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restrictive environmental and regulatory policies, however, have prevented development of the resource.

Other deposits of oil, gas, and coal in southcentral Alaska and elsewhere appear to be more feasible to develop in the near future.

In summary, the potential metallic mineral production is considered medium high. The potential for gas, oil, and coal development is high. During the preparation of the Chugach Land Management Plan, these potential resource values will be assessed and analyzed against other resource values. Withdrawal of this area from mineral entry pending completion of the Chugach Land Management Plan or Congressional action would delay, but not otherwise adversely affect, the utilization of these resources.

### 3. Present Users

Recreation is an important use of the area. But the remoteness of many areas preclude visitation by large numbers of people as compared to the Kenai Peninsula. It was estimated that 29,700 recreation visitor days were spent last year in the withdrawn area. Motorboat and aircraft provide access to unroaded areas. Mineral prospecting on a limited basis is being carried out but data on the extent of this prospecting are not available. Existing valid claims would not be affected by the proposed uses. Within the proposed withdrawal the Forest Service maintains four recreation cabins for public use. A potential of six cabin sites have been identified within the proposed withdrawal area.

Hunting and fishing are important uses of much of the area. The Copper River Highway which bisects the western portion of this area provides access for big game hunting. Fifteen licensed guides and outfitters use the Copper River Delta area for hunting, fishing, and other recreation activities. The Copper River Delta is one of the primary wetland breeding grounds in the State for populations of ducks, geese, whistling, and trumpeter swans. Bird watching and hunting is rapidly increasing in popularity.

The commercial forest land in this withdrawal area is included in the Chugach National Forest timber harvest schedule. A withdrawal will preclude harvesting. Thus the total amount of timber available for commercial use will be reduced for the period of the withdrawal.

There are also a number of special use permit holders and private landowners who use the resources of this area. There has been logging and prospecting in the recent past and so those employed in those industries have used this area. Local citizens from Cordova also use the natural resources of this area for subsistence food gathering.

Future timber harvest and prospecting for minerals would not be permitted during a continued withdrawal; all other present uses would be allowed until such time as Congress gives specific management direction or until the Chugach Land Management Plan is completed.

#### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to classification as "Further Planning" during the RARE II process, timber harvest, mineral location, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, wildlife, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes were proposed and some planned. The State of Alaska made selections near Cordova. These were approved by the Forest Service. Since applications for these selections were received prior to the 204(b) withdrawal, we assume these are valid existing rights. Other community development centers may be proposed in the future. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal. All potential uses will be given full consideration during the preparation of the Chugach Land Management Plan. The impacts of the delay on proposed activities is considered acceptable in view of the values present within this unit.

There are a number of special use permits in the area. These would not be in conflict with the withdrawal and would not be terminated. However, if upon classification as wilderness, Congress makes no special provisions for such uses, the permits could be terminated or put on tenure at that time.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

This unit was designated for "Further Planning" during the RARE II process. It has known wilderness and wildlife values as well as possibly significant mineral potential. All resource values will be analyzed during the preparation of the Chugach Land Management Plan, and foreseeable conflicts resolved. The 204(c) withdrawal is consistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitable Alternatives

As noted above, final land allocation of the land and its uses has not been made. It has not been determined what uses will be displaced. The availability of suitable alternative sites will be fully analyzed during the preparation of the Chugach Land Management Plan. The availability of suitable alternative sites would in fact be of prime importance in determining the final land allocation.

## 7. Consultation

The RARE II process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS. The current "Further Planning" classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Additional public input will be received during the Chugach land use management planning process as well as the Regional planning effort. Hearings are planned to meet specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Copper River unit was classified as "Further Planning" during the RARE II process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impacts of a continued 5-year withdrawal would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The timber potential in this unit is relatively low and would not contribute to the current local and regional economy. If the wilderness and wildlife values subsequently indicate this area for wilderness classification, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreational visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Chugach National Forest  
2221 E. Northern Lights Boulevard  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

This section of the Forest spans two geologic provinces. The areas west of the Copper River, north of the Martin River, and the Ragged Mountains consist of interbedded marine clastic and mafic volcanic rocks belonging to the Orca Group, locally cut by granitic plutons collectively characteristic of the Chugach Mountain Geosyncline province. Younger rocks exposed in the Katalla-Bering River region belong to the Gulf of Alaska Tertiary province deposited in the Yataga Geosyncline, and consist mostly of interbedded shallow water, hydrocarbon bearing, and marine and nonmarine clastic sediments.

The geological substrate of the western Copper River subarea is of Holocene-Recent origin (about 10,000 BP). Near the mountains, glacial outwash plains, and river floodplains the material is gravelly to rocky. The borders of the Copper River and the many islands in the estuary and river channel are sandy, as are the offshore barrier islands. The substrate of the tidal flats and the marshlands is predominantly fine grained (silty), horizontally bedded material. Substrates in the upper Copper River subarea are predominantly coarse grained, alluvial, or aeolian materials (Reimnitz and Marshall, 1971).

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

TONKI CAPE

SIZE: 42,000 acres

LOCATION: Afognak Island, 35 miles north of Kodiak, Alaska

MANAGEMENT AREA: 019

RARE II DESIGNATION: Recommended Wilderness

TONKI CAPEDescription

This unit of 42,000 acres is on the east side of Afognak Island about 35 air miles north of Kodiak, Alaska. Access is by boat or air.

About one-half of the land area on Afognak Island consists of rolling lowlands covered with mature stands of Sitka spruce. Understory vegetation consists of devils club, salmonberry, alder, ferns, and mosses. Along many of the stream courses and at elevations above 800 feet the vegetative cover is composed of a mixture of grasses, forbs, and brush.

The uplands, while steep, are not necessarily rugged. The lowlands are dotted by numerous ponds and lakes.

Coves and sheltered anchorages are limited. The climate is moderate, but cool by most standards. January temperatures average 30°F; July temperatures average 54°F.

A major portion of Afognak Island has been selected by Native corporations under terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

This unit has a "Wilderness Recommendation" classification as a result of the RARE II process.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with RARE II "Wilderness Recommendation" classification, the proposed use of this 42,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Tonki Cape unit has the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southcentral Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility, and wild character. These resources and their current use are described on below.

### Recreation

Hunting and fishing is the primary recreation use of this unit.

Besides Alaska brown bear, which grow to record size here, Afognak has the only elk herds in Alaska. Roosevelt elk, which were introduced to the island from Washington's Olympic Peninsula in 1929, now number over 750 animals from the original transfer of eight. Habitat conditions are so favorable that these elk have grown to be some of the largest in the world, weighing more than a thousand pounds, field dressed. Other game found on the island are deer, rabbits, fox, grouse, ptarmigan, and waterfowl.

Trout and salmon fishing opportunities rate as excellent in several lakes and streams.

The inaccessibility and remoteness of the area limits use for other recreation purposes.

Recreational activities will not be adversely impacted by the withdrawal or proposed use.

### Wildlife and Fish

Wildlife and fish values are relatively high on this unit. Big game species include bear, elk, deer, a wide variety of furbearers, and small game. Fish species include pink, silver, chum, and king salmon, as well as Dolly Varden, steelhead, and rainbow trout.

Limited habitat improvement opportunities are present although no formal surveys have been conducted to identify any specific projects or locations.

The withdrawal and proposed use of this area is consistent with the protection and use of both the fish and wildlife and their habitat.

### Timber

Although there are about 9,500 acres of commercial forest land in this management unit, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination and other factors, the area was identified during the RARE II process to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Timber value for all recommended wilderness areas was considered and the cumulative affect on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable. The value of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of the region.

### Minerals

Afognak Island is largely unexplored but does contain two known occurrences of gold-quartz veins. Limited quantities of gold was produced prior to World War II, but no known mining activity has taken place since then. The area is believed to be geologically favorable for the occurrence of tungsten, copper, and chromite. The history of mining and prospecting in this area, however, is of such low quantity that it is reasonable to conclude that the low opportunity to prospect and mine in the future will have virtually no impact on the economy of the region.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or adversely impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

As described in point 2, the primary users of this unit are hunters and fishermen, and before the 204(b) withdrawal, a few prospectors. Except for the prospectors, there will be no affect on other users. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of other users by preserving the area as nearly total wilderness.

### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to the classification as a "Wilderness Recommendation" in the RARE II process, timber harvest, mineral loc.tion, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive values, were proposed or planned. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and wilderness recommendations. The impacts of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable during the RARE II evaluation.

### 5. Specific Use Requirements

This area is a wilderness recommendation area. After classification, an appropriate wilderness plan will be prepared. Fish habitat improvement project opportunities are present and if proposed would be compatible with wilderness management. This use is compatible with the requirements of wilderness management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

## 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although like other areas in many respects, it has its own character and no similar area can be found among the islands in the Gulf of Alaska.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community development.

## 7. Consultation

The RARE II process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS. The current "Wilderness Recommendation" classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Additional public input will be received during the Cnugach land use management planning process as well as the Regional planning effort. Hearings are planned to meet specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Tonki Cape unit was classified as "Wilderness Recommendation" during the RARE II process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impacts of a continued 5-year withdrawal would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The timber potential in this unit is relatively low and does not contribute to the current local and regional economy. If classified wilderness, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreational visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Chugach National Forest  
2221 E. Northern Lights Boulevard  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

Afognak Island consists of two distinctive belts of northeasterly striking rocks separated by the Border Ranges Fault. The section northwest of the fault is composed of Upper Paleozoic and Mesozoic metasediments locally intruded by Jurassic granitic plutons. The remainder of the island is underlain by Upper Cretaceous to lower tertiary metasediments of the Valdez Group.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

DEVIL PAW

SIZE: 55,000 acres

LOCATION: 40 airmiles north of Kodiak, Alaska

MANAGEMENT AREA: 020

RARE II DESIGNATION: Recommended wilderness

DEVIL PAWDescription

This unit of 55,000 acres is on the north side of Afognak Island about 40 air miles north of Kodiak, Alaska. Access is by boat or air.

About one-half of the land area on Afognak Island consists of rolling lowlands covered with mature stands of Sitka spruce. Understory vegetation consists of devils club, salmonberry, alder, ferns, and mosses. Along many of the stream courses and at elevations above 800 feet the vegetative cover is composed of a mixture of grasses, forbs, and brush.

The uplands, while steep, are not necessarily rugged. The lowlands are dotted by numerous ponds and lakes.

Coves and sheltered anchorages are limited. The climate is moderate, but cool by most standards. January temperatures average 30°F; July temperatures average 54°F.

A major portion of Afognak Island has been selected by Native corporations under terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

This unit has a "Wilderness Recommendation" classification as a result of the RARE II process.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with RARE II "Wilderness Recommendation" classification, the proposed use of this 55,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Devil Paw unit has the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southcentral Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility, and wild character. These resources and their current use are described on the next page.

## Recreation

Hunting and fishing is the primary recreation use of this unit.

Besides Alaska brown bear, which grow to record size here, Afognak has the only elk herds in Alaska. Roosevelt elk, which were introduced to the island from Washington's Olympic Peninsula in 1929, now number over 750 animals from the original transfer of eight. Habitat conditions are so favorable that these elk have grown to be some of the largest in the world, weighing more than a thousand pounds, field dressed. Other game found on the island are deer, rabbits, fox, grouse, ptarmigan, and waterfowl.

Trout and salmon fishing opportunities rate as outstanding in several lakes and streams.

The inaccessibility and remoteness of the area limits use for other recreation purposes.

Recreational activities will not be adversely impacted by the withdrawal or proposed use.

## Wildlife and Fish

Wildlife and fish values are relatively high on this unit. Big game species include bear, elk, deer, a wide variety of furbearers, and small game. Fish species include pink, silver, chum, and king salmon, as well as Dolly Varden, steelhead, and rainbow trout.

Limited habitat improvement opportunities are present although no formal surveys have been conducted to identify any specific projects or locations.

The withdrawal and proposed use of this area is consistent with the protection and use of both the fish and wildlife and their habitat.

## Timber

Although there are about 30,900 acres of commercial forest land in this 55,000 acre management unit, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination and other factors, the area was identified during the RARE II process to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Timber value for all recommended wilderness areas was considered and the cumulative affect on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable. The value of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of the region.

### Minerals

Afognak Island is largely unexplored but does contain two known occurrences of gold-quartz veins. Limited quantities of gold was produced prior to World War II, but no known mining activity has taken place since then. The area is believed to be geologically favorable for the occurrence of tungsten, copper, and chromite. The history of mining and prospecting in this area, however, is of such low quantity that it is reasonable to conclude that the low opportunity to prospect and mine in the future will have virtually no impact on the economy of the region.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or adversely impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

As described in point 2, the primary users of this unit are hunters and fishermen, and before the 204(b) withdrawal, a few prospectors. Except for the prospectors, there will be no affect on other users. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of other users by preserving the area as nearly total wilderness.

### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to the classification as a "Wilderness Recommendation" in the RARE II process, timber harvest, mineral location, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive values, were proposed or planned. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and wilderness recommendations. The impacts of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable during the RARE II evaluation.

### 5. Specific Use Requirements

This area is a wilderness recommendation area. After classification, an appropriate wilderness plan will be prepared. Fish habitat improvement project opportunities are present and if proposed would be compatible with wilderness management. This use is compatible with the requirements of wilderness management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

## 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although like other areas in many respects, it has its own character and no similar area can be found among the islands in the Gulf of Alaska.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community development.

## 7. Consultation

The RARE II process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS. The current "Wilderness Recommendation" classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Additional public input will be received during the Chugach land use management planning process as well as the Regional planning effort. Hearings are planned to meet specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Devil Paw unit was classified as "Wilderness Recommendation" during the RARE II process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impacts of a continued 5-year withdrawal would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The timber potential in this unit is relatively low and does not contribute to the current local and regional economy. If classified wilderness, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreational visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Chugach National Forest  
2221 E. Northern Lights Boulevard  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

12. Geology Report

Afognak Island consists of two distinctive belts of northeasterly striking rocks separated by the Border Ranges Fault. The section northwest of the fault is composed of Upper Paleozoic and Mesozoic metasediments locally intruded by Jurassic granitic plutons. The remainder of the island is underlain by Upper Cretaceous to lower tertiary metasediments of the Valdez Group.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

SOUTH BARANOF

SIZE: 314,000 acres

LOCATION: South Baranof Island

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, C-49

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

SOUTH BARANOFDescription

Baranof Island, on which the subject area is situated, is located in the northern portion of the Alexander Archipelago, a long string of islands that make up the island portion of southeastern Alaska. Baranof Island is joined with Admiralty and Chichagof Islands as the Admiralty, Baranof, Chichagof, physiographic region. This unit is approximately 314,000 acres in size.

South Baranof is an area of high mountains rising at sea level to approximately 4,000 feet elevation within 2 or 3 miles from the beach. The highest point in the area is Mt. Ada, elevation 4,528 feet. A large percentage of the higher elevations are covered with permanent snowfields and innumerable active glaciers. Valleys are typically glaciated U-shaped, and contain many cirques and hanging valley lakes, with waterfalls near the coast. These valleys contained glaciers extending to the coast during the most recent period of glaciation. Most of the valleys empty into the head of deep fiords which extend several miles inland from the outside coast. Generally, timberline is approximately 2,000 feet above sea level. Portions of the subject area receive some of the highest rainfall in southeastern Alaska. A weather station located at Little Port Walter on the east coast of Baranof Island immediately south of the subject area has recorded yearly precipitation of well over 200 inches a year, mostly in the form of rain. It is management unit C-49 on the TLMP map.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 314,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The South Baranof unit has the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southeast Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility, and wild

character, particularly on the Gulf of Alaska side. These resources and their current use are described below.

### Recreation

This area receives moderate deer and goat hunting pressure by Sitka residents and also offshore commercial fishermen who hole up in the many sheltered bays and coves along the west and east coasts. The west coast of the area is cut by offshore islands and inland piercing fiords. Sheltered waterways provide small boat access from Sitka as far south as Necker Bay; from this point southward, boat travel requires negotiating exposed outside waters. There are five public recreation cabins located on alpine lakes accessible by float plane only.

High coastal mountains and deep fiords penetrating into the island land mass contrasting with the open Pacific Ocean provide the most unique quality of this area.

### Wildlife and Fish

Brown bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, furbearers, land and shore birds, and bald eagles inhabit the area. Many species of waterfowl migrate along the coastline of the unit with a few species wintering in the estuarine and stream course wetland areas.

Some of Baranof's major steelhead producing lakes and streams are found in this unit. Coho, sockeye, pink and chum salmon, cutthroat and rainbow trout, and Dolly Varden char occur in some of the lakes and streams. Salmon escapement is estimated at as much as 150,000. The most notable shellfish and marine fish species are Dungeness and Tanner crab, shrimp, herring, and halibut.

Sport, commercial, and estuarine fishery values are rated high by considering number of species, abundance, habitat condition, sport and commercial fisheries, and several other special values which are associated with certain watersheds.

Most use of the fishery resource is commercial although the lakes in the unit support a good trout and char fishery and are popular with local Sitka residents.

### Timber

Although there are 49,921 acres of commercial forest land, with some 13,833 acres operable in this unit by today's standards, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD I to be recommended as and managed for wilderness.

Since only LUD 1 classified areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative effects of LUD 1 on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

This unit is included in the Alaska Lumber and Pulp Company long-term timber sale contract. For the reason described above, however, no harvest activities are planned in this area.

### Minerals

The history of mining and prospecting in this area is of such low quantity that one cannot but conclude that loss of opportunity to prospect and mine in the future will have no significant impact on the economy of southeast Alaska.

Those claimants who have held on to their claims over the years by doing only necessary assessment work, and not aggressively developing their discoveries, will now find that their claims may be determined invalid. Validity is determined by analysis of the production costs versus the value of the mineral. If the mine cannot be operated at a profit, the claim is not valid. This, then, is an adverse impact on a few individuals; but, the economic impact would generally be minor even at the community level. Prospectors with valid claims would be permitted to develop their deposits.

In summary, this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, unreasonably impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

As described under point 2 of the 12 points, the primary users of the South Baranof unit are commercial fishermen, sport fishermen, hunters, beachcombers, and before withdrawal under 204(b), a few prospectors. Except for prospectors, there will be no effect on the other users listed above. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of these users by preserving the status quo; that being a state of nearly total wilderness.

One exception does exist. The Tlingit-Haida Central Council, a Native group administering the funds paid to the Natives of southeast Alaska for the taking of the Tongass National Forest, have applied for and received a permit for installation of a fish hatchery in Sandy Bay on the west coast of this unit. The permit was issued in 1977 prior to the completion of TLMP or the 204(b) withdrawal. To date no work has been done on the ground except preliminary engineering. Although this project

may be considered inconsistent with the LUD I classification of the area, the permit could be considered a valid existing right. Upon formal classification of a wilderness for this area, an enclave should be provided to permit completion of this project under terms of their permit. With this provision, no adverse impact on this user group is anticipated.

#### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

As described in point 3 above, the only anticipated conflict lies with the hatchery permit in Sandy Bay. The 204(c) withdrawal action itself will have no impact on this project since it was authorized prior to the 204(b) withdrawal.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD I) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects are also planned but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible to the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and, in any case, more strategic locations for power sources do exist in the Panhandle.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

#### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the South Baranof unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this area were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Chatham Area, Tongass National Forest  
P.O. Box 1980  
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

Southeastern Alaska is a subprovince of the Western Cordillera Tectonic belt. The principle features of this province are the Coast Range Batholith and the outlining subsidiary intrusives. The batholith is complex consisting of a variety of igneous rocks of various ages.

Marine sediments and volcanics deposited in Paleozoic and Mesozoic eugeosynclines on the western side of the orogenic belt formed thick

sequences totaling possibly 50,000 feet. The oldest dated rocks are Ordovician and Early Silurian (Bres, Loney, and Muffler, 1966).

The South Baranof area is largely early Cretaceous and late Jurassic slates, graywacke, conglomerate, and limestone intruded by a large granitic batholith of Cretaceous age (Southeast Alaska Profiles).

Chromite occurs on Baranof Island in several serpentinized ultra mafic masses in contact with metamorphosed sedimentary and volcanic rocks. The largest lode is at Red Bluff Bay, where chromite bearing rocks underlie a 1 1/2 square mile area north and east of the bay and crop out on several small islands. Of the eight deposits known to exist at Red Bluff Bay, five contain a total of 570+ tons of material averaging more than 40% chromite. The other three deposits aggregate 29,000 ± tons of rock carrying 18% to 35% chromite.

There could be potential for the development and commercial utilization of geothermal energy resources within this area; however, no assessment has been made at the present time. There are over 40 active volcanoes and many thermal springs in Alaska, but, no specific projects have been suggested to date for generating electric power at geothermal sites in Alaska. No thermal springs are known to exist within this unit.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

SOUTH PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND

SIZE: 97,000 acres

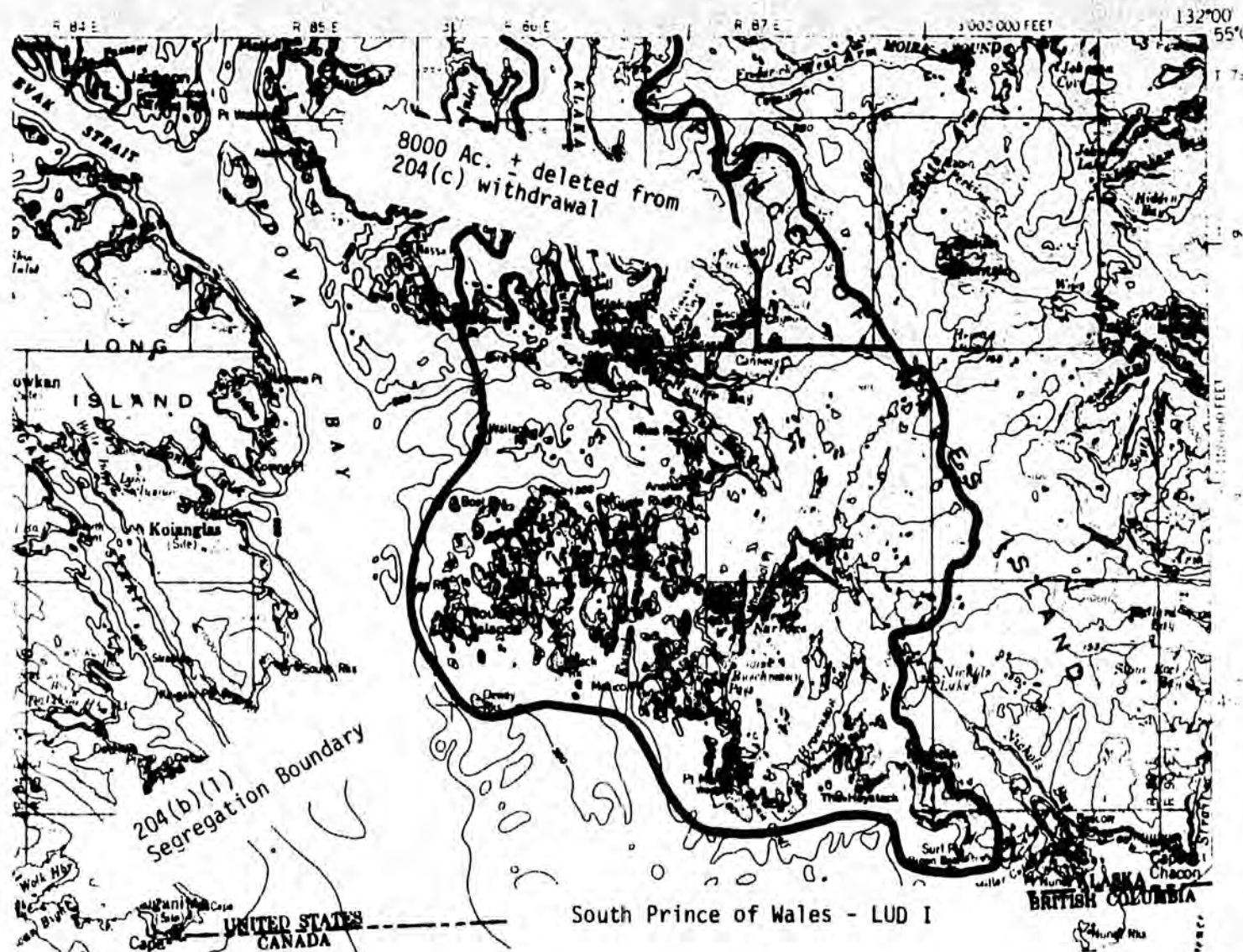
LOCATION: Prince of Wales Island

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, K-27

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

# SECTION 204 (b) WITHDRAWALS

ALASKA - CANADA  
TOPOGRAPHIC SER



This unit is a LUD I of 97,000 acres as prescribed by TLMP. The LUD boundary and the 204(b)(1) application originally described included a substantial number of uranium claims, quite possibly covering an extension of the Bokan Mountain deposit, that was overlooked at the time of the recommended withdrawal. Due to the energy related nature of these claims, this report proposes a modification of the boundary to recognize the mineral values of this Area. If classified under the Wilderness Act as proposed by TLMP, the entire 97,000 acre South Prince of Wales unit will be withdrawn from entry under the mining laws. The 8,000 acres deleted from the 204(b)(1) segregation should remain open for exploration at least until the statutory withdrawal date of December 31, 1983. By that date, the extent and value of the deposits should be known and valid discoveries, if any, established.

The 8,000 acres left open for entry would continue to be managed as all LUD I's on the Tongass, that is, for its wilderness values. Since there are no communities within this area, nor is it suitable for community development or expansion, it is unlikely that the State would select any portion of this area. Further, it is even less likely that any such selection, if made, would meet the selection criteria of the Statehood Act.

SOUTH PRINCE OF WALESDescription

The unit is at the southern tip of Prince of Wales Island approximately 40 air miles southwest of Ketchikan, Alaska. It lies to the east of Cordova Bay in the area known as Dixon Entrance.

Diversity of landforms contribute to its unique character.

The southern Barrier Islands are in Cordova Bay on the west side and near the south end of the unit. The group is composed of about 75 small islands and innumerable smaller rocks. The islands range in size from a few acres to over 500 acres. They are open to the south, and ocean storms sweep in with unbroken force. The trees are stunted and wind formed.

The ocean influenced tidal community provides these islands with an outstanding recreation attraction. Abalone, giant barnacles, clams, large mussels, octopus, sea urchins, sea anemones, and starfish are some of the more common life forms found in the rich tidal zone. Sea otter have been transplanted to the area and are doing well. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game reports this unit as one of the better sea otter habitats in southeast Alaska. Other wildlife common to the unit are the sea birds and sea mammals.

Terrain on the main island is of quite different character. The southeastern part is low elevation undulating topography broken by numerous streams, lakes, bays, and wetlands. Klakas Inlet in contrast is a 12-mile long arm of Cordova Bay. It is 1/2 to 3/4 mile wide with the land mass rising sharply from sea level to one or two thousand feet.

Vegetation on the unit is highly variable due to the highly variable character of the unit.

The area is 97,000 acres in size.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 97,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a

decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

## 2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The South Prince of Wales unit has the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southeast Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility, and wild character, particularly in the area near the open sea at Dixon Entrance. These resources and their current use are described below.

### Recreation

Recreation use of the unit is very light. Access is by float plane and boat. Small boat access is typically limited to the summer months because open waters in Dixon Entrance can be hazardous. Commercial fishermen use the many bays and coves as shelter during rough weather and go ashore occasionally for a break from the fishing routine.

### Wildlife and Fish

Wildlife values are rated relatively high in this unit. Black bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, furbearers, land and shore birds, and bald eagles inhabit the area. Many species of waterfowl migrate along the coastline of the unit with a few species nesting in the estuarine and stream course wetland areas.

Coho, sockeye, pink and chum salmon, cutthroat and rainbow trout, and Dolly Varden char occur in some of the lakes and streams. The most notable shellfish and marine fish species are Dungeness and Tanner crab, shrimp, herring, and halibut.

Sport, commercial, and estuarine fishery values are rated high by considering number of species, abundance, habitat condition, sport and commercial fisheries, and several other special values which are associated with certain watersheds.

Most use of the fishery resource is commercial although the lakes in the unit support a good trout and char fishery.

The area shows a high potential for fish enhancement. Presently, about 2,520 acres of lake rearing improvement has been identified.

### Timber

Although there are 97,000 acres of commercial forest land with some 11,600 acres operable in this unit by today's standards, the values

associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD I to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Since only LUD I classification areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative effects of LUD I on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

### Minerals

Lode deposits consisting of quartz veins containing irregular bunches of magnetite, chalcocopyrite, and pyrite were discovered near Tah and Hunter Bays. Some exploration work has been done but is insufficient to determine size and grade. Some claims have been located for uranium near the eastern boundary of this withdrawal. The Bokan mine on Bokan Mountain outside of the unit to the northeast has produced approximately 100,000 tons of  $U_3O_8$  ore averaging about 0.8%.

Prospectors over the years have located several hundred mining claims in this unit. Those claimants who have held on to their claims over the years by doing only necessary assessment work, and not aggressively developing their discoveries, will now find that their claims may be determined invalid. Validity is determined by analysis of the production costs versus the value of the mineral. If the mine cannot be operated at a profit, the claim is not valid. This, then, is an adverse impact on a few individuals; but, the economic impact would generally be minor even at the community level. Prospectors with valid claims would be permitted to develop their deposits.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, unreasonably impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

As described under point 2 of the 12 points, the primary users of the South Prince of Wales unit are commercial fishermen, with lesser use by sport fishermen, hunters, beachcombers, and before withdrawal under 204(b), a few prospectors. Except for prospectors, there will be no effect on the other users listed above. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of these users by preserving the status quo; that being a state of nearly total wilderness.

#### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to classification as LUD I in TLMP, timber harvest, mineral location, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes were proposed and some planned. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and proposed wilderness classification. The impact of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable in development of TLMP when LUD I classification was agreed upon.

Should commercial quantities of uranium exist on any of the many claims in this area, this proposed use could severely conflict with mineral extraction.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD I) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects are also planned but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible with the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

#### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the South Prince of Wales unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this and other LUD I areas were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Ketchikan Area, Tongass National Forest  
Federal Building  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

Southeastern Alaska is a subprovince of the Western Cordillera Tectonic Belt. The principle features of the province are the Coast Range Batholith and the outlying subsidiary intrusives. The batholite is complex consisting of a variety of igneous rocks of various ages.

Marine sediments and volcanics deposited in Paleozoic and Mesozoic euogeosynclines on the western side of the orogenic belt formed thick sequences totaling possibly 50,000 feet. The oldest dated rocks are Ordovician and Early Silurian (Bres, Loney, and Muffler, 1966).

Deformation and plutonic activity during the Nevadian orogeny have regionally metamorphosed the rocks and created many large-scale faults with lateral movements to more than 50 miles. A conspicuous north-trending linear fault pattern can be seen in many fiords and straits. A number of fault zones contain mineral deposits (Twenhoffel and Sainsbury, 1958). A large vertical fault apparently has controlled the development of the South Arm of Kendrick Bay. Both primary and secondary joints are common. Primary joints, interpreted as being the result of rapid cooling, have localized many of the pegmatite dikes in granite.

Metamorphism on the west side of the Coast Range Batholith has created gneisses which grade westward into the schists, phyllites, and less metamorphosed rocks on the islands of southeastern Alaska. The strike of most of the bedded rocks and the general grain of the major structures is northeastward.

Southeastern Alaska's lode mining has yielded 6.2 million ounces of gold, 3.3 million ounces of silver, 37 million pounds of copper, 48.3 million pounds of lead, 111 thousand pounds of zinc, and 14 thousand pounds of platinum group metals, mainly palladium. Other ores and potential ores are antimony, barite, garnet, iron, molybdenum, titanium, nickel, and tungsten.

In the Bokan Mountain area, copper and gold deposits were staked during the early 1890's at several localities between McLean Arm and Mallard Bay. The Polson and Ichis copper and gold prospects are just south of McLean Arm, 9 miles southeast of the Ross-Adams mine. Ores there are localized in quartz-calcite-barite veins in a series of fault zones. Pyrite, chalcopyrite, hematite, chrysocolla, and traces of bornite and gold have been found. Gold was once produced from auriferous pyrite at the Nelson and Tift mine, a mile west of the mouth of McLean Arm. The ore formed a small lens in calcareous rock that has since been mined out.

Iron claims have been staked in the southern part of Prince of Wales Island where magnetite occurs with hornblende concentrations in diorite and pyroxenite.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

KARTA

SIZE: 49,000 acres

LOCATION: Prince of Wales Island

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, K-16

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

KARTADescription

This unit is located at the head of Kassan Bay, 35 air miles northwest of Ketchikan, Alaska. It is on the east side and near the center of Prince of Wales Island.

Salmon Lake, in the center of the unit, dominates the aspect and receives the waters from McGilvery and Andersen Creeks, and numerous smaller streams. The terrain is relatively steep except for the valley stringers adjacent to the two major streams. The area is circled by peaks and ridges rising to elevations of 2,000 to 3,800 feet.

The unit is about 49,000 acres in size.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 49,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Karta unit has much the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southeast Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility and wild character.

About 7,000 acres around Salmon Lake, Little Salmon Lake (Karta Lake), and the Karta River are subject to power withdrawals PSC 192 and PP 243. No power development is anticipated here, and the 1972 Alaska Power Administration report recommended revocation of PP 243 and that portion of PSC 192 affecting Karta River.

Near Karta Bay 1,540 acres has recently been conveyed to Native corporations under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The resources and their current use are described below:

### Recreation

The Forest Service maintains for public use four cabins in this unit with a recorded 2800-visitor days use. The lower cabin at Karta River is open to use year-round and receives the heaviest use for any public recreation cabin in the Ketchikan area. The unit in general, however, has a May through October season. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has designated Karta River as one of four streams in the Ketchikan area possessing outstanding fishing opportunities. Sports fishing is the major attraction in this unit, but hunting and trapping opportunities are present.

### Wildlife and Fish

Wildlife species native to Prince of Wales Island occur in Karta. Big game species include blacktail deer, black bear, and wolf. There is an abundant supply of furbearers which includes beaver, otter, marten, mink, and weasel. The Vancouver variety of the Canada goose lives year-round in the area. Trumpeter swans are known to winter on major lakes and streams.

As listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, there are no threatened or endangered species in Karta.

The Karta unit contains several productive fish streams. The Karta River is an excellent system, producing all species of Pacific salmon except kings, and all species of trout and char native to the area. It is nationally known for its steelhead fishing. Average annual salmon escapement from the Karta River was 75,600 between 1963 and 1975. Numbers ranged from 6,000 to 272,000. Lakes in the Karta unit are also important as sport fish producers. Salmon and Karta Lakes provide excellent fishing for cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char. They are also utilized as sockeye salmon rearing areas. Karta River is an important subsistence fishery for sockeye salmon.

The unit has a high potential for salmonoid enhancement and one project has been proposed by the State of Alaska.

### Timber

Of the 49,000 acres within this unit, 18,454 acres are considered as operable commercial forest land by today's standards. The values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD 1 to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Since only LUD 1 classified areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative effects of LUD 1 on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

This unit is included in the Ketchikan Pulp Company's long-term timber sale contract. For the reasons described above, however, no harvest activities are planned in this area.

### Minerals

There are about 35 mining claims in the area. In general they occur within or along borders of the igneous intrusions. Most are located south of the Karta River- Anderson Creek area. Precious metals appear to be the object of most claims. Deposits of iron and copper minerals are widespread in the area, although much of it appears not of economic importance. All known mineral deposits of any consequence have claims filed on them. In T. 72 S., R. 83 E., there are about 72 claims, and in T. 73 S., R. 84 E., there are seven claims. Most claims are probably for gold.

The most notable mine in the area is the Flagstaff Mine on the northeast slope of Granite Mountain about 4 miles southwest of Karta Bay. The mine is on a gold-quartz vein, discovered in 1900. The Flagstaff Mining Company constructed a 2-mile truck road from Karta Lake up Flagstaff Creek to an elevation of 510 feet where the mining camp was located, and a 20-ton capacity mill erected. The main tunnel was at the 1400-foot elevation, and a considerable tonnage of ore was mined and sent to the mill over the 1800-foot aerial tramway. The mine ceased operation in 1941.

There is no mineral production in this unit at the present time.

Those claimants who have held on to their claims over the years by doing only necessary assessment work, and not aggressively developing their discoveries, will now find that their claims may be determined invalid. Validity is determined by analysis of the production costs versus the value of the mineral. If the mine cannot be operated at a profit, the claim is not valid. This, then, is an adverse impact on a few individuals, but the economic impact would generally be minor even at the community level. Prospectors with valid claims would be permitted to develop their deposits.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, unreasonably impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

Present users of the unit are typically sports fishermen who fish the lakes and streams, general recreationists visiting the area for its

scenic and historic mining value, and hunters. There are also mineral claimants doing assessment work, and prospectors prior to segregation.

Except for prospectors, there will be no affect on the other users listed above. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of most users by preserving the status quo; that being a state of nearly total wilderness.

#### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to classification as LUD I in TLMP, timber harvest, mineral location, hydro development, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes were proposed and some planned. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and proposed wilderness classification. The impact of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable in development of TLMP when LUD I classification was agreed upon.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD I) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects are also planned but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible to the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and, in any case, more strategic locations for power sources do exist in the Panhandle.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

#### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the

involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

#### 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Karta unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this area were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

#### 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

#### 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

#### 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

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Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

The bedrock of the Karta is a complex mixture of volcanic, metamorphic, and sedimentary formations. Some of these are conglomerates, beccia, graywacke andesite, and slate (Condon, 1961, and Sainsbury, 1961). These have been intruded in places by bodies of diorite and other dioritic rocks. The differing rock types, faulting, and glaciation have influenced some internal and surface drainage features. Glacial landforms now dominate the area, although the more resistant igneous intrusions remain more prominent than the softer sedimentary and metamorphic formations.

Karta contains some of the better prospects for mineral extraction on the Tongass National Forest. These conditions were generated by igneous intrusions mainly in the eastern and southern portions of the unit. Faulting and brecciation that accompanied the intrusive action resulted in faults and shear zones which became channels for ore bearing solutions. These now contain mineral deposits.

Geologic contact zones in Karta have been prospected for a number of years. The first recorded geologic investigations were done in 1901, 1904, and 1905. Mining started about 1906 on the nearby Kasaan Peninsula, and some mines have operated within the Karta River drainage. Most notable is the old Flagstaff Mine near Flagstaff Creek (mentioned earlier). There are other gold-quartz veins on Granite Mountain.

According to available information, there are about 35 mining claims in the unit. They are for both precious and metallic materials and are primarily found in the southern half of the unit. Potential for nonmetallics and fossil fuels is low. According to the Tongass Land Management Plan, the Karta area rates high in mineral value.

There could be potential for the development and commercial utilization of geothermal energy resources within this area, however, no assessment has been made at the present time. There are over 40 active volcanoes and many thermal springs in Alaska, however, no specific projects have been suggested to date for generating electric power at geothermal sites in Alaska. No thermal springs are known to exist within this unit.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORTCORONATION, WARREN, AND MAURELLE ISLANDS

SIZE: 34,000 acres

LOCATION: Northwest of Prince of Wales Island

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, K-12

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

Coronation, Warren, and Maurelle IslandsDescription

This is a group of islands exposed to the winds, surf, and drift of the North Pacific Ocean. The islands and their size are listed below.

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Coronation Island | 19,122 acres |
| Warren Island     | 11,353 acres |
| Maurelle Islands  | 4,424 acres  |

These islands are located about 100 miles northwest of Ketchikan, Alaska.

These are ocean-oriented islands with many beautiful ocean capes, cliffs, and large, sandy, drift covered beaches. Wind formed trees in exposed areas are reminders of the strength of ocean storms. There are many protected coves and passages on the leeward side of the islands, but the outer shorelines offer little refuge. The ocean capes, cliffs, and drift covered beaches present a distinctive wind and water-swept character that is not duplicated on the inside.

Coronation and Warren Islands are prominent features as they rise to nearly 2,000 feet elevation; Maurelle Islands are a group of nearly 30 islands rising less than 400 feet above sea level. In and about this group of islands are numerous rocky shoals adding interest to the view and hazards to boat travelers.

Native burial caves are located in the cliff areas of these islands.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 34,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The islands in this unit have the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southeast Alaska. The recreation and wilderness

attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility, and wild character, particularly on the Gulf of Alaska side. These resources and their current use are described below.

### Recreation

Due to its remoteness, this unit receives very little recreation use. Weather conditions from winter storms in the Gulf of Alaska with associated low visibility and wind conditions limits access to the period of late May to early October.

The more accessible beaches are popular beachcombing areas. Commercial fishing on adjacent outside waters is heavy and the islands are occasionally used by commercial fishermen as a diversion from the routine of work, and as a source of freshwater.

Old trapper and mining cabins occasionally used by recreationists may be found along the islands' coasts. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has a cabin in Egg Harbor on Coronation Island used for administrative purposes.

### Wildlife and Fish

Big game animals are deer, black bear, and wolf. Sea mammals inhabit the waters offshore with seals and sea lions making use of the rocks and shorelines. The cliffs and rocks are important sea bird nesting and resting areas. There are numerous fish producing streams that are significant when considered in total.

Wildlife values of these islands is rated as moderate when compared to other areas of southeast Alaska. Sports and commercial fishing values are rated as moderate to low.

No wildlife or fish enhancement opportunities have been identified.

Utilization of the wildlife and sport fishing resource is low. Commercial fishing values are typical of the adjacent waters in the Gulf of Alaska.

### Timber

Although there are 34,000 acres of commercial forest land with some 3,880 acres operable in this unit by today's standards, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD I to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Since only LUD I classification areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative effects of LUD I on historic harvest levels was considered

acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

### Minerals

Mineral values of the unit are considered moderate.

Lodes containing copper, zinc, and lead were discovered in 1900 where the ore occurred in fault zones in limestone or marble. One hundred (100) tons of ore was shipped to a smelter and apparently this mined out the deposit. Some exploration work occurred in 1976 without success. There are no known active mining claims in this area.

Those claimants who have held on to their claims over the years by doing only necessary assessment work, and not aggressively developing their discoveries, will now find that their claims may be determined invalid. Validity is determined by analysis of the production costs versus the value of the mineral. If the mine cannot be operated at a profit, the claim is not valid. This, then, is an adverse impact on a few individuals; but, the economic impact would generally be minor even at the community level. Prospectors with valid claims would be permitted to develop their deposits.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, unreasonably impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

Present users of this area consist of a few sport hunters and fishermen who fish outside waters and periodically take refuge in the sheltered inlets and bays; recreationists who visit the area to hike, photograph, and enjoy the scenery, and miners doing mineral assessment work.

Under authorization of a special use permit, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game maintains a cabin for administrative purposes.

Future timber harvest and prospecting for minerals would not be permitted during a continued withdrawal; all other present uses would be allowed until such time as Congress gives specific management direction.

### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to classification as LUD I in TLMP, timber harvest, mineral location, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes were proposed and some planned. These and similar uses

inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and proposed wilderness classification. The impact of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable in development of TLMP when LUD I classification was agreed upon.

There is one special use permit in the area. This would not be in conflict with the withdrawal and would not be terminated. However, if upon classification as wilderness, Congress makes no special provisions for such uses, the permit could be terminated or put on tenure at that time.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD I) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects may be possible but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible with the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

#### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

#### 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Coronation, Warren, and Maurelle unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be

minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this and other LUD I areas were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

#### 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

#### 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

#### 11. Location of Records

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Juneau, Alaska 99802

#### 12. Geology Report

Geology and mineralization of the area is not well known. The unit is within a formation generally considered to be highly favorable to metallic and related nonmetallic deposits. Little work has been done specifically on the unit to quantify mineralization. It has known deposits of copper, lead, and zinc that are apparently not economically minable. Outside the unit within 50 miles are known deposits of molybdenum, gold, silver, and cobalt. Two known geothermal sites are within 40 miles of the Maurelle Islands.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

ETOLIN ISLAND

SIZE: 82,000 acres

LOCATION: Northeast of Prince of Wales Island

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

ETOLIN ISLANDDescription

The area is located on the southern end of Etolin Island on the Tongass National Forest about 50 miles north and slightly west of Ketchikan, Alaska. The major land mass of the withdrawal is Etolin Island and several smaller islands. The area has numerous bays and passes which subdivide the area. This unit is approximately 82,000 acres in size. Etolin Island is an interior island adjacent to Clarence Strait, a major waterway in southeast Alaska. To the west is Prince of Wales Island and then the sea. To the east is Wrangell Island and the Cleveland Peninsula (mainland).

Vegetation cover is typical of southeast Alaska with the hemlock-spruce forests at sea level blending into alpine at the 1,500 foot level. The area has numerous higher elevation lakes and a sizable alpine area on the northern end of the withdrawal area. Topography beginning at sea level is relatively flat rising gradually to about 400 feet where it then rises sharply to numerous ridges and peaks of 2,500 to 3,000 feet elevation.

204(c)(2) 12 Points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 82,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Etolin Island unit has the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southeast Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility, and wild character. The contrast between the unit's relatively flat lower elevation with abrupt rising slopes in the background provides additional character to the unit. The resources and their current use are described below.

### Recreation

Recreation use of the area is very low. The unit is situated midway between Wrangell and Ketchikan, Alaska, with access by boat or aircraft. Weather conditions typically limit use to the summer months. Commercial fishermen occasionally put ashore to break the routine of fishing. Deer hunting is currently closed due to low deer numbers. Hunting for other species is sporadic due to the convenience of hunting areas closer to population centers.

### Wildlife and Fish

Wildlife values are considered moderate when compared with other areas in southeast Alaska. Black bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, furbearers, land and shore birds, and bald eagles inhabit the area. Many species of waterfowl migrate along the coastline of the unit with a few species nesting in the estuarine and stream course wetland areas.

Coho, sockeye, pink and chum salmon, cutthroat and rainbow trout, and Dolly Varden char occur in some of the lakes and streams. The most notable shellfish and marine fish species are Dungeness and Tanner crab, shrimp, herring, and halibut.

There are existing fish passage structures in the area and more are proposed. Opportunities exist for improving the lake habitat by such activities as lake fertilization and modification of lake outlets.

Sport, commercial, and estuarine fishery values are rated moderately high by considering number of species, abundance, habitat condition, sport and commercial fisheries, and several other special values which are associated with certain watersheds.

Most use of the fishery resource in adjacent waters is commercial although the lakes in the unit support a good trout and char fishery. The sports fishery resource is used very little because of the remoteness of the unit.

### Timber

Although there are 24,000 acres of operable commercial forest land in this unit, by today's standards, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD I to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Since only LUD I classification areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative effects of LUD I on historic harvest levels were considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

### Minerals

One known mineral claim is within the area. The geology report, point 12, describes in detail the mineralization of this unit. However, the history of mining and prospecting in this area is of such low quantity that one cannot but conclude that loss of opportunity to prospect and mine in the future will have virtually no impact on the economy of southeast Alaska.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, adversely impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

The primary users of the Etolin Island unit are commercial fishermen. Lesser use of the area is by sport fishermen, hunters, beachcombers, and before withdrawal under 204(b), a few prospectors. Except for prospectors, there will be no effect on the other users listed above. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of these users by preserving the status quo; that being a state of nearly total wilderness.

### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to classification as LUD 1 in TLMP, timber harvest, mineral location, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes were proposed and some planned. The State of Alaska made a selection at McHenry Anchorage. This was disapproved by the Forest Service; other community development centers may be proposed in the future. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and proposed wilderness classification. The impact of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable in development of TLMP when LUD 1 classification was agreed upon.

### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD 1) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects are also planned but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible with the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

## 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and, in any case, more strategic locations for power sources do exist in the Panhandle.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

## 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Etolin Island unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this and other LUD I areas were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Stikine Area, Tongass National Forest  
P.O. Box 309  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

This unit has one known mining claim. The geologic formation is rated as highly favorable for metallic and related nonmetallic minerals. No records are available specifically for this area to indicate sufficient quantities and qualities of minerals to prove economic value.

Although the unit does not have deposits known to be of economic value, it is within the Petersburg mining district which has produced 25,000 ounces of gold and some silver. Known, but not economically proven, deposits of copper, lead, chromite, platinum, and molybdenite are also within the Petersburg mining district.

There could be potential for the development and commercial utilization of geothermal energy resources within this area, however, no assessment has been made at the present time. There are over 40 active volcanoes and many thermal springs in Alaska, however, no specific projects have been suggested to date for generating electric power at geothermal sites in Alaska. No thermal springs are known to exist within this unit.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

TEBENKOF BAY

SIZE: 65,000 acres

LOCATION:

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

TEBENKOF BAYDescription

The Tebenkof area is located almost in the center of the Tongass National Forest on the west side of Kuiu Island approximately 50 miles west of Petersburg, Alaska. The boundary is along the central divide of Kuiu Island and includes all of the watersheds which drain westward into Elena, Petrof, and Theitis Bays which are subdivisions of the larger entity called Tebenkof Bay. Chatham Strait is located westward of Tebenkof Bay. The land area of this unit is approximately 65,000 acres.

The bays are dotted with both large and small islands with peninsulas and points extending out of the major land mass of Kuiu Island.

Vegetative cover is typical of southeast Alaska with the hemlock-spruce forests at sea level blending into alpine at the 1,500 foot elevation level. The area has muskegs, small lakes, and an abundance of small and large creeks draining the area.

204(c)(2) 12 Points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD 1 designation, the proposed use of this 65,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Tebenkof Bay unit has the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southeast Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility, and wild character. These resources and their current use are described below.

Recreation

The remoteness of the area limits recreation use. Weather conditions restrict use predominantly to the summer months. The area receives light hunting use primarily for black bear and waterfowl. Deer numbers are down so the area is currently closed to deer hunting.

The area provides numerous safe anchorages for small boats traversing Chatham Strait as well as for recreationists using the unit.

### Wildlife and Fish

Black bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, furbearers, land and shore birds, and bald eagles inhabit the area. Many species of waterfowl migrate along the coastline of the unit with a few species nesting in the estuarine and stream course wetland areas. Black bear and waterfowl are the predominant species utilized.

Coho, sockeye, pink and chum salmon, cutthroat and rainbow trout, and Dolly Varden char occur in some of the lakes and streams. The most notable shellfish and marine fish species are Dungeness and Tanner crab, shrimp, herring, and halibut. Some opportunities exist for the improvement of salmon habitat.

Sport, commercial, and estuarine fishery values are rated moderately high by considering number of species, abundance, habitat condition, sport and commercial fisheries, and several other special values which are associated with certain watersheds.

Most use of the fishery resource is commercial although the lakes in the unit support a good sport fishery. The remoteness to centers of population limits sports fishing activity, however.

### Timber

Although there are 64,528 acres of commercial forest land with some 21,958 acres operable in this unit by today's standards, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD 1 to be recommended as and managed for wilderness.

Since only LUD 1 classification areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative effect of LUD 1's on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

### Minerals

No mining claims are known to exist in this unit although some prospecting may have occurred. The geology report, point 12, describes in more detail the mineralization of this unit. However, the history of mining and prospecting in this area is of such low quantity that one cannot but conclude that loss of opportunity to prospect and mine in the future will have virtually no impact on the economy of southeast Alaska.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, adversely impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

As described under point 2 of the 12 points, the primary users of the Tebenkof unit are commercial fishermen, with lesser use by sport fishermen and hunters, and before withdrawal under 204(b), a few prospectors. Except for prospectors, there will be no effect on the other users listed above. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of these users by preserving the status quo; that being a state of nearly total wilderness.

Additional users within this unit are the owner of a private cabin and users of a freshwater transmission supply line in Gedney Harbor. Both of these users are authorized by Forest Service special use permits. The waterline was built and typically used by commercial fishing boats for replenishment of freshwater supplies. These users will not be affected by the proposed use.

### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Existing and potential resource uses are not incompatible or in conflict with the proposed use.

### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD 1) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects are also planned but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible to the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and, in any case, more strategic locations for power sources do exist in southeast Alaska.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

## 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Region 1 planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Tebenkof unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this area were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Stikine Area, Tongass National Forest  
P.O. Box 309  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

No known mining claims are within this unit. Rock types generally found in this area do not contain precious metals, nonmetallics, base metals, or fossil fuels. However, there are indications that a part of the unit near Elena Bay may contain mineral deposits of insufficient quantity and quality to be economically valuable.

There could be potential for the development and commercial utilization of geothermal energy resources within this area, however, no assessment has been made at the present time. There are over 40 active volcanoes and many thermal springs in Alaska, however, no specific projects have been suggested to date for generating electric power at geothermal sites in Alaska.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

PETERSBURG CREEK

SIZE: 27,300 acres

LOCATION: West of Petersburg

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, S-15

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

PETERSBURG CREEKDescription

This unit of 27,300 acres is northwest of and immediately adjacent to the city of Petersburg on the Lindenberg Peninsula of Kupreanof Island in southeast Alaska. This is an "interior" island being about 75 miles towards the mainland, and sheltered by other large islands from the open sea of the Gulf of Alaska.

This unit includes the entire Petersburg Creek drainage. The landscape is a typical U-shaped valley with the typical hemlock-spruce forests on the hillsides. Valley walls are steep in some areas and rock outcroppings are visible. Petersburg Creek is the major drainage with its headwaters being Petersburg Lake. The lake and creek with its fishery resource are the main recreational attractions of the area. A trail along the creek provides access into the area.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 27,300 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Petersburg Creek unit has the same wide range of resources found throughout most of southeast Alaska. These resources and their current use are described below.

Recreation

The area, due to its close proximity to Petersburg, receives heavy recreation use. The full range of use includes hunting, stream and lake fishing, berry picking, hiking, and general scenic, and outdoor enjoyment.

One Forest Service administered public recreation cabin is located at Petersburg Lake. No other Forest Service recreation developments are present or planned.

There are three privately owned recreation cabins authorized under special use permits.

The recreation resource will not be adversely impacted by the withdrawal or proposed use.

#### Wildlife and Fish

This unit supports moderate numbers of black bear, deer, furbearers, and other species of wildlife typical of southeast Alaska.

Fishing is one of the most important resources of Petersburg Lake and Creek; these waters support abundant numbers of the five major salmon species, and Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout. Heavy use of this resource gives it added value.

The withdrawal and proposed wilderness use of this area is consistent with the protection and use of both fish and wildlife and their habitat.

#### Timber

Although there are 27,300 acres of forest land within this unit, only 6,635 acres are considered to be operable commercial forest land. The values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD I to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Accordingly, this volume of timber is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

#### Minerals

No mineral claims are known to exist in this unit. The geology report, point 12, describes in more detail the mineralization of this area. However, the history of mining and prospecting in this area is of such low quantity that one cannot but conclude that loss of opportunity to prospect and mine in the future will have virtually no impact on the economy of southeast Alaska.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, adversely impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

Present users of this area are typically local sports fishermen, hunters, subsistence food gatherers and general recreationists. Before the withdrawal under 204(b) a few prospectors undoubtedly worked the area.

Except for prospectors, there will be no effect on the other users listed above. In fact, this withdrawal will enhance the experience of these users by preserving the status quo; that being a state of nearly total wilderness.

#### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to classification as LUD I in TLMP, timber harvest, mineral location, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes were proposed and some planned. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and proposed wilderness classification. The impact of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable in development of TLMP when LUD I classification was agreed upon.

No conflict with State selections is anticipated. The State has selected and the Forest Service approved what appears to be adequate acreage for the Petersburg area. The State of Alaska has not indicated that they are interested in further selections nor do we expect any.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD I) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects are also planned but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible with the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and, in any case, more strategic locations for power sources do exist in the Panhandle.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

#### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for

that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

#### 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Petersburg Creek unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this and other LUD I areas were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

#### 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

#### 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

#### 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Stikine Area, Tongass National Forest  
P.O. Box 309  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

12. Geology Report

Although there are no known claims in this area, it lies within a geologic formation that is highly favorable for metallic and related nonmetallic deposits. Within 25 miles of the unit there are known deposits of copper, lead, zinc, gold, silver, platinum, borite, fluorite, and marble.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

BOUNDARY SPIRES

SIZE: 296,000 acres

LOCATION: Mainland, 40 miles north of Petersburg, Alaska

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, SO-3

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD 1

BOUNDARY SPIRESDescription

The Boundary Spires unit (TLMP #SO-3) is located on the southeast mainland of Alaska approximately 90 miles southeast of Juneau and 40 miles north of Petersburg. It is bounded on the north by the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror unit and on the south by the Stikine-LeConte unit. The unit consists of rugged topography with elevations ranging from sea level at Thomas Bay to 9,000 feet at Devils Thumb on the southeast border of the unit.

Alpine type vegetation, massive snow fields, and glaciers comprise an estimated 85 percent of the unit.

Access into the unit is by float plane to the major lakes, helicopter, and water access to Thomas Bay.

The unit is approximately 296,000 acres and includes 126,000 acres of public domain land also withdrawn under 204(b). This is a part of the Kates Needle proposed addition to the Tongass National Forest.

204(c) 12 Points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 296,000 acre unit is wilderness management in which the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes are protected. Although people have utilized this area in a variety of ways, the evidence of such activity is minimal and the status quo should be maintained until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. This withdrawal precludes only further State selection and mining claims location.

2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Boundary Spires unit has massive snow fields and glaciers making land access extremely difficult. This lack of access has contributed greatly in keeping the unit wild in character and well known to very few people. Its recreation and wilderness attributes make it a favorable challenge to penetrate by foot travel. Resources associated with this unit are described on the next page.

Thomas Bay has been identified as an area having potential fish enhancement possibilities. Spawning channels and upwelling ground water sites have been identified. The extent of this improvement project has not been totally explored.

A 1,120 acre power withdrawal was made in Scenery Creek on December 2, 1929. The 204(c) withdrawal would not affect the power withdrawal.

#### Recreation

Approximately 85 percent of the Boundary Spires unit is snow fields, rocks, and glaciers. Recreational activities consist of rock climbing, sightseeing, goat hunting, and fishing. Of the recreational activities described, goat hunting attracts the bulk of the use.

Scenery Creek, located near the southern boundary of the unit is one of the six most logical access routes into the Stikine-LeConte wilderness area.

These recreational activities will not be adversely impacted by the withdrawal or proposed use.

#### Wildlife and Fish

Boundary Spires supports a population of mountain goats, a limited population of bear along major streams, and furbearers which are found generally along the beach and major streams. Ptarmigan are found in the alpine vegetation areas and bald eagles have been observed in Thomas Bay. Sport hunting for mountain goat has been the major recreational use on the unit.

The withdrawal and proposed wilderness use of this unit is consistent with protection of the fish and wildlife resources.

#### Timber

The Boundary Spires unit has approximately 400 acres of commercial forest land. This is located only on the shoreline near Thomas Bay. Considering the low value and volume of the timber resource, the loss of the opportunity to utilize that resource is considered acceptable.

#### Minerals

There are no known claims in the Boundary Spires unit. Since the unit consists predominantly of snow fields, rocks, and glaciers, very little prospecting has been done except along the shores of Thomas Bay. The withdrawal and proposed wilderness use of this unit would have no known adverse impact on the mineral resource.

### 3. Present Users

Present users consist of sport hunters and a few fishermen who fish the lakes and major streams. A limited number of rock climbers use the area as well as glacial explorers.

There are no special use permits in the area.

All of the known present uses of the unit would be permitted to continue.

### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

There are no known conflicts that would occur with the resources that have been analyzed on the unit. Mineral possibilities that could occur beneath the snow fields and in the alpine reaches of this unit are unknown, however, any conflicts under the existing conditions are remote.

### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The unit is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD 1) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness plan are to be prepared. The planned use of the land and the specific requirements of the proposed use are one and the same.

### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This unit provides a unique wilderness experience. It has features in the snow fields, rock formations, and glaciers that occur on few areas to this degree in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and more strategic locations for power sources do exist in southeast Alaska. State selections and mining activity displaced may be accommodated in more appropriate alternative areas.

### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD 1 classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Boundary Spires unit was classified as LUD 1 during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. If the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Stikine Area, Tongass National Forest  
P.O. Box 309  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

The Boundary Spires area comprises the mainland of southeastern Alaska from the international boundary westward to a point east of the headland of Port Houghton; thence southwest along the hydrographic ridge to a point near Mt. Grant; thence southerly to a junction with the north boundary of the Stikine-LeConte area.

The distribution of the coast formations is in wide extensive belts, all striking in a general northwest-southeast direction with relatively steep dips. These beds in turn have been intruded by igneous rocks, essentially of granite, diorite, and gabbro which have caused displacement and metamorphism.

The main mountain mass within the area is composed of a light grey eruptive rock. This rock in general is a granodiorite or quartz diorite of coarse crystalline texture. Southwest of this coast range intrusive are gniessoid rocks and highly metamorphic schists, interstratified with narrow belts of marble. Adjacent to these and bordering the coast are argillaceous slates, more or less carbonaceous, including limestone, and these again are followed by more or less extensive belts of greenstones.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

ENDICOTT RIVER

SIZE: 110,000 acres

LOCATION: Chilkat Peninsula

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, C-16

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

## ENDICOTT RIVER

### Description

The Endicott River unit is situated on the Chilkat Peninsula approximately 45 miles northwest of Juneau and 30 miles south of Haines, Alaska. The western portion of the unit bounds Glacier Bay National Monument for approximately 40 miles and is accessible from the Endicott drainage via a 900-foot pass. This unit is approximately 110,000 acres in size and covers the upper two-thirds of the Endicott River drainage.

The Endicott River drainage intersects the Chilkat Range which extends southward as a portion of the Alsek Range system. The drainage is a large glacial river canyon with relatively common terrain. Much of the upper drainage is dominated by small trees and brush.

The Endicott River watershed is within the National Weather Service Maritime Zone. Based on Juneau reporting station data, its mean annual precipitation is 92 inches with highest precipitation in the fall months (September-November) and lowest through the early spring months (April-June). It is in Management Unit C-16 on the TLMP map.

### 204(c)(2) 12 Points

#### 1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD 1 designation, the proposed use of this 110,000 acre unit is wildland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

#### 2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Endicott River unit is representative of the coast range resources found throughout southeast Alaska.

The wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility and wild character particularly in the upper reaches of the drainage. Resources within the area are described below.

### Recreation

This portion of the Endicott River drainage receives light recreation use due primarily to rugged topography, lack of developed trails, and extreme weather conditions. Elevations range from near sea level to 5,280 feet near Mt. Young located in the northwest portion of the unit. A few hunters use the area for black and brown bear and mountain goat hunting. The upper reaches are above timber line and glaciers are present near the common boundary with Glacier Bay National Monument. The monument can also be accessed through Endicott Pass which is approximately 900 feet in elevation. Present access to the unit is by boat to the confluence of Endicott River and Lynn Canal, then by foot to the unit.

### Wildlife and Fish

The Endicott River supports black and brown bear, mountain goat, and a limited number of moose. Bald eagles use the area along the river during various times of the year. Deer are present, however, the population fluctuates due to deep snow on their winter range. The Endicott River also support chum, coho, and pink salmon.

### Timber

Although there are 2,166 acres of commercial forest with 1,320 acres in the unit considered operable by today's standards, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the existing wilderness values. Based upon that determination the unit was classified in TLMP as LUD 1 to be recommended and managed for wilderness. Since only LUD 1 classification areas are withdrawn and the cumulative effect of LUD 1's on historical harvest levels was considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

### Minerals

The geology report, point 12, also describes the mineralization of this unit. However, the history of mining and prospecting in this area is of such low quantity that one cannot but conclude that loss of opportunity to prospect and mine in the future will have virtually no impact on the economy of southeast Alaska.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, adversely impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

As described in point 2 of the 12 points, the primary users of the unit are a few bear and goat hunters. There were a few prospectors that prospected in the upper reaches of the Endicott River drainage before the 204(b) withdrawal, however, due to the severe climate and rugged terrain, access was extremely difficult. This activity was curtailed with the withdrawal. Other users will not be affected.

Since 1929 the Endicott River has been withdrawn by USGS as a potential power site for possible future development.

### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Existing and potential uses are not incompatible or in conflict with the proposed use.

### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD I) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan and a Wilderness Area plan are to be prepared. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and, in any case, more strategic locations for power sources do exist in the Panhandle.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

## 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Endicott River unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this area were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

## 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

## 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

## 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Chatham Area, Tongass National Forest  
P.O. Box 1980  
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology Report

Northwest-trending belts of Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary and volcanic rocks underlie the Alsek Ranges.

The upper portion (approximately two-thirds of the unit) of the Endicott River drainage is located in a geologic region that is not considered favorable for metallic and nonmetallic mineral deposits, while the lower third of the drainage has claims located and is considered favorable for mineral and non-mineral deposits. There are patented claims adjacent to the unit near Lynn Canal.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

TRACY ARM-FORDS TERROR

SIZE: 654,000 acres

LOCATION: 50 Miles South Southeast of Juneau, Alaska

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, C-11

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

TRACY ARM-FORDS TERRORDescription

The Tracy Arm-Fords Terror unit is located on the mainland approximately 50 miles southeast of Juneau and 70 miles north of Petersburg, Alaska. The unit is approximately 654,000 acres in size including 148,000 acres of adjacent public domain. Located within this unit is the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror Scenic Area.

Tracy Arm-Fords Terror contains mountains that rise from the edge of two deep fiords that penetrate 30 miles inland from the coastline. At the head of these fiords are active tidewater glaciers, which continuously calve icebergs. During the summer, both fiords have considerable floating ice ranging from the size of a three-story building to hand-size pieces. During the most recent glaciated period these two fiords were filled with active glaciers.

The temperature variation between the mouth of each fiord and the head end at the glacier face is dramatic. At times a 15 degree drop in temperature can be expected. Vertical cliffs rise to heights of up to 4000 feet from the water's edge. Higher elevations have permanent snow fields and glacial icecaps.

The majority of the area is rugged snow and glacier-capped mountains and steep valley walls where glacial retreat has occurred. Typical spruce-hemlock rain forest occurs on the lower slopes of the mountains. Timberline is approximately 1500 feet elevation. Mountain goat, bear, and a few Sitka black-tail deer inhabit the area. There are a few muskeg areas which are dominated by sedges, grass, and sphagnum moss. Approximately 75 percent of the unit is considered as having vegetative types associated with an alpine region. Twenty percent of the land area is covered by glaciers and snow fields.

204(c)(2) 12 points1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal, and with its LUD 1 designation, the proposed use of this 654,000 acre unit is wiloland, primitive management in which the scenic, historic, scientific and/or primitive attributes are protected. Most of the area is relatively untouched by humans and should remain so until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. In addition to the 204(c) withdrawal, this area will be managed as wilderness as prescribed in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy until other direction is given by Congress.

## 2. Natural Resource Use and Value

The Tracy Arm-Fords Terror unit has a wide variety of resources as found throughout southeast Alaska. The recreation and wilderness attributes of the area are enhanced by its inaccessibility and wild character. The scenic grandeur of the two large fiords and active glaciers, accessible via the fiords, attract many sightseers from the Juneau area as well as from other parts of the United States. The resources and current use of the unit are described in further detail below.

### Recreation

A moderate traffic of medium to larger sized vessels, many out of Juneau (50 miles north), visit Tracy Arm and Fords Terror for the primary purpose of viewing the tidewater glaciers. It has become a primary stopping place for large tour ships traveling through southeast Alaska.

Sport hunting and fishing occur with commercial fishing not as important. Both sport and commercial vessels take shelter during times of inclement weather in selected coves within this area. Spring bear hunts by private individuals and commercial guides are common.

Due to the extremely rugged topography within this unit, recreational use is limited almost exclusively to boating via the two major fiords. Saltwater fishing, bear hunting, photography, and sightseeing are the major recreational uses. There are no developed recreational facilities within the unit, and recreationists normally stay aboard their boats while pursuing the mentioned uses.

### Wildlife and Fish

Mountain goat, wolverines, furbearers, black and brown bear and a few Sitka black-tail deer inhabit the uplands. Bald eagles and shore birds inhabit the coastal areas. Seals, whales, and sealions can be observed at times in the fiords, usually in the lower reaches, however, seals can be observed near the glaciers at the head of each arm.

There is little sport or commercial fishing in Tracy Arm, Fords Terror or Endicott Arm. Bays, coves, and estuarine areas are considered excellent as rearing sites for anadromous fish as well as shellfish and herring. The occurrence of ice limits commercial fishing.

The withdrawal and proposed TLMP wilderness classification of this unit is consistent with the protection and use of both fish and wildlife and their habitat.

### Timber

There are 23,608 acres of commercial forest land on this unit; 22,174 acres are considered operable using today's standards. Commercial timber species, like most of southeast Alaska, consist of spruce and hemlock located along valley bottoms and up to approximately the 1000 to 1500 foot elevation level. Values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the existing wilderness values and the unit was classified in TLMP as LUD I to be recommended for and managed for its wilderness values. Since only LUD I classification areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative affect of LUD I's on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska.

### Minerals

Known deposits of copper, zinc, and lead have been located in this unit adjacent to Tracy Arm and near the terminus of Sumdum Glacier. Of the known claims, 11 have been patented and considered active at the present time. Several mining companies have done core drilling in their blocks of claims in the areas mentioned. Prospectors over the years have located claims that produced 25,000 ounces of gold and silver. A few claimants who have held on to their claims over the years by doing only necessary assessment work, and not aggressively developing their discoveries, will now find that their claims may be determined invalid. This 204(c) withdrawal, like the 204(b) withdrawal, will adversely affect individuals and corporations to the extent that if they are unable to prove validity as of December 5, 1978, they will not now be able to do so. Under the withdrawal, no further exploration is permitted unless exploration prior to December 5, 1980, exposes sufficient minerals to establish claim validity. Validity is determined by analysis of the production costs versus the value of the mineral. If the mine cannot be operated at a profit, the claim is not valid. This, then, is an adverse impact on a few individuals; but, the economic impact would generally be minor even at the community level. Prospectors with valid claims would be permitted to develop their deposits.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, unreasonably impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

Present users of the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror unit are composed of sightseers, sport hunters, fishermen, and prospectors. The majority of the uses occur in the area immediately adjacent to the two major fiords referred to earlier. Residents from nearby communities visit the area

for sightseeing purposes and use the protected coves for shelter during periods of inclement weather during the fishing and hunting seasons.

Further timber harvesting and prospecting for minerals would not be permitted during a continued withdrawal period, however, all other present uses would be allowed until such time as Congress gives specific management direction.

There are two areas of private land near the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror unit; 590 acres on Chuck River and 102 acres near Sundum Bay. The Chuck River private landowner maintains a small commercial resort and uses the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror fiords as side trips principally for sightseeing. Withdrawal or wilderness classification of the unit would be of economic value to this operation.

There has been interest expressed by the local Juneau government to construct a recreation complex in or near this unit. This would consist of docks, fuel storage, and handling facilities. The withdrawal would have a positive affect upon this proposal.

#### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

On May 14, 1979, a power withdrawal was granted in the area. The withdrawal would have no affect upon this withdrawal.

Due to the extremely rugged topography, float ice in the fiords, and distance from major population centers, the unit has received light use to date. Prospecting for possible mineral deposits has been active. It is anticipated that some conflict between prospecting and the restrictions that exist in the withdrawal will occur.

There is a timber sale proposed in Gilbert Bay, just north of this unit. The most environmentally sound location for the camp and log transfer site is in Williams Cove located within the 204(b) withdrawal. The modification of the 204(b) boundary to the LUD I [204(c)] boundary permits development in Williams Cove and protection of the environmentally sensitive Gilbert Bay.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area LUD I in TLMP and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitable Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience due to the close proximity of glaciers and the rugged character of the topography. No similar area can be found in southeast Alaska.

Hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low although it is strategically located for such a purpose.

State selections would be precluded within the withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and viable alternatives exist for such purposes.

#### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

#### 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the Tracy Arm-Fords Terror unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this area were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

#### 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

#### 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

### 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
Chatham Area, Tongass National Forest  
P.O. Box 1980  
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Regional Forester  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

### 12. Geology Report

The Tracy Arm-Fords Terror area comprises the mainland of southeastern Alaska from the international boundary westward to tidewater and from the hydrographic ridge north of Tracy Arm to the ridge south of Endicott Arm.

The distribution of the coast formations is in wide extensive belts, all striking in a general northwest-southeast direction with relatively steep dips. These beds in turn have been intruded by igneous rocks, essentially of granite, diorite, and gabbro which have caused displacement and metamorphism.

The main mountain mass within the area is composed of a light grey eruptive rock. This rock in general is a granodiorite or quartz diorite of coarse crystalline texture. Southwest of this coast range intrusive are gneissoid rocks and highly metamorphic schists, interstratified with narrow belts of marble. Adjacent to these and bordering the coast are argillaceous slates, more or less carbonaceous, including limestone, and these again are followed by more or less extensive belts of greenstones.

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

WEST CHICHAGOF/YAKOBI ISLANDS

SIZE: 227,000 acres

LOCATION: 30 miles northwest of Sitka, Alaska

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, C-38

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD I

WEST CHICHAGOF-YAKOBIDescription

West Chichagof and Yakobi Islands are within the Alexander Archipelago; a long string of islands extending from Dixon Entrance to the Canadian border north of Lynn Canal.

West Chichagof-Yakobi supports, in relative abundance, nearly all major land types and associated ecosystems characteristic of southeast Alaska; some of which are uncommon to the region as a whole. Most dramatic is the 65 mile-long stretch of rugged Pacific coastline extending from Salisbury Sound to Cape Bingham and characterized by exposed offshore islands and rugged, rocky highlands. Behind the stout headlands, barrier islands, rocks, and reefs of the outer coast, lie the quiet waters of the inside passage, honeycombed with bays, inlets, and lagoons. Rising abruptly from the ocean is the mountainous backbone of the area, a satellite of the great coast range batholith. Peaks rise to 3,600 feet, often from water's edge.

Continental and alpine glaciation has played the major role in shaping the mountainous coastal zone which is characterized by drowned glacial valleys (fiords), aretes, cirques, and lakes. Most of the northern landforms have been heavily ice scoured, leaving only a thin mantel of glacial till plastered to upland slopes. Vast lowland areas have been scoured to bedrock. Notable groupings of wave-cut erosional features are found along the coast.

The maritime climate of West Chichagof-Yakobi is typically cool and moist with relatively narrow temperature variations associated in part with the moderating influence of the Gulf of Alaska. Mean yearly temperatures average 45°F, accompanied by a high percentage of overcast days (+75%), frequent rain showers, and occasional periods of strong winds (30-100 miles per hour). Data indicates that the western coast experiences slightly warmer and wetter average weather than Sitka to the southeast.

This area was covered by volcanic ash from Mt. Edgecumbe eruptions approximately 9,000 years ago. While these soils are productive, they are susceptible to mass wasting; drainage is often poor and muskegs and alpine bogs predominate. Vegetation appears to be dominantly that of coniferous tree cover with about one-third of the area capable of supporting commercial timber. Approximately 50% is in muskeg or scrub. Estuarine areas represent 1%, with the remainder, alpine.

Western hemlock and Sitka spruce are the most important commercial species. Some Alaska cedar attains commercial size but generally grows in scatterings on the less productive sites. Lodgepole pine is also

restricted to poor sites and rarely attains commercial size. Portions of the outer coast, particularly the offshore islands, support distinctive savanna glades under open spruce cover.

Understory vegetation is primarily that of salmonberry, blueberry, huckleberry, rusty menziesia, and devil's club, often forming dense thickets under the open forest canopy.

Estuarine and offshore ocean waters sampled by the National Marine Fisheries Service appear less productive than waters farther south along the coast. However, outside waters from Klag Bay to the Myriad Islands show reasonably good productivity of small abalone and red snapper, ling cod, sculpin, and greenling.

#### 204(c) 12 Points

##### 1. Proposed Use

Consistent with the purposes of the 204(b)(1) withdrawal and with its LUD I designation, the proposed use of this 227,000 acre unit is wilderness management in which the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes are protected. Although people have utilized this area in a variety of ways, the evidence of such activity is minimal and the status quo should be maintained until Congress has made a decision on its classification and management. This withdrawal precludes only further State selection and mining claims location.

##### 2. Natural Resource Use and Value

There are nine current special use permits. Two are residence permits at Green Top Harbor on Yakobi Island, in effect since 1951. There are four cabin permits issued to private individuals and an ADF&G observatory permit. In addition, there are heavily used Forest Service recreation cabins at Goulding Lake and White Sulphur Springs. A third Forest Service cabin is located at Suloia Lake. There are several Coast Guard navigational beacons on the islands. The withdrawal does not affect the status or use of these occupancies.

At present, the major income producing activities on West Chichagof-Yakobi are recreation, tour boats and guiding, offshore fishing, hunting, and mineral exploration. Recreation expenditures appear to be approximately \$90,000 annually. One mining company has spent over \$1,500,000 primarily in the period 1972-75.

Scattered throughout the area are evidences of past uses; among these ruins are an old mining town and various mining sites, cabins and abandoned fur farms.

Proposals for fisheries enhancement include proposed fish passages at Goulding Lakes, Flat Cove, and in the Goon Dip River system. In addition, the National Marine Fisheries Service has identified suitable sites for fish hatcheries with a capability to handle 40-60 million eggs a year. These are Suloia, Didrickson, Goulding, and Surge Lakes, and Lake Elfendahl and Lake Leo.

Seven locations, with a total horsepower capacity of 19,350, have been proposed as potential waterpower projects. These are located at Rust, Didrickson, Goulding, and Suloia Lakes, and Porcupine Creek and Falls Creek.

A few scattered tracts of private land exist; largely mineral patents. Most of these have been unoccupied for years and the present withdrawal would have no adverse impact on the land or its owners. There are a number of identified historical sites in this unit. Those sites applied for by Native corporations and determined valid will be conveyed to them for cemetery and historical site purposes only. Those sites not selected will be protected under Federal law. These uses are not inconsistent with the proposed use. Further descriptions of the current use and value are listed below.

#### Recreation

For the most part, recreational use of West Chichagof and Yakobi Islands is confined to protected west coast passages, and to some extent the quite waters of Lisianski Inlet and Lisianski Strait. The outer coast of Yakobi Island receives relatively light use due primarily to its exposed access open to unpredictable weather extremes. The interior highlands are beginning, however, to receive increased use by hikers ranging inland from the myriad of protected anchorages that dot the perimeter of both West Chichagof and Yakobi. Key recreational use areas oriented toward beachcombing, scuba diving, hiking, exploring, sport crabbing, boating, kayaking, and hunting are concentrated along the east and west coasts of West Chichagof with only minor recreational endeavors reaching north to Yakobi Island.

On both West Chichagof and Yakobi Islands, recreation facilities are scant. Several guide cabins in the Klag Bay area support significant hunter use in the spring and fall. White Sulphur Springs and attendant Forest Service bathhouse and cabin in Islas Bay receive intensive use by recreationists and fishermen from throughout the northern half of the Tongass. Aside from these facilities and the Forest Service cabin at Goulding Lake, little more in terms of recreation facilities exists. Most recreationists are content to use small craft as "home base," occasionally supplemented by tent camps.

These recreational activities will not be adversely impacted by the withdrawal or proposed use.

### wildlife and Fish

West Chichagof-Yakobi supports excellent populations of brown bear, deer, and furbearers. Highest deer densities are found along the west coast. Black River, Ford Arm, Falcon Arm, and many smaller streams support high densities of bear. Furbearers are abundant throughout most of the area and include marten, mink, weasel, land otter, red squirrel, flying squirrel, and beaver.

The area is remarkable for its use by migrant waterfowl. Thousands of ducks, geese, swans, and shore birds seek this area for feeding and resting during migration periods. The Vancouver Canada goose, a resident species, is known to nest here. Peregrin falcon have been reported. Bald eagles are found throughout West Chichagof-Yakobi unit.

The area is also known for its populations of marine mammals. The Fish and Wildlife Service has successfully reestablished sea otter at Surge and Khaz Bays wher the greatest concentrations in the Chatham Area are now located. There are outstanding sea lion rookeries found at White Sisters Islands, Cape Cross, and Cape Bingham. Seal inhabit most of the coastline.

West Chichagof-Yakobi is rated excellent for coho, chum, pin, cutthroat, Dolly Varden, rainbow/steelhead trout. The most notable shellfish and marine fish species are Dungeness, Tanner and King crab, shrimp, herring, smelt, nd halibut. Many other nongame species of marine fish and shellfish occur in the estuaries that have significant consumptive or nonconsumptive uses.

Fisheries is one of the most important wildlife resources of the area. Four species of salmon are found in the lakes and streams. While most streams are short and originate in relatively small watersheds, the larger systems include Black River and Surge Lake. Streams and lakes rated excellent for trout include Waterfall Cove, Klag Bay, Goulding, Black River, Takanis Lake, Surge Lake, Suloi Lake, and Hoktaheen Lake.

The withdrawal and proposed wilderness use of this area is consistent with the protection and use of both the fish and wildlife and their habitat.

### Timber

Although there are 70,000 acres of commercial forest land in this 226,879 acre management unit, the values associated with timber harvest were determined to be secondary to the preservation of the wilderness values. Based on that determination the area was classified in TLMP as LUD I to be recommended as and managed for wilderness. Since only LUD I classification areas are withdrawn, and the cumulative affect of LUD I's

on historic harvest levels was considered acceptable, the volume of timber in this unit is not considered critical to the economy of southeast Alaska. This unit is included in the Alaska Lumber and Pulp Company timber sale contract. However, for the reasons described above, no harvest activities are planned in this area.

### Minerals

A belt trending north-northwest through the western portion of Chichagof Island has produced nearly a million ounces of gold as well as some silver. Production was primarily from the Hirst-Chichagof Mine and the Chichagof Mine, although small amounts of gold were recovered from other mines, primarily the Apex-El Nido, Alaska Chichagof, and Cobol Mines. There is no recorded production from any mine in the district since about 1945.

A large body of norite and concentrated sulfides (nickel-copper bearing) exist on Yakobi Island. The major deposit is on the east side of the island at Bohemia Basin--outside this unit--but some deposits of uncertain size are on the west side of the island. In addition, several deposits of norite occur near Mirror Harbor on the west coast of Chichagof Island.

Prospectors over the years have located some several hundred mining claims in this unit largely based on gold values. Those claimants who have held on to their claims over the years by doing only necessary assessment work, and not aggressively developing their discoveries, will now find that their claims may be determined invalid. Validity is determined by analysis of the production costs versus the value of the mineral. If the mine cannot be operated at a profit, the claim is not valid. This, then, is an adverse impact on a few individuals; but, the economic impact would generally be minor even at the community level. Prospectors with valid claims would be permitted to develop their deposits.

In summary, nothing about this withdrawal action nor the use of the area as proposed would either degrade the environment or, as determined by the 1979 TLMP Final EIS and Plan, unreasonably impact individuals, local communities, or the Nation.

### 3. Present Users

Present users of this area consist of sport hunters and fishermen who fish outside waters and periodically take refuge in the sheltered inlets and bays; recreationists from surrounding communities who visit the area to hike, photograph and enjoy the scenery; tourists (kayakers, canoeists, birdwatchers, and sightseers), and outfitters and guides who bring their clients to visit West Chichagof.

There are also a number of special use permit holders and private landowners who use the resources of this area. There has been logging and prospecting in the recent past and so those employed in those industries have used this area. Local citizens from surrounding communities also use the natural resources of this area for subsistence food gathering.

Future timber harvest and prospecting for minerals would not be permitted during a continued withdrawal; all other present uses would be allowed until such time as Congress gives specific management direction.

#### 4. Proposed Use Conflicts

Prior to classification as LUD I in TLMP, timber harvest, mineral location, hydro development, and other activities inconsistent with the effort to protect and preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and/or primitive attributes were proposed and some planned. The State of Alaska made selections at Lake Anna and Goulding Harbor. These were disapproved by the Forest Service; other community development centers may be proposed in the future. These and similar uses inconsistent with the purposes noted above are clearly in conflict with the withdrawal and proposed wilderness classification. The impact of loss of these proposed activities was considered acceptable in development of TLMP when LUD I classification was agreed upon.

There are a number of special use permits in the area. These would not be in conflict with the withdrawal and would not be terminated. However, if upon classification as wilderness, Congress makes no special provisions for such uses, the permits could be terminated or put on tenure at that time.

#### 5. Specific Use Requirements

The area is proposed as a wilderness area (LUD I) and a recreation opportunity inventory and plan, and a wilderness area plan are to be prepared. Fishery habitat improvement projects are also planned but must be compatible with wilderness management direction. This use is compatible with the requirements of wilderness area management found in the Wilderness Act and in Forest Service policy. The 204(c) withdrawal is not inconsistent with this purpose.

#### 6. Suitabe Alternatives

This area provides a unique wilderness experience, although, like other areas in many respects, it has its unique aspects and no similar area can be found in southeast Alaska. The hydroelectric power potential of this unit is relatively low and, in any case, more strategic locations for power sources do exist in the Panhandle.

State selection would be precluded by this withdrawal. This impact would be minimal and many viable alternatives exist for community expansion and development.

#### 7. Consultation

The land allocations that occurred during the TLMP process required extensive public involvement which was documented in the EIS prepared for that plan. The current LUD I classification was a result of the involvement of many individuals, organizations, agencies, corporations, and State, local, and Federal Government interests.

Further public input will be received during the Regional planning process, and in August hearings are planned to meet the specific requirements of FLPMA.

#### 8. Effect on State and Local Governments

Since the West Chichagof-Yakobi unit was classified as LUD I during the TLMP process, and this decision was made after intensive involvement of State and local governments, the adverse impact would be minimal insofar as commodities go. The determination was made at that time that the timber resources on this land other LUD I areas were not necessary to sustain the current local and regional economy. On the other hand, if the system of wilderness areas, of which this is one, is formally classified by Congress, a positive effect on the local and regional economy is anticipated through increased tourist and recreation visits.

#### 9. Term of Withdrawal

This area was withdrawn until December 31, 1985. By that time, it will have been either classified wilderness by Congress and the withdrawal modified or extended, or addressed in the next RPA effort at which time the Forest land management plans will be reviewed and updated.

#### 10. Public Involvement

This information is covered both in the Introduction and under point 7, Consultation, above.

#### 11. Location of Records

Records may be found at the following locations:

Forest Supervisor  
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USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

## 12. Geology

West Chichagof and Yakobi Islands are underlain almost entirely by highly crystallized rocks of Mesozoic and Paleozoic age, and by extensive bodies of igneous rocks that are dominantly dioritic in composition. Within this area the regional trend of the rocks is northwest, parallel to the axis of an anticlinorium that involves most of the bedded rocks in the north end of southeastern Alaska (Buddington and Chapin, 1929). The thick succession of rocks of Mesozoic age that crops out in the southwestern part represents the eastern flank of a geosyncline to the west of the anticlinorium. These rocks of Mesozoic age consist mainly of greenstone, slate, schist, and graywacke. The anticlinorial core lies to the east on the eastern part of Chichagof Island and in the central part of the Glacier Bay area. The exposed rocks are dominantly limestone and argillite. The only rocks believed to be of Paleozoic age are now highly crystallized sedimentary rocks that crop out as isolated bodies within the diorite.

The main period of intrusion probably took place during the later part of the Cretaceous time. The dioritic body itself consists of multiple injections of magma which were dioritic in composition. Probably the intrusions were related to the major structures in the area. The magma was widely intruded into the Coast Range of Alaska and Canada and occurs as an elongate tongue which extends as far south as southern Baranof Island (Rossman, Darwin, U.S.G.S., Bull. 1058E, 1959).

FLPMA  
204(c) REPORT

RUSSELL FIORD

SIZE: 307,000 Acres

LOCATION: 10 miles east of Yakutat

MANAGEMENT AREA: TLMP, C-52

LAND USE DESIGNATION, TLMP: LUD 1