as cutthroat, rainbow, and steelhead trout and Dolly Varden char. The Thorne River is known for the largest steelhead run on Prince of Wales Island, averaging 650 adult fish annually. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) lists this system among the 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class 2 stream system in ADF&G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The system has approximately 42 miles of anadromous stream within the corridor.

The Thorne-Hatchery system also has significant wildlife values. There is an extensive wetland area, providing habitat for waterfowl, loons, great blue heron, and trumpeter swan, a sensitive species. Sweetwater Lake is an important wintering area for the trumpeter swan. Wildlife viewing opportunities are significant with the presence of bald eagles, black bear, wolves, river otter, seals, marten, mink, weasels, beaver, and Sitka black-tailed deer. Moose sign has been reported in the area. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Forest Service have reported sightings of osprey in the area. The only known inland nesting bald eagles in Southeast Alaska are located in the Thorne-Hatchery area.

The recreation opportunities of the Thorne-Hatchery system are known nationally. The area receives extensive use as a recreational fishery due to the large diversity of sport species available and the convenient access. Also, the wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities serve as an additional attraction.

The scenic values of the river system are also considered significant. The views offered along the river corridor are very diverse with contrasting elements of rock, old-growth forest, muskegs, alpine, meadows, and rounded mountains. Scenic values within the corridor, emphasized by the chain of natural lakes that are interconnected by a series of portages and small creeks, are characterized by the unique wetlands habitat and diverse shoreline and stream channels.

#### **Classification**

The lower six miles of the Thorne River (Segment 1) beginning at Thorne Bay meet the criteria for Recreation River classification. The remaining 36 miles of the Thorne River-Hatchery Creek corridor (Segment 2) meets the criteria for Scenic River classification.

The potential river classifications identified in the Forest Plan Revision DEIS have been revised. After further analysis, eligibility classifications have been adjusted to reflect the effects of existing and previously approved timber harvest. The approved timber harvest activities were defined and documented in the Record of Decision for the 1989-94 Operating Period for the Ketchikan Pulp Company Long-term Sale Area Final Environmental Impact Statement, prior to the initiation of this river study.

The North Thorne River and portions of the Thorne River and Hatchery Creek were originally identified as meeting the criteria for Wild River classification. However, the presence of existing harvest units and road construction within the river corridor along the North Thorne result in this portion of the corridor meeting the criteria for Scenic River classification. The effects from previously authorized activities adjacent to the upper reaches of the Thorne River corridor result in this portion of the river corridor meeting the criteria for Scenic River classification. Adjacent river corridor areas were also classified as potentially eligible for Scenic River to avoid excessive segmentation of the river corridor. The river corridor through Sweetwater Lake was also originally identified as meeting the criteria for Wild River classification. However, the presence of an existing Forest Service road which runs through portions of the river corridor on the southeast side of the lake and the visual impact from existing clearcut harvest units around the perimeter of the lake make this portion of the river corridor potentially eligible for Scenic River classification.

#### **Alternatives**

Alternative A: Recreational River designation for six miles (Segment 1) and Scenic River designation for 36 miles (Segments 2 ).

Alternative B: Recreational River designation for six miles (Segment 1) and Scenic River designation for 24 miles (the portion of Segment 2 south of Sweetwater Lake, which includes the canoe route from Thorne Bay to the junction of Hatchery Creek and Sweetwater Lake).

Alternative C: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Alternative D: Recreational River designation for six miles (Segment 1)

Alternative P: **Recreational River** designation for 18 miles (includes Segment 1 and that portion of Segment 2 which extends from saltwater at Indian Creek in Barnes Lake to approximately one-half mile south of Sweetwater Lake on Hatchery Creek) and **Scenic River** for 24 miles (includes the remainder of Segment 2). Designation of the north portion of Segment 2 as Recreational River will accommodate the development of recreation facilities in the future to enhance public access and use of this popular recreation area.

## Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

The Thorne River-Hatchery Creek system is one of 16 eligible rivers which represent the Southern Outer Islands Geographic Province. This river system is unique, as it is the only river system in this geographic province which is connected to saltwater at both ends, making the canoe route unique. The only comparable recreation opportunity in Southeast Alaska is the Cross-Admiralty Canoe Trail on Admiralty Island National Monument. Vehicle access is enhanced by the Alaska Marine Highway terminal at Hollis. This river system receives a large amount of subsistence fishing use. During 1990, the State issued 62 permits for sockeye fishing on Hatchery Creek and four permits for sockeye fishing on the Thorne River. The river system is also popular for commercial outfitter and guide activities. In 1991, the Forest Service received seven requests for outfitter and guide special use permits within the river corridor for fishing.

**Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the river corridor. There is a residence located on the east side of Lake Bay Creek, adjacent to Lake Bay, which is under a Forest Service special use permit. The State owns the intertidal lands in the Barnes Lake area and is responsible for permitting use on such lands. There are currently no plans for State authorization of land use which would conflict with Scenic River designation. The land has been classified for public recreation and wildlife habitat in the Prince of Wales Area Plan, prepared by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, December 1988.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation of Segment 1 as Recreation River and Segment 2 as Scenic River would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities. Forest Service road corridors already cross the river corridor in both segments, allowing access for planned and future management activities, and the residents of Coffman Cove.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Scenic and Recreation River would likely have no affect on future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for mineral extraction and no mining claims exist. The USGS estimates the Sweetwater Lake region could have undiscovered mineral resources with a Gross In Place Value of less than \$4,000 per acre (not including any development costs). The USGS also estimates this value to be \$4,000 - \$40,000 per acre in Segment 1 (also not including any development costs). With designation of Segment 1 as Recreational River and Segment 2 as Scenic River, the river corridor would remain open for mineral entry, subject to regulations in 36 CFR 228 which the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe to protect the outstandingly remarkable values of the river. Any mineral development activity would be conducted in a manner which would minimize surface disturbance, sedimentation, and pollution, and visual resource degradation.

*Timber:* In the alternative P, the 11,700 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the corridor could continue to contribute to the allowable sale quantity but much of the adjacent land would be managed for an emphasis on scenic and recreation values. This would restrict the amount of timber harvest which could be considered. Exceptions to this are the lands in the south end of the corridor which would be managed for timber production. In Alternatives A and B there are 14,100 acres of these forest lands with similar constraints.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* The Forest Service currently has plans to install log drop structures in North Thorne River for fish habitat improvement in 1991. Designation of Segment 1 as a Recreational River and Segment 2 as Scenic River would allow typical fish habitat enhancement projects, increasing the potential for growth in fish production. With designation of Segment 1 as a Recreational River, management of wildlife habitat would be similar to other areas available for timber harvest and road development. Designation of Segment 2 as Scenic River could allow some habitat improvement projects within the corridor, however silvicultural prac-

tices would be permitted only where no substantial adverse affect on the river and its immediate environment would occur.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation of the Thorne River-Hatchery Creek system as a Scenic and Recreation River would likely bring some increased attention and public use to the river. Current plans to develop and improve the Honker Divide Canoe Trail through the river corridor would be encouraged. The current scenic values and roaded natural, semi-primitive, and primitive recreation opportunities would be maintained with designation. The river system has been identified as a fisheries subsistence use area. Some competition with subsistence use could result from increased recreational use which is focused on recreational fishing.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are timber harvest activities planned in the Thorne River-Hatchery Creek area during the next 10 years. The outstandingly remarkable fisheries values would not be affected as they are adequately protected by application of the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the standards and guidelines. There is potential in all alternatives that timber would be harvested within the river corridor. Harvest activities would likely affect the current primitive and semi-primitive recreation opportunities available, however access for recreational activities and subsistence use might be enhanced. Scenic values within the corridor could also be affected. While timber harvest would allow opportunities for wildlife habitat diversity, species dependent upon old-growth habitat and uninterrupted riparian corridors could be adversely affected. Alternatives C and D pose the greatest potential for adverse effects on the river's outstandingly remarkable resource values due to the emphasis on timber harvest within and adjacent to the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

During public review of the Forest Plan Revision DEIS, the Forest Service received only one oral comment specifically supporting Wild, Scenic, and Recreational River designation for the Thorne River-Hatchery Creek system. However, over 1,400 written comments were received requesting that special protection be given to the Honker Divide and adjacent lands to protect the primitive character of the area. Similar oral comments were received from the Tongass Conservation Society at a public hearing held in Ketchikan.

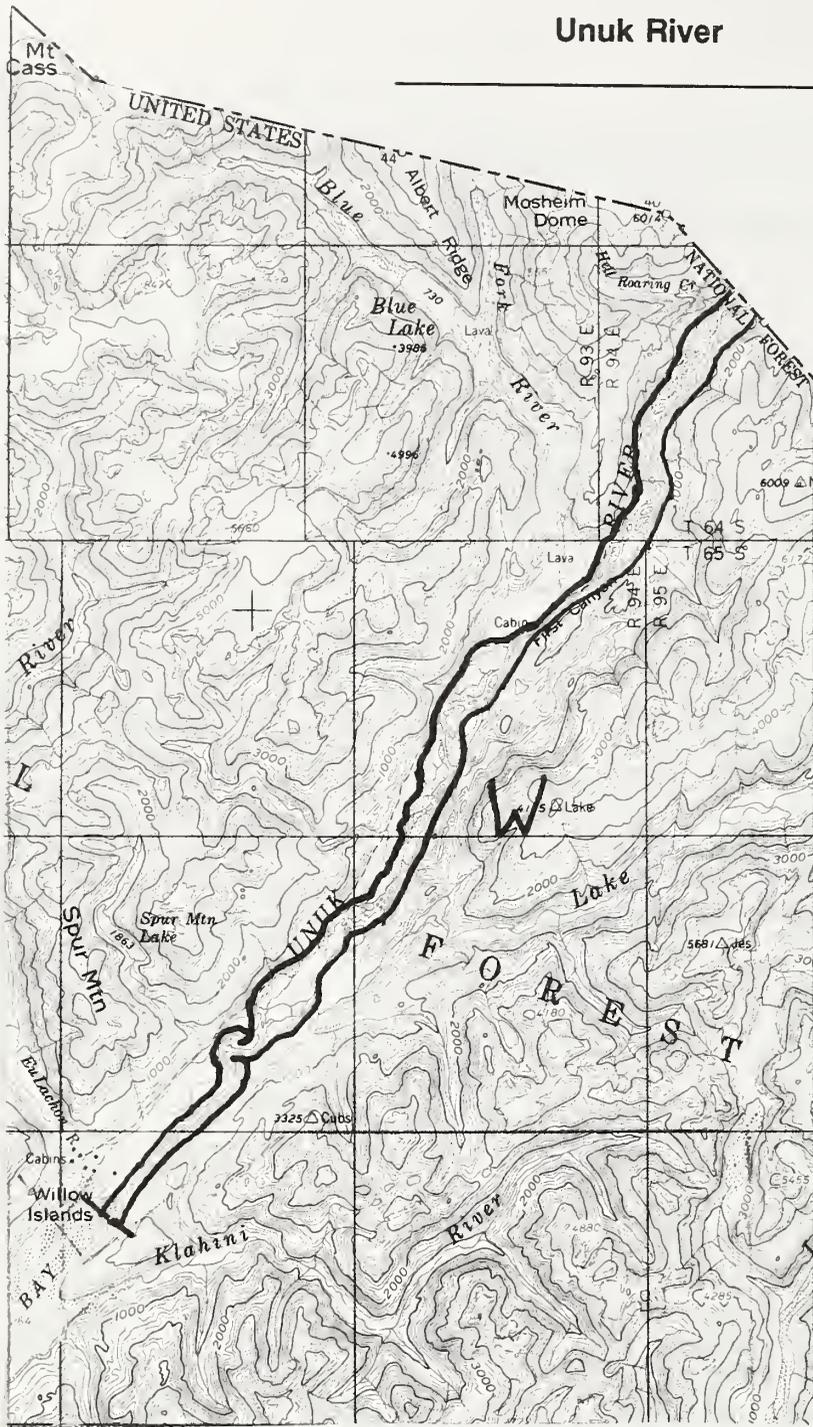
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. The Forest Service is making plans to improve the canoe route from Barnes Lake to Thorne Bay. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 50,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 75,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 20,000 annual
<b>Total - First Five Years</b>	<b>\$230,000</b>

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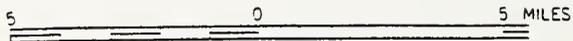
# Unuk River



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:250 000



## UNUK RIVER

<b>Description</b>	Located in the Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness, the Unuk River is on the mainland in VCU's 786 and 788 and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. The Unuk originates in British Columbia and flows for 23 miles before entering saltwater in Burroughs Bay, upper Behm Canal, about 60 air miles from Ketchikan. Several small parcels of private land with approximately 12 cabins are located near the mouth of the Unuk. The river corridor contains about 8,060 acres.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The Unuk is outstandingly remarkable for its fishery, wildlife, recreation, scenic, and historical/cultural values of national significance. The stream system is one of the few king salmon streams in southern Southeast Alaska and is well known for its high productivity. The Unuk was identified by ADF&G as one of the 65 "high-quality" watersheds in the 1979 Forest Plan. Brown bears are abundant; other wildlife species include marten, wolves, river otters, and small furbearers. The stream system is one of the few streams in southern Southeast Alaska that is accessible by powerboat and is very scenic. There are several old homesteads near the mouth of the river. The area was heavily used by Natives for hunting and fishing; numerous traditional use sites are located along the stream.
<b>Classification</b>	The entire river meets the criteria for the Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	The Unuk is recommended as a Wild River in Alternatives A, B, and D. All 23 miles were included in Alternatives A and B. In Alternative D, the lower two miles were not recommended in order to avoid the private land at the mouth.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>The Unuk River is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>At the mouth of the Unuk there are five parcels totaling 418.41 acres.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p>

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on the outstandingly remarkable historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental Interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

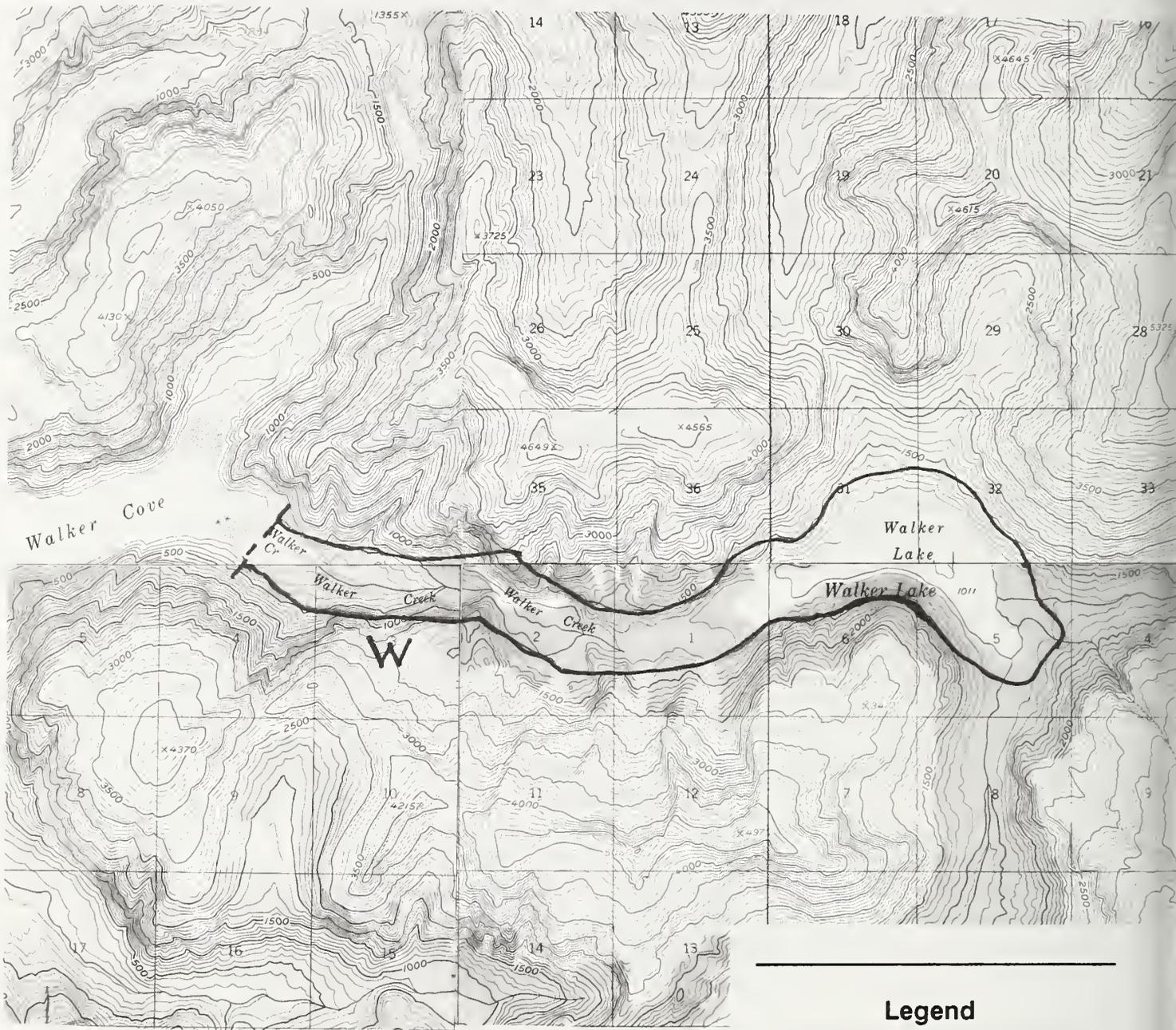
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

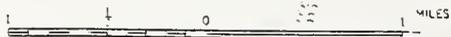
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Walker Creek and Lake



SCALE 1:63360



## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W 'Wild' Classification
- S 'Scenic' Classification
- R 'Recreational' Classification

## WALKER CREEK AND LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Walker Creek and Lake are located within Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness on the mainland in VCU's 798 and 799, and are in the Coast Range Geographic Province. The stream flows out of Walker Lake and flows six miles to saltwater in Walker Cove, about 39 air miles from Ketchikan. The corridor contains about 2,380 acres. This area, including Walker Cove, is one of the two most visited areas in Misty Fiords.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Walker Creek and Lake are outstandingly remarkable for fishery, wildlife, recreational, and scenic values of national significance. The stream and lake support a high value trout fishery; brown bear and mountain goats are abundant. The area is renowned for its spectacular scenery and because of this, is one of the two most frequently visited areas in Misty Fiords. During the summer, air taxi operators pick up passengers from cruiseships visiting Ketchikan and flightsee over Misty Fiords, nearly always visiting this area.
<b>Classification</b>	All 6 miles of the river meets the criteria for the Wild River classification.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Walker Creek and Lake is recommended as a Wild River area in Alternatives A, B, and D.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Walker Creek and Lake is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fiords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p> <p><i>Transportation:</i> Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not affect present or future transportation system opportunities.</p>

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There are no tentatively suitable acres of forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the outstandingly remarkable scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State has not identified this area for future development of transportation and other infrastructure. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.



## WARD CREEK AND LAKE

### Description

Located on the Ketchikan Ranger District in VCU 750, Ward Creek and Lake are on Revillagigedo Island and are within the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. Ward Creek flows out of Connell Lake and meanders three miles through the Ward Lake Recreation Area, including Ward Lake, before reaching saltwater at Ward Cove about seven miles north of Ketchikan. Connell Lake is dammed and serves as the water supply reservoir for the Ketchikan Pulp Mill at Ward Cove. Much of the stream corridor is natural in appearance with towering spruce and hemlock. The area is on the Ketchikan road system and is well-known for its excellent sport fisheries and recreation opportunities. The area receives heavy use from both local residents and visitors, and serves as a primary community recreation area for Ketchikan. The Forest Service maintains three campgrounds, four day-use picnic shelters, and several picnic sites within the Ward Lake area. A nature trail is also provided which encircles Ward Lake. Trailheads for hiking to Perseverance and Talbot Lakes are also located in the area. The Ward Lake area received approximately 25,000 recreation visitor days use during 1990. The river corridor contains approximately 900 acres, of which about 35 acres are private lands.

### Eligibility

Ward Creek and Lake combine to form a free-flowing river system. The river system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fishery and recreation values. Ward Creek provides some of the best stream fishing in the Ketchikan area. The system supports all salmon species except king salmon. Rainbow, steelhead, cutthroat, and eastern brook trout and Dolly Varden char are also present. The river system has an annual steelhead run of approximately 200 adult fish. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) lists this system among the 19 "high quality" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class 1 stream system, recommended to be preserved permanently for fish and wildlife, in ADF&G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The river system has three miles of anadromous fish stream. The recreational values of the Ward Lake area are outstanding. For over 50 years, Ward Lake has served as the community recreation center/park for the residents of Ketchikan. The area is also extensively used by visitors from outside the local Ketchikan area. Recreation activities are diverse and include camping, hiking, wildlife viewing, picnicking, jogging, walking, fishing, swimming, canoeing, kayaking, and ice skating.

### Classification

Three miles of Ward Creek and Lake meet the criteria for Recreational River classification.

### Alternatives

Alternatives A, B, and D: Recreational River designation for all three miles.

Alternative C and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

## Suitability

### **Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Ward Creek and Lake is typical of smaller rivers within the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. However, the river system has considerable importance within the region for recreation use. Its close proximity to Ketchikan makes the systems recreation resources very valuable to residents of that community, and it is the only river within the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province with convenient road access which parallels the river corridor.

### **Suitability Factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are several encumbrances in the Ward Creek and Lake drainage. The Alaska Power Authority maintains a transmission line under special use permit which runs approximately two miles through the river corridor. About 380 acres of the corridor are included in the Ward Lake Recreation Area. As part of this Special Interest Area Land Use Designation, it is managed for recreational purposes and is withdrawn from mineral entry. The Forest Service proposes to expand the Special Interest Area Land Use Designation to include the remainder of the river corridor. There are about 80 acres of state-selected land within the corridor which have been conveyed. The State has no immediate plans for this tract; the land may be relinquished. The State also maintains a right-of-way easement through the river corridor, encompassing approximately 30 acres, for future transportation corridor development. The Ketchikan Pulp Company owns approximately 35 acres within the corridor for maintaining a water supply line for the pulpmill in Ward Cove. This property would revert back to the Forest Service if not used for wood production for five consecutive years.

### **Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Recreational River would not preclude the construction of additional roads within the river corridor.

*Water:* The corridor has not been identified for potential water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Water and power development would be permitted under Recreation River designation. The corridor is currently used to supply and transport water to the pulp mill.

*Minerals:* The U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for mineral extraction and no mining claims exist. The USGS estimates that the undiscovered mineral resource potential might be less than \$4,000 per

acre (not including any development costs). The river corridor will be closed to mineral entry under the existing and planned Special Interest Area Land Use Designation.

*Timber:* The approximately 400 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the river corridor would already be considered unsuitable for timber harvest by the existing and planned Special Interest Area Land Use Designation.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* There are several fisheries enhancement projects planned for the Ward Creek and Lake system. The creek has already been the site of several enhancement projects including the placement of large organic debris and an on-going stocking program by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Ward Lake is scheduled for lake fertilization in 1995 to enhance fish productivity. A fish pass, to increase access to spawning habitat, is scheduled for construction in the near future. Designation as Recreational River would allow access for future fisheries enhancement projects. Management of wildlife habitat would be similar to other areas available for timber harvest and road development.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation as a Recreational River would likely bring increased attention and use to the river. Current plans to develop a barrier-free fishing platform, a fishing access trail, new hiking trails, interpretive facilities, natural resource education programs, and rehabilitate existing campgrounds and trails would likely receive special consideration and appropriate funding. Scenic resources within the river corridor would likely be unaffected by designation. The Ward Creek and Lake system has not been identified as a subsistence use area. No effects to subsistence use are foreseen.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned for the Ward Creek and Lake area during the next 10 years. The outstandingly remarkable fisheries and recreation values of the Ward Creek and Lake would not be adversely affected. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and current standards and guidelines. The existing recreation opportunities would be maintained by the Special Interest Area Land Use Designation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The State maintains a strong interest in the transportation corridor that runs along the western boundary of the Ward Lake recreation complex and extends through the river corridor. The community of Ketchikan has expressed interest for many years in developing a transportation link to the mainland and into British Columbia to enhance public access to the community. This transportation corridor would likely be used for that purpose if this link to the mainland is ever pursued. The corridor is also likely to be developed to enhance opportunities for resource development and recreation opportunities on Revilla Island. No public comments

on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to Ward Creek and Lake have been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. The Forest Service is currently planning to rehabilitate existing recreation facilities and provide additional facilities in the river corridor to enhance recreation opportunities. Planning and management costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

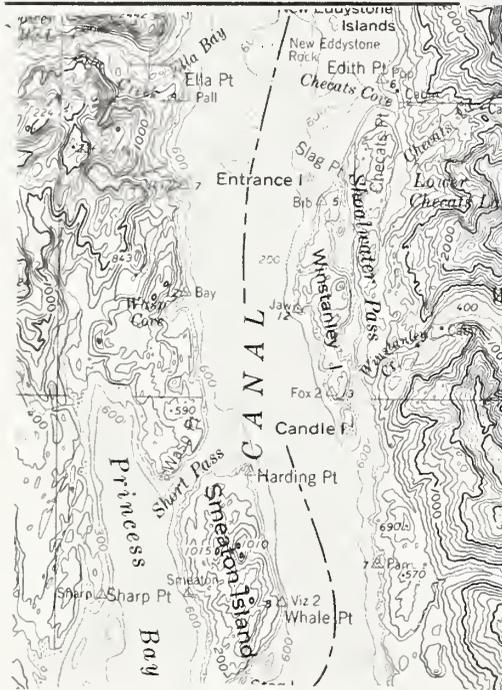
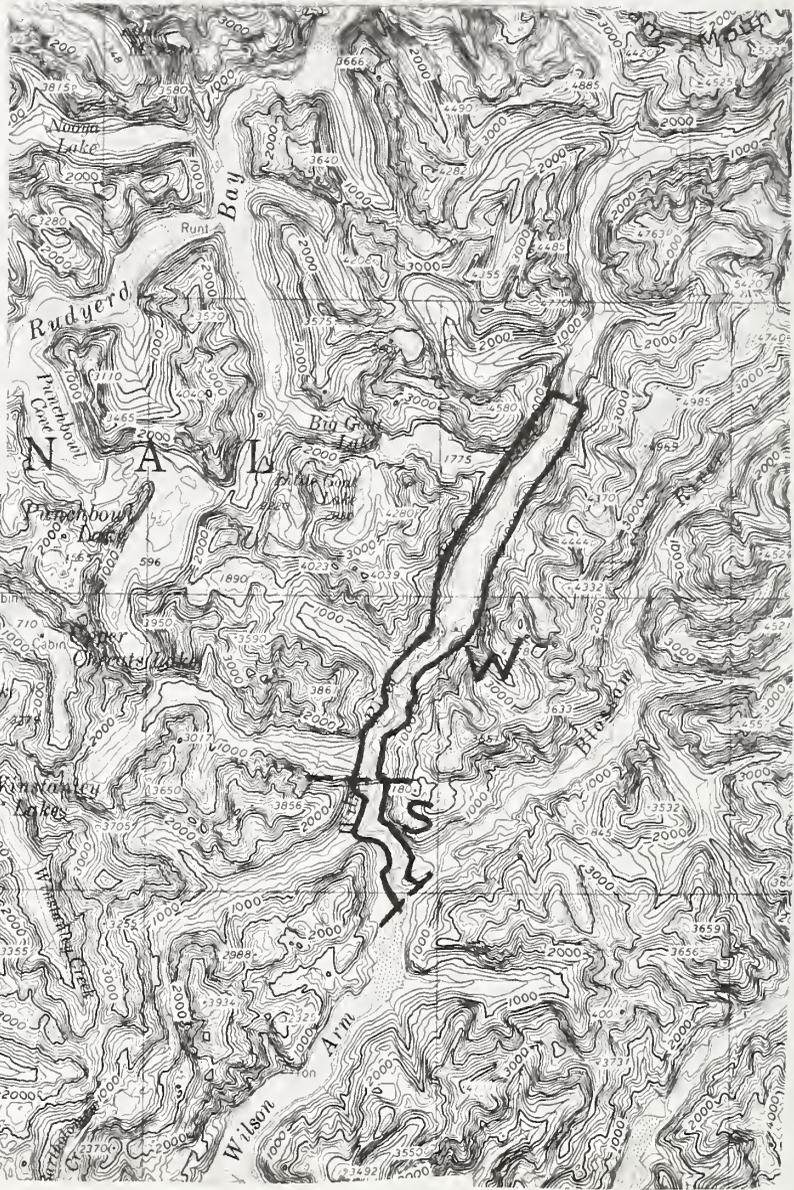
General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 75,000 total
Development Costs	\$1,669,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 130,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$1,879,000

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# Wilson River and Lake

## Legend

- Eligible River Boundary
- Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification



SCALE 1:250 000



## WILSON RIVER AND LAKE

<b>Description</b>	Wilson River and Lake is located within Misty Fjords National Monument on the mainland in VCU's 817 and 818, and is within the Coast Range Geographic Province. Nine miles of the stream are within the Wilderness; three miles are within the non-Wilderness portion of the National Monument. The total river corridor contains about 5,620 acres. The river flows from Wilson Lake and joins the Blossom River just above saltwater at Wilson Arm, about 44 air miles from Ketchikan. The river and lake are known for fishing and wildlife. Two public recreation cabins are located on the lake. The wharf for the U.S. Borax mining operation is at the mouth of the Wilson River; an access road to the Borax claims parallels the lower Wilson.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Wilson River and Lake are outstandingly remarkable for fishery and wildlife values of regional significance. Fishing is considered excellent for cutthroat, Dolly Varden char, and Kokanee. Reportedly, the state record cutthroat was caught from Wilson Lake. The area has an unusually high concentration of brown bear. Other wildlife includes Sitka black-tailed deer, black bear, and mink.
<b>Classification</b>	Nine miles of the river meet the criteria for the Wild River classification. The three miles of river within the non-Wilderness portion of the National Monument adjacent to the road, wharf, and other development, meet the criteria for Scenic River.
<b>Alternatives</b>	Nine miles of Wilson River and Lake are recommended as a Wild River, and three miles as a Scenic River in Alternative A.
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National system.</b></p> <p>Wilson River and Lake is one of 18 rivers in the Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness that is considered eligible, and would add to the representation of the Coast Range Geographic Province.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.</b></p> <p>There are no private lands within the river corridor.</p> <p><b>Suitability factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.</b></p>

*Transportation:* Roads are prohibited subject to ANILCA exceptions. No additional transportation corridors potentially affecting the area have been proposed or studied under ANILCA Title XI. Therefore, designation would not likely affect present or future transportation system opportunities.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water or power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation would not likely affect the future availability of water supplies and electric power. Water resource projects could be approved only by Congress if the river were designated.

*Minerals:* The area is withdrawn from mineral entry under ANILCA except for valid existing rights.

*Timber:* There is no tentatively suitable forest land in the river corridor because the entire area is withdrawn from timber harvest under ANILCA.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* Designation as a Wild River would restrict fish enhancement opportunities to a greater extent than the Wilderness designation under ANILCA does.

*Recreation, Scenery, Geology:* Designation as Wild and Scenic River would have no effect on the scenic resources. Some increase in recreation use would be likely, and requests by commercial outfitters and guides for use of the river corridor may increase.

*Subsistence:* The area has not been identified as a primary subsistence use area. No effect on subsistence use is foreseen.

*Historical/Cultural:* Increased public use which could result from designation may have adverse impacts on historic and cultural values. Impacts may result from souvenir collecting, looting, and inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites. However, designation could provide additional opportunities for interpretation of historic and cultural resources.

*Effects of non-designation:* If not designated, the river would retain its outstandingly remarkable values and primitive character and its free-flowing character in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. Water resource projects could occur only if approved by the President of the United States.

#### **Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

The area is a potential powerline intertie to Canada. No public comment on the DEIS specifically referred to this river.

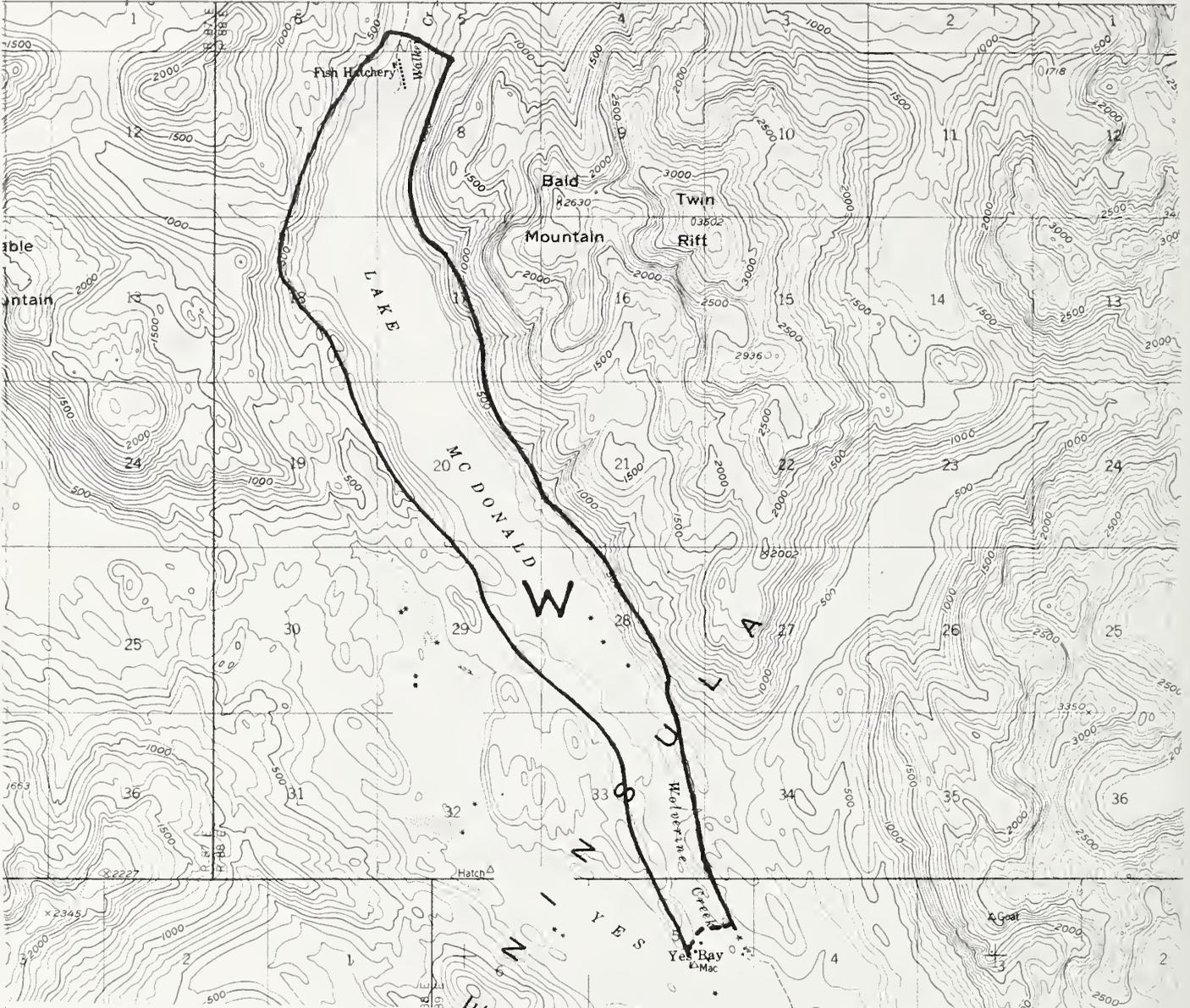
**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

No private lands would be acquired; no significant recreation or other developments would occur. The following are expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated.

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 10,000 total*
Development Costs	\$ 0 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 0 annual*
Total - First Five Years	\$ 15,000*

\*Management planning and operations are concurrent with Wilderness management activities.

# Wolverine Creek--McDonald Lake



## Legend

-  Eligible River Boundary
-  Segment Boundary
- W** 'Wild' Classification
- S** 'Scenic' Classification
- R** 'Recreational' Classification

SCALE 1:63360



## WOLVERINE CREEK--MCDONALD LAKE

### Description

Located on the Ketchikan Ranger District in VCU 724, Wolverine Creek--McDonald Lake system is on Cleveland Peninsula and the mainland and is within the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province. Wolverine Creek flows out of McDonald Lake and enters saltwater at Yes Bay, about 42 air miles north of Ketchikan. McDonald Lake is approximately 1,000 acres in size and lies at an elevation of about 50 feet. An old fish hatchery exists at the mouth of Walker Creek, located on the north end of the lake. This facility was used to raise sockeye salmon between 1900 and 1939. The area is well-known for its fishing and recreation opportunities. The Forest Service provides and maintains both a recreation cabin and a three-sided shelter on McDonald Lake to enhance recreational use of the area. The cabin is extremely popular for fishing activities and received 1,008 visitor days use during 1990. Hunting goats, bear, and deer is also a popular activity for cabin users. A 1.5 mile trail is also maintained by the Forest Service to provide saltwater access from Yes Bay to McDonald Lake. Yes Bay Lodge, a private resort, is located at the mouth of Wolverine Creek on Yes Bay. The lodge attracts mostly out of state clients, primarily visiting for the outstanding fishing opportunities. An abundance of wildlife can be found in the Wolverine Creek-McDonald Lake area. The river corridor contains approximately 3,000 acres, all of which is National Forest System land.

### Eligibility

Wolverine Creek and McDonald Lake combine to form a free-flowing river system. The system is outstandingly remarkable for its regionally significant fishery, wildlife, and recreation values. The lake and stream have a good steelhead run, averaging about 50 adult fish each year. Also, five species of salmon, grayling, western brook lamprey, Dolly Varden char, and cutthroat and rainbow trout can be found in the system. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) lists Wolverine Creek-McDonald Lake among the 65 "important" watersheds in Southeast Alaska for fisheries values. It is also rated as a Class 1 stream, recommended to be preserved permanently for fish and wildlife, in ADF&G's Forest Habitat Integrity Plan. The system has approximately six miles of anadromous fish stream. The area offers an abundance of wildlife. Species commonly found include wolves, brown and black bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, mountain goats, wolverine, beaver, otter, mink, marten, weasel, and porcupine. Moose sign has also been observed in the area. Trumpeter swans, a sensitive species, and tundra swans use the lake as a wintering ground. Canada geese and arctic loons nest in the beaver ponds which are connected to the main lake. The recreation values are considered significant due to the diversity of fishing opportunities available and the number of wildlife species found in the area for viewing and hunting.

### Classification

All six miles of Wolverine Creek-McDonald Lake meet the criteria for Wild River classification.

## Alternatives

Alternative A: Wild River designation for all six miles.

Alternative B, C, D, and P: No designation as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

## Suitability

**Suitability Factor #1: Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the National System.**

Wolverine Creek-Lake McDonald is typical of smaller rivers originating on the mainland. Its fish, wildlife, and recreation values, when considered in combination, are of regional significance. When compared with other representative rivers in the Central Interior Islands Geographic Province, this river system would not be considered unique. The Wolverine Creek-McDonald Lake area does get significant use by commercial outfitter and guide services. In 1991, the Forest Service received several requests for outfitter and guide special use permits involving fishing activities within the river corridor.

**Suitability Factor # 2: Current status of land ownership and use in the area including the amount of private land and the uses of such land.**

There are no private lands or mining claims within the river corridor. Immediately adjacent to the corridor at Yes Bay there is a tract of private land approximately 11 acres in size on the west side of Wolverine Creek which is occupied by the Yes Bay Lodge resort. On the east side of the creek is a tract approximately 25 acres in size which is under a Bureau of Land Management withdrawal. It is likely that this tract will not be conveyed.

**Suitability Factor #3: Foreseeable potential uses of the land and water that would be enhanced, foreclosed or curtailed by designation; and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.**

*Transportation:* Designation as a Wild River would probably not affect present or future transportation system opportunities. The area has not been identified as a suitable transportation corridor by the State or the Forest Service. Wild River designation would generally limit road development within the corridor, except as provided for in ANILCA Title XI.

*Water:* The area has no identified potential for water and power development and there are no existing power site withdrawals. Designation as a Wild River would unlikely affect the future availability of water supplies or electric power.

*Minerals:* The U.S. Bureau of Mines does not list this area as having known potential for mineral extraction and no mining claims exist within or adjacent to the corridor. The USGS estimates that the Gross In Place Value of potential, undiscovered

ered, mineral resources may be less than \$4,000 per acre (not including any development costs). The river corridor would be withdrawn from mineral entry if designated as Wild River.

*Timber:* Designation as a Wild River would not affect the approximately 1,600 acres of tentatively suitable forest land within the corridor from consideration for timber harvest because it would be unsuitable anyway from the surrounding Semi-primitive recreation and old growth habitat designations.

*Fisheries and Wildlife:* In cooperation with ADF&G, the Forest Service currently maintains a fisheries fertilization project at Lake McDonald. Designation would not likely affect this program as the facilities are unobtrusive and are compatible with Wild River management. Existing habitat conditions would be maintained by Wild River designation.

*Recreation, Scenic, and Subsistence:* Designation as a Wild River would maintain the current scenic qualities and primitive recreation opportunities. Recreation use would likely increase due to the attention resulting from designation. The system has been identified as a subsistence use area. One subsistence use permit for sockeye salmon was issued in 1990, and the Yes Bay area is one of several areas identified as a personal use fishery. It is likely that some competition with subsistence use may result from increased recreational use associated with fishing activities if the river were designated.

*Effects of non-designation:* There are no timber harvest activities planned in the Wolverine Creek-Lake McDonald area during the next 10 years. The outstandingly remarkable fisheries values would not likely be affected. Fish habitat values are adequately protected by the application of the stream buffer requirements of the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the current standards and guidelines. However, with implementation of Forest Plan Revision Alternative D, the outstandingly remarkable wildlife and primitive recreation values would likely be affected if motorized recreational use is permitted within the river corridor under the Semi-Primitive Land Use Designation.

**Suitability Factor #4: Public, State and local governmental interests.**

No public comments on the Forest Plan Revision DEIS specifically referring to Wolverine Creek-McDonald Lake have been received.

**Suitability Factor #5: Estimated cost of land acquisition and management as a Wild and Scenic River.**

There would be no acquisition of private lands. Recreation improvements currently being planned include reconstruction of a three-sided shelter and construction of a foot bridge to enhance access to the existing cabin. Planning and management

costs would increase above present levels. The following are the expected additional funding needs for a five year period if the river were designated:

General Administration	not estimated
Cost of Implementation	\$ 5,000 total
Management Plan Development	\$ 30,000 total
Development Costs	\$ 21,000 total
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 5,000 annual
Total - First Five Years	\$ 81,000





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