

## Unit 1c Herbert River

### Background

This unit includes the state lands along the Eagle and Herbert rivers. The tidelands are adjacent to high-value recreation areas including a USFS-managed recreation site, Boy Scout camp and a Methodist church camp. Subunit 1c26 is used by the National Guard for training. The more remote parts of this unit include the state shorelands under Herbert River and Eagle River. These rivers were found to be eligible by the USFS in the Tongass Land Management Plan as "Recreation Rivers" under the criteria in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. However, these rivers are not recommended for this designation by the USFS at this time. State uplands adjacent to the Glacier Highway are the starting point for trails up the Herbert and Eagle rivers. State uplands along the lower Herbert and Eagle rivers were selected from the USFS in 1989 for community recreation values (NFCG 317).

**Recreation.** The CBJ recommended that the lands along the lower Eagle and Herbert rivers be selected for their recreation values. However, because of their limited entitlement, CBJ was not able to select these lands once they became state owned. The 1989 state land selections report recommended that this area be classified for recreation. The USFS currently owns and manages the Eagle Beach Recreation Site (Subunit 1c30). Improvements include a parking area, picnic tables, firepits, a picnic shelter, and vault toilets. The Forest Service rejected the initial state selection of the Eagle Beach recreation site. The subunit remains state selected in the event the USFS changes its policy. Some of the land on the lower Eagle and Herbert rivers (Subunit 1c27) has been withdrawn from state selection by the USFS under Public Land Order 829. The Forest Service may relinquish this land but reserve a trailhead and trail easements to access the National Forest lands further up the valley. The intertidal areas at the mouth of Eagle River have high recreation values because of the uses of the adjacent USFS recreation area and the Boy Scout Camp on adjacent uplands. The northern portion of Subunit 1c4 is adjacent to a scenic stretch of the Glacier Highway. On nice summer days, cars park along the road and people picnic along the shore wherever they can scramble down to the beach. USFS trails used for hiking and skiing, provide year-round access to upper Windfall Creek, Eagle River, and Herbert River. A USFS public use cabin is located on Eagle Lake.

**Methodist Church Camp.** Subunit 1c29 includes the Methodist Church Camp. The land in this area is currently being surveyed and will be conveyed to the church by fall 1993 under state preference right statutes.

**Mining and Mineral Potential.** The uplands and shorelands in this unit have high mineral potential. There are numerous federal mining claims on the upper Herbert and Eagle rivers. If these claims are developed, access may be needed across state shorelands along these rivers and across state uplands in Subunits 1c25, 1c26, 1c27, 1c28, 1c30, and 1c41.

**Firewood.** Although Subunits 1c25, 1c26, 1c27, and 1c28 are not in a designated personal use firewood sale area, there is extensive evidence of past firewood cutting on state lands.

**Fisheries Enhancement.** The USFS is considering placing structures in Windfall Lake and Windfall Creek in Subunits 1c44, 1c45, and 1c46 for enhancement of coho salmon.

**Management  
Intent**

The management intent for this unit is to provide for continued recreational use in a semi-primitive setting. Supporting access needs for mineral exploration and development on adjacent USFS lands are an allowable use on state lands in this unit.

**Management  
Guidelines**

**Heritage Resources** Subunit 1c26 includes a portion of the historic Eagle River-Echo Cove Trail. The State Office of History and Archaeology will be consulted prior to authorizations in this Subunit.

**Mineral Closures.** The estuarine area, from mean high water to a water depth of 40 feet (measured at mean low low water), at the mouth of Herbert River will be closed to new mineral location to protect important rearing areas for anadromous fish. The maintenance of the high-quality estuarine rearing habitat adjacent to this stream and avoiding impacts to the associated water quality and marine plant and animal communities is essential for sustaining the productivity of the Juneau-area commercial- and community-harvest fisheries.

Lot 5 in Section 2 in Subunit 1c26 will be closed to new mineral entry to avoid conflicts between using the site for materials and mine claims. Re-opening this site to new mineral entry will be considered after the materials site is closed.

The bed (below the ordinary high water) of both clearwater branches of Windfall Creek and the bed of Windfall Lake will be closed to new mineral location. These areas will be closed because mining in the beds of the creek and lake would conflict with the spawning, incubation, and rearing of the significant anadromous fish population that live in this clear-water system. Maps of these closures can be found in Mineral Order 653 in Appendix B.

**Recreation.** There is potential for commercial recreation facilities such as a campground or RV park within this Subunit. Commercial recreation activities are allowed.

# Land-Use Designation Summary

For keys to the one-letter and two-letter abbreviations used in this table, see the beginning of this chapter

UNIT 1C: HERBERT RIVER						
Area no. & name	DNR designation	CBJ zoning district	Land type	Adjacent ownership	Resource or use	Other comments
1c1	Hv	RR	SU	State	Halibut sportfishing	
1c2	G	RR	SU	State		
1c4	Ha Hv Rd	OS	T	USFS	Herring spawning; public clam harvest; migratory waterfowl habitat; salmon, Dolly Varden, cutthroat trout sportfishing; Dungeness crab personal use harvest; anchorage	
1c5 Boy Scout Beach	Ha Hv Rd	OS RR	T	USFS State	Migratory waterfowl habitat; trail along Boy Scout Beach; anchorage; extensive beach; Dungeness crab rearing; salmon sportfishing; anadromous estuary	Boy Scout camp on uplands
1c6 Eagle Beach	Ha Rp	OS	T	USFS	Adjacent to USFS roadside picnic area; migratory waterfowl habitat; anadromous stream mouth	Receives heavy day use for picnicing, beach combing
1c7	Hv	RR	SU	State	Salmon sportfishing; Dungeness crab commercial harvest	
1c8	Hv	RR	SU	State	Halibut harvest	
1c25	Hb Rd	OS	U	USFS	Otter habitat	
1c26	Rd	OS	U	USFS	Trail along Eagle River; includes materials pit	Includes state lands around Methodist Church camp
1c27	Rd	OS	U	USFS	Trail along Herbert River	
1c28	Rd	OS	U	USFS	Trail along Herbert River	
1c29 Methodist Church Camp	S	OS	UP	State	Currently used as a church camp. Site receives high use, particularly during the summer by users of camp facilities	
1c30 Eagle Beach Recreation Area	Pt Rp	RR	UP	State	Currently managed by USFS as a recreation area	
1c40 Herbert-Eagle River Confluence	Ha Rd	OS	SL	State/ USFS	Trails along adjacent uplands; migratory waterfowl habitat; anadromous stream mouth	
1c41 Eagle River	Rd Ha	OS	SL	State/ USFS	Beaver habitat; anadromous stream	
1c42 Eagle River	Ha Rd	OS	SL	State/ USFS	Beaver habitat; anadromous stream	

## Land-Use Designation Summary (continued)

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UNIT 1C: HERBERT RIVER						
Area no. & name	DNR designation	CBJ zoning district	Land type	Adjacent ownership	Resource or use	Other comments
1c43 Eagle Glacier Lake	Ha Rd	OS	SL	State/USFS	Cutthroat trout/char overwintering area; USFS cabin on lake	
1c44 Herbert River/Windfall Creek	Ha Rd	OS	SL	State/USFS	Anadromous stream	
1c45 Windfall Creek/Herbert River Confluence	Ha Hv Rd	OS	SL	USFS	Dolly Varden, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, salmon sportfishing; limited fresh water fishing site; anadromous stream	
1c46 Windfall Lake	Ha Hv Rd	OS	SL	USFS	Cutthroat trout/char overwintering; beaver habitat; Dolly Varden, rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, salmon sportfishing	
1c47 Herbert Lake	Ha Rd	OS	SL	USFS	Cutthroat trout/char overwintering; anadromous lake	




# UNIT 1C INSET - Herbert River

## Land Ownership

-  State Owned
-  State Selected
-  Municipal
-  Private

## Designations

- G** General Uses
- Ha** Fish & Wildlife Habitat
- Hv** Fish & Wildlife Harvest
- Pt** Public Facilities - Transfer
- Rd** Recreation - Dispersed
- Rp** Recreation - Public Use Site
- S** Settlement
-  Anchorage

