

# Appendix C

## INDIVIDUAL ROADLESS AREA DESCRIPTION

**ROADLESS AREA NAME:** Pavlof-East Point (319)

**ACRES (NFS):** 4,731

**BIOGEOGRAPHIC PROVINCE:** East Chichagof Island

**ECOLOGICAL SECTION:** Northeast Chichagof Fjordlands

**2003 WILDERNESS ATTRIBUTE RATING:** 16

### **I. Overview and Description**

(1) **Location and Access:** The Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area is on the northeast coast of Chichagof Island, bounded on the northeast by Freshwater Bay. Chatham Strait lies to the east. Timber harvest units and roads form the inland boundary of this roadless area. The roadless area is approximately 20 air miles south of Hoonah and 5 miles northeast of Tenakee Springs. Tenakee Springs has Alaska Marine Highway service and regular small plane service. Access to the roadless area is from the Kennel Creek/Hoonah road system and by boats. Access to the interior is by foot and helicopter. There are no places suitable for landing wheeled aircraft.

(2) **History:** At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area of Chichagof Island. Villages and sites for seasonal hunting, fishing, and collecting activities were located throughout the area. Pavlof Harbor was used as a fish station by the early Alaska Native cultures. The Hudson Bay Trading Company conducted illegal trading with the Tlingit in Pavlof Bay from 1859 to 1865. The Astoria and Alaska Packing Company had a fish packing plant here until 1889 and a saltery was established by 1900. Recent historical activities in this area have included commercial fishing and logging. A fishpass was constructed on Pavlof River by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's. Construction of two fish ladders on Pavlof River and Pavlof Falls was completed in 1987. Forest archaeologists have located village sites, garden spots, an old smokehouse, and a pictograph within the area.

(3) **Geography and Topography:** The roadless area ranges from sea level to over 1,300 feet in elevation. The Pavlof drainage includes a river, lake, waterfalls, and a bay. There are 15 miles of saltwater shoreline and four islands totaling 162 acres in this roadless area. There are no ice or snow, alpine or rock features mapped in the area.

(4) **Ecosystem:**

(a) **Classification:** Biogeographic Province. The roadless area is classified as the East Chichagof Island Biogeographic Province. This province has a dryer and colder climate than the outer coast of Chichagof Island and the winter snow pack is generally greater. Chichagof Island is deeply dissected into three peninsulas that may be functioning biologically more like separate islands. Vegetation in this province represents a modal similar to Admiralty Island Province.

Ecological Section/Subsection. The Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area is contained entirely within the Northeast Chichagof Fjordlands Ecological Section (M247C). This area is represented by one ecological subsection (see table below). The Freshwater Bay Carbonates Ecological Subsection has a bedrock mixture of carbonate and noncalcareous sedimentary rocks with bits of volcanic and intrusive igneous rocks. Many formations of almost pure carbonate form impressive mountains and ridges with extensive areas of exposed rocks containing pits and sinkholes. Atop the mountains, alpine vegetative communities thrive. The mid to lower elevations of the moderately sloped mountains have well drained soils that support productive hemlock spruce forests. In the valleys where glacial tills and glaciomarine sediments exist, non-forested wetlands are present. Where streams flow through calcareous colluvium, rich calcareous fens develop at the stream base creating a diverse and rare plant community (Nowacki et al., 2001).

<b>Ecological Section</b>	<b>Ecological Subsection</b>	<b>Percent of Roadless Area</b>
Northeast Chichagof Fjordlands	Freshwater Bay Carbonates	100%

**(b) Soils:** There are unstable soils in the Pavlof/East Point Roadless Area on the north side of Pavlof Ridge and along the area called East Point. Because of the high rainfall, the available nutrients can be leached rapidly and exposed mineral soils are subject to erosion. Due to rapid loss of material by erosion and efficient rainwater runoff, the shallow soils with good drainage develop on steeper slopes.

The Pavlof drainage has poorly-drained, deep organic soils (muskegs). Drainage improves with increased slope; however, as slopes become oversteepened, soil depths become shallower. The riparian areas in this area tend to contain sand and gravels resulting from soil deposit during floods.

**(c) Vegetation:** In this roadless area, Western hemlock-Sitka spruce forests dominate. The understory is composed of shrubs such as red huckleberry, rusty menziesia, and devil's club. The forest floor is covered with a mat of mosses, liverworts, deerheart, bunchberry dogwood, single delight, and skunk cabbage. Streamside riparian vegetation is characterized by salmonberry, devil's club, alder, grasses, ferns, and currants.

Approximately 139 acres of muskeg are mapped for the area; however, due to their small size and association with forested sites, accurate acreage estimates are difficult. They are dominated by sphagnum mosses, sedges, and shrubs of the heath family, and are interspersed among low elevation timber stands where drainage is restricted. Trees are sparse and consist mainly of stunted hemlock, lodgepole pine, and Alaska-cedar.

There are approximately 4,500 acres mapped as forest land of which 3,628 acres or 81 percent are mapped as productive old-growth forest. Of the productive old growth, 1,518 acres or 42 percent are mapped as high-volume old-growth forest. The productive old growth includes about 276 acres of high-volume, coarse-canopy old growth. There are no acres of second-growth forest where timber harvest has occurred in the past.

**(d) Fish Resources:** Pavlof River and Lake have a significant salmon run. The Anadromous Waters Catalogue (ADF&G, 2000) indicates that Pavlof River and Lake provide spawning and rearing habitat for sockeye, coho, pink, and chum salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden char. Fish ladders have been constructed on Pavlof River and Pavlof Falls, both completed in 1987. A second fish-bearing stream in this area, Wachusett Creek, provides habitat for coho, pink, and chum salmon.

**(e) Wildlife Resources:** Wildlife species present in this roadless area include Sitka black-tailed deer and brown bears. Small mammals include marten, mink, river otter, and red squirrel. Bald eagle roosting and nesting habitat exists along the shoreline of the roadless area. MacDonald and Cook (1999) do not list black bears or mountain goats as inhabiting Chichagof Island.

**(5) Management Direction and Current Uses:** The roadless area was allocated to five different Land Use Designations (LUDs) under the 1997 Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan. These five LUDs are Timber Production, Scenic Viewshed, Modified Landscape, Old-growth Habitat, and Semi-Remote Recreation.

<b>LUD</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Timber Production	782
Scenic Viewshed	664
Modified Landscape	492
Old-growth Habitat	2,684
Semi-Remote Recreation	109

Approximately 41 percent of the roadless area was allocated to development LUDs that permit timber harvest and associated road construction (Timber Production, Scenic Viewshed, Modified Landscape). The Timber Production

## Appendix C

LUD was assigned to approximately 17 percent of the roadless area. About 664 acres along a ridgeline facing Freshwater Bay were allocated to Scenic Viewshed LUD, which totals approximately 14 percent of the roadless area. Approximately 10 percent of the roadless area was allocated to Modified Landscape LUD, primarily located near the Pavlof River.

Approximately 59 percent of this roadless area was allocated to a non-development LUD (Old-growth Habitat, Semi-Remote Recreation). The Old-growth Habitat LUD was assigned to approximately 57 percent of the roadless area. Approximately 109 acres, or 2 percent of the roadless area, was allocated to the Semi-Remote Recreation LUD.

Eight recreation places have been identified in the Pavlof/East Point Roadless Area. People anchor their boats and use the area around Pavlof Harbor and Pavlof Lake for dispersed camping. Trails run from Pavlof Harbor to the north and south shore of Pavlof Lake. Activities occurring in the Pavlof/East Point Roadless Area are marine viewing, stream and lake fishing, kayaking, hiking, and hunting. No outfitter/guides permits were issued in 1999 for the roadless area.

The area around Pavlof Lake and Pavlof Harbor has been conveyed to the State. Special use permits have been issued for cabins north of Pavlof Harbor and at Wachusett Cove. The Forest Service manages two fish passes on the Pavlof River, one of which is in the roadless area. As a wildlife improvement project, nesting boxes for general waterfowl with emphasis on ducks and geese, have been placed along Pavlof Lake. The area receives subsistence use, mainly from residents of Tenakee Springs, Hoonah, and Freshwater Bay.

**(6) Appearance (Apparent Naturalness):** The area has been modified by public recreation cabins, trails around the Pavlof Lake area, and timber harvest and roads along the entire landward boundary.

**(7) Surroundings (External Influences):** This roadless area neighbors National Forest System land to the west and the State owned land around Pavlof Lake. Freshwater Bay is adjacent to the entire east boundary. The Kennel Creek road system, built in the early 1960's, borders the northwest corner of the roadless area. This system continues past the closed Kennel Creek logging camp, built at the same time as the road system, and turns into the Hoonah road system. A Forest Service work center, located at Kennel Creek, is used year round but most heavily during the summer months. The Kennel Creek system runs southeast into the Pavlof River drainage. In the early 1980's the East Point and Pavlof River roads were connected. This road comes within one-half mile of the beach near East Point. The Pavlof-East Point area can be accessed from either of these road systems. The town of Tenakee Springs is 7 miles to the southwest. Tenakee Springs receives regular Alaska Marine Highway service.

**(8) Attractions and Features of Special Interest:** Pavlof Harbor is unique because it offers protection from the weather on four sides. It is noted on the nautical charts as a safe harbor and, as such, is used consistently by transit vessels. An easy trail, which parallels the waterfalls between the lake and the bay, accesses the north and south shores of Pavlof Lake. The area contains eight inventoried recreation places, which cover 1,683 acres, or 36 percent of the roadless area.

In the Pavlof drainage, there are significant runs of salmon from the harbor into the lake and river. Two fish ladders have been constructed in this drainage to enhance these fisheries.

**(9) Differences between the 1989 and 2003 Roadless Area Boundary:** Road construction has resulted in the area south of East Point being dropped from the roadless area. Also, the area around Pavlof Lake and Pavlof Harbor has been conveyed to the State. This area is no longer part of the roadless area. Several small areas along the boundary have been excluded between the Draft and Final SEIS to improve the potential manageability of the area as wilderness.

## II. Capability for Management as Wilderness

**(1) Natural Integrity and Apparent Naturalness:** The natural integrity of the roadless area and its apparent naturalness have been modified by public recreation cabins, trails around the Pavlof Lake area, timber harvest and roads along the entire landward boundary, the two fish passes constructed in the Pavlof drainage, and the old

mechanical equipment around Pavlof Lake left from the saltery and fish packing plant in the early 1900's. The adjacent area to the southwest is modified by roads and timber harvest activities, which affect the landscape's apparent naturalness.

**(2) Opportunity for Solitude and Serenity, Self-reliance, Adventure, Challenging Experiences, and Primitive Recreation:** This area provides a low opportunity for solitude and a moderate opportunity for primitive recreation. The activities associated with the Forest Service work center, the Kennel Creek road system, the closed logging camp area, and the year-round population of Tenakee Springs all affect the solitude of this area. The Alaska Marine Highway route passes near the area, and floatplanes and powerboats land along its shoreline.

The roadless area presents little opportunity for adventure and challenging experiences beyond the possibility of an encounter with a brown bear.

The Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area provides primarily semi-primitive motorized recreation opportunities. The table below lists the acreage and percent of the various Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) classes that have been inventoried in the roadless area.

ROS Class	Acres	Percent of Total ROS
Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM)	3,903	83%
Roaded Natural (RN)	19	0%
Roaded Modified (RM)	773	16%

The area contains eight inventoried recreation places, which cover 1,683 acres, or 36 percent of the roadless area.

ROS Class	# of Rec. Places*	Total Acres
SPM	7	1,521
RN	1	19
RM	1	144

\* Rec. Places may occur in more than one ROS Class; the sum of this column may exceed the total number of Rec. Places.

The roadless area includes two public recreation cabins and trails around the Pavlof Lake area on State land.

**(3) Wilderness Attribute Rating System:** In 1977, the Forest Service, along with public interest groups, developed the Wilderness Attribute Rating System (WARS), which was used to inventory the wilderness characteristics of roadless areas during the second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation process (referred to as RARE II). The purpose of WARS was to provide a measure of the area's wilderness quality, based on the key attributes of wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act. It is largely based on the attributes described above in items 1 and 2 of this section (natural integrity, apparent naturalness, outstanding opportunity for solitude, and primitive recreation opportunities).

In 1979, during the RARE II process, the Tongass National Forest applied WARS for the first time and rated each unroaded VCU on the Tongass. In 1989, the inventoried roadless areas (which generally include more than one VCU) were rated according to this system for the Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS) developed in support of the Forest Plan Revision. This original version of the AMS (dated 1990) included both the individual VCU ratings done in 1979 and the composite rating that was done for each roadless area in 1989. The 1989 rating for the Pavlof – East Point Roadless Area was 22 out of 28 possible points. The 1989 rating was re-evaluated for this updated version of the AMS. Based on this re-evaluation, the area was given a rating of 16. This rating reflects the degree of developments and activities effect on the wilderness attributes of this relatively small area.

**(4) Ecologic and Geologic Values:** The roadless area is small and narrow, bounded on the landward side by a road and timber harvest areas. It is not connected to any other roadless areas or wilderness. The small cove into which the Pavlof River empties is somewhat unique because of its shape and because of the protection the harbor provides.

## Appendix C

**(a) Fish Resources:** The Tongass Fish and Wildlife Resource Assessment listed both VCUs in this roadless area (217 and 218) as primary sportfish producers and listed neither as primary salmon producers (ADF&G, 1998).

Many of these streams provide habitat for anadromous trout and char, but the level of production is largely unknown. Pavlof River and Lake have a significant salmon run; the watershed has been identified as one of 19 “high value” watersheds by ADF&G (USDA Forest Service, 1997). Pavlof River and Lake provide habitat for sockeye, coho, pink, and chum salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden char. Average annual peak escapement is 719 pink salmon for Pavlof River. This river also has very good coho salmon smolt production capability (ADF&G, 1998). Construction of two fish ladders on Pavlof River and Pavlof Falls was completed in 1987. Wachusett Creek provides habitat for coho, pink, and chum salmon.

**(b) Wildlife Resources:** Wildlife species present in this roadless area include Sitka black-tailed deer and brown bear. Small mammals include marten, mink, river otter and red squirrel. Deer winter range is found from lower Pavlof Ridge to Cedar Cove, around Pavlof Lake and the lower part of the Pavlof River. Outer Point and all of Wachusett Cove are also considered deer winter range. Deer winter range can also be found northwest of East Point and continuing southwest to Coffee Cove. Bald eagle roosting and nesting habitat exists along the shoreline of the roadless area. MacDonald and Cook (1999) do not list black bears or mountain goats as inhabiting Chichagof Island. Peale's peregrine falcon passes through the forests during the spring and fall migration flights.

**(c) Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species:** The only federally listed threatened or endangered species likely to occur within or adjacent to the roadless area are the humpback whale (endangered) and the Steller sea lion (threatened). Both of these species are found in adjacent marine waters. Three Forest Service Region 10 Sensitive Species are suspected or known to occur within the area: the trumpeter swan, Peale's peregrine falcon, and the Queen Charlotte goshawk. Trumpeter swans nest in the lowlands on small lakes and along large rivers and winter in ice-free areas throughout the Tongass. Peale's peregrine falcons nest on cliff faces and islands and feed primarily on seabirds. Inhabitants of late seral forests, Queen Charlotte goshawks are closely associated with productive old growth. In addition, nine sensitive plant species are known or suspected to occur in the Hoonah Ranger District.

**(d) Karst, Cave, and Other Geologic Resources:** There are extensive karst resources in this roadless area, encompassing 2,413 acres, or 51 percent of the area. About a third of these karst resources are classified as high vulnerability karst. A portion of this area is underlain by limestone or marble, and karst and cave resources are known to have developed there. Only limited inventory has occurred in this area so the extent of karst and cave development is not fully understood. The limestones and marbles found here are commonly the ridge-forming rock types. Extensive karst systems are known from the intensity and numbers of features identified during the limited inventory and air photo interpretations. Paleontological discoveries are likely as well as archaeological finds. Because of the thickness of the limestone and marble in this area, vertical pits and cave systems of record depth are possible. Extensive areas of limestone and marble are exposed from sea level to the ridge tops in these glaciated valleys. The karst systems found here extend from the alpine or higher elevations to the sea providing increased productivity for the plant, animal, and aquatic communities found on the karst lands. There are no glaciers in this area.

**(5) Scientific and Educational Values:** Pavlof Harbor is of ecological interest because of the significant salmon runs each year, geologic interest because of the shape and because of the protection the harbor provides, and cultural importance because of the continuous historical use the area has received.

**(6) Scenic Values:** This roadless area is classified as being in the Admiralty-Chichagof character type. Rocky shorelines are interspersed with small gravel beaches. Streams are generally larger and longer on the eastern side of Chichagof Island. There are some saltwater bays and they exhibit much variety and size. The lower slopes are densely forested, but sometimes exhibit a combination of muskeg openings, brush, and scattered tree cover up to approximately 2,500 feet. Upper slopes and summits appear barren from a distance, but offer a variety of alpine vegetation as well as numerous rock outcroppings. This area appears to have a natural setting from all of the major

viewing areas. Timber harvest activities in the adjacent area can be seen from the roads that link Hoonah to East Point and when facing southwest on the ridge north of Pavlof River.

Visual Priority Routes and Use Areas identified by the Forest Plan that are within or adjacent to the area include: Freshwater Bay, a small boat route and saltwater use area; Cedar Cove and Pavlof Harbor, which are boat anchorages; Chatham Strait, a part of the Alaska Marine Highway system and a small boat route; the Public Use Roads #8502, #8508, #8510, and #8513; Pavlof River, Pavlof Lake, Redcliff and Cedar Islands, dispersed recreation areas; Pavlof Land Trail # 531; and Pavlof River Canoe Route.

Approximately 19 percent of this roadless area was inventoried Variety Class A (possessing landscape diversity that is unique for the character type). Fifteen percent of the area was inventoried Variety Class B (possessing landscape diversity that is common for the character type). Approximately 63 percent was inventoried in Variety Class C (possessing a low degree of landscape diversity). For about 2 percent of the area, the Variety Class was not inventoried.

The majority (approximately 78 percent) of this roadless area is in Existing Visual Condition (EVC) I; these areas appear to be untouched by human activity. Two percent of the acreage is in EVC II, where changes are not noticed by the average person unless pointed out. Approximately 18 percent is EVC V, where changes in the landscape are obvious to the average person and appear to be major disturbances. For about 2 percent of the area, the EVC was not inventoried.

**(7) Social, Cultural, and Historical Values:** At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Hoonah and Angoon Tlingit used this area of Chichagof Island. Villages and sites for seasonal hunting, fishing, and collecting activities were located throughout the area. Pavlof Harbor was used as a fish station by the early Alaska Native cultures. The Hudson Bay Trading Company conducted illegal trading with the Tlingit in Pavlof Bay from 1859 to 1865. The Astoria and Alaska Packing Company had a fish packing plant here until 1889 and a saltery was established by 1900. Recent historical activities in this area have included commercial fishing and logging. Forest archaeologists have located village sites, garden spots, an old smokehouse, and a pictograph within the area.

Eight recreation places have been identified in the Pavlof/East Point Roadless Area. People anchor their boats and use the area around Pavlof Harbor and Pavlof Lake for dispersed camping. Trails run from Pavlof Harbor to the north and south shore of Pavlof Lake. People use the roadless area for marine viewing, fishing, kayaking, hiking, and hunting. No outfitter/guide permits were issued in 1999 for the roadless area; however, 10 were issued for the Freshwater Bay (147 service days). Special use permits have been issued for cabins north of Pavlof Harbor and at Wachusett Cove. The area receives subsistence use, mainly from residents of Tenakee Springs, Hoonah, and the Kennel Creek logging camp. Both VCUs are listed among the VCUs with the highest community fish and wildlife values and the highest sport fishing values. Both VCUs are also listed among the VCUs with the highest sensitivity to disturbance of subsistence use areas (ADF&G, 1998).

**(8) Manageability as Wilderness and Boundary Conditions/Changes:** Except for the shore, boundaries are not well defined, especially the boundary with State land near the center of the roadless area. Small hills in this area separate the lake and bays from the harvested and roaded areas to the north, west and south. The average distance from the harvest areas is less than a mile.

Due to the size and shape, the State enclave, and the large roaded areas adjacent to the roadless area, this area could not be easily managed as a wilderness.

### **III. Availability for Management as Wilderness (including effects of wilderness designation on adjacent areas)**

**(1) Recreation, Including Tourism Potential:** Tourism has been increasing in Southeast Alaska and is expected to continue to increase. Cruise ships travel through Chatham Strait enroute to Glacier Bay. Many people fly into the area for sport fishing. There is the potential for some of these tourists to be drawn to fish, hunt, and camp in the roadless area. There is a potential for outfitter/guide permits, trail construction, and public recreation cabins. In 1996, the Alaskan Visitors Association (AVA) proposed the following recreation developments for

## Appendix C

Pavlof Harbor: a day-use recreation facility for 100 persons, a leased proprietary camp for 15 persons, boardwalks, paths, and trails.

- (2) **Subsistence Uses:** Management as a wilderness would not conflict with current subsistence uses.
- (3) **Fish Resources:** There are no fish habitat enhancement projects currently planned for the roadless area.
- (4) **Wildlife Resources:** There are no wildlife habitat enhancement projects currently planned for the roadless area.
- (5) **Timber Resources:** There are 3,628 acres inventoried as productive old-growth forest in the roadless area. None of the area is mapped as second growth. Of the productive old growth, approximately 2,363 acres are categorized as tentatively suitable for timber harvest. Based on the Forest Plan LUDs assigned to this area (and estimated falldown and scheduling reduction factors), 255 acres or 5 percent of this roadless area are estimated to be suitable for timber production. Approximately 33 of the suitable acres are mapped as high-volume old growth; of these acres, 14 are mapped as high-volume, coarse-canopy old growth. The potential for managing timber in the roadless area is high because the nearby road systems and logging camp increase the likelihood of being able to manage timber economically.
- (6) **Fire, Insects, and Disease:** The area has no significant fire history. Endemic tree diseases common to Southeast Alaska are present; there are no know epidemic disease occurrences.
- (7) **Minerals:** In 1984, this area was identified as having mineral development potential for magmatic oxide or sulfide, copper, and molybdenum porphyry. The Tongass Land Management Plan Revision EIS (USDA Forest Service, 1997) indicates this area is not within an area of high mineral development potential and no mining claims exist.
- (8) **Transportation and Utilities:** There are no existing or planned transportation or utility corridors within the roadless area.
- (9) **Water Availability and Use:** Cabins north of Pavlof Harbor and at Wachusett Cove create a water demand. There are no existing or planned hydroelectric or domestic water projects within the roadless area.
- (10) **Areas of Scientific Interest:** There are opportunities to study the extensive karst system, as well as fish, wildlife, and forests. The mapped karst resources encompass approximately 2,413 acres or 51 percent of the roadless area.
- (11) **Land Use Authorizations:** The current recreation residence special use permits will continue. There is potential for increased outfitter and guide permits.
- (12) **Land Status:** The roadless area is entirely National Forest System land. Land adjacent to the roadless area near Pavlof Lake and Pavlof Harbor has been conveyed to the State.

### IV. Wilderness Evaluation (Need for Wilderness)

- (1) **Public and Congressional Interest:**
  - (a) **Interest Expressed by Local Users and Residents:** The local issues include: continued harvesting and roading of the timber lands, the effects on fisheries and wildlife habitat caused by logging, maintaining the visual quality of high interest areas, maintaining lifestyles, location of log transfer facilities, the distribution of harvest volume classes, and the tradeoffs between environmental protection measures and the economies of the harvest activities.
  - (b) **Congressional Interest:** In 1989, U.S. House of Representatives Bill HR 987 proposed to designate 23 areas as wilderness on the Tongass National Forest. This bill did not include the Freshwater

Bay Roadless Area. In 2001, HR 2908 proposed that the roadless area be managed in an unroaded condition.

**(c) Public Input During Forest Plan Revisions and Appeals:** The Alaska Forest Association and other industry commenters were opposed to any additional wilderness. Others recommended that remaining roadless areas should be managed for primitive recreation of old-growth habitat and protected from logging and road building. A letter from Angoon with 48 signatures recommended that areas along the Chatham Strait be protected as subsistence areas. There should not be any logging, road building, or mining. The City of Tenakee Springs commented that people that know the area called “Pavlof-East Point” doubt that it is a roadless area because of the Forest Service work center, the road systems, the logging camp, and other developments in the area. They also point out that the economy of their community is much more closely connected to fishing, tourism, and subsistence than logging. In 1996, the Alaskan Visitors Association (AVA) proposed the following recreation developments for Pavlof Harbor: a day-use recreation facility for 100 persons, a leased proprietary camp for 15 persons, boardwalks, paths, and trails. The Juneau Convention and Visitors Center recommended that the area be managed to provide a high-quality sport fishing experience.

**(d) Public Input During Roadless Area Conservation Rule and Road Management Policy Review:** This area was not specifically identified in the public comments received during the Roadless Area Conservation Rule or Road Management Policy Review. However, some commenters wanted all unroaded lands on the Tongass to be protected from development.

**(e) Public Input Expressed for Project-level EISs and Other Input:** No comments on project level NEPA analysis are available for the roadless area.

**(f) Public Input Expressed During Supplemental EIS Process:** SEACC recommended Roadless Areas 317, 318, 319, 321, 323, and 325 for LUD II protection. They indicated it is more critical now than ever before that these remaining wild areas on Chichagof are protected. The Alaska Rainforest Campaign (a coalition of national and Alaska conservation groups) recommended Roadless Area 319 for permanent protection as LUD II.

Some members of the Southeast Alaska Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council identified the need for further protection of this area because of its importance for subsistence

The president of the Hoonah Indian Association asked for the protection, conservation, and responsible management of this roadless area because of its special interest to the Huna People.

A number of cave/karst experts and other individuals stated that East Chichagof and the North Central Prince of Wales Biogeographic Provinces contain some of the most highly developed karst lands in the Tongass. It was noted that protection of a combination of Freshwater Bay (#325), Game Creek (#323), Tenakee Ridge (#321), and Pavlof/East Point (#319) Roadless Areas would create a truly world class karst reserve for the East Chichagof Biogeographic Province.

**(2) Nearby Roadless and Wilderness Areas and Uses:** Tenakee Ridge Roadless Area (321) lies to the west. The Indian River roaded area varies from 1 to 4 miles wide and separates these two roadless areas. The Freshwater Bay Roadless Area (325) is located 2 to 3 miles north of the Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area across Freshwater Bay. Trap Bay Roadless Area (312) lies to the south, separated by roaded and harvested areas and the 2- to 3-mile wide Tenakee Inlet. The closest wilderness is the Kootznoowoo Wilderness on Admiralty Island, on the east side of the Chatham Strait. The West Chichagof-Yakobi Wilderness lies on the other side of Chichagof Island, approximately 23 miles to the west. These areas receive low to moderate recreation and subsistence use.

## Appendix C

**(3) Distance From Population Centers (Accessibility):** Approximate distances from population centers are as follows:

<b>Community</b>	<b>Air Miles</b>	<b>Water Miles</b>
Juneau (Pop. 30,711)	40	60
Sitka (Pop. 8,835)	50	100
Hoonah (Pop. 860)	20	40
Angoon (Pop. 572)	25	30

Tenakee Springs is the closest town to this area that has Alaska Marine Highway service.

**(4) Relative Contribution to the National Wilderness Preservation System:** The Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area is located on the eastern coast of Chichagof Island. The northeastern border follows Freshwater Bay, while the southwestern border follows roaded areas. Chatham Strait lies to the east. The roadless area ranges from sea level to over 1,300 feet in elevation. The roadless area includes the Pavlof River, Pavlof Lake, a waterfall, Pavlof Bay, and several small islands in Freshwater Bay.

Overall, the Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area has moderate natural integrity and high apparent naturalness when viewed from salt water. The natural integrity of the roadless area and its apparent naturalness have been modified by public recreation cabins, trails around the Pavlof Lake area, timber harvest and roads along the entire landward boundary, the two fish passes constructed in the Pavlof drainage, and the old mechanical equipment around Pavlof Lake left from the saltery and fish packing plant in the early 1900's. There is a low opportunity for solitude and a moderate opportunity for primitive recreation within the roadless area due to the small size of the roadless area and developments on adjacent land.

Approximately 19 percent of the roadless area was inventoried as distinctive for the character type from a visual perspective. Pavlof Harbor is unique because it offers protection from the weather on four sides.

The roadless area includes about 1,518 acres of high-volume, old-growth forest. Of these acres, approximately 276 are mapped as high-volume, coarse-canopy old growth.

The roadless area is classified as being in the East Chichagof Island Biogeographic Province and makes up less than 1 percent of the province. It is one of 12 inventoried roadless areas found in the province that collectively make up about 72 percent of the province. The province contains the Pleasant-Lemesurier-Inian Islands Wilderness and a portion of the West Chichagof-Yakobi Wilderness, which make up 6 percent of the province. The province also includes all or portions of three LUD II areas, which make up approximately 25 percent of the province. Approximately 79 percent of the province is unroaded.

The Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area lies completely within the Northeast Chichagof Fjordlands Ecological Section. This portion represents 1 percent of the entire ecological section, which is well represented in other non-development LUDs (26 percent) and a small portion (7 percent) is within LUD II.

This roadless area is entirely within the Freshwater Bay Carbonates Ecological Subsection; this portion of the roadless area represents 2 percent of the entire ecological subsection which is well represented in non-development LUDs (28 percent), but is not represented in wilderness or LUD II.

The Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area was rated at 16 out of a possible 28 points under the Wilderness Attribute Rating System (WARS). As such, it is ranked 98th from the highest (along with four other areas) out of the 109 Tongass inventoried roadless areas.

There is national and some local support for managing the area in a roadless condition but there is little support for designating the area as a wilderness. The WARS score for the area is low relative to other areas of Southeast Alaska, and the Pleasant-Lemesurier-Inian Islands Wilderness and a portion of the West Chichagof-Yakobi Wilderness are in the biogeographic province. Designation of the area would add Congressional protection to about 2 percent of the Freshwater Bay Carbonates Ecological Subsection, which currently contains no areas under

Congressional protection. The roadless area is small and narrow and it is adjacent to roaded and harvested areas. These factors indicate that the relative contribution to the National Wilderness System would be low to moderate.

**V. Environmental Consequences**

The Pavlof-East Point Roadless Area would be managed under the existing Forest Plan if Alternative 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 7 is implemented. Approximately 59 percent of the roadless area would be managed under non-development LUDs. Timber harvest and road development could occur in the remaining 41 percent of the roadless area. The land in the development LUDs provides an estimated 255 acres that are suitable for timber production (less than 2 percent of the suitable acres on the Hoonah Ranger District). Approximately 14 of the suitable acres are classified as high-volume, coarse-canopy old growth. The values associated with the natural settings of the roadless area could be affected by developments allowed by the Forest Plan. The high scenic values are mostly protected by the Forest Plan.

Under Alternative 6, the entire roadless area would be converted to Recommended LUD II. Mineral prospecting and development and recreation developments could continue, but no timber harvest would be allowed. The values associated with the natural settings of the roadless area, including scenic values, would be provided long-term protection if designated LUD II. Designation of the area would add Congressional protection to about 2 percent of the Freshwater Bay Carbonates Ecological Subsection, which currently contains no areas under Congressional protection.

With Alternative 8, the entire roadless area would be converted to Recommended Wilderness. Timber sale projects would not be allowed, and the potential for other development, including recreation, mineral, and hydroelectric, would be significantly restricted. Mineral prospecting and development would be allowed up to the time that the area is actually designated as wilderness by Congress. The values associated with the natural settings of the roadless area, including scenic values, would be provided long-term protection if designated wilderness. Designation of the area would add Congressional protection to about 2 percent of the Freshwater Bay Carbonates Ecological Subsection, which currently contains no areas under Congressional protection.

Land Use Designation Allocations and Suitable Timber Lands by Alternative for Roadless Area 319 (in acres)								
Land Use Designation	Alt 1	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 4	Alt 5	Alt 6	Alt 7	Alt 8
Recommended Wilderness								4,731
Wilderness								
Recommended Wilderness Nat. Mon.								
Wilderness National Monument								
Non-wilderness National Monument								
Research Natural Area								
Special Interest Area								
Remote Recreation								
Enacted Municipal Watershed								
Old-growth Habitat	2,684	2,684	2,684	2,684	2,684		2,684	
Semi-remote Recreation	109	109	109	109	109		109	
Recommended LUD II						4,731		
LUD II								
Wild, Scenic, Recreational River								
Experimental Forest								
Scenic Viewshed	664	664	664	664	664		664	
Modified Landscape	492	492	492	492	492		492	
Timber production	782	782	782	782	782		782	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>4,731</b>
Suitable Timber Lands	255	255	255	255	255	0	255	0