

2 Alternatives

Alternative 8

Framework

Alternative 8 would recommend approximately 9,680,000 acres for new wilderness designation. It would result in the conversion of all inventoried roadless areas in the current roadless inventory to Recommended Wilderness. This alternative responds to Key Issue 1 at a very high level by recommending almost all roadless lands for long-term protection of resource values. It does not respond to Key Issue 2. Virtually all acres of LUD II would be included in this conversion. Under this alternative, there would be no change to existing wilderness.

New Wilderness or LUD II Areas

This alternative would result in the creation of large tracts of land consisting of almost continuous wilderness and Recommended Wilderness across each of the islands and the mainland of the Tongass National Forest. If designated by Congress, this would result in 15.4 million acres of wilderness. Approximately 10,000 acres of LUD II areas (outside of current roadless areas) would remain. If designated, the Recommended Wildernesses would result in 22 new wilderness groupings. These groupings are described in Table 2-21. The Alternative 8 map in the *Map* section of this SEIS displays the locations of the areas.

**Table 2-21
New Wilderness Recommendations for Alternative 8**

Area Recommended	National Forest System Acres	Wilderness Name or Addition
Roadless Areas 338, 339, and 341	855,320	Addition to Russell Fiord Wilderness
Roadless Areas 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 301, 302, 305, 308, 313, 523, 524, 525, 526, 528, 529, 530, and 577	4,071,714	Additions to and Connection Between Mainland Wilderness group (Tracy Arm-Fords Terror/Chuck River, Stikine-LeConte, Misty Fiords)
Roadless Areas 303 and 304	264,669	Addition to Endicott River Wilderness
Roadless Areas 306 and 307	73,268	Additions to Kootznoowoo Wilderness – Admiralty National Monument (Mansfield Peninsula, Greens Creek)
Roadless Areas 309 and 310	30,411	New Juneau/Douglas Islands Wilderness
Roadless Areas 311, 312, 314, 317, 318, 319, 321, 323, 325, and 328	877,566	Additions to Chichagof Island Wildernesses (connects with West Chichagof-Yakobi Wilderness)
Roadless Areas 326, 327, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, and 334	762,115	Addition to Baranof Island Wildernesses (connects with South Baranof Wilderness – includes Kruzof and adjacent Islands)
Roadless Areas 239, 240, 241, 242, 244, 245, 246, and part of 243	269,455	Additions to Kuiu Island Wilderness (connects with Tebenkof Bay/Kuiu Wilderness)
Roadless Areas 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, and part of 243	510,102	Additions to Kupreanof Island Wilderness (connects with Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness – includes Woewodski Island)
Roadless Areas 219, 220, 222, 223, and 224	58,360	New Mitkof Island Wildernesses
Roadless Areas 235, 236, and 237	72,204	New Zarembo Island Wildernesses
Roadless Areas 225, 227, 229, 247, 288, 289, and 290	75,783	New Wrangell Island Wilderness – includes Kadin-Greys Islands
Roadless Areas 231, 232, 233, and 234	141,385	Additions to Etoin Island Wildernesses (connects with South Etoin Wilderness – includes Woronkofski Island)
Roadless Areas 523, 524, 525, 526, and 535	333,371	Additions to Revilla Island Wildernesses (connects with Misty Fiords Wilderness)
Roadless Area 522	38,967	New Gravina Island Wilderness

**Table 2-21 (continued)
New Wilderness Recommendations for Alternative 8**

Area Recommended	National Forest System Acres	Wilderness Name or Addition
Roadless Area 521	46,863	New Duke Island Wilderness
Roadless Area 238	5,743	New Kashevarof Islands Wilderness
Roadless Areas 505, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, and 536	906,965	Additions to Prince of Wales Wildernesses (connects with Karta and South Prince of Wales Wildernesses) – includes Heceta Is.
Roadless Area 503	99,741	New Outside Islands Wilderness
Roadless Area 502	24,937	New Suemez Island Wilderness
Roadless Area 501	111,545	New Dall Island Wilderness
Roadless Area 504	49,459	New Sukkwan Wilderness

Land Use Designations

If Alternative 8 is selected, the LUD allocation acres shown in Table 2-22 would result. Figure 2-8 shows the distribution of LUDs across the Tongass under Alternative 8 according to three LUD groups (see Table 2-22 for definitions of the LUD groups). Table 2-23 displays selected outputs and other measures associated with this alternative.

**Table 2-22
Land Use Designations for Alternative 8¹**

Land Use Designation	Acres Allocated	Net Change from Current Forest Plan Acres ³
Wilderness LUD Group		
Recommended Wilderness ²	9,679,944	+ 9,679,944
Wilderness	2,642,241	0
Wilderness National Monument	3,114,231	0
Nonwilderness National Monument	3,834	-155,847
Total for Wilderness LUD Group	15,440,250	+9,524,097
Natural Setting LUD Group		
Research Natural Area	405	-25,616
Special Interest Area	6,827	-167,295
Remote Recreation	2,557	-2,130,555
Enacted Municipal Watershed	1,820	-43,422
Old-Growth Habitat	188,126	-987,320
Semi-Remote Recreation	56,717	-2,798,160
Recommended LUD II	0	0
LUD II	9,855	-711,313
Wild, Scenic, Recreational River	15,897	-103,741
Total for Natural Setting LUD Group	282,203	-6,967,422
Development LUD Group		
Experimental Forest	4,294	-12,813
Scenic Viewshed	111,475	-369,383
Modified Landscape	224,897	-387,585
Timber production	738,130	-1,786,894
Total for Development LUD Group	1,078,795	-2,556,676

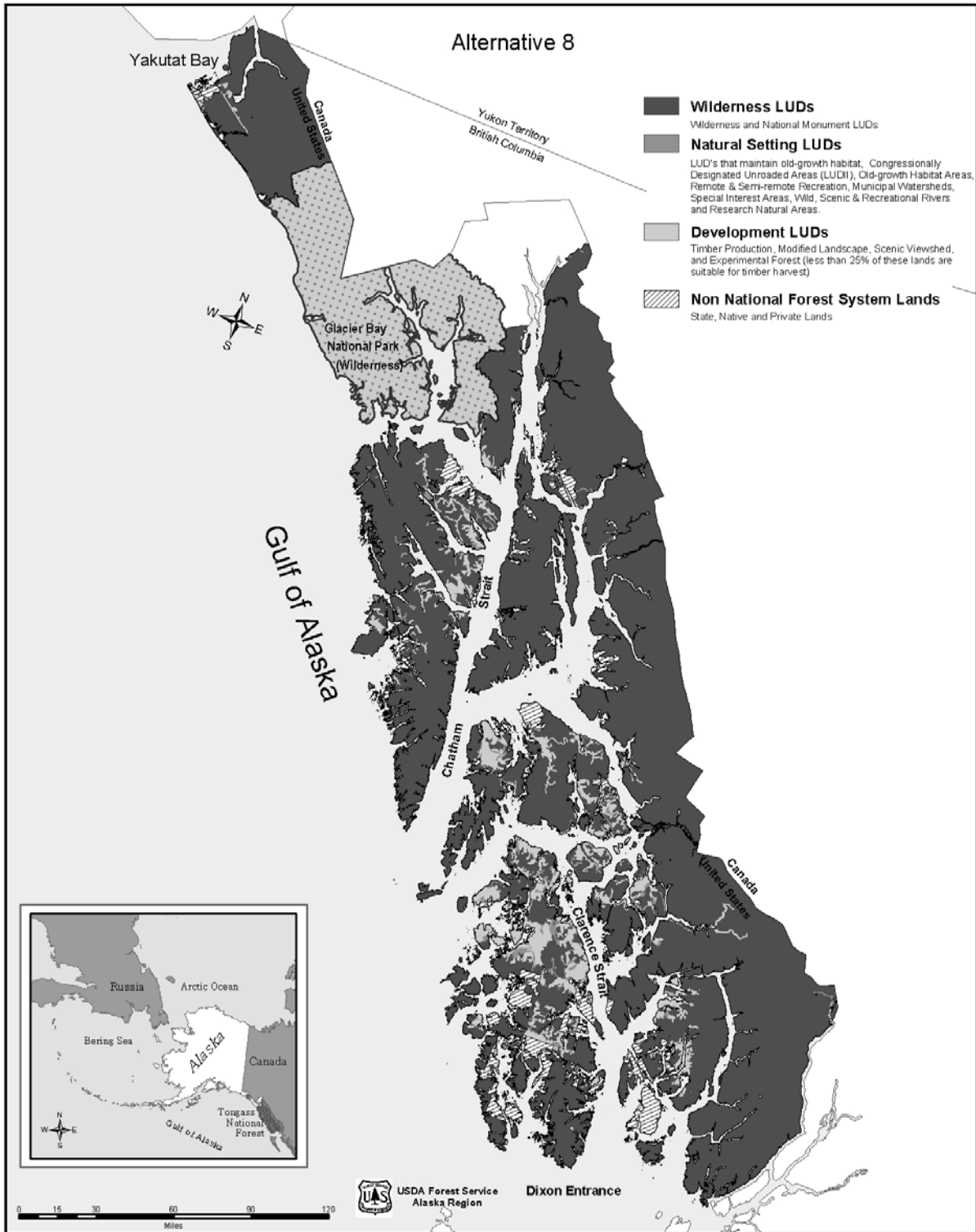
¹ When more than one LUD is applied to the same area, such as a Special Interest Area within Wilderness, only the acreage of the more restrictive LUD is included, except that total Wilderness, Wilderness National Monument, and LUD II acres are always shown. The acreage for Minerals LUD would be 13,479; these acres are not included in the table because the Minerals LUD is an overlay. No acreages have been calculated for the Transportation and Utility Systems LUD because it is a corridor. Totals may not exactly equal the sum of individual entries due to rounding.

² Note that 155,847 acres of the Recommended Wilderness acres would eventually become Wilderness National Monument if designated by Congress.

³ These changes from current Forest Plan acres are the differences from the decisions made in the 1997 Tongass Forest Plan Revision ROD, as amended. Except as they may be modified in this SEIS process by the selection of an alternative proposing Recommended Wilderness or Recommended LUD II, the current Forest Plan LUD allocations are outside the scope of this SEIS process.

2 Alternatives

**Figure 2-8
Wilderness, Natural Setting, and Development LUDs on the Tongass National Forest under Alternative 8**



**Table 2-23
Selected Outputs and Measures Associated with Alternative 8¹**

Resource/Category	Output/Measure
Amount of Wilderness and LUD II Protection (millions of acres)	
Recommended Wilderness plus Current Wilderness and National Monument	15.4
Recommended LUD II plus Current LUD II	<0.1
Percent of Ecoregion Protected in Reserves	
Northern Pacific Coastal Forest	50%
Pacific Coastal Mountain Tundra and Ice Fields	49%
Productive Old-growth after 150 Years (millions of acres)	4.83
Estimated Land Suitable for Timber Production (acres)	336,000
Allowable Sale Quantity (million board feet) ²	
Non-interchangeable component I	73
Non-interchangeable component II	16
Total	89
Annual Road Construction during 1st Decade, based on the ASQ (miles)	23
Annual Timber Harvest during 1st Decade, based on the ASQ (acres)	3,000
Short-term Effects on Timber Industry	
Percent of Timber Sales Under Contract Affected	59%
Percent of Proposed Timber Sales (10-year plan) Affected	62%
Percent of Identified and Undiscovered Mineral Areas Withdrawn or Potentially Withdrawn	
Percent of Identified Mineral Tracts	64%
Percent of Undiscovered Mineral Areas	90%
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Classes after 150 Years (millions of acres)	
Primitive and Semi-primitive Non-motorized	13.4
Semi-primitive Motorized	1.4
Roaded Natural and Roaded Modified	2.0

¹ Unless otherwise noted, figures are average annual amounts for the next decade (2002 to 2012).

² All timber volumes are sawlog plus utility. Totals may not add exactly due to rounding.