ATTACHMENTS

for

Tivyagak Creek

Final

INTERIM SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared by Nicole Lantz, Historian I

Kuskokwim Assistance Agreement
Phase II-B Submission

Office of History and Archaeology
Department of Natural Resources
State of Alaska

December 21, 2010

F 14862 (75.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

555 Cordova Street
Pouch 7-005
Anchorage, AK 99510
(907) 276-2653

2163.06 Goodnews Bay

November 10, 1982

Tivyagak Creek
Interim Summary Report
Attachment 1

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
HAND DELIVERED
NOV 15 1 40 PM '82
RECEIVED
ANCHORAGE AK.

Gary Seitz
Navigability Section
Division of Conveyances
Bureau of Land Management
701 "C" Street, Box 13
Anchorage, AK 99513

Re: Waterbodies within Goodnews Bay conveyance area

Dear Mr. Seitz:

The Draft State Director Memorandum for the village of Goodnews found the main stem of the Goodnews River navigable. The village meeting did little to further our knowledge of waterbody use within the conveyance area.

However, Alaska River Safaris, a commmercial fishing guide operating in the area, was mentioned at the village meeting as a user of the waterbodies. They were contacted by this office and the following information is a result of that contact.

Alaska River Safaris is owned and operated by Ron Hyde and his son Ron Hyde, Jr. They have operated in this area for the past 11 years with aircraft, jet boats, and prop driven boats on most of the major waterbodies.

Following is specific information provided by Ron Hyde, Jr.:

Middle Fork Goodnews River - a stretch near confluence with Goodnews River is a primary landing for Widgeon, Goose, Beaver, 206 and 185 aircraft on floats used to transport clients and supplies. They also use 16' Deluxe Klamath boats with 55 h.p. jet engines and 15' Gregor boats with 25 h.p. prop engines with jackass lifts throughout the conveyance area. These two type boats constitute the main mode of transportation by Alaska River Safaris on all the waterbodies and will not be reiterated for each waterbody.

Barnum Creek - make 20-30 trips per season by boats, up this creek to the confluence of Camp Creek, with clients.

Tivyagak Creek - frequently travel by boat up this creek with clients throughout the conveyance area.

South Fork Goodnews River - heavy use area with clients in the type of boats referenced earlier throughout the conveyance area. Also floatplane landings by previously mentioned aircraft within conveyance area. This is also reported to be a heavy subsistence use area by villagers using skiffs with 25 h.p. prop engines.

Of significance along with this information, is the fact that it only took an hour of my time to gather this information. BLM was apprised of this particular user at the village meeting and did nothing to follow it up. Because of the quantity and significance of this information, I strongly urge BLM to contact any information sources they are made aware of so that proper credible navigability findings can be made. I believe an hour of someone's time is well spent in achieving this goal when consideration is given to the amount of time necessary to correct deficient decisions at a later date.

In conclusion, we urge BLM to find these four highways of travel navigable based on susceptibility to use in trade and commerce.

Sincerely,

Dennis P. Daigger
Natural Resource Manager

cc: Ron Hyde, Jr.
Kuitsaruk, Inc.
Calista Corporation
Paul Johnson
Bob Arnold

DPD:lln

Form 2060-1
(May 1980)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

LAND REPORT TITLE PAGE

Tivyagak Creek
Interim Summary Report
Attachment 2

State	District
Alaska	Anchorage
County	**Resource area**
	McGrath
Type of Action	**Serial Number**
Village Selection - Goodnews Bay	F-14862-A
Applicant's name	**Address** *(include zip code)*

Date(s) of examination

LANDS INVOLVED

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	MERIDIAN	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
		- See attached report -			

Purpose of report

Navigability Determination

Prepared by	Title	Date of report
R.W. Kaltenbach	Realty Specialist	2-23-83

GPO 856 - 250

Goodnews Bay VS-83-04
F-14862-A
F-14862-EE
2628 (962)

The Branch of ANCSA Adjudication by memo, requested a navigability recommendation for ten townships vicinity of Goodnews and Kuskokwim Bays in southwest Alaska. A search of the master title plats, published records and oral interviews provided the necessary information for a navigability recommendation.

General Physical Description

The selected area (see attached land description) is contained in the "Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta" physiographical land feature. The delta is broken up with a series of southwest-northeast trending mountains. The Ahklun Mountains divides the drainage systems between Kuskokwim and Bristol Bays and encompasses the Goodnews River drainage.

The Goodnews river lies on the south limits of this delta. The river enters the Kuskokwim Bay on the north side of Cape Newenham. 1/

Included in this report are two other drainage systems both drain the west slopes of the Ahklun Mountains directly into the Kuskokwim Bay. The two streams, from south to north, are Carter creek and Indian River both enter Carter Bay and then the Kuskokwim.

The Goodnews river starts at the outlet of Goodnews Lake and at scale distance traverses 52 miles to Goodnews Bay. From the lake to Barnum Creek its a series of rapids and pools. From Barnum Creek to the Bay the river is slower than the above reach and easily traveled. 2/

Both the Middle Fork (30 miles) and the South Fork (22 miles) are similiar in character being a series of rapids and pools in the upper reaches and slower in the lower portions.

All three streams enter a lowlands that is marshy and flat as the Bay is approached. 2/ This lower area has has an area of tide influence, making boating easier going up stream during high water conditions. The other streams tributary to the Goodnews are generally short and rapid.

Those streams, named or unnamed, that enter the bay areas are generally short. Carter Creek about eleven miles long and Indian River about twelve miles long are both short coastal streams.

Land Status

Throughout the Village selected area allotments have been established or located along the Goodnews rivers. Along the South Fork allotments are only within the selected area. On both the Middle Fork and the main river, allotments have been located within and beyond the village selected area. In all cases the allottee claims fishing and berry picking as the reasons for use and occupancy of those tracts of land.

Use Data

Pre-1870, a subsistence use pattern of using both overland trails and down stream rafting was practiced. Caribou hunting in the hills north of Goodnews Bay followed this practice. By building rafts and floating downstream, meat was brought to the old village which was inland from the bay along the main river. 3/

Later activities, some associated with mining and others with trading patterns, caused the village to be relocated to the Bay. Subsequent exploration and missionary activities utilized local guides during their travels through the selected area. 4/ During this early time period travel along the coastline around Cape Newenham was risky and the people found alternate routes to by-pass the cape route. An inland waterway route of travel was used between Goodnews Bay and Togiak Bay. The route utilized the South Fork of Goodnews River, Tivyagak creek, a low overland pass, a chain of lakes and then Osviak River. From Osviak River a coastal route easterly to Togiak Bay was followed, this portion is protected by Hagemeister Island. First recorded use of this alternate route was in 1884 by two Moravian missionaries and again in 1888 by the Warburton Pike expedition from Canada. 4/ 5/

During the early 1900's, while mining gold in the area, miners used poling boats and kayaks to transport supplies up Goodnews River. 4/ Mining took place on Barnum Creek, Wattamuse Creek and Bear Creek, all tributaries to the Goodnews River. During the 1930's heavier equipment utilized an overland trail to the mining sites. 3/

In 1919, a U.S.G.S. topographic survey party, headed by R.H. Sargeut, maped an area that included the selected lands. 6/ The rivers were traveled with a 30-foot poling boat. A 2-horsepowered gasoline engine of the detachable hang-over type was included, with no mention of how it was utilized. The survey party maped both topography and geology of the Goodnews Bay Region for an approximate 1,160 square miles or an area about 40 miles wide and 29 miles long.

Currently the local population uses larger power boats that allows them to travel around Cape Newenham to Togiak Bay. 7/ This has caused a decline in the use of the South Fork as a route of travel to Toyiak Bay. Also travel up the main river channel to Barnum is easly accomplished with the larger power boats.

Fishing and berry picking activities are carried out along all three branches of the Goodnews river system. The fishing starts in the summer and continues into the fall time period with the use of set nets. In very early days a swing-net would have been used, requiring a kayak or canoe to pull one end of the net in a circular pattern to capture the fish. Local people have developed favorite areas where they currently fish or pick berries, and through custom they have developed into exclusive use areas.

These areas have been recognized by the federal government and land title has or well be transferred to the customary user. On both the main Goodnews River and the Middle Fork these use areas are numerous and have been established beyond the limits of this selected lands. Travel to these use areas is by boat.

Access throughout the area in the thaw season is by boat or floatplane, during the frozen season overland travel is the norm. River fishing also takes place during the frozen season with over ice travel to the selected sites.

Conclusions

The short coastal streams are generally boatable were there is tide water influence. This includes Puyulik Creek, Tunulik River, Sphinx Creek, Carter Creek and Indian River and unnamed sloughs tributary to the lower Goodnews river system.

The Ilanik lakes, along the south shore of Goodnews Bay, if subject to tide water influence are also boatable.

The Goodnews river system traverses a low swampy plain of sloughs and ponds that extends about 6 miles northeasterly from the Bay and varies from one to two miles wide. U.S.G.S. records indicate that the lower course of the Goodnews rivers are tidally influenced. 6/ I find that the interconnecting and deadend sloughs of this area associated with the South Fork, Middle Fork and main river are boatable.

Throughout the selected area the Goodnews river system, which includes the South Fork, Middle Fork and main river, are boatable in fact and use.

Barnum Creek, a northwest trending tributary to Goodnews River, appears to be physically capable of supporting travel by boats normally used in the area. From map studies, Barnum Creek is longer and slower than Wattamuse Creek which has written documentation of use. Mining activity took place on Barnum Creek. There is no writen record how miners accessed the mines on Barnum Creek, assumption being that existing methods were used by moving supplies by poling boat or scows in the area as were used on adjacent streams. Barnum Creek joins the Goodnews River in section 3 of township 11 south, range 72 west, Seward Meridian or about 12 miles northeast of Goodnews Bay.

Recommendation

The following recommendation effect only the village selected area as described in case file AA-14862-A:

1. The following coastal streams should be determined navigable to the upper limits of tidal influence; actual survey will identify this upper limit:

Waterbody	Apparent upper limits as shown on 63,360 series Maps
Puyulik Creek	SM, T. 13 S., R. 74 W., sec. 1
Tunulik River	SM, T. 12 S., R. 73 W., sec. 3
Sphinx Creek	SM, T. 12 S., R. 73 W., sec. 5
Carter Creek	SM, T. 10 S., R. 75 W., sec. 35
Indian River	SM, T. 10 S., R. 75 W., sec. 14

2. The Ilanik Lakes, bounded by both the Bay and lower river, should be determined navigable to the upper limits of tidal influence.

3. The Goodnews river system (South Fork, Middle Fork and Goodnews River) and their interconnecting or dead-end sloughs should be determined navigable.

4. Barnum Creek is navigable through the selected area.

D.M. Kaltenbach
Realty Specialist

23 Feb 83
Date

Sherman H. Lee
Reviewed

2/24/83
Date

Gary L. Seitz
Reviewed

2/24/83
Date

Enclosures:
1. Land Description
2. Maps (2)

Footnotes

1. Ref, U.S.G.S. Goodnews Bay, topographic map series, scale 1:250,000, 1979.

2. Colby, Merle
A Guide to Alaska: Last American Frontier.
New York: The MacMillian Co., 1942.

3. Oral Interview, December 21, 1982,
Robert Ackerman
Department of Anthropology
Washington State University
Pullman, WN., 99164-5044

4. Antonson, Jo and C. Michael Brown
Alaska's Kuskokwin Region: A History.
Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage, Alaska.

5. Pahlke, Loren G.
Water Body Use in the Western Bristol Bay Region of Alaska. Anchorage: State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources. October 1980.

6. Harrington, George L.
Mineral Resources of the Goodnews Bay Region.
USGS Bulletin 714, Washington G.P.O. pp 207-211.

7. Oral Interview, February 18, 1983,
Joseph Martin
Kuitsaruk, Inc.
Goodnews Bay, Alaska 99620

Sec. 16;
Sec. 17, excluding Native allotments F-13776 Parcel A and F-15624 Parcel B and Native allotment litigation AA-37800 Parcel 3;
Sec. 18;
Sec. 19, excluding Native allotments F-13758 Parcel B and F-13775 Parcel B;
Sec. 20, excluding Native allotments F-13776 Parcel A and F-15844 Parcel A and Native allotment litigation AA-37800 Parcel 3;
Sec. 21.

Containing approximately 7,562 acres.

T. 10 S., R. 73 W.
Secs. 13, 14, and 15;
Secs. 22 to 27, inclusive;
Secs. 34, 35, and 36.

Containing approximately 7,680 acres.

T. 11 S., R. 73 W.
Secs. 1, 2, and 3;
Secs. 10 to 29, inclusive;
Sec. 32;
Sec. 33, excluding Native allotment F-18207 Parcel B;
Secs. 34, 35, and 36.

Containing approximately 17,861 acres.

T. 12 S., R. 73 W.
Secs. 1 and 2, excluding Native allotment F-13780 Parcel A;
Sec. 3;
Sec. 4, excluding Native allotment F-18207 Parcel B;
Secs. 5, 6, and 7;
Secs. 8 and 9, excluding Native allotment F-15949 Parcel A;
Sec. 10, excluding Native allotment F-13766 Parcel B;
Sec. 11, excluding Native allotment F-18204 Parcel A;
Secs. 12 and 13;
Sec. 14, excluding Native allotment F-18204 Parcel B;
Sec. 15;
Sec. 16, excluding Native allotment F-15949 Parcel A;
Sec. 17, excluding Native allotment F-13766 Parcel A and F-15949 Parcel A;
Sec. 18, excluding Native allotment F-13766 Parcel A;
Secs. 19 and 20 (fractional);
Sec. 21 (fractional), excluding U.S. Survey No. 5081, U.S. Survey No. 2024, and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Sec. 3(e) applications AA-47528 and AA-47531;
Sec. 22;
Sec. 23, excluding Native allotment F-15949 Parcel C;
Sec. 24, excluding Native allotment F-13775 Parcel C;
Sec. 25, excluding Native allotment F-16203 Parcel A;

Land Description for Goodnews Bay

Seward Meridian, Alaska (Unsurveyed)

T. 10 S., R. 72 W.
Secs. 18 to 23, inclusive;
Secs. 26 to 34, inclusive;
Sec. 35, excluding Native allotment F-15601 and Native allotment litigation AA-37801 Parcel 4;
Sec. 36, excluding Native allotments F-15605 Parcel B and F-18207 Parcel C.

Containing approximately 10,522 acres.

T. 11 S., R. 72 W.
Sec. 2, excluding Native allotment F-15601 and Native allotment litigation AA-37801 Parcel 4;
Sec. 3, excluding Native allotment F-13777 Parcel A and Native allotment litigation AA-37808 Parcel A;
Secs. 4 to 9, inclusive;
Sec. 10, excluding Native allotments F-13776 Parcel B and F-15844 Parcel B and Native allotment litigations AA-37800 Parcel 1 and AA-37808 Parcel A;
Sec. 15, excluding Native allotment F-13767 Parcel B and Native allotment litigation AA-37800 Parcel 1;
Sec. 16, excluding Native allotment F-13767 Parcel B and Native allotment litigation AA-37802 Parcel 4;
Secs. 17 and 18;
Sec. 19, excluding Native allotment F-15787;
Sec. 20, excluding Native allotments F-15787 and F-18207 Parcel A;
Sec. 21, excluding Native allotments F-13767 Parcel B and F-18211 Parcel A and Native allotment litigation AA-37802 Parcel 4;
Sec. 22;
Sec. 29, excluding Native allotments F-13759 Parcel A, F-15843, and F-15949 Parcel B;
Sec. 30, excluding Native allotment F-15843;
Sec. 31;
Sec. 32, excluding Native allotments F-13777 Parcel B and F-13779 Parcel A.

Containing approximately 11,590 acres.

T. 12 S., R. 72 W.
Sec. 2, excluding Native allotment F-13660;
Sec. 3, excluding Native allotment litigation AA-37801 Parcel 3;
Sec. 5, excluding Native allotments F-13758 Parcel A, F-13777 Parcel C, and F-13779 Parcel A;
Sec. 6, excluding Native allotment F-13777 Parcel C;
Sec. 7;
Sec. 8, excluding Native allotment F-13758 Parcel A;
Sec. 9, excluding Native allotment F-18369 Parcel B;
Sec. 10, excluding Native allotment F-18369 Parcel B and Native allotment litigation AA-37801 Parcel 3;

Secs. 26 and 27;
Secs. 28 and 33 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-18209;
Secs. 34, 35, and 36.

Containing approximately 16,869 acres.

T. 10 S., R. 74 W.
Secs. 28 to 33, inclusive.

Containing approximately 3,798 acres.

T. 11 S., R. 74 W.
Secs. 4 and 5;
Secs. 8 and 9;
Secs. 13, 16, and 17;
Secs. 20, 21, and 24;
Secs. 27, 28, and 29;
Secs. 33, 34, and 35.

Containing approximately 10,240 acres.

T. 12 S., R. 74 W.
Secs. 3 and 4;
Secs. 9 and 10;
Secs. 13 to 16, inclusive;
Sec. 21, excluding Native allotment litigation AA-37800 Parcel 2;
Sec. 22, excluding Native allotments F-16177 and F-16204 Parcel A;
Sec. 23, excluding Native allotment F-16177 and Native allotment litigation AA-37799 Parcel B;
Sec. 24 (fractional), excluding Native allotment litigation AA-37799 Parcel B;
Sec. 25 (fractional);
Sec. 26 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-16177;
Sec. 27 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-16177 and F-16204 Parcel A;
Sec. 28 (fractional), excluding U.S. Survey No. 2495.

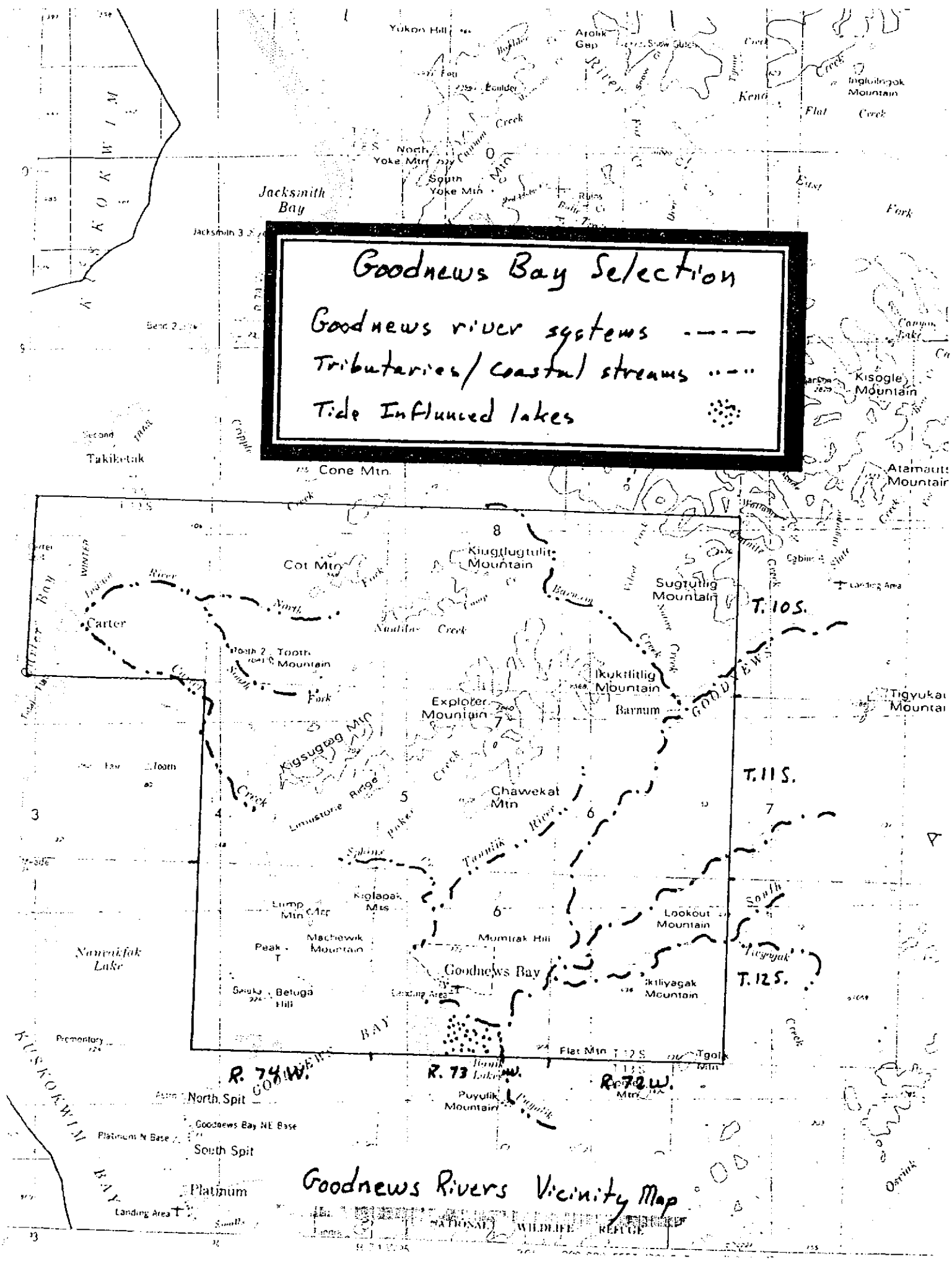
Containing approximately 8,147 acres.

T. 10 S., R. 75 W.
Sec. 4;
Sec. 5 (fractional);
Sec. 8 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-18210 Parcel A;
Secs. 9 and 16;
Sec. 17 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-17490 Parcel A and Native allotment litigation AA-37802 Parcel 1;
Sec. 20 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-18441 Parcel A;
Sec. 21 (fractional);
Secs. 25, 26, and 27;
Sec. 28 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-15690;

Sec. 29 (fractional), excluding Native allotments F-15690 and F-18441 Parcel B;
Sec. 30 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-18441 Parcel B;
Sec. 31 (fractional), excluding Native allotment F-18579 Parcel B;
Sec. 32 (fractional);
Secs. 33 to 36, inclusive.

Containing approximately 10,053 acres.

Aggregating approximately 104,323 acres.



Goodnews Rivers Vicinity Map

United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Alaska State Office
701 C Street, Box 13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Tivyagak Creek
Interim Summary Report
Attachment 3

Memorandum

MAR 3 1983

To: Chief, Division of ANCSA and State Conveyances (960)

From: Assistant to the State Director for Conveyance Management (913)

Subject: Final Navigability Determination for Goodnews River

Following is the final administrative navigability determination for water bodies within lands selected. The townships encompassing this selection and this navigability determination are listed on the Navigability Report Title Page of report Goodnews Bay-VS-83-04 on file in the Navigability Section (962).

The report was written based on a review of available maps, interviews, and recorded material.

Based on the information in the Navigability Report Goodnews Bay-VS-83-04, the following water bodies are navigable through the selected area:

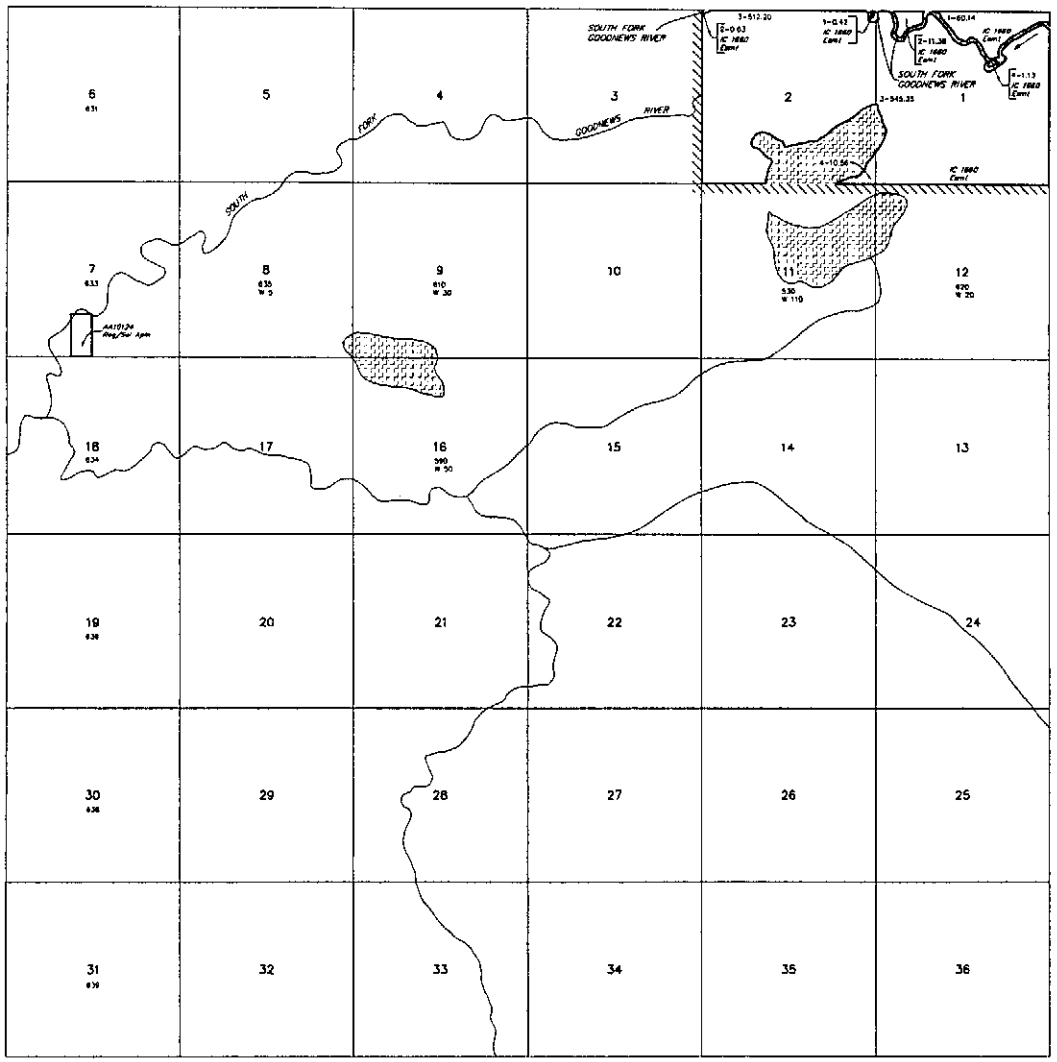
1. The Goodnews River
2. The Middle Fork of the Goodnews River
3. The South Fork of the Goodnews River
4. The interconnecting and dead-end sloughs associated with the above three (3) rivers
5. The streams and lakes to the extent of tidal influence entering the Goodnews or Kuskokwim Bays
6. Barnum Creek

All other named or unnamed water bodies within the area to be conveyed were reviewed and, based on existing evidence are nonnavigable.

Robert W. Laufenberg IV

PARTIALLY SURVEYED TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH RANGE 71 WEST OF THE SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA

PROTRACTION DIAGRAM NO. S20-14 OFFICIALLY FILED 1/27/1960



Lat 59°10'24.71"N
Long 161°08'48.34"W

Lat 59°05'12.661"N
Long 161°08'48.337"W

SCALE in chains

STATUS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN LAND AND MINERAL TITLES

MTP

FOR ORDERS EFFECTING DISPOSAL OF USE OF UNIDENTIFIED LANDS, WITHDRAWN FOR CLASSIFICATION MINERALS, WATER AND/OR OTHER PUBLIC PURPOSES REFER TO INDEX OF MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS.

PLO 5184 Wat Cl affects Lots/interests not conveyed

Tivyagak Creek
Interim Summary Report
Attachment 4

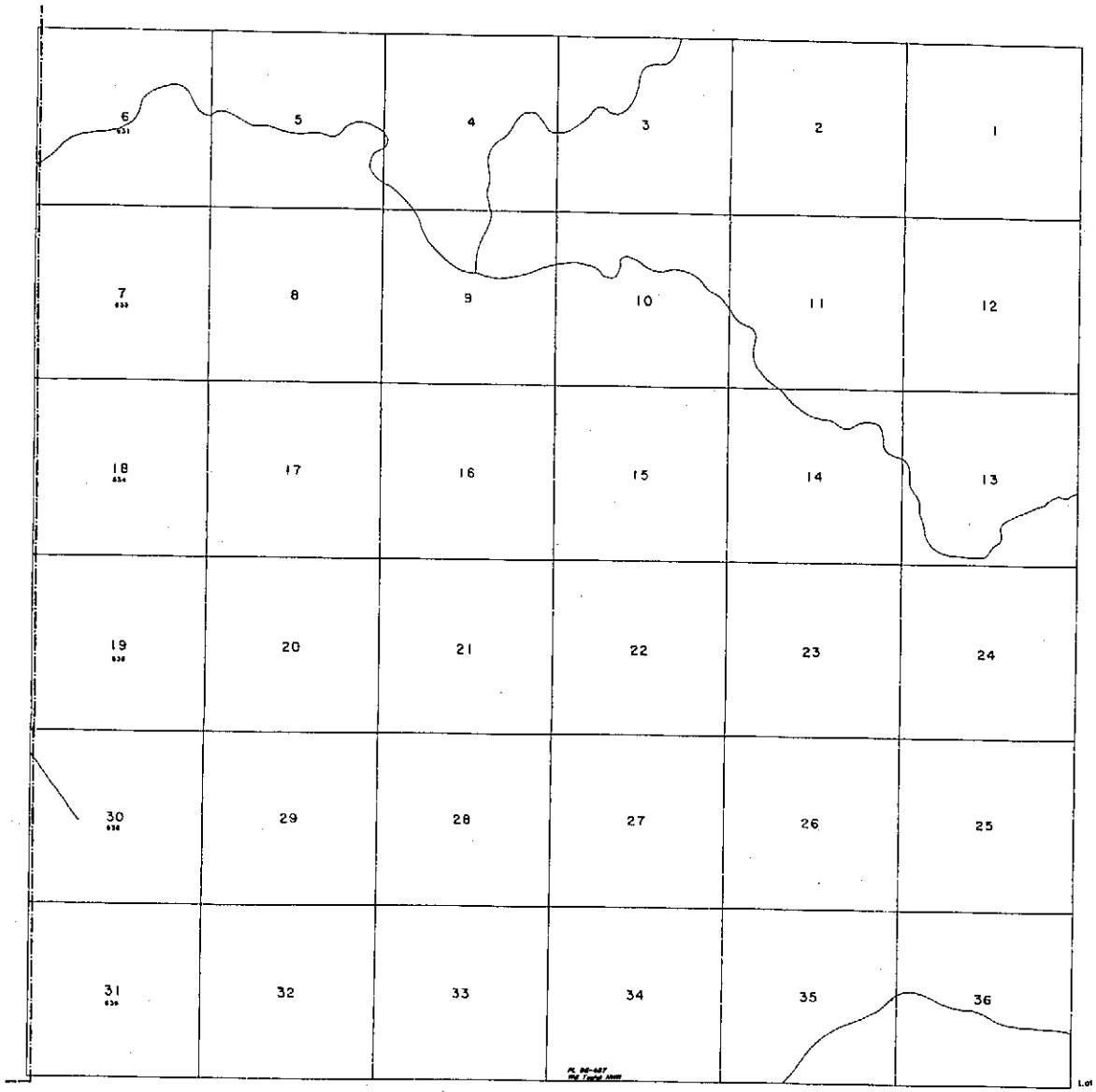
CURRENT TO	
11-3-2009	

Sew Mer
T. 12 S.
R. 71 W.

ACAD

UNSURVEYED TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 70 WEST OF THE SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA

PROTRACTION DIAGRAM NO 20-14 OFFICIALLY FILED 1/27/1960



Lat 59°05'12.661"N
Long 160°58'42.018"W

SCALE
30 chains to the inch

WARNING:
THIS PLAT IS THE BUREAU'S RECORD OF TITLE AND SHOULD BE USED ONLY AS A GRAPHIC DISPLAY OF TOWNSHIP SURVEY DATA. RECORDS HEREON DO NOT REFLECT TITLE CHANGES WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN EFFECTED BY LATERAL MOVEMENTS OF RIVERS OR OTHER BODIES OF WATER. REFER TO THE CADASTRAL SURVEY FOR OFFICIAL SURVEY INFORMATION.

STATUS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN LAND AND MINERAL TITLES

MTP

INDEX TO SEGREGATED TRACTS				
RESURVEY	ORIGINAL SURVEY			
TRACT NO	T	R	SEC	SUBDIVISION

FOR ORDERS EFFECTING DISPOSAL OR USE OF UNIDENTIFIED LANDS WITHDRAWN FOR CLASSIFICATION MINERALS, WATER AND/OR OTHER PUBLIC PURPOSES REFER TO INDEX OF MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS.

PLO 5179 3/16/1972 Wd Cl Ald of Lag entire Tp

JAN 09 1986

CURRENT TO	F&WS BHL

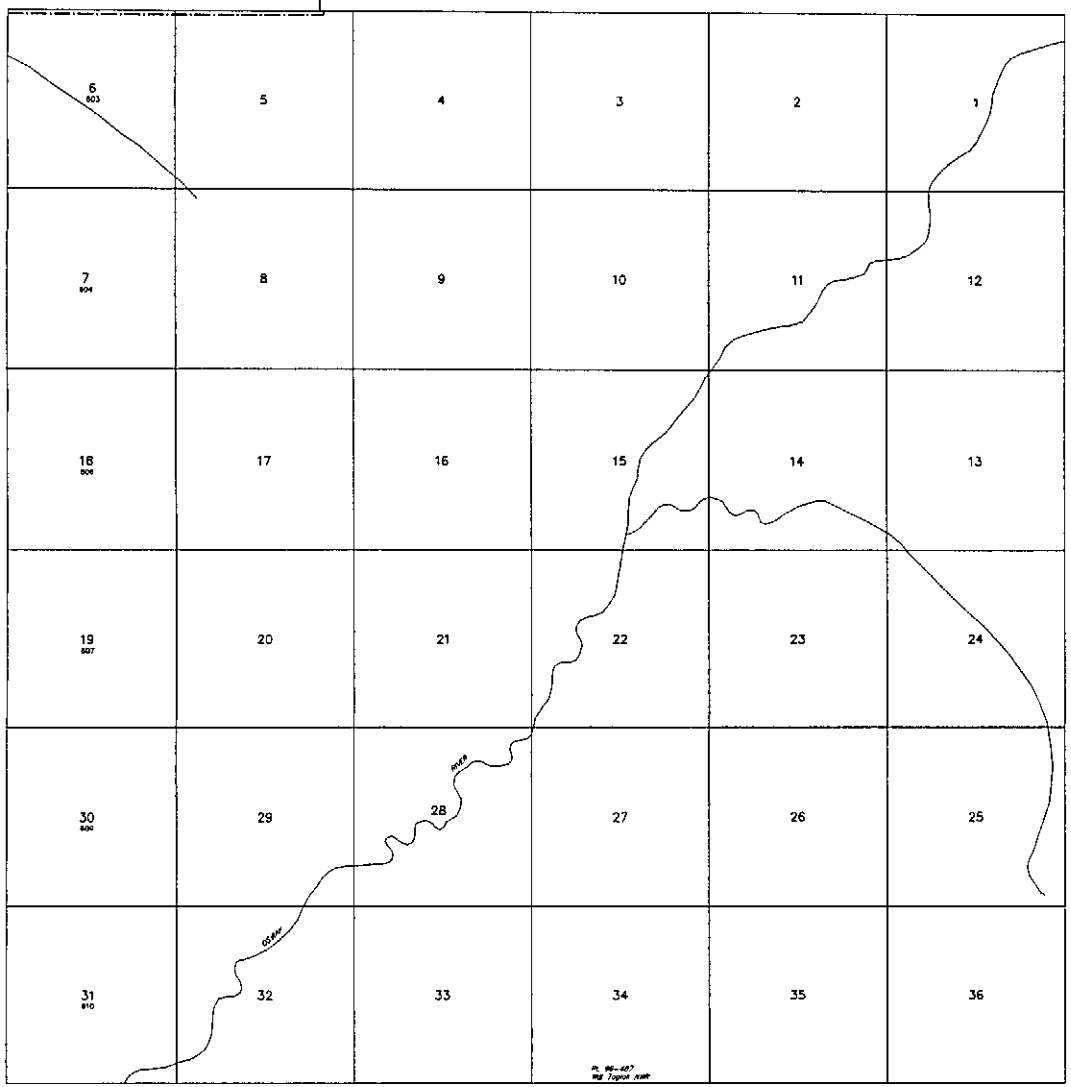
T 12 S
R 70 W
SM

12S 70W SM

ClibPDF - www.fastio.com

UNSURVEYED TOWNSHIP 13 SOUTH RANGE 71 WEST OF THE SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA

PROTRACTION DIAGRAM NO. S20-17 OFFICIALLY FILED 1/27/1960



STATUS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN
LAND AND MINERAL TITLES

MTP

FOR ORDERS EFFECTING DISPOSAL OR USE OF UN-IDENTIFIED LANDS WITHDRAWN FOR CLASSIFICATION MINERALS, WATER AND/OR OTHER PUBLIC PURPOSES REFER TO INDEX OF MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS.

PLO 5181 Wdl Cl & Study affects Lds/Interests not conveyed

Lat 59°00'00.609"N
Long 161°01'45.227"W

SCALE in chains
10 5 0 10 20 30 60

WARNING:
This plat is the Bureau's Record of Title, and should be used only as a graphic display of the township survey data. Recorded herein as not reflect this changes which may have been affected by lateral movements of rivers or other bodies of water. Refer to the cadastral surveys for official survey information.

CURRENT TO	
3-8-2005	

Sew Mer
T 13 S
R 71 W

ACAD

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Alaska State Office
701 C Street, Box 13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Goodnews Bay-FY'87-#1
Hagemeister Island-FY'87-#1
Kuskokwim Bay-FY'87-#1
(961)

NOV 21 1986

Memorandum

Tivyagak Creek
Interim Summary Report
Attachment 5

To: File F-14862-EE

From: Realty Specialist

Subject: Interviews for Group Survey No. 194 (Window 1704)

November 4, 1986.

Keith Schultz (543-2433) is a biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Bethel that knows the Goodnews River. He spends time each summer traveling up the Goodnews River. In referring to the Indian River or the Kinegnak River he had no experience.

Keith had floated the north fork Goodnews River from the lake and its origin. He described this fork as having the most water and resident boater use of the three Goodnews River forks. He had also taken an eighteen-foot Gregor boat with a thirty-five horsepower outboard upstream to the start of Federal land in T. 10 S., R. 71 W., SM. This is where Alaska River Safari has one of its summer camps. He said that AK River Safari is a large operation with ten eighteen-foot Klamith skiffs with fifty-five horsepower jets, a twenty-two-foot Monarch with a fifty-five horsepower jet, and a big air boat. AK River Safari regularly hauls its clients upstream to float and fish down the Wilderness portion of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge or camp at their motorized camps. He said that the local boaters regularly travel to the refuge which is upstream of the report area. To reach the refuge with a propellered-motor the operator would have to be familiar with the numerous braids to properly select the channel of sufficient summer depth for BLM's craft. The water was the highest and widest in the spring and the lowest in July, but Keith estimated the average to be one-hundred and fifty feet wide and seventy inches deep in T. 10 S., R. 71 W., SM. Since Keith had regularly taken BLM's smallest commercial craft upstream for this distance during different times each summer, he knew it was possible with a propeller and a thousand pound load. AK River Safari frequently exceeded this load with their clients and gear.

In 1981 the ADF+G set up a weir tower to count salmon on the Middle Fork Goodnews River. It is located twelve miles upstream at the base of Table Mountain in Sec. 3, T. 12 S., R. 72 W., SM. During the first summer they operated eighteen-foot skiffs with thirty-five horsepower propellered motors. To regularly reach their tower, three shallow spots were crossed, He reported these shallow spots to be thirty to forty inches deep. In 1981 these boats and motors were used all summer to haul supplies, the tower, building material, and equipment to their salmon weir. Since 1982, ADF+G has used eighteen foot boats with jet units to reach their camp. Since the local boaters rarely use the Middle Fork, Keith could report an average of only three resident boaters to travel upstream beyond their tower during the summer. He did remember one Native with an allotment claim three miles upstream from the tower who regularly used an eighteen-foot skiff with a fifteen horsepower propellered motor to reach his claim. In recent years the Middle Fork Goodnews River has become popular for sportfishing guides and their clients. AK River Safari has established a camp just below their tower site. Keith thought the name of another guide was the Bristol Bay Coastal Guiding Service. The Togiak National Wildlife Refuge staff had issued them a permit, and could verify their name. Their camp was located near Sec. 3, T. 11 S., R. 70 W., SM which is in the Ahklun Mountains and beyond the report area. Keith had taken an eighteen foot riverboat with a jet unit upstream to Tigukauivet Mountain and their camp during the summer and believed it could be done at any time of the summer with a propeller and a thousand pounds. He felt it might be necessary to install a lift on his outboard to get over the increasing number of shallow spots to reach their upper camp.

Keith said the South Fork Goodnews River was slow moving and free of split channels, and its beds were mud. This was a different character than the other forks with faster water, braided channels and a gravel bottom. During the summer he had taken his personal eighteen-foot Gregor boat with a thirty-five horsepower propellered motor upstream to Lookout Mountain or Sec. 13, T. 12 S., R. 72 W., SM. He described the stream as being 50 to 70 feet wide and 30 to 50 inches deep. He also believed BLM's commercial load could be taken upstream for this distance. He had not seen any other boats on the South Fork during the time he has spent fishing there.

It was difficult to even enter the Goodnews River system at low tide because of the tidal flats. However, Puyulik Creek would be impossible since it was just a trickle when the tide was out. Keith did not know how far a high tide might permit BLM's boat, and he was not aware of anyone using BLM's smallest commercial boat on this stream.

Keith frequently passes Carter Bay, but he had never taken his boat on the Indian River. From his aerial reconnaissance he believed it might be navigable in its lower reaches in the early spring or late fall. He knew this was not a popular area. Resident boaters referred to the old abandoned cabin near the mouth of the Indian River as being haunted.

The resident boaters of Platinum travel only a short distance up the Small's River. They commonly park their boats near the mouth for the summer. In the fall they only travel upstream to the village to store their boats for the winter. At low tide the river simply does not have enough water. Last fall Keith took his three-wheeler up the road from Platinum and described the Small's River in Sec. 11, T. 14 S., R. 75 W., SM to be less than knee deep. The reason they call it the Small's River is because of its low volume and narrow nature. He did not believe BLM's smallest craft with a thousand pounds could be taken up Small's River. It might be possible to take a jet boat up this river on the spring high water.

Keith said that Chagvan Bay is a popular spot for resident boaters during the fall duck hunting. It was not possible to get to Kinegnak River when the tide was out. Keith knew that the old village site of Kinegnak was abandoned from having taken his his boat into Chagvan Bay for the fall hunting. He had never been to the mouth of this river but he did not believe it was navigable because of lack of water in the bay at low tide. He knew of no boating on this river and did not believe it was possible. The local three wheelers from Platinum access the river in T. 14-15 S., R. 74 W., SM, from the three wheeler trail off the Goodnews Mining Camp road.

Keith described Slate Creek as being 30 to 40 feet wide and 30 to 40 inches deep. The old post master of Goodnews still operates the Wattamuse mine during the summer. His name is Huffman and he leaves his eighteen foot riverboat with a twenty-five horsepower jet near the mouth of Slate Creek and walks to the mine from there. The local law enforcement boaters stop to check on him each summer. Keith said that there is also an old cat trail to Wattamuse Mime that was used to haul supplies to the mine. He was not aware of anyone using Slate Creek by boat other than Huffman, who lived out there and parked at its mouth.

Keith recommended I contact Willie Eechuck (979-8127) of Platinum or James Bright (967-8515) of Goodnews for additional information. He requested that he be called if we research the Arolik River near Quinhagak. The Native council of Quinhagak would like a chance to comment, and he is aware of their names.

November 5, 1986.

Joseph Martin Sr.. (967-8511) is a Native land planner for Kuitsaruk Inc.. or Goodnews Bay Village. He said that his grandparents use to take eighteen to twenty-four-foot boats up to Wattamuse Creek on the north fork Goodnews River in the olden days because of the mine there. It is important to realize that the resident boaters referred to Slate Creek as Wattamuse Creek as well. He was unsure how the equipment was brought up to Wattamuse Mine. Joseph said that he takes his twenty-four-foot boat with a thirty-five to fifty horsepower propellered motor up the north fork to the refuge at least once each season. He knew that jet boats were used by guides further upstream, but felt the depth was sufficient for BLM's smallest commercial boat with a thousand pound load to be taken through the report area. Since Joseph felt unable to provide me with the physical character of the Goodnews River, he used his CB radio to call his neighbor Battle Amerit over. Battle is a shareholder of the tribal council and felt more comfortable with the english language. Joseph said that the jet boats used by Alaska River Safari were going to ruin the fishing by destroying the fish eggs in the riverbed. He said the jet boat were navigating the Goodnews River in only a foot of water.

Battle felt that Indian River was just a creek and could provide no means of travel by boat. This river would be too shallow for BLM's smallest commercial boat unless you travel up it in the spring.

Battle said that he had taken an eighteen foot skiff with a propeller all the way up to the lake on the Goodnews River after the heavy rains of fall. He believed it would be possible with a thousand pound load after a few days rain in the fall. However, he said that there were dry years when it would not be possible to go even 1/2 up to the lake with BLM's propellered craft and a thousand pound load. He felt the river depth was too inconsistent to give an average depth.

Battle said he had never been on the Middle Fork Goodnews River in the summer. After some discussion I found out that he is a commercial fisherman in the summer and is not in the area to travel up the Goodnews River. He suggested that I contact William Carter who works in the Goodnews Village community hall.

Willie Eechuck (979-8127) is a Native of Platinum that has boating experience in the area. He had been to the Indian River back in 1961 or 1962 in his old wooden 19 to 20 foot riverboat with a propeller equipped outboard. He knew it would only be possible to get across the mud flats of Carter Bay if it were high tide. Once he got into the Indian River he only went about a quarter of a mile and remembered the mud beds of the river. He knew BLM's boat could go upstream beyond this distance because every fall resident boaters camp on the river and hunt. He said that Bob LaMerik (967-8214) of Goodnews regularly takes his boat to the Indian River each fall.

Willie said that the north fork or main Goodnews River was the primary fork of all the resident travel by boat. He felt it was common for resident boaters to travel all the way to Goodnews Lake. Willie had personally taken his eighteen-foot Lund with a propellered eighteen horsepower motor all the way to the lake which is well beyond the report area. He said that there was a canyon about five miles upstream from Wattamuse/Slate Creek. At low water this canyon is the swiftness part of the river with a big rock in the channel. The number of rocks increases above the canyon at low water. He said that this area would require a larger fifty horsepower motor. Since the river varies each season according to the rains it is not always possible to reach the lake. For example, two years ago it was a dry season and he estimated that it would take eighteen hours to reach the lake unless you had a jet boat. The farthest he had been two years ago was just below Wattamuse/Slate Creek in Sec. 20, T. 10 S., R. 71 W., SM. He said to continue would mean tearing up propellers. Although jet boats can be taken all the way to the lake with little regard to the water level. Willie described the upper river in T. 10 S., R. 71 W., SM as being thirty to forty feet wide and three to five feet deep. This fall the heavy rains have raised the river and it would be possible to take BLM's smallest commercial craft with a thousand pound load and powered by a propeller all the way to the lake from Platinum in just a few hours.

Six years ago Willie took his old wooden nineteen to twenty-foot boat with a propeller about seven to eight miles up the Middle Fork Goodnews River before he remembered hitting bottom. Since his eighteen foot Lund is much lighter he felt he could now go at least ten to twelve miles with his propellered outboard and a thousand pounds and maybe more. He said that the resident boaters do use the Middle Fork for bear and moose hunting in the fall. Resident boaters walk their boat through the shallow areas with a thousand pounds to continue upstream beyond the twelve miles when the water level is low. However, even the shallow areas would not be a problem for a jet boat.

Willie had never been on the South Fork Goodnews River but he had flown over it and felt that he could take his eighteen-foot Lund, but he was again unsure how far.

Willie said that Puyulik Creek is too shallow and full of trees for BLM's smallest commercial boat or any boat.

Willie said that the Small's River is too shallow and narrow to even use a Kayak. Since he lives at Platinum which is located at the mouth of the Small's River there is no question about it, this river is just a foot deep.

Willie has taken his eighteen-foot Lund a quarter of a mile up the Kinegnak River in Chagvan Bay and described it to be only a foot deep. In order to even get to the mouth there must be a high tide. Since Chagvan Bay is nothing but a large sand and mud flat when the tide is out. Willie thought it might be possible to drag a raft up this stream and float down, but there was not enough water for his eighteen-foot Lund or BLM's smallest commercial craft. He said that a person could walk all the way up the bed of this stream. The old village site of Kinegnak near the mouth of this stream has been abandoned for a long time.

Willie said that Wattamuse/Slate Creeks were just trickles that flow out of the mountains like a lot of the so called rivers in the Goodnews area. Although the USGS quadrangle refers to a lot of the streams in the area as rivers, they simply do not provide any means of travel by boat. Although Wattamuse has a history of early riverboats' being taken up the Goodnews River to Slate Creek there would not be enough water for any propellered craft to power a boat up to the old mine on Wattamuse Creek. He said that it might be possible to walk up a boat up this creek but he was not sure. He said that there was an old road leading to the mining camp that they must have used in the olden days to haul equipment or supplies to the mine.

November 6, 1986.

James Bright is a Native of Goodnews village (967-8515). Although he was familiar with the water bodies in the area he did not want to help a gussik and referred me to the Goodnews Village Council. He said he had taken BLM's smallest commercial craft with a propeller up the Indian River. He felt it would be possible to travel up this river at least ten miles in a jet boat. Once in a while he takes his propellered craft up this river but there must be a high water. To even enter the river a high tide is needed to get across the mud flats of Carter Bay. He takes his boat as far upstream as he can but could not provide a distance with a propeller. He also provided me with Bob LaMerik phone number of Goodnews at 967-8214.

William Walter represents the Goodnews Bay Village Council at 967-8311. He is a Native with extensive boating experience in the Goodnews area. The first river that Walter commented on was the main Goodnews River. He said he has taken his fourteen-foot aluminum boat with a propellered outboard all the way to Goodnews Lake. The average depth is between two and a half and twelve feet deep. This depth would be normal for the months of July, August, September and October. He believed that BLM's smallest commercial boat with a thousand pound load could not be taken all the way upstream to the lake during the normal water stages of June, November and December, because there was not enough water for a propellered motor. He knew many resident boaters to regularly ascend the Goodnews to the lake each season in boats similar to BLM's smallest commercial craft and load while powered by a propeller.

William said that boats can not ascend the Middle Fork Goodnews River to reach its upper lake at low or high water because of rocks that block the channel. This blockage is located upstream beyond the report area. During the late summer the resident boaters will ascend the Middle Fork in search of berries. Each fall resident boaters travel up the Middle Fork for bear and moose. William had personally taken his fourteen foot aluminum boat with a propellered outboard to the blockage which he described as being sixteen to twenty miles beyond the ADF+G fish counting camp in Sec. 3, T. 12 S., R. 72 W., SM. The blockage was even beyond Tigukauivet Mountain in T. 10 S., R. 70 W., SM and upstream of the report area. The average depth of this fork was between one and a half and seven feet deep. He said the local boaters are expert at getting over in shallow spots because of their knowledge of the river and its channel. It would not be a problem for BLM's boat and load during the normal water stages of July, August, September and October.

William said it was possible to ascend the South Fork Goodnews River for five miles. Beyond this there was not enough water, it was too shallow. Although this fork was not as heavily used as the other two forks, some resident boaters do travel this distance in boats similar to BLM's smallest commercial boat for fishing and berry picking. He had taken his fourteen-foot boat upstream for this distance and knew it was possible for larger propellered craft. He believed the thousand pounds would not make a difference.

For many years William has traveled up the coast to enter Carter Bay and stay at the cabin located on the Indian River during hunting season. To get to the Indian River a high tide would be needed to cross Carter Bay. William believed the Indian River was too shallow for his boat or BLM smallest commercial boat. There was simply not enough water for a propellered craft. The cabin and the river were said to contain evil spirits. Evidently there had been white men that had gone to this river and never come back.

Each season many of the resident boaters travel south from Goodnews Bay and enter Chagvan Bay for the dog salmon run on the Kinegnak River. He said that this area was known to be a popular fish feeding area for large groups of brown bears. He said that the local village of Kinegnak had been abandoned for some time. He felt that it had been abandoned because there were no doctors in the area and its danger due to the bears. He said that many resident boaters travel up the Kinegnak River in boats similar to BLM's smallest commercial craft. He describe it as being forty to fifty feet wide and two and a half to seven feet deep. He knew that Adolph Nicolai (at 967-8413), John James (no listing) and William Mark (no listing) were just a few of the boaters who ascend the Kinegnak River with BLM's smallest commercial propellered craft. They travel up the Kinegnak for the salmon fishing and hunting. He said it was only possible to go about half way up this river. Resident boaters were traveling upstream to the first mountain on the left. It was not possible to reach Fog Creek or Wind Creek, the first mountain is at the 860 foot elevation and downstream from these creeks. The northern border of Sec. 1, T. 15 S., R. 74 W., SM would probably not be possible with a thousand pounds because of the rocks that begin to drop into the river from the cliffs. Beyond Sec. 1, the hills converge down to the river causing swifter water, more rocks, and shallow water.

Dave Fisher is the manager of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. His office is located in Dillingham at 842-1063. Dave said that a large amount of aerial reconnaissance is done each season to monitor the bird and wildlife populations of the refuge. This last fall they conducted a water fowl survey on Carter Bay and the Indian River. They observed a number of boats similar in size to BLM's smallest commercial boat about a mile upstream. Dave believed the reason they got this far upstream was only due to a high tide. They had never observed any boats further upstream and Dave did not believe it was possible for BLM's craft. Beyond this mile the natural water stages would not provide a depth sufficient for travel with BLM's smallest propellered craft.

Dave had floated down the main Goodnews River from Goodnews Lake by raft. He said that he had observed Alaska River Safari's two large twenty-two to twenty-four-foot boats with large inboard engines and cabins all the way upstream to Goodnews Lake. Although these boats were equipped with jet units, Dave believed it could be done with BLM's smallest craft carrying a half ton while powered by propeller. He felt this would be possible on the high water stages of summer and fall. Alaska River Safari's use to have a camp on Goodnews Lake that they regularly took clients upstream to all summer. While floating the river Dave had observed the average depth to range from one to four feet, and this was not during the high water stages of summer.

Dave described Slate/Wattamuse Creek as being small, shallow and rocky. He did not believe that BLM's smallest commercial craft could be taken upstream very far if at all by propeller. Dave had never rafted the Middle Fork Goodnews River, but he had issued permits to Bristol Bay Lodge to set up camp for their clients inside the refuge boundaries. He believed that their camp was located near Sec. 2, T. 11 S., R. 70 W., SM. He knew that they used fourteen to sixteen foot boats with thirty-five horsepower jet units all the way upstream to this camp. Dave believed that a propellered craft could not get much past the ADF+G camp unless it had a lift. He recommended that I call Bristol Bay Lodge (243-5385) in Anchorage for more information on the physical character of the Middle Fork and additional boat use upstream beyond the ADF+G camp.

Dave felt that the South Fork had even less water than the other forks, and he had never observed any boats on this fork. He felt that this fork was too shallow for BLM's smallest commercial boat.

Although Dave had never been on the Kinegnak River by boat, a refuge employee named mark had established a camp near its mouth this last fall. He had taken his Zodiac with a keel about a mile upstream with a propellered outboard. Mark told Dave that he had needed the tide to get into the Kinegnak River and across the mud flats of Chagvan Bay. However, once into the river it was deep enough for BLM's smallest craft with a propeller to travel upstream. From Dave's conversation it was unclear how far Mark could have gone upstream. In any event, a flat bottomed boat could travel further upstream than a zodiak with a keel.

I tried to contact Adolph Nicolai at 967-8413 in Goodnews Bay but the phone was hung up after two words were said, "I'm sorry." Perhaps Nicolai does not feel comfortable speaking english.

November 7, 1986.

James Smith of Goodnews (967-8515) would not provide any information. He told me to come down here and check it out for myself.

Walter Galila (967-8414) had taken BLM's smallest commercial propellered boat upstream on the Middle Fork Goodnews River to the ADF+G camp in Sec. 3, T. 12 S., R. 72 W., SM. However, he knew the resident boaters of Goodnews Bay were going upstream into the refuge each fall in boats similar to BLM's smallest craft while powered by a propeller. He believed that the upstream limit to BLM's boat and load would be well beyond the report area. The water is deep enough each season for the local boaters to travel this distance.

Walter had not been on the South Fork or the Kinegnak River. However, Henry Small was with Walter when I called and he had taken his boat a half a mile up the Kinegnak River but he was not sure how far BLM's smallest commercial boat could be taken beyond this. One of the reasons that resident boaters do not report to go further upstream is because they anchor their large commercial fishing vessels with a deep draft in Chagvan Bay. These vessels are larger than BLM's craft. Because of their draft requirements, they can not be taken beyond the tidal influence in the lower reaches of the river.

I phoned Bob LaMerik of Goodnews (967-8214) and he said it had been many years since he had taken a boat up the Goodnews River and would not comment. He recommended that I call the sportfishing guides that use the upper Goodnews forks.

Ron Hyde of the Alaska River Safari's (333-2860) provided substantial information. Although he was recovering from a recent stroke, he could provide the following information: Every year for the past fourteen, Ron said that he had been on the Goodnews River every day from break up to freeze up. He said that it was extremely normal under any conditions to see the Natives of Goodnews Bay taking BLM's smallest commercial boat with a propeller upstream to the refuge. He considered this the predictable lower stretch for travel any time with a propeller. He said that the main Goodnews was eighty miles in length and climbed 540 vertical feet in this distance to reach the lake. The resident boaters only have to climb two-hundred feet of little gradient to reach the refuge. The difficult navigation was the last 340 vertical feet gained inside the refuge alone to reach Goodnews Lake. Ron use to have a camp on the Goodnews Lake for many years. He has seen Natives of Goodnews village hunting, fishing and berry picking all the way up to the lake each season. The boats he had seen the locals use were similar to BLM's smallest craft with propellers. These boats with propellers are able to reach the refuge pretty much all year. At low water their are some rocks that make final climb into the lake difficult for propellered boats. Ron said that the canyon is quite a bit further upstream than the five miles above Slate Creek that had been described to me in an earlier interview. He said that the Goodnews River is remote and boaters have to be experienced to select the proper channel. Experience one year could not be relied upon three years later because the course of the river and it channels change. Ron considers the Native boaters to be the best in the world. Every season he sees the Natives bring BLM's smallest commercial boats all the way up to the lake with a propeller. Just this last fall he saw four of the Native boaters each bring a moose out from Goodnews Lake. The half ton load would not be a problem. In fact Ron hauls clients all the way upstream to Goodnews Lake in his heavy twenty-four foot jet boats.

Ron said that he Middle Fork Goodnews River is also used by BLM's smallest commercial craft with a propeller all the way upstream into the refuge. Since the Natives are involved in commercial fishing during the summer, they would not normally be seen on the Middle Fork until fall. During the fall the commercial fisherman of Goodnews Bay have the one to five day period of time that is needed to camp and hunt bear and moose, to trap, and to fish for white fish, rainbow trout, and dollies. Even when the water is low on the Middle Fork the Native boaters of Goodnews can travel upstream into the refuge for these activities. Although the shallow spots are more frequent on the Middle Fork, the Natives will lift their propellered motor out of the water in time to travel over a shallow spot thirty feet long. Ron has seen the Natives in the refuge each season with BLM's smallest propellered craft. He also has seen the fourteen foot jet boats used by Bristol Bay Lodge to carry their sportfishing clients upstream to their camp in the refuge.

Ron said that the South Fork Goodnews River is slower moving with the least amount of water of the three forks. He said his son Ron Hyde Jr.. guides on the South Fork each season and he was more familiar with it. When I asked if BLM's smallest commercial boat with a propeller could be taken to the first fork in the refuge called Tivyagak Creek, Ron said that this was common and done each season. There were also some moose taken on the South Fork. Ron has seen the Natives in boats of this size and load while powered by a propeller be taken this distance, but it was usually in the fall when the Natives have more time.

Ron's son spends a lot of time camping on the Kinegnak River each fall during the hunting season. Since Ron Jr.. goes to college during his afternoons his son will call me back on Monday or Tuesday.

November 12, 1986.

Ron Hyde Jr.. (333-2860) is a sportfishing guide with Alaska River Safari's. He spends his summer boating the Middle Fork and South Fork Goodnews River. He also has a fall camp on Kinegnak River in Chagvan Bay. He said he had thirteen years of boating experience on these rivers, spending from six to eight hours a day on the rivers from May to Mid or late October. He primarily spends his time on the Middle fork camp about one mile downstream from the ADF+G camp or in Sec 9 of T. 12 S., R. 72 W., SM. He regularly uses a twenty-three foot Duckworth with a large inboard engine and a jet unit to take clients upstream into the refuge. The boat alone weighs an estimated 2,400 lbs.. without passengers. With three passengers, gear and

fuel he estimated the boats weight to be over 3,400 lbs.. He regularly takes this boat upstream on the Middle Fork Goodnews River through the report area to reach the Kukaktlik River in T. 10 S., R. 75 W., SM. He described the Kukaktlik River as a small shallow creek. However he has seen the Natives boaters take their boats which are similar to BLM's smallest commercial craft upstream on this small stream by riding their wake. This is done by adding power or reducing power on their propellered motors to get over the shallow areas. Ron said that he had hauled a lot of gear and clients up the Middle Fork. Last summer he even took Lynette Nakazawa of the BLM photogrammetry section up the Middle Fork and the main Goodnews River to their tide markers. Under the right water conditions Ron had taken a small skiff powered by a propeller all the way up to Middle Fork Lake. These conditions would follow the normal storms of spring, August or fall. After several days of rain the river will rise and frequently cover the gravel bars. For the last two years their cook tent has had eight inches of water in it on these high gravel bars. After several days of flooding the channels are frequently altered and the river becomes silty. It normally takes about three more days for the river to return to its natural clear water state. Ron said he had also spent a fall trapping on the upper Middle Fork. He had taken a snowmobile in his eighteen-foot Lund upstream to a Native mud house in the refuge. This was a common practice for the Native boaters. The Natives will usually drag their boat out of the water for the winter and wait for freeze up. Then they will drive the snow machine back to the village and pick up the boat in the spring. The resident boaters take BLM's smallest commercial craft and load upstream on the Middle Fork each fall to hunt or trap for beaver and otter. No special conditions are necessary for BLM's boat and load to be taken this far by propeller except experience. He described the Middle Fork as being 8 to 12 feet deep. The deepest areas were along the cut banks, but he estimated its average depth to be three feet. He said that there were at least a half dozen Native cabins on the Middle Fork upstream from the ADF+G camp and he regularly sees the Native boaters traveling upstream to these cabins each fall. Many of the cabins are located inside the refuge and upstream from the report area.

Ron also spends a lot of time on the South Fork Goodnews River. He described this river as being a tundra river with less trees than either of the other forks. Ron regularly takes his propellered eighteen-foot Lund upstream to Tivyagak Creek. He said that the resident boaters could take BLM's smallest commercial propellered craft and load up to the outlet of a small creek which connect to a lake in T. 12 S., R. 71 W., SM. He believed that this would be the normal limit for BLM's boat and load while powered by a propeller. Although there are not a lot of moose in the area, the Natives will then hike upstream to

this lake and occasionally shoot moose. Ron had been further upstream in a smaller sixteen-foot boat. Ron described this river as having shallow corners of 10-14" water on the cut banks. He knew of the early Pike expedition had poled their boats up the South Fork Goodnews to cross into the Osviak River drainage and rejoin Bristol Bay. He believed that they used Tivyagak Creek to cross over to the Osviak River.

Ron also began to discuss the Kinegnak River which drains into Chagvan Bay. He said that there were no jet boats reaching this river. Chagvan Bay is shallow and full of kelp and seaweed which would plug a jet. Getting to this river was tricky, but once on the river he said it was about the same size and average three foot depth as the South Fork. He believed that the high tide would extend up this river about one mile. It was very similar to the South Fork Goodnews River. In addition to the Native allotments and the old village site on the lower river their were trappers cabins upstream in the hills of the Kinegnak River. Ron said that a propellered boat comparable to BLM's boat and load could be taken upstream to the cliffs and hills. The hills and cliffs are identified between the 405 and 860 foot hills on the west side of the river. The east side of the river has a larger hill at 1555 feet above sea level. He related this to traveling to the top of the J in the river. Ron had taken his eighteen-foot Lund with a thirty-five to sixty-five horsepower propellered motor through Sec. 12, T. 15 S., R. 74 W., SM. Beyond this, the river bed began to have rocks falling into the river from the fifty foot high cliffs. It also becomes too shallow as the gradient increases. He believed that this was the upper limit of navigation for BLM's boat and load. Ron said he would come into the office and help identify the Native cabin locations and their individual extent of travel by boat.

November 14, 1986.

Peter Samuels is the Mayor of Platinum and located in the city office (979-8114). He was familiar with the Kinegnak River. Samuels had taken BLM's smallest commercial boat with a propeller up this river. The problem with this river is getting into it. He said that Chagvan Bay is a large sand and mud flat that is difficult to cross at low tide. He said that if a boat reaches the mouth of Kinegnak River when the tide was out they would have to wade their boat a short distance upstream to get over a bar. Once in the river, it has a depth of three to eight feet deep. It is possible to go upstream by traveling back and forth across the river following the channel and the cut banks. He said that he had turned around an estimated five to eight miles upstream. He remembered the spot to be the first cliff on the right. He believed that he could have gone further upstream

but he was alone and had no reason to. He said that the old timers grandparents use to live up the Kinegnak River and their old cemeteries are still found upriver in or near Sec. 13, T. 15 S., R. 74 W., SM. He thought that Moses Kilbuck (no listing), Willie Eechuck (979-8127), or Oscur Snyder (979-8129) might have a knowledge of the early boaters and how far they use to go on this river since their grandparents lived on the river. Although he had never been to the upper limit many others had described its limit to be in the hills and he knew you could only go so far upstream. He didn't know how far upstream the Natives who use to live on the river had gone by boat. But he knew that the old timers used kayaks on this river when they lived there. He was not sure if they used poling boats.

Ron Hyde (333-2860) said that he had also been up the Kinegnak River but it was three years ago and his son Ron Hyde Jr.. was more familiar with it. He said that he had taken an eighteen-foot boat with a propellered motor upstream into the hills before turning around. He believed that BLM's boat could be taken upstream for this distance with a propeller and a thousand pound load. During this thirteen miles, the river climbed less than a hundred feet. He remembered seeing an old shack in the hills that he believed to be used by Native trappers. Beyond this distance the river is no longer a marshy valley and its depth begins to shallow out. Although he did not see any other boats, his son had spent more time on the river and seen propellered boats this far upstream each fall. Ron Hyde considered this river deep enough for easy navigation by BLM's smallest commercial boat. The real problem is not with the river, but to get across the shallow and muddy Chagvan Bay.

November 18,1986.

James Akerelrea, a land planner with Calista Corporation (279-5516) came into the office to discuss the Kinegnak River. After he looked the area over on the map he said that he was not familiar with the area. He was familiar with the Quinhagak area just north of Group Survey 194. James could speak fluent Upic and offered to call Adolph Nicolai of Goodnews Bay. The call was not placed from my office because James had just had his tonsils out and couldn't speak well on the phone. James was from Scammon Bay. He suggested that a map of the rivers in this area be sent to Goodnews Village.

Oscur Snyder is a old Native from Platinum (979-8129) that was estimated to be over seventy years old. Snyder said that he was one of the only old timers that use to live at the old village site of Kinegnak. In those days he said that the Natives did not have outboard motors. All the travel was done by can or kayak. He remembered taking his canoe several miles upstream

from the old village and drift fishing for chum salmon. He said that this river was real deep in some places but also had some hard to get over places. Each fall he could remember the trappers who took their camp and supplies upriver for the winter by canoe. Sometimes the trappers would come back into town in December for the Christmas dance. These trappers would build igloos upriver to spend the winter and come back down river in the spring by canoe. There were also reindeer herders who use to travel upstream by canoe to reach their herds. These canoes were various sizes like the modern day canoe and provided the primary means of transportation. Snyder remembered the village of Kinegnak to be nearly empty each spring and fall. The Natives were upriver hunting and trapping with these canoes and it provided their primary means of travel.

November 19, 1986.

I phoned the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection in Bethel (543-3494) and talked to George Dahl. Dahl worked at the old Platinum mine when he was a boy and he was familiar with the Goodnews Bay area. Dahl is also a trooper that does a lot of flying. Each summer he would land on the airstrip at the mouth of Wattamuse Creek to check on Clyde Huffman who operated the old Wattamuse Mine. Clyde use to be the old post master of Bethel and until his recent death last summer operated the old Wattamuse Mine. Clyde regularly relied upon his fifteen to eighteen-foot flat bottomed boat for transportation and the hauling of supplies and equipment each summer. Dahl knew that Huffman relied upon Slate Creek to reach Wattamuse Creek. Huffman use to park his jet boat just downstream from the old mining dredge in the mouth of Wattamuse Creek. From here Huffman use to load his supplies on his three or four wheelers for the last three fourths of a mile to his cabin on Wattamuse claim. Dahl said that Wattamuse Creek was full of boulders and shallow. He did not believe that BLM's smallest commercial boat could be taken up Wattamuse Creek very far. He was sure BLM' smallest craft could not reach Huffman's cabin which was another three fourths of a mile upstream. Last summer Dahl had also flown his son into the air strip on Slate Creek for him to float Dahl's raft downstream passing the mouth of Wattamuse Creek to reach Goodnews Village. Officer Dahl recommended that I also contact Ron Whittom (543-3350) who has a mining claim in this same area.

Ron Whittom (543-3350) lives in Bethel but has a mining claim on Fox Creek which is upstream from Wattamuse Creek on Slate Creek. Whittom use to work for the troopers, but quit his job to go into full scale mining on his Fox Creek claim. Whittom had spent a number of summers on Slate Creek and regularly flies his supercub airplane into the air strip at Wattamuse and Fox Creeks. He said that Slate Creek was thirty to forty feet wide

and two to three feet deep at low water. On a high water the creek would be five or six feet deep. Whittom said that high water comes within eight to ten hours after a heavy rain. These rains are very common for most of the summer and especially in the fall. He said it was no problem for BLM's smallest commercial craft to be taken upstream on Slate Creek to reach the airstrip across from Wattamuse Creek on an average summer flow. He knew that Huffman used BLM's smallest commercial craft and regularly traveled upstream for this distance. Whittom believed that BLM's smallest commercial boat and load could be taken upstream to Olympic Creek by propeller. Olympic Creek was only a short distance upstream from this airstrip on Slate Creek. Olympic Creek was very small and too shallow by itself. Beyond Olympic Creek, Slate Creek still has six and seven-foot deep pools of water, but their were too many shallow spots. Whittom said that Slate Creek did not begin its steep climb until after leaving Fox Creek. However, Whittom believed that the thousand pound load would limit BLM's smallest propellered craft to Olympic Creek. Whittom had also flown over the Kinegnak River and observed Native boaters upstream. He said it was a popular spot for duck hunting in the fall.

Ron Hyde Jr.. came into the office today to discuss the Kinegnak River. Ron is currently going to college in Anchorage to take welding and business courses. Since his father's recent stroke, Ron Hyde Jr.. will be expected to take over more of Alaska River Safari's guiding business on the Goodnews River system. Ron has guided sport fish clients in the Goodnews area for the last thirteen years. He has a house at Goodnews Bay Village and has been on the villages search and rescue team for the last four years. On June 6, 1986, Hyde Jr.. had administered mouth to mouth to Clyde Huffman, a miner on Wattamuse Creek, after his recent heart attack. Hyde Jr.. said that Alaska River Safari's main camp on the Goodnews River was just downstream from Isurik Creek, and he was going to follow Huffman upstream. Hyde Jr.. had taken his eighteen-foot propellered Lund upstream on the Goodnews River to the airstrip on Slate Creek across from the mouth of Wattamuse Creek many times over the years and believed that it was not a problem for BLM's smallest craft and load. Wattamuse Creek itself was full of huge boulders and was too shallow for BLM's boat. Huffman use to park his boat at the mouth of Wattamuse Creek and take his three wheelers the remaining three fourths of a mile upstream to his cabin. Hyde Jr.. also has a camp on the Kinegnak River in the fall. On this river he usually takes his eighteen-foot Lund with a sixty-five horsepower propellered outboard. He uses this bigger motor because he said that the wind can create some dangerous sea conditions near Red Mountain. He has seen thirty-foot boats capsize near Red Mountain and likes to have the extra power to get back to Goodnews Bay Village before a storm comes up. Several boats have been stranded in Chagvan Bay because of the

rough seas. Some of the Platinum residents keep a three wheeler near Chagvan Bay in case they get weathered in. Each fall, Hyde Jr.. said that the Natives of Platinum and Goodnews Bay come to Chagvan Bay and/or the Kinegnak River for fish, duck, goose, seals, and clams. Camps are always set up near both sides of the entrance to Chagvan Bay and near the mouth of the Kinegnak River. The Natives' travel up the Unaluk River to reach the lakes south of the river for duck hunting. They travel up the Kinegnak each fall for the trout, white fish, black fish, greyling and ducks. The larger thirty foot vessels anchor near the southern side of the entrance to Chagvan Bay. From here they use their smaller skiffs to reach the Kinegnak River. Julias Henry of Platinum usually travels with Hyde Jr.. to hunt, trap and fish on the Kinegnak. They had both taken BLM's smallest commercial craft up the Kinegnak by propeller. Hyde Jr.. also regularly takes this size boat upstream past Shaw Creek each summer. The reason the valley appears to be marshy is because of the large number of beaver dams have caused this area to flood. The trees have also been killed as a result of the beavers. Hyde Jr.. said that the Kinegnak River is used by the Native boaters in the fall on high water upstream into T. 14 S., R. 73 W., SM. However, he believed that the thousand pounds could only be comfortable taken upstream through Sec. 12, T. 15 S., R. 74 W., SM. He had easily been this far with a smaller motor on his eighteen foot Lund and knew the Natives to go this distance in their propellered boats each fall. The shallowest part of the Kinegnak River was in it lowest reaches because of the sediment and sand that has accumulated from flooding. The Natives also liked to hunt the seals near the mouth of the Kinegnak River. The large number of cut banks along this river create an easy three to eight feet of water for this distance. The holes are deep enough for the fish to hold up under these cut banks for the entire winter. Hyde Jr.. had also been over the Kinegnak River by snow machine many times. He said that the cliffs are over fifty feet straight down along the river where the boulders start to appear in the river. These boulders would create a problem for BLM's smallest propellered boat and load before reaching Fog and Wind Creek and especially where the hills converge with the river in T. 14 S., R. 73 W., SM. Hyde Jr.. was also very familiar with the Osviak River, and Warehouse Creek in T. 3 S., R. 74 W., SM.

David Rukke

Tivyagak Creek
Interim Summary Report
Attachment 6

[Draft 12-16-2010]

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW WITH RON HYDE, JR.
Anchorage, Alaska
October 6, 2010

Historians Rolfe Buzzell and Nicole Lantz of the Office of History and Archaeology, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted an oral history interview with Ron Hyde, Jr. on October 6, 2010. Ron Hyde, Jr. lives in Anchorage and is President and CEO of PRL Logistics, Inc., which is based in Anchorage. His mailing address at work is 3201 C Street, Suite 300, Anchorage, Alaska 99503. His work telephone number is (907) 261-9440.

The interview took place in Ron's office and the interviewers asked questions focusing on Ron's recreational and commercial river running activities in the Goodnews River drainage of Alaska. The interview began about 11 AM. The interviewers did not turn on the digital recorder until about half way through the two-hour interview session, which ended at 1 PM. The following interview summary is based on handwritten notes taken by the two interviewers for the first half of the session, then a summary of the digital recording of the rest of the interview. The interviewers brought a GIS map of the Goodnews River area created at DNR. The map is marked with river miles for the main rivers. Ron made notes on the map to indicate the location of commercial lodges and camps sites, historic sites and the furthest extent that he traveled up specific water bodies. References to river miles in this summary are to the mile posts on the DNR maps. All photographs used in this summary are courtesy of Ron.

Ron B. Hyde, Jr. was born in 1961. His father, Ron Hyde, Sr., who lives in Anchorage, started "Alaska River Safaris," a commercial river guiding business, in 1971 (Figure 1). The focus of that business was guiding clients in the Goodnews River drainage.

Figure 1. Ron Hyde, Sr. on the North Fork of the Goodnews River, 1980s.

Ron recommended several sources for the early transportation history of the Goodnews River area. He mentioned Dr. Otto George's book, *The Eskimo Medicine Man* (Oregon Historical Society, 1979), which Ron said contained information on the region. He also mentioned the archives of the Moravian Church in Bethel, which contain meticulous diaries and journals of the Moravian missionaries in western Alaska, including information on their activities and trips.

The Hyde family started operating in the Goodnews Bay area prior to the establishment of the Cape Newenham NWR. Ron remembered the time when different parties were making land selections and how the regional and village corporations were selecting lands on top of each other and local Native allotments.

Ron and his family began commercial river guide in the Goodnews River drainage prior to the creation of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). His father started the guiding business in 1971 and Ron worked for his father in his teens, twenties and thirties. After the creation of the Togiak NWR, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS) officials placed a moratorium on commercial guiding on the Goodnews River and its tributaries, restricting the number of guides to 1984 levels. No restrictions were made on air taxi services or non-guided use. Initially, Ron said, non-guided recreational float use on the Goodnews River and its tributaries was about 25 percent of commercial use. In the 1980s, non-guided float use rose dramatically and surpassed by far commercially guided use of the river. There was lots of traffic on the river, 20-30 rafters at a time going down the river and non-guided traffic continued to increase in the 1980s and 1990s (Figure 2). Ron recalled that Natives, non-commercial rafters and fly-in fishermen who used the river left lots of trash along the river, creating a real problem. Rafters on the river would catch and take the fish, and leave their trash to make room to carry out the fish. The commercial guides on the river picked up trash left by others because the guides viewed the river as a non-renewable resource that was fragile. On several occasions, when he found identification or mailing addresses on the trash, Ron collected trash and sent it COD to the people who had left the trash on the river.

Figure 2. Three Alaska River Safaris rafts and "Laska" the dog on the lower Goodnews River just above Barnum Creek, 1974.

Ron came of age in the Goodnews River area and lived there about 25 years, from 1971 to about 2006. In his youth he and friends would snowmachine from Platinum to the Slug River and kayak down. Later, Ron moved to Goodnews village year round. He spent two years living in the winter at Goodnews Lake in Betty Huffmon's Cabin [Native allotment AA-37800-D], hunting and trapping in the area. He lived in the Goodnews Bay area for 25 years and built a home in Goodnews Bay village. He trapped in the winters and got to know many of the local Natives. He learned the local language and knows the Native names for local rivers and landmarks. Ron attended the State Trooper Academy in Sitka in 1985 and became a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO). He served as a VPSO for 5 years, stationed mostly in Goodnews Bay village.

Ron's family operated a commercial guiding business called "Alaska River Safaris" and "Goodnews River Lodge" (Figure 3). They operated in the Goodnews Bay area from 1971 until the mid-1990s. The business offered float and power-boat trips on the north (main) branch of the Goodnews River. The float trips began at Goodnews Lake, where the Hydes' used Betty Huffman's cabin [Native allotment AA-37800-D] as a base camp. Rafts carrying clients floated down the Goodnews River to the village or to other take-out points along the river. The Hydes also did float and motor boat trips on the Middle and South Forks, and on two tributaries that flow into Goodnews Lake. For many years Alaska River Safaris and Goodnews River Lodge were the only outfitters on the Goodnews area.

Figure 3. Logo for Alaska River Safaris, 1990s.

The Hydes conducted guided trips on the upper Goodnews River and Igmiumanik Creek. They took clients about a mile upstream of the outlet of upper Goodnews River (Figure 4) to fish for Dolly Varden, salmon and lake trout. They also took clients by boat up the upper Goodnews on hunting trips in the 1970s and 1980s to about Section (Sec.) 14, Township (T.) 7 South (S.), Range (R.) 66 West (W.), Seward Meridian (SM) [river mile 75.5 on the DNR map]. The Hydes used 16-foot Gregor aluminum boats. They also took clients by motor boat up Igmiumanik Creek, a tributary that flows into upper Goodnews River in Sec. 35, T. 7 S, R. 66 W., SM. They went upstream into Sec. 19, T. 7 S., 65 W., SM.

Figure 4. An Alaska River Safaris raft on the upper Goodnews River above Goodnews Lake, 1980s. The raft is powered by a 5-horsepower British Seagul outboard motor.

The Hydes used several types of boats, including 16-foot Klamath and 16-foot Gregor brand aluminum boats with 25-horsepower propeller motors and 40-horsepower jet engines (Figure 5). They also used 15-foot Zodiak rafts with 40-horsepower jets, and 15-foot Avon Professional rafts with 5-horsepower British Seagull outboard motors (Figure 4). They went up Igmiumanik Creek, sometimes paddling, sometimes walking. The creek got deeper the farther they went up there. Ron also traveled up and over the passes to Nagugun Creek and Nagugun Lake, and up into the Gechiak Mountains to Gechiak Lake doing winter trapping. While trapping and hunting bear in those areas, he used a combination of skiff, raft, snow shoes and sleds to travel.

Figure 3. Three skiffs and a raft belonging to Alaska River Safaris at the "Swallows," a place where swallows nest on the bluff in the background, on the North Fork of the Goodnews River, 1970s-1980s.

The area upstream of Goodnews Lake was part of Ron's trap line and he went there often in the two years that he lived in Betty Huffmon's cabin on the lake. He accessed the area by skiff, raft, snowshoe and sled. There are many legends about Goodnews Lake. When he arrived at the lake there were salmon skin hip boots in the cabin when his family first occupied the cabin.
Ron stated that most of the travel on the upper Goodnews River and its tributaries occurred in the spring and late fall when water levels were high. He recalled that in some places, these water bodies did not freeze solid and that open water remained. The water was still deep enough in winter to need to remove clothes to cross river. The river did not freeze through. In some places these water bodies were waste deep. On the upper Goodnews River [above river mile 68 on the DNR map], Ron engaged in hunting and trapping for his own personal use. There are many old game trails in the area and there used to be a huge pack of wolves in the area. He did not take paying clients beyond (upstream of) river mile 68.

Ron spent a lot of time in the winters hunting and trapping with local Natives. The elders told him traditional stories using story knives. They also told him that they traditionally hunted parka squirrels in the watersheds of the upper Goodnews River during the late winter. The Natives dragged their boats over the snow and ice, and then floated down the rivers after breakup in the

spring. Elders at Goodnews Village told Ron that in the past they built and used skin boats in the upper reaches of the Goodnews River. They hunted caribou in the mountains and used the skins to make boats. They made frames for the boats from alder after which they stretched the caribou hides over the frames. They used the skin boats to float down the Goodnews River to their village after breakup.

The Natives also used skins boats on Gechiak Lake and Gechiak River, which originates just over the pass in the mountains southeast of the Goodnews Lake. The pass from the upper Goodnews River to Gechiak River was another portage that the Natives used to travel to Togiak Bay. Ron stated that all of these portage routes starting from the Goodnews River and extending over the mountain passes were interconnected. Ron pointed out a site on the DNR map where he found the remains of several old skin boats. The site is on the east side of a large lake that is south and east [of river mile 37 on the DNR map] of the Middle Fork of the Goodnews River [SW corner of Sec. 8, T. 10 S., R. 68 W., SM]. Ron indicated that only the alder wood frames were left, when he came across the site. He stated that he thought that the remains of the boats can still be found there today.

Ron's Eskimo name is *Sugtunig, which comes* from Sugtunig Mountain. As a side note, he told a story of snow machining up Isurik Creek (Seal Creek) and breaking through the ice. He floated downstream under the ice for about a mile. His Native companions pulled him out of the creek and rolled him in a blue tarp and took him back to the village.

On the main branch of the Goodnews River, the Hyde family's business usually started clients out at Goodnews Lake. From there, the guides took the clients down river either in rafts or motor boats. Ron and his father built "Goodnews River Lodge," which was one of their stopping places along the river (Figure 6). They sold the lodge and the rest of the commercial guiding business to Mike Gordon about 1995. Gordon still operates the lodge and conducts commercial guiding on the Goodnews River and the Middle and South Forks of the Goodnews River.

Figure 6. Alaska River Safari's Goodnews River Lodge at river mile 6 of the North Fork, 1992.

Figure 7. One of Alaska River Safari's jet boats at the confluence of the North and south Forks of the Goodnews river, 1980s.

The Hydes used four types of water craft on the main branch of the Goodnews River. The used 21-foot and 23-foot inboard jet craft, some of which were equipped with 350 cubic inch Ford engines (Figure 7). They also used 18-foot Wooldridge aluminum skiffs with 50-horsepowere outboard motors (Figure 8), and inflatable Zodiak rafts.

Figure 8. Skiffs at one of Alaska River Safari's temporary camps on the North Fork of the Goodnew river, 1981.

The Hydes had several camps along the river. One of them was at river mile 12 [on the DNR map], and Ron showed the interviewers a photograph of that camp (Figure 8). The camp was used from 1971 to the late 1980s, and he estimated that the photograph was taken in 1981. The fixed camps were located along the river. The Hydes also used temporary camps for clients rafting down the rivers. Ron and another employee tore down and packed up the camp after the clients started rafting each morning. Ron and the other employee went ahead of the group and set up the next camp before the clients arrived for the evening (Figure 9). The Hydes had a resupply camp at Goodnews Village on land leased from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities land at the village airstrip. The Hydes also had a fixed camp within the Togiak NWR, located about five miles upstream from the NWR boundary [about river mile 34 on the DNR map]. That camp was permitted by the Togiak NWR.

Figure 9. A temporary Alaska River Safaris camp on the Goodnews River just south of Wattamuse Creek, 1974. Carlos [last name unknown] and Ron Hyde, Jr. are in the background setting up camp prior to arrival of clients.

[At about this point the interviewers turned on the digital recorder.]

Ron pointed out the location at Goodnews Lake where he lived at a cabin on the lake [Native allotment AA-37800-D].

Ron showed the interviewers a three ring binder containing photographs from the Goodnews area taken when his family operated the commercial guiding business there. The interviewers tagged some of the photographs and Ron agreed to allow the interviewers to scan some of the

Figure 10. Hauling a raft up the Goodnews River on a jet boat in the late 1970s. The jet boat is a 25-foot Duckworth with a 454 cubic inch Chevy engine and a 3-stage Hamilton inboard jet unit.

photographs for possible use in their reports. Ron pointed out a photo of a 5-horsepower British Seagull outboard motor that his business used on 15-foot rafts that went above Goodnews Lake (Figure 4). He also pointed out a photo of Goodnews Lake showing boats used by the business. The Hydes ran the inflatable rafts on boats up the Goodnews River (Figure 10) and staged the rafts at Goodnews Lake for the summer season. He pointed out another photograph taken at the Goodnews River on the outlet side of the lake, showing rafts with fixed frames (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Rafts with rowing frames at the outlet of Goodnews Lake, 1981.

Another photo was of Point Camp (Figure 12), a camp along the Goodnews River on the lower river about five miles below Barnum Creek. It was at about river mile 12-14 in a braided area of the river. This was one of three camps. It was on public land, below the high water line. He referred to it as "sand bar camping." The photo of the camp was taken in 1981. They had camps along the river there from the 1970s to the late 1980s. An old tractor trail is near the river and the trail goes up to Wattamuse Creek.

Figure 12. Point Camp, a temporary camp used by Alaska River Safari, in 1981. The camp was five miles below the mouth of Barnum Creek at river mile 14 of the Goodnews River.

The Hyde family had multiple camps on the Goodnews River: one at Goodnews Lake, a resupply camp at Goodnews village at the mouth of the Goodnews River, and multiple camps along the river. They had a fixed camp in the refuge about five miles upstream from the border of the NWR refuge and Native lands. The Hydes kept float planes at Goodnews Lake. They used float planes to fly clients in and drop them off at camps (Figure 13), from which they took them out on day trips fishing from motorized craft. They had a camp in the refuge about two-thirds of the way up the river; a lower camp; and the resupply camp at Goodnews Village. The Hydes had float trips departing from Goodnews Lake on a daily basis. They also had guided motorized boat trips every day going up and down the full length of the river (Figure 14). They had clients who fished salmon at tidewater, up Arm Creek (catching grayling), Barnum Creek (catching rainbows), Canyon Creek (catching big rainbows at the bottom and Dolly Varden further up), Wattamuse Creek (catching), Nimgun Creek (catching big Dolly Varden and grayling), Awayak Creek (catching big Dolly Varden and grayling). Any tributaries of the main river that they could get up, they would take clients up and fish.

Figure 13. A Beaver aircraft and a jet boat at Alaska River Safari's Upper Camp near the mouth of Isurik Creek at river mile 33 on the North Fork of the Goodnews River, 1980s.

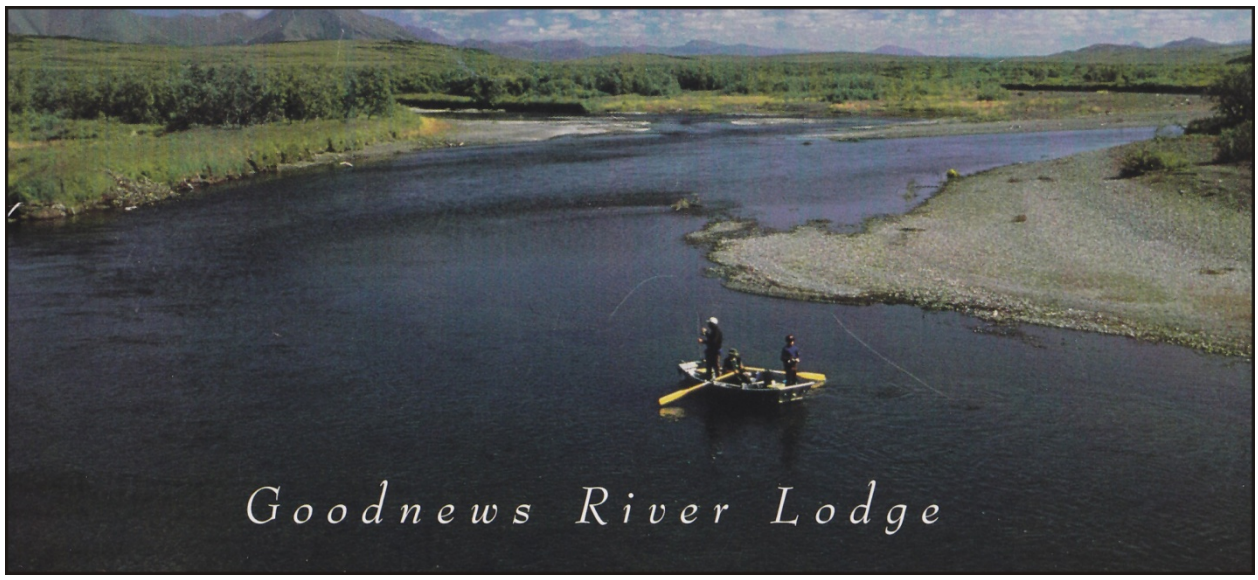


Figure 14. "John's Hole," a place on the Goodnews River just downstream of Barnum Creek, where Alaska River Safaris guides took clients in the 1990s.

Ron stated that there was a fair amount of historical use and recent commercial use on the Middle Fork of the Goodnews River. Independent and guided floaters would be dropped off by Yute Air, operating out of Dillingham. Independent floaters rented equipment from the air taxi operators, who would drop them off and pick them up later near the bottom of the river. They had individuals who owned their own equipment and would have air taxi operators drop them off and pick them up. The air taxis also landed on the river.

The Hydes did guided trips on the Middle Fork**.** Their clients fished nearly the entire Middle Fork system up to the Middle Fork Lake. The Hydes took clients up the river by motor boats to Middle Fork Lake [river mile 51 on the DNR map], where they had rafts prepared for the trip down river (Figure 15). They led float trips that started at Middle Fork Lake and extended down the Middle Fork. The Hydes also ran float trips for fishing or hunting out of various lakes along the river. They used the same size power boats on the Middle Fork as on the Main Fork, with the exception that they used smaller sized boats once they got ten miles above Lookout Mountain. The Middle Fork upstream of Lookout Mountain [about river mile 10 on the DNR map] was shallower and had more rapids than the lower portion of the river. The Hydes used 15-foot to 18-foot aluminum skiffs, some covered and some uncovered, with inboard jet units up to 115-horsepower to travel on the upper portion of the Middle Fork.

Figure 15. Ron Hyde, Jr., of Alaska River Safaris, driving a raft carrying another raft up the Middle Fork of the Goodnews River, 1970s.

Ron stated that on a few occasions, he took clients about a mile up the Middle Fork above Middle Fork Lake [river mile 53 on the DNR map]. The river at that point was full of lake trout

and spawning red salmon. Those were commercial trips, taking clients fishing up there. That was the upper limit of Ron's commercial and recreational use of the river during the open season. He traveled further up stream, but that was by snowmachine in the winter.

Historically, local Natives used skiffs with outboard motors to travel all the way up the Middle Fork to Middle Fork Lake. They also traveled up the Kukaktlik River, a major tributary coming into the Middle Fork from the south, to hunt and fish. The Kukaktlik River and Kukaktim Lake provides access to another pass into the Togiak area.

From 1971 to the late 1980s, Alaska River Safaris was the only commercial operation using power boats on the Goodnews River system (Figure 16). About 1987 or 1989, Ron McMillan, the owner of Bristol Bay Lodge, began offering commercial river trips on the Goodnews system. Bristol Bay Lodge had a camp on the Middle Fork of the Goodnews [river mile 23 or 24 on the DNR map] called Birch Creek Camp. The lodge flew their guests in on Beavers (airplanes) to a lake where the Hydes had gone bear hunting. The lake is on the Middle Fork [near river mile 23-24 on DNR map]. Ron has movie footage of some of his family's operations showing airplanes landing on the lakes and river. After the late 1980s, other commercial guiding outfits began providing services on the Goodnews drainage in the 1990s, including outfitters using air taxis and other commercial boat operators.

Figure 16. Alaska River Safaris' temporary camp site at "Little Crow, on the North Fork ten bends below Barnum Creek, late 1970s. "Little Crow" is a local Native place name.

The South Fork, according to Ron, was part of a historical water-overland-water portage from Kuskokwim Bay to Togiak Bay. The Pike expedition went up the South Fork and Tivyagak

Creek over a hundred years ago and portaged over to Matogak River. It was also a common winter route. Historically, local Natives used the route to avoid the dangerous ocean passage from Kuskokwim Bay to Togiak Bay. Matogak Creek was primarily used by Togiak Natives, but it was part of the portage. There was lots of use up the South Fork by Goodnews Bay villagers for squirrel hunting and fishing. A fair amount of people from the village were born on the South Fork.

At one point, the Hydes used an airboat in their commercial operations. Airboats had been used out of Bethel prior to the time that the Hydes started commercial operations. The USF&WS granted the Hydes a permit to use the airboat as a part of their commercial guiding operations for a number of years. Ron showed the interviewers two photographs of the airboat that his family used on the Goodnews River as part of their commercial operations. One photo was taken on Nimgun Creek and the other was taken near the outlet of Goodnews Lake (Figure 17).

Figure 17. The Hyde's airboat near the outlet of Goodnews Lake, at a place they nicknamed "Futhermucker Rapid" on the North Fork of the Goodnews River, early 1980s.

Ron pointed to photographs in the three-ring binder of their different boats and camps along the Goodnews River. He pointed to a photograph of a raft carrying another raft up the Middle Fork (Figure 15). The Hydes took the rafts up to the lake to set up for clients, so the clients could

Figure 18. A 21-foot Duckworth jet boat operated by Alaska River Safaris on the Goodnews River near Goodnews Lake, late 1970s or early 1980s.

float down the river. He pointed out a photograph of their camp on Goodnews Lake. He also pointed out an article on his family's guiding business in a magazine article published in 1982. He pointed to a photograph of a Duckworth 21-foot boat (Figure 18) and a photograph of a man standing on a boat on the (main fork of the) Goodnews River about 10 miles up stream from the mouth. He pointed to a photograph of a crew setting up camp on Goodnews Lake in the spring, and a photograph of resupplying the camp at the Goodnews Lake during the winter (Figure 19).

Figure 19. Unloading gear at Goodnews Lake, winter 1977. Ron Hyde, Jr. is in the middle.

Ron pointed out a photograph of the camp in a brochure. The camp was located between river miles 6 and 7 [on the DNR map], on land leased from the local Natives. He also pointed out a photograph of loading one of the company's jet boats into a Ball Brothers C-119 cargo plane in Anchorage, bound for Bethel, in the 1970s (Figure 20). Ron gave the interviewers verbal permission to scan or make color copies of photographs from the three-ring binder for their reports.

Figure 20. Loading a jet boat into a C-119 cargo plane in Anchorage for a flight to Bethel, 1970s.

The furthest Ron went up the South Fork was into the "canyons," where the rive gets narrow and shallow [about river mile 25 on the DNR map]. The river had lots of rapids and was rocky, and there were risks of damaging the jets or propellers. Ron and his father used the same kind of boats for their guiding activities on the South Fork as on the Main Fork of the Goodnews River, unless they were going above Lookout Mountain. Lookout Mountain was the point on the Middle and South Forks beyond which they had to use smaller boats. Above Lookout Mountain [river mile 9 or 10 on the DNR map], they used 15-foot and 18-foot boats. Beyond that point [about river mile 25] they were "just risking their equipment." These operations took place at the same time as their operations on the Main and Middle Forks.

The Hydes built a lodge on the Main Fork of the Goodnews River [river mile 6.5 on the DNR map]. It was called the "Goodnews River Lodge" and was strategically located close to the

confluence of the Main, Middle and South Forks. The lodge is still in use. The current owners operate guided trips up the North, Middle and South Forks of the Goodnews River. There is a cut through the land [a slough] that provides water access from the main branch of the river, where the lodge is located, to the other two forks. Ron pointed to a photograph of the lodge (Figure 6) in the three-ring binder.

According to Ron, Tivyagak Creek was part of another historic portage route that went up the South Fork and over a mountain pass to Togiak Bay. The portage route was used from the Osviak River (going northwest) and from Tivyagak (going southeast), as travelers went in both directions. Ron pulled out a dictionary of the Yupik language to refresh his memory about Tivyagak Creek. He used to speak the local language fairly well. He said there was a fair amount of Native use on Tivyagak Creek, as it was part of a natural portage, and one could take a boat quite a ways up the creek. The creek slows down in the upper portion and there are not a lot of rapids. The surrounding land is marshy and the creek becomes very windy. The upper reaches of the creek connect to a series of lakes. The upper part of Tivyagak Creek is slow and windy.

Ron recalled going a long ways up Tivyagak Creek. When Nicole asked how far up the creek he had gone, Ron said that somewhere, perhaps at home, he has a set of maps showing the extent he has traveled up each of the rivers and creeks in the drainage. He had thought the maps were at his office, but he could not find them when he looked for them this morning. He said he will look for the maps at his home here in Anchorage. On a number of occasions, Ron said, he took clients up Tivyagak Creek to the marsh and pond areas, which he stated was just north of boundary of the NWR. Ron traveled by boat up Tivyagak Creek to river mile 8 [on the DNR map], a point where the river splits. They went up the west tributary and to the south to the northern boundary of the Togiak NWR [SE ¼ of Sec. 32, T. 12 S., R. 71 W., SM]. His clients fly fished in that area for grayling, rainbows and Dolly Varden. He did not take any clients up the creek for hunting. Ron used 14-foot, 15-foot and 16-foot aluminum skiffs with outboard jets units when taking clients up the Tivyagak. He believed that the west branch of upper Tivyagak Creek was the main branch of the creek. [DNR maps show the east branch to be the main branch].

Ron Jr. got started guiding with his father. Ron Hyde Sr., who lives in Anchorage, started the guiding business in 1970-1971. Ron Jr. was about 13 or 14 when he began going out on guiding trips with his father in the summers. They had other crew members. Ron Jr. grew up with the business and really liked the remote Goodnews drainage. Ron eventually started living in Goodnews village, while his father always returned to Anchorage at the end of the season. Ron bought a house in the village and lived there year-round. He worked in his father's business as a river guide during the summers and traveled the back country with local villagers, hunting and fishing for subsistence. He became a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) and served in Goodnews village. As a VPSO, he was responsible for search and rescue out in the Goodnews area. He was involved in several rescues, including giving CPR and recovering the body of Clyde Huffmon who died on a mining claim on Slate Creek. As a VPSO, he received subsistence leave every year. He spent his subsistence leave working as a river guide. Another VPSO would come in and fill in for him while he worked with his father. Ron was born was in

1961. He was probably about 13 or 14 when he began his heaviest use on the rivers in the Goodnews area (Figure 21).

Figure 21. Ron Hyde, Jr. pushing a jet boat with an oar at the mouth of upper Goodnews Lake where the top of the narrows pop out into upper lake, late 1970s.

Ron lived in the village until the sale of his father's business in 1994 or 1995. He showed the interviewers his copy of a dictionary. He said that at one time he was fluent in Yupik. He said that he does not speak the language so much anymore, but it was apparent to the interviewers that Ron was proficient in the Native pronunciation of river and place names. He recalled BLM employees interviewing him in 1986, when he was asked about his use of the Goodnews River and its tributaries.

Rolfe asked Ron about early jet boat use in Alaska and on the Goodnews River. Ron stated that a company called "Outboard Jet" of San Leandro, California designed the most efficient outboard jets. That company came out with its outboard jet unit in 1960, and after that outboard jets started to be heavily used in Alaska. Ron differentiated between inboard and outboard jet units, and he said that both types have been used in Alaska. Sonny Peterson, the owner of Kuluk Lake Lodge (an in-holding in Katmai National Park) and Brooks Lodge at Katmai National Park, owned an early jet boat and used it in Alaska. Ron Jr. thought that his father may know of more people. The Hydes started using jet boats in 1971 on the Goodnews River. Ron also recalled other airboat use in Alaska in the 1970s. The Hamilton Jet, an inboard jet unit, was developed in

New Zealand. Jet boats were used in the Nushagak fishery and probably on the Kenai Peninsula in the early years of statehood. During the interview, Ron looked on-line for information on "Outboard Jet" and used a "Google" search to pull up information on the company "Outboard Jet." According to the web-site, the company started manufacturing and selling outboard jets in 1960. Ron said that the company started selling outboard jet units in Oregon, Washington and Alaska about the same time. Ron said that inboards jet units, which were invented before 1960, were used earlier in Alaska than outboard jet units. Ron thought that inboard jet units were used in the fishing fleet on the Nushagak and Kvichak rivers. Ron said he will make some inquiries with folks who have been around a long time and that may know more about early jet boat use in Alaska.

Ron stated that there was historic use of all of these rivers in the Goodnews area with propellers, well before jet boat use. In the past, boaters using Evinrude outboard motors often attached a broken propeller to a tree to mark the furthest distance up a river or creek that the boaters traveled. There was use by propellered craft long before jet boat units, but jet boats have been used on the Goodnews River system as long as Ron can recall. Commercial boat use on the Goodnews River and its Middle and South Forks began with commercial fishing. The local Natives commercially fished on the lower portions of the rivers before any limits were place on commercially fishing the rivers. The Goodnews Cannery was located just south of the mouth of the Goodnews River. It was owned by the Japanese. The ruins of the cannery are located on a Native allotment (FF-18209) just south of the outlet of the river [Section 28, T. 12 S., R. 73 W., SM], across from Goodnews Village. Local fishermen took their boats up the Goodnews River and its Forks to commercial fish and they sold their fish to the cannery. The fishery and the cannery were active in the 1950s and 1960s. The cannery was abandoned by the 1970s when Ron began guiding in the area with his father. There is still evidence of the cannery buildings at the site. There were no escapement concerns back in those days, Ron state. Now the industry is more knowledgeable about the function of escapement.

Propeller driven boats were common on the Goodnews River and its tributaries prior to 1959, according to Ron. He said that all of the mining equipment taken to the mines on Wattamuse Creek was taken by propeller driven boats that went up the Goodnews River and Slate Creek. The miners "drag lined" the river to get their equipment up the rivers to their mining claims. Miners used Slate, Canyon, Fox and Salmon creeks to move mining equipment up upstream to mining claims. A floating dredge built in the 1930s is still located on Wattamuse Creek. All of the materials used to construct the dredge on Wattamuse Creek were brought up stream by boat.

Ron said he has lots of photographs of boating on the South Fork and other rivers and creeks in the area. He said he will give the interviewers a call when he gets the material together from his collection at home. He also will look for his collection of guiding maps. [End of interview]