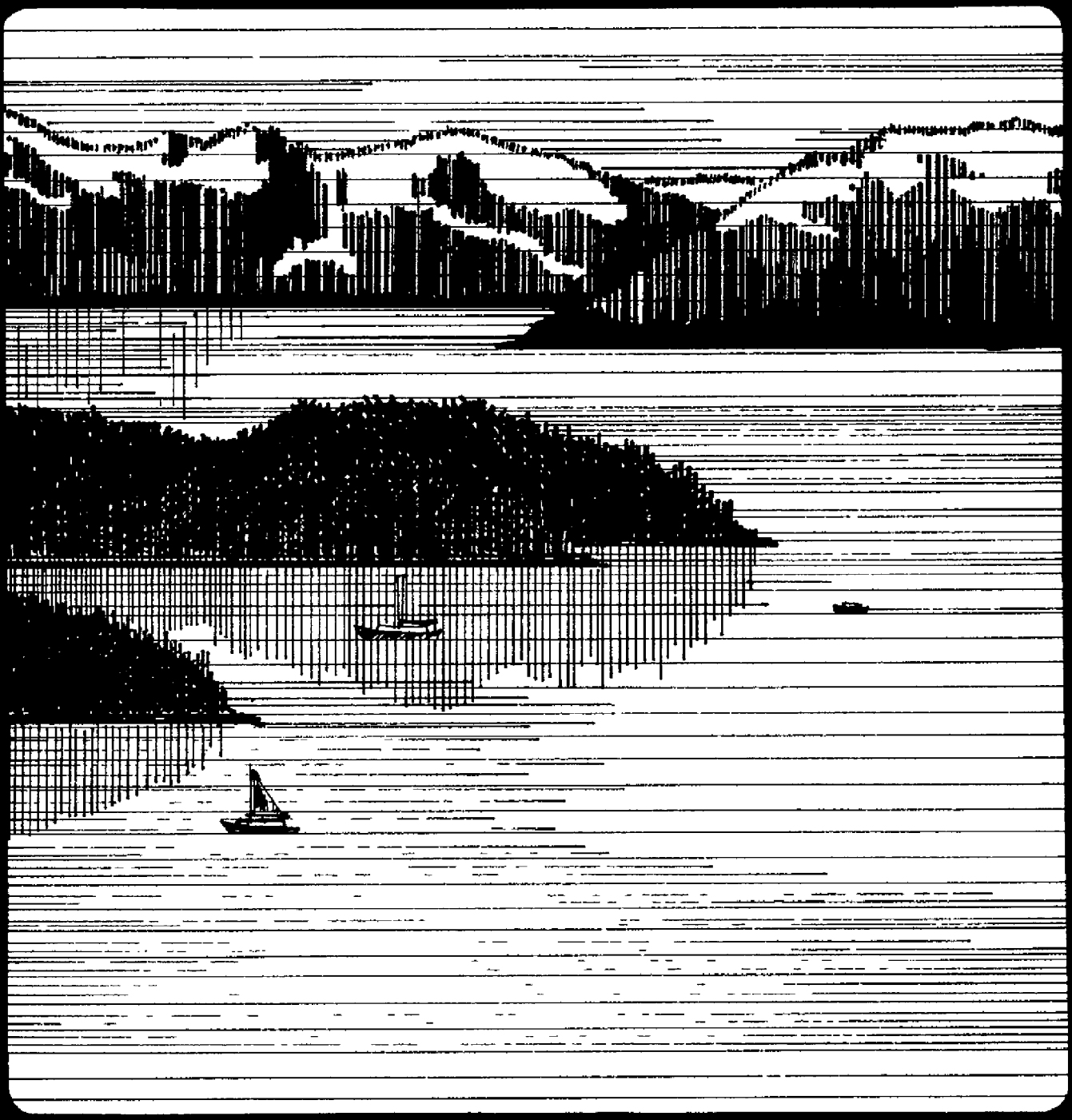
Recreation, Scenic, and Heritage
Areas of Particular Concern



Cape Puget to Cape Suckling, Alaska

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PRELIMINARY DRAFT

Recreation, Scenic and Heritage Areas of Particular Concern: Cape Puget to Cape Suckling, Alaska

A report by

Planning Section
Alaska Division of Parks
Department of Natural Resources

for

Alaska Coastal Management Program

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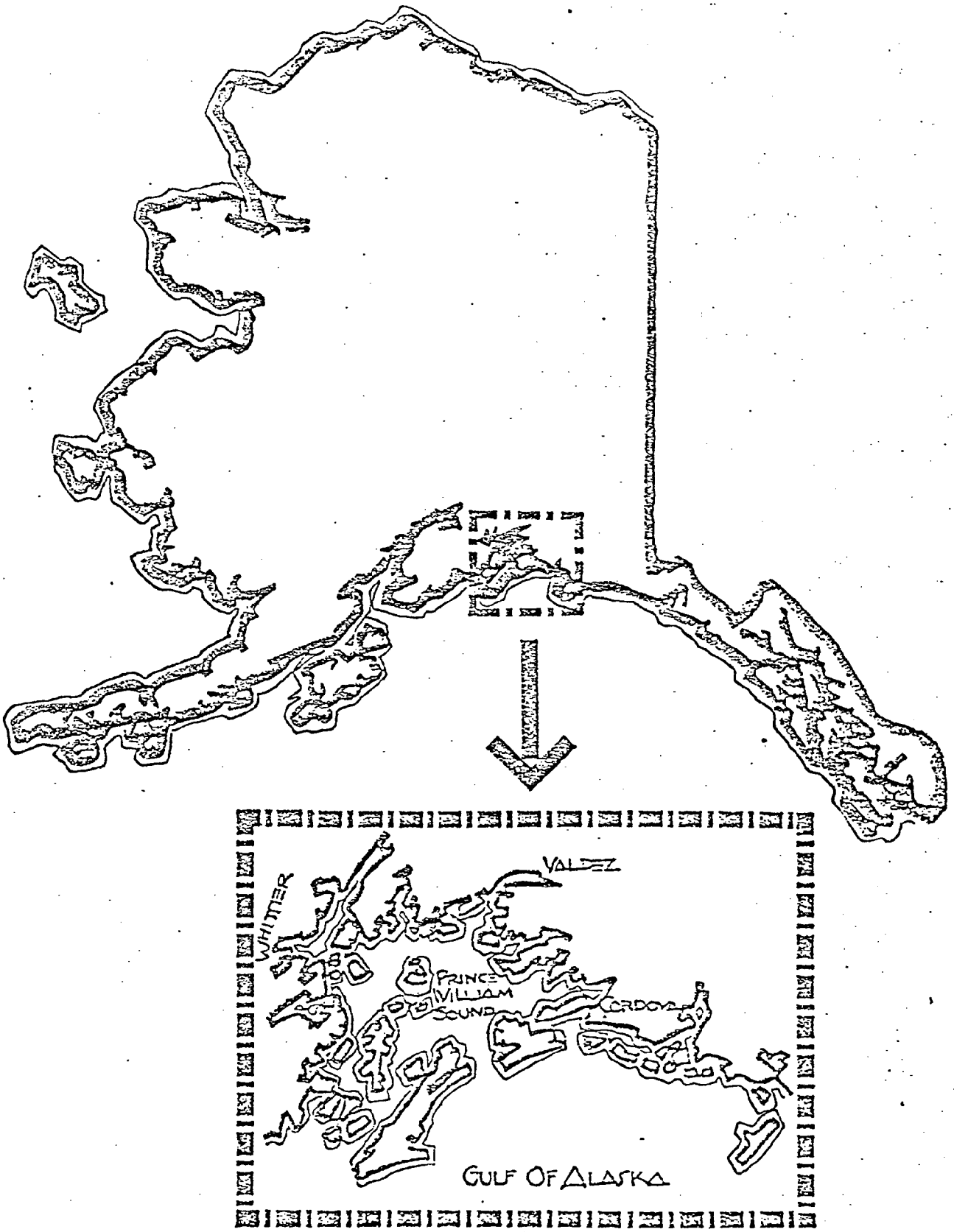


Location Map

Introduction

The marine shoreline of over 3,500 miles found in the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay portion of the state represents a spectacular and diverse assemblage of recreation, scenic, wilderness, and heritage resource values to both the people of Alaska and the nation. Although historical records show habitation of this area since approximately 200 A.D., to date the effects of human use on this area are slight. Consequently, the recreational and aesthetic values of this area have been relatively undisturbed.

However, the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay area is by no means isolated from the profound land ownership and land use changes which are occurring throughout Alaska. Potential disturbance and degradation of recreation and aesthetic values may occur from a number of sources. Factors contributing to increased human use of the sound include: population growth in Anchorage and elsewhere in the state leading to increased recreation demand for areas such as Prince William Sound; the transportation of oil from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez and concomitant shipping activities, development and population growth; a nationwide increase in demand for timber products which may bring more portions of the area under intensive forest management; potential completion of the Copper River Highway to Cordova and/or a highway connection to Whittier; the construction of a liquified natural gas plant at Point Gravina and the development of access roads to that site; the transfer of large amounts of presently publicly-owned land to Native corporations under the provision of the Native Claims Settlement Act; selections of land by the state for community expansion and recreation needs.

In the coming years a number of land use decisions and plans will be formulated regarding the resources of the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay area. Among these planning activities will be the development of both local and regional coastal management plans to direct the development and protection of the area's coastline.

This report has been prepared, hopefully, to define more clearly the recreation, scenic, wilderness, and heritage values present in order that they may be fully considered in these and other land use actions. This report is by no means an absolute account of these resource values, but has been formulated to denote particular areas, their approximate boundaries, and acreage, and values present in order to fulfill more immediate planning needs.

The Area

Prince William Sound is a scenic and relatively pristine area of the State. The sound, comprised of numerous glacier-scoured fiords and both large and small off-shore islands, is bordered by the Kenai Mountains to the west, Chugach Mountains to the north, St. Elias Mountains to the east, and the open Gulf of Alaska to the south. Vegetation found in this area is similar in nature to the Sitka spruce-hemlock coastal vegetation type found throughout much of southern Alaska. This area is a sharp contrast to the upland, hardwood spruce forests which are prevalent throughout much of the remainder of southcentral Alaska. Because of the large, intricate and protected waterways, wildlife, regional uniqueness of the area, and proximity to the Anchorage-Fairbanks railbelt area, Prince William Sound offers unique coastal recreation opportunities to a large segment of Alaska's population as well as visitors to the State.

History

Both the Prince William Sound and Afognak areas have long been inhabited by the Chugachimiut Eskimo people. Records at Palugvik on Hawkins Island in Prince William Sound possibly date habitation to 200 A.D. The location and composition of archaeological sites throughout the area attest to the marine or coastal orientation of early inhabitants.

de Laguna (1956) states:

> The Chugach have a keen awareness of geography and history. Every bay, island, rocky point, or beach has its name, and many of these were the scenes of historical or legendary events.
>
> Village sites were invariably on the shore, usually on protected waters for travel in this area is practically restricted to boats. The village was frequently so placed that it commanded a view of the approaches and a strategic position seems to have been a much more important consideration that the neighborhood of a salmon stream or a particularly rich bed of shellfish. Thus no permanent villages were located at the heads of bays, in spite of the tempting presence of some of the best salmon streams, because these were "dead ends" from which escape by water would be impossible in the event of an attack. Temporary camps were, however, made at fish streams during the salmon runs.

The Eyak people occupied the Copper River-Delta area and represent cultural attributes of Eskimo, Athabaskan and Tlingit groups. The Tlingit people, residing to the south, did upon occasion enter the Prince William Sound area in raiding parties.

European contact began in July of 1741 with Vitus Bering's landing at Kayak Island, southeast of the Copper River Delta. Spanish and English explorations followed Bering's visit. The first permanent habitation by Europeans in Alaska was by the Russians in 1784 on Kodiak Island at Three-Saints-Bay. The Russians soon began to exploit marine fur-bearing mammals throughout Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound, and the Kodiak Island area. Other Spanish and English explorations resulted in the three nations laying claim to Prince William Sound within a two year period. Today, one finds many placenames of Russian, English, and Spanish origin along the southcentral Alaska coastline.

For eighty-three years the Russian American Company controlled southcentral Alaska. In 1867, when Alaska was purchased by the United States government from Russia, few changes occurred in trade and commerce patterns except the initiation of commercial fishing activities which are still very much the regional lifestyle in the area. With the discovery of gold in the Fairbanks area, transportation routes to interior Alaska became very important. The Richardson trail between Valdez and Fairbanks was utilized for hauling freight; Cordova became a railhead for copper coming out of the Kennecott mines near Chitina.

Construction of the Alaska Railroad in 1920 brought large numbers of construction workers into the Cook Inlet region. Seward, as the southern terminus of this project, experienced a great deal of railroad-related growth. During World War II a concern for the defensibility of the Seward Railroad terminus led to the construction of a second terminus and military supply base at the head of Passage Canal. This project at Whittier involved the construction of two railroad tunnels of one and two and one-half miles in length.

Climate

The Prince William Sound-Copper River area is within a maritime climatic zone. The climate of this zone is typified by heavy precipitation, often strong surface winds, cool summers and mild winters. Cyclonic storms generated by the low-pressure trough located over the Gulf of Alaska produce clouds, rain, fog, and snow between the months of October through March. Prevailing winds for this area are easterly; however, for the majority of Prince William Sound local variations in this wind pattern predominate. Local topography

both generates and exerts strong wind influence on specific sites. A phenomena particular to this area is the intense "williwaw" winds which spill over the mountain ranges into the coastal areas, occasionally generating sudden winds of over 105 k.p.h. (65 m.p.h.).

Precipitation rates vary considerably throughout the area. Whittier receives annually 176 inches of precipitation, while Cordova receives 81 inches. Cordova annually receives 262 cloudy days per year, while Valdez receives only 190.

Flora and Fauna

Terrestrial Flora

The terrestrial vegetation of the area is characterized by three major types: (1) Sitka spruce-Western hemlock, (2) wet tundra, and (3) alpine tundra. The Sitka spruce-Western hemlock association occurs from sea level to 600 meters (2,000 feet). Of the three plant associations, this type is the most extensive. However, due to the relatively steep topography of this area, this forest association is confined primarily to a narrow coastal strip and stream valleys. The relative proportions of Western hemlock to Sitka spruce varies. Generally, the percent of hemlock in the forest strand which is greatest in the eastern portions of the sound, decreases steadily as one moves in a westward direction. Thus, in the western portion of the sound, Sitka spruce occupies a greater portion of the forest association. Alaska cedar, cottonwood, aspen, white spruce, and paper birch are also found in this association. Their existence is, however, patchy and locally restricted. Understory shrubs often found in this association include Sitka alder, devil's club, salmonberry, willows, Pacific red elder, rusty menziesia, copper-brush, blueberry and huckleberry.

Grasses, herbs, and other species found in the area include ferns, bluejoint, lymegrass, lichens, mosses, liverworts, and mushrooms.

Above treeline, on all major mountains and ridges, the alpine tundra association is comprosed of low-lying plant mats and "barren" rock. Common herbaceous species include white mountain avens, moss campion, black oxytrope, artic sandwort, alpine azalea, as well as various lichens, grasses, and sedges. Associated shrubby species include resin birch, dwarf arctic birch, cassiope, crowberry, Labrador tea, mountain heath, rhododendron, arctic willow, drawf blueberry, bog blueberry, and cranberry.

The wet tundra plant association appears generally in low lying and level areas with soils primarily composed of peat. Shrubs in this association include willow, drawf arctic birch, Labrador tea, shrubby cinquefoil, lingenberry, and bog cranberry. Grasses and other species include: lymegrass, pendant grass, cottongrass, bur reed, mare's tail, rushes, sedges, lichens, mosses, and liverworts.

Terrestrial Mammals

Approximately 33 species of mammals occur in the Prince William Sound area, among these are: moose, brown and black bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, mountain goat, wolf, coyote, lynx, wolverine, porcupine, red fox, muskrat, snowshoe hare, beaver, squirrels, mice, and shrews. Also present are marmot, martin, weasel, mink, and river otter which heavily utilize the intertidal areas.

Moose are present along the Lowe River in the Valdez area, the mainland near Cordova, on the Copper River Delta, and reportedly along the Nellie Juan River in the Kings Bay area. Winter concentrations are found on the Copper River Delta and along the Nellie Juan River. Utilizing the extensive willow zone often adjacent to beach and river areas, they retreat into the spruce-hemlock forest for protection.

Mountain goat occur in areas around Cochrane Bay, between Icy Bay and Blue Fiord, between Cedar Bay and Long Bay, and in the mountains behind Cordova, as well as other remote areas. Sitka black-tailed deer are present on several of the islands in the sound. The highest winter densities of these deer occur on Hinchinbrook, Hawkins, Montague, and Green Islands, where they feed within the narrow beach fringe where vegetation is generally free of deep snows.

Brown bear are present on Kayak Island, Montague Island, Hinchinbrook Island, on the Copper River Delta and in the Valdez area. They are concentrated on coastal streams during fall and summer where they feed on spawning salmon.

Black bear occur throughout the mainland as well as on LaTouche, Esther, Evans, and Chenega Islands. They are also found in the Copper River, Valdez, and College Fiord areas. Both species of bears utilize beach fringe and salmon spawning areas.

For a more complete identification of species and their habitats, the reader should refer to Alaska Fish and Wildlife Inventory of the Northeast Gulf of Alaska (Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1975) and other references listed in the bibliography.

Marine System

The marine system of the area includes over 3,500 miles of coastline. The Prince William Sound Coastline is convoluted with many bays, inlets, and islands. Beaches are predominately rock although mudflats and sandy beaches also occur. The Controller Bay/Copper River Delta Coastline is characterized by wave-beaten sand beaches and extensive mudflats. The nearshore marine waters of this area have estuarine conditions due to the high level of freshwater inflow from glaciers, the Copper River, and other numerous rivers and streams. The cool, nutrient rich marine waters produce large quantities of phytoplankton, during the spring and summer. Phytoplankton, the foundation of marine food webs are partly responsible for the abundance of marine life found in this region. This marine life includes: invertebrates, fish, birds, and mammals. Subtidal and intertidal algae (seaweeds) are also important components of the marine food web and support an abundance of invertebrates, fish, birds, and mammals.

Intertidal Zone: The intertidal zone is inhabited by a variety of plants and animals which are uniquely suited to specific physical, chemical, and biological conditions. While the exact composition of intertidal plants and animals varies greatly depending upon these conditions, the substrate or bottome-type (sand, rock, mud, or combination of these) characterizes the types of floral and faunal communities which can be found.

The predominant rocky intertidal and shallow subtidal areas host a number of organisms utilized by marine fish, birds, and mammals during some portion of thir life history. For example, rockweed and kelp are benthic algae upon which herring lay their eggs. In turn, a variety of fish and marine mammals eat herring including: salmon, Stellar sea lions, and humpback whales. All areas discussed in this report contain intertidal zones that are not only important for the healthy function of the marine ecosystem, but also area utilized by people visiting them for beachcombing, photography, studying marine life, clam digging, and sport fishing.

Shellfish: Shellfish found in the area include: king (red, golden or brown, and blue), Dungeness and Tanner crabs; shrimp, razor clams, cockles, butter clams, and scallops (offshore of the Copper River Delta).

Marine Mammals: Marine mammals known to occur in the area include: grey, fin, sei, humpback, and minke whales, dall and harbor porpoises, killer whales, harbor and northern fur seals, Steller sea lions, and sea otters. Food sources for these animals range from free floating plankton to a wide variety of fish, molluscs, and crustaceans.

Areas utilized by these animals and their feeding habits vary widely. Harbor seals can be found throughout the area concentrating when hauled out in the intertidal zone. and seasonally near river mouths (most notably around the Copper River Delta) during anadromous fish runs. A variety of fish including sole, flounder, sculpin, hake, herring, candlefish, rockfish, sandlance, and salmon (during the fall) constitutes the diet of harbor seals. Steller sea lions and northern fur seals generally prefer open areas exposed to the Gulf of Alaska where they feed on herring, pollock, capelin, and sandlance. Sea otters inhabit nearshore waters and prefer rocky reefs, shoals, offshore rocks, and kelp beds found throughout the area. Approximately 5,000 sea otters are reported to occur in the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay area (Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1973).

Because of the importance of marine mammals to the marine system, they have received nationwide protection under the Marine Mammals Protection Act. The presence of marine mammals in the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay area offers a unique opportunity for recreationists and sightseers to observe these animals in their natural habitat. For additional information on marine mammals in this area, the reader is referred to several papers listed in the bibliography which have been done by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on the distribution and behavior of these mammals.

Marine fish: Anadromous fish occurring in the area's marine waters include: pink, red, chum, coho, and king salmon; steelhead, Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout. Concentrations of these species vary widely throughout the study area. For example, pink salmon are commercially harvested in large quantities in the Prince William Sound area. However, in the Copper and Bering River areas they comprise a very small portion of the annual commercial salmon harves where red salmon predominate. Other marine fish species of commercial importance include halibut, herring, ocean perch, black cod, pollock, Pacific cod, and turbot.

Freshwater fish: Major freshwater fish found in addition to the previously mentioned anadromous species include: rainbow trout (where planted), Arctic grayling (planted near Valdez and Cordova), turbot (found in one lake near Cordova), and white fish (found in the Cordova/Copper River area). While of no direct economic or little sport fishing value, several species of sculpins, threespine stickleback, and eulachon provide food for larger species of freshwater fish.

Birds: Approximately half of the 219 species known to occur in the area utilize a variety of water-oriented habitats occurring along the area's shorelines. Overall, bird usage of this area can best be described as transitory, as most species utilize the area's waters and shorelands while en route to spring and summer breeding grounds. During spring migration the intertidal areas host several million shorebirds and passerines. Some breeding and nesting does occur throughout Prince William Sound as evidenced by the many seabird colonies (many with over 10,000 individuals). The Copper River Delta is a vitally important breeding area for Dusky Canada Geese and is also important for ducks, swans, shorebirds and other waterbirds. During the fall, migrating birds utilize offshore waters extensively for resting and feeding. During the winter, shorebirds are often found near rocky reefs; eagles near tidal flats and dabbling and diving ducks near the protected inshore waters. A wide variety of shorebirds and land birds utilize shore and tidal areas while the protected waters of the bays and fiords provide overwintering habitat for many species of ducks.

For a detailed discussion of birds utilizing this area, the reader is referred to the 1973 work by Islieb and Kessel titled Birds of the Northern Gulf Coast Prince William Sound Region, Alaska.

Transportation

The majority of the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay area is accessible only by boat or float plane. Wheeled aircraft can land on a few beaches in the eastern portion of the area. Direct highway access, using the Richardson Highway, is available through the community of Valdez. Indirect highway access is possible from Anchorage by placing an automobile onto the train at Portage. Once there, launching a small boat or boarding one of the State Ferries which serve the communities of Whittier, Seward, Valdez, and Cordova is possible. A limited road system exists in the Cordova area; however, this system is not connected with the contiguous state highway system. Float planes may be chartered from Anchorage, Valdez, or Cordova. Small boat harbors have been constructed at Cordova, Valdez, Whittier, and Seward. Scheduled air service is provided to the communities of Cordova and Valdez. Sightseeing charter boats operate out of Whittier and Valdez.

Land Status

The status of land ownership in the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay region is presently changing due to the provision of the Native Claims Settlement Act and the Alaska Statehood Act. To date, three Native village corporations have collectively selected 294,000 acres of land. The regional corporation, Chugach Natives, Incorporated, has selected some 69,000 acres. The actual date of conveyance of title to these lands is uncertain.

Additionally, the Alaska Statehood Act entitles the state to select 400,000 acres for community expansion and recreation purposes from the National Forests in Alaska. A portion of this entitlement will be selected from federal lands within the Chugach National Forest. The sizes and locations of state selections is presently unknown, but is expected to be determined in the near future.

While the majority of this area is federally owned and managed as a National Forest by the U. S. Forest Service, private lands and other types of public lands do exist. Private, community, and state lands occur in and near the communities of Cordova, Whittier, Katalla, Chenega, Latouche, and Tatitlek. A large tract of land is presently managed by the Bureau of Land Management in the Controller Bay area. The state of Alaska owns several thousand acres of land surrounding the Cordova airport on the Copper River Delta.

Private holdings of land exist at the head of Nelson Bay, in the vicinity of Katalla, near Port Fidalgo and Tatitlek, on Naked Island, at Thumb Bay on the south end of Knight Island, and south of the abandoned townsite of Latouche. Additionally, numerous individuals hold homesite leases from the Forest Service.

A lighthouse reserve of five thousand acres exists at Cape Hinchinbrook. Other lighthouse reserves are located at Cape St. Elias, the south end of Elrington Island, and near the entrance to Port Nellie Juan.

The future land ownership picture in the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay area will in all likelihood have a tremendous effect on the availability and management of recreation, scenic, heritage, and wilderness resources of the area. Private recreational areas and developments by Native corporations on Native lands are likely. Coordination between local communities, state agencies, and the federal government will be essential to insure the protection and accessibility of recreation, scenic, heritage, and wilderness values which the area offers.

Recreation Use

While no comprehensive recreation use studies have been conducted for this area, use patterns for specific activities can be described as follows:

Sightseeing

In terms of persons participating, sightseeing is probably one of the more popular activities occurring in the area. Sightseeing occurs from three principal modes of transportation: traveling on the State Ferry System, using recreational watercraft, and by private or chartered flightseeing trips using small aircraft. While for recreational boaters sightseeing may be incidental or a part of the activity of boating, for those traveling in small planes or on the State Ferry, sightseeing is generally the principal activity. Sightseeing activities tend to concentrate around tidewater glaciers such as the Columbia Glacier, the Blackstone Bay area, and the Harriman Fiord area.

Fishing

Three types of sport fishing occur in Prince William Sound and the Controller Bay area. These are rod and reel fishing for both fresh and saltwater species, pot fishing for crabs or shrimp, and digging for clams (generally razor clams). Rod and reel fishing is probably the most common activity and generally occurs in marine waters. Common sport salmon fishing areas include Coghill Point, Passage Canal, Long Bay, and Eshamy Lagoon, Port Valdez, and the marine waters near Cordova.

Camping

While auto campgrounds exist near Valdez and Cordova, the majority of camping occurs on the shorelines of remote areas. Persons camping in these remote areas generally arrive by kayak or small power boat. Sandspits, wide beaches, and gravel bars are popular campsites as they provide good drainage during periods of rain.

Boating

The protected bays, fiords, inlets, and passages are the most popular boating areas in Prince William Sound. However, during periods of good weather, the entire sound may be safely navigated. Small boat harbors and boat ramps exist at Whittier, Valdez, and Cordova. Seward-based boaters occasionally cross Blying Sound from Resurrection Bay to enter southwest portion of Prince William Sound. The waiting lists for slips at existing facilities are long and generally indicate a strong interest in boating by southcentral residents. A new marina at Shotgun Cove has been proposed, as well as expansions of all existing boat basins.

Beachcombing

While the activity of beachcombing or beach hiking is possible throughout much of the area, beaches exposed to the North Gulf of Alaska generally yield the greatest variety of drift material.

Hunting

Hunting for mountain goat, Sitka black-tailed deer, and black bear occurs in numerous areas. The Copper River Delta is an important waterfowl hunting area. Black bear are commonly sought in the Patton Bay area.

Hiking

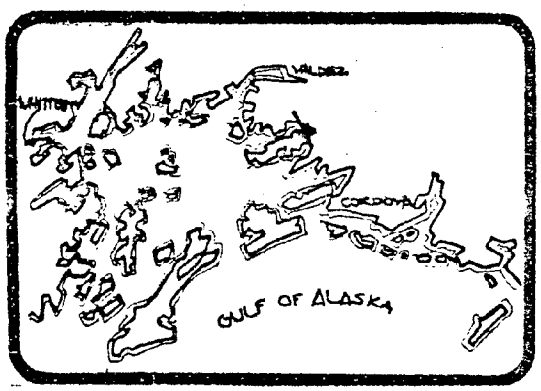
While established hiking trails exist in some areas (generally the Cordova area), hiking is believed to occur throughout the sound. However, dense brush and forests of the area offer a constraint to hikers. Hikes often originate from beach areas into alpine zones.

Scuba Diving

Several popular scuba diving areas exist in the western portion of the sound. Applegate Island in Port Nellie Juan is an extremely popular area due to common clear water conditions. Passage Canal is sometimes used by Anchorage-based divers as an easily accessible diving area. Although use by divers has not been determined, Danger Island, located off of the southern tip of Latouche Island, represents an attractive opportunity for scuba diving due to the diverse assemblage of aquatic organisms inhabiting this area.

Recreation Areas of Particular Concern

The following areas have been identified on the basis of their present or potential use for outdoor recreation activities. While outdoor recreation activities do or can occur on all lands within the Prince William Sound/Controller Bay area, these areas have been singled out as they represent particular or outstanding resource values for recreation use. A designated area may possess the ability to support pleasure boating and/or anchoring, beachcombing, hiking, fishing (fresh and saltwater), camping, observing wildlife, scuba diving, clam digging, or nature study. While the primary value of each of the following areas is recreation, associated values of scenic or heritage resources present have been noted where these values are also particular or outstanding. While management emphasis of an area should stress the primary value, associated values should be maintained and enhanced if possible. When management of the area for the primary value generates adverse impacts on associated values, mitigation or elimination of impacts through use restrictions or other controls should be fully considered.



Beartrap Bay

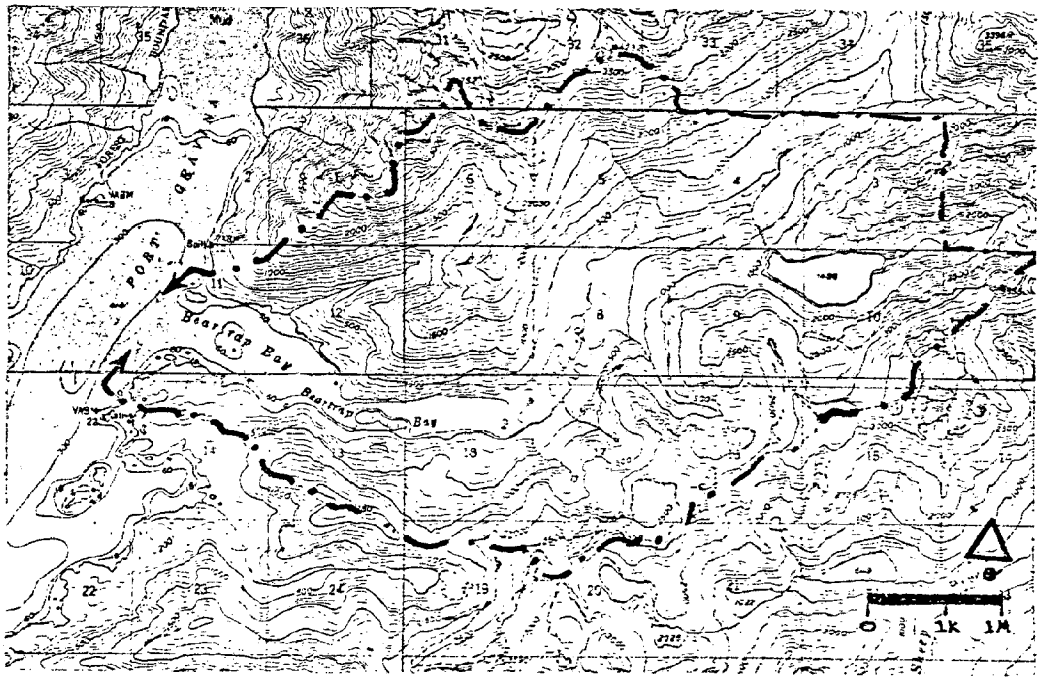
Primary Value: Recreation

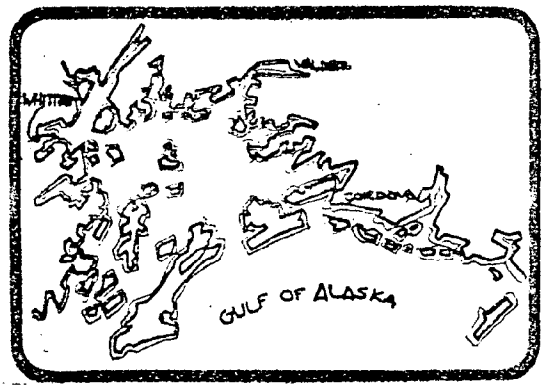
Associated Value: Scenic

Beartrap Bay is located on the northeastern shoreline of Port Gravina. A steep, narrow fiord extending some three and one-half miles inland, Beartrap Bay offers unique scenic and recreational boating opportunities. Many steep glacier-capped peaks are included within this area.

Both black and grizzly bear are present. The northern shoreline and steeper alpine uplands of this area serve as winter range for mountain goats. Harbor seals inhabit the bay. Five bald eagle nests are known to exist here. Beartrap Bay serves as a nesting and moulting area for sea birds and waterfowl. Two of the area's streams contain runs of anadromous fish: Both recreation and scenic value have been rated high for this portion of Prince William Sound by the Land Use Planning Commission.

Latitude:	60°45'N
Longitude:	146°02'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	8,580 (3,432)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) partial
Existing Management:	Forest Sevice Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





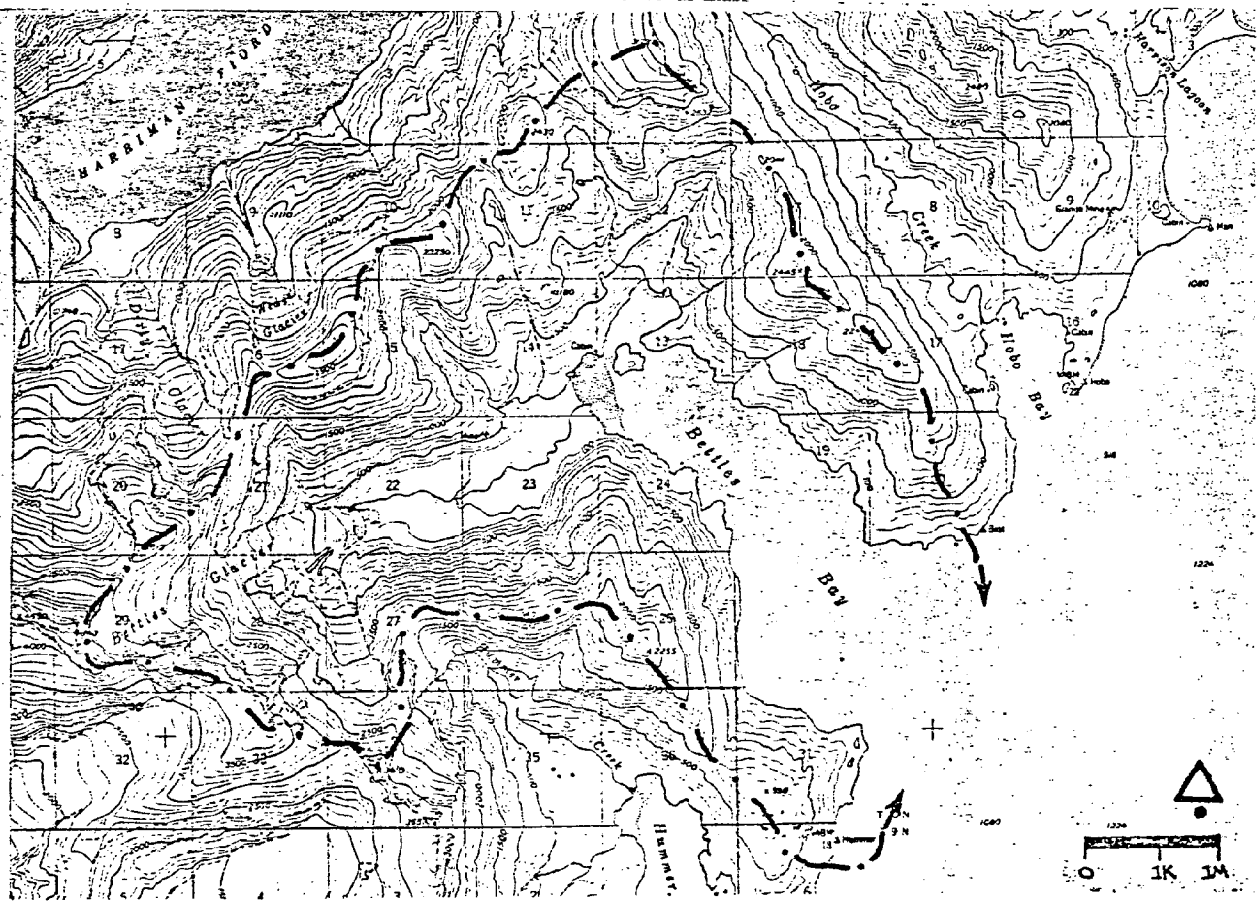
Bettles Bay

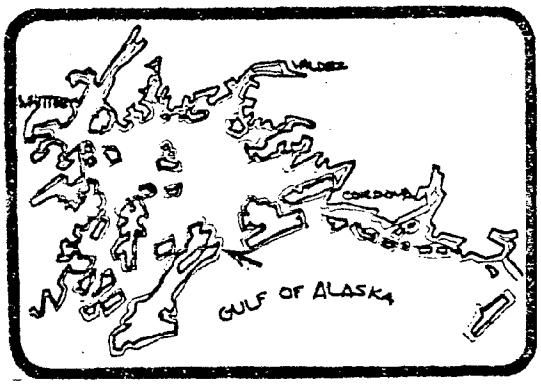
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Large and well-protected, this bay is a favorite of boaters exploring the Port Wells area, as it is thought to be the most scenic bay on the west shore of this major waterway. A number of wildlife species, including black bear, sea lions, geese, whales, waterfowl, seals, dungeness crabs, halibut, pink and chum salmon, are reported. An abandoned mine is nearby.

Latitude:	60°56'N
Longitude:	148°17'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	10,240 (4,096)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





Boswell Bay/ Pt. Steele

Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife & Heritage

Exposed to the Gulf of Alaska on the northeast end of Hinchinbrook Island, this area represents a dynamic storm-beaten coast. The large sandspit known as Point Bentinck, and the four mile long sand beach to the south give evidence of the ocean's forces at work.

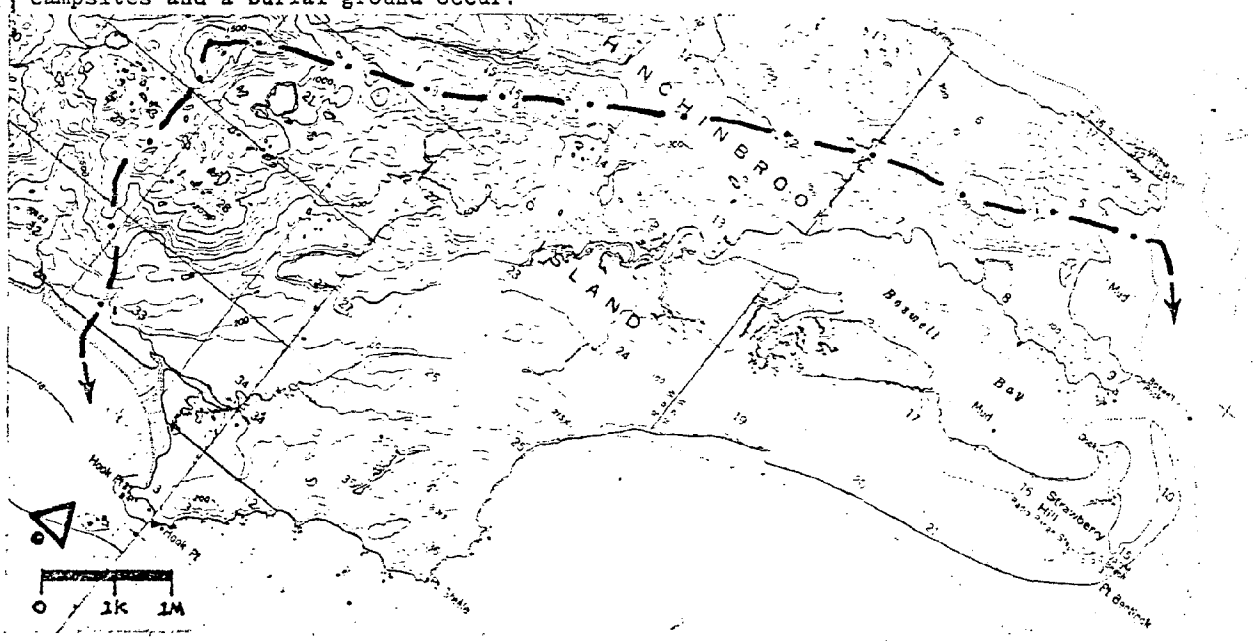
Brown bear are often present in the shoreline area. Sea otters and harbor seals occur in high densities off of Points Bentinck and Steele. Boswell Bay is a common nesting and moulting area for sea birds. Sea bird colonies occur at three sites in this area. Arctic terns and glaucous-winged gulls occupy a colony at Point Bentinck. A large colony of kittiwake, cormorants, puffins, pigeon guillemots, and glaucous-winged gulls nest on Boswell Rocks. A second kittiwake colony occurs on Pinnacle Rock. Both Point Steele and Hook Point Rocks exhibit colonies of these species. Two streams entering Boswell Bay have known runs of anadromous fish, while cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout inhabit streams in the bay area. Razor clams are present on the Point Bentinick beaches as are dungeness crabs offshore.

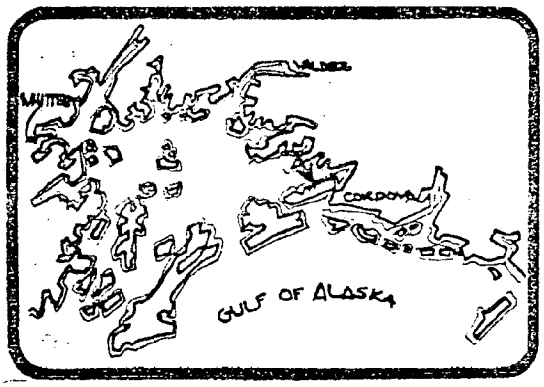
At the northern side of the entrance to Boswell Bay, several prehistoric Native campsites and a burial ground occur.

This area is accessible by float plane landings in Boswell Bay or by small boat from Cordova. Overall, this area offers unique recreation, scenic, and heritage values.

A portion of this area, Strawberry Hill Beach, was identified in the Forest Service's 1974 Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan as possessing recreation resource qualities worthy of special management.

Latitude:	60°23'N
Longitude:	146°08'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	11,7010 (4,684)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) partial 4 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use, USAF Comm. Site at Strawberry Hill
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Canoe Passage

Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic, Heritage

The Canoe Passage area, located in the central portion of Hawkins Island, is traditionally used by Cordova area residents for a wide variety of recreational activities. Aside from Hartney Bay and the Copper River Delta area, Canoe Passage offers probably the highest quality recreational area located in close proximity to the community of Cordova.

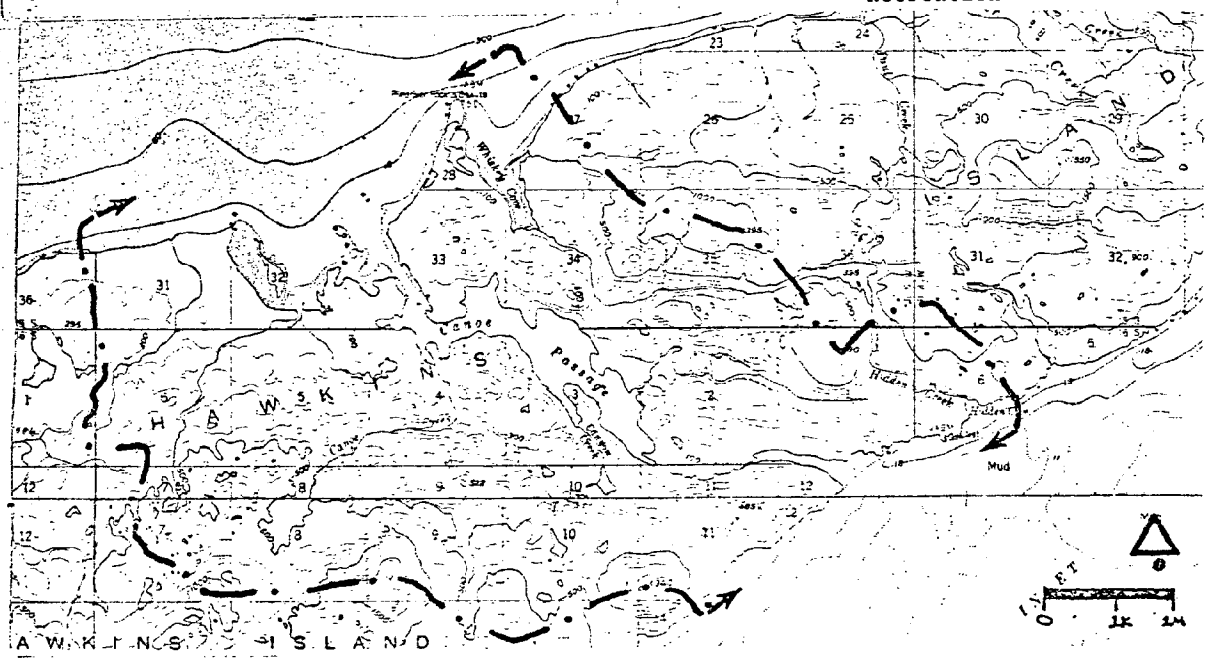
Brown bear are present along both the Orca Bay and Orca Inlet coastlines. Sea otters concentrate in Orca Inlet on the eastern shoreline, while harbor seals occur in the west entrance to the passage. A black-legged kittiwake rookery is also found here. The west entrance to the passage is used by sea birds and waterfowl as a nesting and moulting area. Three streams have known runs of anadromous fish while dungeness crabs are found in both Orca Bay and Inlet. Dolly Varden trout are also found in streams of the area.

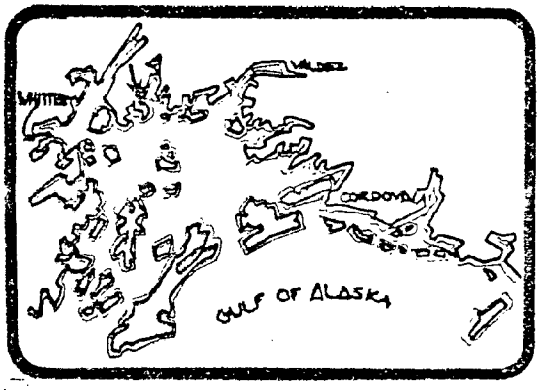
Two prehistoric Native townsites as well as an Eskimo burial cave are found here. The large sandspits in the Whiskey Cove area provide excellent examples of the dynamics of the shoreline process.

The protected waters of Canoe Passage offer excellent power boating opportunities. Beach textures ranging from sand to gravel and rock provide diversified opportunities for beachcombing and hiking, while trails along streams and to upland lakes offer opportunities for freshwater fishing and hiking. A Forest Service public use cabin is located in the western portion of the area.

This area has been previously identified in the Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan (1974) as possessing recreational attributes.

Latitude:	60° 31'N
Longitude:	146° 05'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	8,830 (3,532)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Public Recreation
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





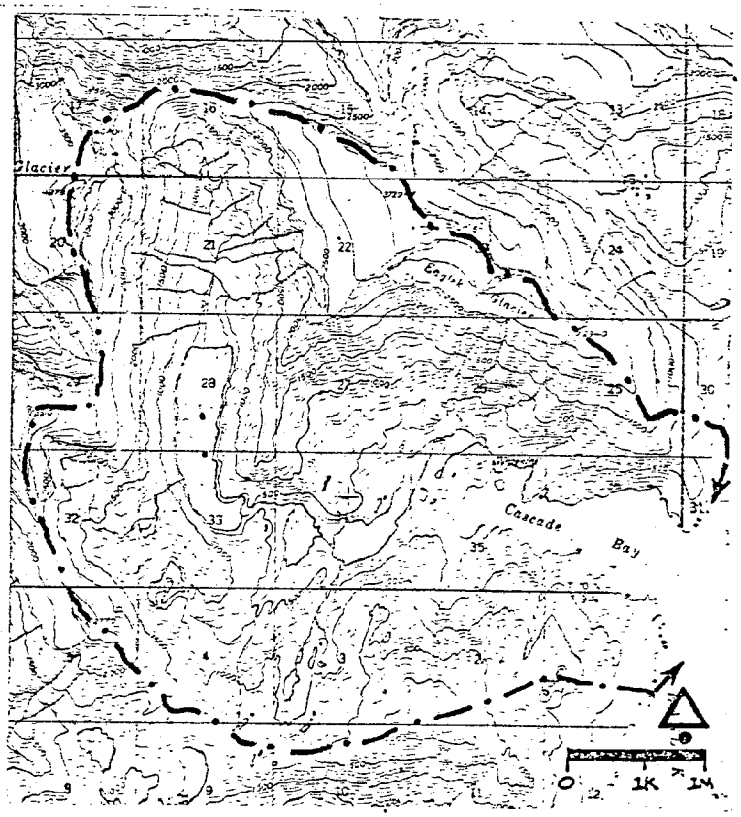
Cascade Bay

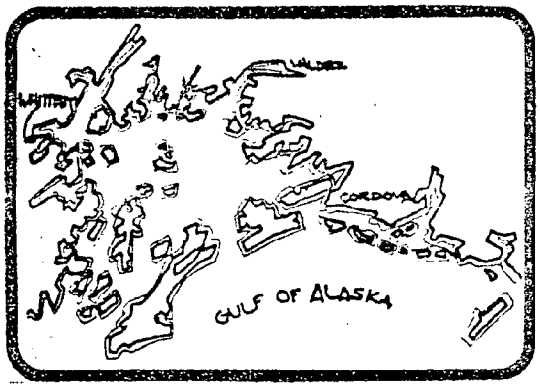
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Cascade Bay, located in Eaglek Bay, thirty-two miles northeast of Whittier, is an area well known to local residents on Prince William Sound because of its spectacular waterfalls. A large volume of water pours into the head of the bay from a series of large lakes behind it. The bay has several well-protected anchorages from which exploration of the bay could follow. The valley is extremely rugged and remains snow-covered most of the year.

Latitude:	60° 55'N
Longitude:	148° 17'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,740 (1,496)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





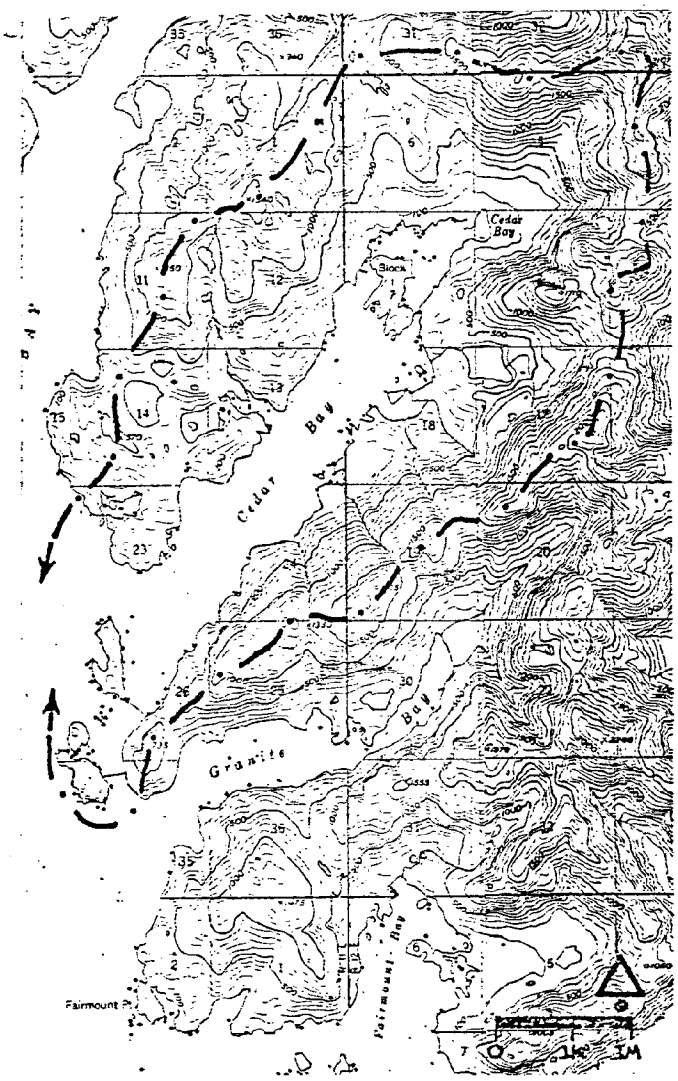
Cedar Bay

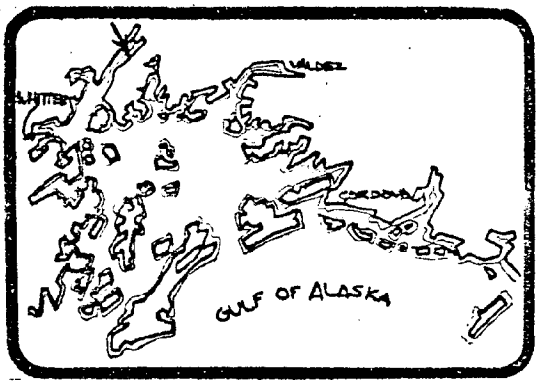
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Cedar Bay, located 44 miles northeast of Whittier, extends about three miles off of Wells Bay in the Unakwik Inlet-Eglek Bay area. Rock Island and other small islands and some small coves provide anchorages for small boats. Several upland lakes and streams offer fishing for trout and salmon. Birds winter in the bay area and goats frequent the uplands with black bear concentrating in the stream valleys. Some limited copper mining occurred here in 1917.

Latitude:	60° 57'N
Longitude:	147° 25'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	6,430 (2,572)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation

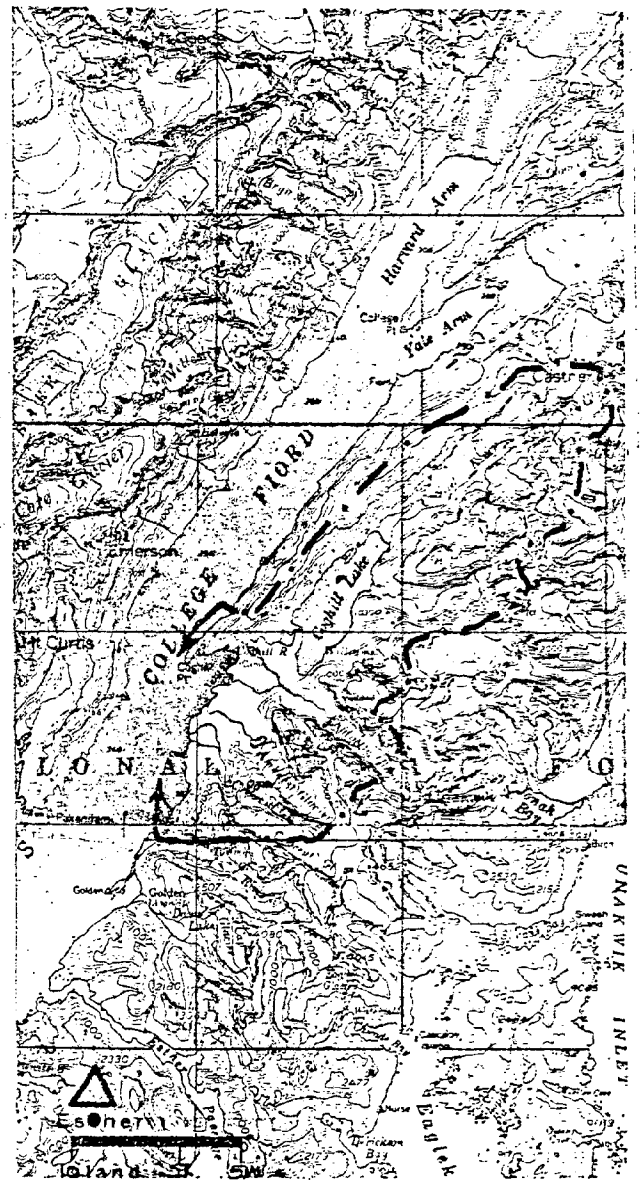




Coghill Point/Lake

Primary Value: Recreation

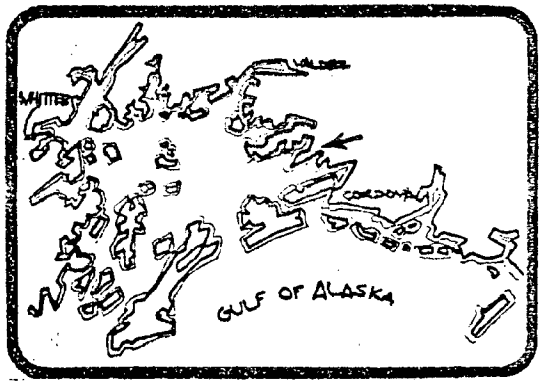
Associated Value: Wildlife, Scenic



The cove at Coghill Point although somewhat limited in space, is well protected from prevailing northeast winds. Coghill Lake, 4.7 miles long, is a salmon fishing and bear hunting area. Waterfowl migrate and winter in the area; the winter range of Canada geese reaches its northernmost point in North America here. Recreationists have opportunities for king and tanner crabbing in the bay and collecting hardshell clams along the shores of College Fiord. Besides being a major sport fishing area for king, pink, sockeye, and coho salmon, and cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout, the area's scenic quality is high because of a number of peaks over 3,000 feet, an alluvial outwash fan, and several glaciers emptying into the cove near Coghill Point. A diversity of vegetation ranging from tidal flats to glacier-topped peaks lends variety to the visual scene.

A public use cabin is planned on Coghill Point by the Forest Service with a foot trail connecting the cabin with the river and lake.

Latitude:	61°05'N
Longitude:	147°56'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	50,000 (20,000)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 1 ANCSA 14h1 selection
Existing Management:	Forest Service restricted use pending land use study
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation



Comfort Cove

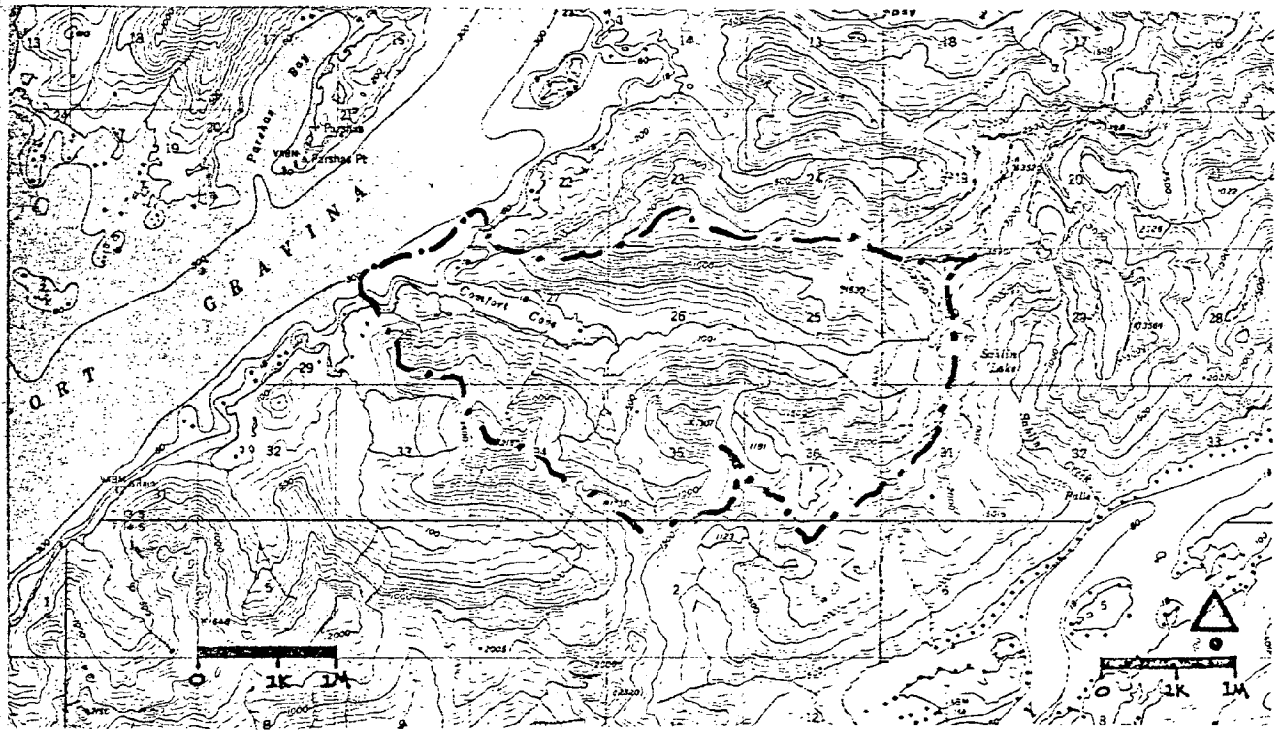
Primary Value: Recreation

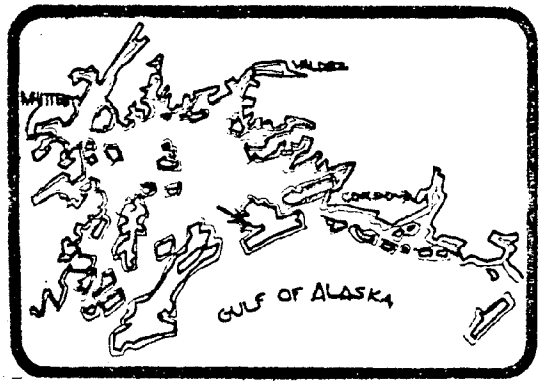
Associated Value: Scenic

High mountains and protected waters make Comfort Cove, located in Port Gravina, an excellent area for camping, hiking, and boating. Brown bear are found along streams, while harbor seals occasionally range into the Comfort Cove area. Both tanner and king crab are found in the deeper waters in Port Gravina, while dungeness crab are found in the cove itself.

This area is accessible by either boat or float plane. Should a Cordova-Valdez or Port Gravina-Valdez Road be constructed in the future, this area would be accessible by auto.

Latitude:	60° 43'N
Longitude:	146° 06'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	4,190 (1,676)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Constantine Harbor Port Etches

Primary Value: Recreation, Heritage

Associated Value: Wildlife, Scenic

Fort Constantine, the first permanent Russian outpost, was constructed in 1793 by the Russian American Company for the purpose of the sea otter pelt trade. Five archaeological sites attest to pre-Russian occupation of the harbor.

The area is used for a wide variety of recreational activities. A large barrier sandspit protects the harbor from swells moving through Hinchinbrook entrance. This spit also represents an important resource for coastal recreation activities. Constantine Harbor and Port Etches both represent boating destinations from Cordova. Garden Cove, a small bay off Port Etches, provides good anchorages and access to recreational deer hunting. Other activities in the area include nature study of a colony of sea birds and numerous sea mammals at nearby Porpoise Rocks. At the mouth of Port Etches harbor seals, some sea otters, sea lions, killer, minke, and humpback whales may be seen. The area contains some of the best brown bear habitat in the Sound; a high population of Sitka black-tail deer; two streams that are some of the best pink salmon producers in the Sound; and substantial stands of old growth spruce and hemlock.

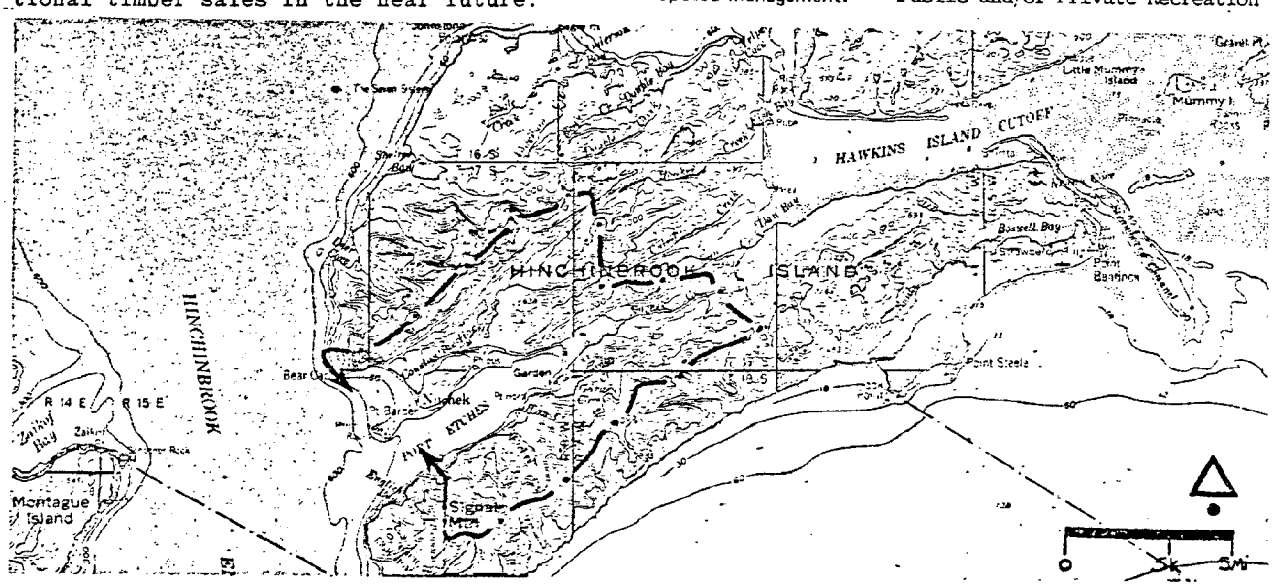
In the past there has been considerable timber harvested. The size of the remaining stands makes them attractive for additional timber sales in the near future.

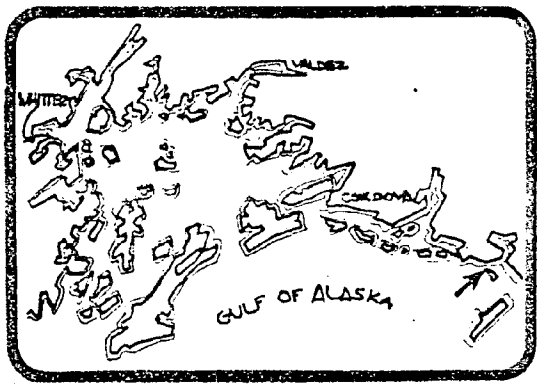
The impacts of future timber sales on the recreation and scenic resources of the unit have not yet been determined. Commercial and sport fishing is a widespread use of the area.

In determining management plans for the area, it should be kept in mind that the sea birds feeding in this area are unusually susceptible to human disturbance at times of breeding.

This area has been identified by the LUPC for its particular primitive value. The Forest Service's 1974 Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan states as a management objective for this area that the present status (of development) should be maintained until an interdisciplinary study can be completed for the area.

Latitude:	60°20'N
Longitude:	146°36'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	27,000 (10,800)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service restricted use pending land use study
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Controller Bay/ Bering River

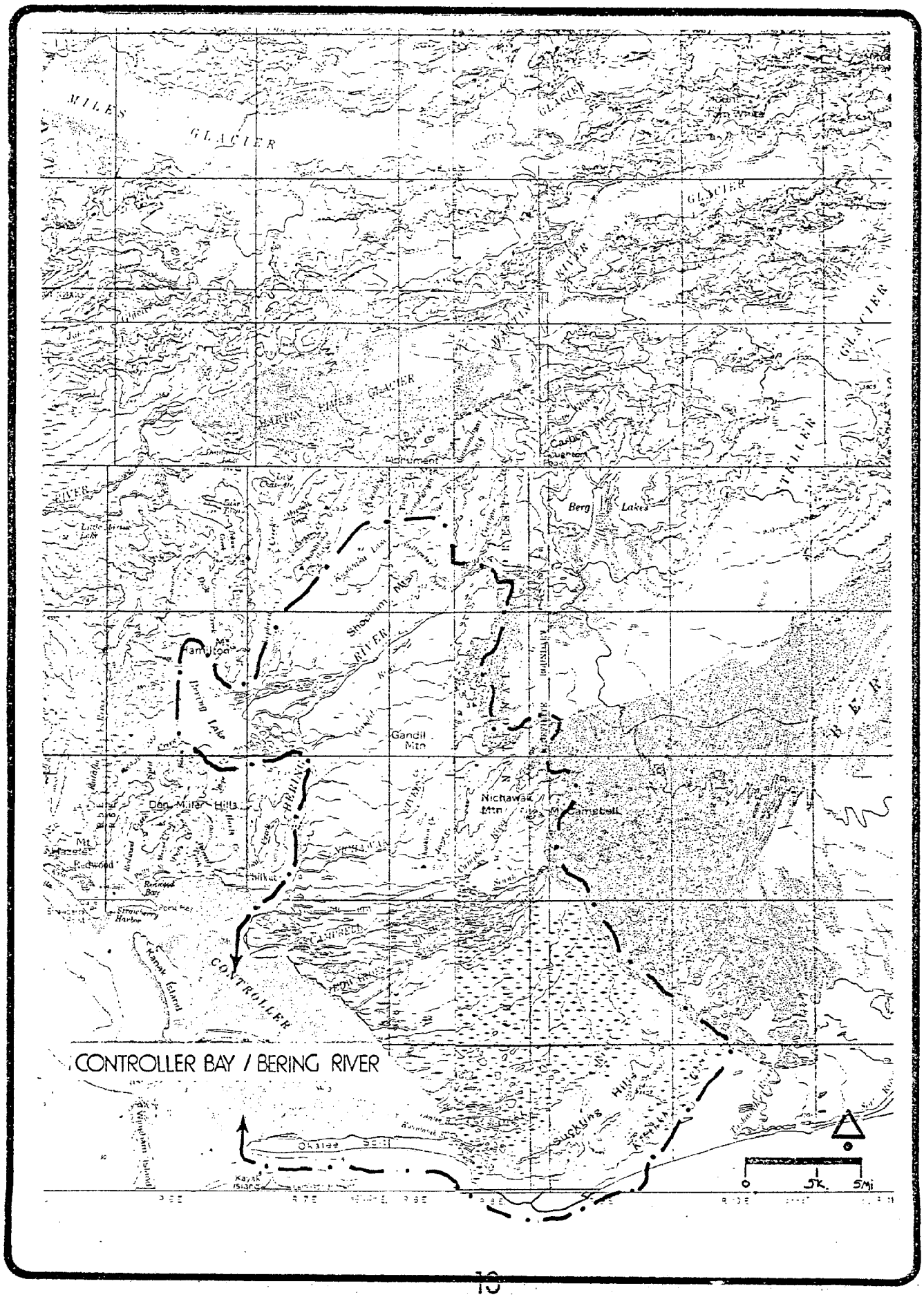
Primary Value: Wildlife, Recreation

This unit has the highest concentration of nesting pairs and single trumpeter swans in Alaska. Along with the Copper River Flats, the unit is one of the prime feeding, nesting, and resting areas for migratory waterfowl on the west coast. Sea bird colonies on nearby Wingham Island have been little disturbed in the past. Species on the island include a dense population of black-legged kittiwakes, numbering over 14,000; a large common murre colony of over 5,000; and some tufted puffins. On Martin Island murres number over 4,000 and kittiwakes over 13,000.

A variety of salmon spawn in the small creeks or streams in the unit, and a small but growing moose herd is developing in the vicinity of the National Forest boundary in the Campbell-Edwards River drainages. Portions of the flats extend beyond the National Forest boundary and are managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the State of Alaska. The Controller Bay flats are a unique landform feature: a large glacial outwash and delta plain with a mosaic of small lakes, ponds, marshes, sloughs, and indefinite streams. Areas of fragile vegetation consist primarily of salt and freshwater marsh grasses, willows, alders, and other shrubs, and a few scattered stands of Sitka spruce and cottonwood.

As it is speculated that large quantities of petroleum exist both on shore and off shore in the Gulf of Alaska, exploratory work has been completed in the area. Presently access is difficult to this area; therefore, few people visit or use these deltas. With the impact of coal or oil development, the number of visitors could increase dramatically.

Latitude:	60°08'N
Longitude:	144° 15W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	205,500 (82,200)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection partial State and Private parcels
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Wildlife, Recreation & Oil Bureau of Land Management
Proposed Management:	Wildlife and Recreation



CONTROLLER BAY / BERING RIVER

Copper River Delta

Primary Value: Wildlife, Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

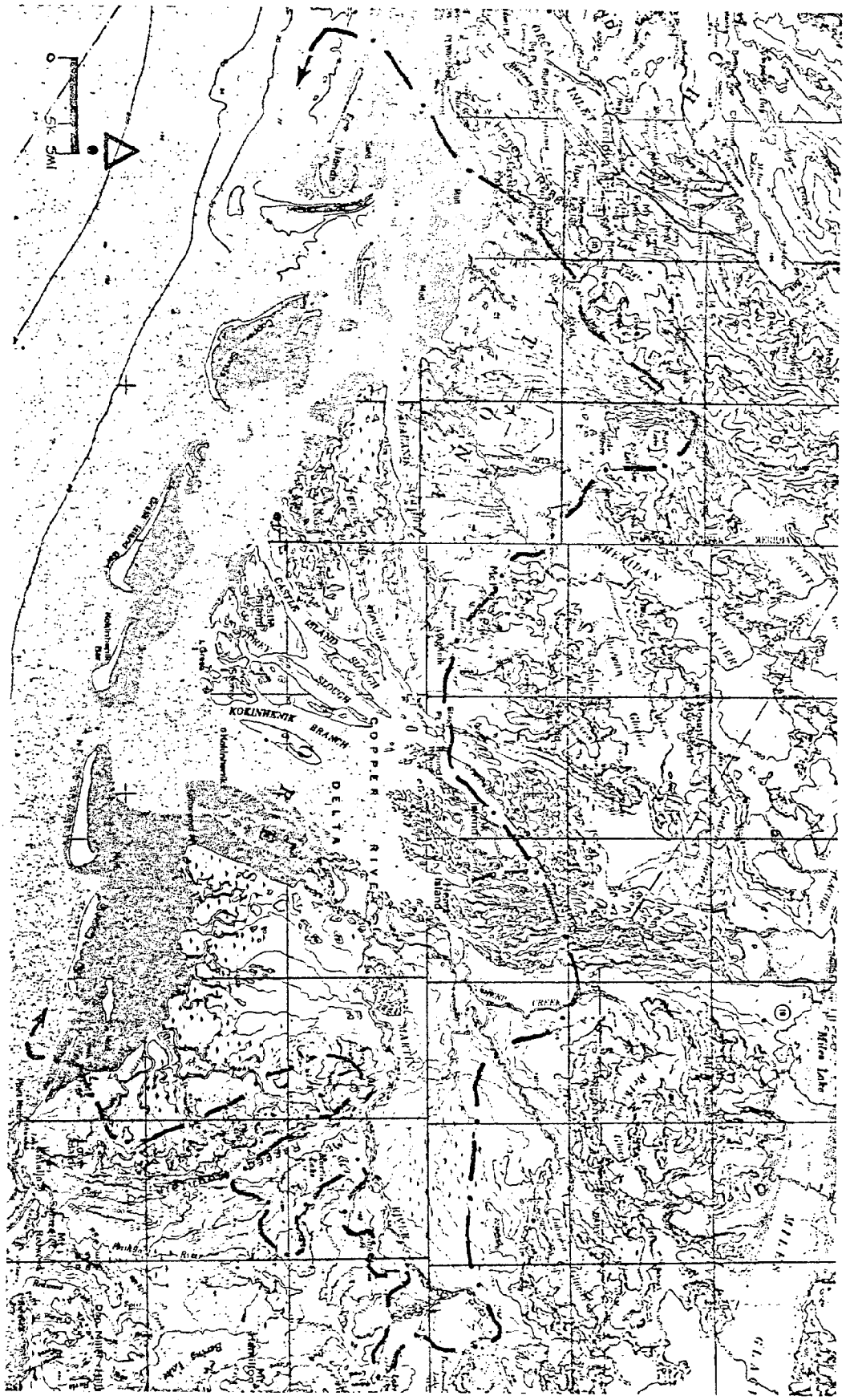
Cooperatively managed since 1967 between the U. S. Forest Service, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Department of Natural Resources, the Copper River Delta, some 330,000 acres of wildlife habitat, is of national and international significance. The area, a flat tidal marshland interspersed with patches of forest where drier soil conditions exist, is utilized by trumpeter swans, dusky Canadian geese, and a host of migratory bird species. This area represents one of the largest known concentrations of nesting trumpeter swans in North America and is the only nesting area for the subspecies dusky Canadian geese in the world. Bird densities as high as 250,000 birds per square mile have been observed during migration periods. Moose and a variety of other wildlife species utilize the delta as a forage area. Seals concentrate both at the mouth of the Copper River and near the offshore barrier islands.

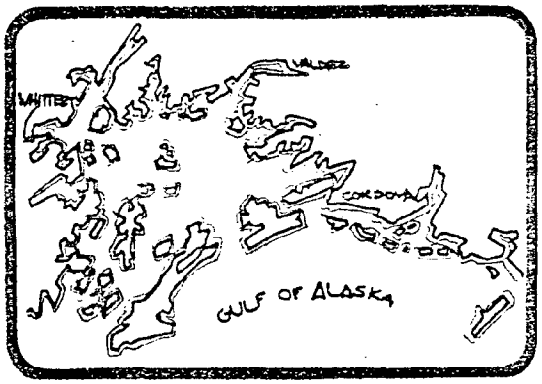
The Copper River Highway transecting the delta provides great opportunity for the recreational activity of observing wildlife. Several recreation use cabins have been constructed on the delta by the Forest Service.

Several archaeological sites exist in the delta area.

In 1977, this area, including Controller Bay and the coastline to Cape Yakataga was proposed as a National Wildlife Refuge under HR39 (the Udall bill).

Latitude:	60° 30'N
Longitude:	145° 30'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	470,000 (188,000)
Existing Ownership:	Federal State ANCSA selection (Eyak) partial, 3 14hl selections State
Existing Management:	Forest Service/State Cooperative Management for Wildlife, Airport
Proposed Management:	National Wildlife Refuge or continue Cooperative Management


KOKINHENIK BRANCH
COPPER RIVER
DELTA
CASTLE ISLAND SLOUGH
SHERIDAN GLACIER
Miles Lake

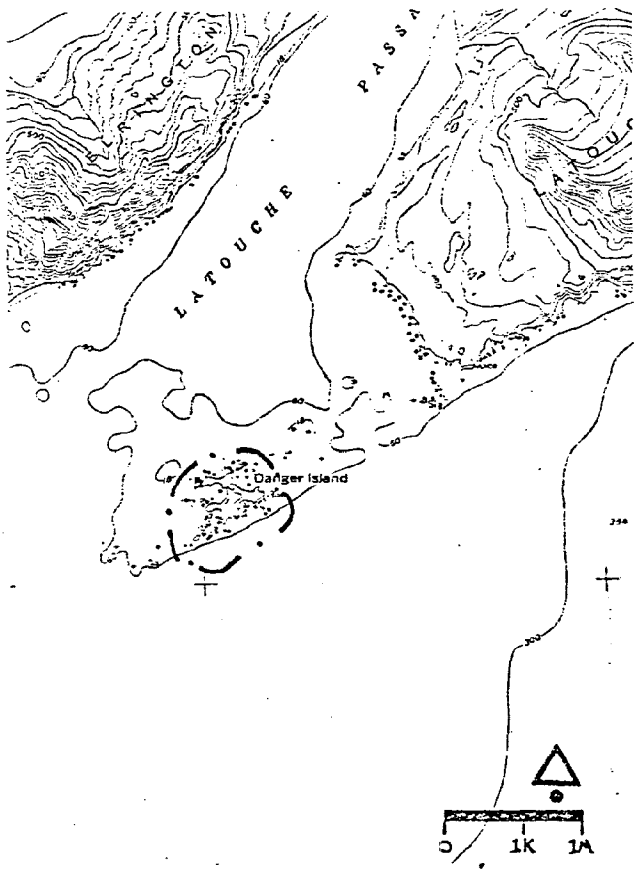


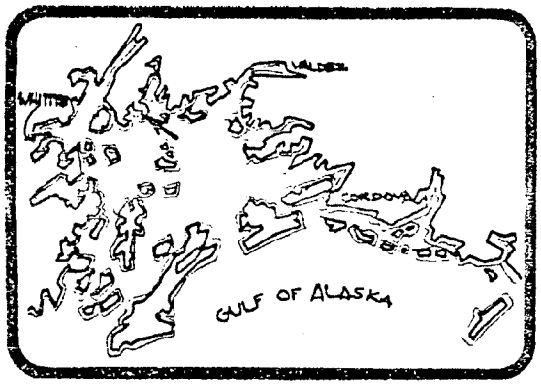
Danger Island

Primary Value: Wildlife, Recreation

Due to the ocean currents and other factors, a highly productive assemblage of marine flora in this area provides a unique opportunity for fishing and recreational skin and scuba diving. The diversity of subtidal flora and fauna, such as seapens, eel grass, anemones, and hydras, and a number of rocky islands jutting from the water make this a scenic spot. There is visual evidence on the shoreline of uplift during the 1964 earthquake of up to 15 feet. There is a small boat anchorage on the east side of the island; useable during periods of good weather, it is surrounded by rocks at low tide. Good beachcombing and bird watching, as well as observation of whales and sea lions, are possible in the vicinity.

Latitude:	59°55'N
Longitude:	148°04'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	512 (205)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 1 ANCSA 14h1 site
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Marine Sanctuary





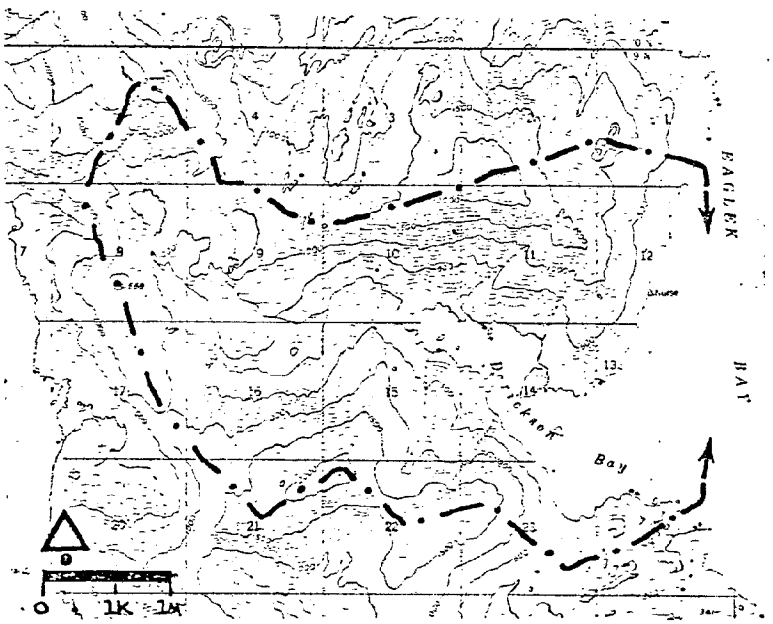
Derickson Bay

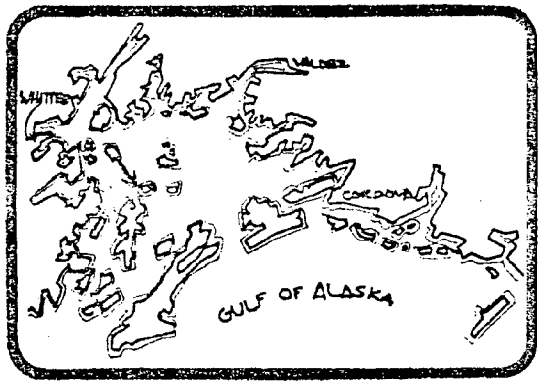
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Wildlife, Scenic

The upper end of the bay is completely protected from wind and waves from all directions. Anchorages here all have good holding bottoms, and are shallow enough for small boats. It is a popular sport fishing area for sockeye salmon. Visitors may see bears along streams in the vicinity.

Latitude:	60 52'N
Longitude:	147 48'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	5,600 (2,240)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





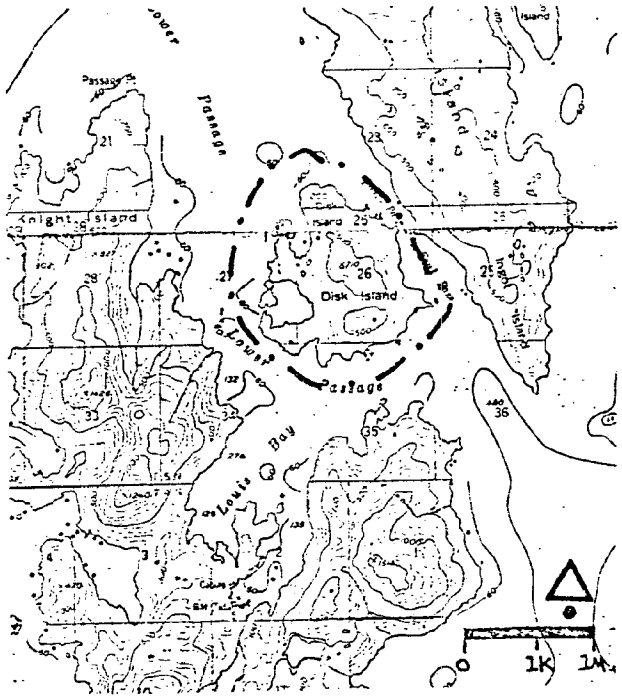
Disk Island

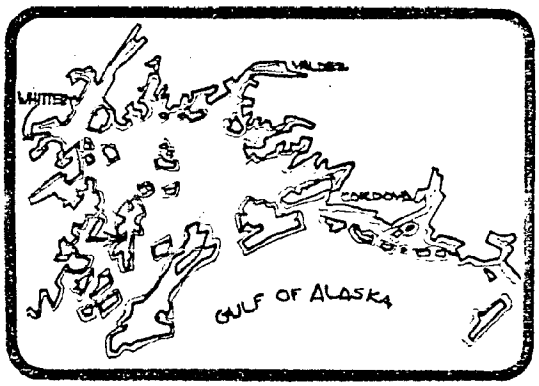
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Disk Island lies between Ingot and Knight Islands, across Lower Passage from Louis Bay. A small anchorage, Disk Island Lagoon, is located on the southwest shore of the island. The lagoon is deep with a narrow entrance. An uncharted rock is located in the northwest corner of the lagoon. Because there are few places to anchor around Knight Island, this lagoon, with its deep waters, is valuable to pleasure boaters. The entire island has high quality primitive values. A small bird colony of kittiwakes is nearby and the opportunities for viewing whales and other sea mammals in Knight Island Passage makes it an attractive area for recreationists; a hill rising 710 feet above sea level provides landform diversity.

Latitude:	60° 30'N
Longitude:	147° 39'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	540 (216)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Drier Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

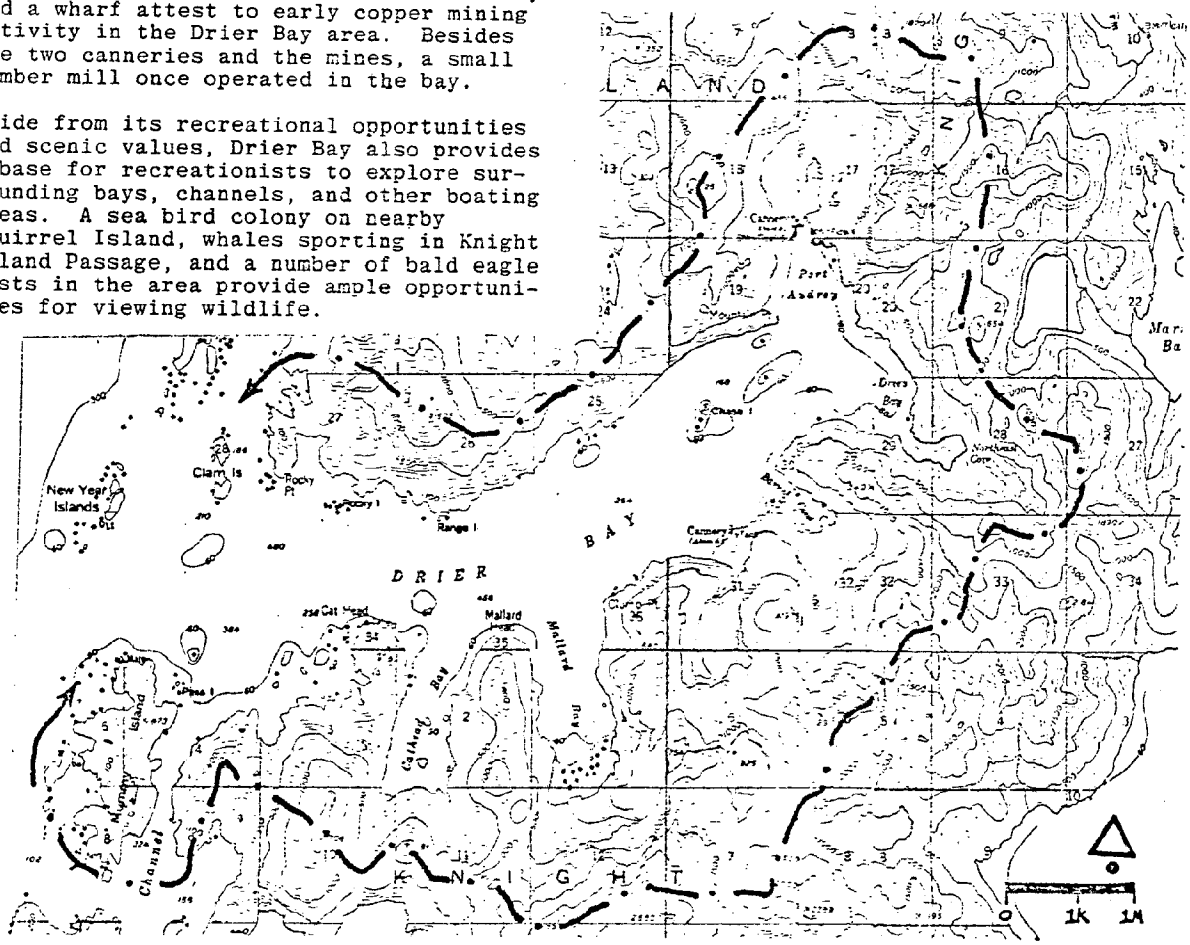
Associated Value: Scenic

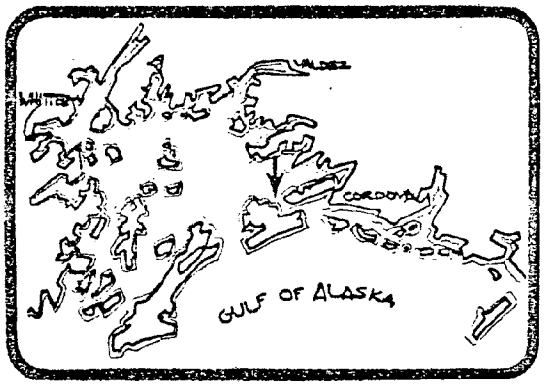
Drier Bay lies on the highly scenic west side of Knight Island off of Knight Island Passage. A number of smaller bays extend off of Drier Bay including: Taphead Bay, Mallard Bay, Barnes Cove, Northeast Cove, and Port Audrey. Numerous rocky points, inlets, and islands add to the high scenic quality of the area. Some of the bays have mudflats at their heads which provide protective anchorages for small boats. The Three-Giants, three mountain peaks of over 2,600 feet elevation, surround the head of the bay at Northeast Cove.

Abandoned canneries at Port Audrey and south of Barnes Cove provide historical interest to the bay. An abandoned tramway and a wharf attest to early copper mining activity in the Drier Bay area. Besides the two canneries and the mines, a small lumber mill once operated in the bay.

Aside from its recreational opportunities and scenic values, Drier Bay also provides a base for recreationists to explore surrounding bays, channels, and other boating areas. A sea bird colony on nearby Squirrel Island, whales sporting in Knight Island Passage, and a number of bald eagle nests in the area provide ample opportunities for viewing wildlife.

Latitude:	60°18'N
Longitude:	147°49'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	10,340 (4,136)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14hl selections Private
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





Eagle Point/ Fish Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

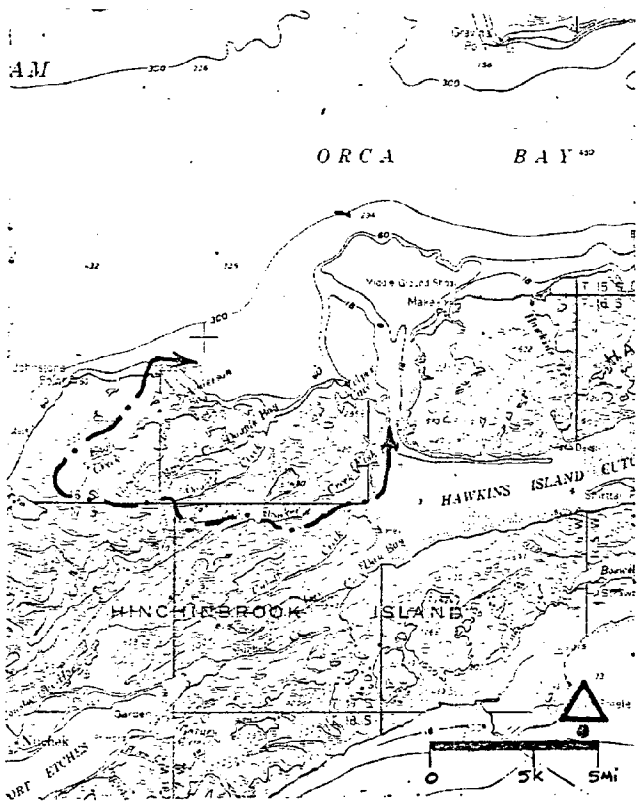
The section of coastline extending from Eagle Point to Fish Bay on the northern coast of Hinchinbrook Island offers numerous bays, islands and points for coastal recreation. Brown bear are found on streams in the Fish Bay area. Anderson Bay and Double Bay contain large populations of sea otters, while the Hawkins Island Cut-off area provides habitat for harbor seal. Bald eagles nest in the Eagle Point area. In addition, the Anderson Bay/Double Bay area provides nesting and moulting habitat for sea birds and waterfowl.

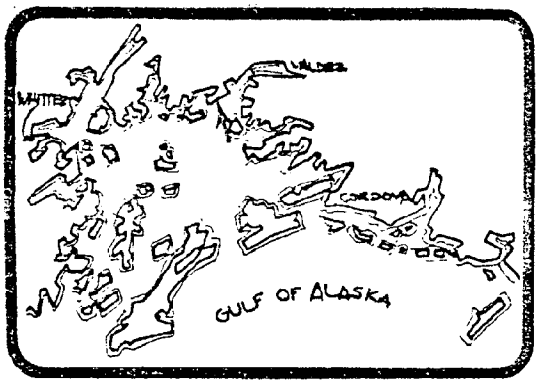
Eel grass beds near Yelper Cove provide food and shelter for a wide variety of marine organisms. Razor clams are found on beaches near the Hawkins Island Cut-off. Uplifting of the coastline from the 1964 earthquake provides geologic interest for visitors.

Four archaeological sites include two prehistoric Native village sites, one on an island in Anderson Bay and the other near Yelper Cove.

Many islands and quiet bays make this area highly suitable for boating. The many sandspits, tombolos, and gravel beaches with upland forests make this area also of high value for beachcombing, hiking, and camping. Wildlife, scenic, and primitive values are also high. The island of Hinchinbrook was noted by the Land Use Planning Commission for its high wilderness value. The area's proximity to Cordova makes it particularly valuable to local and state residents.

Latitude:	60°28'N
Longitude:	146°30'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	16,200 (6,480)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 5 ANCSA 14hl selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





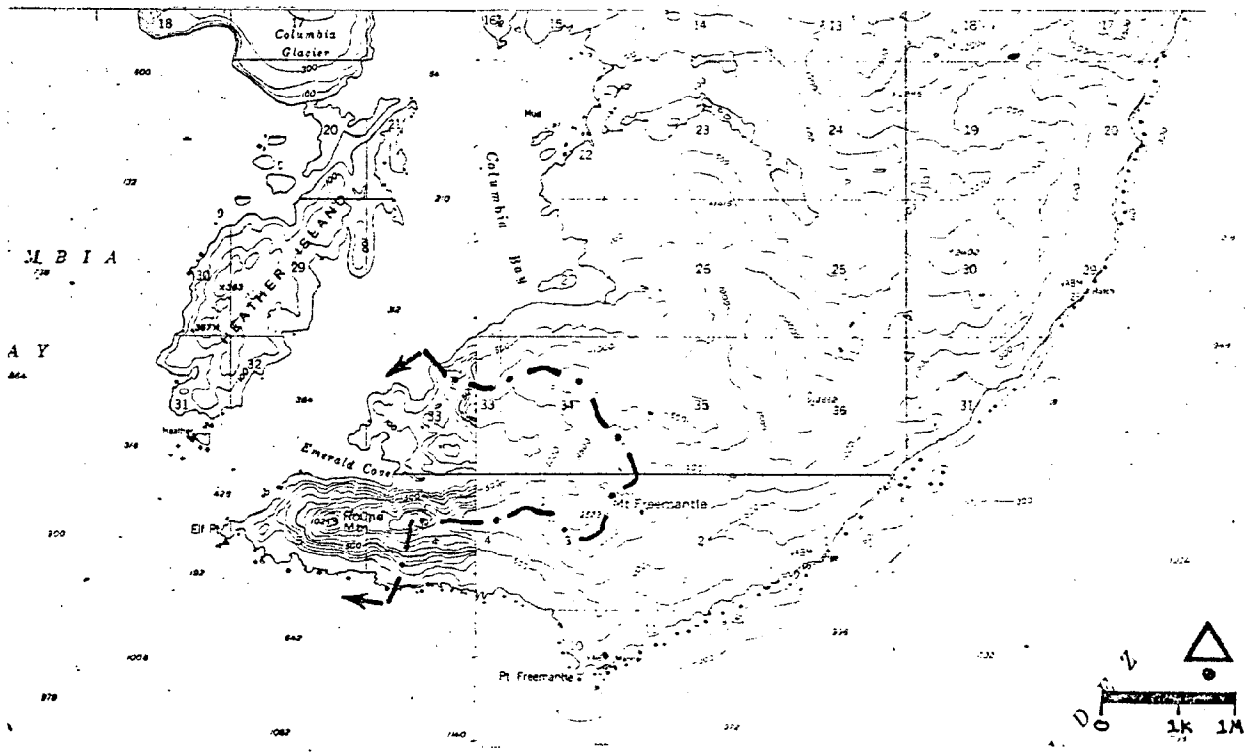
Emerald Cove

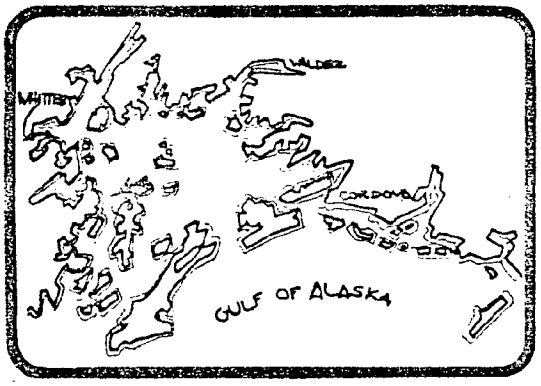
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Emerald Cove, although separated from Columbia Glacier by Heather Island, provides a good anchorage for boats anchoring in the area of Columbia Glacier. Along with Granite Cove, Emerald Cove offers an opportunity for recreationists to remain in the vicinity of a spectacular tidewater glacier and observe related wildlife and scenic features. Occasional killer whales, porpoises, and other marine mammals can be seen in the bay. The water is often choked with icebergs in front of the tidewater terminus, and the visitor may view hundreds of harbor seals resting on the ice flows. Sea life is abundant here, as cold water promotes the growth of various plankton. This entire area was rated high for wilderness value by the Land Use Planning Commission, with medium to high values for scenic quality. The area is presently under study for possible management as a scenic area by the U. S. Forest Service.

Latitude:	60° 57'N
Longitude:	147° 02'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	1,850 (740)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service under study as Scenic Area
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation/Scenic Area





Eshamy Lagoon

Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

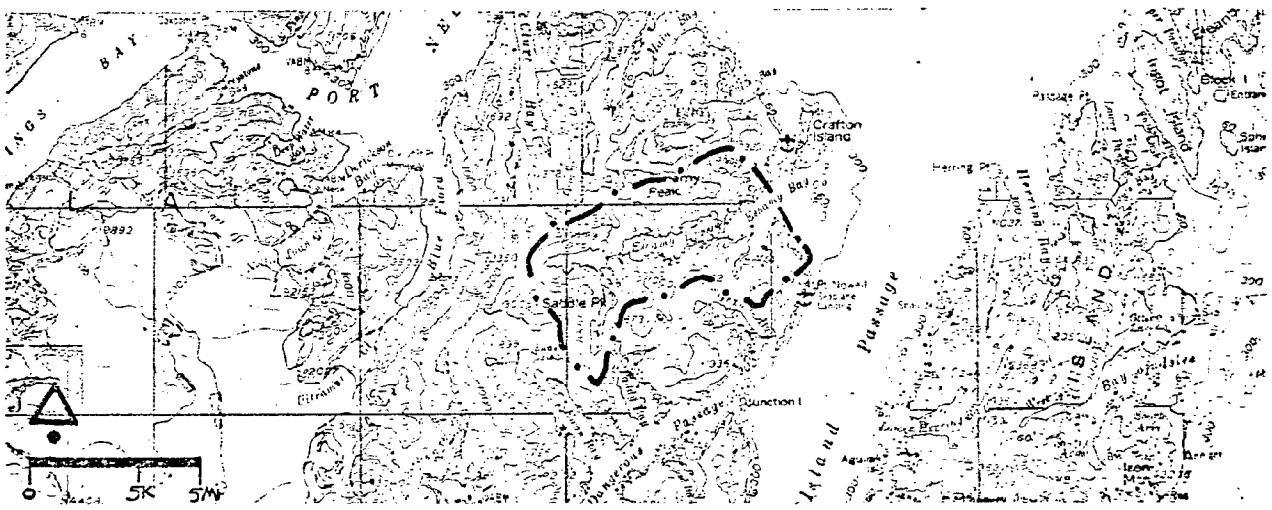
Eshamy Lagoon off of Knight Island Passage in western Prince William Sound is one of the most important sport and commercial salmon fishing grounds in the sound. Four species of salmon are found in abundance; indeed, the name means "good fishing grounds" in the Chugach Eskimo language. A conflict currently exists between sport anglers and commercial fisheries which is not likely to be resolved in the near future. The Department of Fish and Game is reluctant to encourage more fishing in the lagoon, and in fact may have to initiate certain limits.

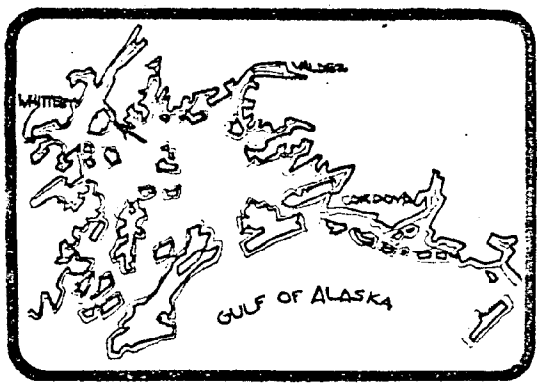
In the early decades of this century, Eshamy Lagoon contained a floating cannery. There are traces of former Native settlements on the shores of the lagoon and some abandoned Native camps across the cove.

Besides its recreational values, the bay is notably scenic with numerous islands, rocky points, and Eshamy Peak, almost 3,000 feet, towering above the lagoon. Eshamy Lagoon connects with Eshamy Lake by a small creek on the west shore of the lagoon. Gunboat Lakes, a ladder of four lakes, extends north from Eshamy Bay, offering opportunities for freshwater recreation.

Sea lions, whales, sea otters, and harbor seals are seen nearby. The area has been identified by the Forest Service for inclusion in the Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area. Because of high scenic and recreation values, it is recommended that the associated watershed be recognized along with Eshamy Lagoon as an area of particular concern. The combination of salt water access and anchorage with freshwater lakes and streams allows for a wide range of activities.

Latitude:	60° 28'N
Longitude:	148° 02'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	13,820 (5,528)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chenega) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service study area for Wilderness
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public and/or Private Recreation





Esther Island

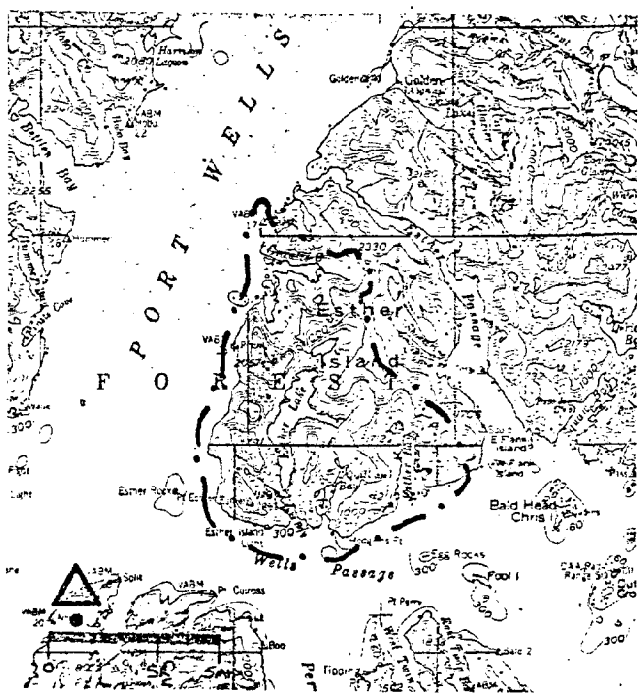
Primary Value: Recreation

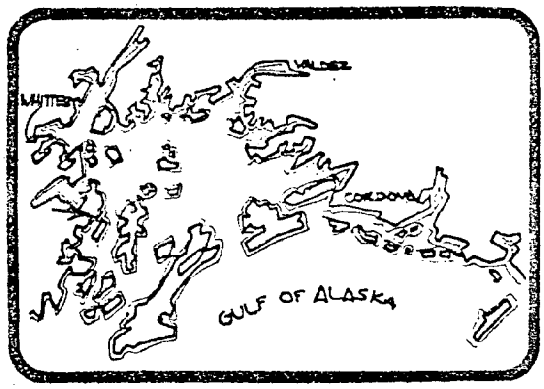
Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

Esther Island located at the confluence of Wells Passage and Port Wells in upper Prince William Sound is a twelve mile long island topped by 2,000 foot peaks of granite. A number of coves and and bays around the island offer excellent anchorages for small boats, including Esther Bay, Quillien Bay, Lake Bay, Granite Bay, and Shoestring Cove, the latter noted as an area of particular concern. Boaters may often see whales in Port Wells to the west, and sea lions hauled out on nearby islands and rocks. Sea birds nest in the area and seals and otters are also known to be present. Three archaeological sites are identified in the vicinity, and the entire island and surrounding upper Prince William Sound was identified by the Land Use Planning Commission for high wilderness values.

The scenic qualities of the island are important to State Ferry passengers viewing the southern portion of the island and recreational boats utilizing the surrounding waters. Flightseers from Anchorage frequent the Esther Island area.

Latitude:	60°50'N
Longitude:	148°00'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	23,300 (9,332)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service portions of Shoreline Managed for Scenic Values
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation

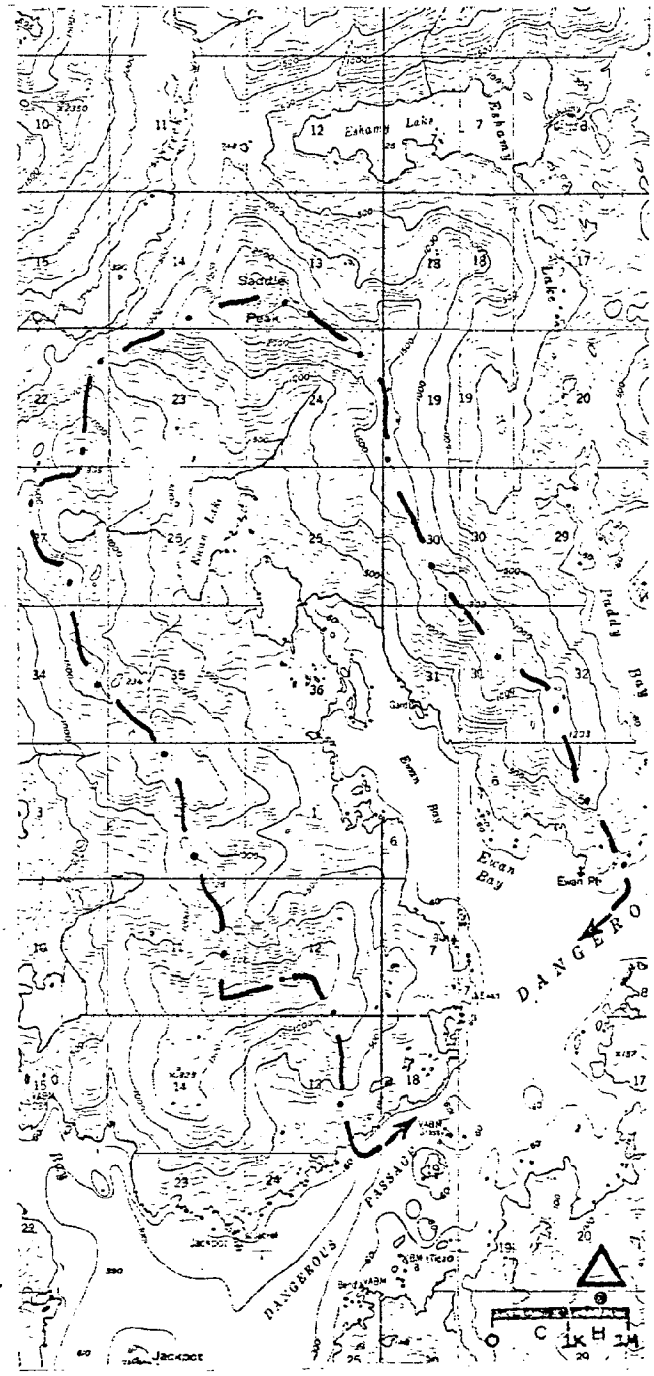




Ewan Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

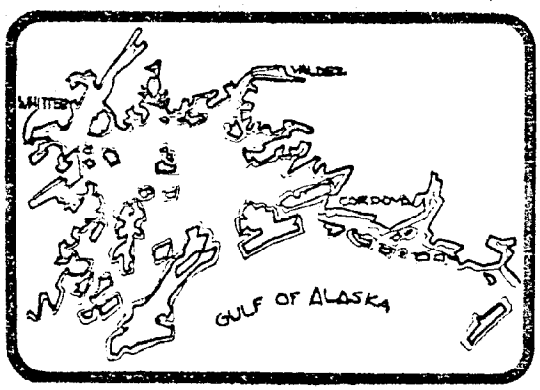
Associated Value: Scenic



The bay extends north off of Dangerous Passage, a popular boating channel. In the western section of Prince William Sound, this bay is known to contain a good anchorage for small boats near the salt chuck at its head. Ewan Lake, one-quarter mile inland, provides opportunities for freshwater recreational activities. Ewan Bay is part of a proposal by the Forest Service for inclusion in the Wilderness System. The whole area is recognized to have particular primitive and scenic values.

Pink and chum salmon may be found concentrating in streams around the bay. An archaeological site, related to occupation by the Chenega Natives in the vicinity of the mouth of the bay, is now overgrown with salmonberry bushes.

Latitude:	60° 23'N
Longitude:	148° 08'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	6,940 (2,776)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chenega) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service study area for Wilderness
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public and/or Private Recreation



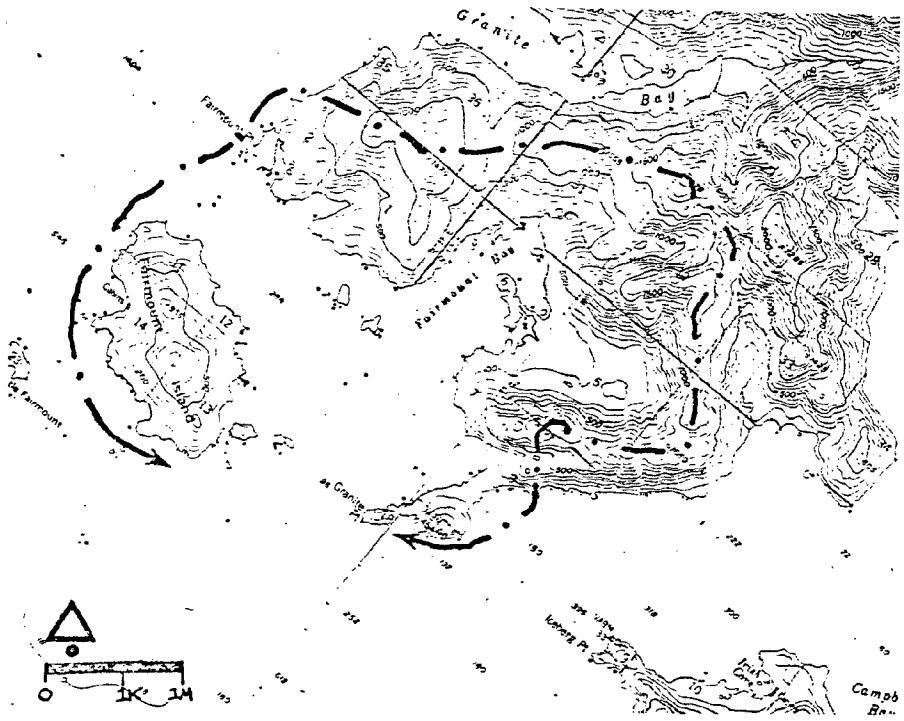
Fairmount Bay

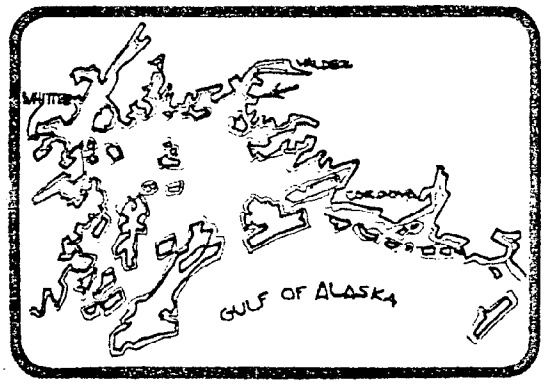
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

The bay provides a well-protected harbor with a rock bottom for small boats. It is 45 miles from both Whittier and Valdez. Seals and birds occur on nearby Fairmount Island. Other wildlife species in the area include black bear, eagles, and tanner crab. Sport anglers often take pink salmon from streams along the bay. The channel between Fairmount Island and the mainland is only about a half-mile wide at its narrowest and has numerous rocks that could make passage dangerous without local knowledge.

Latitude:	60° 53'N
Longitude:	147° 23'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,780 (1,512)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





Galena Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

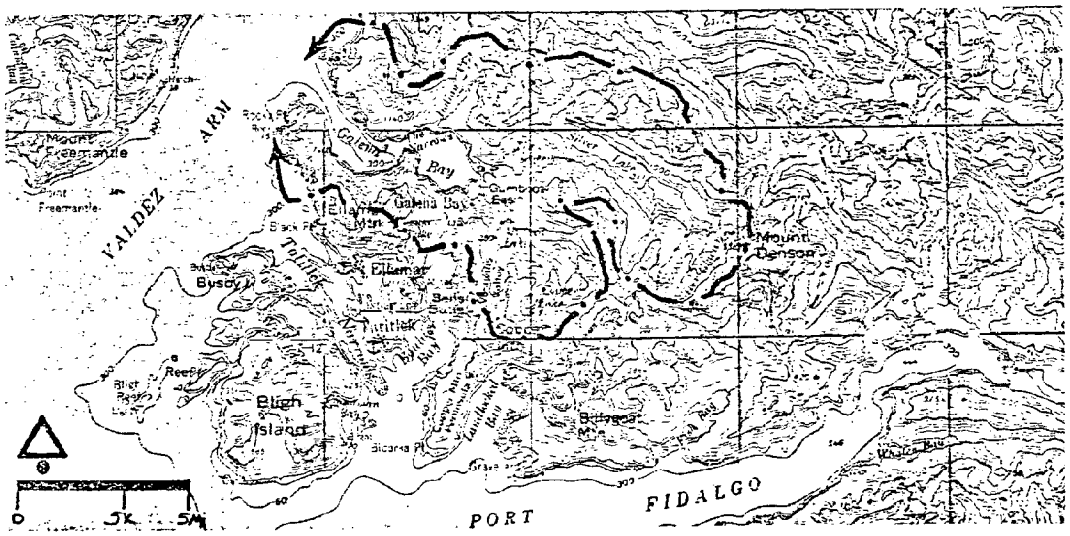
Associated Value: Heritage

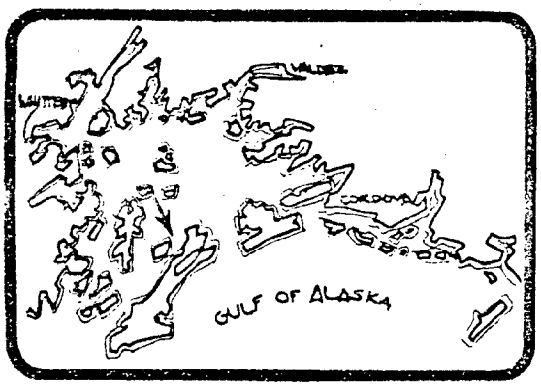
Galena Bay is a wide bay extending southeast of Valdez Arm and about six miles up the coast from the old mining town of Ellamar. Ellamar Mountain, a peak of over 3,000 feet, towers above the bay. Due to a number of convulutions in the shoreline and one narrow part in the inlet, it has scenic qualities. The area as a whole was identified by the Land Use Planning Commission as having high wilderness and good to high scenic values.

A small lagoon at the head of the bay offers opportunities for exploration and hiking. The Forest Service recognizes three anchorages in the bay and has built two recreational cabins on the shore.

Galena Bay was named for lead ore deposits found in the vicinity. An old road built in 1910 and copper mining equipment from extensive copper mines are still visible. Brown bear and black bear concentrate along streams in the area and at least one bald eagle nest is known. Various other small mammals occur, including beaver, marmot, wolverine, lynx, fox, and mink. Canadian geese winter on the tidal flats at the head of the bay and on Duck River. One archaeological site is known at the mouth of Indian Creek.

Latitude:	60° 56'N
Longitude:	146° 40'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	40,500 (16,200)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Gibbon Anchorage

Primary Value: Recreation

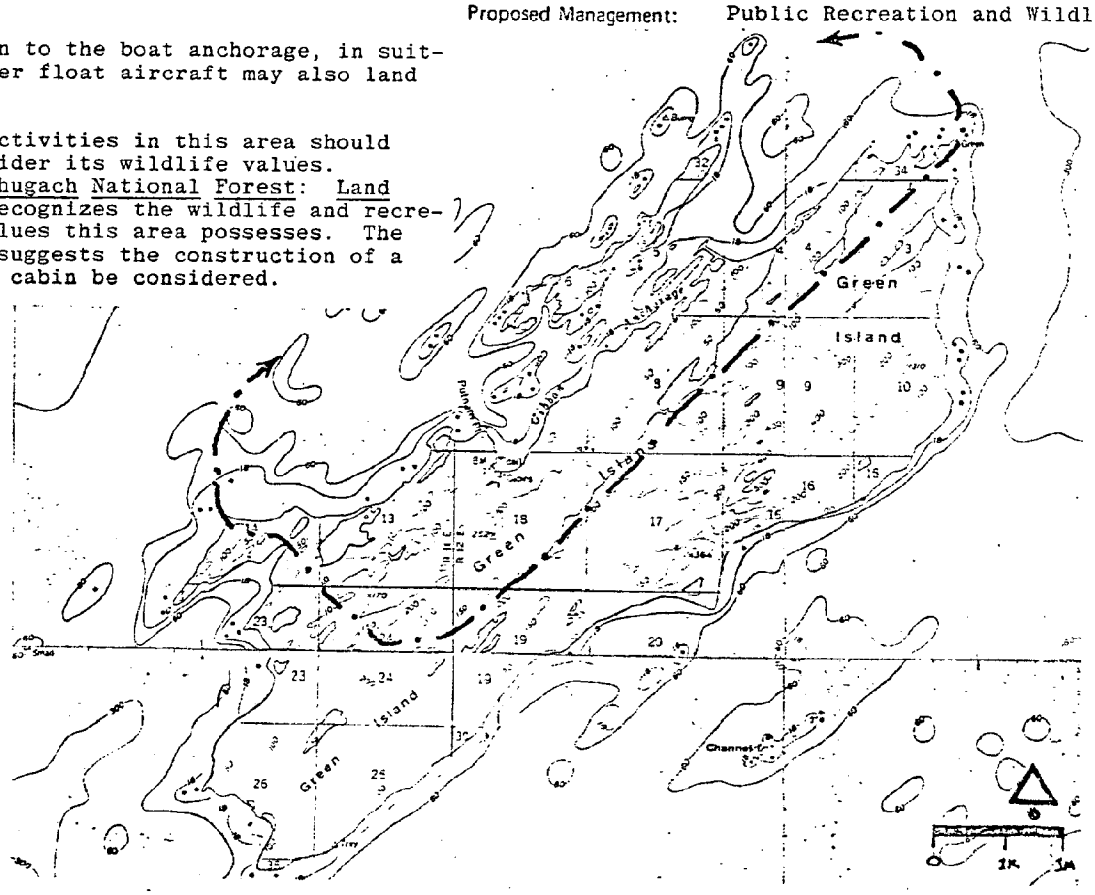
Associated Value: Wildlife

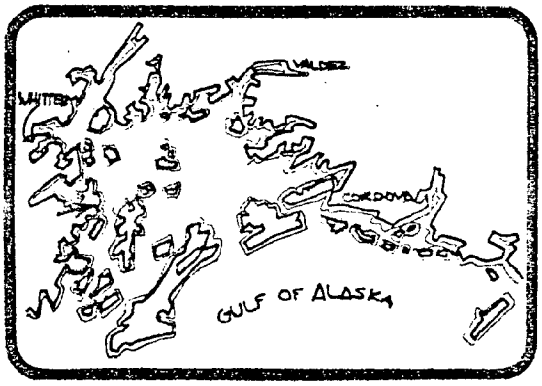
Green Island is located to the northwest of Montague Island, in Prince William Sound. In addition to being an excellent anchorage for boats, it is rich in sea birds and sea mammals. Several sea bird colonies are located in the vicinity including black-legged kittiwakes. The entire Green Island is an area of high sea otter density. Certain areas around the island are noted for their high density of harbor seals. An area to the southwest of Green Island called the Needle is a sea lion rookery and primary hauling ground. Green Island and Little Green Island are two of the most popular Sitka black-tailed deer hunting sites in Prince William Sound. These islands and adjacent kelp beds, shallow water, and rocky reefs provide ideal habitat for deer, sea otter, mink, and land otter.

In addition to the boat anchorage, in suitable weather float aircraft may also land safely.

Land use activities in this area should fully consider its wildlife values. The 1974 Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan recognizes the wildlife and recreational values this area possesses. The plan also suggests the construction of a public use cabin be considered.

Latitude:	60° 17'N
Longitude:	147° 15'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,040 (1,216)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Recreation and Wildlife
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation and Wildlife





Granite Bay

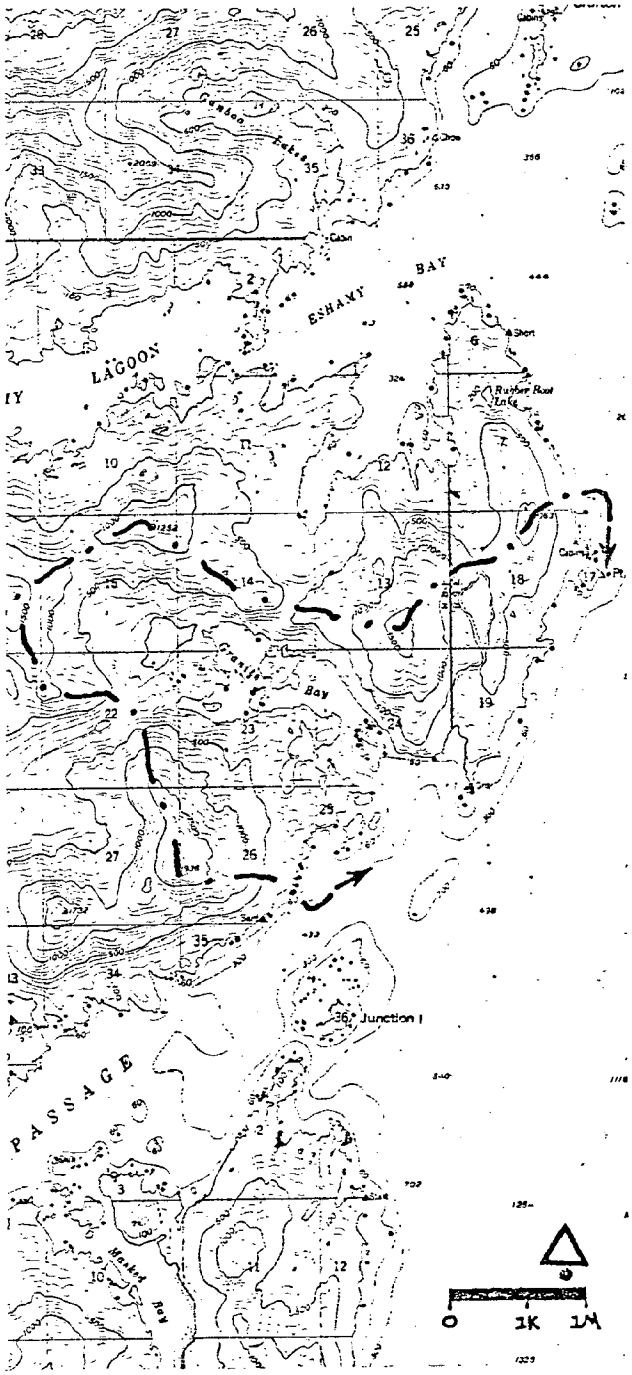
Primary Value: Recreation

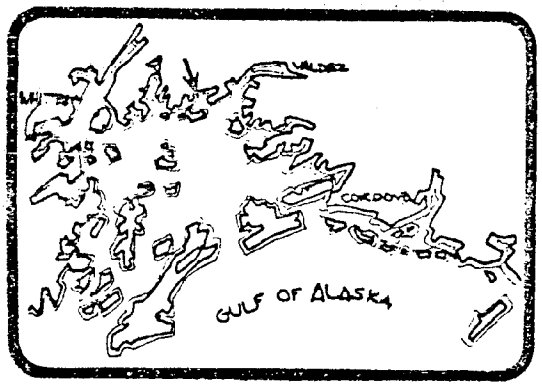
Associated Value: Scenic

Granite Bay, a scenic inlet near the northern end of Dangerous Passage, is attractive to the recreationist boating along Knight Island Passage. As well as offering a good anchorage for small boats, its heavily glaciated valley sides allow for numerous hiking opportunities. There are a number of hideaway corners of the bay and an abundance of island to be explored.

Killer and humpback whales are relatively abundant in the area; in addition, sea otter and harbor seal are often seen. A lake at the head of the bay provides habitat for cutthroat trout. The bay has been included in the Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area.

Latitude:	60° 25'N
Longitude:	148° 00'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,330 (1332)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chenega) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service study area for Wilderness
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public and/or Private Recreation





Granite Cove

Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

This cove provides a suitable protected anchorage for small boats. Its primary asset is its proximity to Columbia Glacier. It has the drawbacks of floating ice and the chilly air from the nearby glacier. Wildlife species in the area include black bear concentrating along streams, sea birds wintering along the coast, and the presence of sea otters and harbor seals in the waters of the bay.

Latitude: 60°58'N

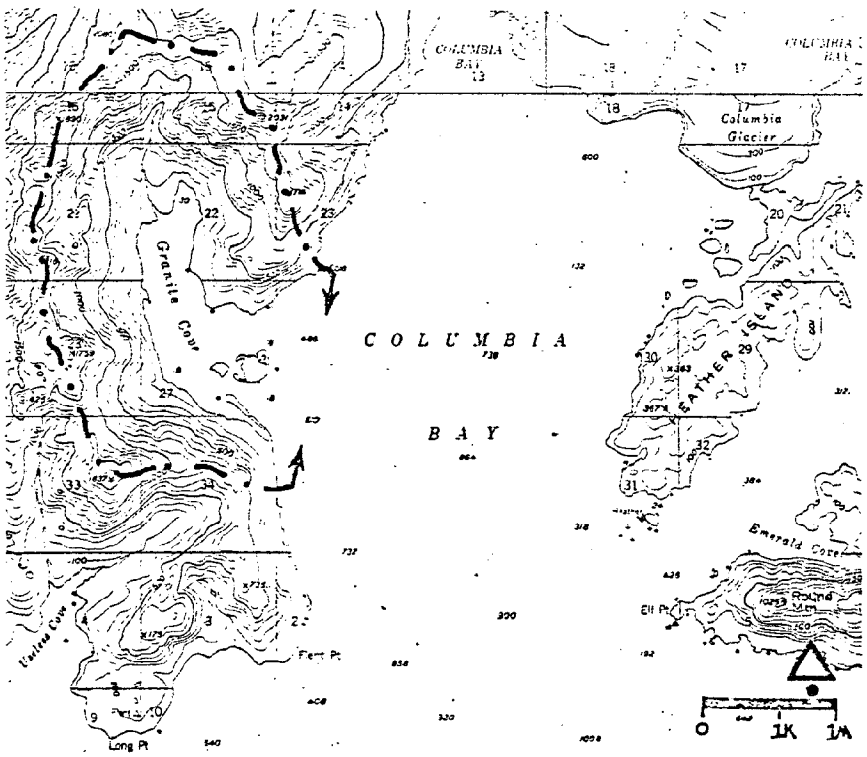
Longitude: 147°09'W

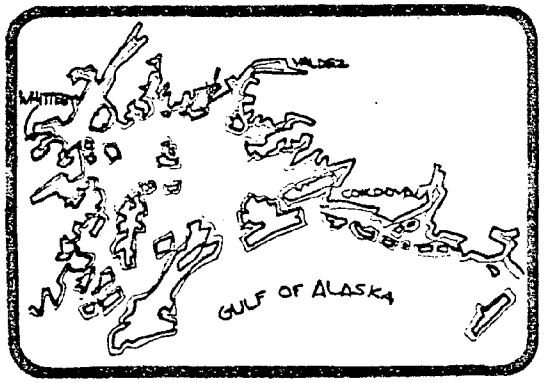
Upland Acres(Hectares): 2,520 (1,008)

Existing Ownership: Federal

Existing Management: Forest Service under study as Scenic Area

Proposed Management: Public Recreation





Growler Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

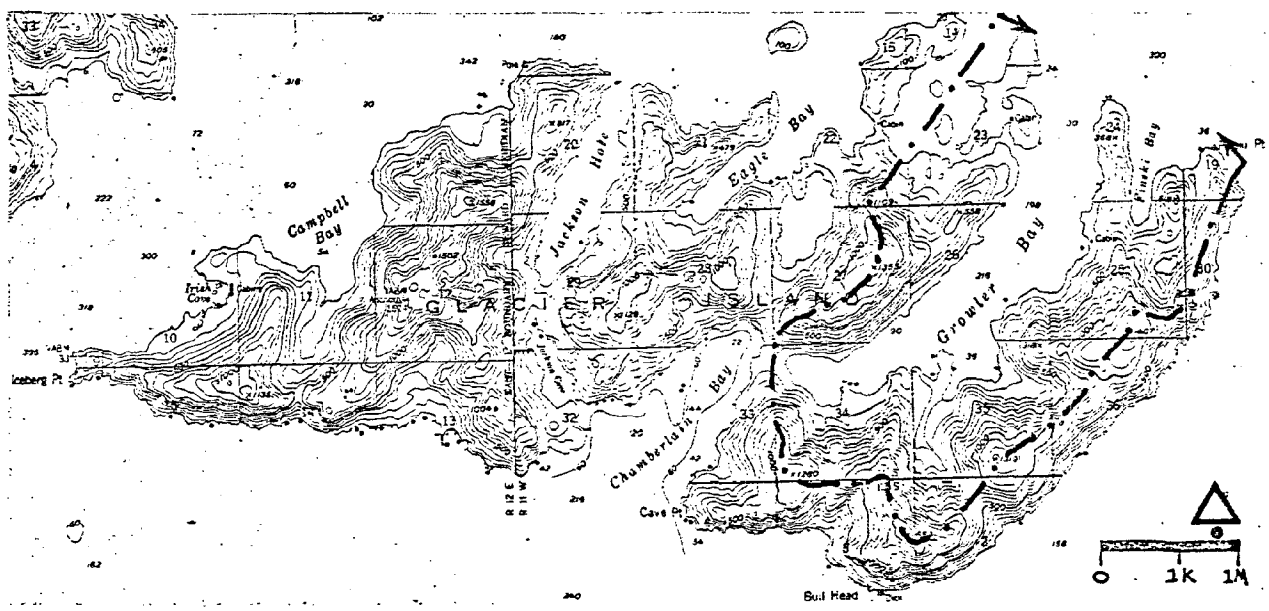
Associated Value: Scenic

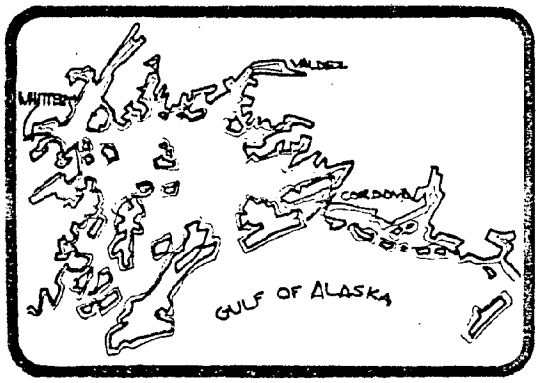
Growler Bay was the local name recorded in 1916 because of ice seen floating in the bay (a "growler" is a small piece of floating ice). With a fine view of the Columbia glacier, it possesses scenic and primitive qualities. In fact, the entire area was noted for high primitive and medium to high scenic values.

Fifty-four miles northeast of Whittier, the bay extends three miles to the sound on the northeast side of Glacier Island. It offers two good anchorages for small boats.

Although it is the largest bay on Glacier Island, a number of other small bays are accessible to boaters, allowing for additional related recreational use such as hiking, beachcombing, and wildlife observation, as well as trips to nearby Columbia Glacier. Sport fishing for chum salmon and cutthroat trout is also a favorite activity in the area.

Latitude:	60° 53'N
Longitude:	147° 07'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	2,780 (1,112)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use , portion under scenic management
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





Hartney Bay

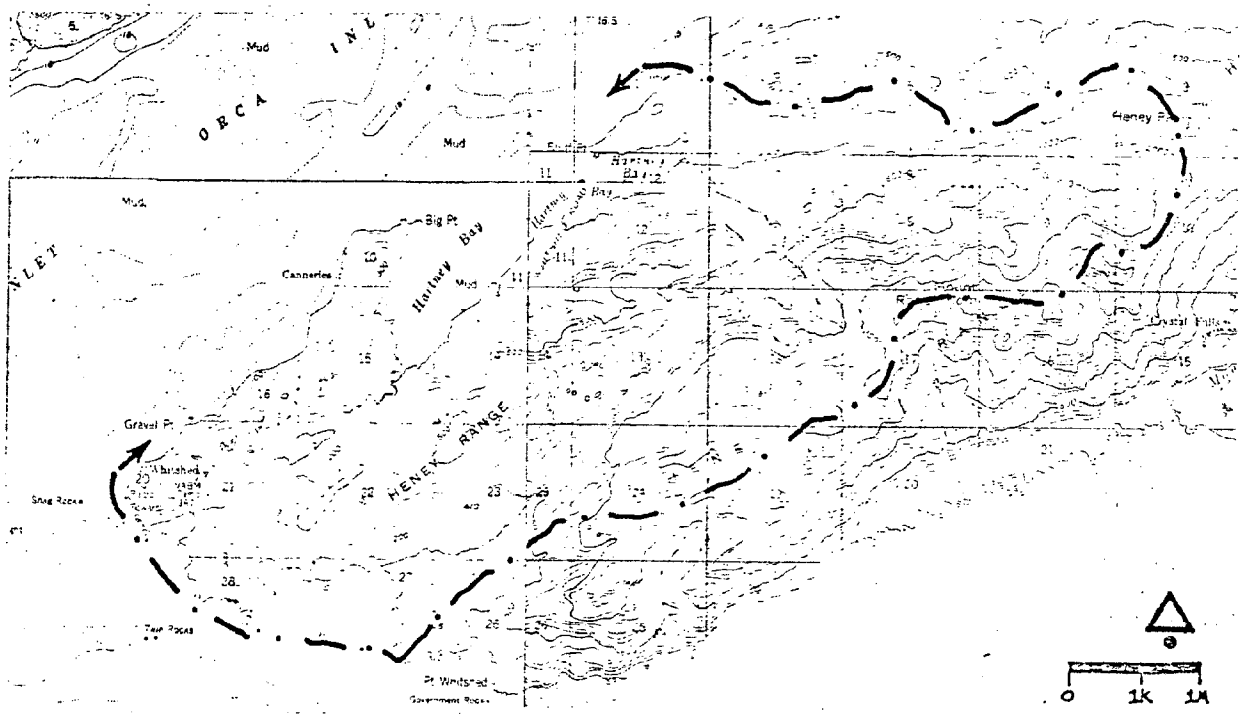
Primary Value: Recreation

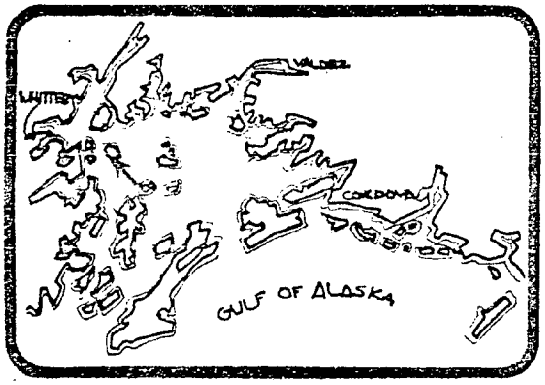
Associated Value: Scenic

Hartney Bay, located some six miles south of Cordova by road, is an area traditionally used for recreation by both local and non-local recreationists. Hartney Bay is predominantly a mudflat, although a portion of the bay has been cut off from complete saltwater inundation due to the construction of a road levy, and is presently undergoing successional changes to an upland vegetative community. The U. S. Forest Service has constructed a picnic facility in this area which seems to receive considerable use.

Aside from scenic and natural features of the area, one of the area's greatest values lies in its accessibility from Cordova by automobile. A Native campsite and the remains of an old cannery attest to previous human activity.

Latitude:	60° 30'N
Longitude:	145° 53'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	9,340 (3,736)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service restricted use pending future ownership
Proposed Management:	Private Recreation





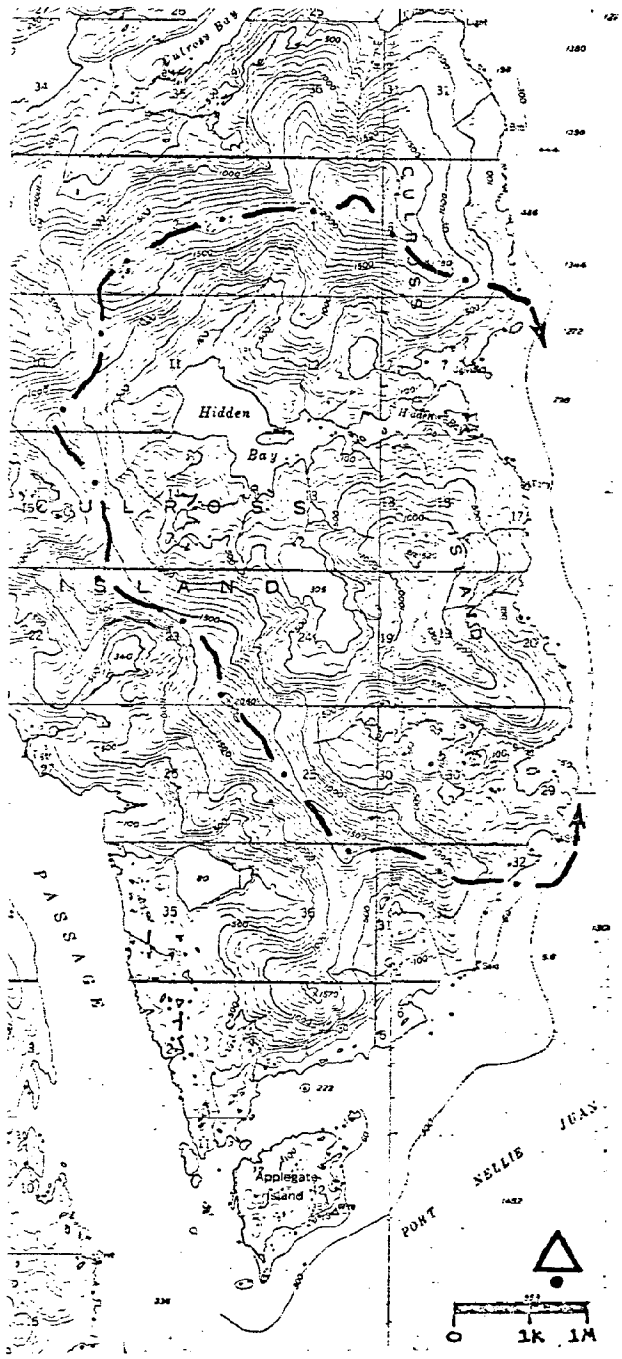
Hidden Bay

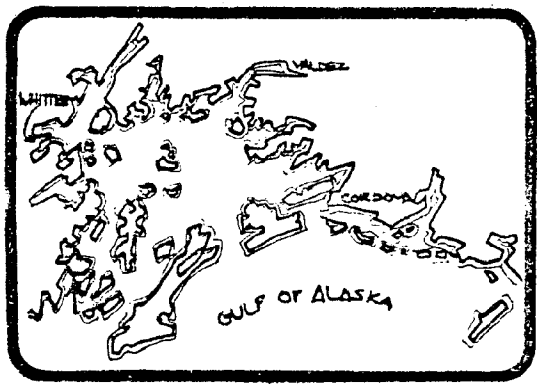
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

Hidden Bay extends off of Perry Passage on the eastern shore of Culross Island. The entrance can be difficult for large boats to negotiate. Nevertheless, the bay provides a good anchorage for small boats once through the passage. The bay has a number of islands and rocky points as well as several streams and fine uplands for hiking. There is possibly a Native village site in the area. Wildlife thought to be present in the area include black bear, sea otter, harbor seal, whale, and waterfowl.

Latitude:	60° 42'N
Longitude:	148° 09'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	6,240 (2,496)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service study area for Wilderness
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public Recreation





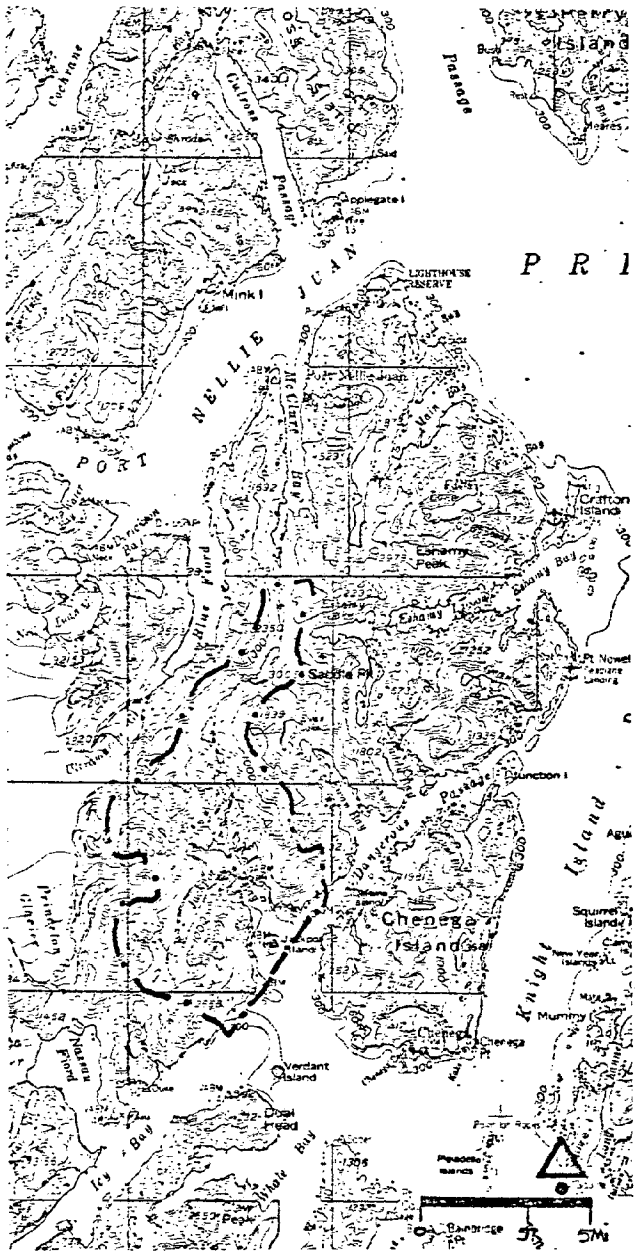
Jackpot Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

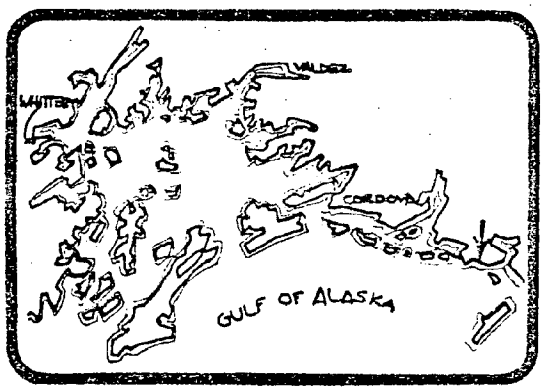
Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife & Heritage

Jackpot Bay is reported by some who know the area well to be the most scenic and pleasurable area in all of Prince William Sound. Eshamy Lagoon is thought by others to have this distinction. It provides numerous opportunities for water-related activities as well as hiking and nature viewing in the uplands. A series of scenic lakes, the Jackpot Lakes, extend northward from the bay through country dotted with pothole lakes and surrounded by high glacier-topped peaks. There are a number of hideaways for visitors to explore. Sport fishing for red, silver, and pink salmon is a favorite activity in the area. The Forest Service recognizes three anchorages there and has included the bay in the Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area. Bear are found along several of the streams draining into the bay.

There is an archaeological site at the bay and one at the north entrance, where some archaeological remnants have been found. Jackpot Bay lies off Dangerous Passage near Chenega Island; because of its proximity, it provides the opportunity to visit other attractive bays, such as Icy Bay, in the vicinity.



Latitude:	60° 21'N
Longitude:	148° 13'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	24,130 (9,652)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chenega) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service study area for Wilderness
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public and/or Private Recreation



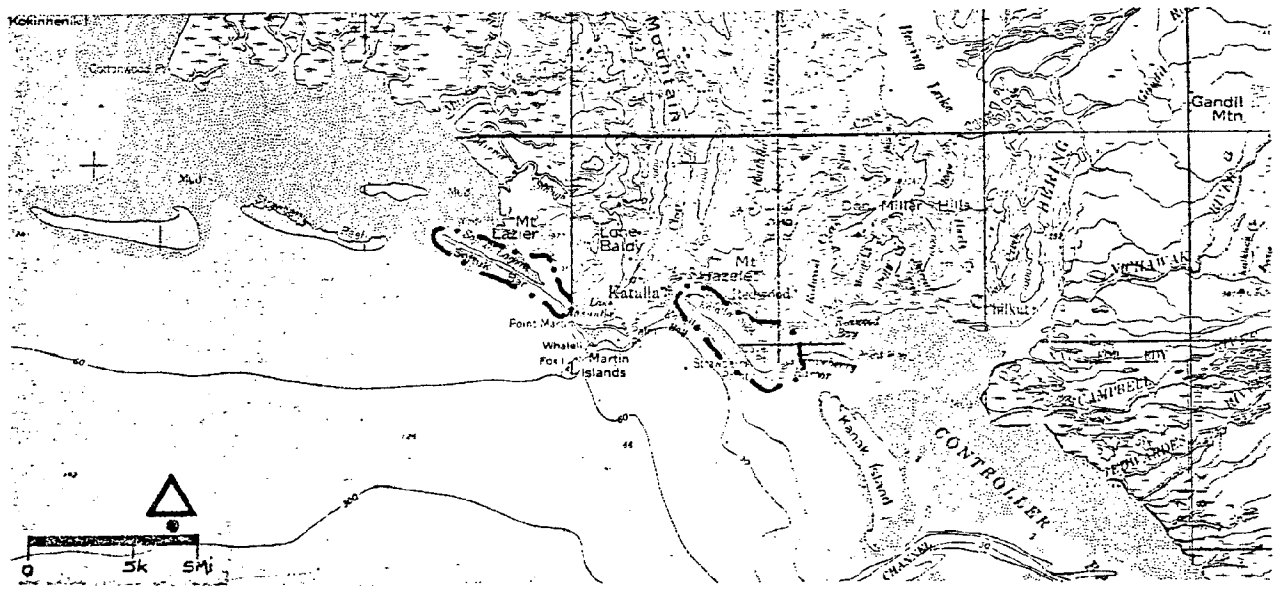
Katalla and Softuk Beaches

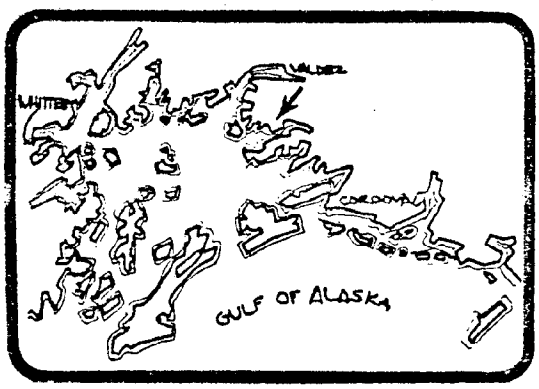
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Katalla and Softuk are the only other large wave-pounded bars besides Strawberry Reef and Oakalee Beach for beach recreation in the area of eastern Prince William Sound. The beaches are known for their razor clams, dungeness and tanner crabs, and opportunities for beachcombing. These beaches, presently accessible by way of Katalla, could become more accessible to such communities as Cordova for recreational use. Present access to the area is limited to wheeled aircraft landings on the "outside" end of Coal Beach. Exposed to the rolling surf of the Gulf of Alaska, old beach lines are easily seen. Uplands, consisting of young spruce-hemlock forest intermingled with grassy openings, provide seasonal habitat for brown bear, with some bear hunting activity occurring at the present time. The inland shores are typical estuarine with tidal mudflats and low vegetation, such as grasses and sedges.

Latitude:	60°10'N
Longitude:	144°30'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	2,300 (920)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection on Katalla
Existing Management:	Forest Service Public Recreation
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Landlocked Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

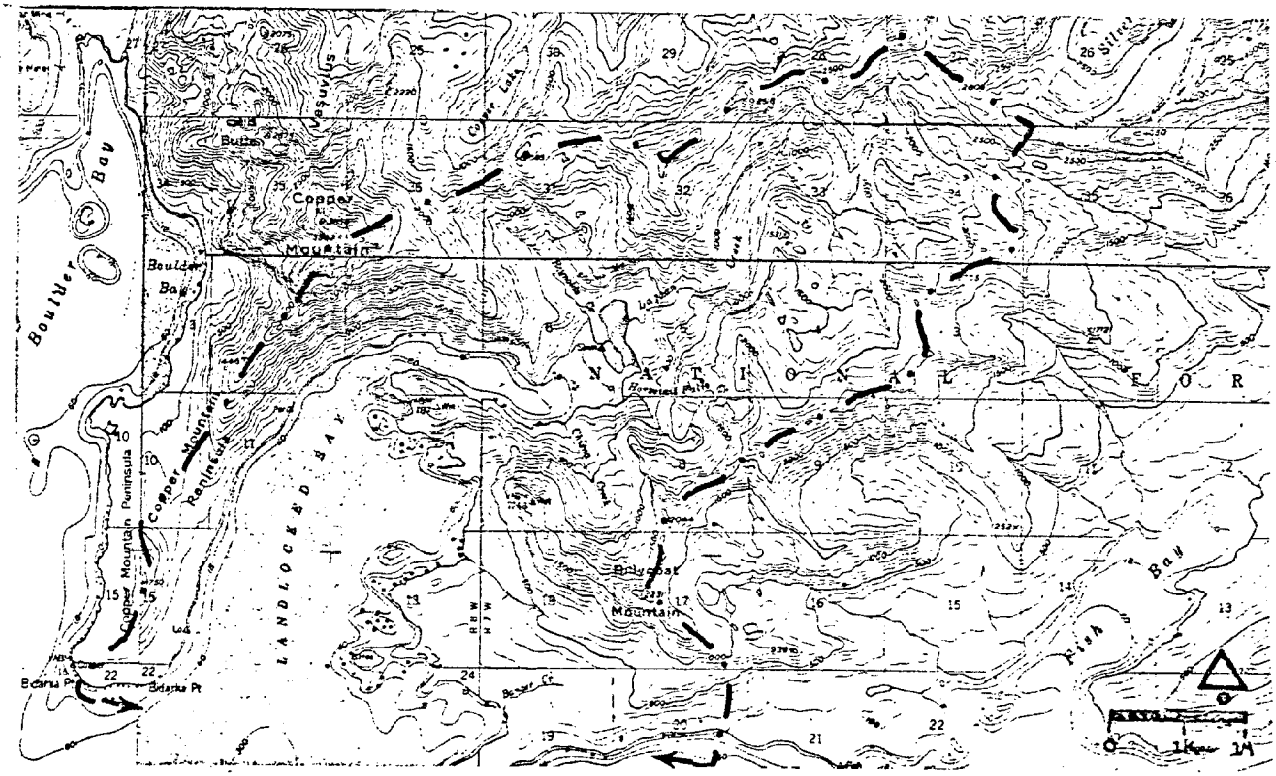
Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

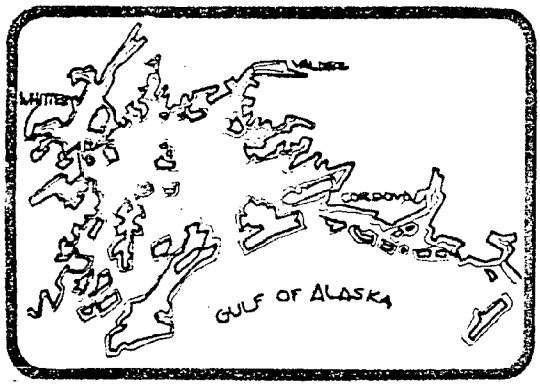
Located on the north shore of the entrance to Port Fidalgo, Landlocked Bay offers a wide variety of coastal recreation activity potentials. The coastal landscape of this area ranges from low-lying muskeg areas near Graveyard Point to the steep coniferous forest on the bay's north shore. The area also possesses several small islands, offshore rocks, and a delta at the head of the bay. Streams in the area include Lagoon Creek, Reynolds Creek, Horsetail Falls Creek, and Chisna Creek, as well as several lesser streams, most of which have runs of anadromous fish.

Accessible by boat or floatplane, the area exhibits the potential for camping, fishing (salt and fresh), hiking, canoeing, beachcombing, and boating. The drainage basin boundary of this area includes the 3,842' summit of Copper Mountain and several high elevation lakes. Approximately eight miles due west by water is the Native townsite of Tatitlek. An archaeological site is located on the southern shoreline of the bay.

An area on the southern shore of the bay serves as winter range for mountain goats and should be managed for this use.

Latitude:	60°50'N
Longitude:	146°35'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	9,400 (3,760)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire 2 Private Parcels
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use portion managed for goat range
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation preserve goat range area



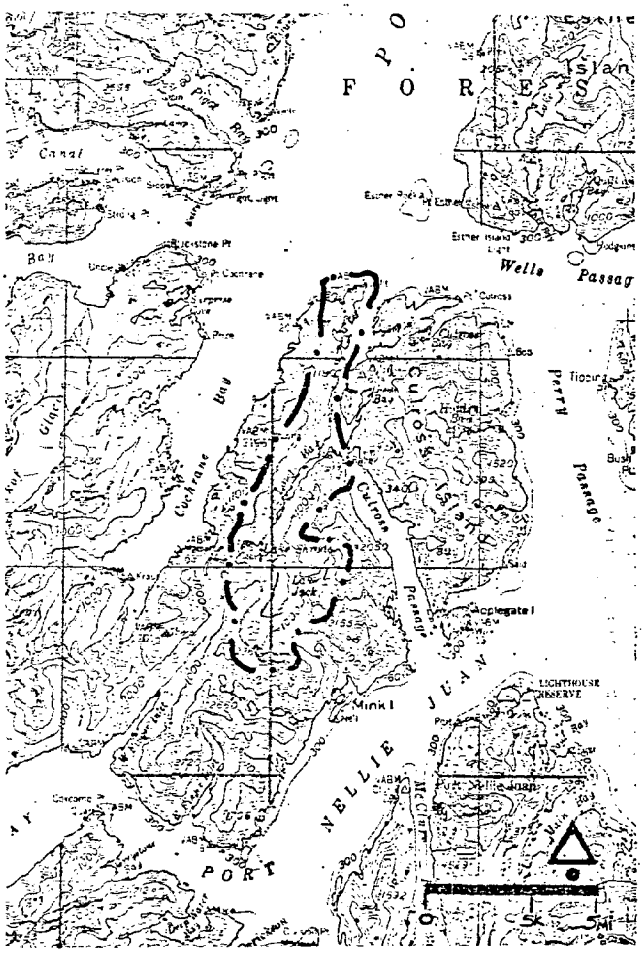


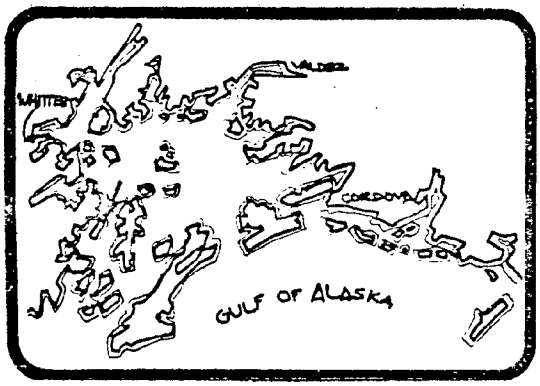
Long Bay/ Lake Schrode

The Long Bay area, a geologic formation of intrusive granitic rock, is impressively scenic. A short trail leads through weather-shaped sub-alpine vegetation from Long Bay to Lake Shrode, the site of the U.S.F.S. public use cabin. The lake and outlet stream offer good salmon fishing in late summer. Commercial fishing vessels use the cove as a transfer point. Nearby are numerous opportunities for viewing wildlife: Dall porpoise are often seen in the open waters of nearby Cochrane Bay, and harbor porpoise congregate near the shore. The upper end of Long Bay is noted for concentrations of seals in the inland waters and black bear along the streams. Bald eagles nest along the coastline.

The Long Bay area is important for archaeological study; several mummy caves, left by Chugach Eskimos, have been found on the shores of the bay. One archaeological site is known to exist west of Point Culross. The area is recommended by the Forest Service for inclusion in the Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area.

Primary Value:	Recreation
Associated Value:	Scenic
Latitude:	60° 41'N
Longitude:	148° 16'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service study area for Wilderness
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public Recreation





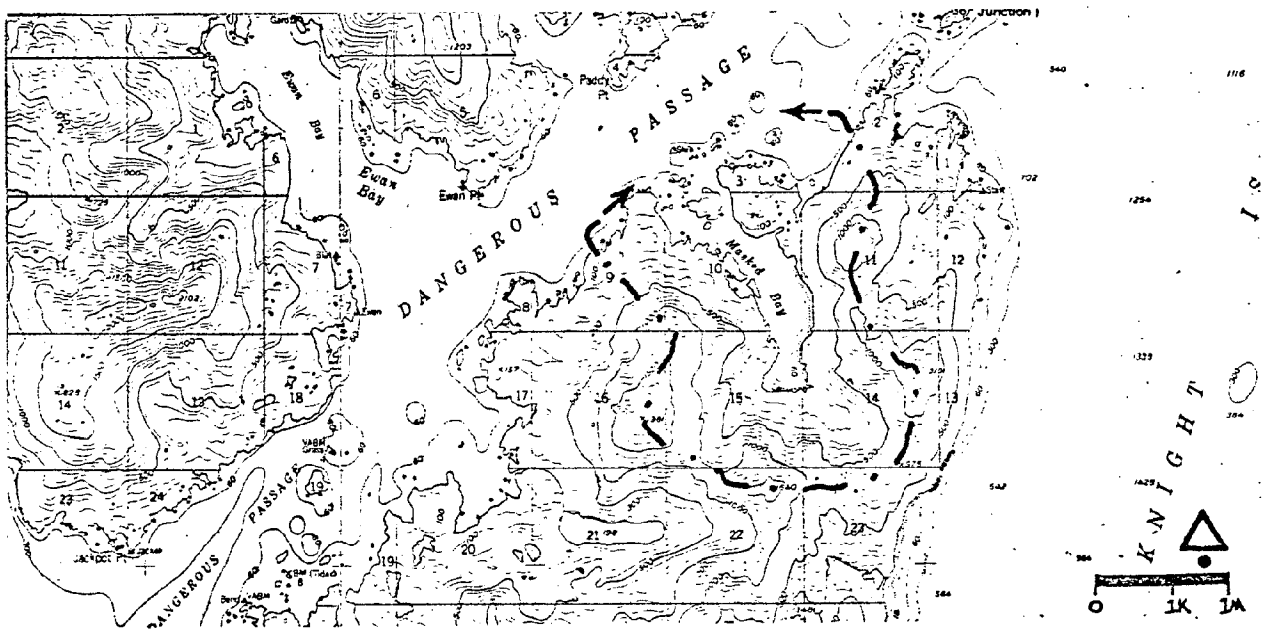
Masked Bay

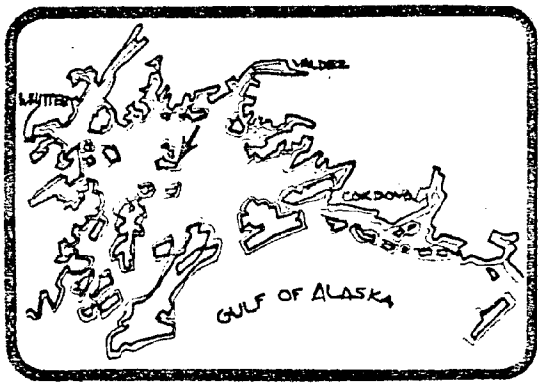
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Masked Bay, an attractive boat anchorage off of Dangerous Passage on the north shore of Chenega Island, lies within the area proposed by the Forest Service as the Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area. The Land Use Planning Commission has designated the area as having particular high primitive qualities and medium to high scenic values. Although a number of rocks obscure the entrance, Masked Bay is suitable as an anchorage for small boats.

Latitude:	60° 22'N
Longitude:	148° 02'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	2,180 (872)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chenega) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service study area for Wilderness
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public and/or Private Recreation





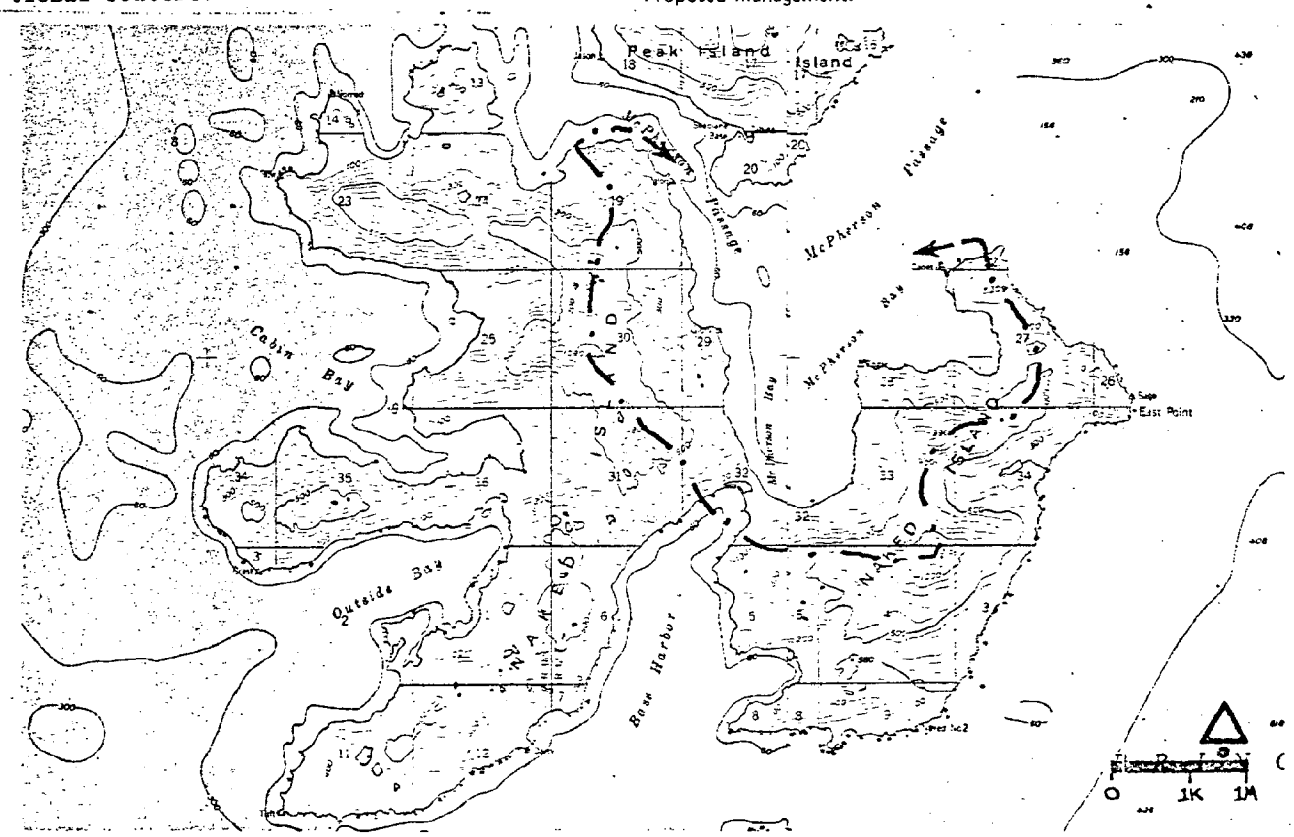
McPherson Bay

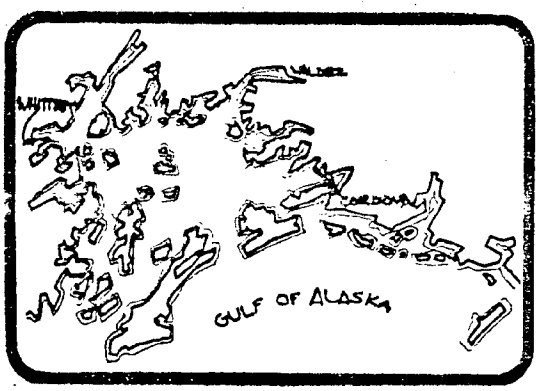
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

This bay provides a good anchorage in the Naked Island group. It is located south of Peak Island which is in large part privately owned. The area consists of a number of inland bays and islands which make it an attractive area for pleasure boaters. Two seabird colonies nearby, one of kittiwakes and the other of puffins, and a number of harbor seals provide opportunities for nature viewing. McPherson and Outside Bay, which is also identified as an area of particular concern for recreation, provide important anchorages for cross-Sound recreational boaters.

Latitude:	60°40'N
Longitude:	147°23'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	2.050 (820)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





Mount Eccles

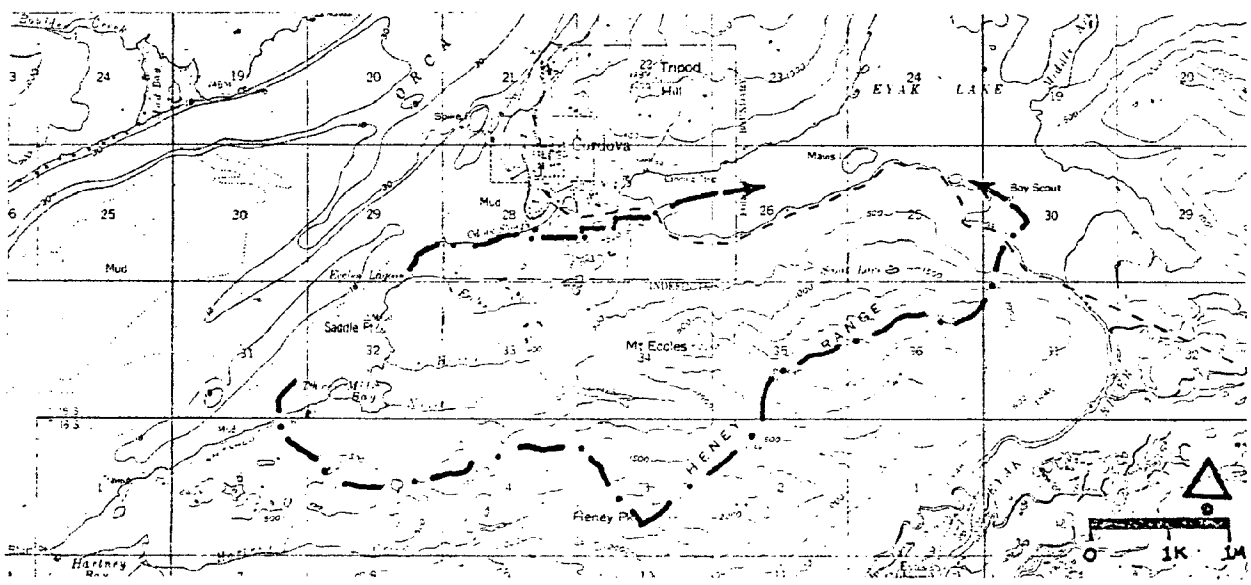
Primary Value: Recreation

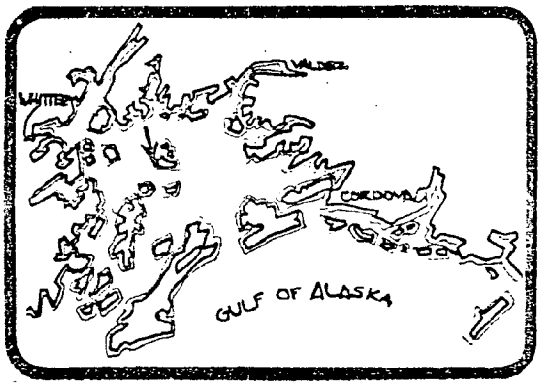
Associated Value: Scenic

The coastal and upland resources of this area present an opportunity for use as a community recreation area. Nearby Eyak Lake and Eyak River provide an important scenic and recreation resource for people boating or driving in the area as well as providing a recreation base for Cordova residents. The mountains portray a continuum of vegetation and landforms from snowfield to sea coast, and provide a spectacular backdrop for the community of Cordova. This area contains portions of both Eyak Lake and Orca Inlet shorelines.

The coastline to the north is presently being developed. Management objectives of this area should be to maintain a natural section of coastline close to a major population area in the sound in order to protect the natural beauty as seen from homes and roads, and to provide recreation opportunities for Cordova residents. A portion of this area, generally the northern slope of Mount Eccles, serves as a watershed for the community of Cordova. Protection of this watershed should supercede all other land uses in this area.

Latitude:	60° 32'N
Longitude:	145° 44'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	4,420 (1,768)
Existing Ownership:	Federal State & City Private ANCSA selection (Eyak) partial
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use Residential Watershed
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation and Watershed





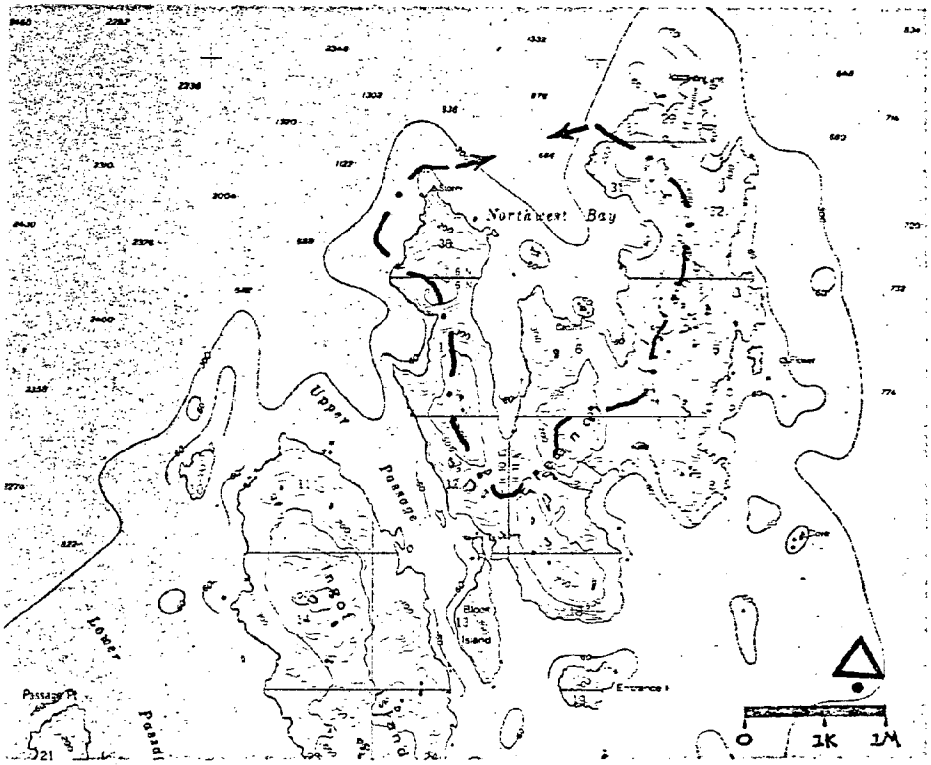
Northwest Bay

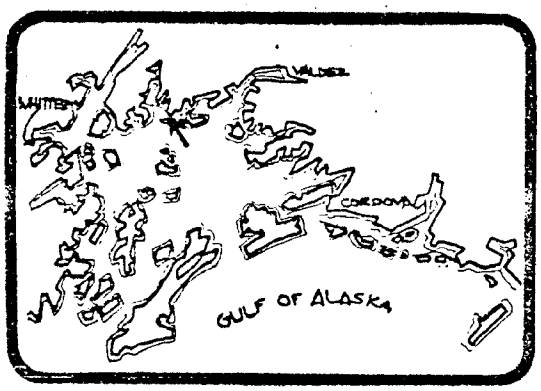
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Northwest Bay is located on the north side of Eleanor Island, one of the most northernly of the Knight Island group. These islands are particularly scenic due to volcanic origin. It is the last anchorage for boaters cruising north out of Knight Island Passage before the open sound, and therefore is an important anchorage point for cross-sound traffic. Deer hunting is popular here and on nearby Ingot Island. Eleanor Island is noted for its abundance of harbor seals, and whales are occasionally seen near the entrance of the bay and in nearby Montague Straits and Knight Island Passage.

Latitude:	60°30'N
Longitude:	147°36'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	1,220 (488)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





Olsen Cove

Primary Value: Recreation

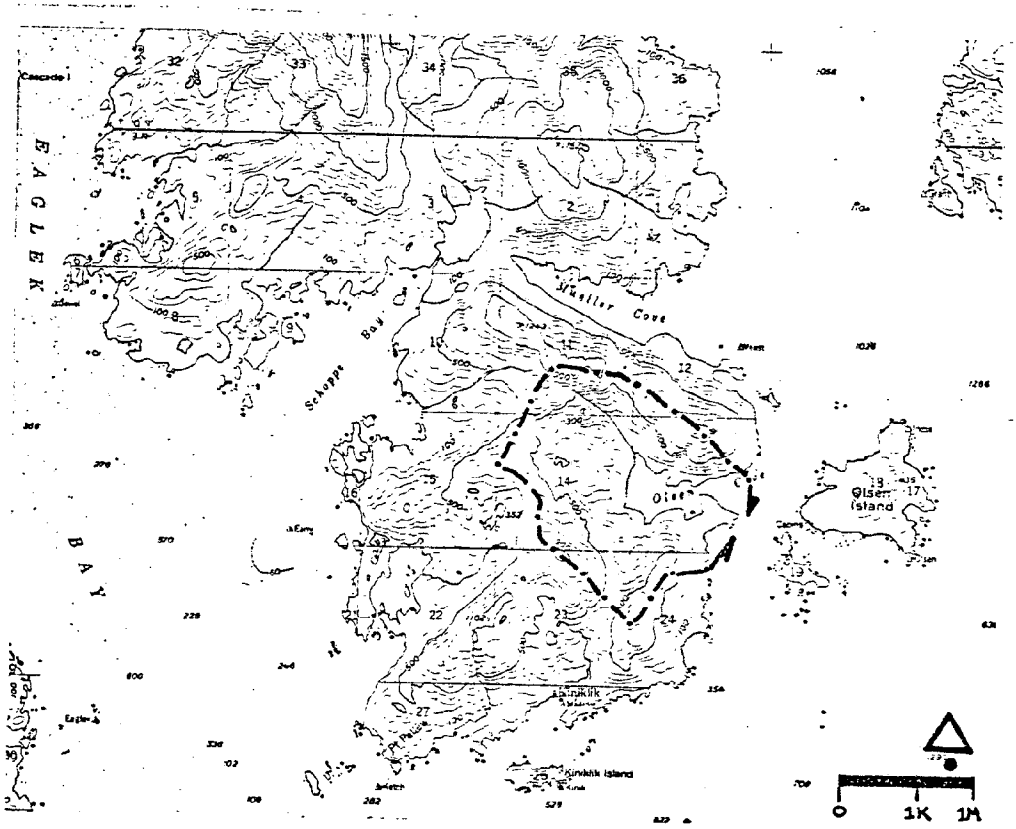
Associated Value: Heritage, Scenic

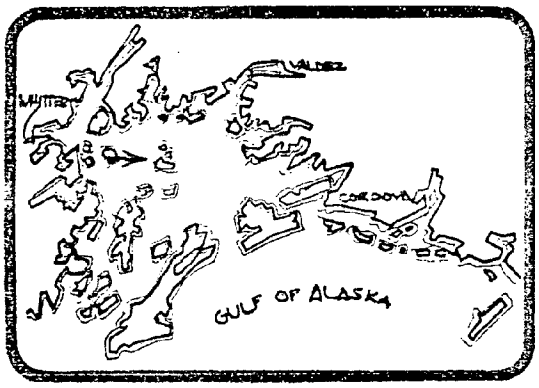
Olsen Cove, located in the vicinity of Kiniklik at the head of Unakwik Inlet, is well protected from all directions and large enough to anchor a number of boats. Sport anglers from Whittier, thirty-eight miles to the southwest, take pink and chum salmon. The shores of Unakwik offer opportunities for beachcombing. Two archaeological sites exist in the area.

Several uses are proposed for the area including commercial, residential, and timber production.

Interest has been expressed by local commercial fishermen and seafood processors in developing processing plants, housing, and storage facilities in this bay, as well as other bays in the upper Prince William Sound area.

Latitude:	60° 52'N
Longitude:	147° 36'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	1,150 (460)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service restrictive management pending State selections
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation

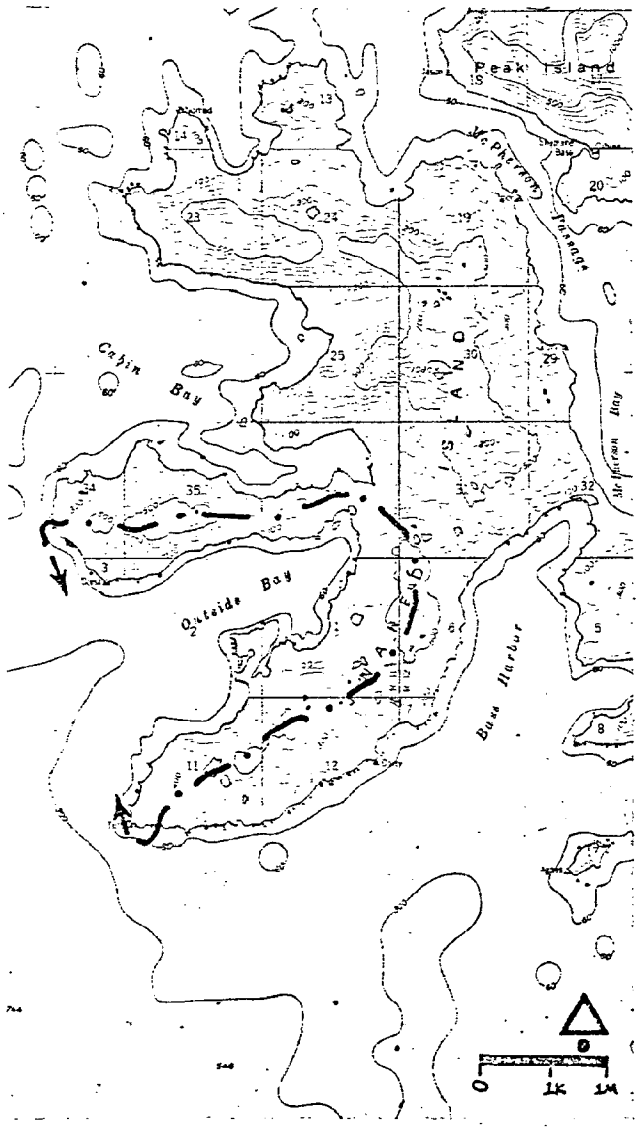




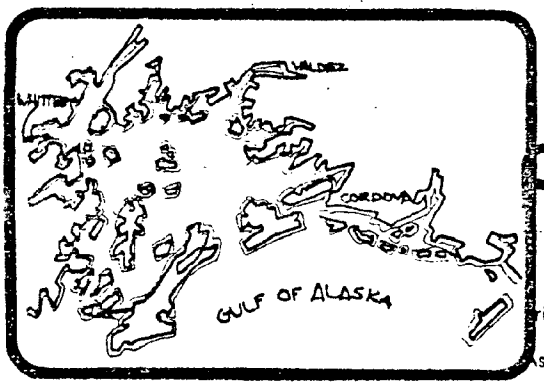
Outside Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

This area provides one of the few sheltered places for anchorage of small boats (another is McPherson Bay on the north shore). Because of its geographic location, anchorages on Naked Island are important to cross-Sound recreational boaters from Valdez or Cordova toward Seward. Naked Island gets its name from the fact that Natives reportedly found an insane naked woman there. The island has supported a fox pelt farm in the past, and some of the old buildings still exist. Sitka black-tailed deer are found as well as a scattering of sea otters around the Island. The shores of Naked Island provide good opportunities for beaching, and migrating whales are often seen offshore.



Latitude:	60° 38'N
Longitude:	147° 28'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	1,180 (472)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation



Patton Bay

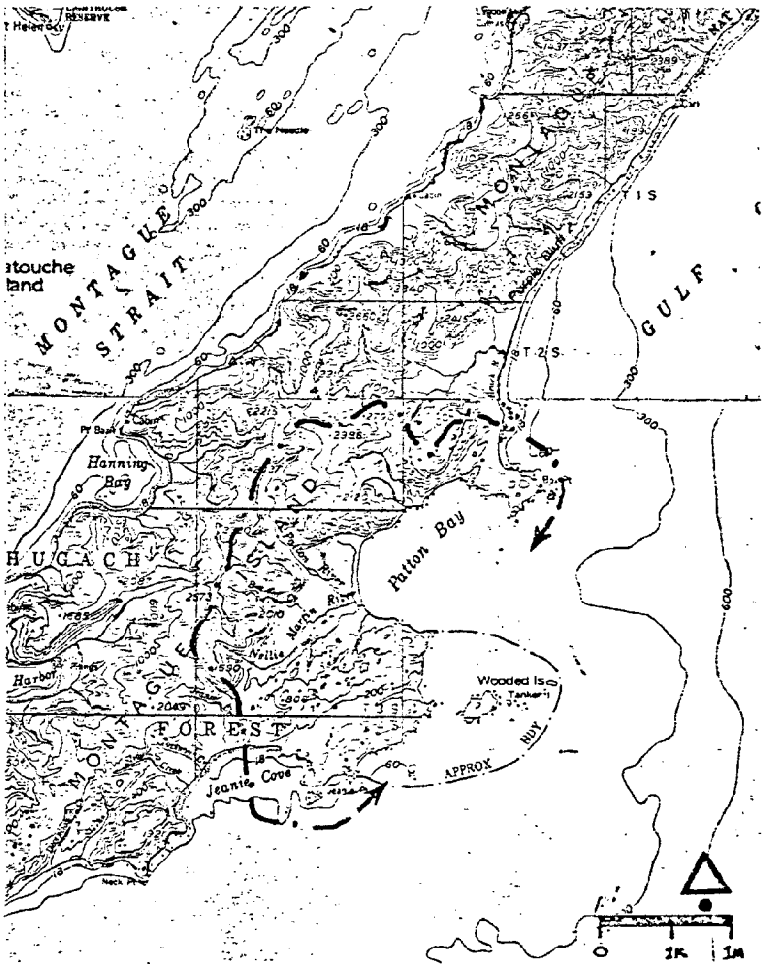
Primary Value: Recreation

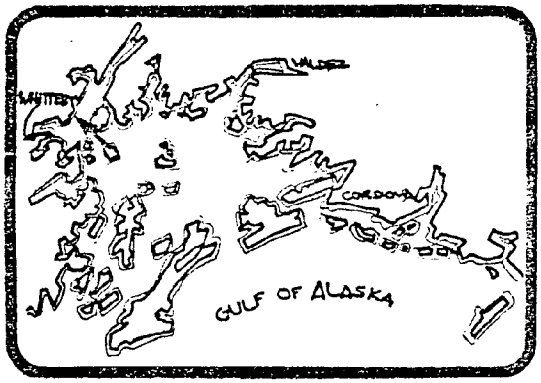
Associated Value: Wildlife

Patton Bay, on the south side of Montague Island, is a large bay presently used primarily by recreational hunters. There are two sites in the area where wheeled planes can land, there being in all of Prince William Sound only three sites. A Forest Service public cabin is maintained there and frequented by deer hunters.

Nearby Wooded Island is the site of a large bird colony and a sea lion summer haul-out grounds. All of Patton Bay is known for large concentrations of sea lions and sea otters in summer. Bald eagle nest in the area and Sitka black-tailed deer forage along the beaches in winter.

Latitude:	59°56'N
Longitude:	147°27'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	32,000 (12,800)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 4 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





Pigot Bay

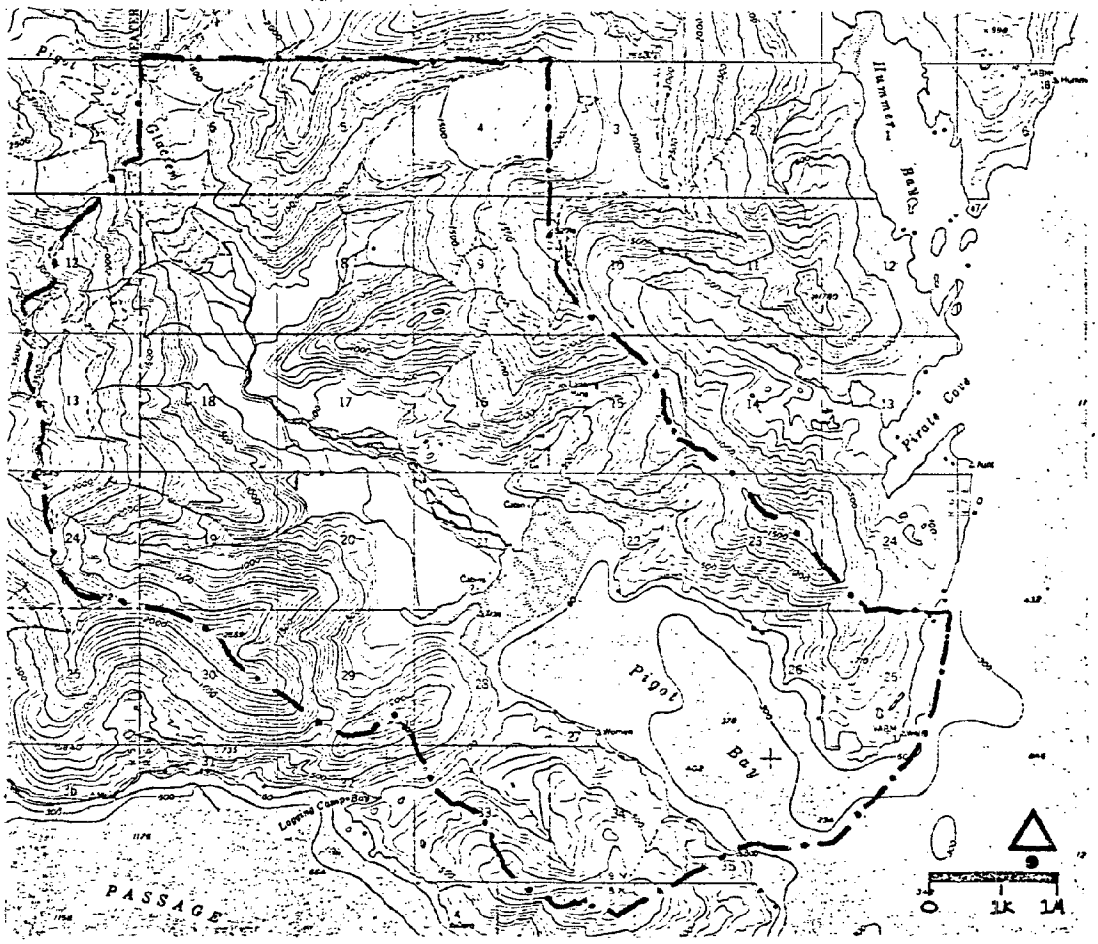
Primary Value: Recreation

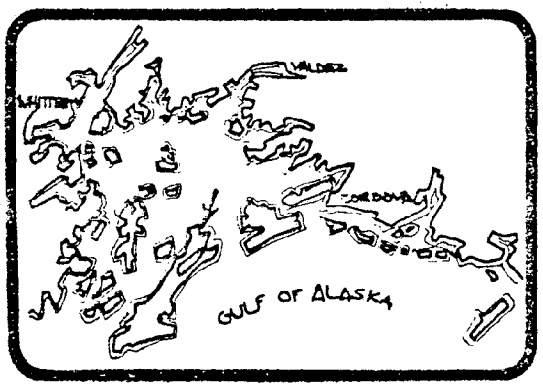
Associated Value: Heritage, Scenic

Sport anglers find this area attractive as several species of fish, both sea and freshwater, are present here: red snapper (rockfish), halibut, pink, chum, and king salmon, as well as dungeness crab. Several anchorages have been identified by the Forest Service in the bay. These are free of navigational hazards but exposed to southeast winds. The Forest Service has built a recreational cabin here.

There are several abandoned gold mines and an old logging operation in the area. Seals concentrate in the waters of the bay, and eagles nest nearby as well as geese, ducks, and other waterfowl.

Latitude:	60° 50'N
Longitude:	148° 20'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	13,020 (5,208)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





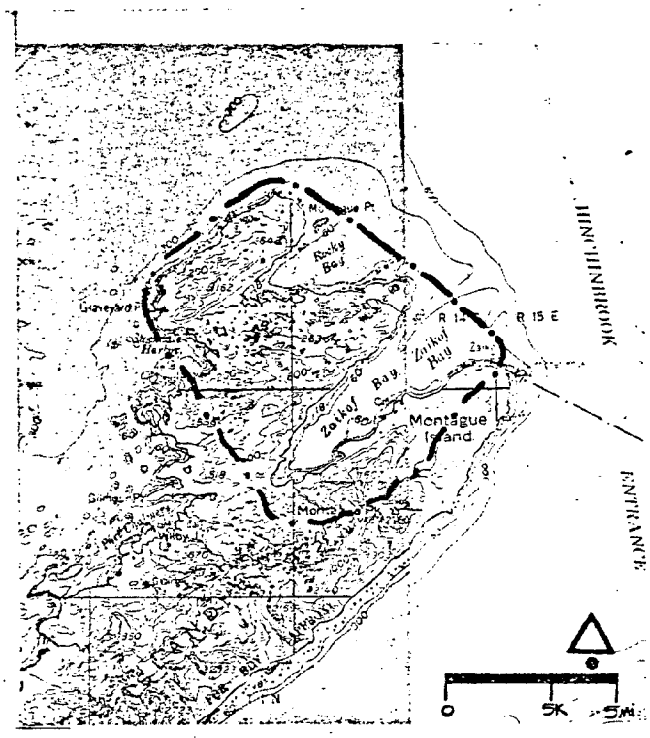
Rocky Bay/ Zaikof Bay

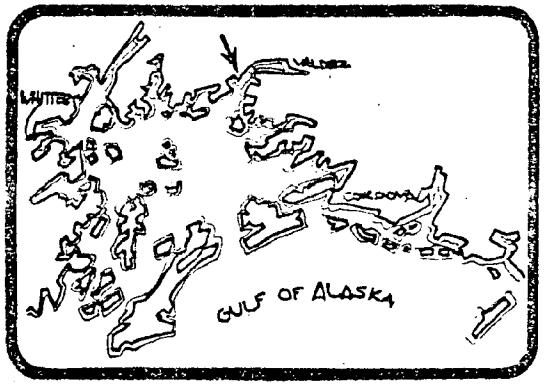
Rocky and Zaikof Bays are located at the northern end of Montague Island. The five foot uplift which occurred during the 1964 earthquake in this area did not damage salmon streams as was the case at the south end of the island which uplifted 30 feet. Because of this, this area contains the best of the remaining salmon habitat on the island. Brown bear are plentiful in this area, primarily due to an abundance of salmon. Sea otters are known to concentrate in the waters of both bays.

Access to this area is by boat or float plane. Pleasure boaters utilize both bays. Sitka black-tailed deer are commonly hunted here. Recreational trapping of furbearers also occurs.

The Forest Service identified this area for its wildlife, fish, and recreational values in the 1974 Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan and proposed to manage the area with a regard for these values. The Land Use Planning Commission has identified the whole of Montague Island as possessing good to high scenic values.

Primary Value:	Recreation
Associated Value:	Scenic
Latitude:	60°20'N
Longitude:	147°05'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	26,940 (10,776)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 3 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Fish, Wildlife and Recreation
Proposed Management:	Fish and Wildlife, and Public Recreation





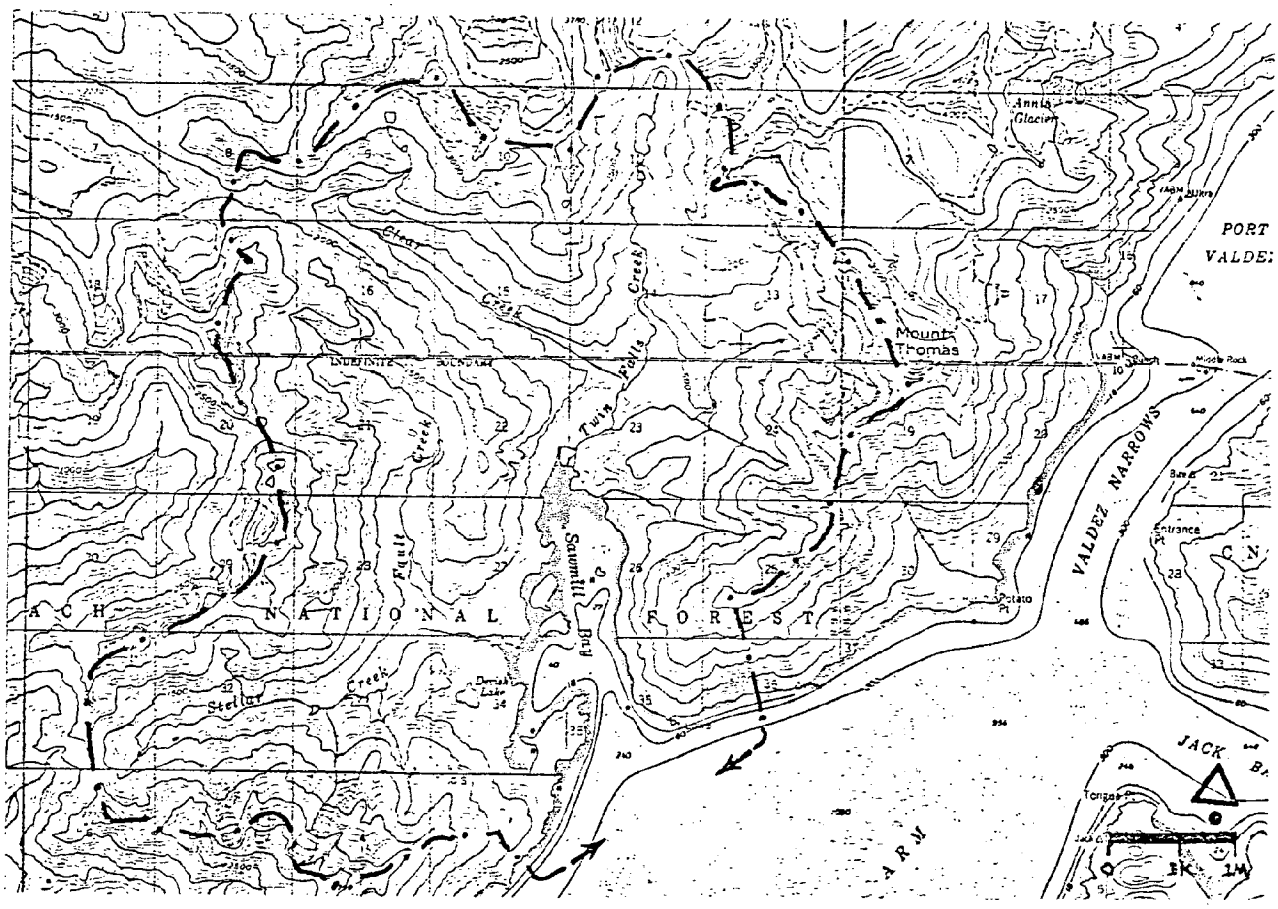
Sawmill Bay

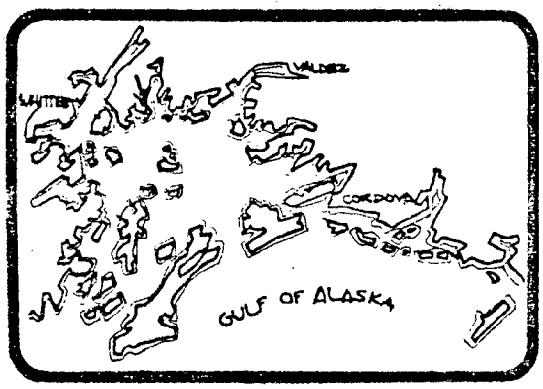
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

Because of this area's proximity to Valdez, it serves as an important area for recreationists, both local and regional. It is popular with boaters, providing protection for small boats, convenient as it is near the range limit for those coming from Valdez for a day's activities. Recreation opportunities in the area include sport fishing for silver salmon, crab, clams, and halibut. Wildlife enthusiasts may observe several species of birds here and possibly black bear. The Forest Service maintains a public use cabin here. Because of its scenic values and shoreline protected from the strong currents of Valdez Arm, it is a logical choice for a local recreation use area.

Latitude:	61°03'N
Longitude:	146°47'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	13,300 (5,320)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selections (Tatitlek) partial
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use Bureau of Land Management
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Schoppe Bay/ Mueller Cove

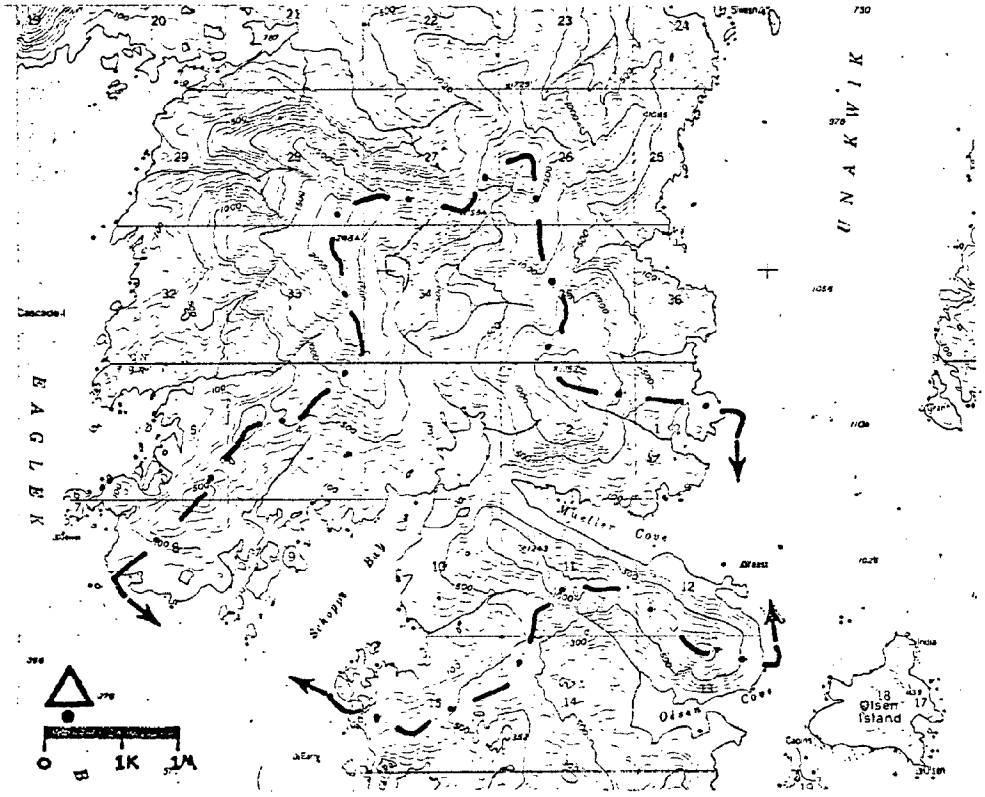
Primary Value: Recreation

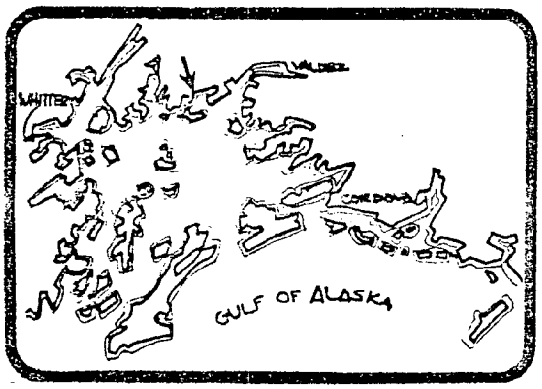
Associated Value: Scenic

This area offers several good anchorages and opportunities for viewing wildlife in a primitive setting. The visitor to this area might have the chance to experience one or several types of wildlife, including: bald eagles nesting in the area, bears in the fresh water streams, seals in the upper bay, and herring feeding offshore.

The area is popular for pink and chum salmon fishing. Like the rest of Prince William Sound the area is characterized by heavily glaciated valleys and high steep mountains rising abruptly from tidewater.

Latitude:	60° 53'N
Longitude:	147° 39'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	4,600 (1,840)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation

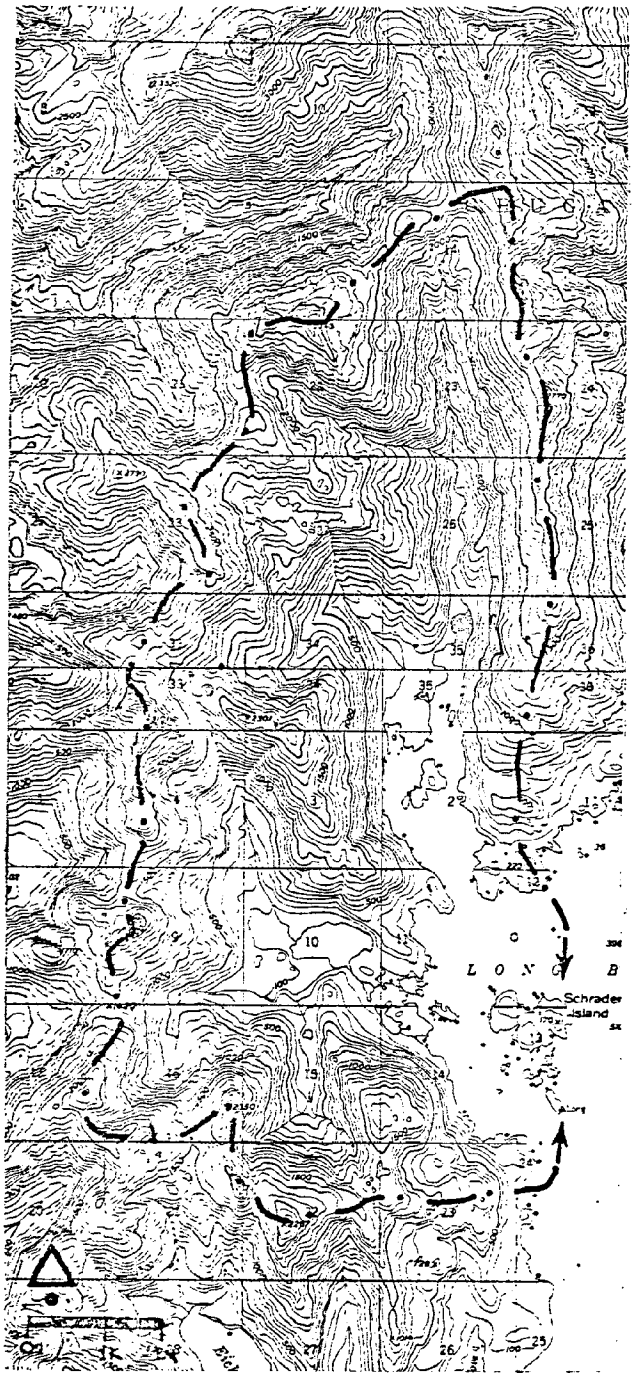




Schrader Island

Primary Value: Recreation

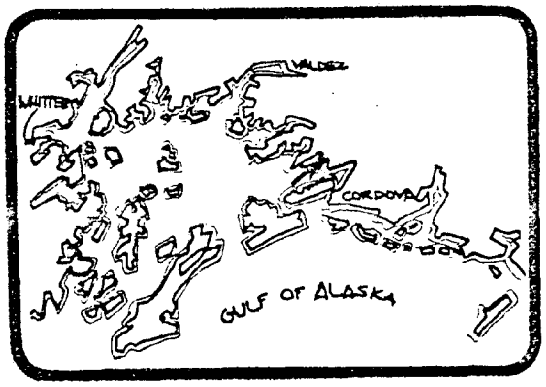
Associated Value: Scenic



This area includes Shrader Island, located in the left arm of Long Bay north of Glacier Island in upper Prince William Sound, as well as the surrounding area on the mainland of the bay. Because of its proximity to Columbia Glacier and its high primitive values, it can provide a quality wilderness experience for recreational boaters.

The area is known for sport salmon fishing and cutthroat trout, as well as herring and tanner crab feeding in the bay. Eagles nest and sea birds winter in the area. Concentration of harbor seals is known to be high in the upper reaches of Long Bay. One archaeological site is in the area.

Latitude:	60°58'N
Longitude:	147°15'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	10,430 (4,172)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14hl selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation



Sheep Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

Latitude: 60°40'N

Longitude: 145°58'W

Upland Acres(Hectares): 5,470 (2,188)

Existing Ownership: Federal
ANCSA selection (Eyak)
entire

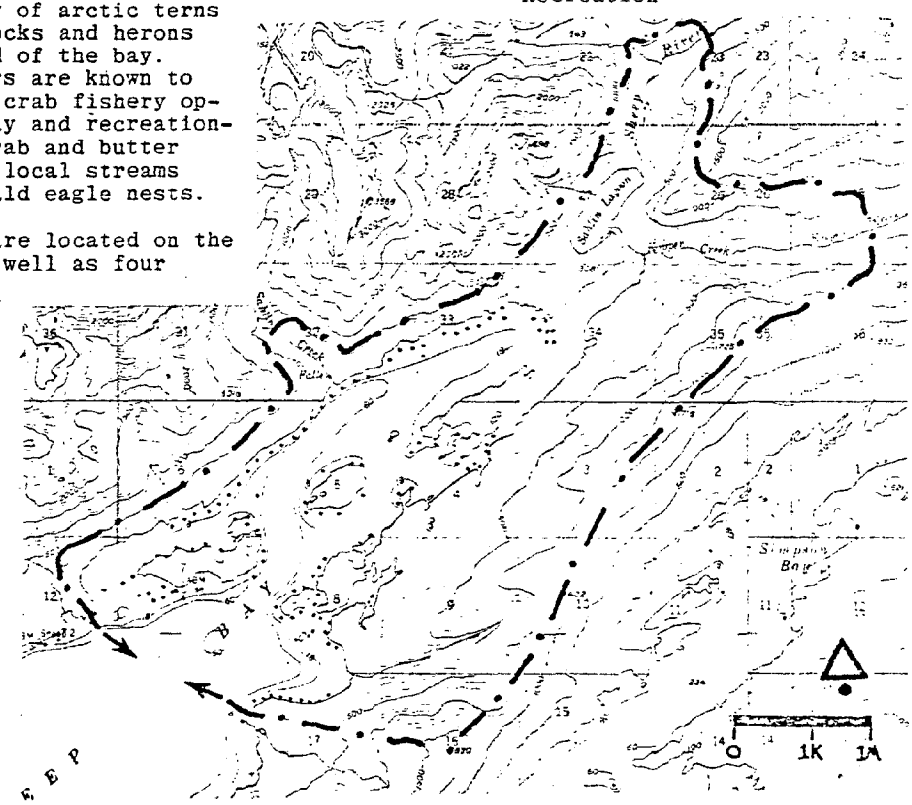
Existing Management: Forest Service
portions on Orca Bay managed for scenic quality

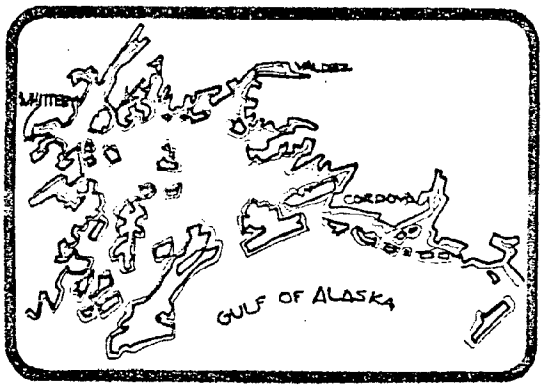
Proposed Management: Public and/or Private Recreation

A saltchuck or saltwater connected lagoon occurs at the head of Sheep Bay. Numerous offshore islands make this area important for recreational boating activities.

Notable concentrations of black and grizzly bear occur at the head of the bay and deer forage on the beaches in late winter and spring. A sea bird colony of arctic terns is located on Sheep Bay Rocks and herons and geese nest at the head of the bay. Harbor seals and sea otters are known to congregate in the bay. A crab fishery operates throughout Sheep Bay and recreationists can find dungeness crab and butter clams. Salmon running in local streams give rise to numbers of bald eagle nests.

The remains of a sawmill are located on the north shore of the bay as well as four archaeological sites.





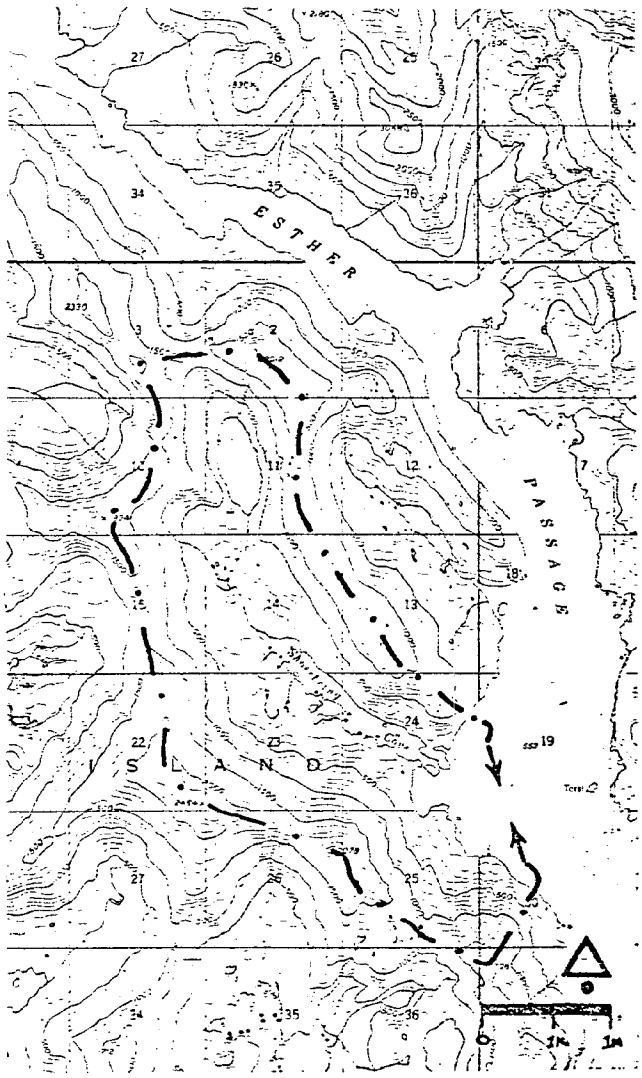
Shoestring Cove

Primary Value: Recreation

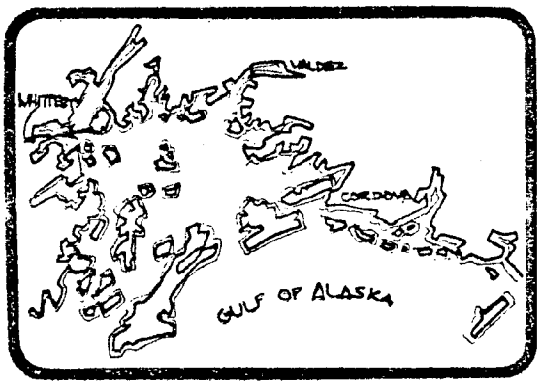
Associated Value: Scenic

Shoestring Cove, located on the Esther Island shoreline of Esther Passage, is an attractive area for recreational boaters originating from Whittier. While anchorages in the cove are somewhat limited, waters near the entrance of the cove in Esther Passage provide additional anchorage areas.

Upland lakes above the cove of over three-quarters of a mile in length provide an opportunity for freshwater activities, adding to the range of activities possible in the area. Spectacular peaks allow views over the entire island and into Esther Passage. Streams for fishing, hiking, viewing of eagles, black bears, and scenic features are other possible activities. Shoestring Cove adjoins Esther Passage, a scenic waterway of steep granite cliffs laced with waterfalls and heavily forested uplands.



Latitude:	60° 52'N
Longitude:	147° 58'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,780 (1,512)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use Portion on Esther Passage managed for Recreation/ Scenic
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation



Shotgun Cove

Primary Value: Recreation

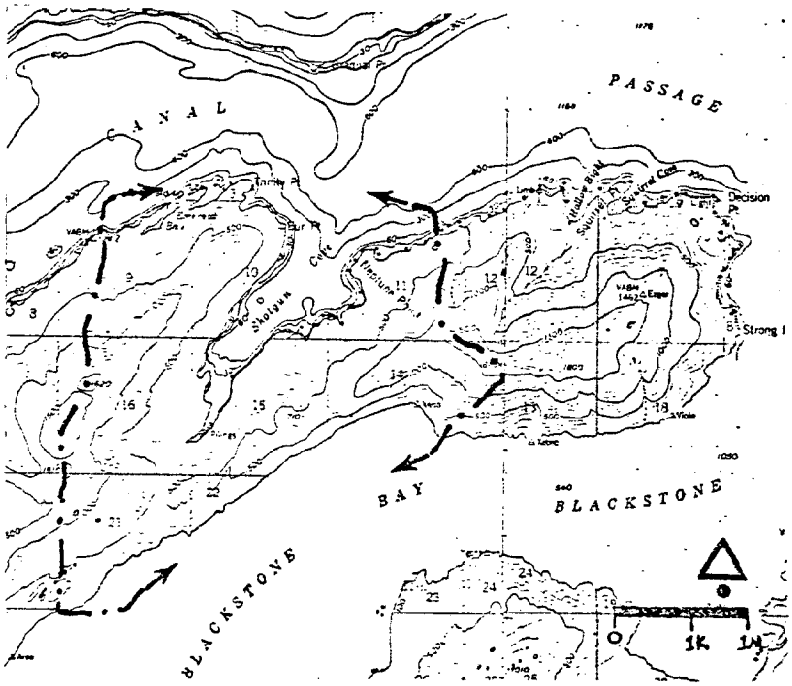
Associated Value: Scenic

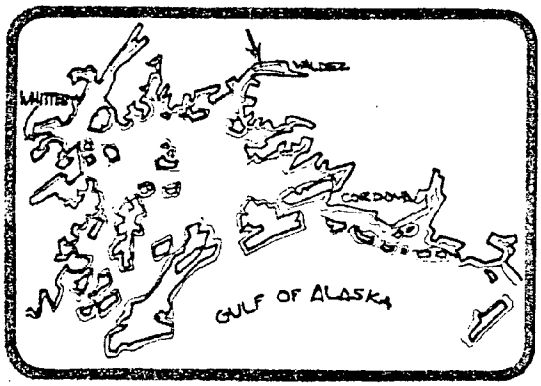
Slated for development as a small boat harbor with a capacity of about 1,000 boats, this area provides a good mud-holding bottom for boats and is protected from winds off of Passage Canal. It is accessible to Whittier, only six or eight miles away. Providing shelter for Whittier-bound boats in periods of high winds, it is a favorite for recreational boaters. Empty barges awaiting pickup are often seen.

A five mile road is proposed to connect with Whittier. This could increase recreational use substantially.

Harbor seals are often seen by visitors. Several large kittiwake colonies in the vicinity should be protected, as they are susceptible to disturbance.

Latitude:	60°48'N
Longitude:	148°33'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	2,910 (1,164)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service restricted use pending future ownership
Proposed Management:	Private and/or Public Recreation





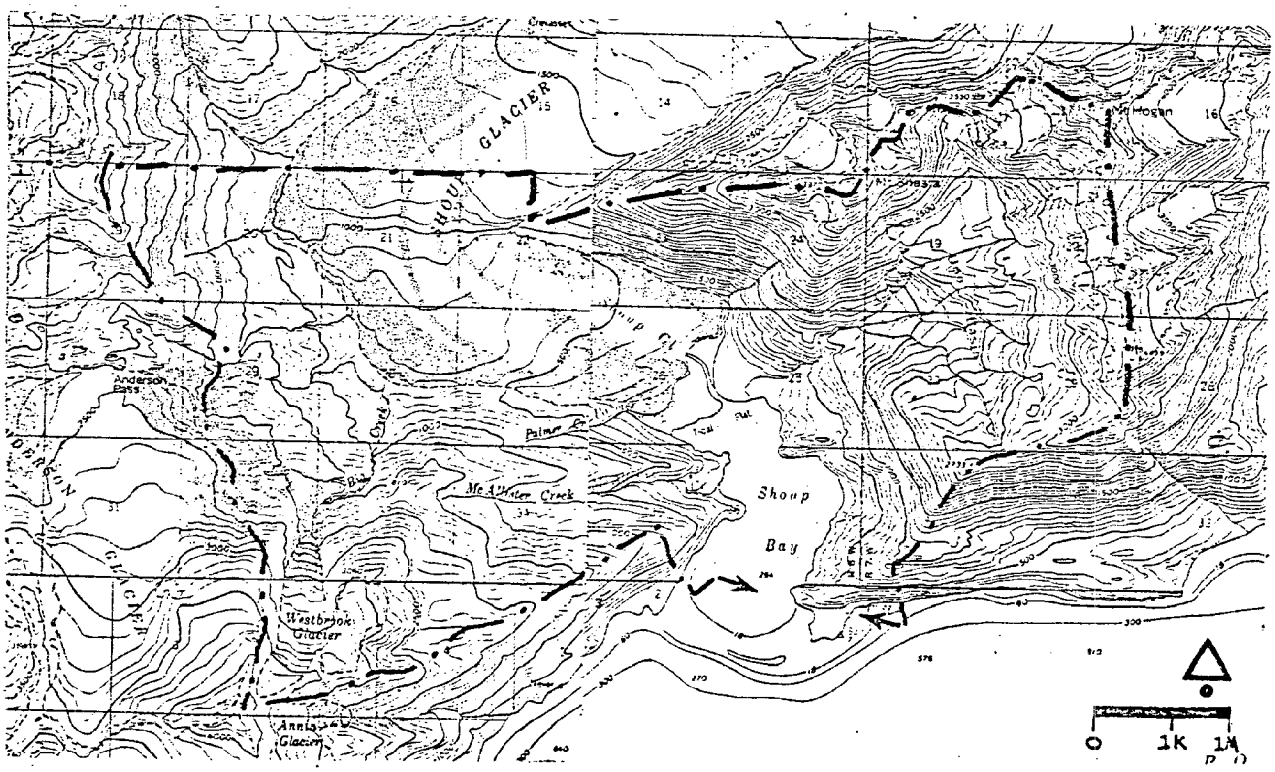
Shoup Bay

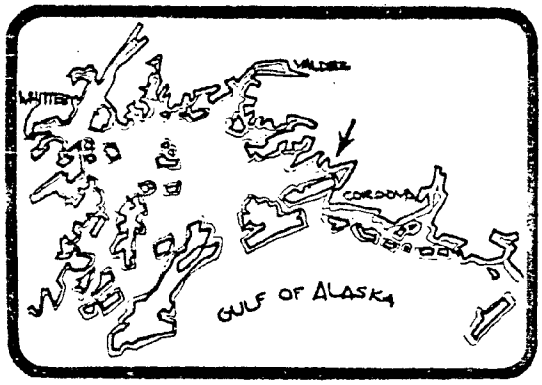
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Shoup Bay, located 7.5 miles west of Valdez, is accessible primarily by water. Because of its proximity to the community of Valdez, it is a potential recreation area. There are possibilities for trails, fishing, and wildlife viewing. Mountain goats are frequently seen on the cliffs around the bay and dabbler ducks can be observed feeding in the upper tidal flats. Shoup Glacier, the terminus of which lies two miles north of the bay, was the main tributary to the huge glacier that carved Valdez Arm. Shoup Bay is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for the height of the waves during the 1964 earthquake. It is also said that the bay emptied and filled three times.

Latitude:	61° 08'N
Longitude:	146° 35'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	12,740 (5,096)
Existing Ownership:	Federal portions Private and State
Existing Management:	Bureau of Land Management Private and State unknown
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Simpson Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

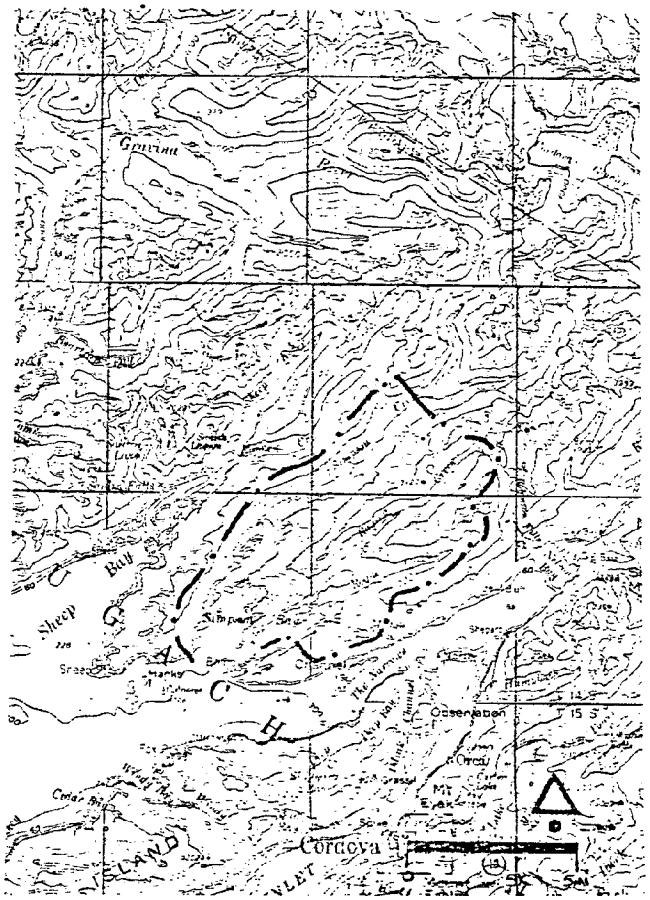
Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

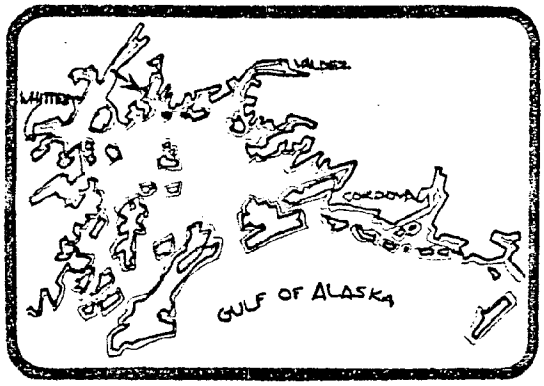
Simpson Bay is located 10 miles northwest of Cordova by boat. This area is used extensively by both Cordova residents and visitors to Cordova.

The bay supports populations of both king and dungeness crab. Some 25 bald eagle nests have been identified along the shorelines of the bay. Harbor seals range throughout the bay. Simpson, Raging, and Rogue Creeks all support runs of salmon, with brown bear intensively utilizing these creeks.

The Forest Service operates a public use cabin at the head of the south fork of the bay, as well as maintaining a trail to Milton Lake. Recreation, scenic, and wildlife values of the Simpson Bay area are all high.

Latitude:	60°38'N
Longitude:	145°55'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	22,300 (8,920)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use portions near entrance managed for scenic values
Proposed Management:	Private and/or Public Recreation





Siwash Bay

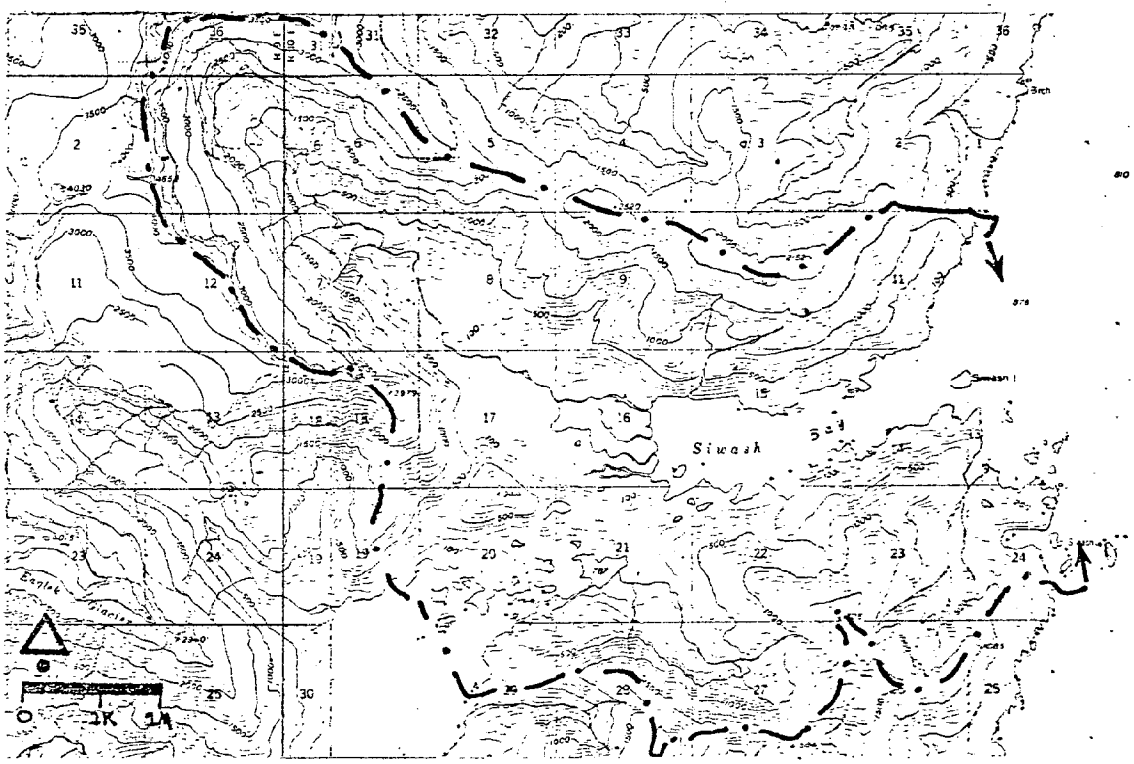
Primary Value: Recreation

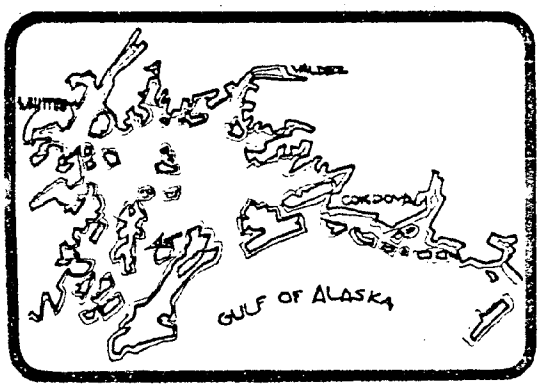
Associated Value: Wildlife, Scenic

Siwash Bay, located on the western shore of Unakwik Inlet six miles north of Olsen Island, in upper Prince William Sound, has both high primitive and scenic values. The bay, appealing to an observer, presents a continuum of vegetation units ranging from a marshy flat at the head of the bay providing excellent waterfowl habitat to rocky cliffs and scenic uplands of spruce forest. The bay provides a good anchorage for large and small vessels, as it has a mud bottom and is sheltered from all directions.

In addition to ducks and other water birds nesting at the head of the bay, a colony of mew gulls and porpoises in nearby Unakwik Inlet provide opportunities for wildlife viewing. Visitors can clam, fish, shrimp, or crab along the coastline. It is known as a salmon fishing area with both pink and chum occurring. This bay is within an area identified as Unakwik Inlet/Eaglek Bay area of particular concern and as having high primitive and medium to high scenic qualities by the Land Use Planning Commission.

Latitude:	60° 57'N
Longitude:	147° 40'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	11,260 (4,504)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 1 ANCSA 14h1 selection
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





Snug Harbor

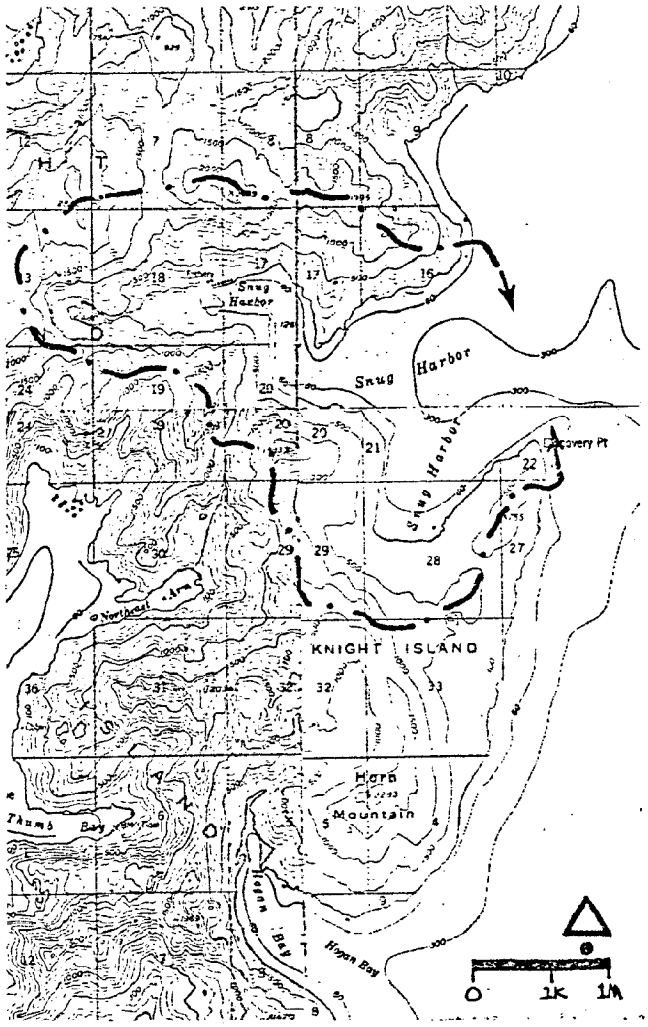
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Knight Island is possibly the most scenic island in the Prince William Sound. Although smaller in area, a number of inland bays cause the length of the shoreline to exceed that of Montague Island. Generally, boat travel is much rougher on the east side of the island; therefore, any anchorages in that area should be recognized. The primary value of this area is that it is one of the few anchorages on the east side of the island and well-known for its scenic values. The grey flat beach of Snug Harbor provides a good anchorage for small boats, in an area where most of the bays are too rocky for this purpose. Whales travel offshore in the open waters of the sound, and deer forage along the coastline in winter. A small cannery and sawmill once operated here.

Most of Knight Island has been identified as having high wilderness qualities by persons having knowledge of the area, with a possible exclusion of Thumb Bay.

Latitude:	60°15'N
Longitude:	147°42'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,155 (1,262)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation



South Elrington Island

Primary Value: Recreation

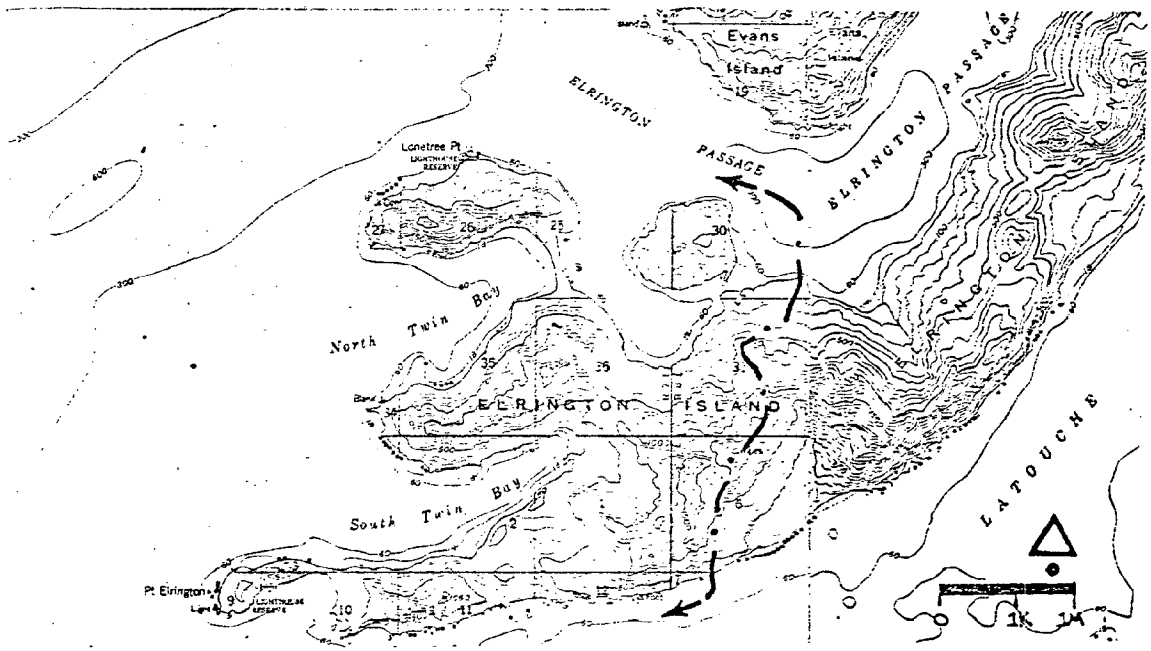
Associated Value: Scenic, Wildlife

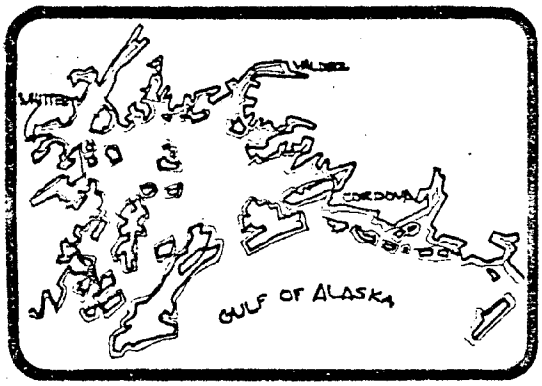
South of Elrington Passage is the South Elrington Island area of particular concern, a scenic area that provides several anchorages for boats travelling to or from Seward.

This anchorage is at the end of Elrington Passage before a fifteen mile stretch to Goat Harbor on the mainland. A narrow sandspit connects North Twin Bay with Fox Farm Bay, a calm and attractive anchorage. The uplands in the area with peaks up to 1,500 feet elevation provide opportunities for viewing the bluffs across Port Bainbridge on the mainland.

Port Elrington, the site of a Lighthouse Reserve, is also the location of two bird colonies; the larger one consists of tufted puffins and glaucous-winged gulls. It is connected to the mainland by a small isthmus and a number of rocky points jut from its shore. Sea otters frequent nearby Latouche Passage and sea lions are seen hauled out on the tip of the island.

Latitude:	59°57'N
Longitude:	148°12'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,520 (1,408)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 1 ANCSA 14h1 selection
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use U.S. Coast Guard Lighthouse Reserve
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation





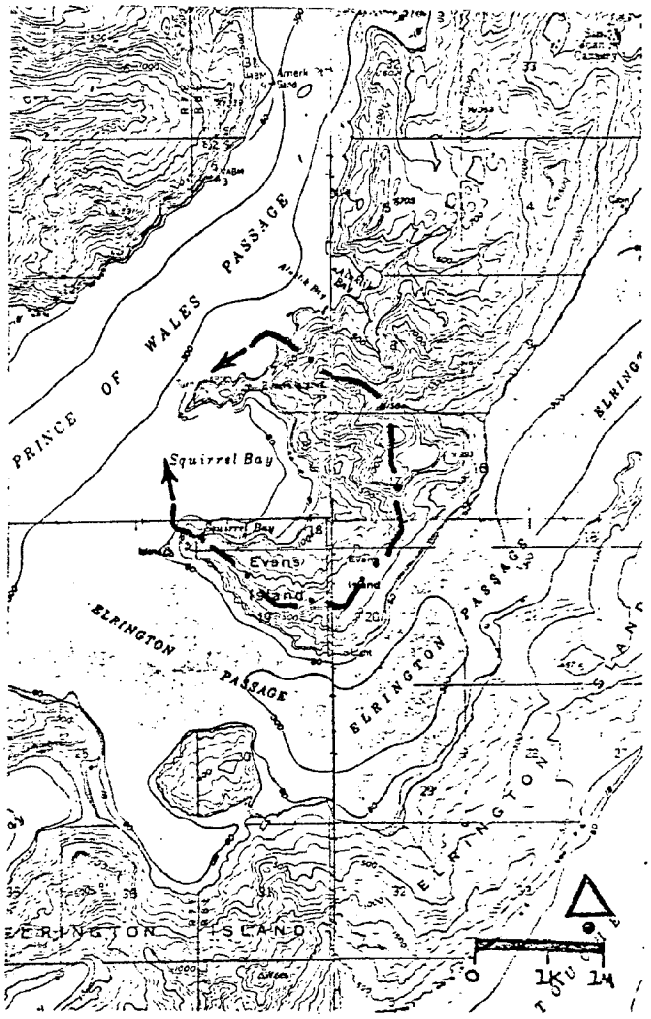
Squirrel Bay

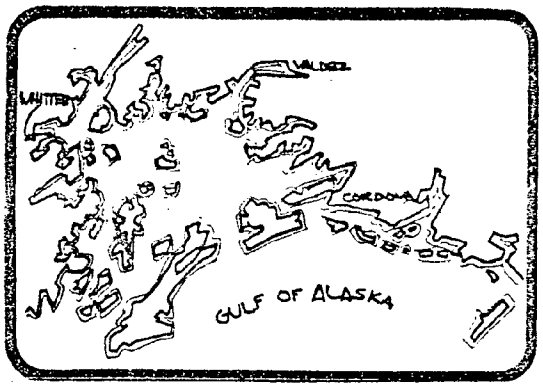
Primary Value: Recreation

Latitude:	60°00'N
Longitude:	148°09'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	900 (360)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation

This bay is located on the western shore of Evans Island and provides an anchorage for those boats traveling on the Prince of Wales passage between Evans and Bainbridge Island. There is a bird colony nearby on the south shore of the bay.

The bay has been identified by the Land Use Planning Commission as possessing scenic value.

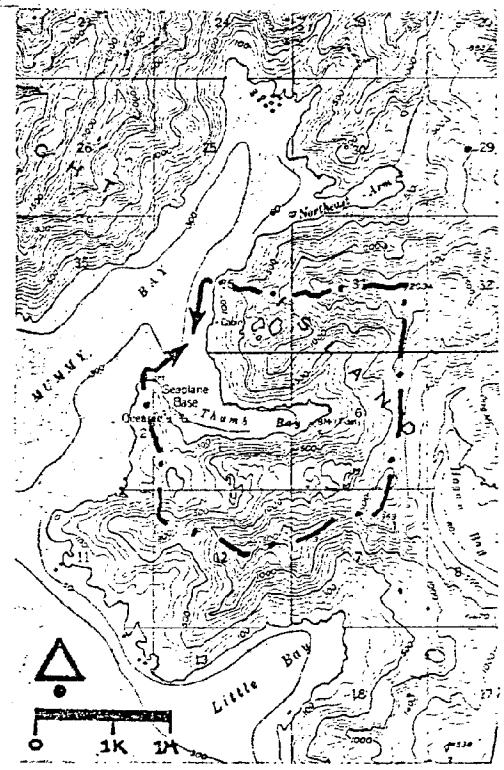




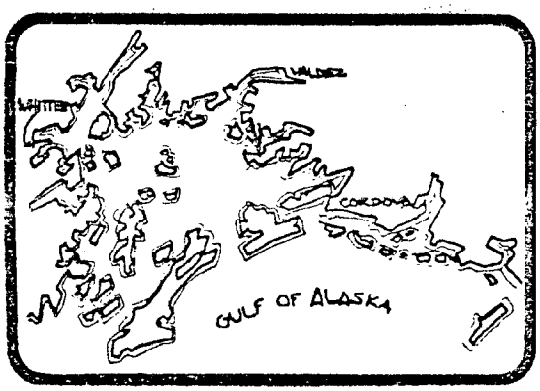
Thumb Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

Latitude:	60°12'N
Longitude:	147°49'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	1,600 (640)
Existing Ownership:	Federal Private ANCSA selection (Chenega) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use Resort
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation



Knight Island, a particularly rugged island, consists of a number of volcanic intrusives imparting special scenic qualities. Thumb Bay is one of the few suitable anchorages on the Island. It is a deep harbor, ice free year around, with limited commercial facilities available for boaters in emergencies and provides good protection for float plane landings as well. The site of a former herring saltery and oil reduction plant, it is now actively operated by local residents as the Prince William Sound Inn. Much of Knight Island has high quality primitive values; this area would have to be considered an enclave in the total wilderness quality. Nearby are some archaeological sites of the Chenega Eskimos.



Two Moon Bay

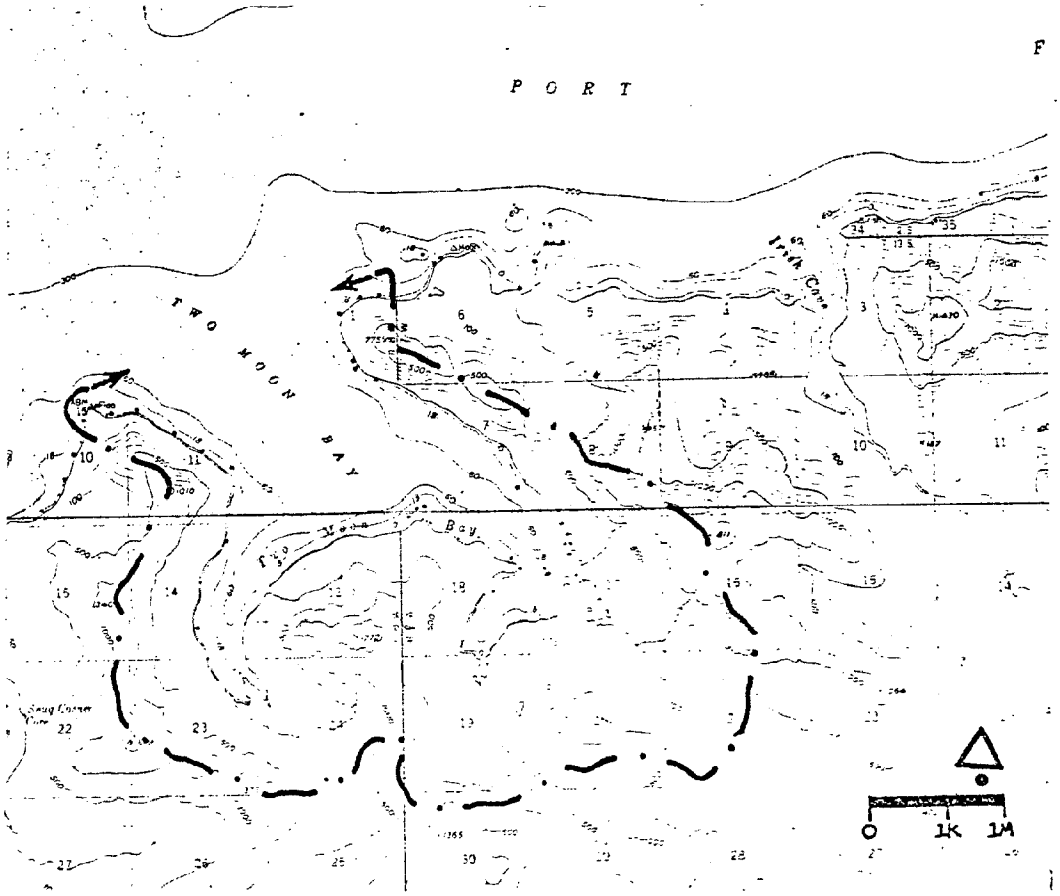
Primary Value: Recreation

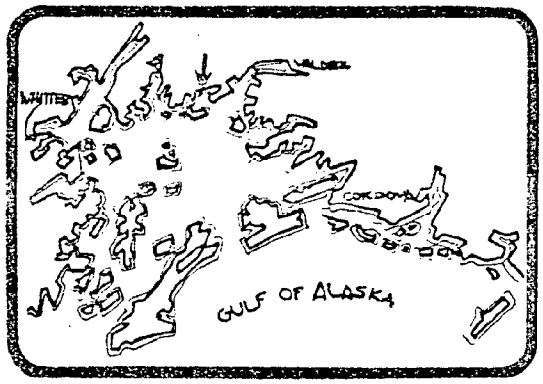
Associated Value: Scenic, Heritage

Two Moon Bay is located on the southern shoreline at the entrance to Port Fidalgo. The bay, as well as Port Fidalgo, serves as a sea bird wintering and nesting area. The easternmost arm of Two Moon Bay offers an excellent small boat anchorage. Gradual sloping forested uplands offer sites for the future development of necessary visitor facilities. The landform diversity of this bay is capable of supporting a wide range of recreational activities.

The Land Use Planning Commission has rated this portion of Prince William Sound, which includes Two Moon, good to high in terms of scenic quality.

Latitude:	60°46'N
Longitude:	146°02'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	5,376 (2,150)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Tatitlek)
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Recreation





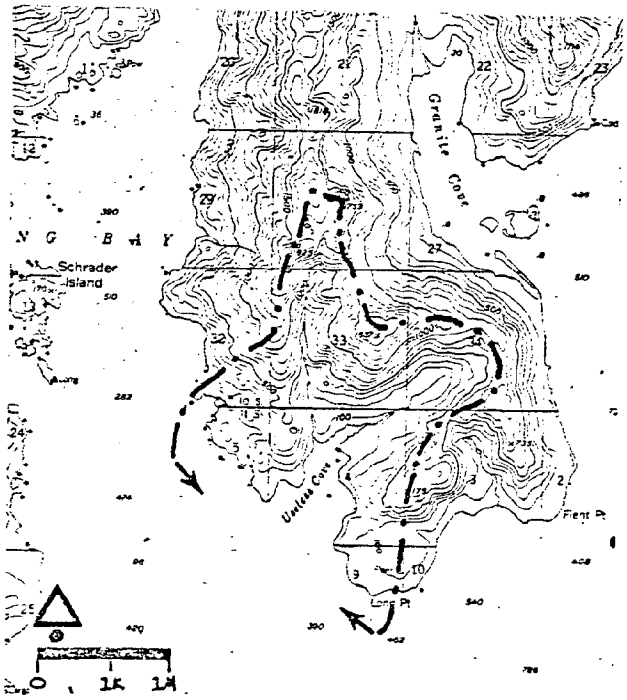
Useless Cove

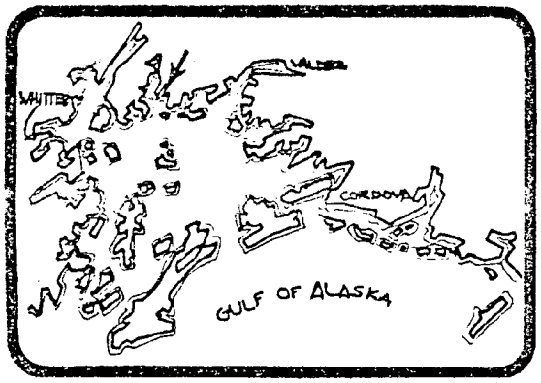
Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Heritage, Scenic

This Cove extends one mile east from Long Bay north of Glacier Island in upper Prince William Sound. The upper end of the Cove provides good protection for a few small boats. Three historical sites and one relating to the location of the Long Bay Chugach Eskimo Village site have been identified in the area. Eagles nest on the north shore and mountain goats frequent the rocky uplands. Sport anglers have an opportunity to fish for pink and chum salmon in the freshwater streams and tanner crab and herring in the bay, making it an area of diverse recreational opportunities. Because of a variety of landforms and environments, it has exceptional scenic values; attesting further to its scenic quality, the area has been identified by both the Land Use Planning Commission and Division of Parks staff for its high scenic nature.

Latitude:	60°57'N
Longitude:	147°11'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	1,630 (652)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use 1 ANCSA 14h1 selection
Proposed Management:	Public and Private Recreation





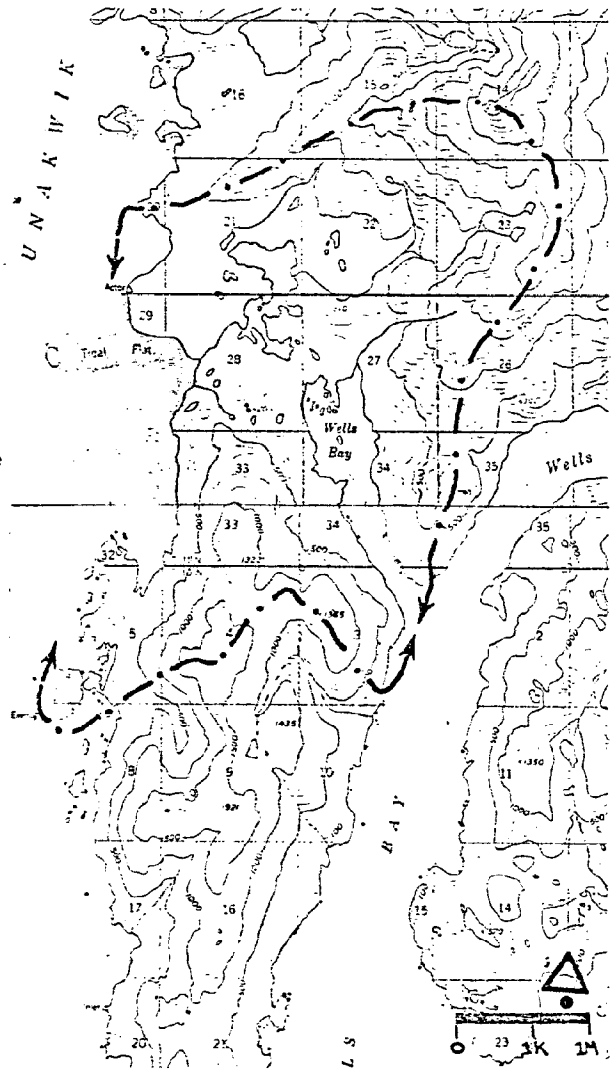
Wells Bay

Primary Value: Recreation

Associated Value: Scenic

Wells Bay is a large bay east of Unakwik Inlet, separated from it by a narrow peninsula. It extends north to a forked head. Two anchorages for small boats have been identified in Wells Bay by the Forest Service. The opportunities for wildlife viewing in this area are numerous: bald eagles nest in the bay; gulls, terns, and ducks feed on the beaches of the inlet; Canada geese winter on the flats near the head of the bay. It is one of the major concentrations of western yellow cedar in the sound. A relatively untouched area, wilderness values are considered to be high.

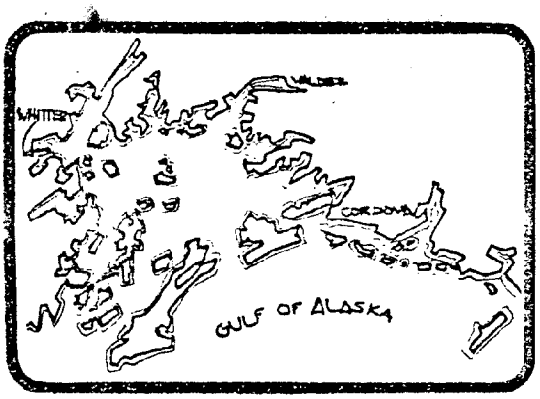
Latitude:	60°56'N
Longitude:	147°29'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	5,440 (2,176)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation



Scenic Areas of Particular Concern

Scenic areas of particular concern have been identified where characteristics of the coastal landscape and/or use patterns of offshore waters by recreational watercraft or sightseeing vessels create a valuable visual resource which may be impaired through human alteration of the landscape. While the entire Prince William Sound/Controller Bay region possesses scenic qualities worthy of consideration in all land use decisions, the following areas have been identified as areas requiring special visual management.

Scenic areas may also possess associated values of recreation and heritage resources. Management of these resources should be carried out in such a manner so as to not impair the area's scenic resource.



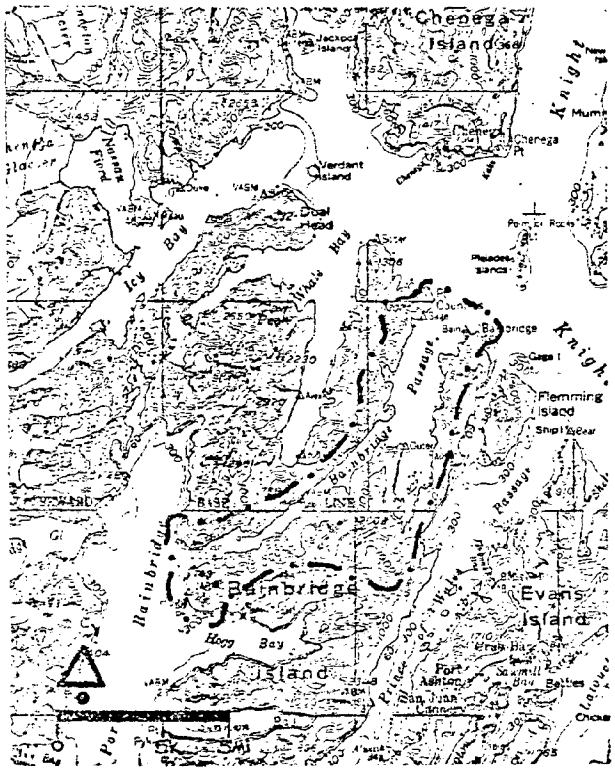
Bainbridge Passage

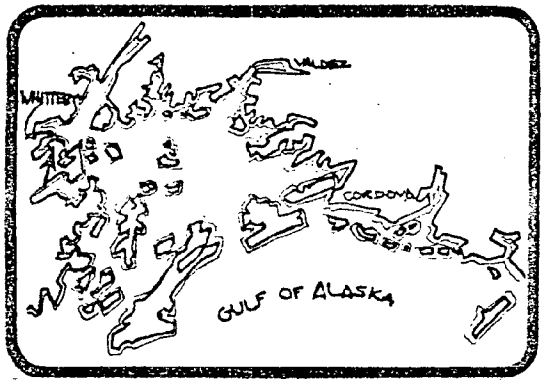
Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

This area has been included by the Forest Service in their recommendation for a Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area. The Forest Service has also identified two anchorages in the passage. The ferry from Seward to Valdez uses this route during periods of poor weather as an alternate to Elrington Passage. Although used by pleasure boaters, it can be hazardous and boaters should be cautious of swells and tide rips, particularly through a very narrow spot halfway through the passage. The passage is scenic with peaks rising over 2,000 feet within a mile of the shoreline. The passage itself is only half a mile wide in most places, rendering it attractive as well as providing an opportunity for viewing sea otters in the shallow waters near the rocky shoreline. Along several streams a concentration of bears has been noted. Black bears can also be seen along the coastline.

Latitude:	60° 08'N
Longitude:	148° 12'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	15,000 (6,000)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) northern portion
Existing Management:	Forest Service included in Wilderness study area
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Scenic Area





Blackstone Bay

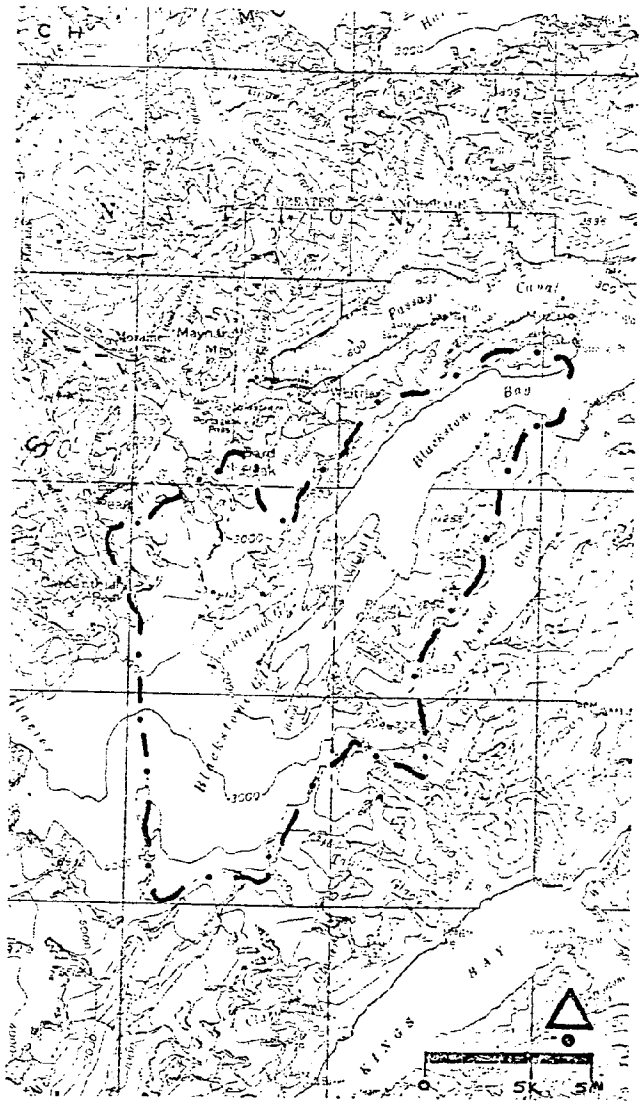
Primary Value: Scenic

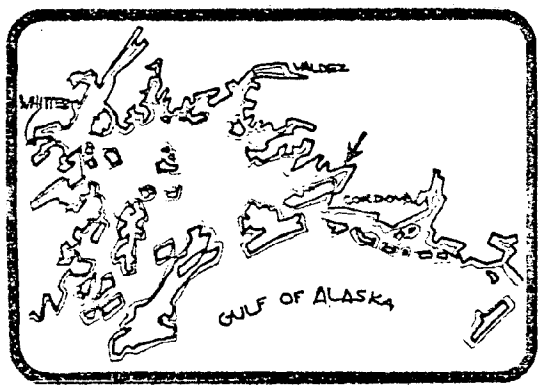
Associated Value: Recreation, Wildlife

Latitude:	60° 08'N
Longitude:	148° 12'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	49,540 (19,816)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach) northern shoreline
Existing Management:	Forest Service included in Wilderness study area
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Scenic Area

Blackstone was a prospector who, lost in a storm in 1896 attempting to cross Portage Pass, froze to death with his two companions on Blackstone Glacier. Some local sport anglers and recreational boaters consider this bay to be one of the most impressive areas in the Sound. It is 11.5 miles long, one to two miles wide, and nearly 200 fathoms deep. Although in general Blackstone Bay lacks good anchorages, it can be used in good conditions by small boats. A glacier at the head of the bay calves icebergs into the tidewaters, but the ice seldom drifts beyond nearby Willard Island.

Because of the glaciers and the peaks around the bay, this is one of the most scenic areas in the western part of the Sound. A black-legged kittiwake colony in the area should be considered in any land use plan, as they are particularly prone to disturbance. Harbor seals are also found in the bay.





Bomb Point

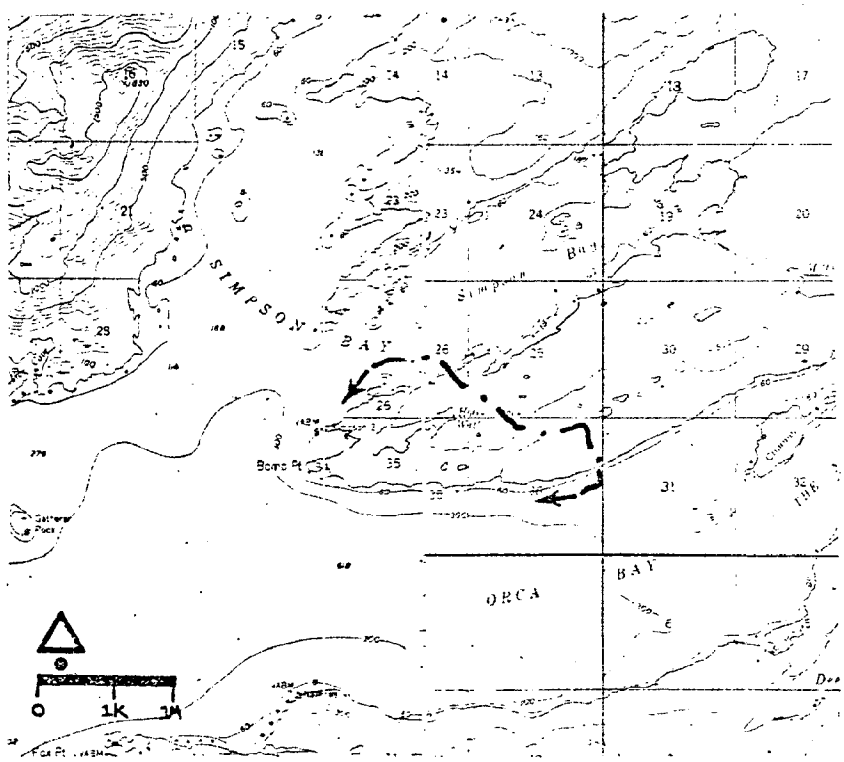
Primary Value: Scenic

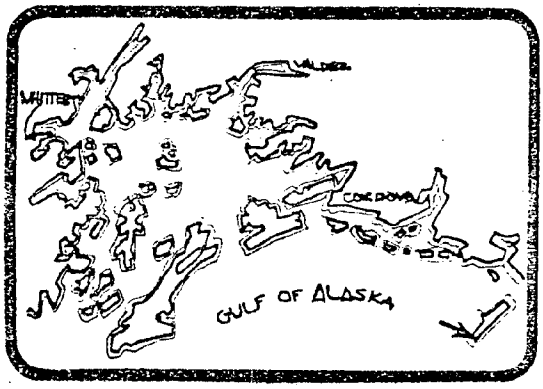
Associated Value: Recreation

As with Sheep Point to the west, Bomb Point represents an area of high scenic value. Bomb Point forms the eastern entrance to Simpson Bay. This Point commands an outstanding view of Orca Bay and Hawkins Island. Landward of Bomb Point is Hole-In-the-Wall, a large salt chuck with a narrow channel entrance. The Bomb Point area supports both black and brown bear as well as several bald eagle nests. Sea otters, harbor seals, king, tanner, and dungeness crab, occur offshore in Simpson Bay. Boating, camping, hiking, beachcombing, observing wildlife, and fishing are activities for which this area is suited. A major shellfishery operates in Simpson Bay.

The 1974 Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan stated that all land use activities in this area should be managed to maintain a scenic view from the state ferry.

Latitude:	60° 37'N
Longitude:	145° 52'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	670 (268)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed to maintain scenic values
Proposed Management:	Scenic Area





Cape St. Elias

Primary Value: Scenic

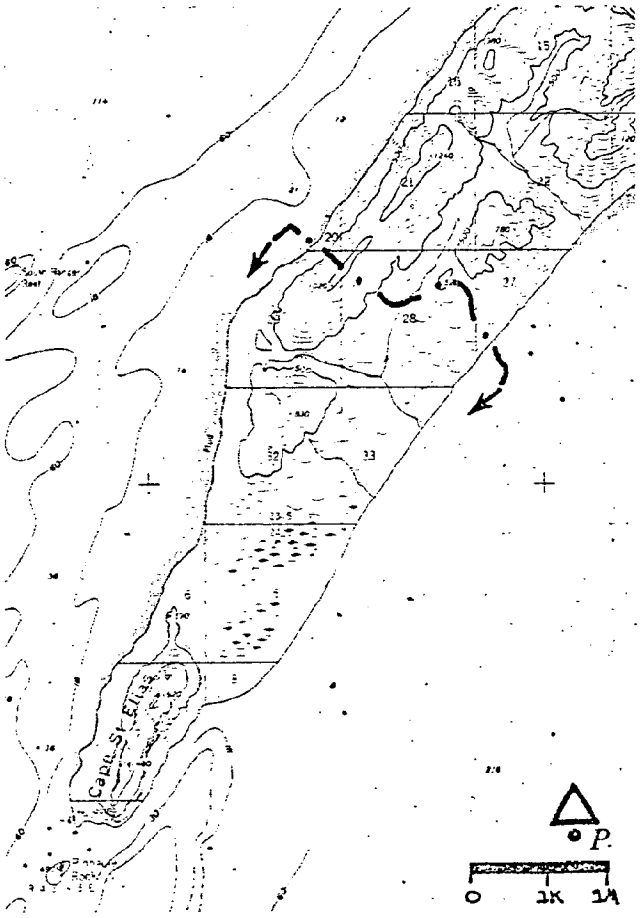
Associated Value: Wildlife

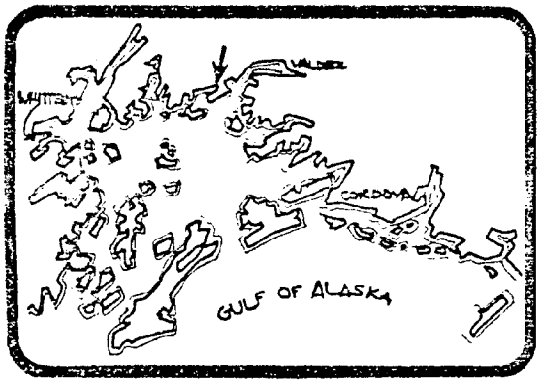
Cape St. Elias is noted for its dramatic landscape; located on the southern-most tip of Kayak Island, the area is rugged, with extensive beaches for excellent beachcombing, and a spectacular vertical white rock, Cape St. Elias, rising 1,620 feet above sea level. The island, approximately 20 miles long by 1.5 miles wide, is accessible only by helicopter or small boat in calm seas.

The Cape St. Elias Lighthouse, constructed in 1916, adds historic quality and interest to the scenic qualities of the cape.

A large bird colony nearby on Pinnacle Rock contains such species as puffins and murres. The Cape is the most eastern range of breeding abundance for tufted puffins along the north Gulf coast of Alaska. Sea lions also occur in fairly high density in the area. The Cape was noted by the Forest Service in their Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan (1974), and recommended that it be established as a National Historic Landmark. In 1975. a one acre reserve around the Cape Saint Elias Lighthouse was approved for entry on to the National Register of Historic Places.

Latitude:	59° 47'N
Longitude:	144° 33'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,104 (1,242)
Existing Ownership:	Federal Oil and Gas Lease entire
Existing Management:	U.S. Coast Guard Lighthouse Reserve Forest Service managed for historic value
Proposed Management:	Manage for Scenic and Wildlife Values





Columbia Glacier

Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation, Wildlife

Latitude: 61° 00'N

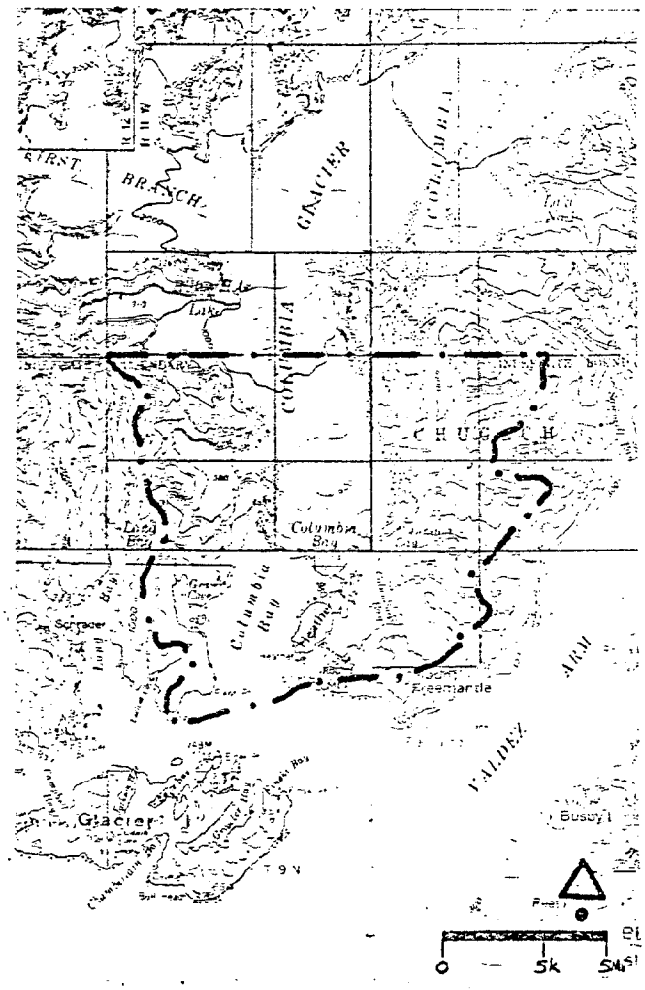
Longitude: 147° 05'W

Upland Acres(Hectares): 49,400 (19,760)

Existing Ownership: Federal
ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) partial

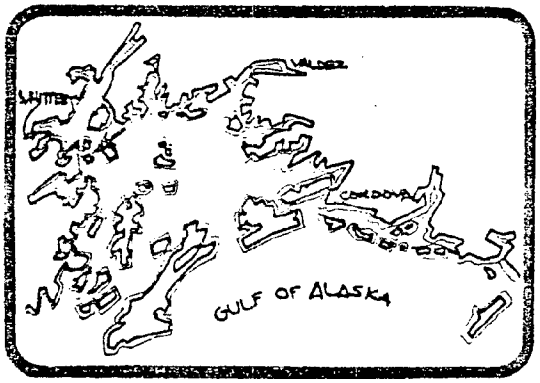
Existing Management: Forest Service maintain scenic values

Proposed Management: Scenic Area with Public and Private Recreation



Columbia Glacier, one of the largest tidewater glaciers in North America, pours off the flanks of the 10,000 foot peaks of the Chugach Mountains into Columbia Bay. In contrast to glaciers of the Alaska interior which have, in general, receded in recent times, Columbia Glacier, like most coastal glaciers, has stayed in approximately the same position since British mariner George Vancouver first mapped it in 1794. Today the Glacier is a popular destination for state ferries, private cruise vessels, recreational watercraft, and charter aircraft. The bay has a great potential for visitor information services from the state ferries. Relative ease of access to the area enhances its values for scientific study and research.

Hundreds of harbor seals rest on icebergs in the bay; sea life is abundant here, as cold water promotes the growth of various plankton. Occasional killer whales, porpoises, and other marine mammals can be seen in the bay choked with icebergs in front of the tidewater terminus. The glacier, around 440 square miles in area, is a major stopping point for the state ferry between Valdez and Whittier, with an estimated 21,000 ferry passengers viewing the area and its wildlife in 1972. The area is under study for possible management as a scenic area by the U. S. Forest Service with 52,000 acres managed in a near natural state.



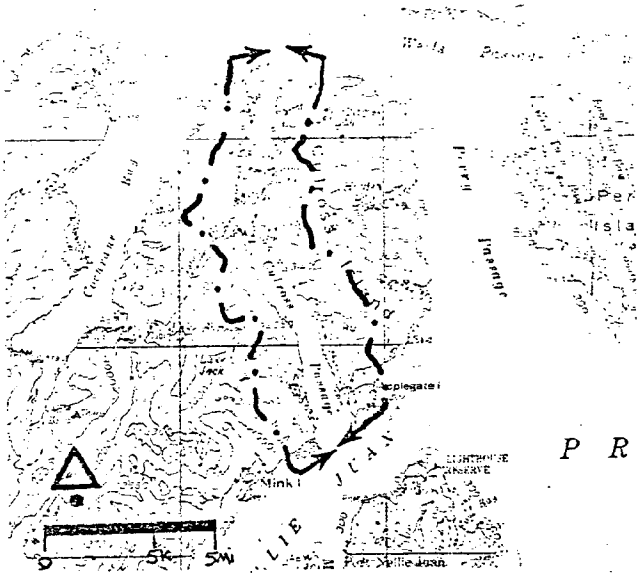
Culross Passage

Primary Value: Scenic

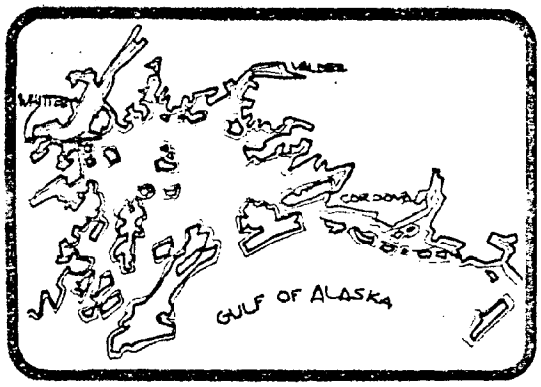
Associated Value: Recreation, Heritage

Small boats find this protected narrow twelve-mile-long passage attractive. Impressively scenic, it contains many rocky islands and tiny coves. There is good fishing in the area for king (chinook) and silver salmon. The Forest Service has identified an anchorage near the south entrance to the passage, and cites the passage and surrounding viewshed for inclusion in the Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area because of its scenic qualities.

Black bear occur in some of the streams. Other wildlife species known in the area are deer, harbor seal, sea otter, and wintering waterfowl. Its primary value is as a scenic and recreational corridor.



Latitude:	60° 40'N
Longitude:	148° 12'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	15,300 (6,120)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 6 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service included in Wilderness Study Area
Proposed Management:	Scenic Area or Wilderness



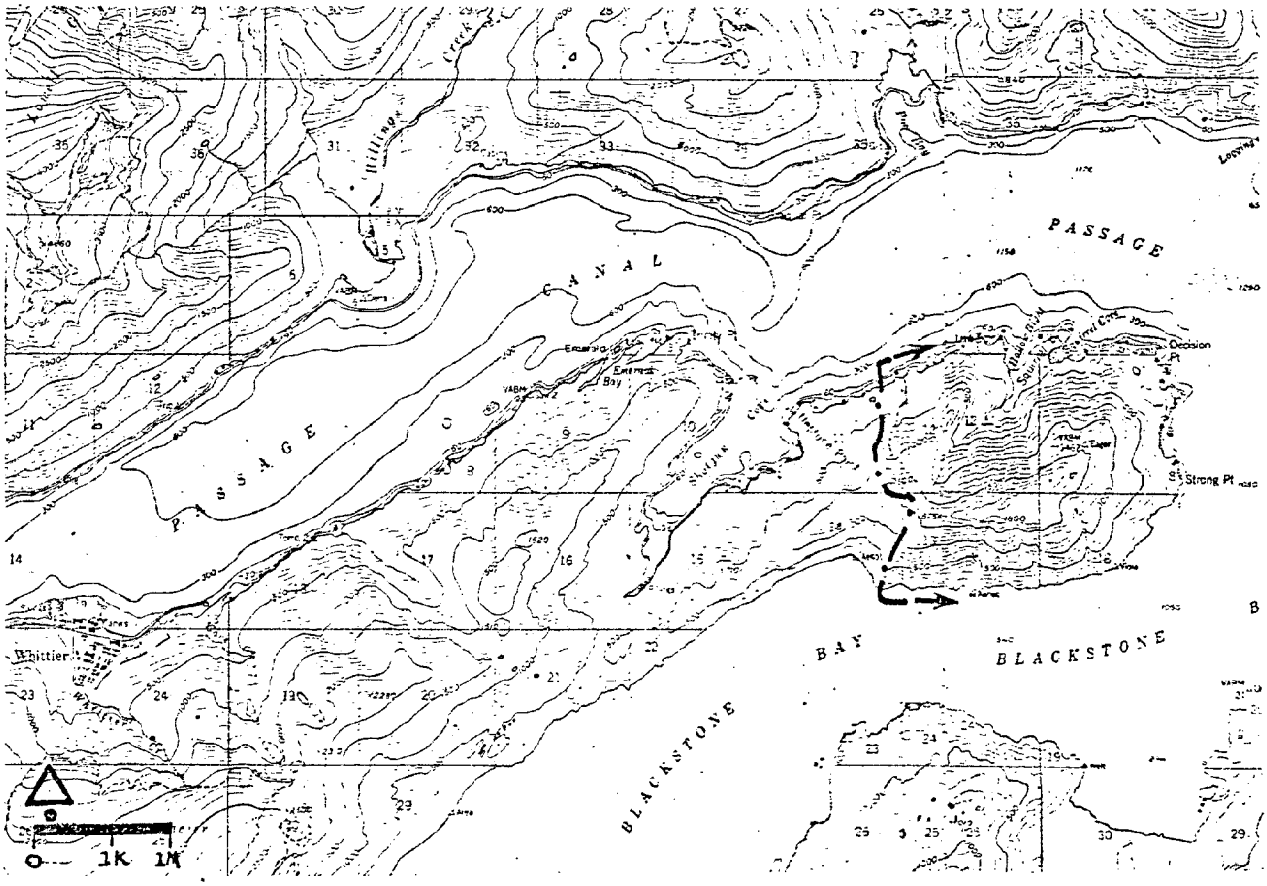
Decision Point/ Surprise Cove

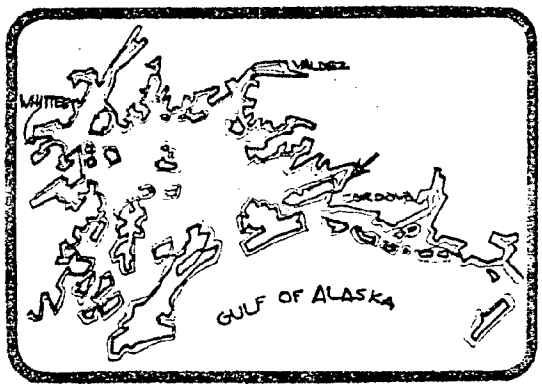
Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

The area of particular concern includes nearby Squirrel Cove and Hollow Bight. It has been recognized by the Forest Service in their Land Use Plan as an area that needs to be protected for its sensitive scenic qualities. This point, jutting out into Passage Canal about ten miles from Whittier, is a favorite area for bald eagle sighting from the state ferry. Should Shotgun Cove receive additional recreation use, the nearby Decision Point area, particularly Squirrel Cove, will also increase in popularity.

Existing Management:	Forest Service, portions for State selection and Wilderness Study
Proposed Management:	Wilderness and Scenic Values
Latitude:	60° 48'N
Longitude:	147° 27'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	2,100 (840)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach) entire





Deep Bay

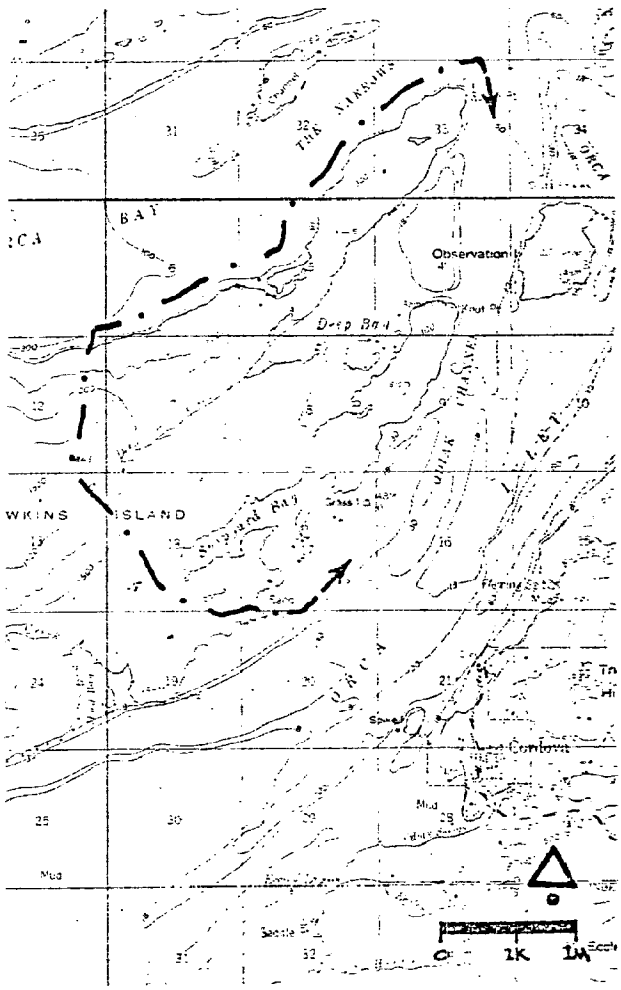
Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

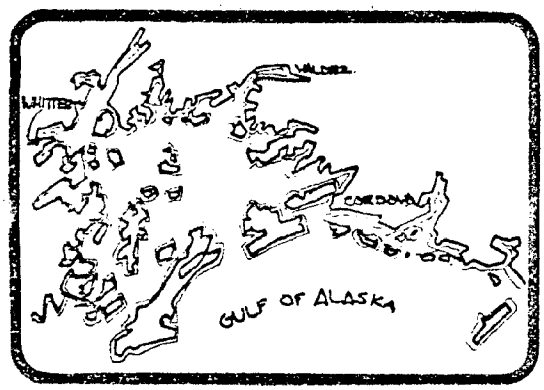
Deep Bay is located on the northeastern end of Hawkins Island, about three air miles north of Cordova. Due to its geographical location and the proximity to the state ferry route, this are is particularly sensitive to visual impacts. In addition, because of its proximity to a growing community, it represents a major recreation resource.

The bay is surrounded by two scenic points, Knot Point and Salmo Point; one island is situated in the center of the bay with a number of rocky cliffs. Channel, North, and Observation Islands are included in this area. From the bay, a visitor can see out into Orca Inlet to the end of Nelson Bay and up Rude River. Several snow-covered peaks of over 4,500 feet altitude, about 10 miles northeast of Deep Bay, add to the grandeur of the site. The U. S. Forest Service has identified the scenic values and sensitivities of portions of this area.

Sea lions concentrate in the area and one archaeological site is known.



Latitude:	60° 36'N
Longitude:	145° 46'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	2,720 (1,088)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed to maintain scenic values
Proposed Management:	Scenic and Recreation Area



Elrington Passage

Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

Latitude: 60°00'N

Longitude: 148°05'W

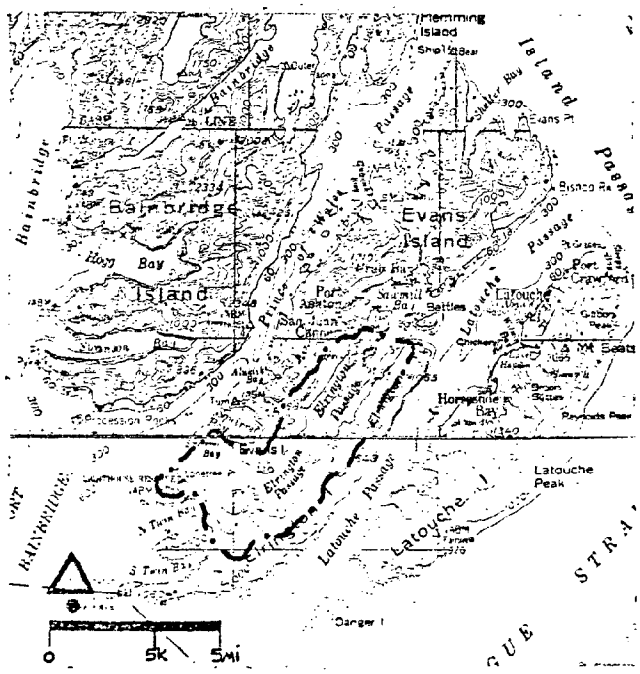
Upland Acres(Hectares): 6,600 (2,640)

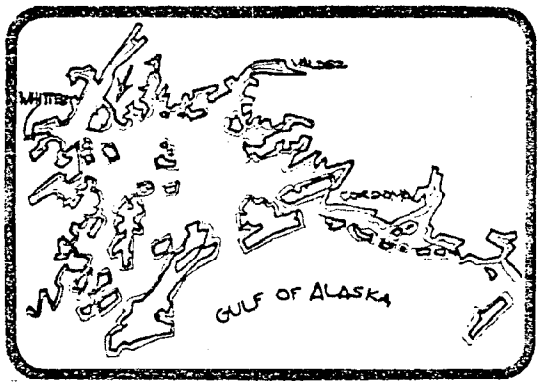
Existing Ownership: Federal

Existing Management: Forest Service managed for Scenic Values

Proposed Management: Scenic and Recreation

Elrington Passage is a State Ferry route and the preferred passage for boats coming from the west into Prince William Sound. The passage is nine miles long and approximately one mile wide. Because of wide commercial and pleasure boat use, the passage should be protected from any degradation of visual quality. Since stands of commercial timber are found along both sides of the passage, timber harvest may cause conflicts between timber management and recreational viewing of the area. The object for management should be to protect the visual integrity of the corridor.





Esther Passage

Primary Value: Scenic

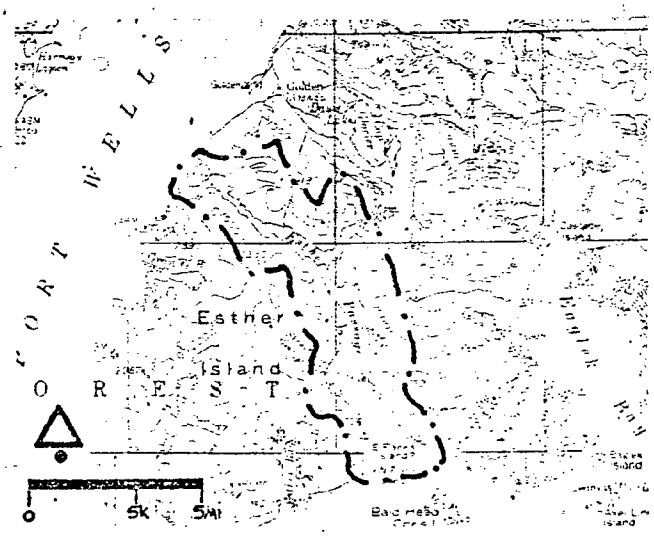
Associated Value: Recreation

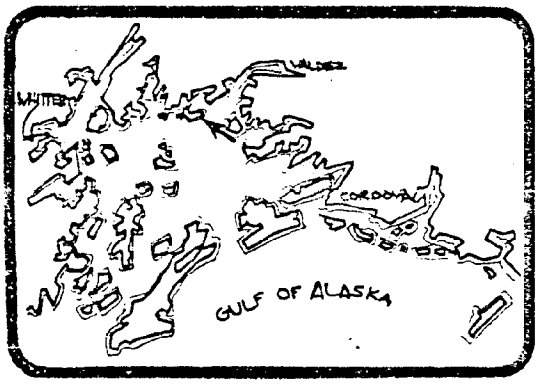
Esther Passage provides a scenic waterway between Wells Passage and Port Wells to the east side of Esther Island in upper Prince William Sound. It is recognized for its particular scenic values because of its steep granite cliffs laced with numerous waterfalls. Some logging at the northern end of the passage has degraded the visual quality somewhat; thus future similar impacts should be considered seriously.

The protected nature of the waterway makes it a valuable boating area for boats of all sizes with at least two good anchorages present. Uses prevalent in the area include hunting, fishing for trout and red salmon, camping, sightseeing, and wildlife viewing. Bears frequent the streams draining into the passage; rockfish and other marine life abound in Port Wells.

It is critical for future managers to protect those aesthetic qualities of the passage that are most visible, as Esther Passage is a popular waterway for recreationists.

Latitude:	60°51'N
Longitude:	147°55'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	14,200 (5,680)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 1 ANCSA 14h1 selection
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for scenic values
Proposed Management:	Scenic Area and Public Recreation





Glacier Island

Primary Value: Scenic

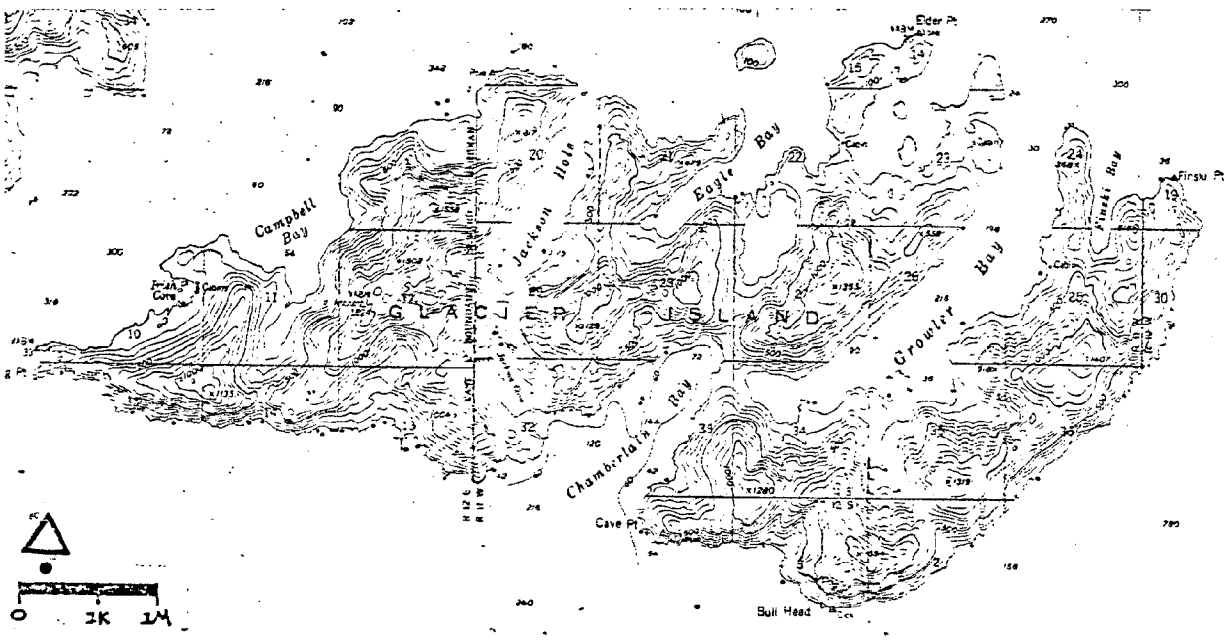
Associated Value: Recreation

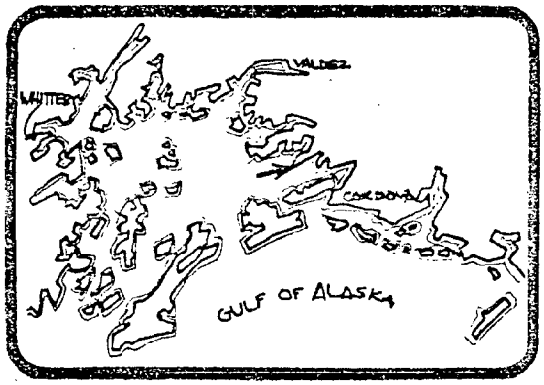
Glacier Island, composed mostly of granite pillow lava, is often the destination of recreationists arriving by boat and float plane. A number of bays provide at least seven good anchorages, although boaters should take care to avoid some areas of swift tidal currents and fast running rapids.

Fox farms operated on this island from 1900 through the late 1920's. A few buildings and many of the old fox feed pens are still visible. In addition, other heritage values include two archaeological sites nearby. Sea lions can be seen swimming near Outpost Island or Point Freemantle, with other species occurring in the area including eagles, harbor seals, otters, herring, and a number of sea bird colonies. It is a major tanner crab fishing area as well.

Because of the proximity of the island to the route of the state ferry, it has scenic values that could be impacted; the Land Use Planning Commission has identified the entire upper Prince William Sound area as having medium to high scenic and high wilderness values.

Latitude:	60° 53'N
Longitude:	147° 10'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	9,380 (3,752)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 4 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use northern shoreline managed for scenic values
Proposed Management:	Scenic Area and Public Recreation





Gravina Point

Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

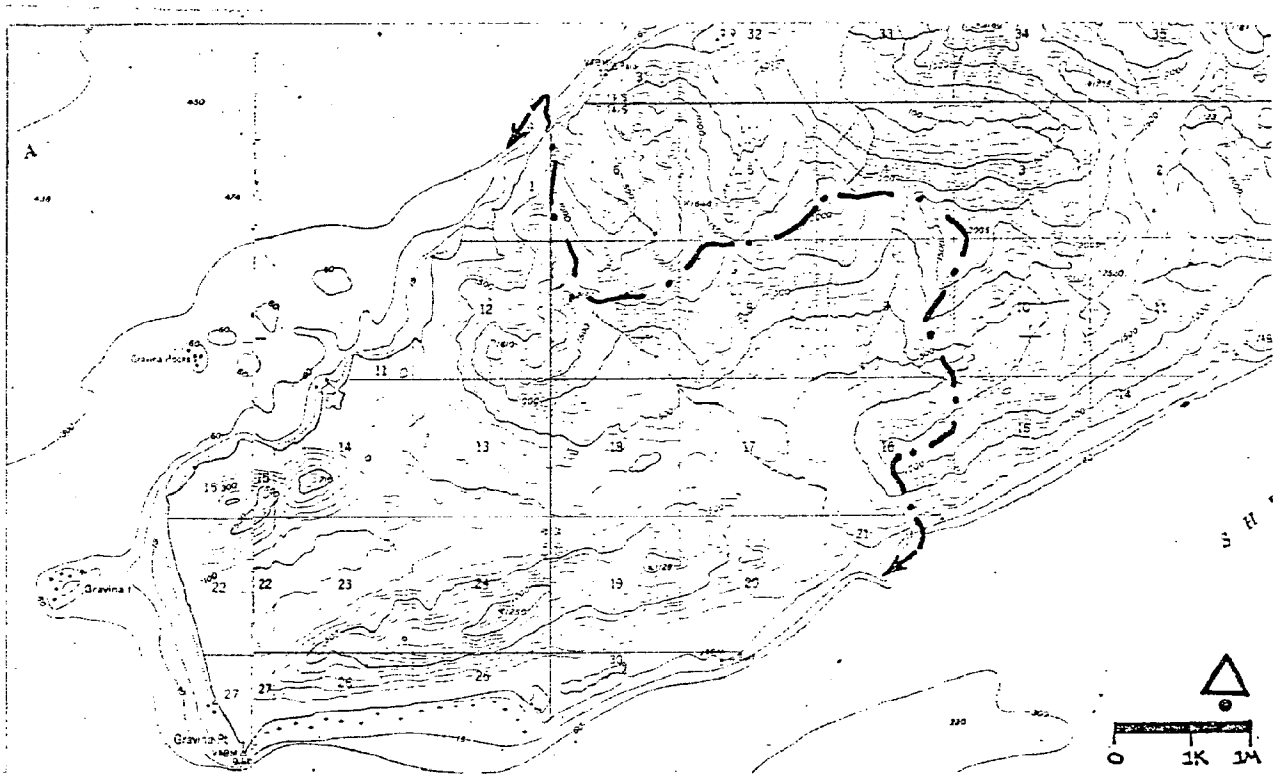
A large low-lying point of land, Gravina Point represents a high visual sensitivity to both state ferry passengers and recreational boaters. Should a liquified natural gas plant be constructed on this point as proposed, special consideration as to facility design and location should be taken to minimize the visual impacts of such a development.

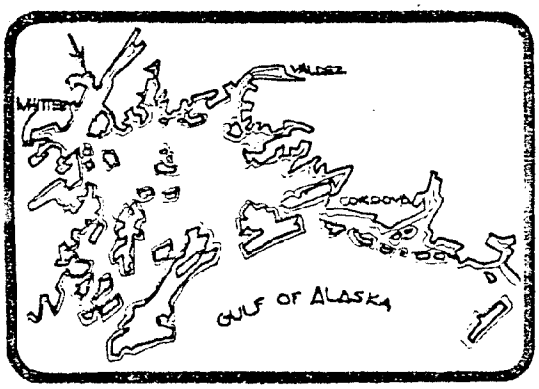
With several streams, lakes, and a sandspit on the southern portion of the Point, this area possesses wide recreational opportunities.

Black bear and Sitka black-tailed deer have been observed foraging on the shore by ferry passengers. A small kittiwake colony is located within the area which should be protected with use and development buffers.

Harbor seals haul out in the area.

Latitude:	60° 38'N
Longitude:	146° 15'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	9,630 (3,852)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Scenic Values
Proposed Management:	Continue present management status





Harriman Fiord

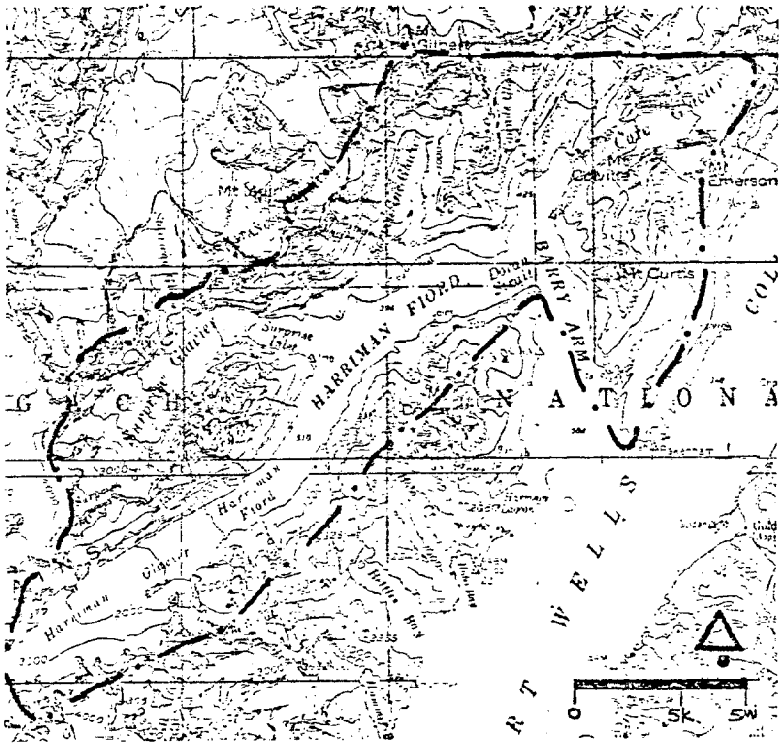
Primary Value: Scenic

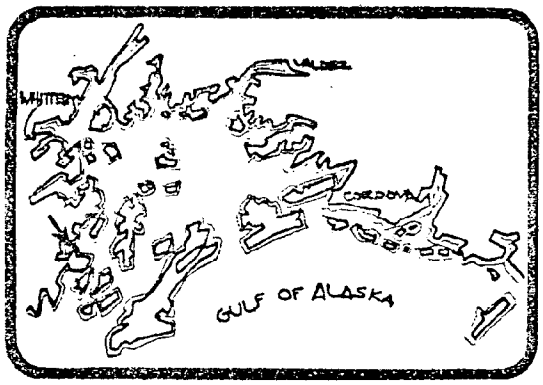
Associated Value: Recreation

Several mountains (Muir and Gilbert) rising to 10,000 feet, tidewater glaciers, and icebergs provide outstanding scenery for boaters and sightseers by small plane from Anchorage who view the area. Of eleven major glaciers here, Harriman Glacier is the most spectacular, 300 feet high at its face. Ice calving from this glacier drifts in and out with the tides. Besides opportunities for sport fishing and viewing glaciers, visitors can explore the nearby Sweepstake Mine and aerial tramway built in 1917.

A black-legged kittiwake colony is present on the north side of the fiord, with harbor seals concentrating at its head. The most northern group of sea otters on the continent occurs in the fiord as well. Commercial fisheries operate in fall and winter for blue and king crab. Harriman Fiord is presently under study by the Forest Service for possible designation as a 102,000 acre scenic area to be managed in a near natural state.

Latitude:	61° 02'N
Longitude:	148° 21'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	101,000 (40,400)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for scenic values
Proposed Management:	Bureau of Land Management Scenic Area





Icy Bay

Primary Value: Scenic

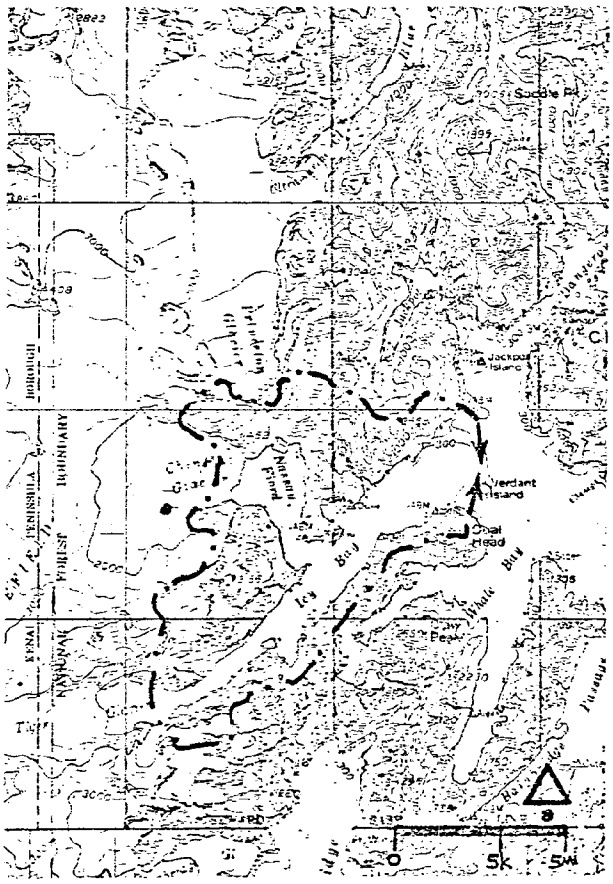
Associated Value: Recreation, Wildlife

Icy Bay and associated Nassau Fiord, two highly scenic bodies of water in the western portion of Prince William Sound, are best known for their tidewater glaciers. Upon entering Icy Bay, a recreational boater is struck first by the great number of ice blocks floating throughout Icy Bay and Nassau Fiord. Tiger Glacier and Chenega Glacier reach down from the Sargent Icefield to the waters of Icy Bay and Nassau Fiord, providing a scenic backdrop for pleasure boating. This area has been included in the Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area.

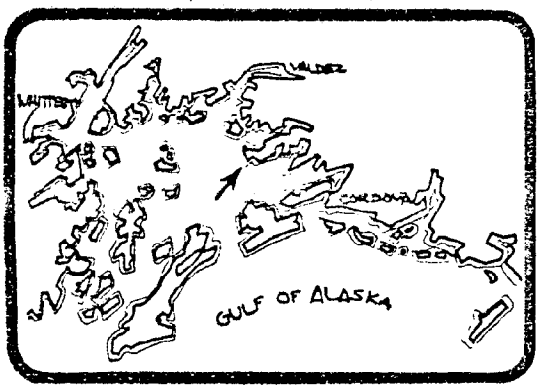
There are two small coves that provide good anchorages. Both glaciers are active tidewater glaciers, and small boats should be cautious of glacial calving while anchoring in the bay.

There is a high density of harbor seals in addition to sea otters; goats range in the uplands. Commercial shrimp fishing occurs at the entrance to Nassau Fiord.

Four bird colonies nearby, consisting of black-legged kittiwakes, horned puffins, and other seabirds, are susceptible to disturbance from loud noises, low flying aircraft, or human harassment. These bird colonies, numbering over 2,000 birds each, represent some of the highest densities of kittiwakes in the Prince William Sound area. Future land use activities in the bay should allow for ample buffer zones around these colonies.



Latitude:	60° 15'N
Longitude:	148° 17'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	24,500 (9,800)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chenega) partial 3 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service, included in Wilderness Study Area
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public and/or Private Recreation



Knowles Head

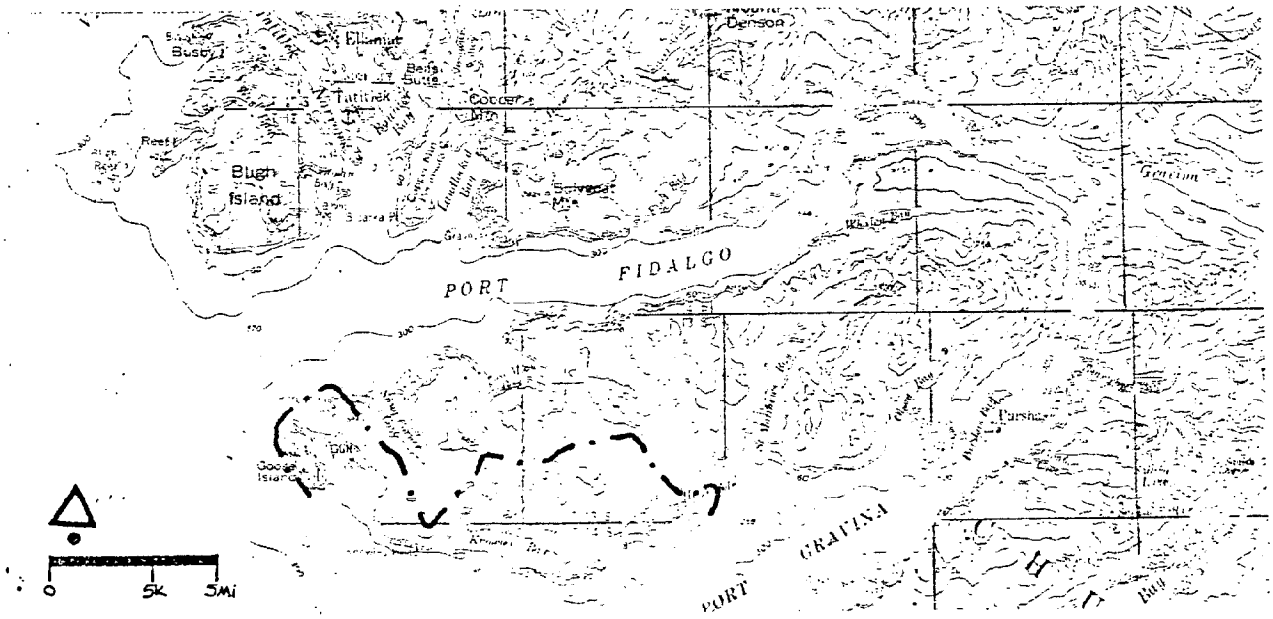
Primary Value: Scenic

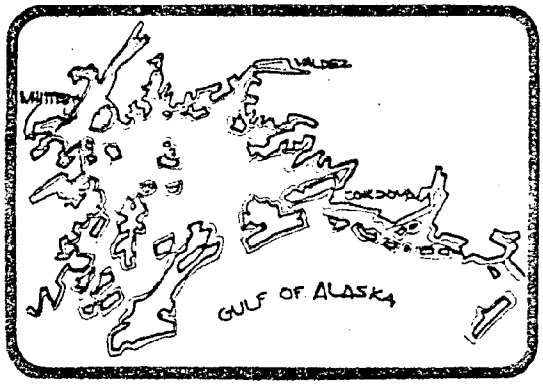
Associated Value: Wildlife

As a prominent headland on the Cordova-Valdez marine highway course, Knowles Head is an important scenic resource for not only ferry travelers, but also recreational boaters. The Knowles Head area is included in an overall area identified by the Land Use Planning Commission as possessing both scenic and primitive area values. Likewise, the Forest Service has identified this area to be managed for its scenic qualities.

Sea lions are known to concentrate in the Knowles Head area.

Latitude:	60° 41'N
Longitude:	146° 38'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	5,363 (2,145)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Scenic Values
Proposed Management:	Continue present management status





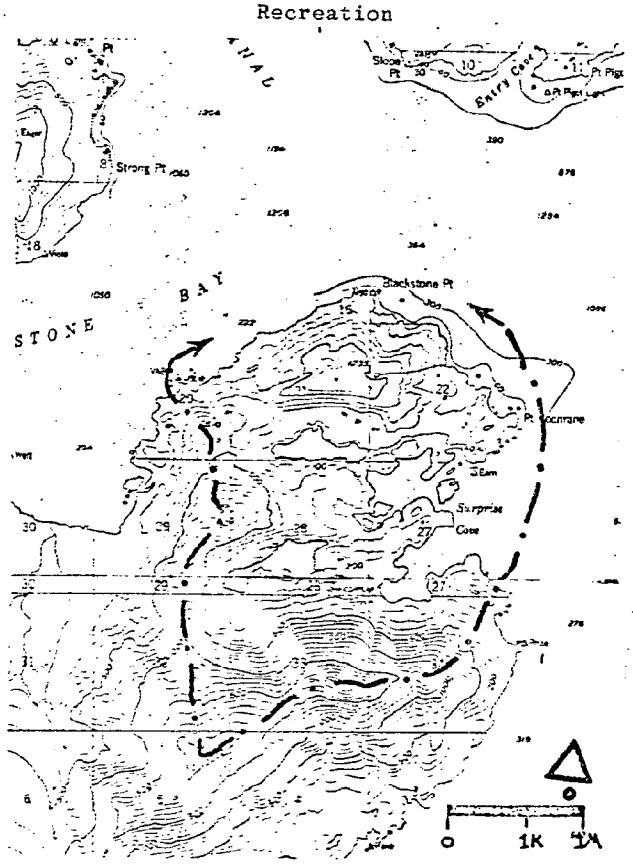
Pt. Cochrane

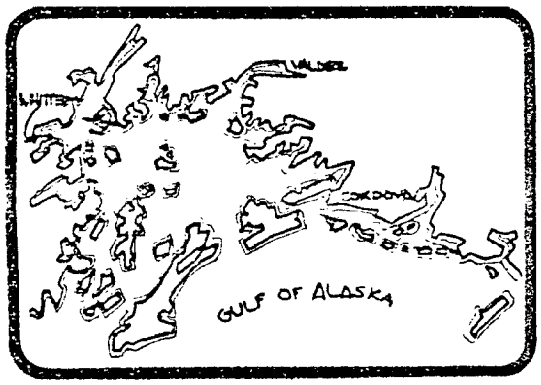
Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

This point is primarily recognized for its scenic location jutting into Wells Passage. In addition to rocky cliffs with spruce-hemlock type vegetation, a number of inviting lakes lend to the scenic quality and provide for a wide range of recreational activities. Mountain goat inhabit the peaks above Cochrane Bay, and porpoises are sometimes seen off the point. Surprise Cove provides a good anchorage for boating enthusiasts.

Latitude:	60° 46'N
Longitude:	148° 23'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,200 (1,280)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service, included in Wilderness Study Area
Proposed Management:	Wilderness or Public Recreation





Pt. Pigot/ Entry Cove

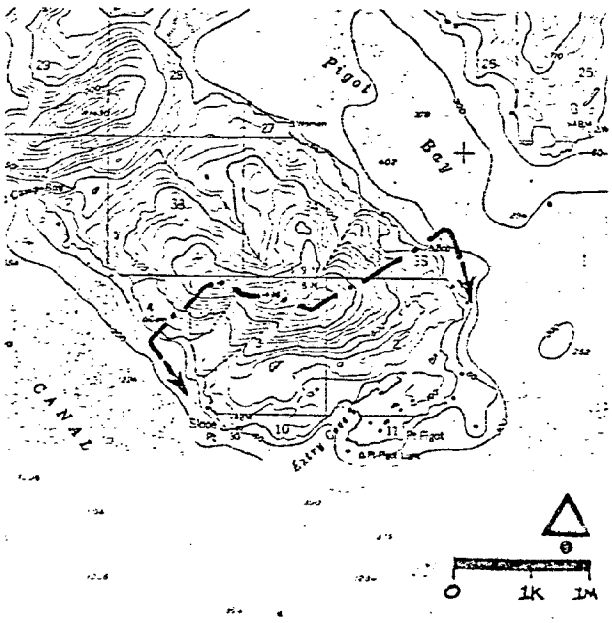
Primary Value: Scenic

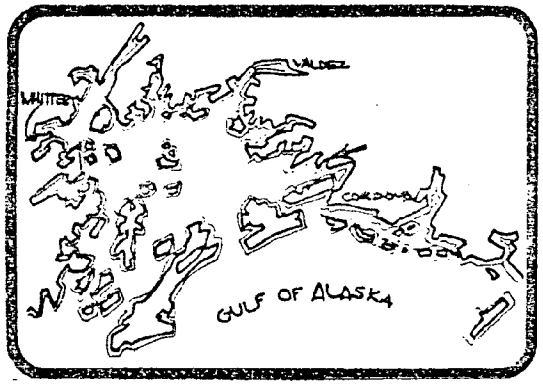
Associated Value: Recreation

This area is an attractive and visually sensitive point of land. Entry cove provides a good anchorage for boats as it is protected from winds and has a good mud-holding bottom.

Pt. Pigot was named by Vancouver in 1794 for one of his midshipmen. Between October and June king salmon may be caught near Point Pigot. Bald eagles nest in the area, and black bear and harbor seal are fairly abundant.

Latitude:	60° 48'N
Longitude:	148° 21'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	1,250 (500)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed to maintain scenic values
Proposed Management:	Scenic Area





Sheep Point

Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

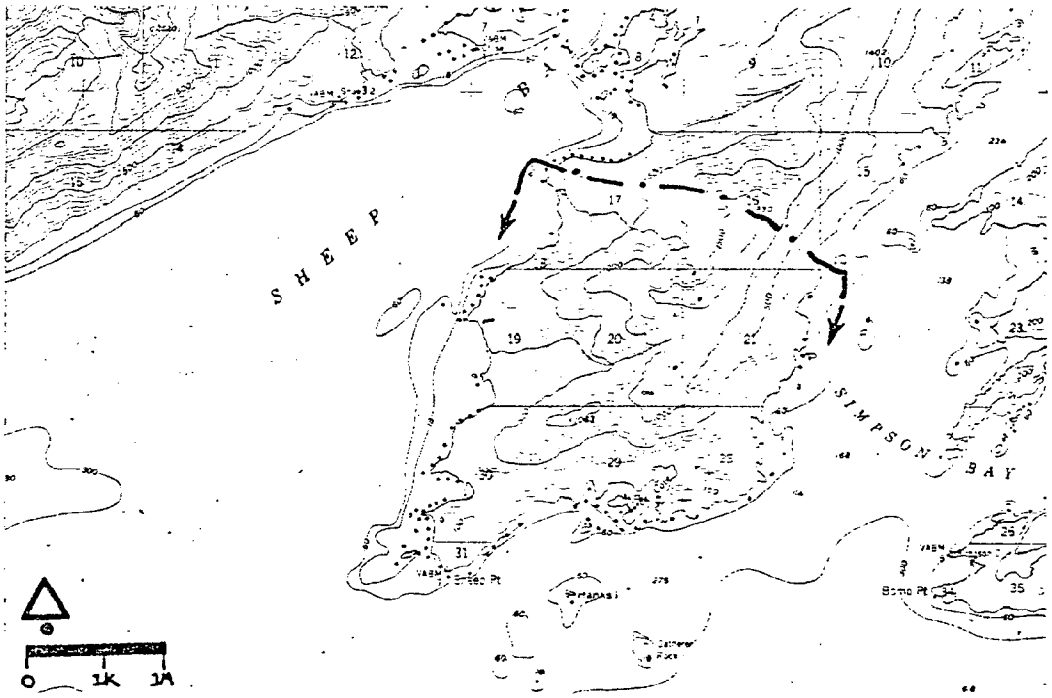
Sheep Point forms the southern headland for the Sheep Bay entrance. The primary value of this area is its scenic qualities; in addition, several offshore islands and protected coves also offer recreational opportunities.

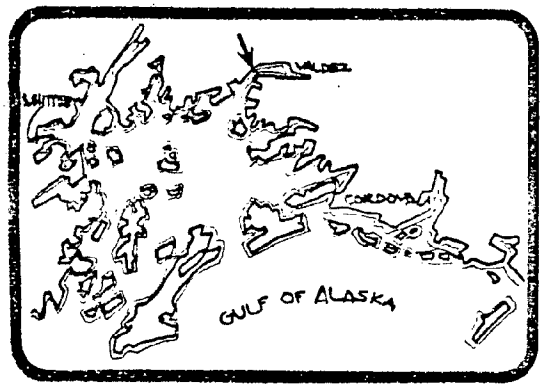
Three anadromous salmon streams have led to concentrations of black bear on the point. Crab fisheries are located in the bays on both sides of Sheep Point.

The remains of a Native campsite is evidenced by the existence of a midden. This site is thought to be of fairly recent origin.

The 1974 Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan stated that all land use activities in this area should be managed to maintain a scenic view from the state ferry.

Latitude:	60° 37'N
Longitude:	146° 00'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,230 (1,292)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Scenic Values
Proposed Management:	Continue present management status





Valdez Approaches

Primary Value: Scenic

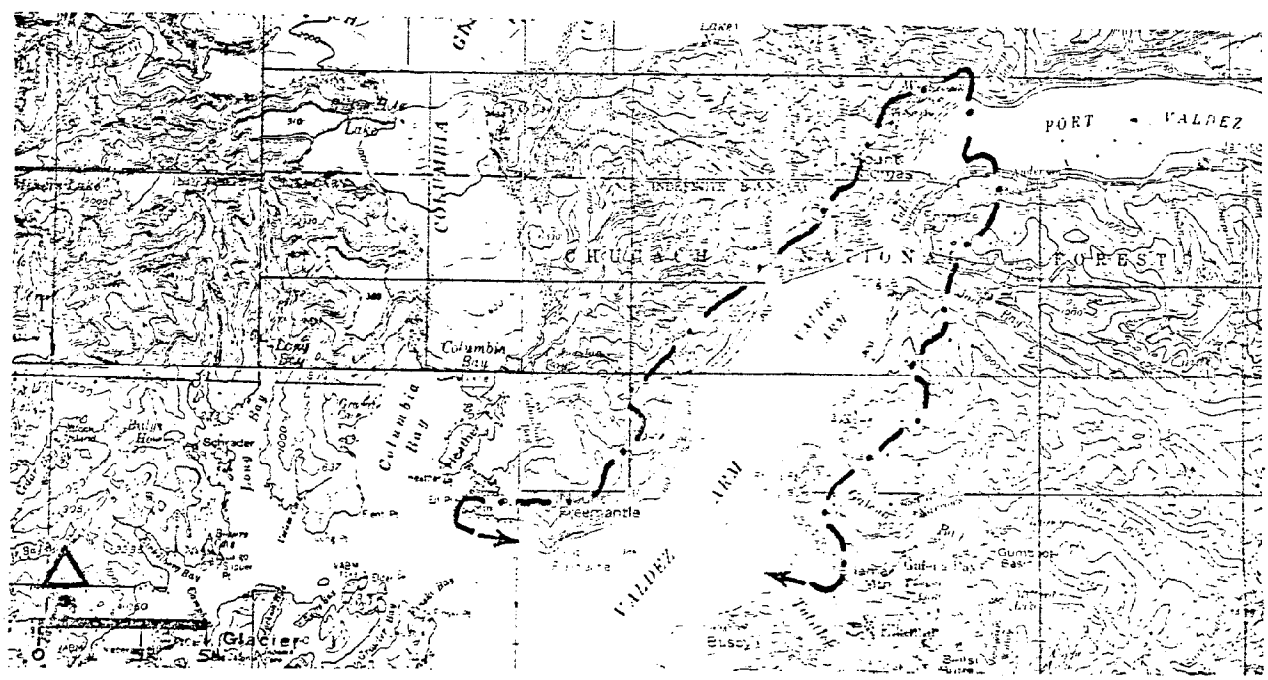
Associated Value: Recreation

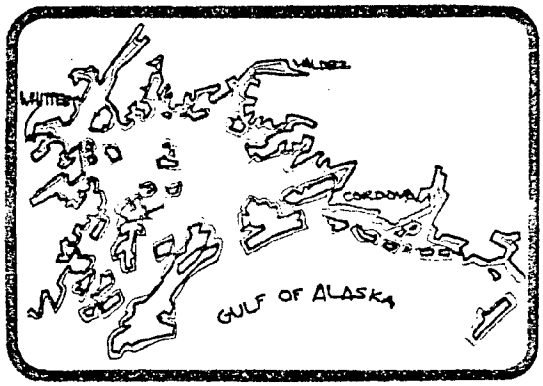
The shoreline and mountain sides on both sides of Port Valdez and Valdez Arm are an important scenic resource. Sightseers aboard a state ferry, as well as recreational boaters, continually view these areas while entering and leaving Valdez. Potato and Entrance Points are particularly sensitive as they collectively form Valdez Narrows.

The Port Valdez area has been noted by the U. S. Forest Service for its recreational values. The Land Use Planning Commission has identified much of this area as possessing medium to high scenic and high wilderness values.

Wildlife and birds abound in the area. Both Port Valdez and Valdez Arm are also important sport fishing areas. Sport anglers travel by small boat from Valdez to take advantage of the good fishing for pink and silver salmon and halibut.

Latitude:	61°04'N
Longitude:	146°40'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	21,000 (8,400)
Existing Ownership:	Federal
Existing Management:	Forest Service for Scenic Bureau of Land Management
Proposed Management:	Scenic Area





West Knight Island

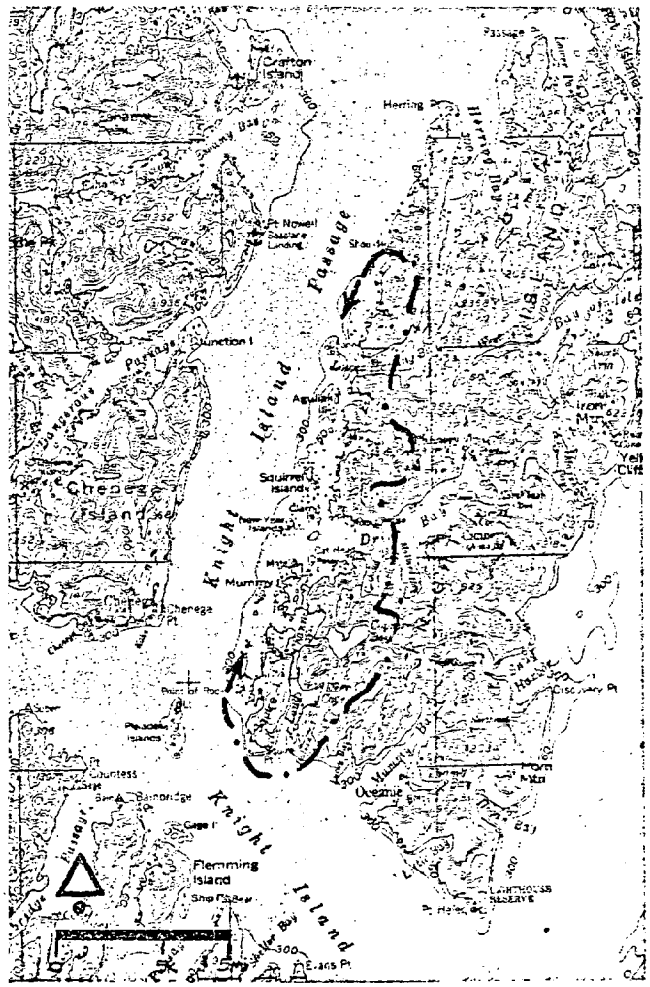
Primary Value: Scenic

Associated Value: Recreation

The western shoreline of Knight Island in western Prince William Sound between Mummy Bay on the south and Lower Herring Bay to the north contains outstanding coastal scenic qualities. Aside from numerous bays of various sizes and shapes, offshore islands and rocks add to the coastal landscape. Long Channel, some eleven miles in length, provides for the safe passage of small boats through the area. Protected waters in several areas could allow for safe float plane landings.

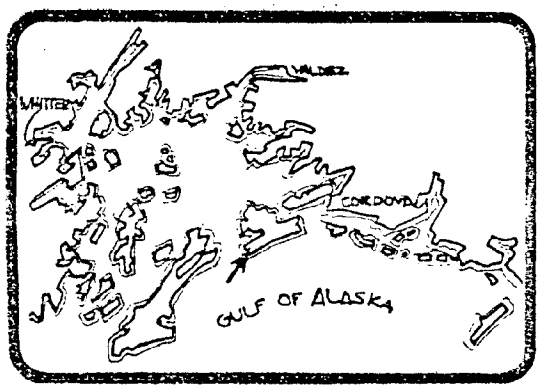
This area possesses excellent opportunities for kayaking or canoeing and observing wildlife and the area's unique landforms.

Latitude:	60° 20'N
Longitude:	147° 55'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	11,600 (4,640)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 8 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public Recreation and Scenic Area



Heritage Areas of Particular Concern

Coastal heritage areas of particular concern may represent either archaeologic (prehistory) or historic (post-European contact) resouces which represent significant events or periods in human use of the coastline. While some of these areas may possess recreational, scenic or heritage resources, the primary management emphasis should be the stabilization and restoration of the heritage resource.



Cape Hinchinbrook Lighthouse

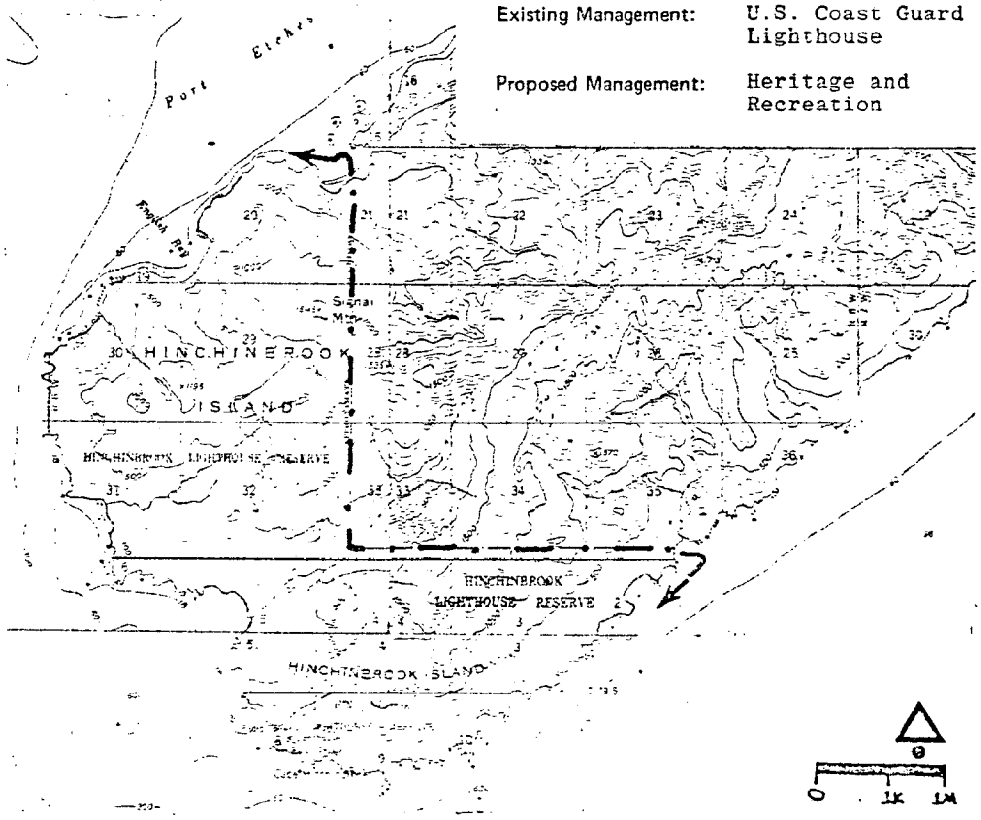
Primary Value:	Heritage
Associated Value:	Recreation

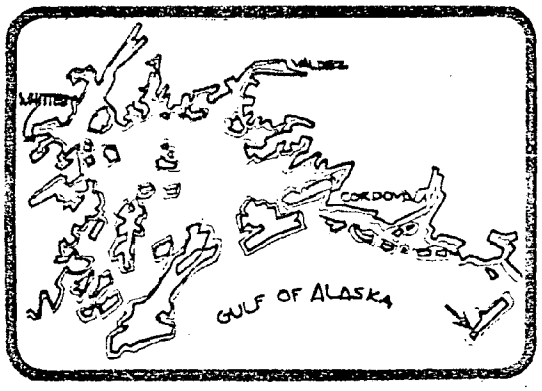
Marking the entrance to Prince William Sound, Cape Hinchinbrook Lighthouse is the only principle light in Southcentral Alaskan waters. Construction of the lighthouse began in 1909 and was completed a year later. Although it was thought to be a practically indestructable lighthouse, the light station had to be rebuilt in 1934 because of an earthquake that destroyed the rock foundation.

Although currently unoccupied, the lighthouse has provided invaluable service to commerce in Prince William Sound: fisheries, steamship lines, barges loaded with ore from the world's largest copper mines at Kennecott, ships bearing oil from Katalla, were all aided by the new lighthouse. Nomination of Kennecott Mines to the National Register of Historic Places is awaiting final action by the National Park Service in Washington, D. C., and the Katalla Refinery Site is on the National Register. The lighthouse itself should be considered a heritage site because of its statewide historical significance.

The 5,000 acre lighthouse reservation offers opportunities for hiking, beachcombing, camping, and observation of wildlife. Should this reservation become available, the Division of Parks should consider incorporation of this area into the Alaska State Park System.

Latitude:	60°14'N
Longitude:	147°37'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	5,600 (2,240)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach) partial 1 ANCSA 14h1 selection
Existing Management:	U.S. Coast Guard Lighthouse
Proposed Management:	Heritage and Recreation





Cape St. Elias Lighthouse

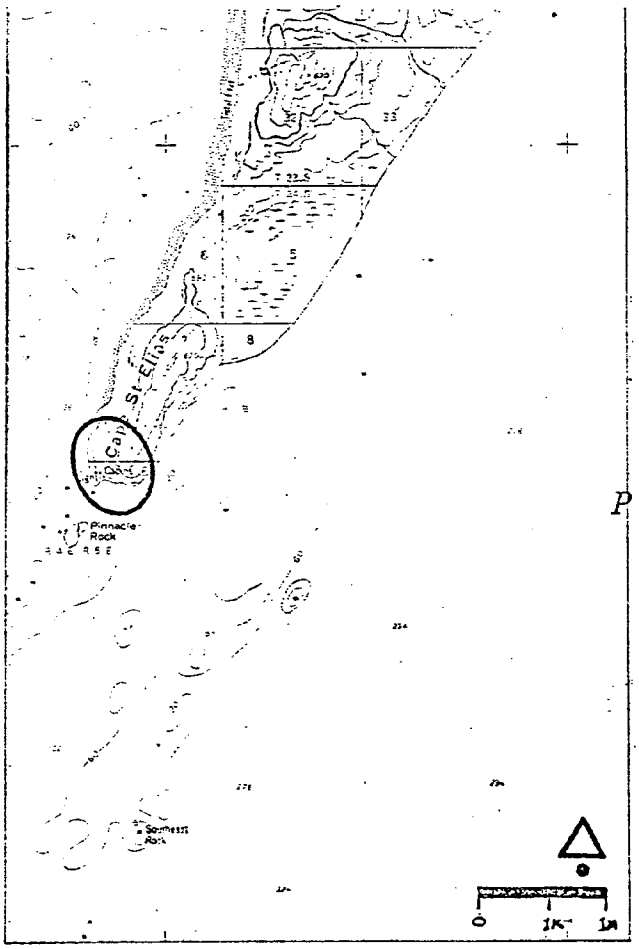
Primary Value: Heritage

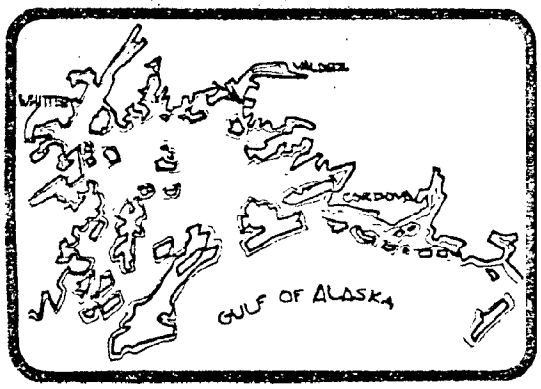
Associated Value: Scenic

Although reportedly unoccupied and downgraded to a minor light in the summer of 1974, Cape St. Elias Lighthouse has long played an important role in the history of Alaska navigation. Named by Vitus Bering in July, 1714, Cape St. Elias is an important landmark for Alaska and widely regarded as "one of the most dangerous points along the entire coast" until 1912. After appropriation of funds, the lighthouse was constructed in 1916. Currently it is the only facility now in existence on the island.

Never rebuilt, the Cape St. Elias Lighthouse is situated on 490 acres of lighthouse reservation. Kayak Island in its entirety is highly scenic and possessing historic values; the Cape with its lighthouse is the only historic place that can be located at present. The area was noted by the Forest Service in their Land Use Plan (1974). It was added to the National Register of Historic Places 18 December 1975.

Latitude:	59° 48'N
Longitude:	144° 36'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	490 (196)
Existing Ownership:	Federal Oil and Gas Lease
Existing Management:	U.S. Coast Guard Lighthouse
Proposed Management:	Heritage and Scenic Area





Ellamar

Primary Value: Heritage

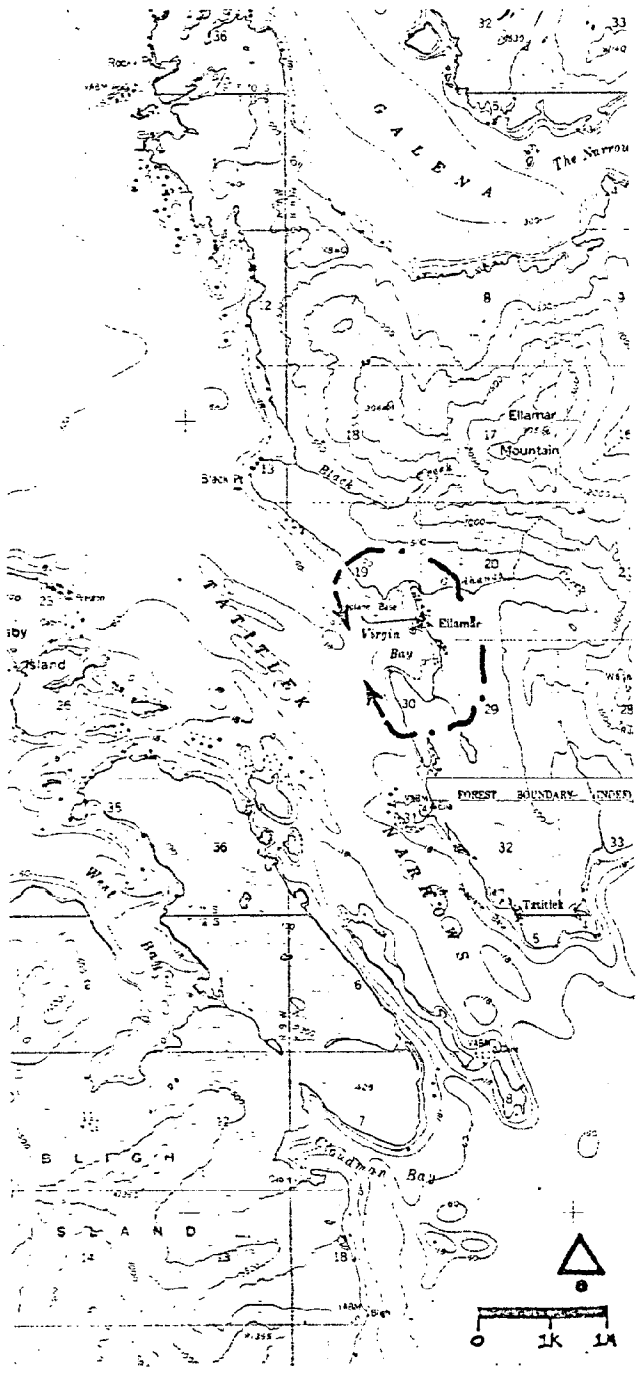
Associated Value: Scenic

Latitude:	60° 54'N
Longitude:	146° 42'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	420 (168)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Scenic Values
Proposed Management:	Heritage Area

The old copper mining town of Ellamar, situated at the foot of massive Copper Mountain, was established around 1898 to develop copper ore. Active mining continued until about 1919; in succeeding years, fish canneries operated until sometime after 1940. Many of the virtually abandoned old buildings are visible for many miles away with the aid of binoculars. Residents of Tatitlek, a nearby Native village, use the offshore waters for commercial fishing. In addition to a Russian Orthodox Church in the village, there are four nearby archaeological sites.

Ellamar is located within a section of coastline extending from Rocky Point to Bidarki Point which the Forest Service has identified as possessing scenic values worthy of special management.

Because of the proximity of Ellamar to the village of Tatitlek, land use decisions concerning this area should be coordinated with the local residents.



Fort Constantine

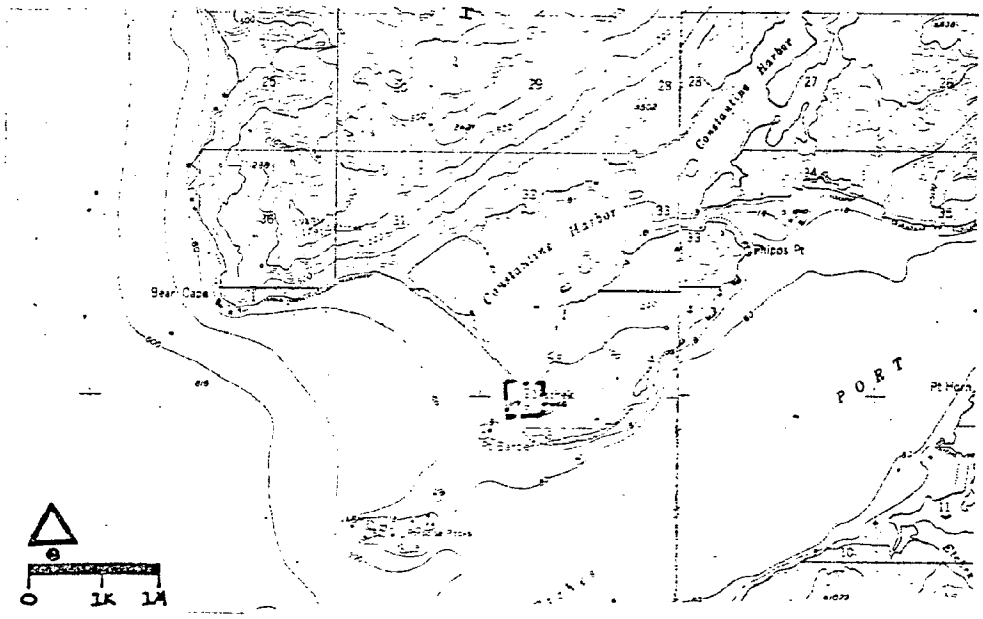
Primary Value: Heritage

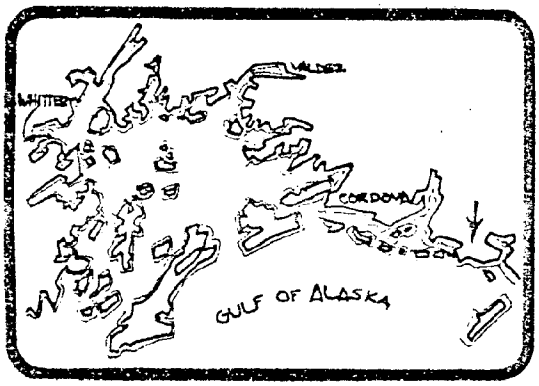
Associated Value: Recreation, Wildlife

Fort Constantine near Nuchek was the site of the first Russian outpost of the Three-Saints-Bay Settlement (on Kodiak Island) in Alaska. It was a strategic location for the sea otter pelt trade. A Chugach Eskimo village grew up around the post and has been important in the study by investigators of cultural change. Another site at the head of Constantine Harbor has yielded Russian artifacts, and two others nearby are sites of several pithouses and middens where various tools and a human femur have been excavated.

A fifth site on the north shore of Constantine Harbor is the location of the oldest village in the sound according to one Chugach Native. After Russian occupation, the last remaining Native inhabitant moved from this village site and founded the present village of Nuchek.

Latitude:	60°20'N
Longitude:	146°39'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	50 (20)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Land Use Study Pending
Proposed Management:	Heritage Site





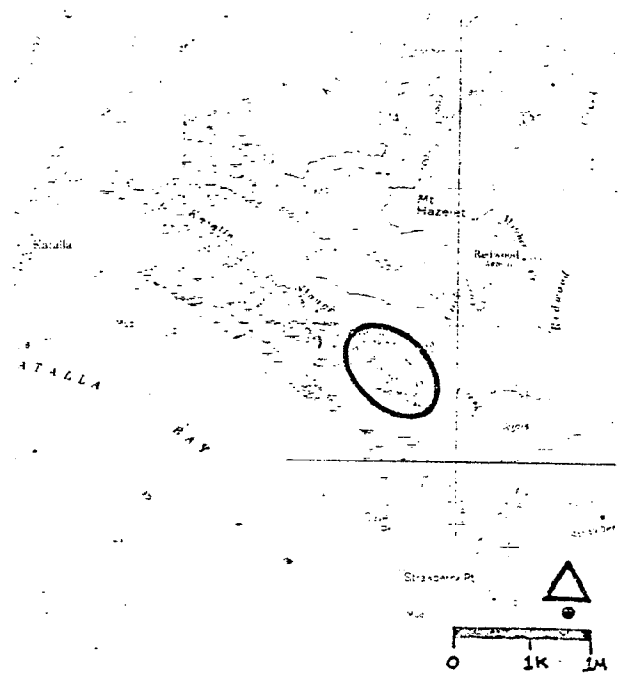
Katalla Refinery Sit

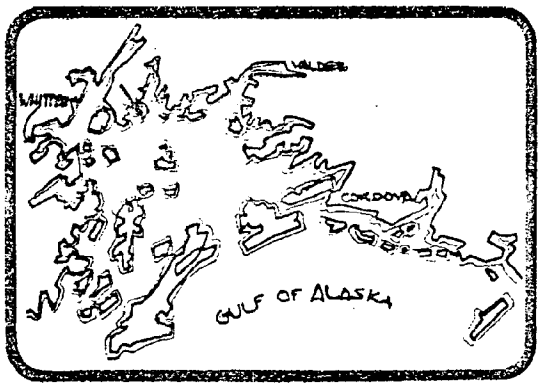
Primary Value: Heritage

In 1896, the first petroleum claims in Alaska were staked on what is now private land near this unit. Alaska's oil industry began in 1902 with a small refinery on Katalla Slough to process the crude oil. The Chilkat Oil Company Refinery Site was entered on the National Register of Historic Places, September 6, 1974. Although a fire at the refinery in 1933 halted operations, some of the old railroad beds and buildings are still evident in the area.

The refinery location should be protected from any potential damage because of its historical significance. Access to this area at present is by plane or boat, but there is a planned road through the unit which could be important in developing this site as a historic landmark with potential as a visitor interpretation site after stabilization and reconstruction of the site.

Latitude:	60°11'N
Longitude:	144°27'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	380 (152)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chugach)
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for historic preservation
Proposed Management:	Heritage Site





Kiniklik

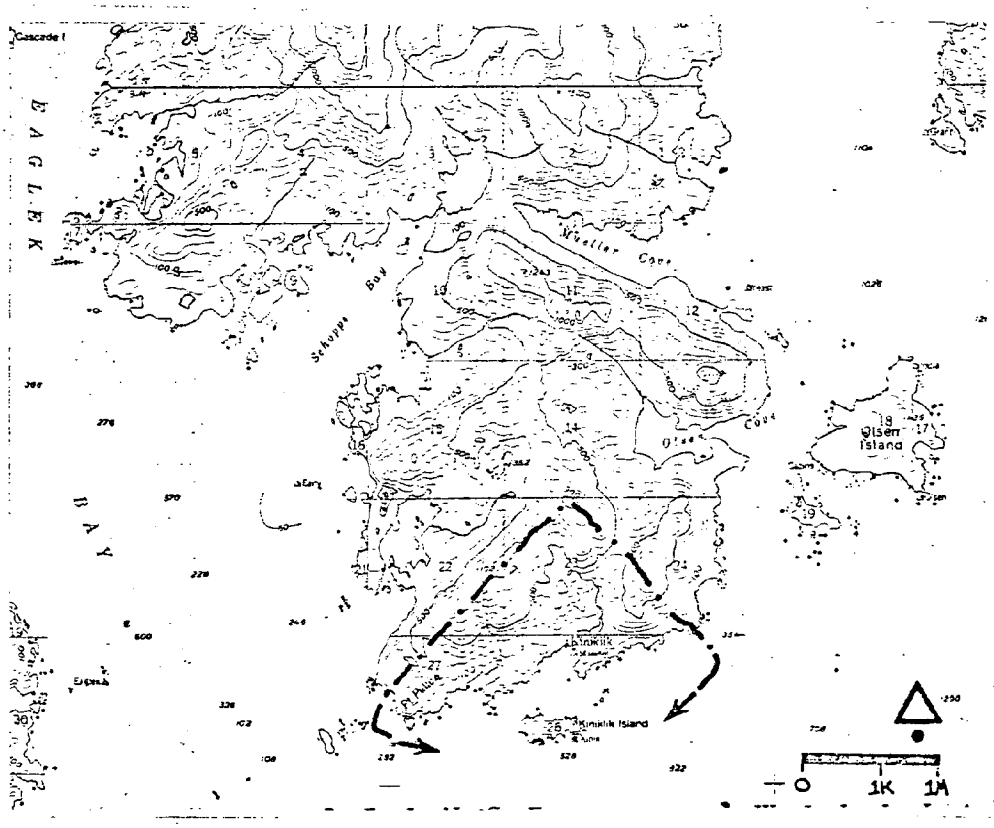
Primary Value: Heritage

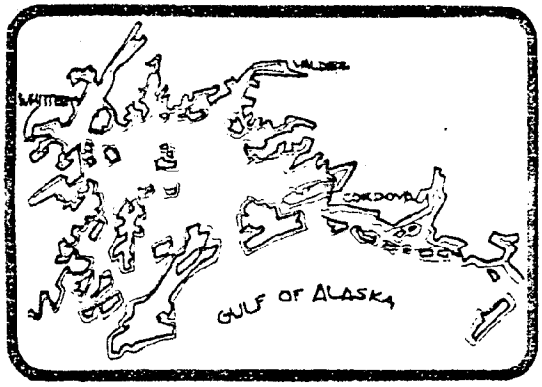
Associated Value: Scenic, Recreation

Located .5 mile north of Kiniklik Island and 37 miles northeast of Whittier in upper Prince William Sound, Kiniklik is the site of a Chugach Eskimo Native village, abandoned in the 1890's. Old pilings and debris mark the former site of a Russian Orthodox log church and several houses. Five archaeological sites in the immediate vicinity attest to heritage values of statewide significance.

In addition to heritage values, the area is highly scenic because of its location on the coast, visible by ferry, small boat, or plane. A number of islands and rocks jutting from Eaglek Bay and Unakwik Inlet provide potential for exploratory boating, in addition to providing a good anchorage.

Latitude:	60°51'N
Longitude:	147°37'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	930 (372)
Existing Ownership:	Bureau of Land Management 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Scenic Values
Proposed Management:	Heritage Area





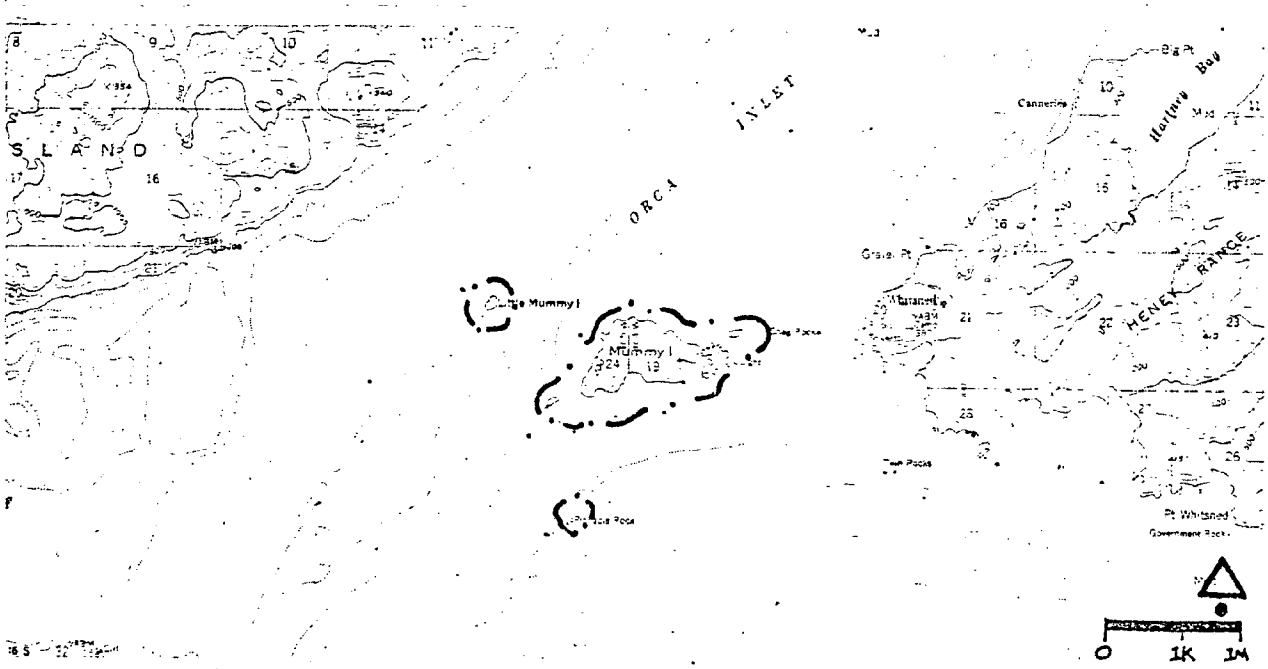
Mummy Island

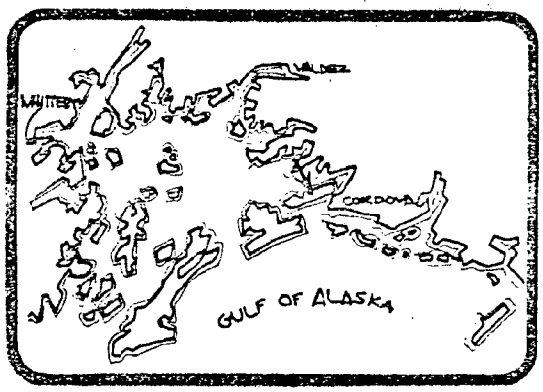
Primary Value: Heritage

Associated Value: Wildlife

Six archaeological sites have been identified on Mummy Island. While the remains of several house pits are thought to occur here, early use of Mummy Islands was primarily as a burial ground. A sea bird colony is located nearby on Pinnacle Rocks with a large population of black-legged kittiwakes. This colony should be fully considered in land use plans for the area, as these sea birds are particularly sensitive to human disturbance.

Latitude:	60° 28'N
Longitude:	146° 00'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	173 (69)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Eyak) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use, Archaeological sites protected
Proposed Management:	Heritage Area



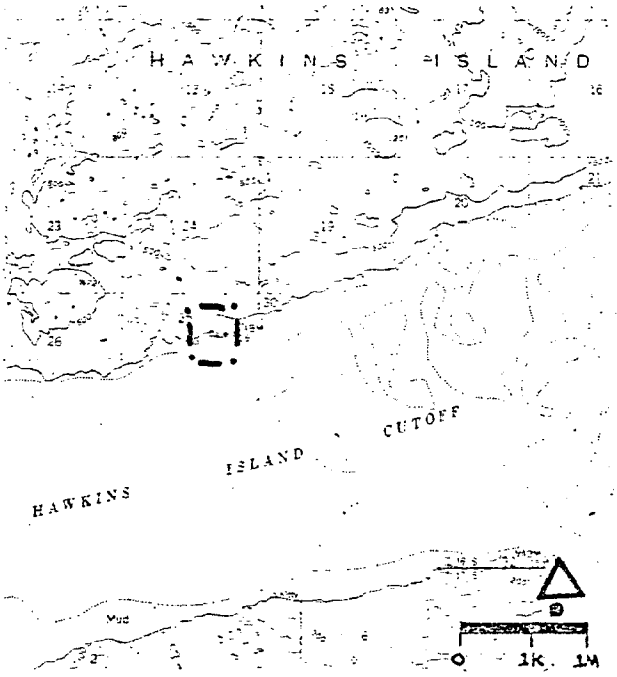


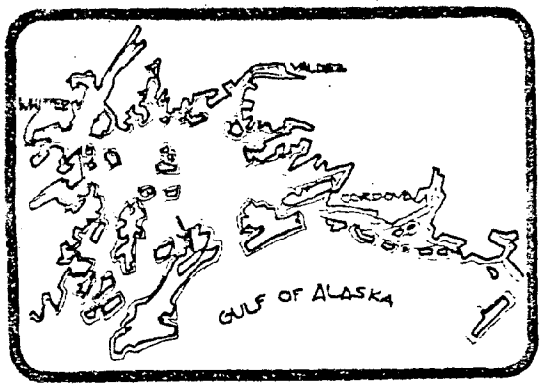
Palugvik

Primary Value: Heritage

Palugvik, five miles east of Canoe Passage on Hawkins Island, was proposed as a National Historic Landmark and is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The most extensive and most excavated site in Prince William Sound to date, it supplies evidence of a long-established Eskimo occupation and culture on the Pacific basin islands of southern Alaska, and clarifies the relationship of the Eskimo to the Tlingit Indians who also lived in the area.

Latitude:	60°28'N
Longitude:	146°11'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	50 (20)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA 14h1 selection
Existing Management:	Forest Service Archaeological site
Proposed Management:	Heritage Site





Port Chalmers

Primary Value: Heritage

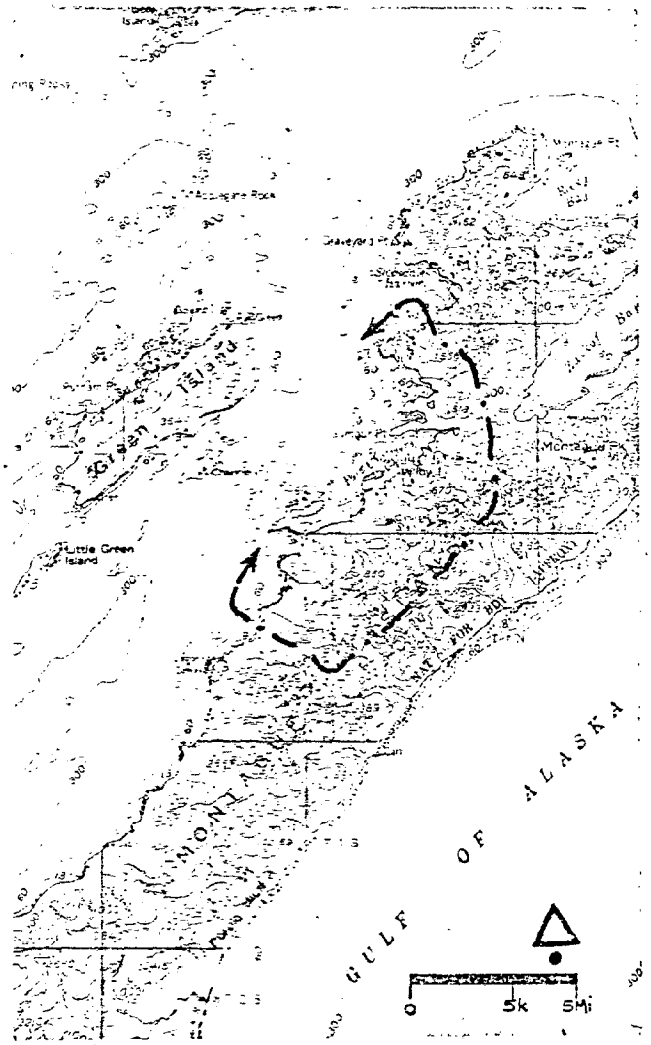
Associated Value: Wildlife, Recreation and Scenic

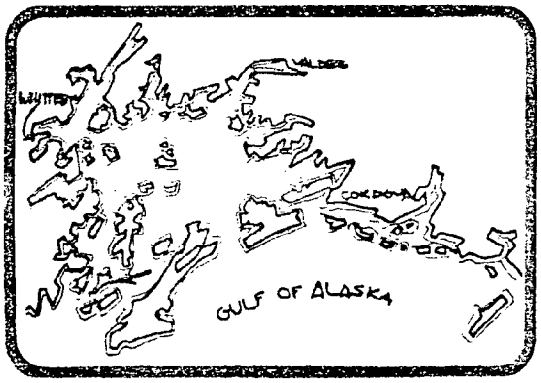
This bay is located on the north side of Montague Island in a scenic bay dotted with offshore islands and composed of mostly rolling, non-commercial forest land, dotted with muskeg and pothole lakes. Although the earthquake of 1964 uplifted the other end of Montague Island approximately 35 feet, the Port Chalmers area was uplifted only five feet. This unit therefore contains some of the best salmon streams and brown bear habitat on Montague Island. It is also a popular area for Sitka black-tailed deer hunting and fur-bearer trapping. The beach is an adequate landing site, with a Forest Service cabin nearby.

Access is now limited to boat and aircraft; however, as more recreational use is made of Prince William Sound, the offshore islands area should become increasingly important. This area, included in the Forest Service Land Use Plan (1974), has high wilderness and medium to high scenic values. Part of Montague Island has been proposed by the National Park Service as a National Natural Landmark. Further, Port Chalmers was one of Vancouver's landing sites. Two archaeological sites are nearby.

The area is scenic and has certain primitive values appropriate for hiking and camping. There are numerous opportunities for nature viewing including an abundance of sea otters and harbor seals. Whales are often seen in the Montague Strait.

Latitude:	60°15'N
Longitude:	147°13'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	19,500 (7,800)
Existing Ownership:	Federal 1 ANCSA 14h1 selection
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for Fish, Wildlife, and Recreation
Proposed Management:	Heritage, Wildlife, Fish, Recreation and Scenic





Sawmill Bay

Primary Value: Heritage

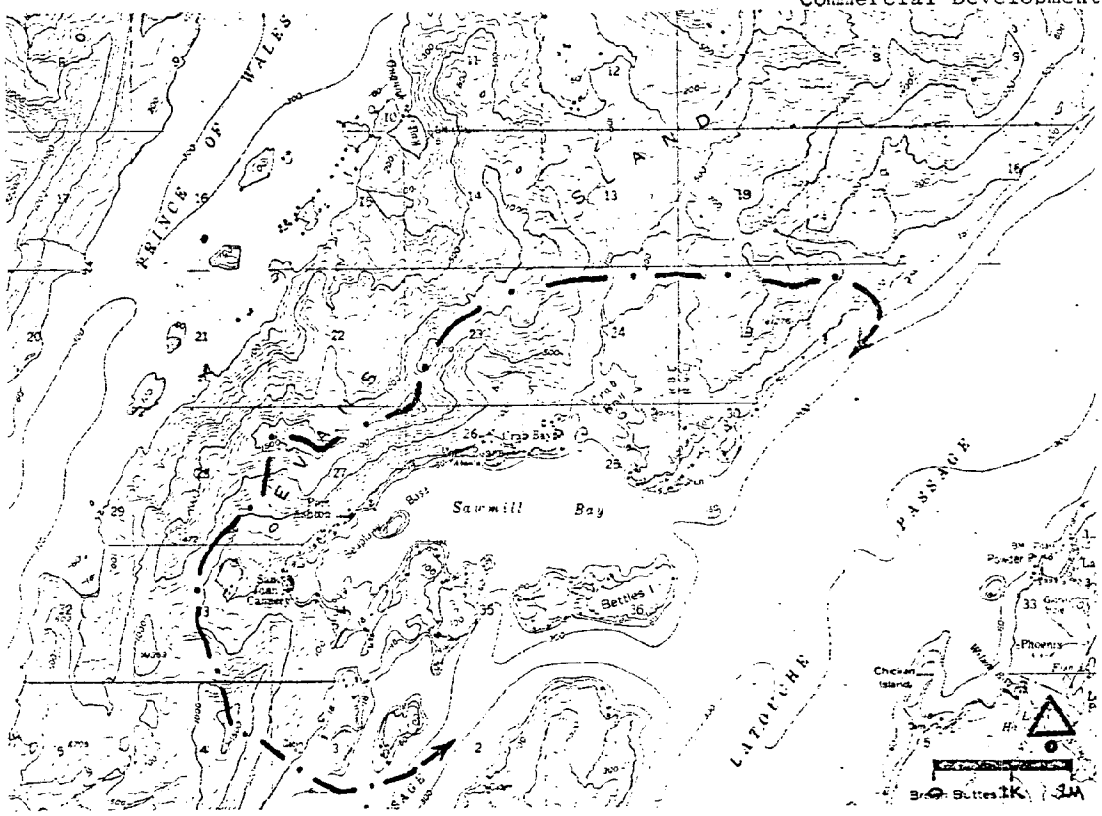
Associated Value: Recreation

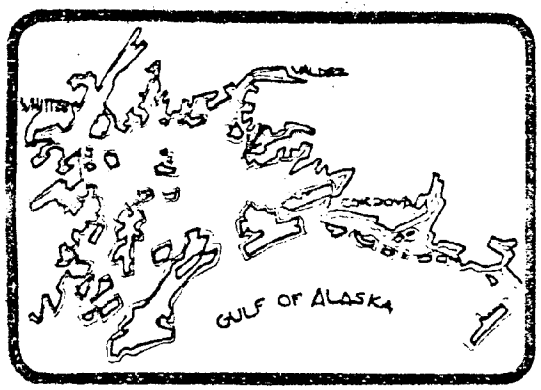
Sawmill Bay, located on the eastern shore of Evans Island, was formerly the site of the largest cluster of canneries in the Sound. At least a dozen buildings, now abandoned, remind the visitor that this area supported the largest population of the Sound at one point in history. These buildings are spread out around the bay and provide interesting opportunities for exploration. In addition, much of the area is rich in local lore and legend. For this reason, its primary significance is as a heritage site.

Since the bay lies at the northern end of Elrington Passage, it is a convenient anchorage for those boats traveling through the passage. Both Montague Straits and Knight Island Passage are two of the better areas for whale observation in the Sound. In addition, several streams in the area are noted for concentrations of bears. Sea otters abound in high density in the waters of the bay.

The area is also located across the bay from Latouche, a former mining area, and currently listed as an archaeological site. These heritage and recreation values make Sawmill Bay an extremely interesting place to visit. Currently the Natives from Chenega are moving their village to Crab Bay on the north side of Sawmill Bay.

Latitude:	60° 03' N
Longitude:	148° 00' W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,411 (1,364)
Existing Ownership:	Federal Private ANCSA selection (Chenega) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed for community development Aquaculture Facility
Proposed Management:	Historic Preservation, Public/Private Recreation Commercial Development





Snug Corner Cove

Primary Value: Heritage

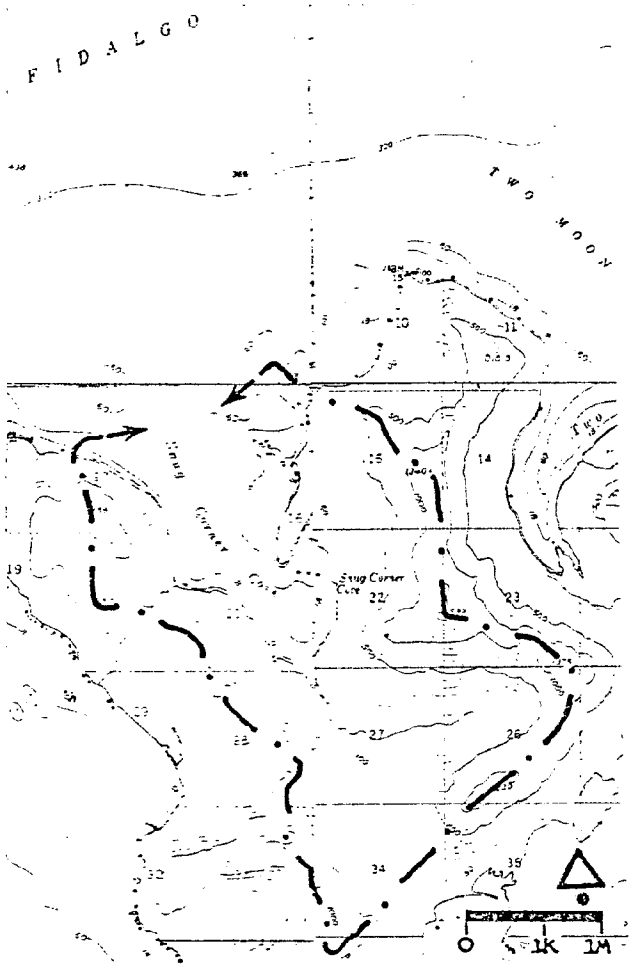
Associated Value: Recreation, Scenic

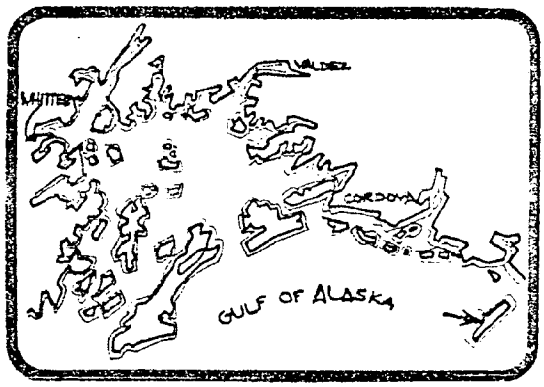
Latitude:	60° 44' N
Longitude:	146° 39' W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,740 (1,496)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) entire
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Public and/or Private Heritage and Recreation

While Snug Corner Cove offers small boat anchorages, it is probably best known as the anchorage used by Captain James Cook during the eight day lay-up and repair of the H.M.S. Resolution in 1778. Nearby Bligh Island was named after one of Cook's crew members, William Bligh, involved with the mutiny on the H.M.S. Bounty in 1789.

Bell Island, located approximately one mile to the west of Snug Corner Cove, serves as a sea bird colony for glaucous-winged gulls and arctic terns. The shores of this island are regularly used by harbor seals as a haul-out area.

Snug Corner Cove is easily accessible by float plane or small boat from either Cordova or Valdez.





West Central Kayak Island

Primary Value: Heritage

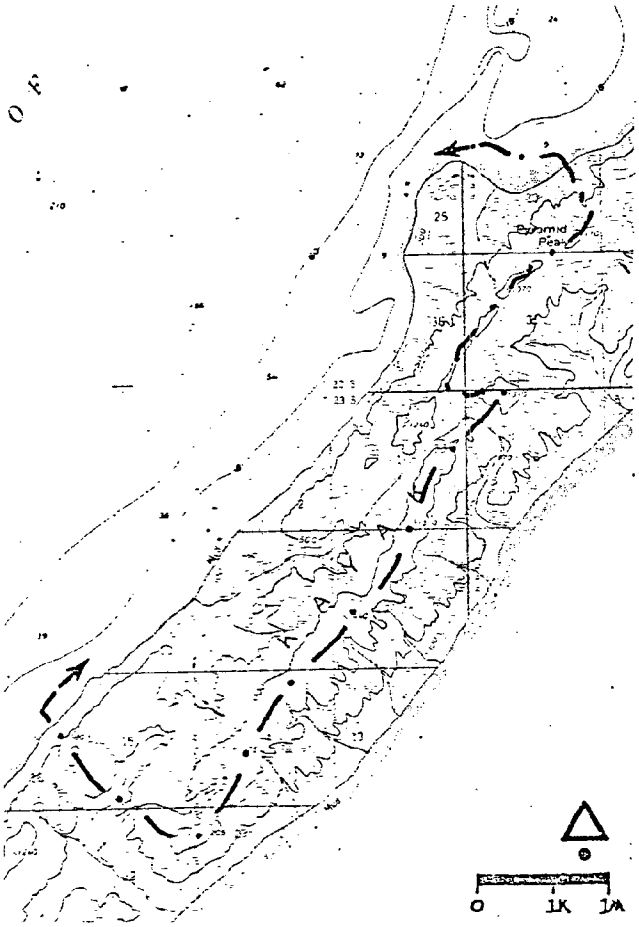
Associated Value: Wildlife, Scenic

Kayak Island is generally recognized as the discovery point of Alaska. It was visited by Vitus Bering and George Stellar, naturalist, in 1741. In addition, it was visited by Cook in 1788 when he landed and buried a bottle with an appropriate note and two small pieces of silver in the vicinity of west central Kayak Island.

From data uncovered by investigators, it is possible to trace with a great degree of accuracy the movements of the expedition along the Alaskan coast. The observations made by Stellar, as recorded in his journal, are the first made by a white person in Alaska, and the only written record of a trained naturalist's observations of this area prior to disruption by the Russian fur traders in the late 18th century. The Bering-Stellar Landing Site has been proposed for the National Register of Historic Places and is currently (June 1977) awaiting final action by the National Park Service.

Brown bear and wolverine are present on this portion of the island, as well as a bird colony of medium size. Opportunities for beachcombing and crab fishing are numerous. The whole island is of high wilderness value.

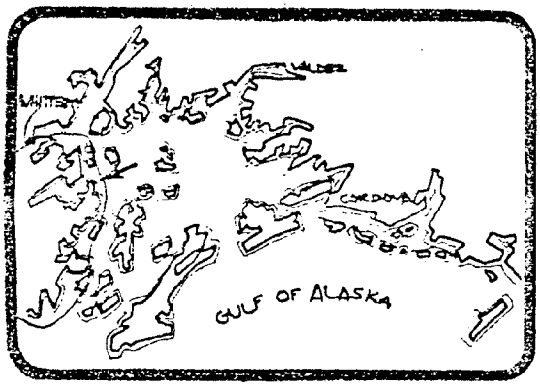
Latitude:	59°53'N
Longitude:	144°29'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	3,320 (1,292)
Existing Ownership:	Federal Oil and Gas Lease
Existing Management:	Forest Service Multiple Use
Proposed Management:	Heritage Area



Scientific and Wilderness Areas of Particular Concern

Although the evaluation of wilderness and scientific research areas is generally beyond the scope of this report, the following areas have been identified through a literature review and should be considered for area of particular concern designations. Wilderness areas include those portions of the coastline where the effects of prior human activity are non-existent or unnoticeable. The remains of an old dock or a 19th century cannery may or may not prohibit an area from being considered as possessing high wilderness quality, since few areas remain in a totally untrammeled state. The degree of wilderness is relative and subjective, since decisions often must be made as to whether remains of past human activity constitute litter or artifact. The designation of an area in this document as having a primary value of wilderness does not necessarily indicate a proposal for addition of the area into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Land use actions which may lower an area's potential for consideration as wilderness should not be undertaken until such time as a comprehensive study of the area can be completed.

Scientific areas of particular concern represent those locations where relatively long term and ongoing research is occurring. Also included are those areas where a particular natural feature or ecological system is in need of preservation for the purposes of monitoring an environmental baseline; inducing changes to observe responses; or for educational purposes. These areas might thus be set aside under a concept such as the ecological reserve system which has received support from the Land Use Planning Commission. Two areas, Olsen Bay and Port Valdez, have been identified as important long term and ongoing research areas. Six areas, including Olsen Bay, have been identified for inclusion into a statewide system of ecological reserves. These areas include Middleton Island, Macleod Harbor, Hanning Bay Tectonic Deformation, Olsen Bay, College Fiord, and Prince William Sound Approaches. It has been proposed that these areas be managed by the existing management agency or landowner in a manner which protects the ecological integrity for scientific and educational purposes. Specific acreages and boundaries have not yet been determined.



Nellie Juan

Primary Value: Wilderness

Associated Value: Recreation, Scenic, and Wildlife

The western sector of Prince William Sound is currently being studied for possible inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System by the Forest Service. After completion of the study and recommendations, Congress may consider the proposal. In the interim, no timber sales, grazing permits, roads, pilings, etc., will be allowed; mineral access and special uses will be permitted as long as wilderness values are not jeopardized. Out of a total of 703,000 acres in the wilderness study area, 530,000 are currently administered by the Forest Service.

Scenic and recreational values of the Nellie Juan area are important to recreationists from Anchorage. Access is mostly by boat via Seward or Whittier or by float plane landing. The shoreline of this area is approximately 560 miles, most of which is forested. Wilderness values of this entire area were rated high by the Land Use Planning Commission in their state-wide study and scenic values were rated good with selected areas possessing high qualities.

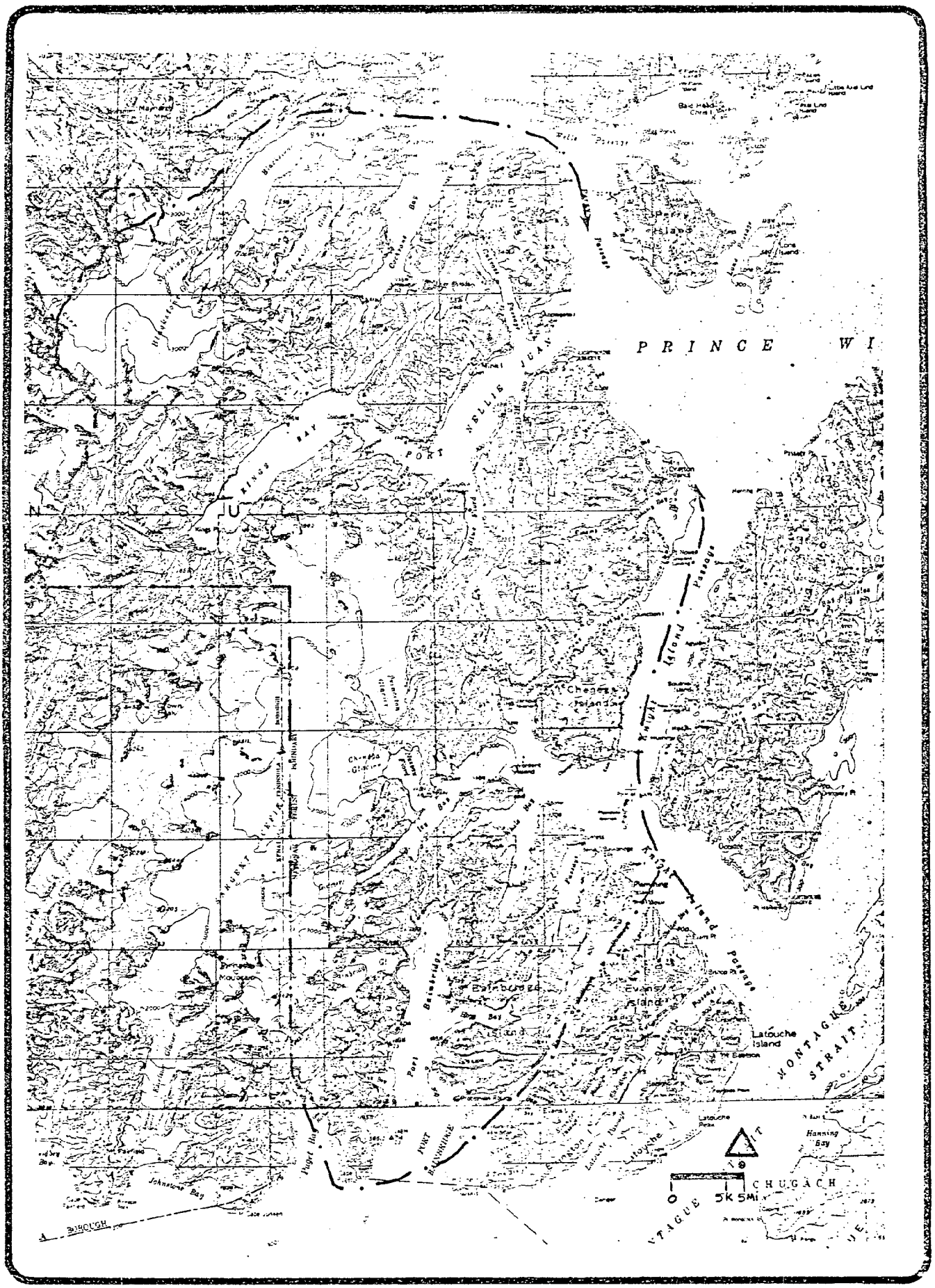
Most of western Prince William Sound has been glaciated within the last few thousand years. Some areas have been subjected to the advance and retreat of glaciers several times. Glaciation has left its mark in the form of U-shaped valleys, many with glaciers or glacial remnants at their heads. One of the larger icefields in Alaska is partially in the area. Deposits of till in various forms such as moraine, drumlins, eskers, and kames, and water-sorted outwash deposits such as gravel terraces and alluvial fans are found wherever this ice has passed. Often these features are intimately associated with and rise above low-lying, swampy areas, present day streams, and outcrops of underlying bedrock. In general, the poorly drained mineral and organic soil appear to dominate over the better soils in the unit. Ecosystems in this area include lakes, estuarine, riverine, alpine, glacier-icefield, and coastal western hemlock/Sitka spruce forest.

Latitude:	60°30'N
Longitude:	148°17'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	703,000 (281,200)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Chenega) partial 27 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service Wilderness Study Area, 173,000 acres managed by BLM
Proposed Management:	Wilderness

If this area is designated wilderness either by Congress subsequent to Forest Service studies and recommendations or by Congress under HR 39 introduced by Udall this year which proposes it as "instant wilderness", it is anticipated that attention to this area will draw more recreational visitors.

The Prince William Sound area as a whole will receive increases in recreation use due to growth of the population of south-central Alaska, more leisure time, income, and mobility of that population, as well as local factors including construction of a small boat harbor at Whittier and increased visitor use of the Alaska Marine Highway System ferry between Whittier and Valdez. Other interests in the area include demand for state selection of lands to allow for commercial and private development near forest communities, and pressure from local mills for commercial timber sales (the study area contains about 26,000 acres of productive forest land).

More than a dozen areas discussed in this document are included within the geographical area of this unit and are discussed individually according to the primary values.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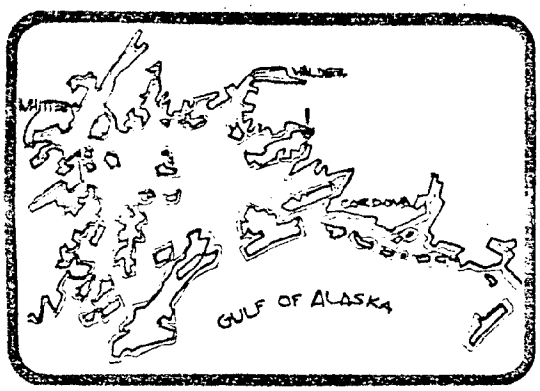
PORT NELLIS
KINGS BAY
Perry Island
Chenega Island
Knight Island
Bainbridge Island
Evans Island
Latouche Island
MONTAGUE STRAIT
Hanning Bay
CHUGACH
0 5K 5Mi
Johnstone Bay
Puget Bay
PORT BAINBRIDGE
BOROUGH



Olsen Bay

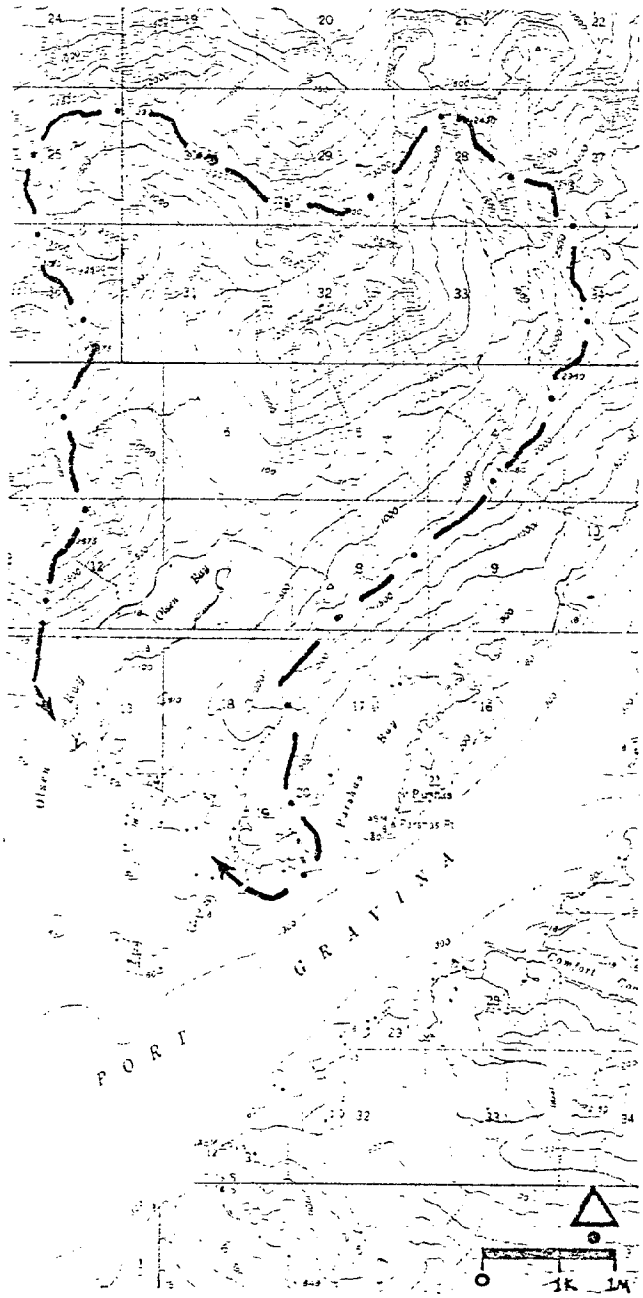
Primary Value: Scientific

Associated Value: Scenic, Recreation

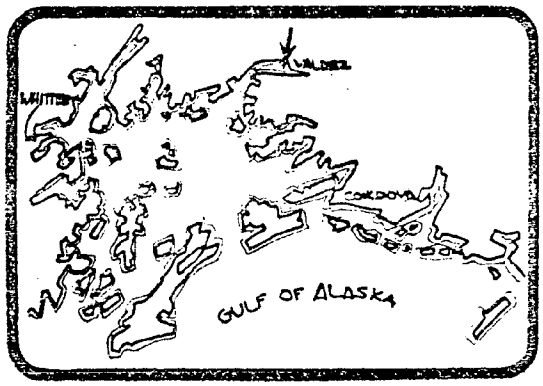
Olsen Bay is located on the northern shoreline of Port Gravina. Olsen Bay is an important scientific area with fish- and wildlife-related research ongoing since 1954 by both state and federal agencies. Olsen Bay supports a wide variety of marine and upland wildlife. Brown bear are known to concentrate on both forks of Olsen Bay Creek, known for runs of anadromous fish. Several known bald eagle nests are in the area. Harbor seals concentrate throughout the bay. The subtidal area supports dungeness crab. Numerous peaks in the 2,000 to 3,000 foot range surround the bay.

Several archaeological sites are located along the shores of the bay.

While the primary value of this area is its wildlife and ongoing scientific research, these values also present recreation opportunities. However, only limited recreation uses or those which do not interfere with wildlife habitat and research efforts should be allowed. The 1974 Chugach National Forest: Land Use Plan recommends that this area be protected as a scientific study area.



Latitude:	60°44'N
Longitude:	146°13'W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	8,300 (3,320)
Existing Ownership:	Federal ANCSA selection (Tatitlek) partial 2 ANCSA 14h1 selections
Existing Management:	Forest Service managed as Research Area
Proposed Management:	Research Area



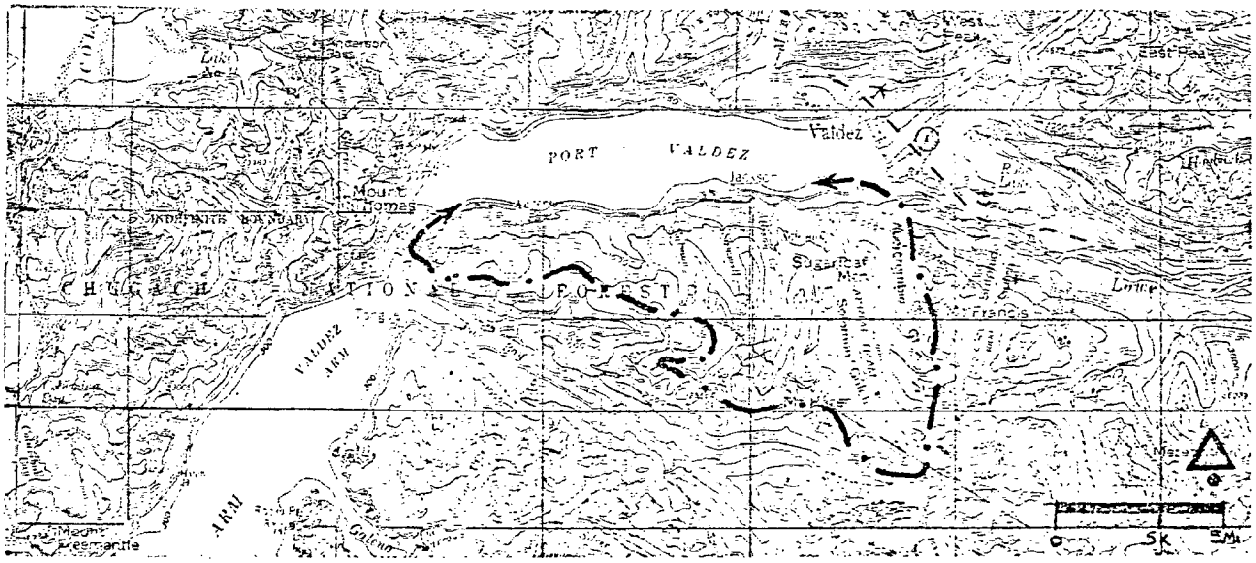
Port Valdez

Primary Value:	Scientific
Associated Value:	Wildlife, Scenic and Recreation

The National Marine Fisheries Service is collecting baseline data within Port Valdez to measure any changes in the aquatic system due to the activities at the trans-Alaska oil pipeline terminal. Any present or future activities in the area could disturb, or discredit, the essential baseline information.

The unit is directly across from the town of Valdez and contributes to a panorama of high peaks, glaciers, muskegs, alpine meadows, timber, and ocean. Port Valdez is 12 miles long and two and one-half to three miles wide. In addition to scientific study, a concentration of boating and other recreational use occurs in the area because of its proximity to the community of Valdez.

Latitude:	61° 04' N
Longitude:	146° 30' W
Upland Acres(Hectares):	40,000 (16,000)
Existing Ownership:	Federal City Private ANCSA selection
Existing Management:	Forest Service Research Area, Pipeline Terminal Facility
Proposed Management:	Control Developments to facilitate monitoring efforts



The following scientific areas have been proposed as Ecological Reserves:*

Olsen Bay - SC10
Province: Pacific Border Ranges and Marine
Location: 60 43'N, 146 12'W (Cordova quad.)
Size: Not determined
Land Status: U. S. Forest Service
Description: This is an area where a great deal of baseline data have been generated from many ecological studies conducted in the past. Therefore, this site will be of extreme importance in evaluating the effects of recent Alyeska pipeline construction in the area. Wildlife found here include harbor seal, brown bear, mountain goat, deer, and wolf. In addition, seabirds winter in this area.

Prince William Sound Approaches - SC11
Province: Pacific Border Ranges and Marine
Location: 60 00'N, 146 00'W (Middleton Island and Cordova quads.)
Size: Not determined
Land Status: Federal
Description: Diverse and rich marine fauna and flora. This area supports coastal and offshore fisheries, and it will be transversed daily by supertankers transporting Prudhoe Bay crude to the West Coast or other ports. Hazardous seafaring areas, biologically highly sensitive to oil pollution.

Middleton Island - SC12
Province: Pacific Border Ranges and Marine
Location: 59 26'N, 146 20'W (Middleton Island quad.)
Size: Not determined
Land Status: Federal Aviation Administration/Coast Guard
Description: This is a unique island, located approximately at the junction of the continental shelf and continental slope, which displays six wave-planed surfaced indicating mixed stages of uplift. There is an unusually large population of feral white rabbits.

* Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska. 1973. "A Proposal for an Ecological Reserve System for Alaska". Resource Planning Team, Anchorage, Alaska.

Hanning Bay Tectonic Deformation - SC16
Province: Pacific Border Ranges and Marine
Location: 59 58'N, 147 42'W (Blying Sound quad.)
Size: Not determined
Land Status: U. S. Forest Service
Description: This area underwent a 30-foot vertical displacement during the 1964 earthquake and may be of extensive importance in studying the transition of ocean floor into a terrestrial community.

MacLeod Harbor - SC17
Province: Pacific Border Ranges and Marine
Location: 59 53'N, 147 15'W (Blying Sound quad.)
Size: Not determined
Land Status: U. S. Forest Service
Description: This area, located on the southwest coast of Montague Island, is characterized by raised bog, upland forest, and alpine tundra in relatively close proximity. Wildlife present includes harbor seal, brown bear (concentrated along the streams), deer, and wolverine. Seabirds also make use of the area in winter.

College Fiord - SC18
Province: Pacific Border Ranges and Marine
Location: 61 05'N, 147 55'W (Anchorage quad.)
Size: 37,120 acres (15,020 ha)
Land Status: U. S. Forest Service
Description: This magnificent area, located in a unique setting deep within the Chugach Mountains, offers not only an excellent example of a fiord, but a large lake (Lake Coghill), a series of subdued ridges, and an alluvial outwash fan as well. Glacial studies have been conducted to determine why some glaciers are advancing and others are retreating.

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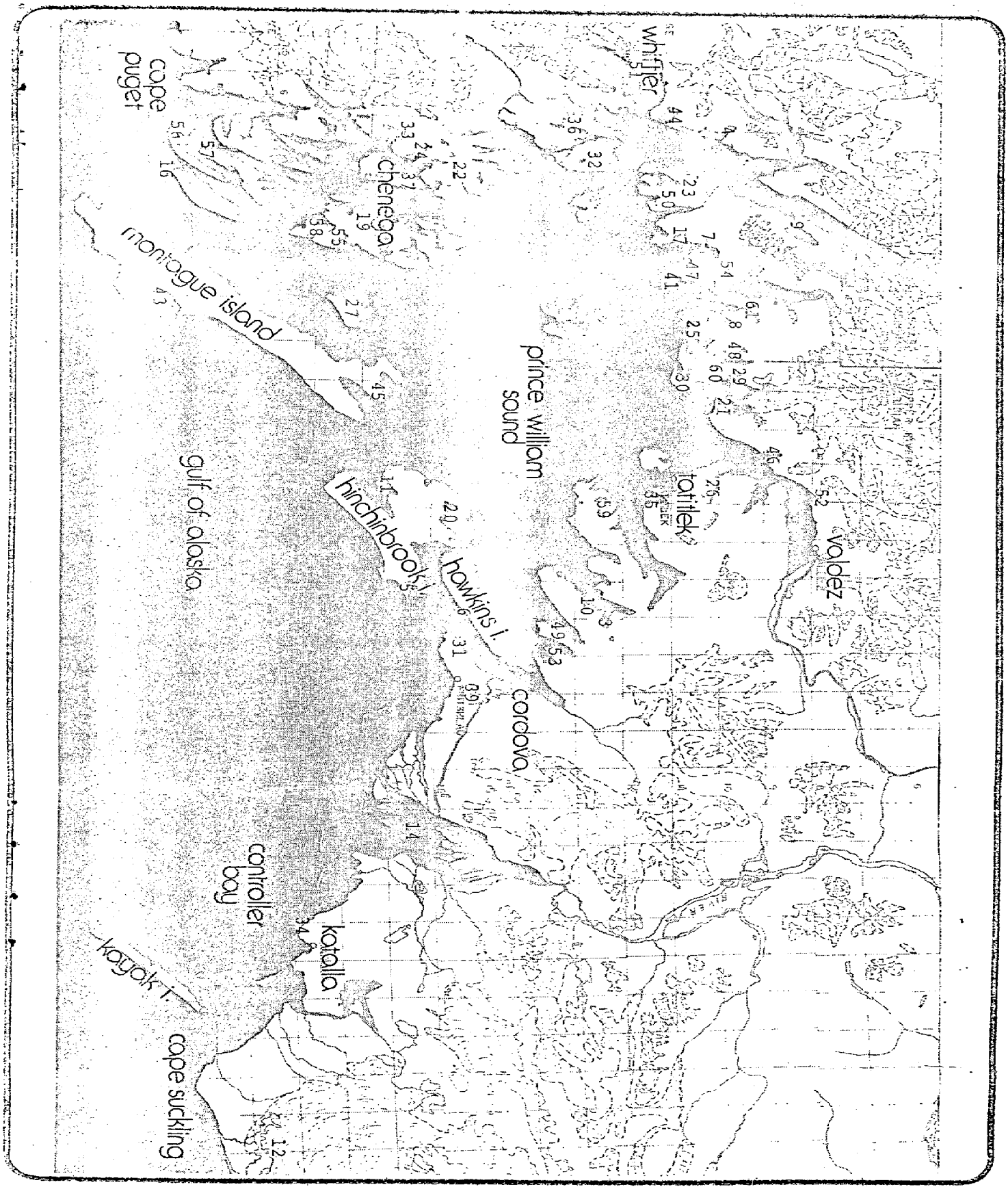

Recreation

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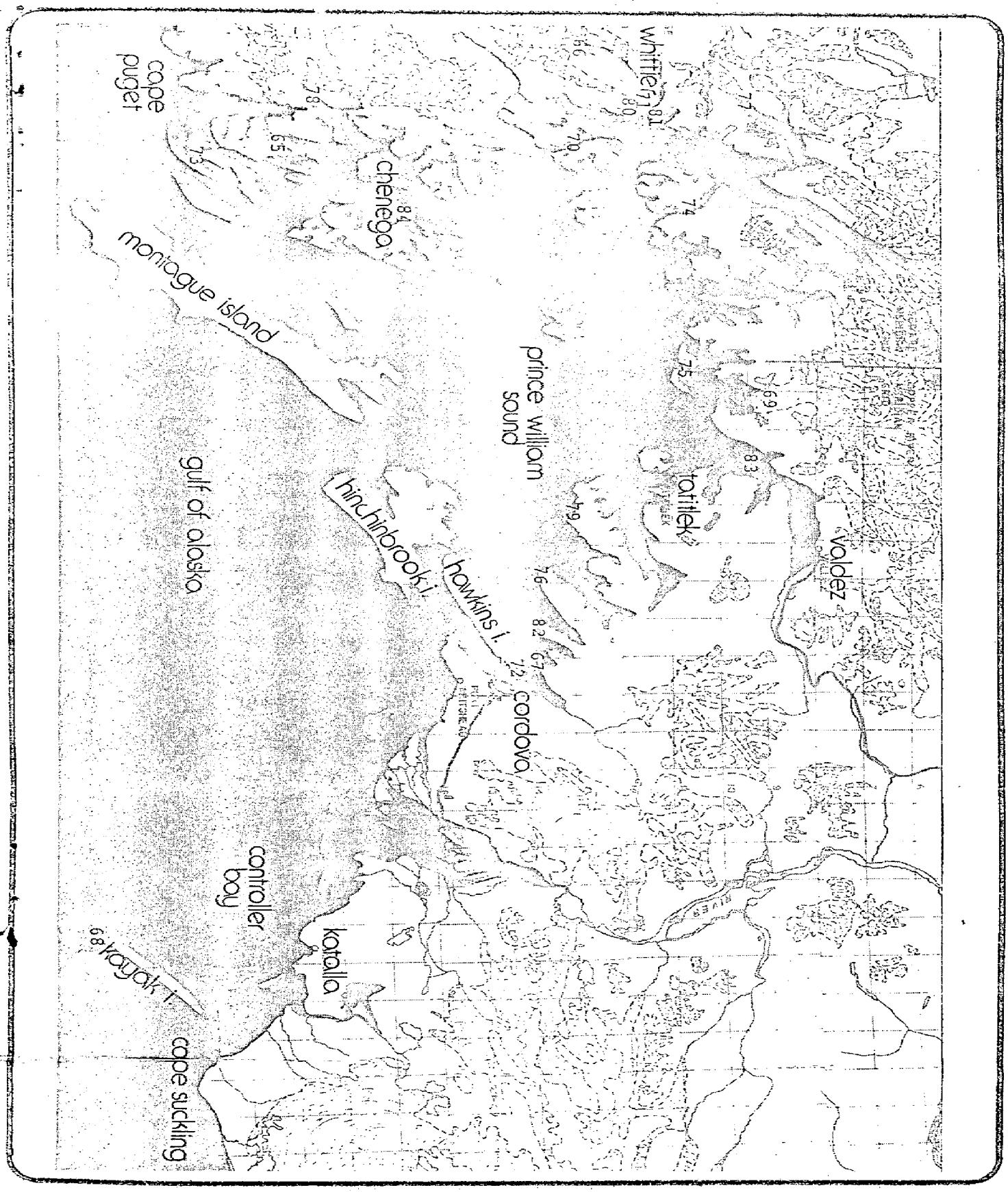

Scenic

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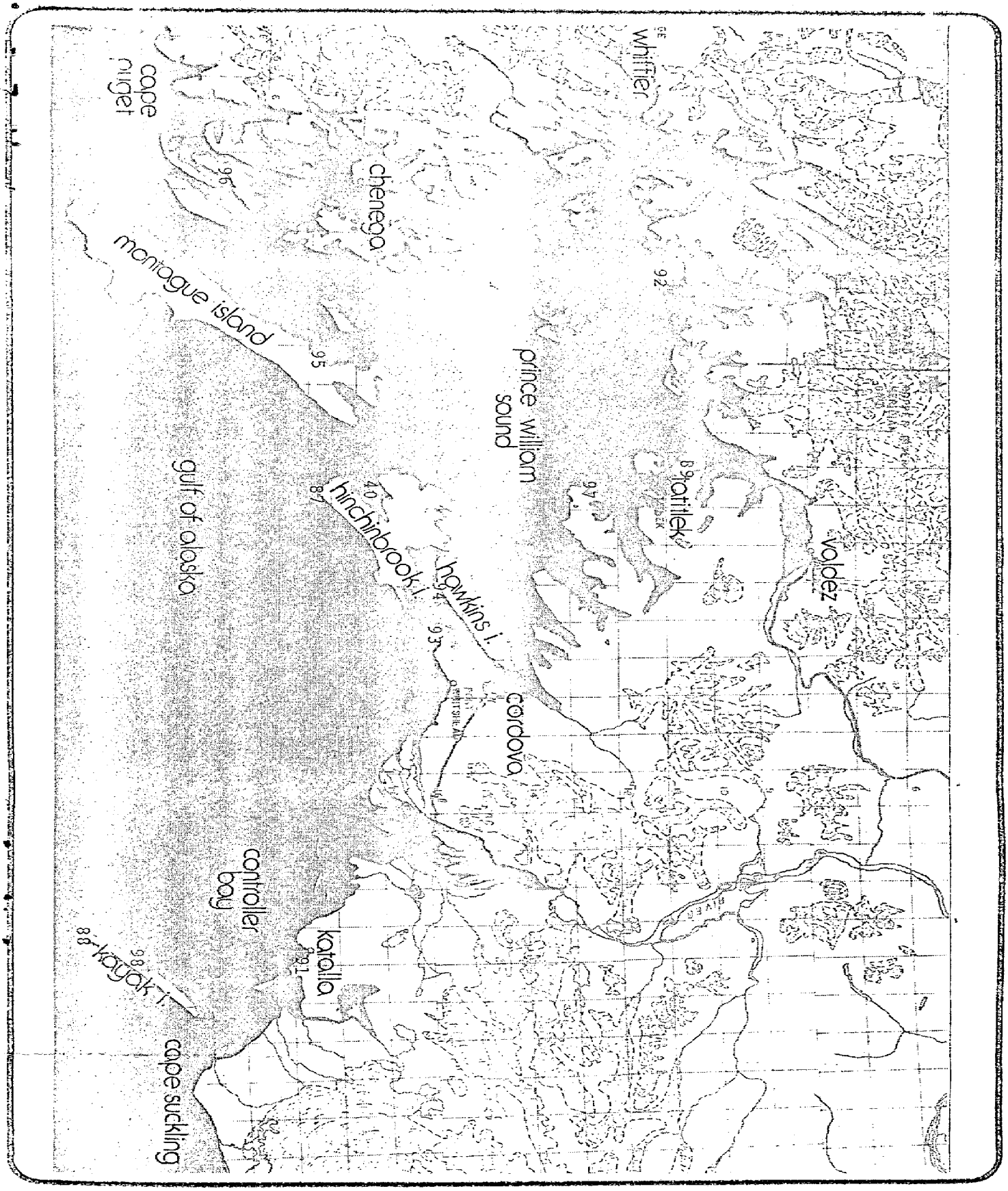

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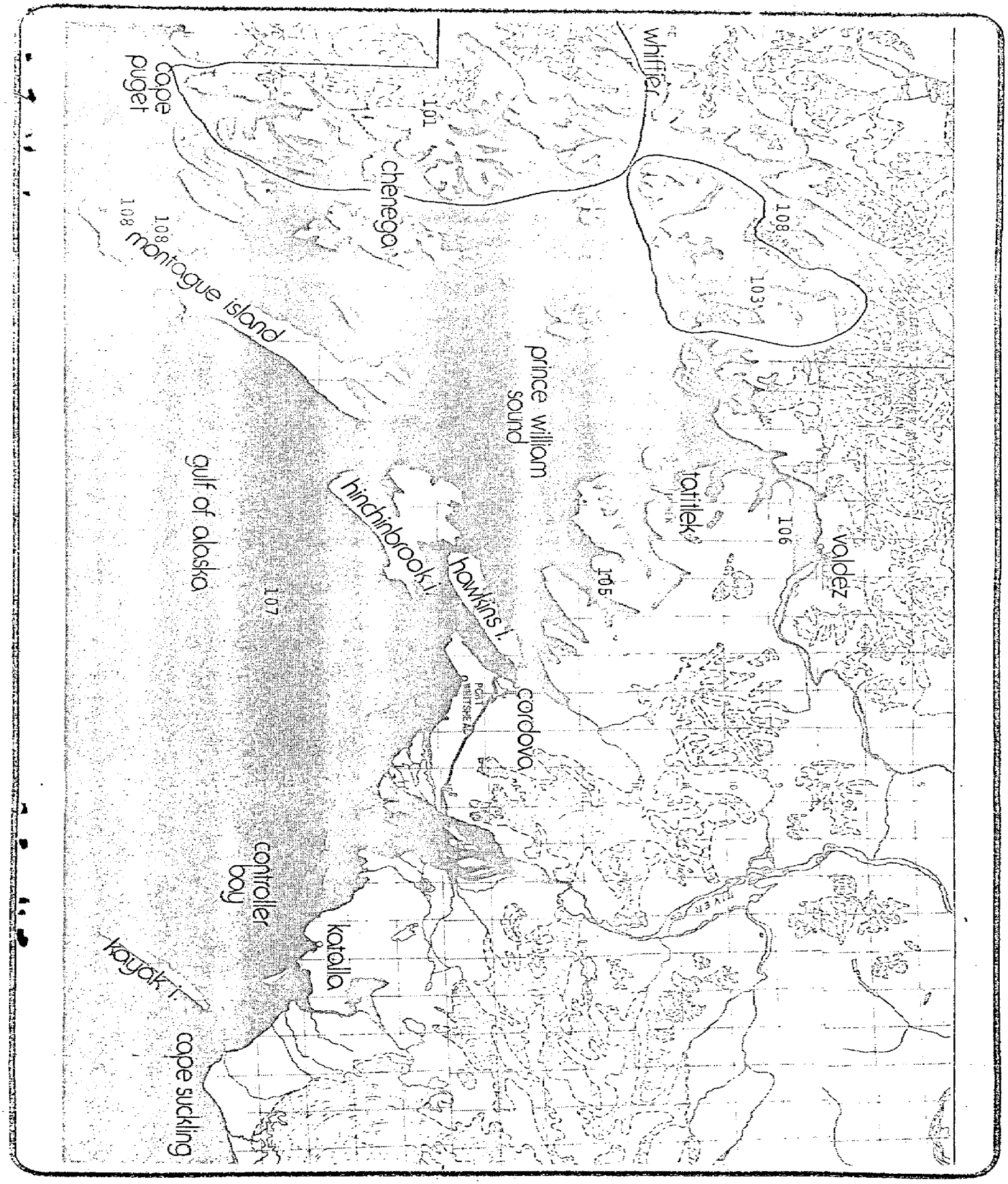

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