
UNIT 23: WEST DALL

MANAGEMENT INTENT

This area of exposed coast and deep bays on outer Dall Island is characterized by extensive fish and wildlife habitat and high recreation values. The commercial fishing fleet intensively fishes along the coastline and in offshore areas. The coastline from the northern boundary of the unit to just north of Gold Harbor, the outer coast between Security Cove and Liscome Bay, and the coast from Chickwan Bight to Cape Muzon, is an especially scenic area. State lands management will emphasize all these uses and values.

Certain areas have long-term mineral resource development potential on the uplands. Specifically, mining support facilities may be needed in the inner part of Waterfall Bay and at Security Cove. State lands will be managed to accommodate these potential developments.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY USES

Refer to the land use designation map for primary and secondary uses and fish and wildlife ratings.

PROHIBITED USES

- Mineral location in mapped crucial fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas.
- Filling state tide and submerged lands for residential purposes.
- Floathomes.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Refer to Chapter 2 for guidelines common to this and all management units. The following guidelines also apply to this specific unit:

- **Developed Recreation Facilities in Crucial Habitat and Harvest Areas.** Based on available information, developed recreation facilities are initially determined incompatible within mapped crucial fish and wildlife areas. A specific proposal for a developed recreation facility may be considered for compatibility based on its design or on new habitat information.
- **Anchorage.** Use of anchorage sites depicted on the land use designation maps will not be precluded.

- **Resource Transfer Site Consolidation and Joint Use at Waterfall Bay.** There is development potential for both timber and mineral resources in Waterfall Bay. Resource transfer sites will be consolidated unless it is determined that using separate sites is a more feasible and prudent alternative considering impacts to upland and marine fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas.
- **Resource Transfer Facility at Dolgoi Island.** The potential resource transfer facility on Dolgoi Island in Port Bazan will be designed as a low-volume, short-term barge operation.
- **Offshore Fisheries Conservation Zones.** Areas designated Resource Management offshore of the outer coast will be managed as fisheries conservation zones under the Alaska Coastal Management Program. (6 AAC 80.130(c)(1))

NOTES

- A United States Forest Service remote recreation cabin is located in the Essowah Lakes area.

FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION

The unit includes twenty-four anadromous fish stream outlets.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game rates the Essowah Lakes system as a quality watershed. Essowah Lakes and Devil Lake have sockeye production potential. Sakie Bay Creek and Welcome Cove are considered to have the highest production potential in the unit.

All bays in the unit as far south as Gold Harbor, provide rearing habitat for Dungeness crab. Commercial crab harvests occur in Gooseneck Harbor and Waterfall Bay.

The largest commercial harvest of abalone in the state occurs in this unit. Harvests occur along the entire coastline wherever exposed rocky substrates and kelp beds occur.

The unit is a major commercial seine and troll fishery.