Appendix C

INDIVIDUAL ROADLESS AREA DESCRIPTION

ROADLESS AREA NAME: Manzanita (223)

ACRES (NFS): 10,436

BIOGEOGRAPHIC PROVINCE: Kupreanof/Mitkof Islands

ECOLOGICAL SECTION: Inside Passage Fjordlands

2003 WILDERNESS ATTRIBUTE RATING: 18

I. Overview and Description

(1) Location and Access: This roadless area is located on the southeast portion of Mitkof Island. The area is almost 20 miles southeast of the city of Petersburg. Forest roads, harvest units, the Mitkof Highway, and State-owned land generally make up the irregularly-shaped boundaries. There is a small portion bounded by saltwater on the eastern side. Roads provide access to portions of this roadless area. Petersburg is served by the Alaska Marina Highway and daily jet service. There are no areas suitable for landing airplanes in the roadless area. Access to the interior is by foot or helicopter.

(2) History: The area is in the traditional territory of the Stikine Tlingit. No known cultural sites exist in the area. A mild-cure fish plant reportedly operated along the shores of Dry Strait in the early 1900s.

(3) Geography and Topography: The area exhibits considerable relief, consisting of a ridge system with drainage systems oriented in all directions. Drainage from this area is mostly high gradient and forms the headwaters for several moderate-sized streams. Slopes are moderate to steep. Elevation ranges from sea level to nearly 2,500 feet. About 7,349 acres in the area are covered by spruce-hemlock forest. This area has about 3 miles of saltwater shoreline. There are no ice or snow, alpine or rock features mapped in the area.

(4) Ecosystem:

(a) Classification: Biogeographic Province. The area is classified as being in the Kupreanof/Mitkof Islands Biogeographic Province. The area is generally characterized by rolling, subdued topography and extensive muskeg areas. There are no known areas of unique or uncommon plant/soils associations or geologic formations in the area.

Ecological Section/Subsection. The Manzanita Roadless Area is contained entirely within the Inside Passage Fjordlands Ecological Section (M247E), Wrangell Narrows Metasediments Ecological Subsection (see table below). Mountains of sedimentary origin have been extensively reshaped by glaciers and glacial deposition. Slopes are forested with hemlock, spruce, and cedar while lodgepole pine and mixed-conifer stands are found in poorly drained soils. Wetlands are common in low relief, depositional areas. Thick peat deposits have accumulated in some sites with poor drainage (Nowacki et al., 2001).

Ecological Section	Ecological Subsection	Percent of Roadless Area
Inside Passage Fjordlands	Wrangell Narrows Metasediments	100%

(b) Soils: Soils in this area are formed in a wide variety of parent materials, including bedrock and glacial drift. In general, well- or moderately-well-drained soils are on moderate to steep mountain slopes with permeable parent materials. These soils are very acidic, have cold soil temperatures, and are very high in organic matter. Rooting is largely limited to the surface organic layers and the top few inches of mineral soil. These soils are usually moist, sometimes wet, but are never dry.

More-poorly-drained soils developed on less-sloping areas and/or areas with impermeable soil materials. These soils have deep accumulations of organic matter and range from scrubby forested wetlands to open muskeg. Alpine soils, generally above 2,000 feet elevation, are mostly shallow, very wet organic soils or are extremely shallow and rocky.

(c) Vegetation: Vegetation of this roadless area primarily consists of spruce-hemlock forests on the mountain sides, and minor amounts of subalpine forest, which includes mountain hemlock, at the higher elevations. Less than 100 acres of muskeg are mapped for the area; however, due to their small size and association with forested sites, accurate acreage estimates are difficult.

There are approximately 9,760 acres mapped as forest land of which 6,037 acres or 62 percent are mapped as productive old-growth forest. Of the productive old growth, approximately 1,985 acres or 33 percent are mapped as high-volume, old-growth forest. The productive old growth includes about 236 acres of high-volume, coarse-canopy old growth. There is no mapped second-growth forest where timber harvest has occurred in the past.

(d) Fish Resources: This roadless area contains part of the headwaters of Ohmer Creek, a primary producer of pink salmon. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Anadromous Waters Catalogue and Atlas (2000) does not show any other fish-bearing streams in this area.

(e) Wildlife Resources: A population of Sitka black-tailed deer, moose, wolves, and black bear range over the roadless area. Bald eagles, northern goshawk, osprey, and red-tailed hawks may be found in this area. Mountain lions have recently been reported on the island, one near the roadless area. They are probably migrating into Southeast Alaska from Canada via the river corridors, and are considered incidental species at the edge of their range. Brown bears and elk are rarely seen on Mitkof Island.

Mink, river otters, beaver, marten, ermine, red squirrel, northern flying squirrel, porcupine, mice, shrew, and voles are well distributed over Mitkof Island. There are occasional sightings of fisher and wolverine but they are considered an incidental species at the edge of their range. Bats are present during the summer months and occasionally over winter in man-made structures.

Numerous duck and goose species, sandhill cranes, trumpeter swans, marbled murrelets, great blue herons, spruce grouse, blue grouse, and ptarmigan may be found on Mitkof Island. Other bird species include: sharp-shinned hawks, American kestrel, great horned owls, western screech owl, saw-whet owls, and pigmy owls. The kestrel is found only on the southern end of the island near the Stikine River.

Red-throated, Pacific, and common loons all occur on the Mitkof Island. Several plover, yellowlegs, and sandpiper species occur, mainly along the river corridors and in large muskeg systems. Two swift species, one hummingbird species, four woodpecker species, three flycatcher species, and five swallow species are also known on the Mitkof Island. Steller's jay, northwestern crow, and common raven all occur. Chestnut-backed chickadee, red-breasted nuthatch, brown creeper, winter wren, American dipper, golden-crowned kinglet, ruby-crowned kinglet, Swainson's thrush, and hermit thrush occur. American robin, varied thrush, American pipit, cedar waxwing, northern shrike, warbling vireo, and five warbler species occur. Additionally, the northern water thrush, common yellow throat, western tanager, dark-eyed junco, Lapland longspur, snow bunting, red-winged blackbird, rusty blackbird, brown-headed cowbird, eight sparrow species, pine grosbeak, red crossbill, white-winged crossbill, common redpoll, and pine siskin are found.

Amphibians known to occur on Mitkof Island include the rough-skinned newt, the western toad, and spotted frogs. The rough-skinned newt is found primarily in lacustrine, palustrine, hemlock/spruce forests, and muskeg bog ecosystems. The western toad is also found primarily in lacustrine, palustrine, hemlock/spruce forests, and in clearcuts. Spotted frogs are found primarily in lacustrine, palustrine ecosystems and were probably introduced by local residents who brought them back from the Stikine River as pets.

Sea mammals known to inhabit the waters surrounding Mitkof Island are the Pacific white-sided dolphin, orca whale, harbor porpoise, Dall's porpoise, humpback whale, Steller sea lion, and the harbor seal.

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

LUD	Acres
Timber Production	5,048
Scenic Viewshed	1,954
Modified Landscape	1,801
Old-growth Habitat	1,633

Approximately 84 percent of the roadless area was allocated to a development LUD (Timber Production, Scenic Viewshed, Modified Landscape). Much of the roadless area, approximately 48 percent, was allocated to the Timber Production LUD. Located in the western part of the roadless area around Manzanita Peak, approximately 19 percent of the area was allocated to the Scenic Viewshed LUD. Approximately 17 percent of the roadless area was allocated to the Modified Landscape LUD, located in the western portion of the area.

About 16 percent of the roadless area was allocated to one non-development LUD, Old-growth Habitat. Land in this non-development LUD is located near Dry Strait.

Due to its proximity to Petersburg and accessibility by road, the Manzanita Roadless Area receives day-use by local residents. Most use is concentrated along the outside edges that are accessible by roads. Recreation uses include deer, moose, black bear, waterfowl, and grouse hunting; snowmobiling; cross-country skiing; rock hounding; hiking; camping; and gathering forest products. Some of the use is for subsistence. No outfitter/guide permits were issued for this roadless area in 2000.

(6) Appearance (Apparent Naturalness): The majority of the area appears unmodified, except for areas adjacent to roads and areas with timber harvest activity.

(7) Surroundings (External Influences): Developments associated with management and public access activities occur on all sides of the roadless area. Noise and sights of vehicles and active timber sales may occur periodically, being greatest near the roads and lessening as one moves away. The Tyee Powerline skirts the western side of the area and is visible from many places within the roadless area. Frequent low-flying aircraft may temporarily distract visitors in the area.

(8) Attractions and Features of Special Interest: The proximity to Petersburg by roaded access makes portions of this roadless area attractive for recreation. The prime attractions are hunting, and the system of ridges in the center, which provides views and excellent snow machine travel. The area contains two inventoried recreation places, which cover 68 acres, or less than 1 percent of the roadless area.

(9) Differences between the 1989 and 2003 Roadless Area Boundary: There have been minor additions to the boundaries since 1989. The area along the roaded and harvested portions has been more carefully defined, adding to the size of the roadless area. Several smaller areas were excluded along the boundaries formed by developed areas between the Draft and Final SEIS to improve the manageability in these areas.

II. Capability for Management as Wilderness

(1) Natural Integrity and Apparent Naturalness: The area is unmodified; however, its overall integrity is not considered pristine. Adjacent management activities have negatively affected the natural integrity of this area. Developments extend into the area in several places, also lessening its natural integrity and apparent naturalness. Harvest units in adjacent areas visible from Sumner Strait also affect the apparent naturalness of the roadless area.

(2) Opportunity for Solitude and Serenity, Self-reliance, Adventure, Challenging Experiences, and Primitive Recreation: There is a low to moderate opportunity for solitude and primitive recreation within the area. Air traffic and vehicle traffic pass nearby and may be heard and observed by people in this roadless area. Overall, recreation use levels are low, except along the fringes near road access. Generally, a person camped or traveling

away from the roads is unlikely to encounter other people. Timber harvest or periodic activities in the adjacent areas have a significant impact on the opportunity for solitude when they are occurring.

The steep nature of the landforms and the presence of black bears presents a degree of challenge and the need for woods skills and experience. As with all backcountry areas on the Tongass, the opportunity for challenge and risk in this area is high. The climate, the rugged terrain, the isolation and distance from population centers with medical facilities, the barriers to communication, and the presence of large wild animals all contribute to the need for good preparation and knowledge of backcountry survival skills for anyone using this area. Hypothermia and bear encounters are just two examples of the many risks that must be considered before traveling in the backcountry of Southeast Alaska.

The area provides recreation opportunities primarily in a roaded setting. 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 Non-Motorized (SPNM)	3,107	30%
Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM)	287	3%
Roaded Natural (RN)	10	0%
Roaded Modified (RM)	7,032	67%

The area contains two inventoried recreation places, which cover 68 acres, or less than 1 percent of the roadless area.

ROS Class	# of Rec. Places	Total Acres
SPNM	0	0
SPM	0	0
RN	1	10
RM	1	58

There are no developed recreation opportunities in this area.

(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).

The inventoried roadless areas of the Tongass National Forest were rated according to this system in 1989 for the original Analysis of the Management Situation developed in support of the Forest Plan Revision. At that time, the Manzanita Roadless Area was given a rating of 18 out of 28 possible points. The rating was re-evaluated for this updated version of the Analysis of the Management Situation. Based on this re-evaluation, the area was also given a rating of 18.

(4) Ecologic and Geologic Values: The roadless area is small and irregular. It is not connected to any other roadless areas or wilderness. It has no known unique ecologic or geologic values.

(a) Fish Resources: A small portion of this roadless area lies along Summer Strait in VCU 452, which was listed by the Tongass Fish and Wildlife Resource Assessment (ADF&G, 1998) as a primary producer of salmon.

This roadless area contains part of the headwaters of Ohmer Creek, a primary producer of pink salmon. The estimated annual peak escapement is 30,800 pink salmon, and the creek has high coho salmon smolt

capability. The ADF&G Anadromous Waters Catalogue and Atlas (2000) does not show any other fish-bearing streams in the roadless area.

(b) Wildlife Resources: A population of Sitka black-tailed deer, wolves, moose, and black bear range over the roadless area. Brown bears are rarely reported on Mitkof Island. Waterfowl are plentiful near the shoreline due to the proximity of the area to the Stikine River delta but no bodies of water are located in the interior. A mountain lion was recently reported on the island, near this roadless area. Mountain lions are probably migrating into Southeast Alaska from Canada along the major river corridors. They are considered an incidental species here.

(c) Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species: The only federally listed threatened and 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. Four Forest Service Region 10 Sensitive Species are suspected or known to occur within the area: the trumpeter swan, osprey, Peale's peregrine falcon, and the Queen Charlotte goshawk. Trumpeter swans nest in the lowlands on small lakes and along major rivers and winter in ice-free areas throughout the Tongass. Present from April through September, ospreys are rare in Southeast Alaska where they reach the northern extent of their nesting range. Feeding almost exclusively on fish, ospreys typically nest in large snags near lakes or the coast where fish are abundant. 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, 12 sensitive plant species are known or suspected to occur in the Petersburg Ranger District.

(d) Karst, Cave, and Other Geologic Resources: There are no known karst or cave resources in this roadless area. There are no glaciers or unique geologic features in this area. Garnet-bearing schist is found on the eastern side of the area.

(5) Scientific and Educational Values: There are no unique features for scientific or educational studies. The area is accessible by road from the City of Petersburg.

(6) Scenic Values: The area is unmodified; however, its overall integrity is not considered pristine because of the roading and timber harvest activity on nearly all sides of the area. When viewing the area from Sumner Strait, the timber harvest activities south of the Manzanita Roadless Area are apparent. When viewed from Dry Strait, a natural appearance dominates the landscape.

Visual Priority Routes and Use Areas identified by the Forest Plan that are within or adjacent to the area include Sumner Strait, a tour ship route and Dry Strait, a marine travel route.

About 96 percent of the area is inventoried as Variety Class B (possessing landscape diversity that is common for the character type). The remaining 4 percent of the area is inventoried as Variety Class C (possessing a low degree of landscape diversity).

Most of the roadless area, 60 percent, is in Existing Visual Condition (EVC) I, where areas appear to be untouched by human activity. About 19 percent of the area is in EVC IV, in which changes to the landscape are easily noticed by the average person and may attract some attention. The alterations appear to be disturbances but resemble natural patterns. EVC V accounts for the remaining 21 percent of the area. These are areas in which changes to the landscape are obvious to the average person, and appear to be major disturbances.

(7) Social, Cultural, and Historical Values: The area is in the traditional territory of the Stikine Tlingit. No known cultural sites have been recorded within this area. A mild-cure fish plant reportedly operated along the shores of Dry Strait in the early 1900s. Most use is concentrated along the outside edges that are accessible by road. Subsistence use in the area includes deer and moose hunting and forest products gathering. Uses along the roads, which bound the area, are primarily hunting, berry picking, snowmobiling, and woodcutting. Some of the use is for subsistence. VCU 454, along Summer Strait, is listed among the VCUs with highest community use value and with the highest sensitivity to disturbance of subsistence use areas (ADF&G, 1998).

(8) Manageability as Wilderness and Boundaries Conditions/Changes: The area is nearly bounded on all sides by roads and timber management activities. There are few topographic breaks or other natural features to define the boundaries. Feasibility of management in a wilderness condition is low to moderate, due to the amount of managed activities adjacent to this roadless area. Feasibility of management in an unroaded condition is moderate, due to the steepness of the terrain.

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 this trend is expected to continue. Petersburg and Wrangell are nearby tourism hubs. The close proximity of the roadless area to Petersburg is likely to result in an increase in tourist interest in the roadless area. There is little opportunity for outfitter/guide permits in the area. There is potential for trails, and possibly shelters, to access the ridgelines and saltwater. There is some potential for interpretive activities due to the area's accessibility and proximity to the Mitkof Highway and the Three Lakes Road. A State of Alaska boat ramp and unmaintained picnic area exist nearby.

(2) Subsistence Uses: Management as a wilderness would not conflict with current subsistence uses.

(3) Fish Resources: No fish habitat enhancement projects are planned for the area.

(4) Wildlife Resources: No wildlife habitat enhancement projects are planned for the area.

(5) Timber Resources: There are approximately 6,037 acres inventoried as productive old-growth forest in the roadless area. None of the area is mapped as second growth due to timber harvest. Of this, approximately 3,506 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), 1,921 acres or 18 percent of this roadless area are estimated to be suitable for timber production. Approximately 608 of the suitable acres are mapped as high-volume old growth; of these acres, 104 are mapped as high-volume, coarse-canopy old growth.

Timber harvest would require a road system and/or logging systems capable of harvesting the area. Nearby roads could be extended to accomplish some of this.

(6) Fire, Insects, and Disease: The area has no significant fire history. Endemic tree diseases common to Southeast Alaska are present. There are no known epidemic disease occurrences.

(7) Minerals: The area has low minerals potential. There is an active garnet mining operation in the area.

(8) Transportation and Utilities: There are no transportation or utility corridors within the roadless area. The Mitkof Highway follows the southern and southwestern boundary of the roadless area and a powerline follows the southwestern boundary, near the highway.

(9) Water Availability and Use: There are no developed recreation sites or other facilities located in this roadless area. As a result, demand does not exist for domestic water use. There are no existing or planned hydroelectric or domestic water projects.

(10) Areas of Scientific Interest: The area has no Inventoried Potential Research Natural Areas, nor identified for any other scientific purpose.

(11) Land Use Authorizations: There are no special land use authorizations in the area.

(12) Land Status: The roadless area is entirely National Forest System land. State land borders the roadless area in several places along its southeastern boundary.

Appendix C

IV. Wilderness Evaluation (Need for Wilderness)

(1) Public and Congressional Interest:

(a) Interest Expressed by Local Users and Residents: There is some interest in the area by local recreationists.

(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 Manzanita Roadless Area. In 2001, HR 2908 proposed that the roadless area be managed as LUD II in an unroaded condition.

(c) Public Input During Forest Plan Revisions and Appeals: There were no direct comments on the roadless area. The Narrows Conservation Council, the Wrangell Resource Council, and others felt that the undeveloped areas on the island should be protected from timber harvest. The Southeast Alaska Conservation Council and the Alaska Rainforest Campaign recommended that the remaining unroaded areas on the island be managed as LUD II. However, timber industry organizations felt that there was no justification for this.

(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, while others wanted the same level of development to continue.

(e) Public Input Expressed for Project-level EISs and Other Input: No comments were identified on project-level NEPA documents. Comments were received on the 1995 Final Mitkof Landscape Design. There were no comments specific to the Manzanita Roadless Area dealing with the roadless/wilderness issue. There were general comments concerning this issue for Mitkof Island. Some commenters wanted more roads to allow better access and some wanted roadless areas to remain unroaded. Some favored timber harvest and some wanted the remaining old growth (and deer habitat) protected.

(f) Public Input Expressed During Supplemental EIS Process: The city of Petersburg said they were opposed to designation of this area as wilderness because of the potential long-term economic impacts on the city.

The city of Pelican passed a resolution stating that the important watersheds identified as areas of special interest in the 1999 ROD and HR 987 should given long-term protection.

The Alaska Rainforest Campaign (a coalition of national and Alaska conservation groups) recommended Roadless Area 223 for permanent protection as LUD II. SEACC recommended that the remaining roadless areas on heavily logged Mitkof Island be designated LUD II.

A number of commenters identified Southeast Mitkof Island as an area that needed protection.

(2) Nearby Roadless and Wilderness Areas and Uses: The nearest roadless areas are North Mitkof, East Mitkof, and Crystal. All are within 2 to 12 miles, and are separated by roads and harvest areas. The nearest Wilderness is the Stikine-LeConte, portions of which are about 1 mile away, across Dry Strait.

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

Community	Air Miles	Water Miles
Juneau (Pop. 30,711)	135	140
Petersburg (Pop. 3,224)	20	20
Wrangell (Pop. 2,308)	15	15
Ketchikan (Pop. 14,070)	85	105

The area is also approximately 22 miles by road from Petersburg.

(4) Relative Contribution to the National Wilderness Preservation System: The Manzanita Roadless Area is located on the southeast portion of Mitkof Island, almost 20 miles southeast of the city of Petersburg. Forest roads, harvest units, the Mitkof Highway, and State-owned lands generally make up the irregularly-shaped boundaries. There is a small portion bounded by saltwater on the eastern side. The area exhibits great relief, as the core is made up of a ridge system, with drainages oriented in all directions. Drainage from this area forms the high gradient headwaters for several moderate-sized streams. Slopes are moderate to steep. Elevation ranges from sea level to nearly 2,500 feet.

The area is mostly natural appearing; however, it is heavily influenced by developments on adjacent lands. The natural integrity and apparent naturalness is high. The opportunity for solitude and primitive recreation is low.

None of the area is rated as distinctive for the character type from a scenery perspective. There are no known ecologic, geologic, scientific, or cultural features of significance in the area.

The roadless area includes about 1,985 acres of high-volume, old-growth forest. Of these acres, 236 are mapped as high-volume, coarse-canopy old growth.

The Manzanita Roadless Area is classified as being in the Kupreanof/Mitkof Islands Biogeographic Province and makes up about 1 percent of the province. It is one of 12 inventoried roadless areas found within the province that collectively make up about 63 percent of the province. The Petersburg Creek-Duncan Salt Chuck Wilderness is located in this province and makes up about 6 percent of the province.

The Manzanita Roadless Area lies completely within the Inside Passage Fjordlands Ecological Section and represents 0.5 percent of the ecological section. Approximately 20 percent of the Inside Passage Fjordlands Ecological Section is in existing wilderness, 2 percent is in existing LUD II, and 30 percent is protected by other existing non-development LUDs.

The roadless area lies completely within the Wrangell Narrows Metasediments Ecological Subsection and represents 3 percent of the ecological subsection. Approximately 11 percent of the Wrangell Narrows Metasediments Ecological Subsection is in existing wilderness and 18 percent is protected by other existing non-development LUDs.

The Manzanita Roadless Area was rated 18 out of a possible 28 points under the Wilderness Attribute Rating System (WARS). As such, its WARS rating is ranked 84th from the highest (along with eight other roadless areas) among the 109 Tongass inventoried roadless areas.

There is some local and national support for managing the area in an unroaded condition, and there is little support for designating the area as wilderness. Designation would create a wilderness that is relatively small and heavily influenced by developments on adjacent lands. Overall, the factors identified here indicate that the relative contribution of this area to the National Wilderness Preservation System would be low.

V. Environmental Consequences

The Manzanita Roadless Area would be managed under the existing Forest Plan if Alternative 1, 2, 3, or 4 is implemented. Approximately 16 percent of the roadless area would be managed under non-development LUDs. Timber harvest and road development could occur in the remaining 84 percent. The land in the development LUDs provides an estimated 1,921 acres that are suitable for timber production (1 percent of the suitable acres on the Petersburg Ranger District). Approximately 104 of the suitable acres are classified as high-volume, coarse-canopy

old growth. The timber sales, recreation, minerals, and special use programs would continue. The values associated with the natural settings of the roadless area could be affected by ongoing developments in the roadless area.

Under Alternatives 5 or 7, a 6,556-acre portion of the area in Old-growth Habitat and Timber Production LUD would be converted to Recommended Wilderness. No timber harvest would be allowed and the ongoing recreation, minerals, and special uses programs could be restricted in the Recommended Wilderness area. Lands in the roadless area suitable for timber production would be reduced to approximately 718 acres. Mineral prospecting 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 recommended wilderness area would receive long-term protection if designated wilderness.

Under Alternative 6, the entire area would be converted to Recommended LUD II. The ongoing recreation, minerals, and special use programs would continue similar to current conditions. No timber harvest would be allowed. The values associated with the natural settings of the roadless area would receive long-term protection if designated LUD II.

Under Alternative 8, the entire roadless area would be converted to Recommended Wilderness. No timber harvest would be allowed and the ongoing recreation, minerals, and special uses programs could be restricted. Mineral prospecting 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 would receive long-term protection if designated wilderness.

Land Use Designation Allocations and Suitable Timber Lands by Alternative for Roadless Area 223 (in acres)

Land Use Designation	Alt 1	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 4	Alt 5	Alt 6	Alt 7	Alt 8
Recommended Wilderness					6,556		6,556	10,436
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	1,633	1,633	1,633	1,633	77		77	
Semi-remote Recreation								
Recommended LUD II						10,436		
LUD II								
Wild, Scenic, Recreational River								
Experimental Forest								
Scenic Viewshed	1,954	1,954	1,954	1,954	1,954		1,954	
Modified Landscape	1,801	1,801	1,801	1,801	1,801		1,801	
Timber Production	5,048	5,048	5,048	5,048	48		48	
TOTAL	**10,436**	**10,436**	**10,436**	**10,436**	**10,436**	**10,436**	**10,436**	**10,436**
Suitable Timber Lands	1,921	1,921	1,921	1,921	718	0	718	0