APPENDICES



Glaucous-winged gull.



Appendix 1: Glacier Bay National Resource Management Act

PUBLIC LAW 106-455-NOV. 7, 2000

114 STAT, 1953

Public Law 106-455 106th Congress

An Act

To address resource management issues in Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Glacier Bay National Park Resource Management Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act—

(1) the term "local residents" means those persons living within the vicinity of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, including but not limited to the residents of Hoonah, Alaska, who are descendants of those who had an historic and cultural tradition of sea gull egg gathering within the boundary of what is now Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve;

(2) the term "outer waters" means all of the marine waters.

(2) the term "outer waters" means all of the marine waters within the park outside of Glacier Bay proper;
(3) the term "park" means Glacier Bay National Park;
(4) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior; and

(5) the term "State" means the State of Alaska.

SEC. 3. COMMERCIAL FISHING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allow for commercial fishing in the outer waters of the park in accordance with the management plan referred to in subsection (b) in a manner that

management plan referred to in subsection (b) in a manner that provides for the protection of park resources and values.

(b) Management Plan.—The Secretary and the State shall cooperate in the development of a management plan for the regulation of commercial fisheries in the outer waters of the park in accordance with existing Federal and State laws and any applicable international conservation and management treaties.

(c) Savings.—(1) Nothing in this Act shall alter or affect the provisions of section 123 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105–277), as amended by section 501 of the 1999 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act (Public Law 106–31).

(2) Nothing in this Act shall enlarge or diminish Federal or State title, jurisdiction, or authority with respect to the waters of the State of Alaska, the waters within Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, or tidal or submerged lands.

(d) STUDY.—(1) Not later than one year after the date funds are made available, the Secretary, in consultation with the State,

Glacier Bay National Park Resource Management Act of 2000. 16 USC 410hh-4 note. 16 USC 410hh-4

16 USC 410hh-4

114 STAT. 1954

PUBLIC LAW 106-455-NOV. 7, 2000

the National Marine Fisheries Service, the International Pacific Halibut Commission, and other affected agencies shall develop a plan for a comprehensive multi-agency research and monitoring program to evaluate the health of fisheries resources in the park's marine waters, to determine the effect, if any, of commercial fishing

(A) the productivity, diversity, and sustainability of fishery

Deadline.

(A) the productivity, diversity, and sustainability of fishery resources in such waters; and
(B) park resources and values.
(2) The Secretary shall promptly notify the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives upon the completion of the plan.
(3) The Secretary shall complete the program set forth in the plan not later than seven years after the date the congressional committees are notified pursuant to paragraph (2), and shall transmit the results of the program to such committees on a biennial basis

16 USC 410hh-4

SEC. 4. SEA GULL EGG COLLECTION STUDY.

SEC. 4. SEA GULL EGG COLLECTION STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary, in consultation with local residents, shall undertake a study of sea gulls living within the park to assess whether sea gull eggs can be collected on a limited basis without impairing the biological sustainability of the sea gull population in the park. The study shall be completed no later than two years after the date funds are made available.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—If the study referred to in subsection (a) determines that the limited collection of sea gull eggs can occur without impairing the biological sustainability of the accuracy without impairing the biological sustainability of the gull population in the park, the Secretary shall submit recommendations for legislation to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives.

16 USC 410hh-4

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

Approved November 7, 2000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 501:

SENATE REPORTS: No. 106–128 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources). CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 145 (1999): Nov. 19, considered and passed Senate.
Vol. 146 (2000): Oct. 23, considered and passed House.

Appendix 2: Historical information on seabirds breeding on South and North Marble Island, Glacier Bay.

Table 1. Historical information on seabirds breeding on South Marble Island

| Year | Date | Number | Comments | Source |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Pelagic Cormorants | - | - | | |
| 1907 1970 | ? May 17 | 250-300 200 | 100 breeding, 150-200 non-breeding Flew off island | Grinnell 1909 Ranger logs |
| 1972 | July 8 June 13 | 175 80 | No details Unidentified cormorants | Ranger logs Ranger logs |
| 1973 | ? | 200 | Data from S. Patten | Sowls et al. 1978 |
| 1975 | July 29 | 50 | Unidentified cormorants | Ranger logs |
| 1976 | May 26 | ~150 | Unidentified cormorants | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | June 7 | 201 | Maximum count | Zador 2002 |
| Glaucous-winged Gulls | 7.1.14 | 200 | TYPA 1 | I 1040 |
| 1941 | July 14 | 200 | With eggs and young | Jewett 1942 |
| 1973 1975 | ? ? | 550 ? | Data from S. Patten? ~1000 nests on N and S Marble Is, breeding | Sowls et al. 1978 Ranger logs |
| 1973 | : | í | failure | Kanger logs |
| 1999 | May 24 | 829 | Maximum count | Zador 2002 |
| Black-legged Kittiwakes | | | | |
| 1989 | ? | 6 | First time nests built, no young | G. Streveler, unpubl. data |
| 1991 | ? | 0 | None nesting in 1991 | Climo and Duncan 1991 |
| | June | + | Present on cliffs | |
| 1994 | July 6 | 24 | 10 nests, ≥ 2 chicks | E. Hooge, unpubl. data |
| 1995 | June | ~70 | ~30 nests | R. Yerxa, unpubl. data |
| 1996 | July 2 | 199 | 135 nests | E. Hooge, unpubl. data E. Hooge, unpubl. data |
| 1996 1997 | July 17 June 25 | 135 171 | 97 nests. North colony appears. 96 nests | E. Hooge, unpubl. data E. Hooge, unpubl. data |
| 1998 | June 19 | 261 | 131 nests | M. Kralovec, unpubl. data |
| 1999 | May 24 | 159 | July 24: 76 chicks at southern colony, 0 chicks | Zador 2002 |
| | | | at northern colony | |
| Common Murres | | | | |
| 1978 | July 2 | 15 | - | Ranger logs |
| 1991 | June | + | Present on cliffs | J. Piatt, pers. obs. |
| 1999 | May-July | 29 | Max. count: 12 on cliff, 17 on water | Zador 2002 |
| Pigeon Guillemots | | | | |
| 1907 | ? | + | Breeding | Grinnell 1909 |
| 1970 1973 | May 20 ? | 150 100 | NW end of island S. Patten data? | Ranger logs Sowls et al. 1978 |
| 1975 | ! July 29 | 27 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | May 24 | 171 | Maximum count, whole island | Zador 2002 |
| Tufted Puffins | | | , | |
| 1920 | ? | + | 100+ around "Marble", Drake, and Willoughby Islands | Bailey 1927 |
| 1970 | July 17 | 50 | "off S. Marble" | Ranger logs |
| 1971 | July 24 | 40 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Sept 1 | 23 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1973 | ? | 40 | Data from S. Patten? | Sowls et al. 1978 |
| 1975 | July 29 | 17 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1979 1999 | June 7 May-July | 30 18 | No details Maximum on the water | Ranger logs Zador 2002 |
| Horned Puffins | 111uy -July | 10 | Mannum on the water | Zuu01 2002 |
| 1907 | ? | 2+ | Nesting, 2 adults collected | Grinnell 1909 |
| 1969 | June 9 | 3 | 2 in crevice | Ranger logs |
| 1970 | July16 | 6 | On island, maximum summer count | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Aug 17 | 11 | Maximum summer count | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Summer | 6 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1973 | Summer | 6 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1975 | July 29 | 5 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1985 | July 30 | 1 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | July 19 | 1 | Flying around island | Zador 2002 |

Table 2. Historical information on seabirds breeding on North Marble Island

| Year | Date | Number | Comments | Source |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|--|--------------------------|
| Pelagic Cormorants | | | | |
| 1969 | July 18 | + | "Numerous", 4 nests with 3,3,4,5 eggs | Ranger logs |
| 1970 | July 27 | 150 | Survey of all seabirds | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Sept 14 | 47 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Summer | 6 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1973 | Summer | 60 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1999 | May 24 | 0 | Entire island surveyed from water | Zador 2002 |
| Glaucous-winged Gulls | , 2 . | | Emile island sail eyes from water | 2002 |
| 1941 | July 14 | 200 | "100 pairs" with eggs and young | Jewett 1942 |
| 1972 | Summer | 1000 | Breeding population estimate | Patten 1974 |
| 1973 | Summer | 1000 | Breeding population estimate | Patten 1974 |
| 1975 | ? | + | ~1000 nests on N and S Marble Is, breeding failure | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | May 24 | 25 | On grassy slope on sw corner | Zador 2002 |
| Common Murres | | | | |
| 1967 | ? | 20 | "Breeding confirmed" | Wik and Streveler 1968 |
| 1969 | July 22 | 33 | 3 breeding ledges with 20, 5, and 8. | Ranger logs |
| | Aug 1 | 15 | On ledges, eggs observed | Ranger logs |
| 1970 | May 29 | 120 | Off island in 2 flocks | Ranger logs |
| | July 14 | 25 | 6 on ledge, 19 in water | Ranger logs |
| 1971 | June 15 | 46 | Summer max count, 14 on ledges | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | June 12 | 61 | Summer max count, on 3 ledges | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Summer | 16 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1973 | Summer | 36 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1975 | July 29 | 12 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | May 24 | 0 | Entire island surveyed from water | Zador 2002 |
| Pigeon Guillemots | · | | · · | |
| 1970 | July 27 | 350 | Summer max count | Ranger logs |
| 1971 | June 15 | 200 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Summer | 100 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1973 | Summer | 120 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1975 | July 23 | 50 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | May 24 | 127 | Many in caves on west side | Zador 2002 |
| 1999 | July 24 | 115 | Surveyed east side only | Zador 2002 |
| Tufted Puffins | July 21 | 113 | burveyed clast side only | 24doi 2002 |
| 1920 | ? | + | 100+ around "Marble", Drake, and Willoughby Islands | Bailey 1927 |
| 1970 | July 26 | 75 | East side of island | Ranger logs |
| 1971 | July 24 | 56 | Summer max count | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | June 21 | 19 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1972 | Summer | 50 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1973 | Summer | 60 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1975 | July 23 | 30 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | May 24 | 0 | Entire island surveyed from water | Zador 2002 |
| Horned Puffins | | | • | |
| 1970 | Aug 19 | 1 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1973 | Summer | 2 | Breeding population | Patten 1974 |
| 1975 | July 29 | 2 | No details | Ranger logs |
| 1999 | May 24 | 0 | Entire island surveyed from water | Zador 2002 |
| 1999 | July 24 | 4 | Surveyed east side only | Zador 2002 Zador 2002 |

Appendix 3: Wilderness Minimum Requirements Decision Guide











MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS DECISION GUIDE Huna Tlingit Gull Egg Collection WORKSHEETS

". . . except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act..."

- the Wilderness Act, 1964

Please refer to the accompanying MRDG Instructions for filling out this guide.

The spaces in the worksheets will expand as necessary as you enter your response.

Step 1: Determine if any administrative action is <u>necessary</u>.

Description: Briefly describe the situation that may prompt action.

The accompanying Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) describes a range of alternatives and analyzes the environmental consequences of authorizing traditional glaucous-winged gull egg harvest within Glacier Bay National Park by the Huna Tlingit people. Legislation enacted in 2000 directs NPS to determine whether egg harvest could be authorized in the park which is the traditional homeland of the Huna Tlingit. NPS regulations and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1916 prohibited gull egg collection.

In 1980 ANILCA designated all lands and 5 marine water areas within the park as wilderness. There are several established glaucous-winged gull nesting colonies within park wilderness being considered as egg collection sites.

To determine if administrative action is <u>necessary</u>, answer the questions listed in A - F on the following pages.

A. Describe Options Outside of Wilderness

Is action necessary within wilderness?

Yes

Explain: Public Law 106-455 enacted in 2000 directs NPS to analyze the effects of egg harvest within Glacier Bay National Park specifically. Several gull colonies considered for harvest activities occur within designated wilderness.

B. Describe Valid Existing Rights or Special Provisions of Wilderness Legislation

Is action necessary to satisfy valid existing rights or a special provision in <u>wilderness legislation</u> (the Wilderness Act of 1964 or subsequent wilderness laws) that <u>allows</u> consideration of the Section 4(c) prohibited uses? Cite law and section.

Not Applicable

C. Describe Requirements of Other Legislation

Is action necessary to meet the requirements of other laws?

Yes

Explain: Pubic Law 106-455 directs the NPS to make recommendations to Congress for legislation if it is determined that collection of gull eggs by the Hoonah Tlingit within Glacier Bay National Park can take place without impairing the biological sustainability of glaucous-winged gulls in the park.

D. Describe Other Guidance

Is action necessary to conform to direction contained in agency policy, unit and wilderness management plans, species recovery plans, or agreements with tribal, state and local governments or other federal agencies?

Yes

Explain: A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the NPS and the Hoonah Indian Association was signed in September 1995 and reauthorized in 2000 and 2005. The MOU outlines the framework of a working relationship between the two entities designed to foster and encourage the protection and enhancement of the Huna Tlingit culture. An amendment to the 2000 MOU, developed to formally establish a management program for providing access into Glacier Bay National Park to tribal members of the Hoonah Indian Association was signed in 2003.

E. Wilderness Character

Is action necessary to preserve one or more of the qualities of wilderness character including: untrammeled, undeveloped, natural, outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, or unique components that reflect the character of this wilderness area?

Untrammeled: No

Explain: The untrammeled quality of wilderness character would not be affected by the proposed action. Two days of egg collection activity would occur each year at selected nesting colonies. No manipulation or alteration of habitat or wildlife would occur. Disturbance to wildlife would be transitory.

Undeveloped: No

Explain: No structures, instruments, equipment, or other facilities would be developed at egg collection sites.

Natural: No

Explain: No alteration of habitat at collection sites would occur. Egg collectors would only work in areas accessible on foot, make one pass through the colony on both trips, and leave the area once the pass is complete to minimize the impacts to gulls and other nesting birds.

Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation: No

Explain: Egg collection would not diminish opportunities for recreation as the nesting colonies considered for harvest are currently closed to recreational foot traffic. Harvest activity would be limited to 2 single day visits during the year and trip participants would access the collection sites from outside designated wilderness (motor vessel from non-wilderness waters).

Other unique components that reflect the character of this wilderness: Yes

Explain: The Glacier Bay National Park wilderness is part of the traditional homeland of the Huna Tlingit people. Activities such as egg collection and consumption are an integral part of their culture and one means by which they maintain ties to their ancestral homeland.

F. Describe Effects to the Public Purposes of Wilderness

Is action necessary to support one or more of the public purposes for wilderness (as stated in Section 4(b) of the Wilderness Act) of recreation, scenic, scientific, education, conservation, and historical use?

Recreation: No

Explain: There would be no effects to the recreational purposes of the Glacier Bay National Park wilderness. Gull nesting colonies are closed to other recreational use so the proposed activity would not alter the opportunities for other park visitors.

Scenic: No

Explain: There would be no effects to the scenic qualities of wilderness resulting from this activity. Egg collection activity would not be generally noticeable to other park visitors nor would there be lingering evidence of it.

Scientific: No

Explain: There may be beneficial effects to the scientific purposes of the Glacier Bay National Park wilderness. One of the requirements for continued gull egg harvest over time would be annual monitoring of the glaucous-winged gull population; data that has not been available on such a regular basis. Increased understanding of gull populations will benefit management and protection of this resource.

Education: No

Explain: Reconnecting Hoonah Indian Association members with their ancestral homeland will improve appreciation and understanding of the Glacier Bay wilderness in the present day and for the future. Demonstrating traditional Huna Tlingit lifeways to other park visitors will expand their understanding of the significance of park resources historically and in the future.

Conservation: No

Explain: Improved relations between NPS and Hoonah tribal members will also improve NPS ability to protect park resources. Information gathered during annual gull population monitoring (both of glaucouswinged gulls and other species using the colony sites) will help the NPS protect the resources over time.

Historical use: No

Explain: Collection and consumption of gull eggs was a traditional practice prior to the 1960's. The current MOU between NPS and Hoonah Indian Association established a working relationship between the two entities designed to foster and encourage the protection and enhancement of the Huna Tlingit culture. An amendment to the 2000 MOU, developed to formally establish a management program for providing access into Glacier Bay National Park to tribal members of the Hoonah Indian Association was signed in 2003.

| Step 1 Decision: Is any administrative action necessary in wilderr |
|--|
|--|

No

Explain: No action is necessary. Impacts to Glacier Bay National Park wilderness values and purposes would be largely positive.

Record and report any authorizations of Wilderness Act Section 4(c) uses according to agency procedures.

| Approval | Signature | Name | Position | Date |
|--------------|-----------|------|----------|------|
| Prepared by: | | | | |
| Recommended: | | | | |
| Recommended: | | | | |
| Approved: | | | | |

Appendix 4: ANILCA Section 810(a) Subsistence Evaluation

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION AND FINDING

I. Introduction

This evaluation and finding were prepared to comply with Title VIII, Section 810 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). It summarizes the evaluation of potential restrictions to Title VIII of ANILCA subsistence activities which could result should the National Park Service (NPS) propose legislation to authorize the Hoonah Indian Association (HIA) to collect glaucous-winged gull (*Larus glaucenscens*) eggs in Glacier Bay National Park. The collection of gull eggs in Glacier Bay National Park is currently prohibited by Federal statute. In 1918, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act prohibited the collection of gull eggs throughout the United States. In 2005, Federal regulations were amended (50 CFR, Part 92) to authorize Hoonah residents to collect glaucous-winged gull eggs on National Forest Service lands in Icy Strait and Cross Sound.

II. The Evaluation Process

Section 810(a) of ANILCA states:

"In determining whether to withdraw, reserve, lease, or otherwise permit the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands . . . the head of the Federal agency . . . over such lands . . . shall evaluate the effect of such use, occupancy, or disposition on subsistence uses and needs, the availability of other lands for the purposes sought to be achieved, and other alternatives which would reduce or eliminate the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands needed for]-subsistence purposes. No such withdrawal, reservation, lease, permit, or other use, occupancy or disposition of such lands which would significantly restrict subsistence uses shall be affected until the head of such Federal agency:

- gives notice to the appropriate State agency and the appropriate local committees and regional councils established pursuant to section 805;
- gives notice of, and holds, a hearing in the vicinity of the area involved; and
- determines that (A) such a significant restriction of subsistence uses is necessary, consistent with sound management principles for the utilization of the public lands, (B) the proposed activity would involve the minimal amount of public lands necessary to accomplish the purposes of such use, occupancy, or other disposition, and (C) reasonable steps would be taken to minimize adverse impacts upon subsistence uses and resources resulting from such actions."

Presidential proclamations of 1925 and 1939 established and expanded Glacier Bay National Monument. In 1980, Title II of ANILCA provided the specific statutory requirements for management of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Glacier Bay National Monument was expanded by the addition of an area containing approximately 523,000 acres of federal land. The

monument was re-designated as "Glacier Bay National Park." Approximately 57,000 acres of additional public land was established as Glacier Bay National Preserve.

ANILCA Section 202(1), created Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve for the following purposes:

"To protect a segment of the Alsek River, fish and wildlife habitats and migration routes and a portion of the Fairweather Range including the northwest slope of Mount Fairweather. Lands, waters, and interests therein within the boundary of the park and preserve which were within the boundary of any national forest are hereby excluded from such national forest and the boundary of such national forest is hereby revised accordingly."

Federal law and regulation prohibit ANILCA Title VIII subsistence uses in Glacier Bay National Park however, subsistence uses by local rural residents are allowed in Glacier Bay National Preserve.

ANILCA 816 (a) states:

"All national parks and park monuments in Alaska shall be closed to the taking of wildlife except for subsistence uses to the extent specifically permitted by this Act. Subsistence uses and sport fishing shall be authorized in such areas by the Secretary and carried out in accordance with the requirements of this title and other applicable laws of the United States and the State of Alaska."

With regards to Glacier Bay National Preserve, Section 1313 of ANILCA states:

"A National Preserve in Alaska shall be administered and managed as a unit of the National Park System in the same manner as a national park except as otherwise provided in this Act and except that the taking of fish and wildlife for sport purposes and subsistence uses, and trapping shall be allowed in a national preserve under applicable State and Federal law and regulation. Consistent with the provisions of Section 816, within national preserves the Secretary may designate zones where and periods when no hunting, fishing, trapping, or entry may be permitted for reasons of public safety, administration, floral and faunal protection, or public use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, any regulations prescribing such restrictions relating to hunting, fishing, or trapping shall be put into effect only after consultation with the appropriate State agency having responsibility over hunting, fishing, and trapping activities."

ANILCA Sections 1314 (c) states:

"The taking of fish and wildlife in all conservation system units; and in national conservation areas, national recreation areas, and national forests, shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of this Act and other applicable State and

Federal law. Those areas designated as national parks or national park system monuments in the State shall be closed to the taking of fish and wildlife, except that-(1) notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary shall administer those units of the National Park System and those additions to existing units, established by this Act and which permit subsistence uses, to provide an opportunity for the continuance of such uses by local rural residents; and (2) fishing shall be permitted by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of this Act and other applicable State and Federal law."

The potential for significant restriction must be evaluated for the proposed action's effect on... "subsistence uses and needs, the availability of other lands for the purposes sought to be achieved and other alternatives that would reduced or eliminate the use."

III. Proposed Action on Federal Lands

The following is a brief summary of the proposed alternatives considered in the Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS):

Alternative 1: No Action

Under the Alternative 1 (No Action), the collection of glaucous-winged gull eggs in Glacier Bay National Park would not be authorized. This alternative provides a baseline for evaluating the impacts to park resources that would result from the action alternatives.

Alternative 2: One Annual Harvest Trip to Two Locations

Alternative 2 would propose legislation to authorize the collection of glaucous-winged gull eggs at up to two designated locations on a single pre-selected date on or before June 9.

The NPS and the HIA would prepare an annual harvest plan by May 1 of each year. The harvest plan would list all suitable harvest locations based on annual monitoring and harvest history and would identify up to two sites from which the HIA could harvest eggs.

Alternative 3: Two Annual Trips to Several Locations

Alternative 3 would propose legislation to authorize the collection of glaucous-winged gull eggs at several designated locations in Glacier Bay National Park on two separate dates. The NPS and the HIA would prepare an annual harvest plan by May 1 of each year. The harvest plan would list all suitable harvest locations based on annual monitoring and harvest history and would identify sites from which the HIA could harvest eggs. The HIA would be authorized to collect eggs from one or more sites on a single day on or before June 9 and from one or more sites on a second day within nine days of the first harvest. The logistics of vessel transportation would limit the number of sites that could be visited in a given day.

IV. Affected Environment

Subsistence uses, as defined by ANILCA, Section 810, means 'the customary and traditional use by rural Alaska residents of wild, renewable resources for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation; for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of non-edible byproducts of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption; for barter, or sharing for personal or family consumption; and for customary trade." Subsistence activities include hunting, fishing, trapping, and collecting berries, edible plants, and wood or other materials.

Other important subsistence use areas within the region include Icy Strait, Excursion Inlet, Cross Sound, Port Frederick, and Tongass National Forest. Most of the rural communities of southeastern Alaska rely on renewable natural resources for at least a portion of their subsistence needs. About one-third of the rural communities of the region take at least half of their meat and fish by hunting and fishing (Holleman and Kruse, 1992).

Residents of such communities as Gustavus (429), Hoonah (860), Elfin Cove (32), Pelican (163), Excursion Inlet (10), Sitka (8,835) and Yakutat (680) engage in subsistence uses near the boundaries of Glacier Bay National Park. (U.S. Census Bureau 2000). Community subsistence resource activities include hunting; fishing; and gathering gull eggs, shellfish, firewood, wild plants and berries. Historical resource utilization patterns, such as gull egg gathering, fish camps or communal marine mammal and deer hunts, are linked to traditional social and subsistence use patterns. Sharing of resource occurs between communities, as well as within communities throughout the region.

Some of the major resources used for subsistence in these communities are black bear, deer, goat, moose, furbearers, spruce grouse, ptarmigan, waterfowl, marine mammals, salmon, trout, halibut, crab, clams, berries and other edible plants (such as wild celery, ferns, and kelp), alder, spruce, and other wood resources (Kruse and Muth 1990).



Figure 1. Hoonah Egging Area

ANILCA and NPS regulations authorize subsistence use of resources in Glacier Bay National Preserve and prohibit subsistence uses in Glacier Bay National Park (Codified in 36 CFR, part 13). Current US Fish and Wildlife Service regulations allow residents of Hoonah to gather glaucous winged gull eggs on National Forest lands in Icy Strait and Cross Sound, including Middle Pass Rock near the Inian Islands, Table Rock in Cross Sound, and other traditional locations on the coast of Yakobi Island between May 15 and June 30. The land and waters of Glacier Bay National Park remain closed to all subsistence harvesting [50 CFR Part 100.3].

The following documents contain additional descriptions of subsistence uses within Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve:

Comprehensive historic descriptions of the affected environment within Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve can be found in:

- General Management Plan/Land Protection Plan, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve NPS Alaska Region, 1986.
- Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve Final Environmental Impact Statement, Wilderness Recommendation, NPS Alaska Region, 1988.
- Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve Alaska Vessel Quotas and Operating Requirements Final Environmental Impact Statement, 2003.
- Glacier Bay National Preserve Off-Road Vehicle Use Plan Environmental Assessment, 2007.
- NPS "General Management and Land Protection Plans" (http://ww.nps.gov).
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game General and Subsistence Harvest Information and Publications (http://www.state.ak.us/adfg).
- Federal Subsistence Management Regulations, Office of Subsistence Management, FWS, (http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html).
- National Park Service Management Policies, NPS, 2006. Information and Publications (http://www.nps.gov/policy).
- Alaska Subsistence, NPS Management History, NPS 2002.

The NPS recognizes that patterns of subsistence use vary from time to time and from place to place depending on the availability of wildlife and other renewable natural resources. A subsistence harvest in a given year may vary considerable from previous years due to weather conditions, migration patterns, and natural population cycles.

V. Subsistence Uses and Needs Evaluation

Potential Impacts on Subsistence Users

To determine the potential impacts on existing subsistence activities for the preferred action as outlined in the LEIS three evaluation criteria were analyzed relative to existing subsistence resources:

- the potential to reduce important subsistence fish and wildlife populations by (a) reductions in number, (b) redistribution of subsistence resources, or (c) habitat losses;
- what effect the action might have on subsistence fisherman or hunter access;
- the potential for the action to increase fisherman or hunter competition for subsistence resources.

1. The potential to reduce populations:

(a) Reduction in Numbers:

The proposed actions are not expected to cause a significant decline of wildlife species in the affected areas.

(b) Redistribution of Resources:

The proposed actions are not expected to cause a significant displacement of subsistence resources in the affected areas.

(c) Habitat Loss:

The proposed actions are not expected to cause significant impact or loss to wildlife habitat within the affected areas.

2. Restriction of Access:

The proposed actions are not expected to restrict current ANILCA Title VIII subsistence use patterns on Federal Public lands within the region. Glacier Bay National Park is closed to ANILCA Title VIII subsistence uses.

3. Increase in Competition:

The proposed actions are not expected to significantly restrict or increase competition for ANILCA Title VIII subsistence resources on Federal public lands within the region.

VI. Availability of Other Lands

Glaucous-winged gull egg collection is allowed pursuant to Federal regulations on adjacent National Forest Service lands.

VII. Alternatives Considered

The evaluation has described three alternatives. No other alternatives were considered that would eliminate subsistence use of lands within Glacier Bay National Park.

VIII. Findings

This analysis concludes that the proposed actions will not result in a significant restriction of ANILCA Title VIII subsistence uses.