Unit 1b Bridget Cove

Background

This unit extends between Point Bridget State Park and the mouth of Eagle River. Most of the state lands in this unit are tidelands and submerged lands. With the exception of one state-owned upland parcel (Subunit 1b25), the uplands are owned primarily by CBJ and the USFS.

Recreation. The state lands in this unit are used primarily for recreation because of the distance from Juneau, extensive publicly-owned uplands, protected coves, and scenery. The Juneau Area Recreation Plan recommended designating the beaches from Amalga Harbor to North Bridget Cove as Recreation Beaches and classifying them as Public Recreation. The Glacier Highway that traverses this unit is frequently used for sightseeing and access to recreation areas. The tidelands in Bridget Cove receive heavy use as an anchorage. The coastline receives small boat use from Auke Bay, Juneau, Douglas, and Echo Cove. There is a hiking trail on CBJ-owned lands and private uplands adjacent to the state tidelands in Bridget Cove. There are also hiking trails up Bessie Creek on USFS-owned uplands and along the shore of Sunshine Cove on CBJ-owned uplands. In Subunit 1b18, the public scrambles down steep embankments to picnic and sport fish by the water. Most of the tourist and non-resident recreation in this unit is from cruise ships and the ferries that pass through Lynn Canal one to two miles offshore. Other non-resident uses include trips in charter boats, guided sea-kayak trips, sport fishing, sightseeing on the road, trail walking, and beachcombing. The Westours dock and Aldersheim Lodge are located in and adjacent to Subunit 1b16.

Mining and Mineral Potential. The uplands, some of which are state owned, have high mineral potential. Federal mining claims are located in the upper drainages of Bessie Creek, South Fork Cowee Creek, and Canyon Creek.

Management Intent

The state tidelands in this unit are designated mostly for Dispersed Recreation (Rd), Fish and Wildlife Harvest (Hv), and Fish and Wildlife Habitat (Ha). These lands should be managed to provide opportunities for both developed and undeveloped recreation while mitigating impacts on habitat and harvest. Opportunities for access to commercial tourism and mining uses on the uplands, particularly in Subunit 1b16, will be maintained and are an allowable use in this unit. Although Subunit 1b17 is designated Shoreline Use (Sh) rather than Waterfront Development (Wd), limited small-scale improvements to support commercial recreation are an allowable use. This includes improvements such as docks and floats.

Management Guidelines

Land Management Consolidation. DPOR manages recreation facilities at Point Bridget State Park, and it may be more efficient for the state to manage other CBJ lands in this unit for recreation. A cooperative management agreement should be prepared to transfer management responsibilities for the CBJ lands between Yankee Cove and Bridget Cove, including Mab Island, Yankee Cove, and Sunshine Cove to DPOR. See the section on *Land Management Consolidation Proposals* in Chapter 4.

Commercial Facilities. Westours currently has a lease for a dock in Subunit 1b16. Adlersheim Lodge has also submitted an application for a lease for a wood, steel, and concrete 300-foot dock off the point of Yankee Cove in this subunit (ADL 104588). If minerals are developed in the Bessie Mine or Yankee Basin Area, access will be needed along these two creeks which are in USFS ownership. Access needs may require facilities on state tidelands in Subunit 1b16 north of Yankee Cove to support mining on Bessie Creek. Alternately, access may be possible via the Glacier Highway to other port sites. Leasing land for commercial facilities may be authorized in Subunit 1b16.

Yankee Cove Beach Access. Subunit 1b17 contains a protected cove that could provide an access point for kayakers paddling to Benjamin Island. The road parallels the shoreline, but the embankment is quite steep. DNR or CBJ should consider improving access to this beach for launching hand-carried boats.

Land-Use Designation Summary

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

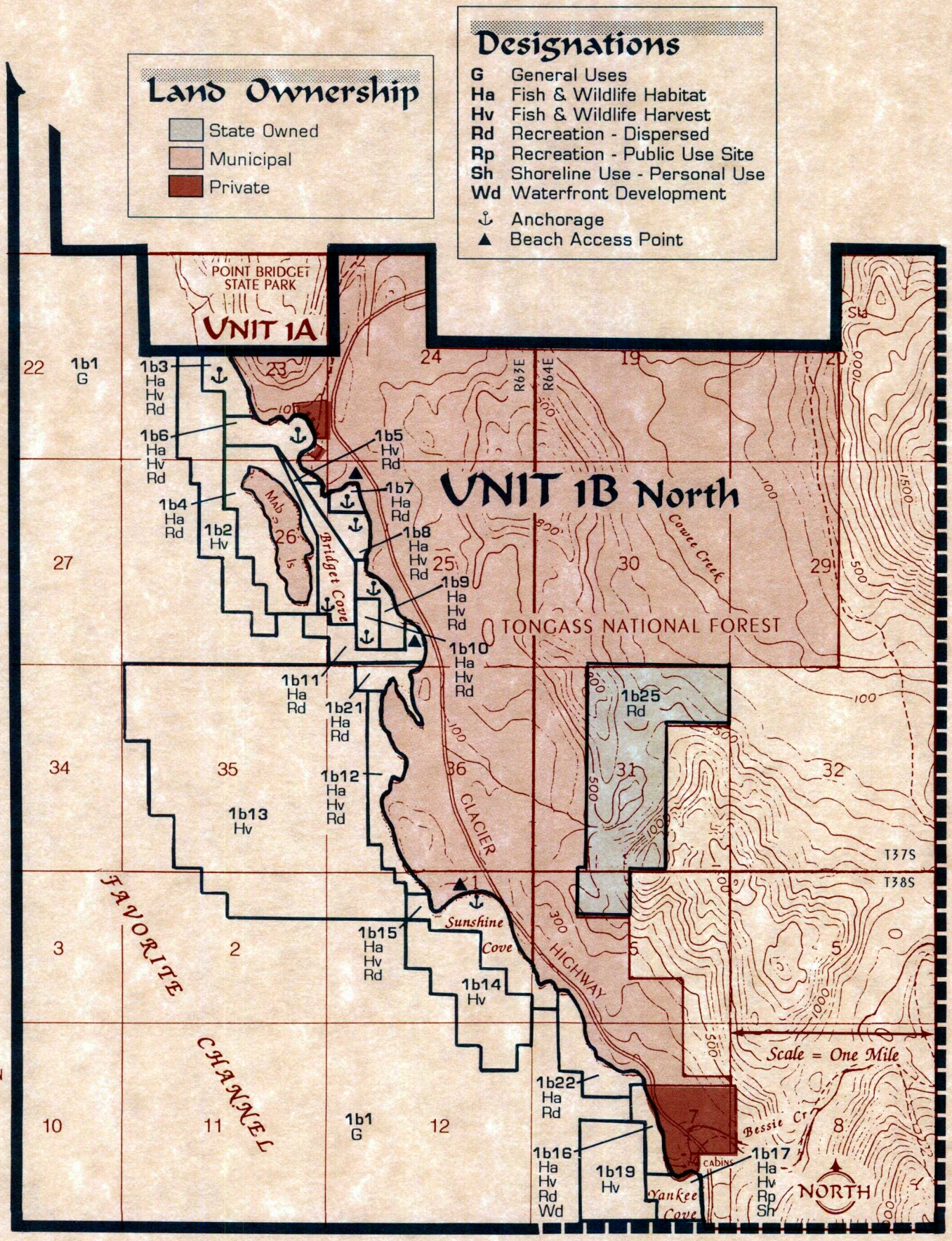
UNIT 1B: BRIDGET COVE						
Area no. & name	DNR designation	CBJ zoning district	Land type	Adjacent ownership	Resource or use	Other comments
1b1	G	RR	SU	State		
1b2	Hv	RR	SU	State	Salmon sportfishing and commercial trolling	
1b3	Ha Hv Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Salmon sportfishing and commercial trolling; herring spawning; hiking trail along coast; migratory waterfowl; commercial Dungeness crab harvest; anchorage	
1b4	Ha Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Herring spawning	
1b5	Hv Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Dungeness crab commercial harvest; anchorage for sportfishing, trollers, and hunters	
1b6	Ha Hv Rd	OS	T	CBJ/ private	Hiking trail along coast; Dungeness crab commercial harvest; herring spawning; anchorage	
1b7	Ha Rd One beach access point	OS	T	CBJ	Anchorage; herring spawning; eelgrass; Dungeness crab rearing; hiking trail along coast	
1b8	Ha Hv Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Eelgrass beds; herring spawning; anchorage; Dungeness crab rearing and commercial harvest; clam harvest	
1b9	Ha Hv Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Anchorage; herring spawning; public clam harvest; Dungeness crab commercial harvest	
1b10	Ha Hv Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Herring spawning; Dungeness crab commercial harvest; anchorage	
1b11	Ha Rd One beach access point	OS	T	CBJ	Herring spawning	
1b12 Shrine Creek	Ha Hv Rd	OS	T	State	Salmon gillnetting; herring spawning	
1b13	Hv	RR	SU	State	Salmon gillnetting	
1b14	Hv	RR	SU	State	Salmon and halibut sportfishing	
1b15 Sunshine Cove	Ha One beach access point Hv Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Anchorage; beach use; herring spawning; public clam harvest; Dungeness crab commercial harvest; otter habitat; eelgrass; Dungeness crab rearing	

Land-Use Designation Summary (continued)

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

UNIT 1B: BRIDGET COVE						
Area no. & name	**DNR designation**	**CBJ zoning district**	**Land type**	**Adjacent ownership**	**Resource or use**	**Other comments**
1b16	Ha Hv Rd Wd	RR	T	Private	Herring spawning; salmon nearshore rearing; salmon sportfishing; Dungeness crab personal use harvest	Includes Aldersheim Lodge and West Tours dock
1b17 Yankee Cove	Ha Hv Rp Sh	RR	T	Private/ USFS	Herring spawning; public clam harvest; eelgrass; salmon sportfishing; Dungeness crab personal use harvest; anadromous stream mouth	Possible site for kayak launching if access improved to road
1b18	Ha Rd	OS	T	USFS	Herring spawning	
1b19	Hv	RR	SU	State	Salmon sportfishing	
1b20	Hv	RR	SU	State	King crab commercial and personal use; halibut sportfishing; salmon sportfishing	
1b21 Inner Bridget Cove	Ha Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Anadromous stream mouth; herring spawning	
1b22	Ha Rd	OS	T	CBJ	Herring spawning; other habitat	
Uplands 1b25	Rd	RR	UU	USFS CBJ		

UNIT 1B North INSET - Bridget Cove

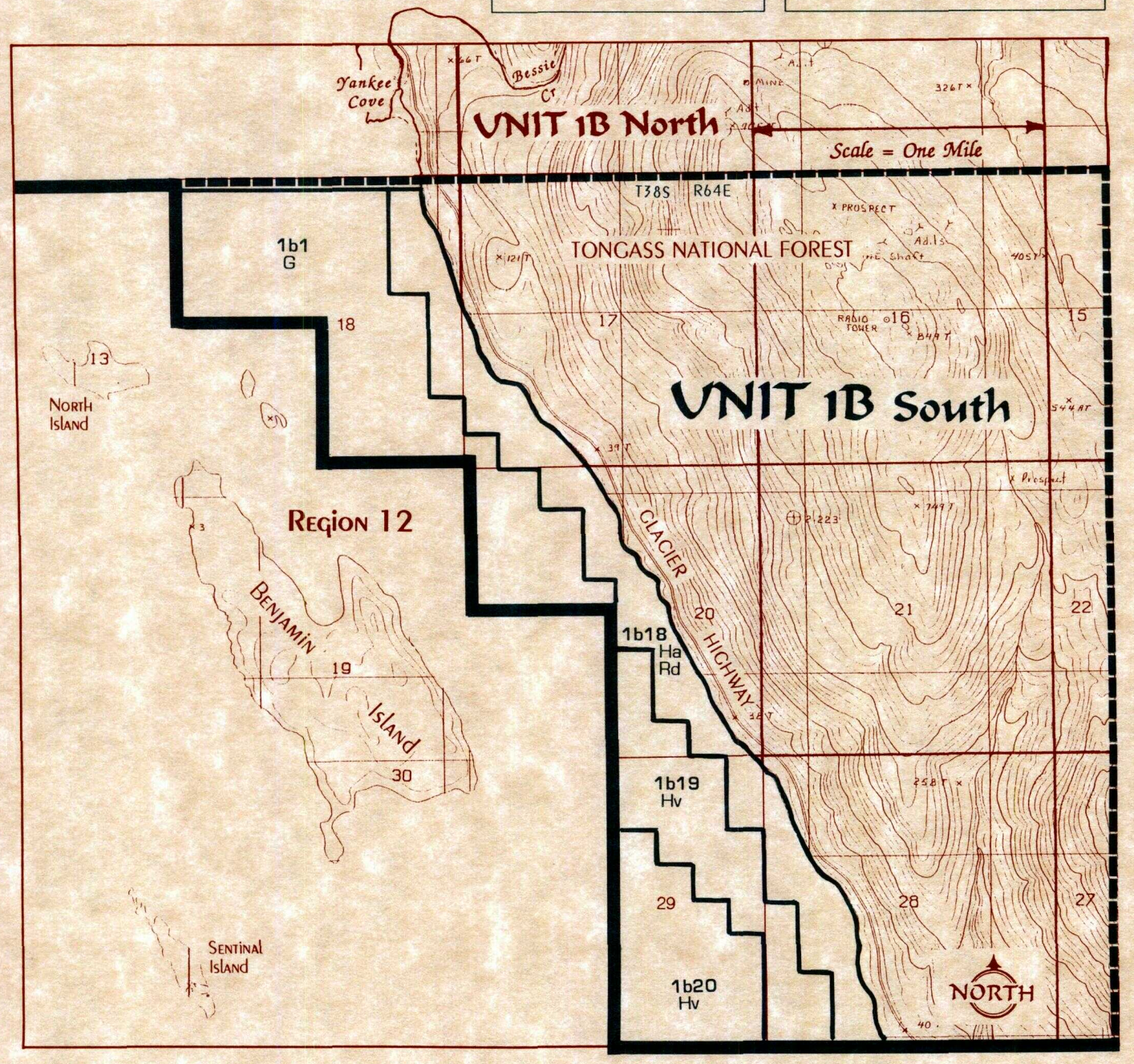


REGION 12

UNIT 1B South INSET - Bridget Cove

Land Ownership

Within Tongass National Forest

Designations

G General Uses
Ha Fish & Wildlife Habitat
Hv Fish & Wildlife Harvest
Rd Recreation - Dispersed