Unit 15d - Tracy Arm

Background

Tracy Arm is a popular area for viewing bear, goats, waterfowl, and whales. The USFS uplands adjacent to this subunit have high mineral potential. Federal mining claims are located on the south end of Sweetheart Lake and along the uplands adjacent to Tracy Arm. Williams Cove has potential as a resource transfer site for upland mineral developments in this area. Although Williams Cove is used as an anchorage, it can be hazardous due to floating icebergs. The more commonly used anchorage, No Name Cove, is outside the planning area. DNR has received applications for ice harvest in Tracy Arm and identified important public use sites as part of the review process. ADFG is proposing a net pen site in Williams Cove.

The USFS uplands east of Williams Cove are part of the Tracy Arm - Fords Terror Wilderness. The wilderness area is managed to preserve areas essentially unaffected by human use so as to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude, primitive recreation, and scientific and educational uses. Roads are not permitted and use of mechanical transport and motorized equipment is limited.

Management Intent

Subunit 15d4 will be managed to support the fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and tourism values and uses for which this subunit is co-designated. Although Subunit 15d4 is not designated Waterfront Development (Wd), a resource transfer facility to support minerals development or timber harvest, or commercial recreation facilities are allowable uses within this subunit without an amendment to the plan. These facilities will be sited and designed to minimize significant adverse impacts on other uses for which the area is co-designated. Subunit 15b3 will be managed for dispersed recreation and tourism for which the subunit is designated.

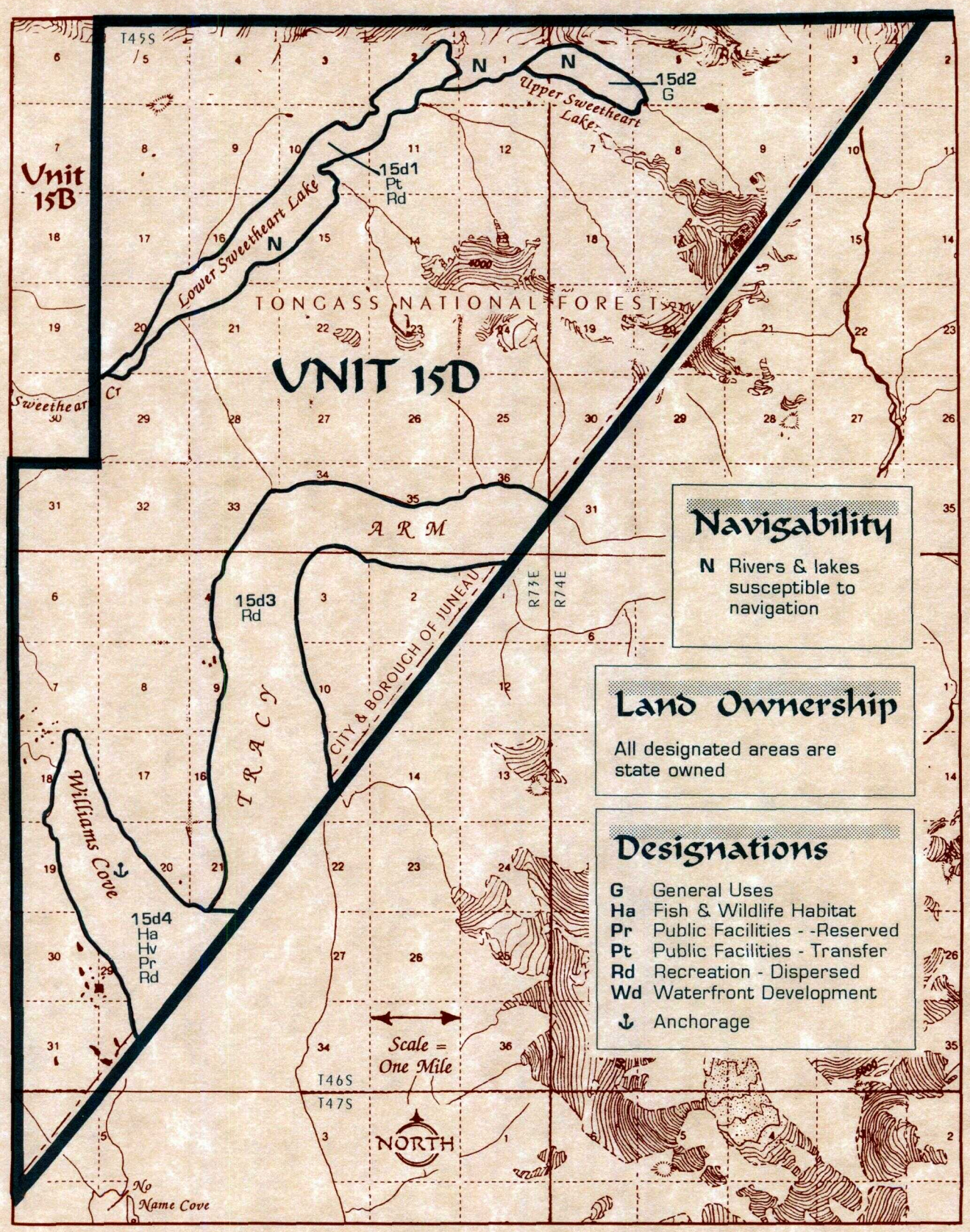
Management Guidelines

Glacier Ice Harvest. Commercial glacier ice harvest may be authorized in Tracy Arm if activities occur in a manner that avoids or minimizes significant conflicts with scenic cruises in the area, important anchorages, commonly used campsites, and seal pupping areas. See Chapter 2, *Water Resources* for guidelines that apply to commercial glacier ice harvest.

Mineral Closures. Approximately forty (40) acres of tidelands and submerged lands in Williams Cove will be closed to new mineral location because they surround a net pen site used for the remote release of hatchery salmon. This areas will be closed to new mineral location because the fisheries it supports are critically dependent on the estuarine rearing habitat. A map of this closure can be found in Mineral Order 653 in Appendix B.

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 15D: TRACY ARM						
Area no. & name	**DNR designation**	**CBJ zoning district**	**Land type**	**Adjacent ownership**	**Resource or use**	**Other comments**
15d1 Lower Sweetheart Lake	Pt Rd	RR	SL	USFS	ADF&G field camp at the outlet of lower Sweetheart Lake	Floatplane access
15d2 Upper Sweetheart Lake	G	RR	SL	USFS		Floatplane access
15d3 Tracy Arm	Rd	RR	T/ SU	USFS	Recreation, scenic; popular tourist destination and wildlife and scenery tours	Only small part of Tracy Arm
15d4 Williams Cove	Ha Hv Pr Rd	RR	T	USFS	Recreation, scenic; proposed ADF&G floating field camp and salmon net pen rearing site and anadromous stream mouth; anchorage	Possible site for resource transfer facility for mineral development

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