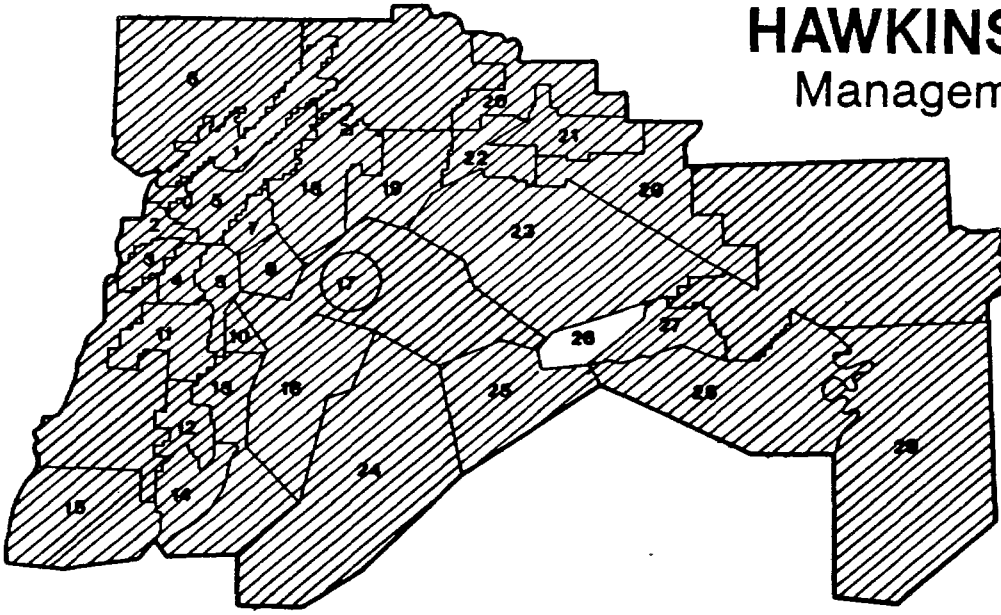

HAWKINS ISLAND

Management Unit 26



Background

The land status of the uplands on Hawkins Island is complex. The eastern two-thirds of Hawkins Island has been selected by the Eyak Corporation. The state has made three selections within that same area, but relinquished one near Windy Bay to resolve land status conflicts (see Chapter 5). The western third of the island will remain in the National Forest. The federal land is open to mineral entry, but contains no areas with significant known mineral values. The state owns the tidelands surrounding the island.

The USFS has not included any land on Hawkins Island on their 1985 10-year timber-sale schedule, and harvest from federal land is unlikely during the next 20 years. A significant portion of the Native land will probably be harvested sometime during the life of the plan. In addition to the timber resources, Hawkins Island is used for hunting, sport and commercial fishing, and general recreation for Cordova. A private subdivision also exists on the northeast shore of Canoe Passage.

Management Intent

The state is likely to receive title to land near Shipyard Bay and Canoe Passage. The plan proposes that approximately 500 acres will be offered for sale near Shipyard Bay. The remaining state uplands will be retained in public ownership and managed for multiple use with emphasis on public recreation and wildlife habitat. State land in Canoe Passage should be considered for legislative designation as a marine park.

The state puts a high priority on selecting lands adjacent to communities. Additional state land selections may be made in this management unit if lands suitable for community development or community recreation are identified. If the state does acquire additional land, land would not be offered for sale without a plan amendment.

Most state land remains open to mineral entry. The Shipyard Bay land offering will be closed before disposal. Canoe Passage may be closed if the legislature designates the area as a marine park. Three streams and eight es-

tuaries will be closed to new mineral entry to protect the salmon spawning and rearing habitat and to prevent conflicts with those resources.

Management of state tidelands will emphasize public recreation and wildlife habitat and harvest (including access to state tidelands for hunting and exploring), and in appropriate locations, will accommodate the upland owner's needs for log transfer sites.

Additional management intent is described below for four subunits. The intent for **Subunit 26E**, the general use area, is reflected in the previous paragraphs.

Subunit 26A - Shipyard Bay. This subunit includes the state-selected uplands and state-owned tidelands in Shipyard and Deepwater Bays. There are also two year-round residences in Deepwater Bay with rights to reconveyance. Approximately 400 acres within this area will be offered for settlement. The exact amount offered will depend on eventual resolution of the overlapping state-Native land selections, land capability, and disposal design. During subdivision design, areas will be reserved to ensure continued public access to parts of the area.

Mariculture is permitted in this subunit adjacent to state-selected or state-owned uplands where consistent with the land-sale design and where it does not block access to land reserved for public use or waterfront residential lots. Some of the shoreline uplands are incapable of supporting settlement; mariculture adjacent to those uplands is not likely to block access to private lots or usable public land.

Mariculture is permitted prior to land sale design if the adjacent uplands are unlikely to be used for residential settlement or public use, or if the mariculture facility is mobile and can accept a short-term permit or lease. If appropriate, the land manager should also reserve a portion of the uplands for caretaker or other facilities needed to support mariculture. The land sale should be designed to

protect the needs of mariculture operations holding valid authorizations.

Subunit 26B - Windy and Cedar Bays. The Eyak Corporation expects to harvest timber in this area during the life of the plan. A log-transfer site will probably be needed on the state-owned tidelands.

The state-owned tidelands are designated public recreation, wildlife habitat and harvest, and forestry. The state tidelands should be used to preserve anchorages and public use of the beaches. As much as practical state land management should maintain the quality of views from the marine route while allowing suitable tideland areas to be used for a log transfer site.

Subunit 26C - Canoe Passage. The uplands in the subunit have been selected by the state and by Eyak Corporation. The state is likely to receive title to a significant portion of the area selected. The Eyak Corporation has developed a private subdivision adjacent to the northern boundary of the subunit.

Canoe Passage is the most important recreation, hunting, and fishing area for people from Cordova. The passage is an excellent anchorage, has a scenic landscape, and provides access to the remainder of the island for hunting. It is also one of the last remaining blocks of public land on the coast with easy access by boat from Cordova. Therefore, management of the area should emphasize its public recreation value, maintain access, and protect the anchorage and natural landscape of the shoreline. Trails along streams and from the Passage to Orca Inlet should also be protected. Public recreation facilities such as cleared tent sites and public-use cabins should be constructed in this unit. Tideland authorizations will be compatible with the recreation management. Management of the tidelands to the private land will allow personal shoreline development such as docks, piers, and other means of access.

The area should be considered by the legislature for a marine park because of the impor-

tance of the area for recreation by residents of Cordova and the potential need for active management. The park area should include most of the state land excluding the tidelands adjacent to private land and the valuable forest land that may be isolated from the remaining state land by intervening Native selection. The uplands exclusion is the south half of Sections 35 and 36 of T15S R5W, C.R.M.

If a timber harvest occurs on the adjacent native lands, a coordinated timber harvest will be allowed on the state lands. The harvest can occur only in areas of the subunit where harvest is compatible with maintaining the recreation and habitat resources of the subunit, and outside the area of the possible marine park. The harvest will be buffered from existing trails.

Subunit 26D - Orca Inlet and Hawkins Cutoff. Orca Inlet and Hawkins Cutoff contain the most important concentrations of otter in Prince William Sound. In the winter, several haulout and pupping areas exist on the offshore sandbars including a haulout area approximately one mile north of Shirttail Point and a pupping area approximately one mile southeast of Fish Bay. Both areas contain hundreds of otters at different times during the winter and early spring. Activities that will disturb otters during their use of the sandbars in this unit will be avoided to the extent feasible and prudent. The area is also a popular anchorage and deer hunting area. Management will protect the existing anchorages and public use of the area.

Most of the tidelands of Hawkins Cutoff contain important habitat for waterfowl (duck and geese nesting or molting concentrations) and razor clams.

Management Guidelines

Mineral Closures (Subunits 26B, 26C, 26D, 26E). Three streams, eight estuaries, and the SCHA will be closed to new mineral entry to protect valuable salmon spawning and rearing habitat and to prevent conflicts with those resources. The stream closures are all within Subunit 26C, Canoe Passage. They include approximately 0.3 miles of Rollins Creek, approximately 0.15 miles of an unnamed creek, approximately 0.2 miles of Canoe Creek, and the state land within 50 feet of each side of those creeks. The estuaries are located in Hawkins Cutoff (126, 131), Windy and Cedar Bays (135, 136), Canoe Passage (133, 134), and in two locations on the northwest side of the island (132, 137). The boundaries of the closures are described in Appendix D.

Crucial Otter Concentrations in Orca Inlet & Hawkins Cutoff (Subunit 26D). State tideland permits and leases will protect the dense sea otter haulout and pupping areas in Hawkins Cutoff. Impacts to be considered during the permit review process include direct effect on the animals, acoustical disturbances, and maintenance of haulout areas.

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

- Fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas
- Forestry
- Mariculture
- Recreation, tourism, cultural, and scenic resources
- Settlement
- Shoreline development

LAND USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY

Management Unit 26: Hawkins Island

<u>SUBUNIT</u>	<u>LAND OWNERSHIP</u>	<u>LAND USE DESIGNATIONS</u>			<u>COMMENTS</u>
		<u>Primary Surface Use²</u>	<u>Prohibited Surface Use</u>	<u>Subsurface¹</u>	
26A Shipyard Bay	Overlapping State-Native upland selection; state-owned tidelands	Settlement		Closed prior to sale	Estimated net land offering 400 acres
26B Windy & Cedar Bays	State-owned tidelands	General use		Most open; two estuaries closed	State selection was relinquished
26C Canoe Passage	Overlapping State-Native upland selection; state-owned tidelands	Public recreation		May be closed if marine park; two estuaries and three streams closed	Recommended for marine park
26D Orca Inlet & Hawkins Cut-Off	State-owned tidelands	Habitat & harvest		Most open; estuary closed	
26E Remainder of Unit	State-owned tidelands	General use		Most open; three estuaries closed	

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: 26. Hawkins Island					
SUBUNIT	Fish & Wildlife ²	Recreation	Minerals	Settlement ³	Forestry ³
26A Shipyard Bay (uplands and tidelands)	Estuary; deer; sport fishing	Community use by Cordova	Weakly mineralized	Capable	High/moderate
26B Windy and Cedar Bays (tidelands)	Estuaries; seasonal waterfowl concentra- tions; deer; purse- seine hookoff; sport fishing	Community use by Cordova	No known minerals	--	--
26C Canoe Passage (uplands and tidelands)	Estuaries; seals; bird rookery; seasonal waterfowl concentration and hunting; purse-seine hookoff; sport fish- ing; deer concentra- tions; herring spawning; commercial fishing	Important recreation site for Cordova and used frequently for hunting, fishing, and general recrea- tion	No known minerals	Capable	High/moderate
26D Orca Inlet and Hawkins Cutoff (tidelands)	Estuaries; clams; seasonal waterfowl concentrations; crucial otter concentrations; deer	Community use by Cordova	Weakly mineralized	--	--
26E Remainder of Unit (tidelands)	Estuaries; seasonal waterfowl concentra- tions; purse-seine hookoffs; deer concentrations; commercial fishing	Frequent dispersed use by Cordova	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.