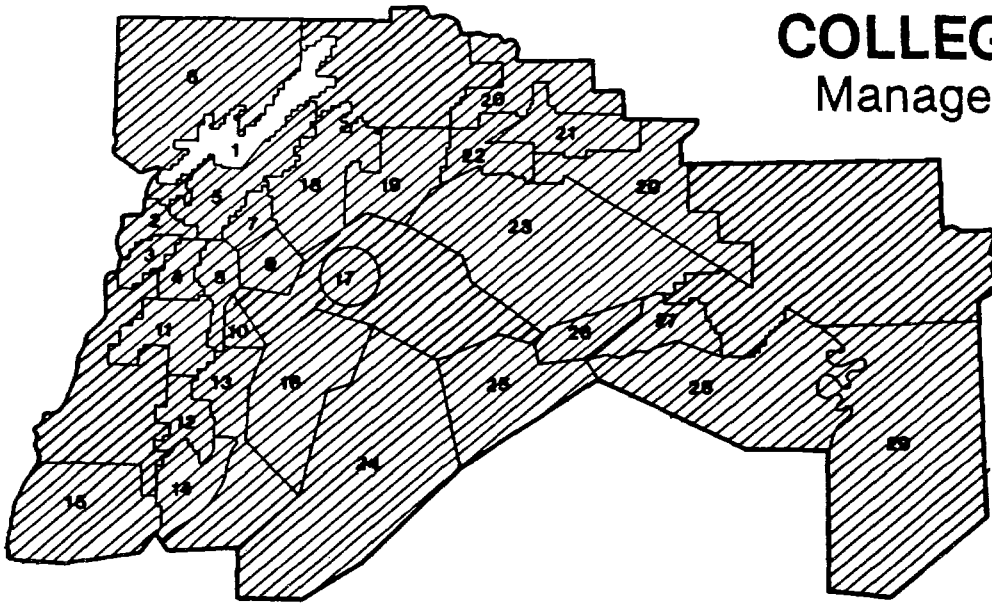


COLLEGE FIORD

Management Unit 1



Background

All uplands within this unit are managed by the U.S. Forest Service except for one state-owned area. Most of the unit is within the proposed federal wilderness area. The state owns the uplands around Serpentine Cove and the tidelands throughout the unit. All federal land in the unit is currently open to mineral entry, but the part within the wilderness proposal is likely to be closed if Congress acts on the proposal. Most of the federal lands have low mineral values, and mineral development is unlikely.

Harriman Fiord, Barry Arm, and College Fiord are some of Prince William Sound's scenic high points. Harvard and Yale glaciers at the head of College Fiord are the second largest tidewater glaciers in the Sound after the Columbia Glacier. Because of the spectacular landscape, Barry Arm and College Fiords serve as destinations for scheduled tours. The frequency of these tours are likely to increase in the near future.

Most of Harriman Fiord receives moderate use by various types of recreational watercraft. Barry Arm receives frequent use by many types of watercraft including some tour-boat use. Neither area is used by cruise ships because of its narrow configuration and the fact that it is frequently ice choked. College Fiord receives less tour and recreational use than Harriman Fiord and Barry Arm because of its greater distance from Whittier, but it is frequently used by cruise ships.

College and Harriman Fiords sustain significant populations of seals and birds. College Fiord, south of the Coghill River and the southern portion of Barry Arm is used extensively by commercial drift net and purse seine fishermen.

Management Intent

The tidelands throughout the unit will be managed for their recreation, wildlife habitat and harvest, and wilderness values. Float-lodges are prohibited throughout the unit because their presence is inconsistent with the

wilderness intent. State lands in this unit remain open to mineral entry.

Additional management intent is described below for three subunits. The intent for **Subunit 1D** is reflected in the previous paragraphs.

Subunit 1A - Tidewater Glaciers. The tidewater glaciers in this subunit are a major tourist and recreation destination in the Sound. Management should emphasize the undeveloped nature of the tidelands. For this reason, mariculture and floatlodes are prohibited, and permits and leases will not be given for uses that can feasibly and prudently be located elsewhere or for facilities that are visible from the water.

Subunit 1B - Serpentine Cove. State-owned land in this subunit will be retained in public ownership and managed for multiple use with emphasis on protecting the natural landscape of the coastline and the isolated, remote character of the area. This subunit contains the best anchorage in the entire management unit.

This management intent is similar to that likely to be achieved under U.S. Forest Service. The parcel is surrounded by Forest Service land proposed for wilderness designation. In addition, the parcel is inefficient to manage because it includes only part of the cove. Therefore, it should be transferred to the Forest Service in exchange for lands where management would benefit the state. Any land exchange would require public review, a determination that the exchange is in the state's best interest, and approval by the USFS. For more information on land exchanges, see Chapter 4.

Subunit 1C - Point Pakenham. The tidelands surrounding Point Pakenham are important for waterfowl nesting, molting, seasonal concentrations, and harvest. Any tideland permits or leases in this area should be designed to minimize the disruption to breeding habitat and the intertidal vegetation

Management Guidelines

Authorization of Tideland Facilities Adjacent to the Proposed USFS Wilderness (all subunits). Tideland facilities will be authorized consistent with recreation, habitat and wilderness intent for this management unit. For this reason, tideland facilities are allowed if they are mostly underwater and cause only limited impact on the unit's fish and wildlife, recreation, tourism, and wilderness values. Tideland facilities that present significant, long-term visual impact or attract significant concentrations of public use are inconsistent with the wilderness intent and will not be sited in this unit. Tideland authorizations may be issued if the land manager determines no feasible alternative location exists outside this unit and that the benefits outweigh the impacts to the wilderness, and fish and wildlife.

The complete set of guidelines is presented in Chapter 2; any of the guidelines could apply to uses within this management unit. Guidelines most likely to apply to this management unit are listed below:

Fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas
Recreation, tourism, cultural, and scenic
resources

LAND USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY

Management Unit 1: College Fiord

SUBUNIT	LAND OWNERSHIP	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS			COMMENTS
		Primary Surface Use ²	Prohibited Surface Use	Subsurface ¹	
1A Tidewater Glacier	State-owned tidelands	Habitat & harvest Public recreation	Commercial recreation facilities Floatlodges Mariculture	Open	Within USFS proposed wilderness
1B Serpentine Cove	State-owned tidelands and uplands	Habitat & harvest Public recreation	Commercial recreation facilities Floatlodges Land offerings	Open	Possible land exchange to the USFS. Within USFS proposed wilderness
1C Point Pakenham	State-owned tidelands	Habitat & harvest Public recreation	Commercial recreation facilities Floatlodges	Open	Within USFS proposed wilderness.
1D Remainder of Unit	State-owned tidelands	Habitat & harvest Public recreation	Commercial recreation facilities Floatlodges	Open	Within USFS proposed wilderness

¹All areas are available for leasing of leasable minerals. Statements of whether or not the unit is open to mineral entry refer only to locatable minerals.

²Other uses such as material sales, land leases, or permits that are not specifically prohibited, may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement, management guidelines of this unit, and relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2. See Chapter 2, pages 2-11 and 2-12, for floathome policies. Trapping Cabin and Remote Cabin permits will not be given in the planning area. See guideline B-3, page 2-39.

Resource Information Summary¹

Management Unit: 1. College Fiord					
SUBUNIT	Fish & Wildlife ²	Recreation	Minerals	Settlement ³	Forestry ³
1A Tidewater Glacier (tidelands)	Seal haulout; bird rookery; bear use; bear hunting; sea otter concentration	Recreation and tourism desti- nation	No known minerals	--	--
1B Serpentine Cove (uplands and tidelands)	Seals; bear use; bear hunting; otter concentrations	Best anchorage in management unit	No known minerals	Unknown	Low
1C Point Paken- ham (tidelands)	Estuaries; seals; seasonal waterfowl concentrations; bear use; otter concentrations; commercial fishing	Dispersed recreation	No known minerals	--	--
1D Remainder of Unit (tidelands)	Seals; bear use; bear hunting; sea otters; commercial fishing	Dispersed recreation	No known minerals	--	--

¹ This resource summary describes only the resources for state uplands and tidelands.

² Resource list includes Crucial, Prime, and Important habitats as defined by ADF&G (see Appendix E). Anadromous fish streams are not listed; they exist in most subunits. See ADF&G anadromous fish stream catalogue.

³ Land offering and timber harvest do not occur on tidelands. Therefore, settlement and forestry resources are not rated for tideland subunits.