

Recreation Opportunity Guide

Juneau Trails



Tongass National Forest
Juneau Ranger District

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1985

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* Trails are noted as to location:

(DJ) Downtown Juneau Area	(MG) Mendenhall Glacier Area
(DI) Douglas Island	(NA) North of Auke Bay

TRAIL USERS GUIDE FOR JUNEAU, ALASKA

Many of the hiking trails in Juneau begin at points near the road systems and are within the Tongass National Forest or on public lands maintained by a variety of federal, state, and community agencies.

The trails vary in length from .5 miles to 12 miles. There are many different experiences available, including alpine mountaintops and ridges, giant Sitka spruce and Western hemlock rainforests, and glaciers.

NECESSARY HIKING EQUIPMENT

Sure, it looks sunny and warm now, but local folks can tell the weather by the mountain tops. If you can't see the top, it's raining -- and if you can see the top it is going to rain soon. So BE PREPARED!!! The following items are essential and should be carried even on a day hike:

Extra clothing	Extra food
Map	Compass (Magnetic declination - 29 1/2° E)
Waterproof matches	Knife
First Aid kit	Flashlight
Insect repellent	Raingear
Drinking cup	Water supply
Tidebook	

The angle of magnetic declination in the Juneau area is 29 1/2 degrees East of true North. North is not marked on the maps accompanying the trail descriptions and users should assume that true North is at the top of the map. We do not recommend that you use the maps in the book to take compass readings. Topographic maps of the Juneau Area are available for sale at the Forest Service Information Center and most bookstores.

Some hikers attach a bell to their pack to warn wildlife of their presence in the area. Extra clothing and raingear are important to prevent hypothermia (body chilling) that can occur when a sudden change in weather causes the body to lose heat rapidly.

Many trails in Juneau originally were access routes to mining areas, old villages, or settlements. When exploring away from the main trail, avoid old buildings and hidden mineshafts. Please leave behind all historical items and artifacts for others to appreciate. Because of the increasing number of hikers on many of these trails, it is important to have respect for the trails you hike. Switchbacks occur on many of the steep slopes. Although it may be quicker to cut across the switchbacks, it is dangerous and causes soil erosion and rapid deterioration of the trails.

Litter often accumulates near heavily-used trails, and whether or not it is yours, you can help by PACKING IT OUT!!!

CLIMATE

The Tongass National Forest is located in the coastal rainbelt of Southeast Alaska. Average precipitation varies from 154 inches per year in Ketchikan to 26 inches per year in Skagway. Juneau averages 97" per year downtown but only 54" per year at the airport. Ample moisture results in the lush moss-covered rainforests and the ice-blue glaciers.

Summer temperatures average 55-60 degrees Fahrenheit, and on bright and sunny days it may reach 75-80 degrees Fahrenheit in parts of Southeast Alaska. Temperatures usually only reach 30-35 degrees Fahrenheit during the winter months.

WILDLIFE ALONG THE TRAILS

There is a large variety of wildlife along Juneau's trails. On the small side there are mosquitos, black flies, mice, squirrels, martens, hoary marmots, beavers, and muskrats. Larger animals include Sitka black-tailed deer, mountain goats, and black and brown bear.

Many hikers are concerned when hiking in bear country. Nearly all of SE Alaska is inhabited by either the black bear or the Alaskan brown bear, and while it is possible for hikers to encounter bears, a few tips can help prevent problems. It is always a good idea to make plenty of noise near creeks and waterfalls during salmon spawning season (June to November), or to avoid those areas when salmon are running. It is usually a good idea NOT to hike with a dog unless the dog is on a leash or well-trained. A brochure titled The Bears and You by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is available from their offices and most Forest Service offices, and is strongly-suggested reading for people entering bear country for the first time. It is also a good idea to check with local Forest Service or Alaska Department of Fish and Game offices about recent bear reports during the spring and summer months. It is not recommended that you carry a firearm unless you are hiking in areas of high brown bear concentrations, and then only if you are comfortable with firearms and trained in their use.

Southeast Alaska is a popular nesting and resting area for birds, and many of Juneau's trails offer excellent opportunities for bird viewing. Our national bird, the bald eagle, is common throughout much of the panhandle, especially near salmon streams and tidal areas. The state bird, the ptarmigan, may be seen in meadows and forests if you hike up to it's alpine home. Crows and ravens are common and noisily make their presence known. Kinglets, sparrows, warblers, and the varied thrush may also be encountered on the forest trails.

FLORA OF SE ALASKA

The rain forest of the Southeast panhandle consists mainly of Sitka Spruce (the state tree) and Western hemlock. Western red cedar only occurs south of the Frederick Sound area (near Petersburg), while Alaska yellow-cedar grows in northern Southeast Alaska. Both are used for carving.

Wildflowers of nearly every color are found along many trails, but you may have to get down on the ground to see them. The muskegs of SE Alaska even harbor a carnivorous plant--the Sundew. In forested areas hikers may encounter wood violets, yellow monkey flowers, white ground dogwood, pink lousewort, or various berries as they ripen in late summer.

There are a few plants you should learn to recognize and avoid! The scientific name for devil's club is Opolopanax horridus, and horridus explains how many people feel about this shrub. It grows up to 10 feet in height and the huge maple-shaped leaves and stems are covered with sharp, barbed spines. When a spine touches your skin it feels much like a bee sting, and causes some swelling. Because of the barbs, the spines are difficult to remove. Gloves and long-sleeved shirts should be worn in areas where devil's club is abundant.

There is one very poisonous berry found in SE Alaska. The baneberry (Acteaea rubra) has either white or red berries and is commonly found in forests and thickets. It is a perennial that grows 2-3 feet high. The leaves are large, lobed and coarsely toothed. You should not eat any kinds of berries unless you can positively identify them. You may want to purchase a small guide titled Wild Edible and Poisonous Plants of Alaska for \$2.50 at the Forest Service Information Center, Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center, or at most bookstores. Any plant guide to SE Alaska will make your hike more enjoyable.

TRAIL DIFFICULTY RATING GUIDE

In this guide, trails that are maintained on a schedule are called trails, and unmaintained trails are called routes.

EASIEST:

- A. Route is mostly level with short uphill/downhill sections.
- B. Excellent to good tread surface and clearance.
- C. Absence of navigational difficulties/hazards.

MORE DIFFICULT:

- A. Route is level to steep with longer uphill/downhill sections.
- B. Good to fair tread surface and clearance.
- C. Short sections may have some navigational difficulties/hazards.

MOST DIFFICULT:

- A. Route is mostly steep with sustained uphill/downhill sections.
- B. Poor to non-existent tread surface and clearance.
- C. Longer sections involving some navigational difficulties/hazards.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDES FOR TRAILS

This trail guide has been developed by the USDA Forest Service with the assistance of the Alaska Natural History Association (ANHA) as a portion of the Recreation Opportunity Guide section of the Southeast Alaska Community Opportunity Guide. For more information about the history of Juneau's trails, a booklet titled In the Miner's Footsteps is available at the Forest Service Information Center and at bookstores.

Additional Recreation Opportunity Guide sheets are available for recreation cabins and other facilities managed by the Forest Service. For more information about recreation opportunities contact the Ranger District office nearest you.

This trail guide has been developed from many sources including the Alaska State Division of Parks, the Juneau Parks and Recreation Department, the Forest Service Juneau Ranger District and Regional offices, and interested hikers.

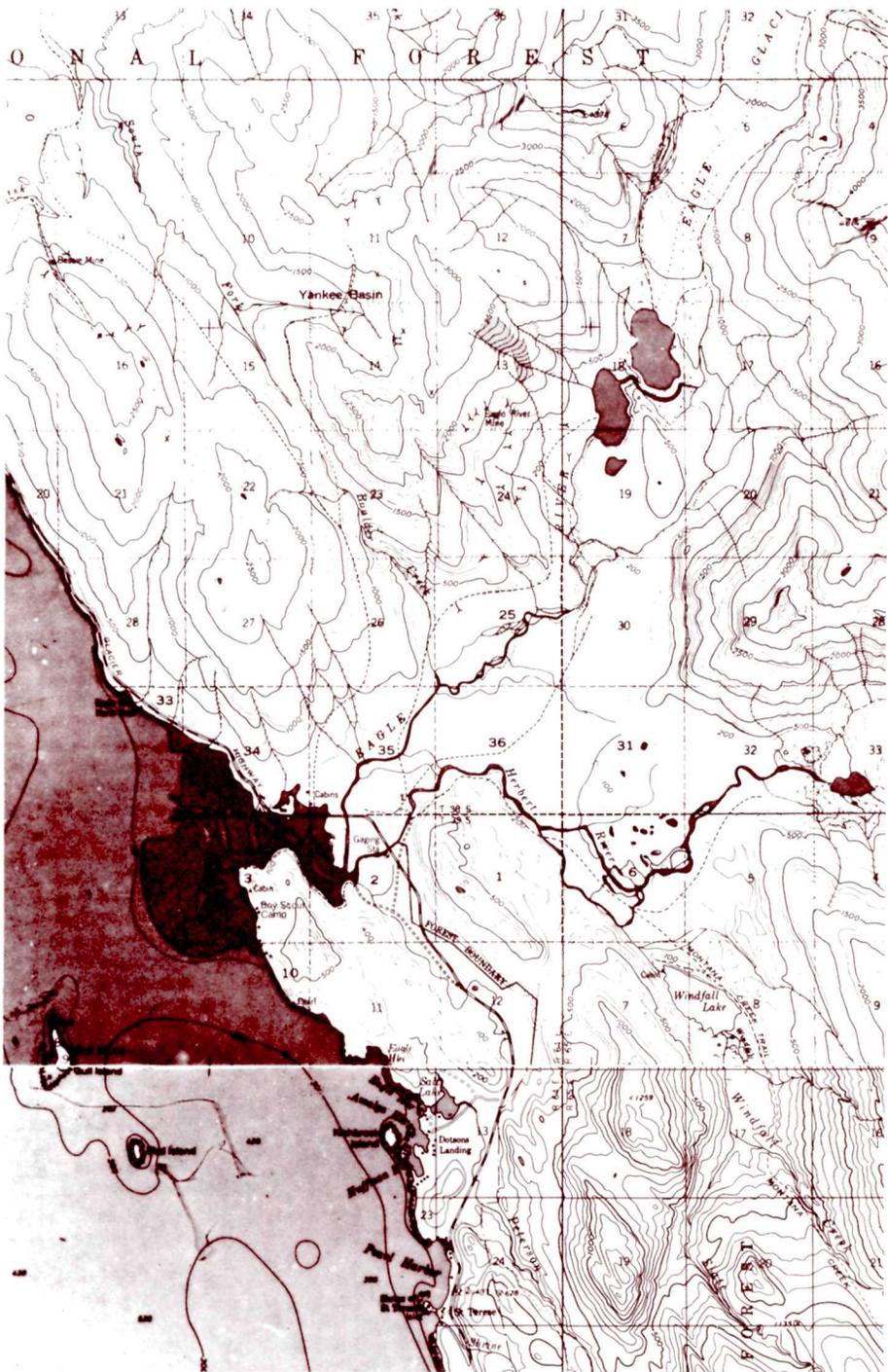
One of the most important parts of any trail guide is the accuracy of the condition and description of the trail. Although many people have spent a great deal of time developing this trail guide, the guide continually requires update and corrections - information which best comes from you, the trail user. You can help to keep the Juneau Trail Recreation Opportunity Guide accurate and up-to-date by providing the Forest Service Information Center (586-8751) with the following kinds of information:

Trail name and a brief of the problem or information including:

special features	condition
history	difficulty (see rating guide)
trail hazards	signing (good or bad)
washouts	bridge condition
stream crossings	blowdowns
litter or vandalism	other

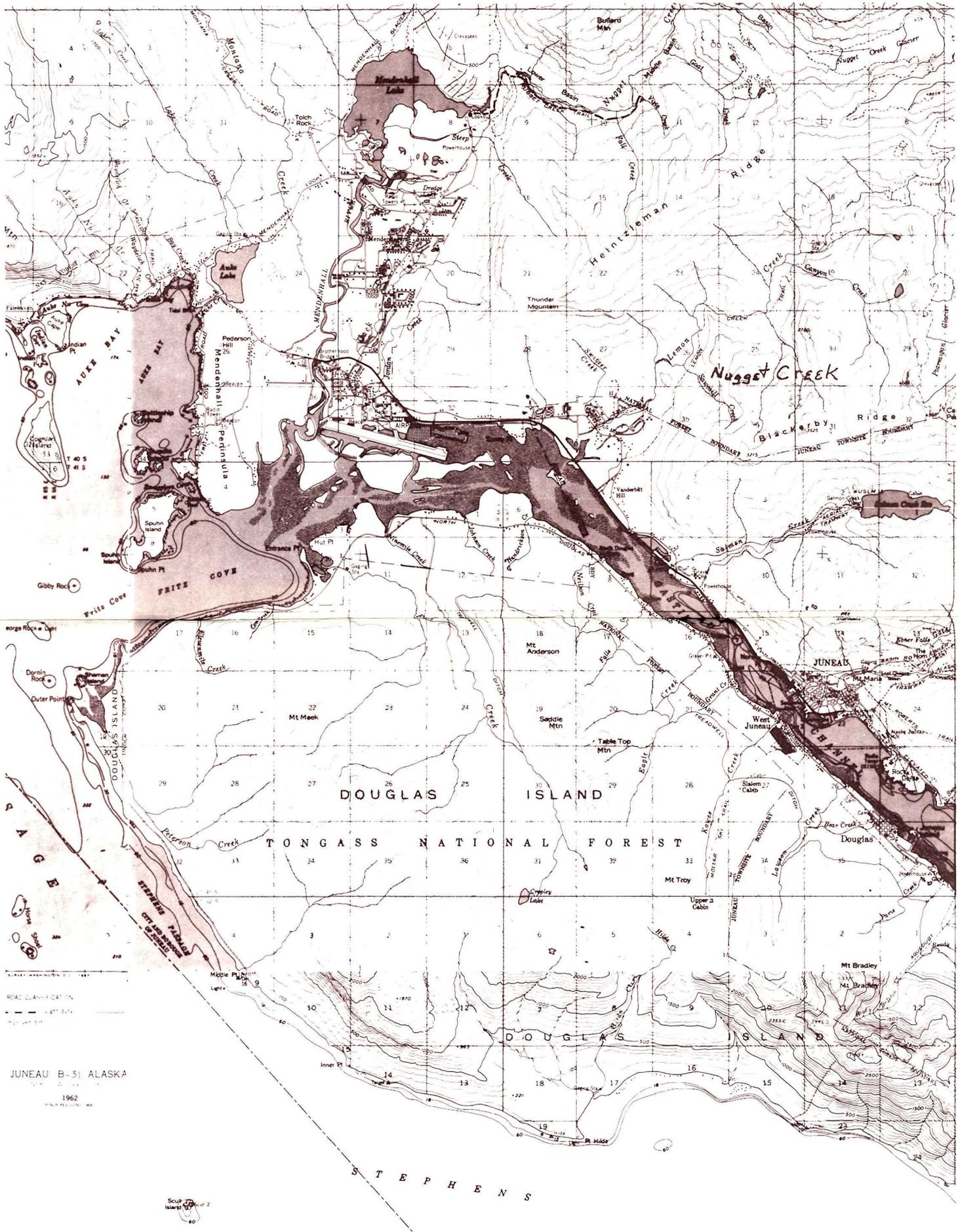
HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE HIKE!!

Area Maps



8

6



JUNEAU B-3) ALASKA

1962

S T E P H E N S

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

AMALGA (EAGLE GLACIER) TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 5.5 miles

ROUNDRIP TIME: 7-8 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Spring, Summer, and Fall

TRAIL END: About 3/4 mile from Eagle Glacier, on lake edge.

USGS MAP(S): Juneau C-3

DIFFICULTY: Easy

ELEVATION GAIN: 200 feet

CONDITION: Good

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trailhead is on the left at mile 28.4 of the Glacier Highway, just past Eagle River. The trail passes under the Eagle River bridge. (This trail provides access to Yankee Basin Trail - see page 66.)

HISTORY: The Amalga Mine was located about 4 miles from the mouth of Eagle River. Amalga was a settlement between 1902 and 1927. The mine site is now difficult to find.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Mosquitos, occasional heavy bear sign (during salmon-spawning season), beaver dams, occasionally wolverines, geese, mountain goats on surrounding mountains, and wildflowers (in season).

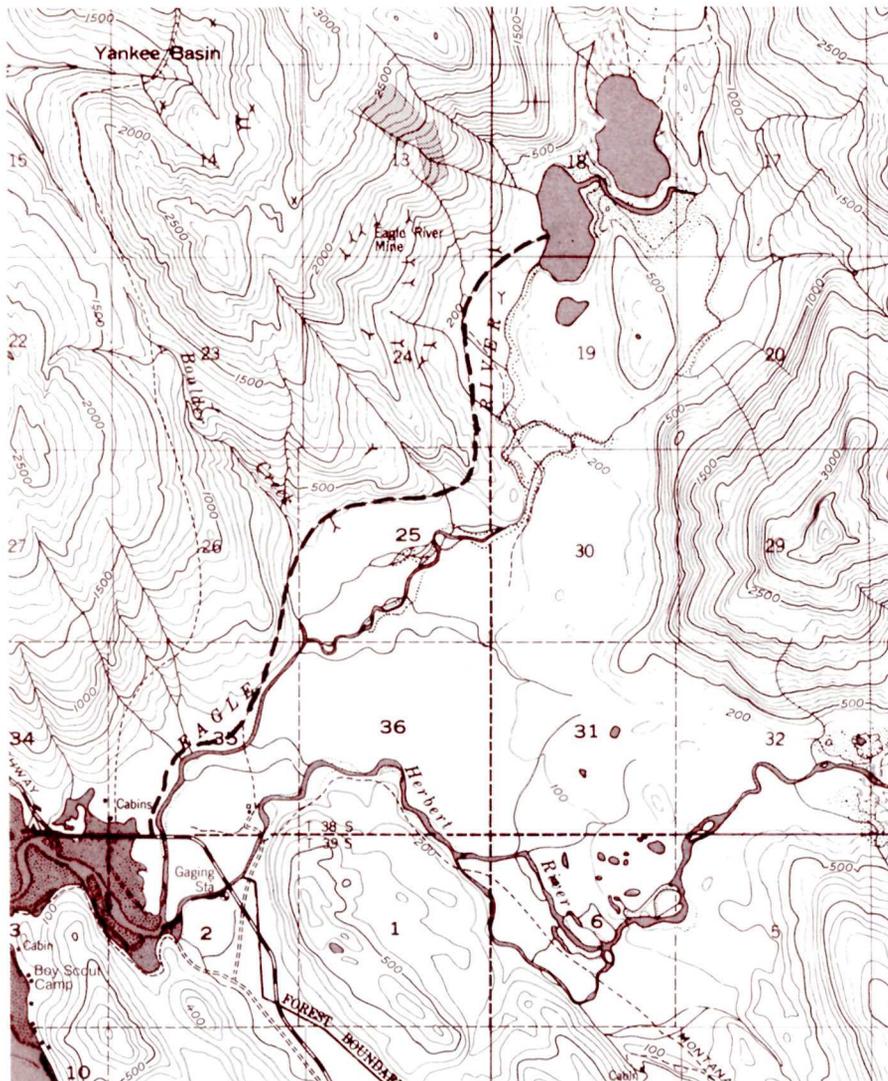
DESCRIPTION: The trail begins from the parking lot and passes under the bridge. Although parts are planked, you will want to wear rubber boots. (The Yankee Basin Trail begins on the left about 1.3 miles from the Glacier Highway.) The Amalga Trail leads towards Eagle Glacier and passes several beaver ponds. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

AMALGA (EAGLE GLACIER) TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The trail ends at the lake with impressive views of Eagle glacier. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

AUKE NU TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 2.5 + .5 miles ROUNDTrip TIME: 5-6 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: All-year (Nordic skiing in winter)

TRAIL END: John Muir Cabin (reservations required)

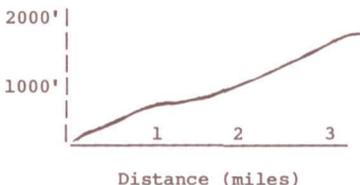
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-3

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 1552 feet

CONDITION: Good where planked,
fair to poor in other places.
Planks slippery when wet or frosty.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Start on Spaulding Trail, which begins at a parking area to the right just off Glacier Highway Mile 12.3 (past the Auke Bay Post Office on the right, and before Waydelich Creek). The Auke Nu Trail begins on the left at .5 mile Spaulding Trail.

HISTORY: The John Muir cabin was built in 1979 by the Taku Conservation Society and other volunteers from the community, with the assistance of the US Forest Service.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Blueberries, huckleberries, bears. Views of the Chilkat Mountains, Admiralty Island, Gastineau Channel, and the back-side of Mts. Stroller-White and McGinnis.

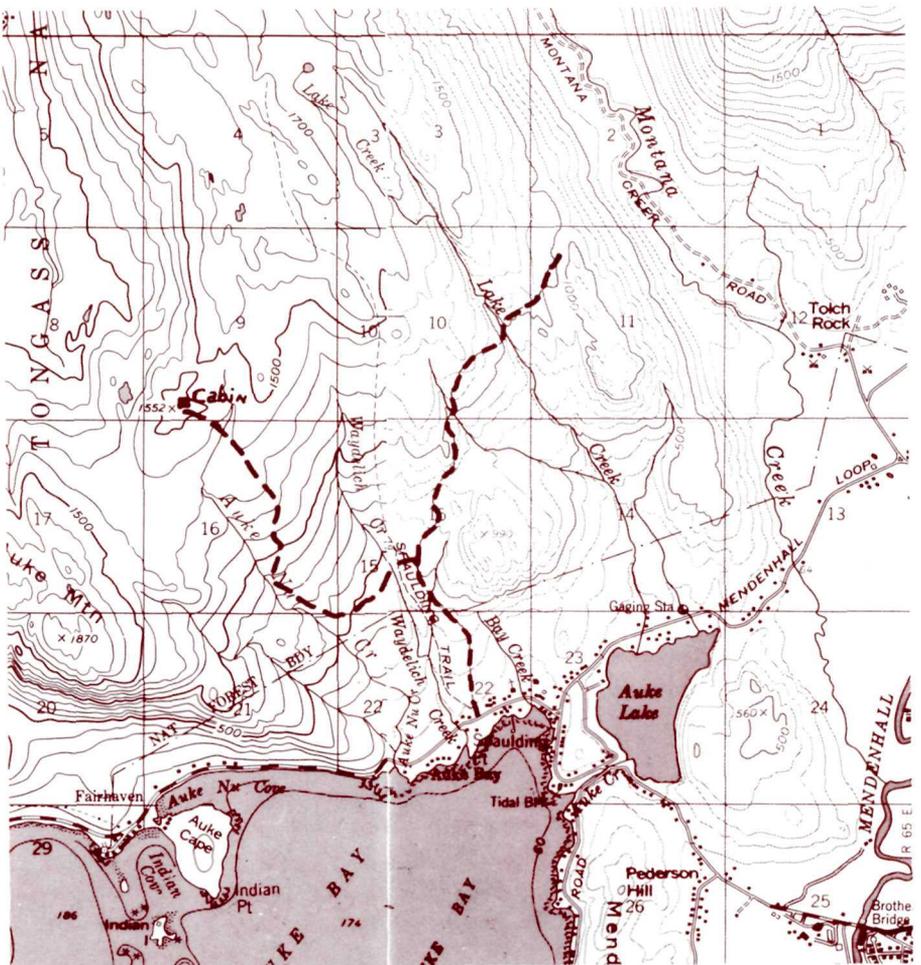
DESCRIPTION: The Auke Nu trail was built to access the John Muir Cabin. It is extremely muddy (during the summer) in areas that are not yet planked. The first part of the trail is through a forested area and contains some sections of old corduroy road. The middle part is also forested and contains some sections of knee-deep mud. The remaining trail passes through muskeg meadows, most of which have now been planked (to protect the fragile plants). A bridge was placed over Auke Nu Creek in 1985. Rubberboots are the recommended footgear. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

AUKE NU TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The John Muir cabin can be reached by nordic skis or snowshoes when ski conditions permit. The trail is marked with blue diamonds, and you must pay close attention to follow them. The cabin can be rented at Forest Service offices. Inquires should be directed to the Forest Service Information Center at 586-8751. The cabin is a public warming cabin during the day from 10:00am to 5:00pm. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

BESSIE CREEK TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 1.25 miles ROUNDTrip TIME: 3 hours +

RECOMMENDED SEASON: All Year

TRAIL END: Muskeg meadow at 900 feet elevation

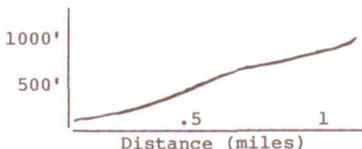
USGS MAP(S): Juneau C-3

DIFFICULTY: More difficult.

ELEVATION GAIN: about 900 feet

CONDITION: Fair - maintained in 1985.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Turn left near a road sign about 500 yards north of Mile 34 Glacier Highway, and park on National Forest land. The trailhead is on the northwest side of the creek, at the top of a cut bank on the uphill side of the road. Go through the woods and skirt the base of hill to the right (south) until you hit the trail. The trailhead is not marked.

HISTORY: The trail was named for the Bessie mine which was active in the early 1900's.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Historic Bessie mine and old cabin.

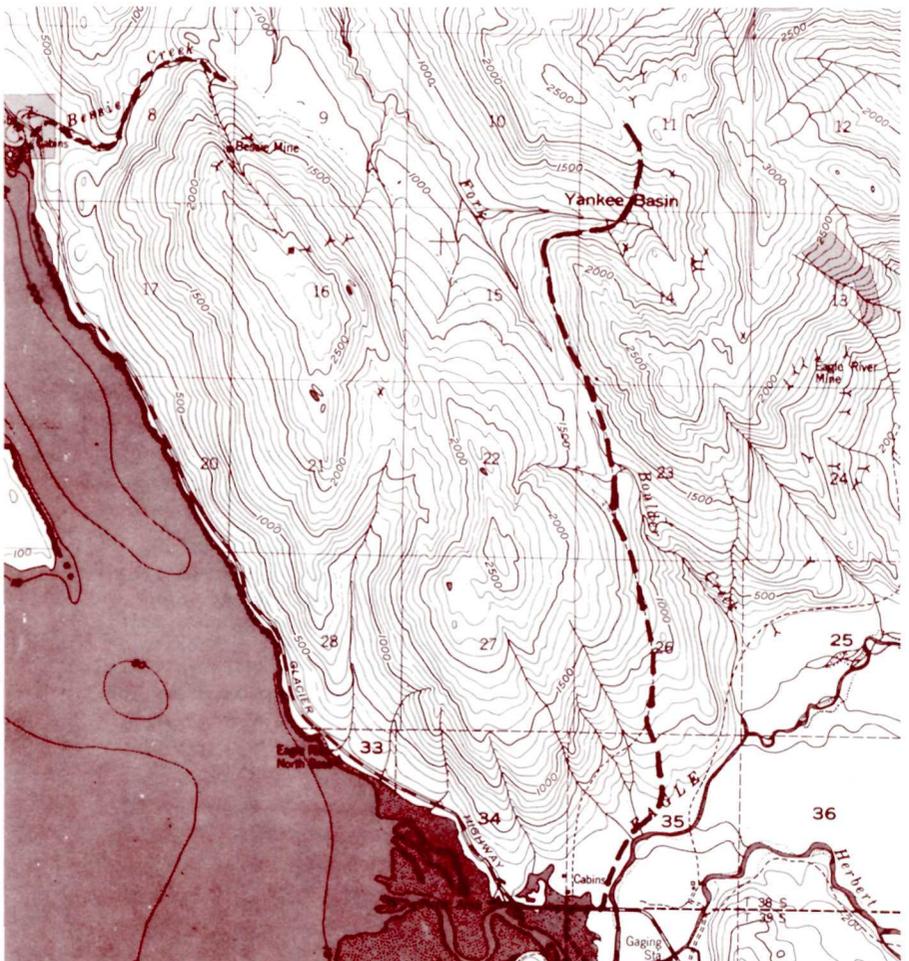
DESCRIPTION: The last 1/4 mile is in an undeveloped condition and may be difficult to follow in places. The trail goes through a spruce and hemlock forest, and ends near a small lake. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

BESSIE CREEK TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: Plans are being made to make Bessie Creek an all-season trail with Nordic skiing in the winter. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

BLACKERBY RIDGE ROUTE

LENGTH (one way): 3.6 miles

ROUNDTrip TIME: 8-10 hours to
Cairn Peak and return

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Summer and Fall

TRAIL END: Cairn Peak

USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: Most Difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 3,200 feet

CONDITION: Poor - this is a steep,
strenuous, and unmaintained route.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: From Egan Drive, take the Salmon Creek exit (the turn-off for the hospital) and go about 0.1 mile. Walk up the short spur road to the right just before the plumbing shop. The route begins to the left just before the end of the road.

HISTORY: The ridge was named in 1960 by the Forest Service in memory of Alva Blackerby, a local forester.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Alpine flowers are in lush carpets above timberline. Salmon and blueberries are found (in season) during the steep climb through the forest.

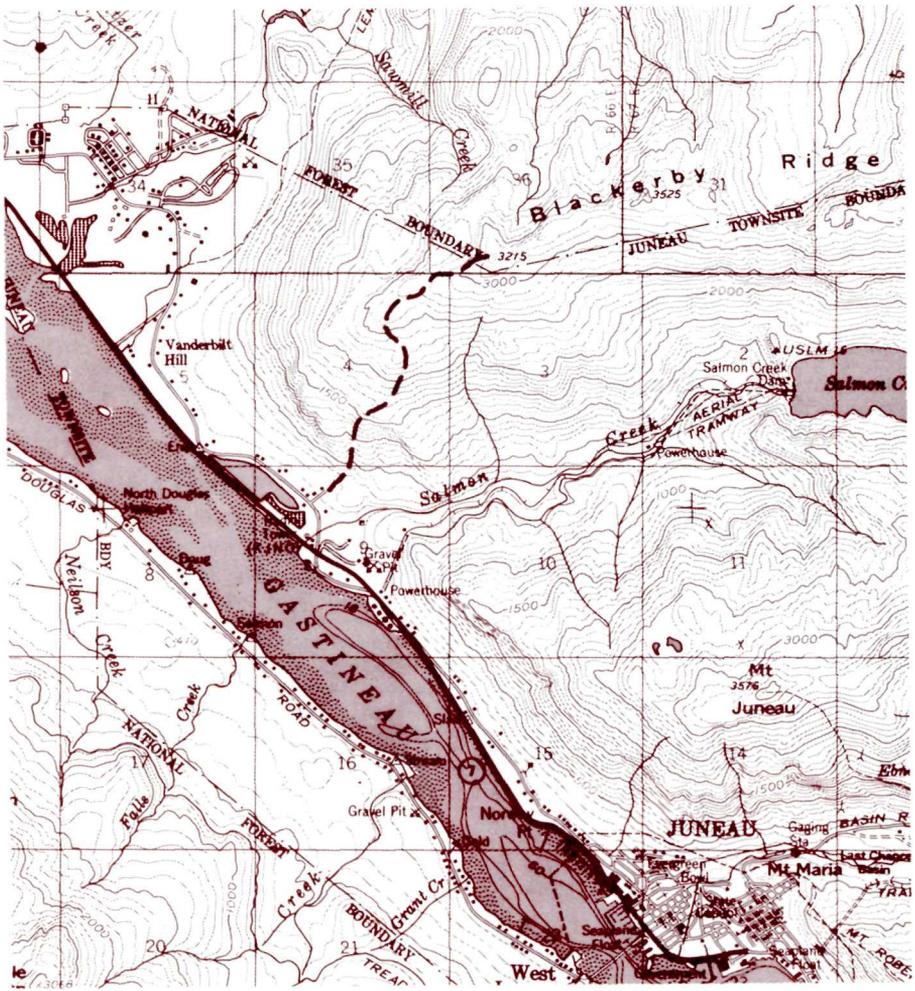
DESCRIPTION: This is a sparsely marked, undeveloped route, and not recommended for beginners. It begins with a moderate grade but soon becomes extremely steep, wet, and does not have switchbacks. The route eventually heads through a grassy area and then through a thin forest up to the ridge. The route disappears once above timberline, but it is possible to continue through low alpine vegetation to Cairn Peak. Waterproof hiking boots are recommended. You should carry your own water. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

BLACKERBY RIDGE ROUTE

DESCRIPTION: There are views of Salmon Creek Reservoir and Stephens Passage from the ridge. The long hike to Cairn Peak offers views of Lemon and Ptarmigan Glaciers. Plan a full day for this hike if you want to hike the whole ridge. This route passes through State, private and National Forest lands.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

DAN MOLLER TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3 miles

ROUNTRIP TIME: 5-6 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: All Year (Nordic skiing in Winter)

TRAIL END: Dan Moller Cabin, in bowl (reservations required).

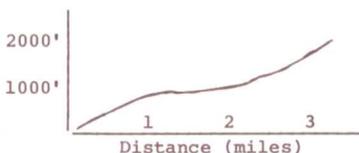
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 1,600 feet

CONDITION: Good - planks are very slippery when wet or frosty.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trail is located on Douglas island. Keep left after crossing the Juneau-Douglas bridge, and take the first right onto Cordova Street. Turn left onto Pioneer Avenue, and the trail starts past the fifth or sixth house on the right. The trailhead is marked, and there is a small parking area.

HISTORY: Forester Dan Moller was responsible for building this trail during the 1930's. Before Eaglecrest Ski Area opened in 1975, Douglas Ski Bowl was the main area for downhill skiing. Kowee Creek was named after a former Native chief who lived at the base of the creek. He led Joe Juneau and Richard Harris to the gold of Silverbow Basin.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Wildflowers in season, wildlife, good views, and access to surrounding ridges.

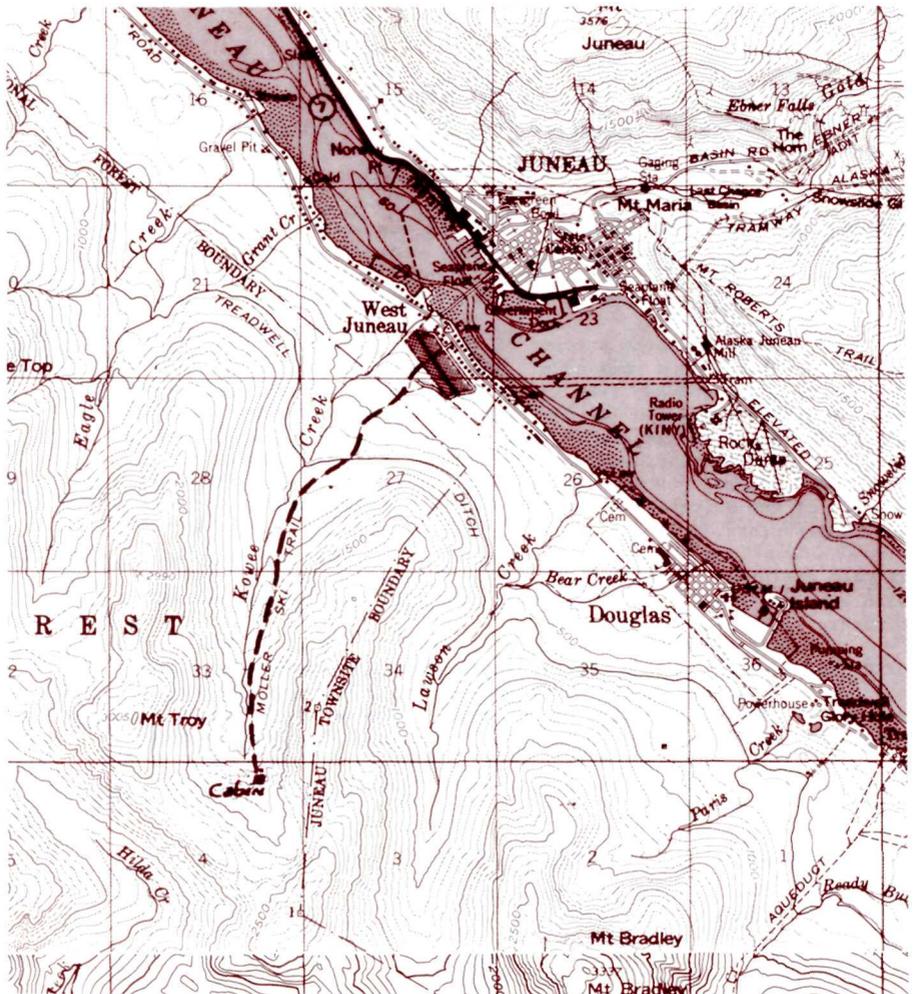
DESCRIPTION: An old road serves as the first part of the trail. Most of the trail consists of elevated planks over the muskegs, and there is an excellent variety of wildflowers. The trail is a popular cross-country ski trail, and is also open to snowmobile use in winter (12 inches of snow cover is required). Caution should be observed in this avalanche-prone area. The former snowslide paths should be crossed with haste, and you may wish to contact the Weather Service at 586-SNOW for avalanche conditions before skiing or hiking this trail. It is possible to climb up to the ridge around the "bowl" for a scenic view of Stephens Passage and Admiralty Island. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

DAN MOLLER TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The Dan Moller Cabin was built in the 1930's by the CCC's, and then renovated in 1983 by the Taku Conservation Society and other members of the community. This cabin can be rented at Forest Service offices. Inquires should be directed to the Forest Service Information Center at 586-8751. The cabin is a public warming cabin during the day from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Recommended footwear is waterproof hiking boots. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

EAST GLACIER LOOP TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3.5 miles

ROUNDTrip TIME: 2 1/2 - 3 1/2
hours.

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Late Spring, Summer, and Fall

TRAIL END: Junction with Mendenhall "Trail of the Glacier".

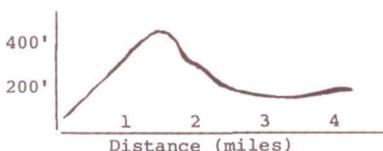
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 400 feet

CONDITION: Good

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Start on the Mendenhall "Trail of the Glacier" on the stairs behind Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center. The East Glacier Trail begins to the left just past a small "kettle" pond near sign #6. (This trail provides access to the Nugget Creek Trail - see page 46.)

HISTORY: Along the upper portion of the loop, there are remains of an old wooden flume and a rail tram. The dam on Nugget Creek was built by the Treadwell company from 1911 to 1914 as a source of electricity for the mines on Douglas Island. The Alaska-Juneau Industries later bought and operated the power plant seasonally until 1943. A 600 foot tunnel and 6000 foot flume carried water to the powerhouse. Water which still passes through the tunnel forms the A-J waterfall. The remains of the Nugget Creek project are cultural artifacts and should not be disturbed.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Porcupine and woodland birds including thrushes, warblers, and wrens. The water ouzel (dipper) may be seen in the creeks.

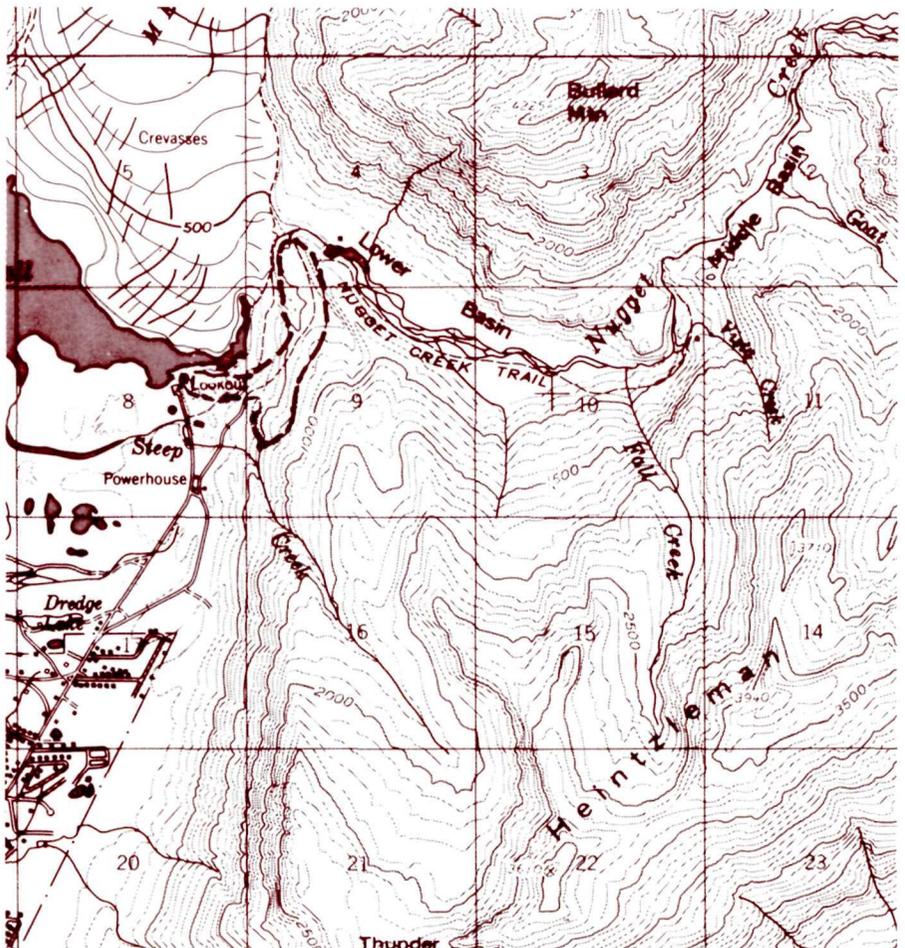
DESCRIPTION: Approaching the glacier's face is extremely dangerous, but the East Glacier Trail provides excellent views from a safe distance. The lower portion of the trail is below the "glacier trimline", and vegetation consists of very dense pioneering vegetation such as willow, alder and cottonwood. A short side trail leads to the A-J waterfall 1.3 miles from the trailhead. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

EAST LOOP GLACIER TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The next section of trail parallels Nugget Creek and enters a dense moss-covered forest above the "trim-line". Nugget Creek dam is visible here. A sign marks the start of the Nugget Creek trail. The planking and steps on the upper section of the trail were built by the Youth Conservation Corps in 1977. Via a series of switch-backs, the trail returns to the "Trail of the Glacier" self-guided interpretive trail. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

GRANITE CREEK TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 1.5 + 2 miles ROUNDRIP TIME: 3-4 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Late Spring through Fall

TRAIL END: Head of Granite Creek Basin

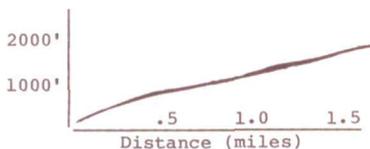
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 1,200 feet

CONDITION: Good

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Begin on Perseverance Trail at the end of Basin Road. The Granite Creek trailhead is located to the left about 2 miles from the beginning of Perseverance Trail. (See page 48 for information on the Perseverance Trail).

HISTORY: This trail was developed for access to the mining areas in Granite Creek Basin.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Waterfalls, an alpine lake, alpine wildflowers and wildlife, including black bears. Berries are excellent here later than in most places (September-October).

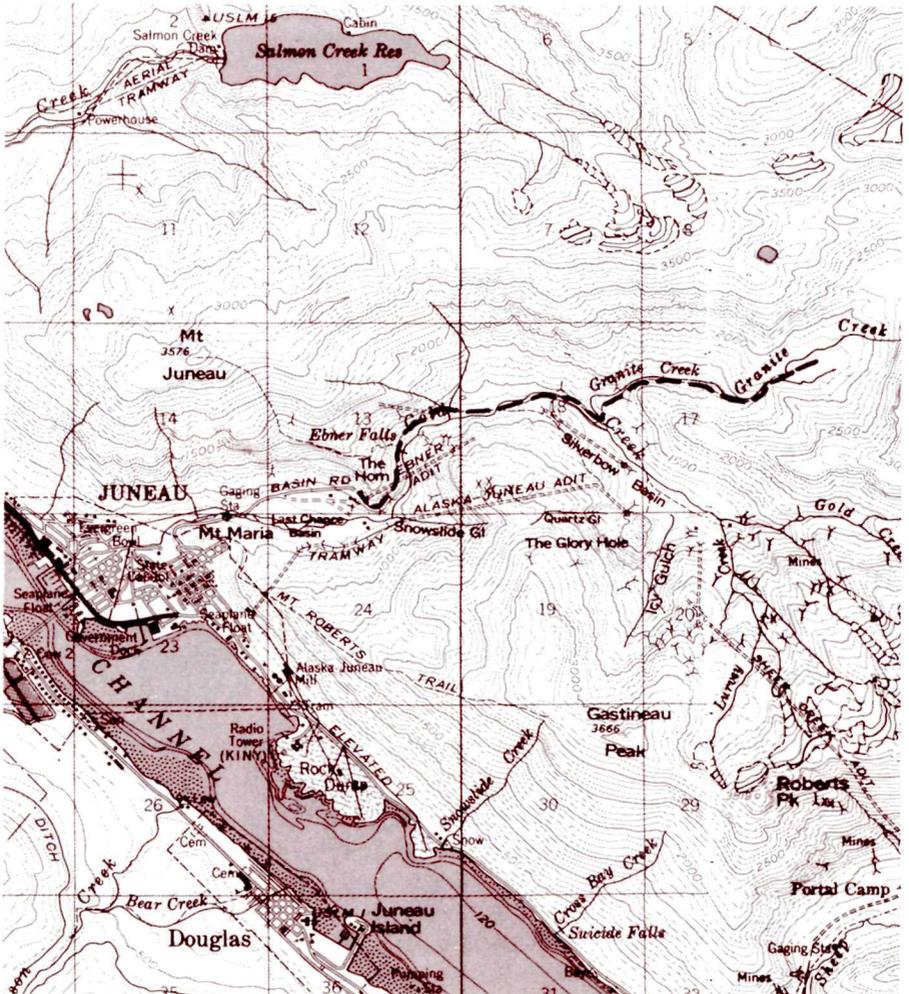
DESCRIPTION: The trail is muddy in places, and snow generally persists on the shadowed slopes until summer. Avoid this trail in winter because of extreme avalanche danger. The trail follows Granite Creek into the basin, with impressive waterfalls and wildflowers. From the final basin, a determined hiker can gain access to Mt. Juneau by climbing the ridge. Keep to the left of Mt. Olds (the huge rocky mountain). Recommended footwear is light boots. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

GRANITE CREEK TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: An ice axe should be carried for use on the steep snow slopes. Plan a full day if you intend to hike the loop over the ridge and down the Mt. Juneau Trail. The route over the ridge is not a developed trail. This is an Alaska State Division of Parks trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

HEINTZLEMAN RIDGE ROUTE

LENGTH (one way): 9.5 miles

ROUNTRIP TIME: 10-12 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Summer

TRAIL END: Top of Heintzleman Ridge

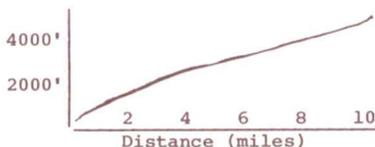
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: Most difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 3 - 4,000 feet

CONDITION: Poor - this is an undeveloped route.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: This undeveloped route begins in the Mendenhall Valley off the Mendenhall Loop Road, behind Glacier Valley Elementary School, by a tan house on Hayes Way that is near an 8-plex apartment building. The trailhead is not marked.

HISTORY: This ridge was named for B. Frank Heintzleman, who was Alaska's second Regional Forester. He resigned to become Territorial Governor of Alaska between 1953 and 1957.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Mountain goats and alpine wildflowers may be seen along this route.

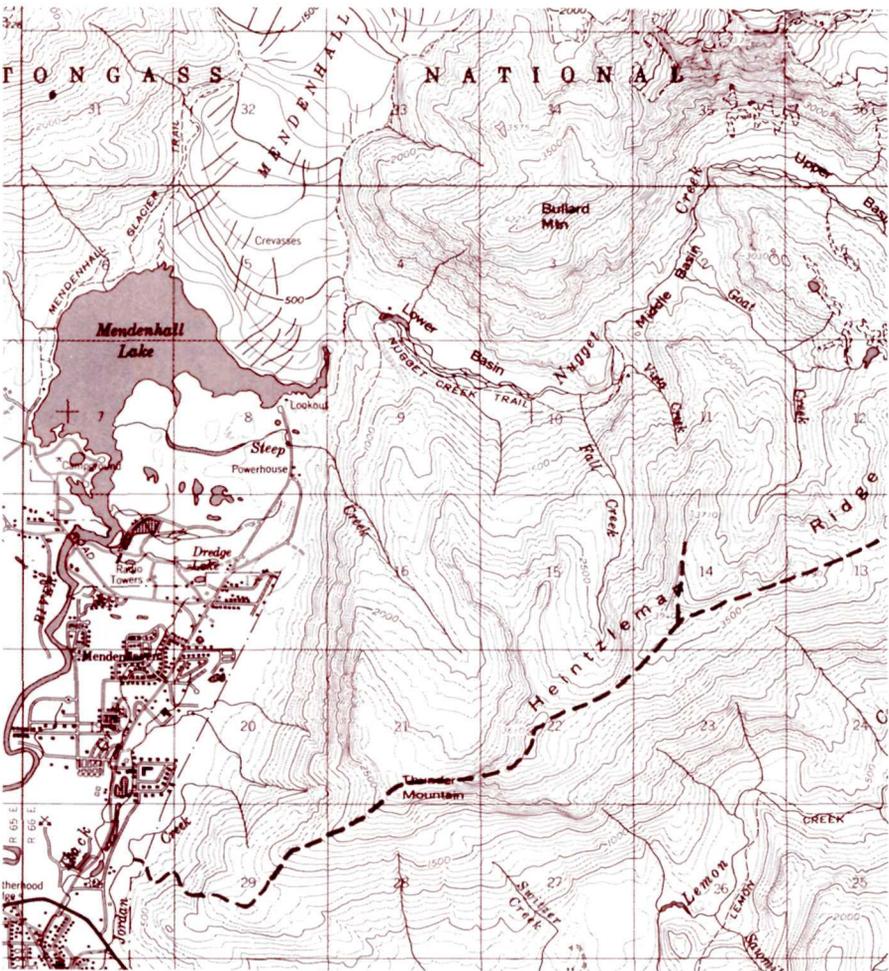
DESCRIPTION: This is a sparsely marked and extremely steep route with many false side trails and no switchbacks. After crossing Jordan Creek, the steep ascent begins. From the top of Steep Creek Bowl, there is an excellent view of the Mendenhall Glacier. The ridge continues towards Nugget Glacier and Nugget Mountain. It is possible to hike to the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center on the Nugget Creek Trail from the ridge. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

HEINTZLEMAN RIDGE ROUTE

DESCRIPTION: This hike is very difficult and should be attempted only by hikers in excellent physical condition. If you plan to hike the entire route, start early in the morning or plan to camp overnight. Avoid this route during the winter and in early spring due to extreme avalanche danger. This is a National Forest route.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

HERBERT GLACIER TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 4.6 miles

ROUNDRIP TIME: 4-5 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: All year

TRAIL END: Trail ends at glacial moraine about .5 miles from glacier's face.

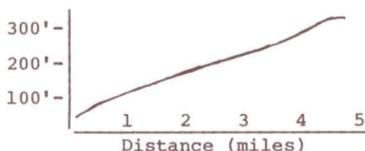
USGS MAP(S): Juneau C-3

DIFFICULTY: Easy

ELEVATION GAIN: 300 feet

CONDITION: Good

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trail begins at mile 28 of the Glacier Highway just past the Herbert River Bridge. There is a small gravel parking lot on the right.

HISTORY: Herbert Glacier was named in 1897 after the Secretary of the Navy.

SPECIAL FEATURES: The trail affords an opportunity to view wildflowers (in season), wildlife, and Herbert Glacier. The trail is also suitable for Nordic skiing and snowshoeing in winter.

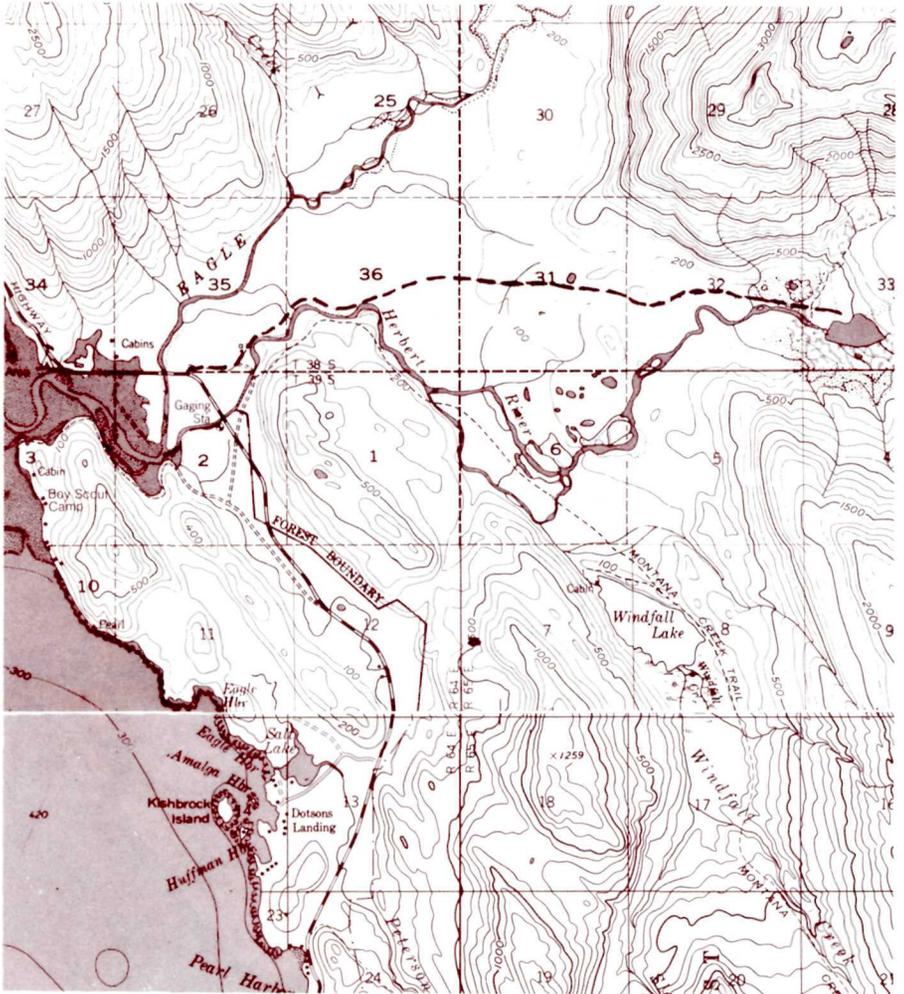
DESCRIPTION: The trail is relatively flat and may be wet in places. It begins in a mature spruce/hemlock forest and continues through smaller stands of trees as it winds up the Herbert River valley. This trail provides an excellent opportunity to examine postglacial plant succession. Just past the trail's midpoint, there is a small beaver pond to the left. The trail improves as it crosses several small hills, and then ends near a terminal moraine. Under no circumstances should you approach the face of the glacier, because of the danger of falling ice. With a little effort you can scramble over the rocks to the left of the glacier to access an excellent, safe vantage point of the glacier and a spectacular waterfall. Look for mountain goats on the surrounding cliffs. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

HERBERT GLACIER TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: Brown and black bears are in the area, so clean camping and hiking techniques should be used. When using the area for winter travel, it may be easier to stay along the river valley bottom if snow and ice conditions allow for safe travel. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

LEMON CREEK TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 6 miles ROUNDRIP TIME: 8-10 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Spring, summer, and fall

TRAIL END: Lemon Creek Glacier, Juneau Icefield

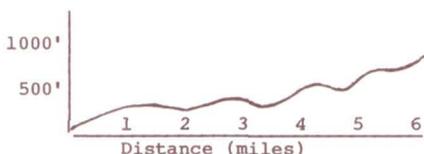
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 700 feet

CONDITION: Fair to Sawmill Creek, poor beyond due to washouts. Bridge out at Canyon Creek.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: From northbound Egan Drive, take the Lemon Creek (Vanderbilt Hill) exit. The trail begins about .5 miles down an unmarked road that is across from the shopping plaza (the first road on the right past the church).

HISTORY: Lemon Creek was named for John Lemon, a local prospector who was one of the first to cross the Chilkoot Trail in 1880.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Black bears and berries are common along this trail.

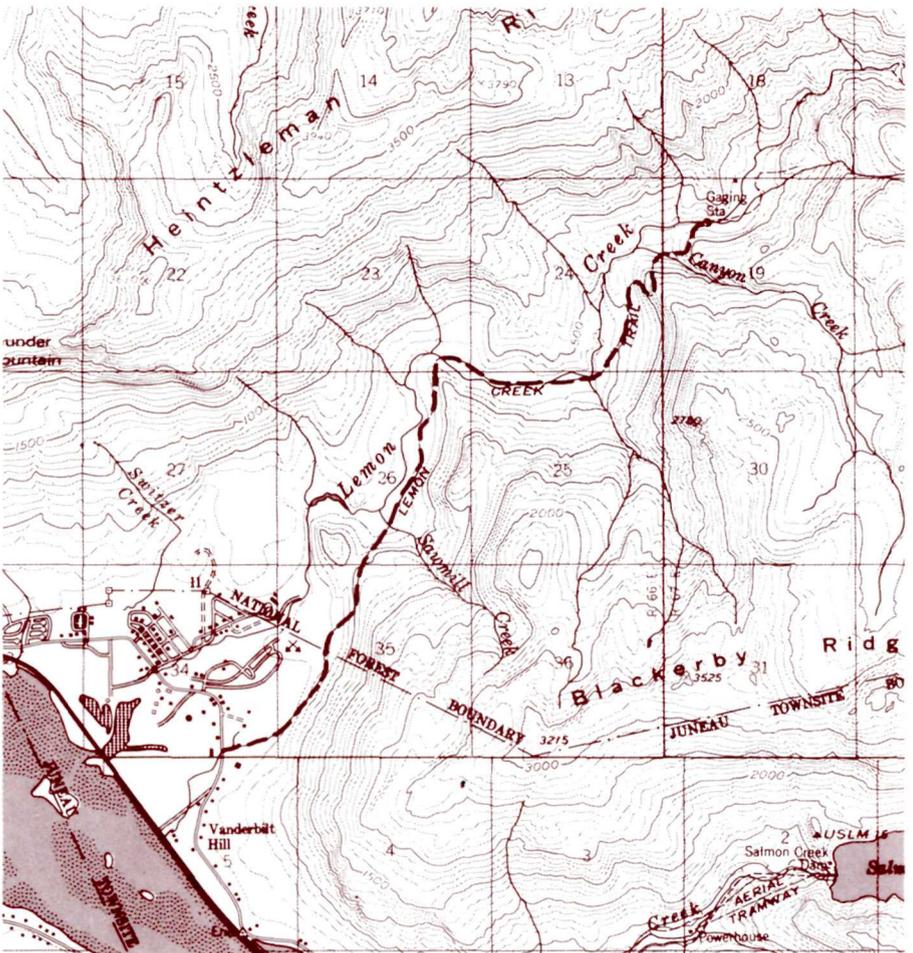
DESCRIPTION: The trail starts as a dirt road and then veers to the left, off the road. This intersection is marked. It is brushy in places, and a longsleeved shirt will help prevent irritation caused by stinging nettles. The next section of the hike is through a mature forest of Sitka spruce and western hemlock trees. Past Sawmill Creek, the trail may be muddy where it parallels Lemon Creek. Once past Canyon Creek, the path may once again be muddy. A poorly marked side trail to the right leads to Camp #17, one of the research stations of the Juneau Icefield Research Program. There are long stretches of corduroy log sections, which are extremely slippery. Recent washouts require steep detours. Waterproof boots are recommended as are leather gloves to battle the devil's club and brush. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

LEMON CREEK TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: It is a rough trek to the icefield, and should be attempted only by experienced climbers with the proper gear. Past the Camp #17 turnoff, the vegetation becomes extremely dense, and there is a lot of bear sign. The trail ends near the gaging station. This trail is on State, private and National Forest lands, and is maintained by the Forest Service.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MONTANA CREEK TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 9.5 miles ROUNTRIP TIME: 8-10 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Late Spring through Summer, and Nordic skiing

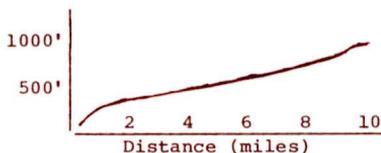
TRAIL END: Windfall Lake and Windfall Lake Trail

USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2 and B-3, DIFFICULTY: More difficult and C-3

ELEVATION GAIN: 700 feet

CONDITION: First 1.5 miles - good. Next .75 mile - very poor. After that, poor to fair.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: From the Mendenhall Loop Road, follow the Montana Creek Road to the end (about 3 miles). The winter trail starts at the rifle range since the road is not plowed beyond that point.

HISTORY: The Montana Creek trail was part of a trail system established in 1907-1909 by territorial Alaska to service mining sites.

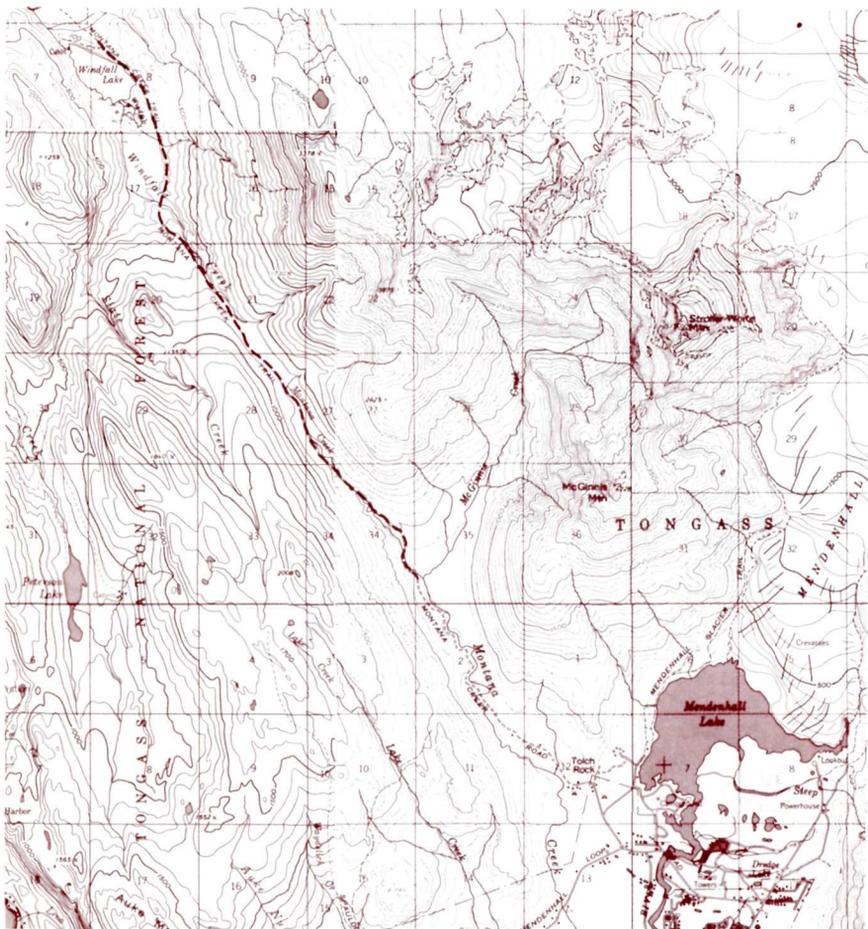
DESCRIPTION: The trail leads northwest from the end of Montana Creek Road. It is in good condition with the exception of rockslides and damaged bridges in first .75 mile. After that, the trail is almost impassible for the next .75 mile during the summer months. The trail connects with the Windfall Lake Trail. There are high concentrations of bears in the area in late summer. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MONTANA CREEK TRAIL

The frozen creek and muskeg meadows which lead up and to the left to connect with Spaulding Meadows, often provide good Nordic skiing. In winter the trail to Windfall Lake is not difficult to find from the Montana Creek side, but it can be hard to connect with in the summer (take a map and compass). The upper portion of this trail is used by snowmachines for access to Windfall Lake from upper Spaulding Meadows (12 inches of snow cover is required). This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. BRADLEY (MT. JUMBO) ROUTE

LENGTH (one way): 2.6 miles ROUNTRIP TIME: 10-12 hours

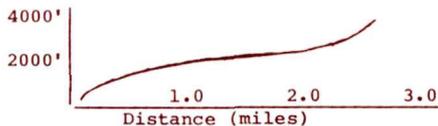
RECOMMENDED SEASON: Spring, summer, and fall

TRAIL END: Mt. Bradley summit

USGS MAP(S): Juneau A-2 and B-2 DIFFICULTY: Most difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 3,337 feet CONDITION: Poor - not maintained.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trail begins in Douglas behind the 300 section of Fifth Street.

HISTORY: The mountain was originally named Mt. Jumbo after the mine at it's base, but it was changed to it's present name in 1939 to honor the former president of the of the Treadwell and A-J mines. Frederick Worthern Bradley was also a president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Scenery, views, wildflowers

DESCRIPTION: The route to the summit of Mt. Bradley is very difficult. It is muddy with windfalls, and is not maintained. This route should not be attempted during the winter. An ice axe will be helpful during ascents in late spring.

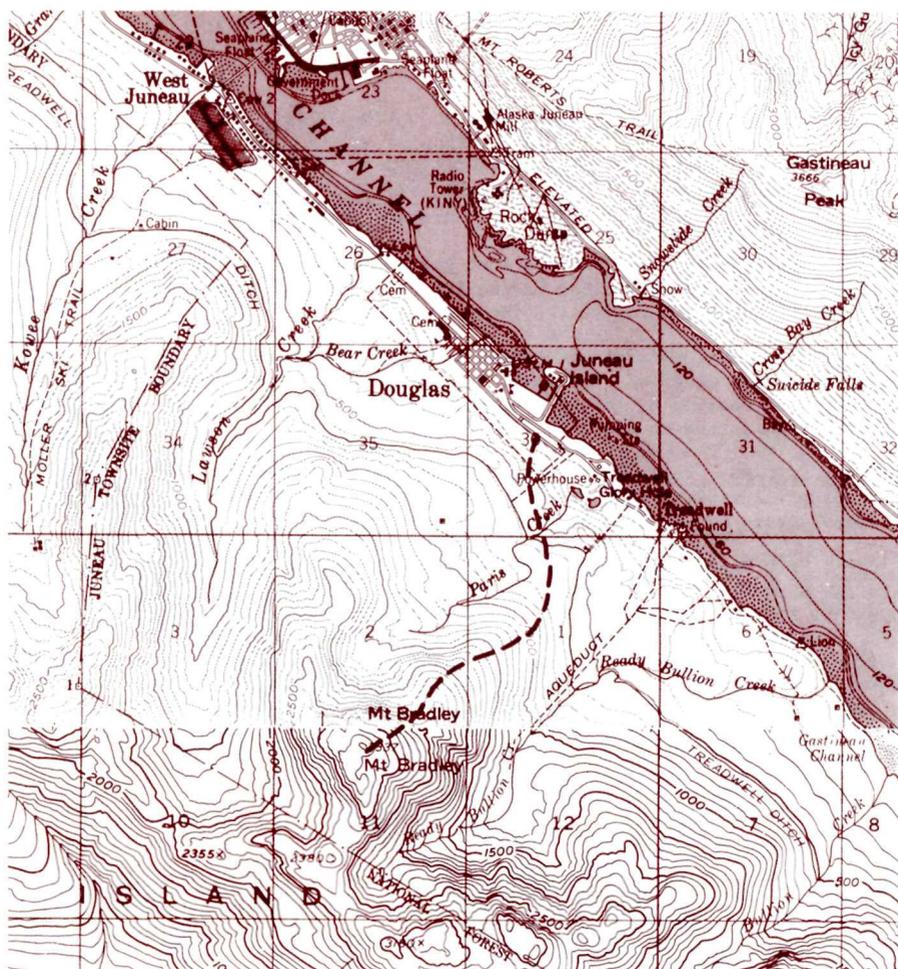
The trail crosses Paris Creek and then the Treadwell Ditch. It is clearly defined until it reaches the muskeg meadows. Beyond this point, the route is difficult to follow, so carefully observe your route to the summit. There are dangerous dropoffs near the top, and the trail becomes quite slippery when wet. Above treeline, the alpine slopes abound with wildflowers and small pools.

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. BRADLEY (MT. JUMBO) ROUTE

DESCRIPTION: The last part of the trail is hard to find, but it is not difficult to find your way to the summit. Two types of footgear are needed -- rubber boots and sturdy hiking (mountain) boots. This trail crosses City and Borough of Juneau, State, and private lands.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. JUNEAU TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 2 + 1 miles ROUNDTRIP TIME: 7 hours

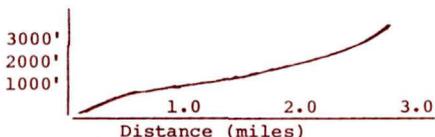
RECOMMENDED SEASON: Summer to early fall

TRAIL END: Summit of Mt. Juneau (alpine)

USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2 DIFFICULTY: Most difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 2,876 feet CONDITION: Good. Should only be attempted by hikers in excellent condition in good weather.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Begin on Perseverance Trail at the end of Basin Road. The Mt. Juneau trailhead is located to the left about 1 mile from the beginning of Perseverance Trail. (See page 48.)

HISTORY: In late 1800's miners called this Gold Mountain, then Bald Mountain as late as 1896. The name "Juneau Mountain" was first used in the mining records by Pierre "French Pete" Erussard when he located mining claims on the mountain in 1888.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Hoary marmots, spruce grouse and salmon berries, and alpine wildflowers including monkshood, white heather, and monkey flowers. Bears can be seen in the upper meadows.

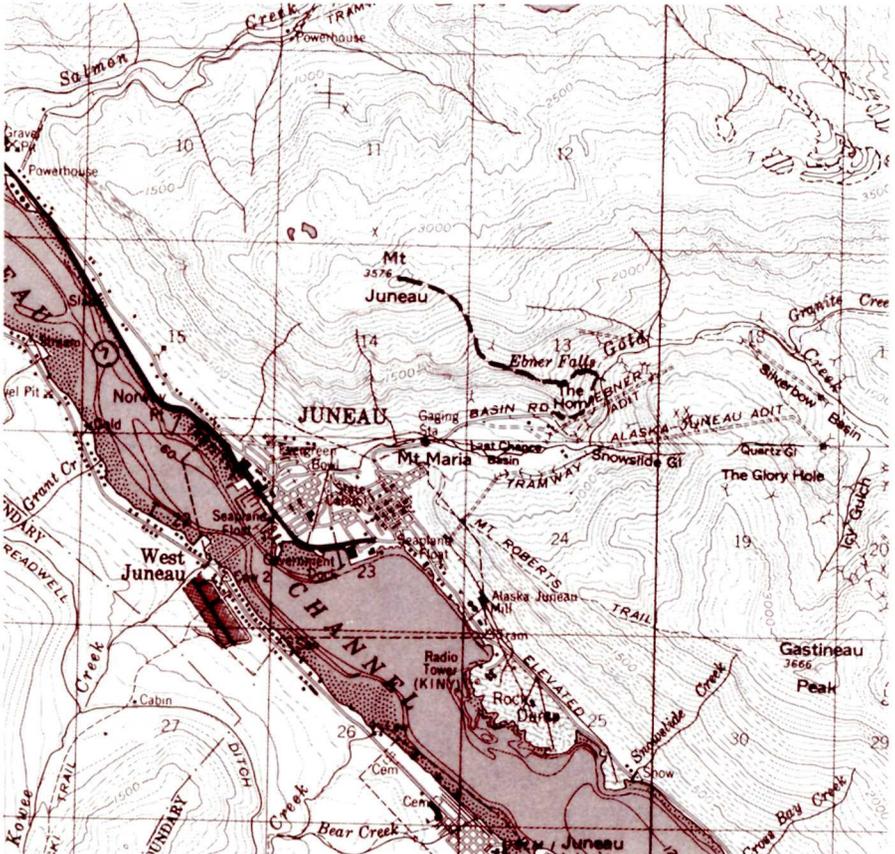
DESCRIPTION: Many lives have been lost on this mountain because of carelessness. DO NOT STRAY FROM THE TRAIL OR ATTEMPT TO CLIMB MT. JUNEAU BY AN UNESTABLISHED ROUTE. Avalanche danger may persist until late in spring, and large snowbanks may be present on the steep sections of the trail. An ice axe could be useful early in the summer season. You should plan on carrying your own water -- giardiasis may be present. Construction of a hotel is underway on top of the mountain -- heavy equipment may be present. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. JUNEAU TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: At first the trail winds back and forth through dense brush. At the second forested area, a short path to the left opens to spectacular views of the City of Juneau. The next section of the hike traverses a steep slope with cascading falls. After the final patch of trees, the climb is extremely steep to the summit. During periods of fair weather, a hiker experienced in backcountry travel may enjoy walking over the ridge toward Granite Basin (see Granite Creek Trail). Take the descent slowly and follow the trail. Hiking boots are the recommended footwear. This is an Alaska State Division of Parks trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. MCGINNIS ROUTE

LENGTH (one way): 2 + 3.4 miles ROUNDTRIP TIME: 8 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Summer and Fall

TRAIL END: Mt. McGinnis Peak

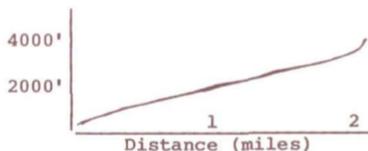
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: Most Difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 3,228 feet

CONDITION: Poor - not maintained.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trail begins at the end of the West Glacier Trail, but is difficult to find. The route is unmarked. (See page 62 for information on the West Glacier Trail.)

HISTORY: Mt. McGinnis was probably named after John McGinnis who had a mining claim along what is now called McGinnis Creek. It was the local name reported in 1912 by the Forest Service and later published by USGS.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Mountain goats, bears and alpine wildflowers.

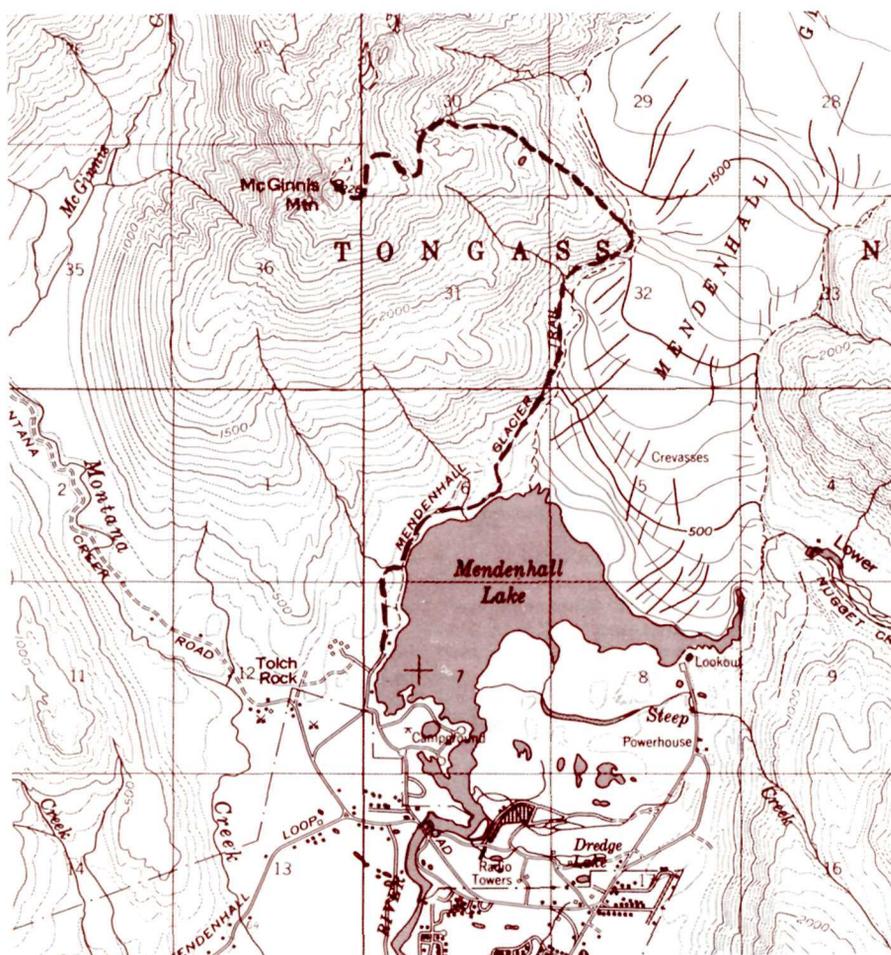
DESCRIPTION: Avalanche danger may continue until early summer. The route is steep and sparsely marked. It is not maintained and should be attempted only by hikers in excellent physical condition with a good sense of direction and a map and compass. This would make a good overnight hike. The first part of the route goes through thick brush, and hikers should watch for small rock cairns. The route ascends through dense forest and then seems to end in a small basin. Follow the stream up the steep slope and then continue to the summit above timberline. Recommended footwear is hiking boots. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. MCGINNIS ROUTE

DESCRIPTION: The summit of Mt. McGinnis is generally covered with snow, and an ice axe should be carried. The remarkable view from the top overlooks the Mendenhall Valley and Auke Bay. Bears inhabit the area, and mountain goats may be seen on Mt. McGinnis and Mt. Stroller White. This route is not maintained. It is within the Tongass National Forest.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. ROBERTS TRAIL

LENGTH (one way):

2.5 miles to the Cross
3 miles to Gastineau Peak
4.5 miles to Mt. Roberts summit

ROUNDRIP TIME: 8 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Late Spring through Fall

TRAIL END: Mt. Roberts Summit

USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-1 & B-2

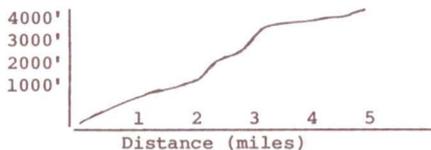
DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN:

The Cross - 2500 ft
Gastineau Peak - 3666 ft
Mt. Roberts Peak - 3819 ft

CONDITION: Good

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trail begins up a wooden stairway at the end of Sixth Street above downtown Juneau.

HISTORY: Roberts Trail was once named "Father Brown's Trail" after a Catholic Jesuit priest who constructed the trail with a group of volunteers in 1908 and erected a large wooden cross 2.5 miles up the trail. A replica of the cross still stands.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Bears, marmots, spruce grouse, forest birds, and numerous wildflowers from rainforest to alpine types.

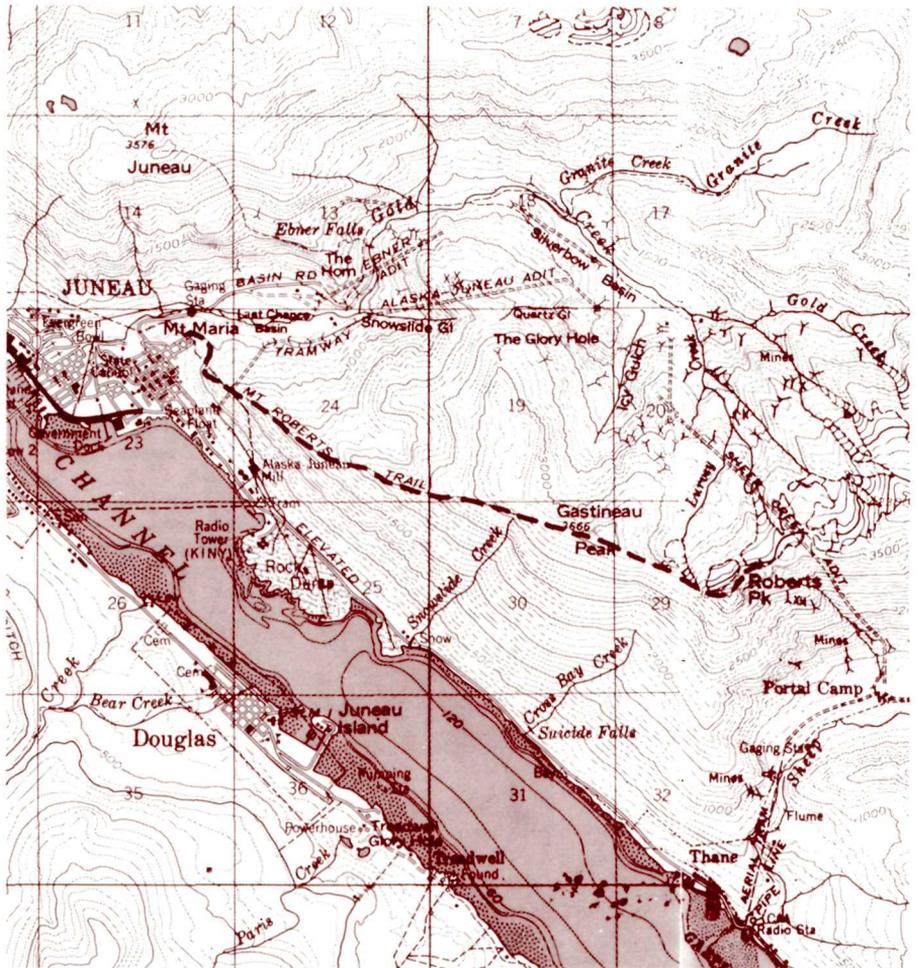
DESCRIPTION: Although this trail is not as difficult as the Mt. Juneau Trail, it is a steep climb towards the end. The trail starts around the north side of Gastineau Peak through a shaded forest, and makes numerous switchbacks until it breaks into alpine terrain just before the large wooden cross. The rest of the trail is above timberline and is very steep. There are excellent views of Gastineau Channel, Juneau, and Douglas. After reaching the ridge, the trail continues to the right and climbs up another, narrower ridge to Gastineau Peak. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

MT. ROBERTS TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The trail appears to end there, but those who are still energetic can continue on to Roberts Peak through the low alpine vegetation. DO NOT try to descend through the many side basins as they are very steep and dangerous. The only good route down (if you continue along the ridge) is to hike to Sheep Mountain and follow the Sheep Creek Trail down. Avalanche danger might persist near the ridges until summer. This is an Alaska State Division of Parks Trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

NUGGET CREEK TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 4 + 1.5 miles ROUNDTrip TIME: 7-8 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Late Spring through Fall

TRAIL END: Vista Creek Shelter

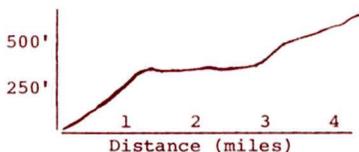
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 500 feet

CONDITION: Good - maintained to Vista Creek.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Begin on the East Glacier Loop trail (see page 24). A sign marks the intersection with the Nugget Creek trail, 1.5 miles from the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center.

HISTORY: The mountain above the north side of Nugget Creek was named after Benjamin Bullard, a mining engineer who had a claim along Nugget Creek. The shelter at Vista Creek was built in the 1930's by the CCC's.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Mining-related ruins, wildflowers, berries, bears, forest birds, and mountain goats on Mt. Bullard.

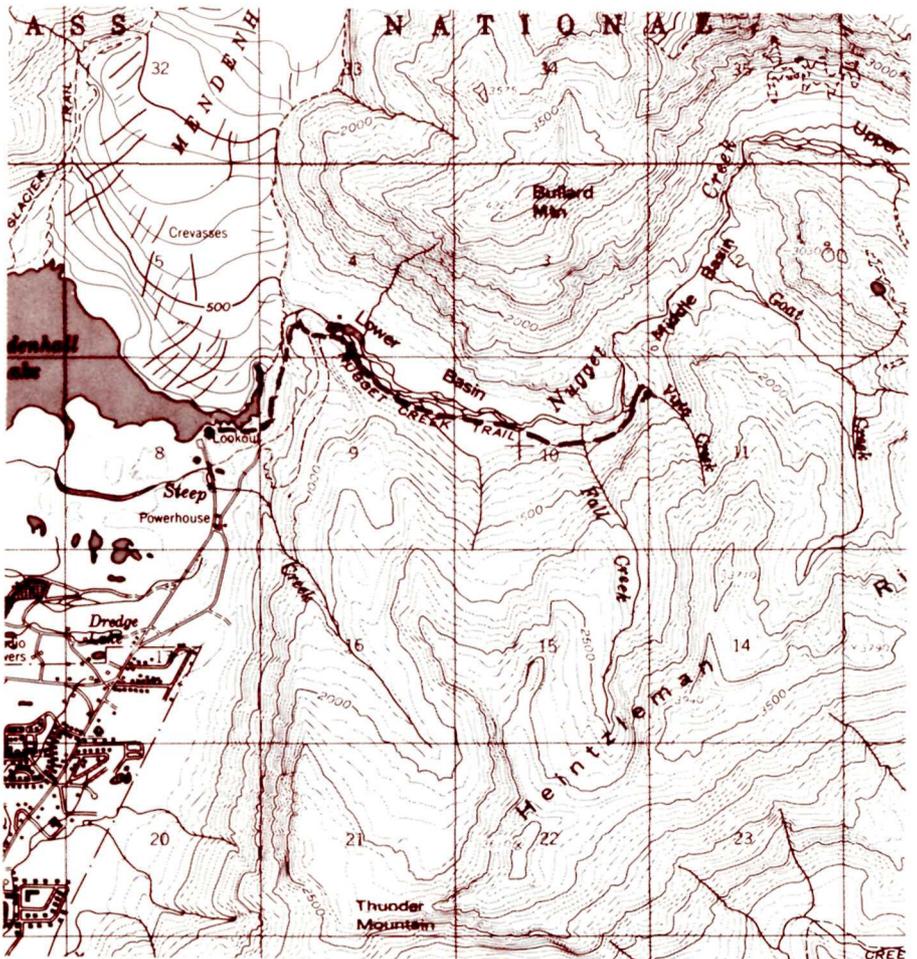
DESCRIPTION: The Nugget Creek trail leaves the East Glacier Loop trail near the site of the now-abandoned Nugget Creek dam and proceeds up Nugget Creek Valley to the Vista Creek Shelter. Most of the hike is through understory vegetation. The trail climbs moderately as you approach the Vista Creek shelter. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

NUGGET CREEK TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: From there, the route is not maintained and is very brushy. It passes near spectacular chasms above Nugget Creek and then rises above timberline. If you hike to Nugget Glacier, be sure to bring a map and compass and allow enough time for the return hike. Bears are commonly sighted along this trail. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

PERSEVERANCE TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3 miles

ROUNDRIP TIME: 3-4 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Spring, summer, and fall

TRAIL END: End of Gold Creek Basin (old Perseverance Mine site)

USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: Easy

ELEVATION GAIN: 700 feet

CONDITION: Excellent. There is a bridge out at 1.5 miles which will be repaired by State Parks, Spring '86.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: From downtown Juneau, take Gold Street to Basin Road and follow it to the end. The trail starts in the cul-de-sac. This trail provides access to the Mt. Juneau and Granite Creek trails.

HISTORY: Perseverance is the name of a mine formerly located at the trail's end in Silverbow Basin. It operated between 1885 and 1895, when a snowslide destroyed the mill and campbuildings. The mill was rebuilt in 1900 and burned in 1912. The mine operated until 1921, and Gastineau Mill was used to process the ore.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Many wildflowers abound including columbine, shooting stars, and moss campion. There is a picnic area at Ebner Falls.

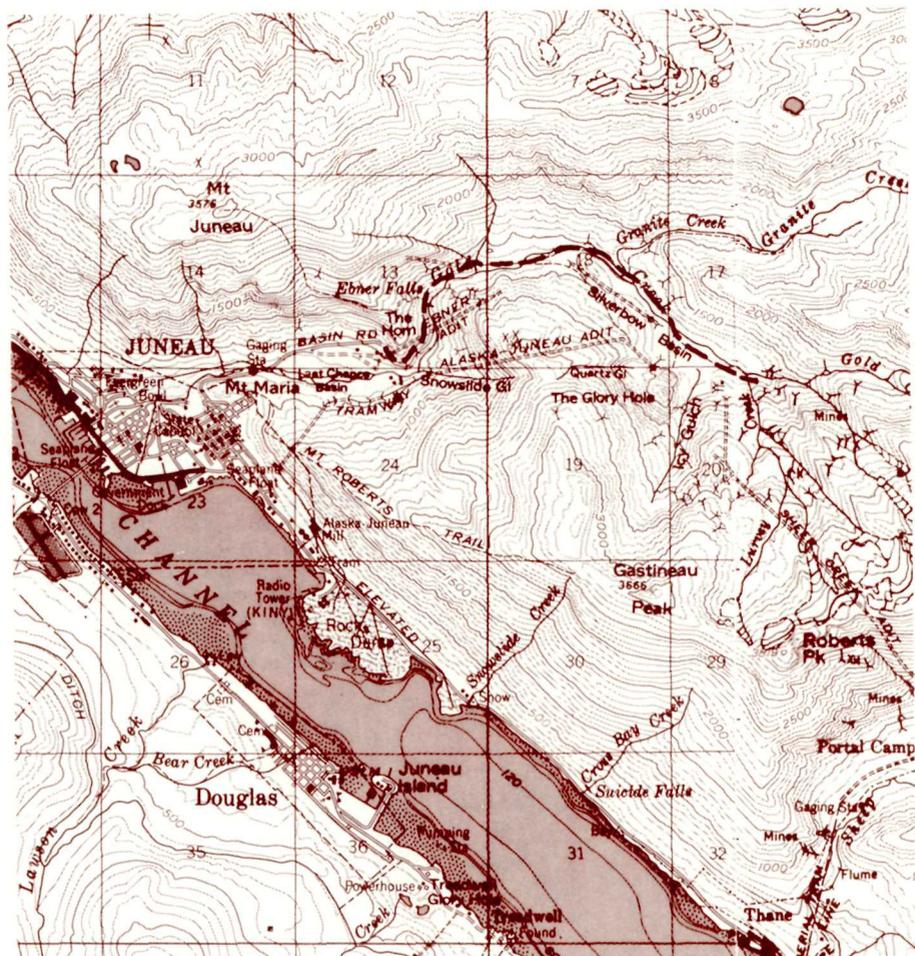
DESCRIPTION: This trail follows a gentle grade on the left side of the valley around the horn of Mt. Juneau. There is extreme avalanche danger during the Winter and early Spring. Athletic shoes or light boots are the recommended footwear. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

PERSEVERANCE TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: A short distance from the beginning, a view across the gorge reveals the remains of the support buildings of the Alaska-Juneau Mine. Just past the Mt. Juneau trailhead, a path to the right leads to Ebner Falls and a picnic area. The trail ends in a clearing next to Gold Creek. Old mining ruins are scattered throughout the clearing, so please use caution while exploring this historic area. This is a Alaska State Division of Parks trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

PETERSON LAKE TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 4.3 miles

ROUNDTRIP TIME: 5-6 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: All year

TRAIL END: Peterson Lake Cabin (reservations required)

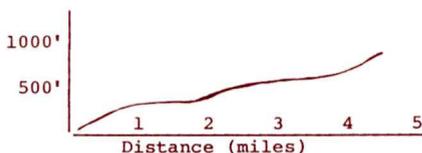
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-3

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 700 feet

CONDITION: Good first 3 miles,
last mile is muddy.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Take the Glacier Highway to mile 24. The trail begins about 20 feet before the 24-mile marker. Parking is limited so be careful not to park on private property. The trail climbs over a steep ridge and then joins the old trail. (This new trailhead avoids the private property formerly used as trailhead.) The trailhead is near the northern view of the Shrine of St. Therese.

HISTORY: The lake is named after John Peterson who had a claim in the area during 1899. He named the lake outflow Cheechako Creek, but it was later changed to Peterson Creek.

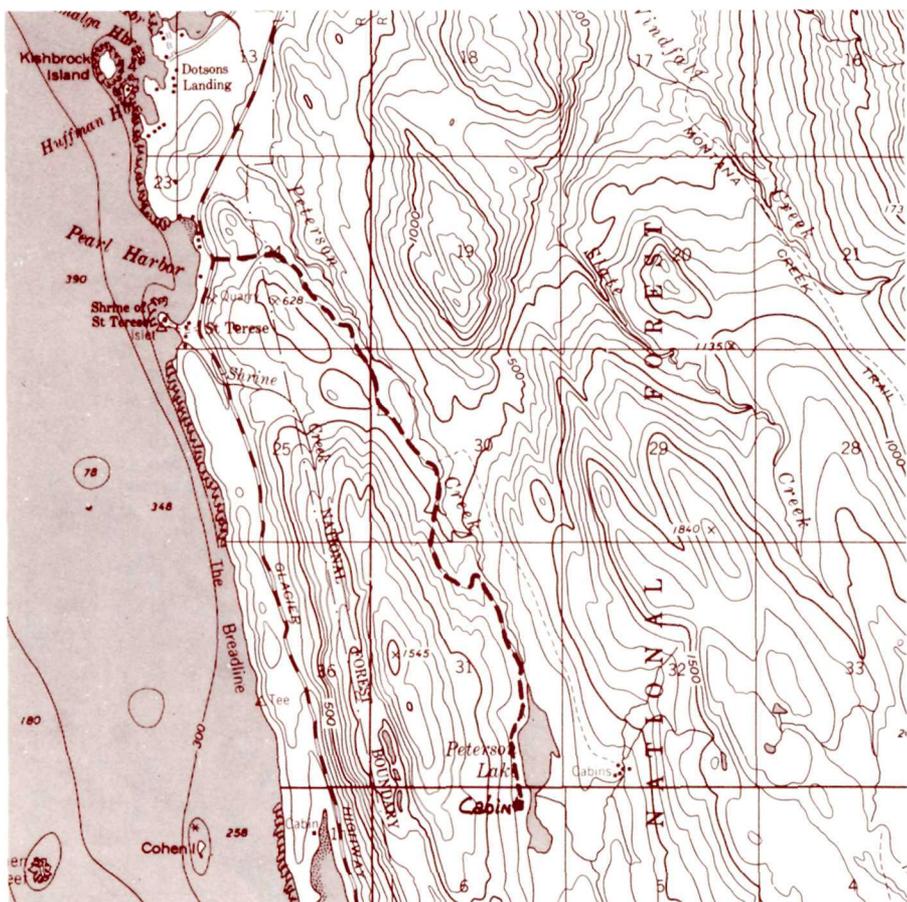
DESCRIPTION: This trail is not too difficult, but it is extremely muddy in some places. Be sure to wear waterproof footgear. About 0.7 mile from the beginning, a spur trail to the left leads to a fishing spot below some steep waterfalls. If you take this spur, stay to the right to avoid a dangerous part of the lower trail that is subject to landslides. The main trail continues through the forest and several muskeg areas. In 1985 all of the muskegs in the first 3 miles were planked. Planks have also been placed along-side the old tramway. Narrow rails are still in place in some sections. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

PETERSON LAKE TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The trail turns right in the last muskeg and continues through a dense forest to Peterson Lake. Dolly Varden trout may be caught in the lake. The lake may also be reached by Nordic skis in winter from the John Muir cabin (about 3 miles one way) but be sure to use a map and compass for this trek. The Peterson Lake Cabin can be rented at Forest Service offices. Inquires should be directed to the Forest Service Information Center at 586-8751. The cabin is a public warming cabin during the day from 10:00am to 5:00pm. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

POINT BISHOP/DUPONT TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 1.6 miles to Dupont; 8 miles to Pt. Bishop. ROUNDRIP TIME: 2 hours to Dupont; 12 hours to Point Bishop

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Spring, Summer, & Fall

TRAIL END: Dupont dock or Point Bishop

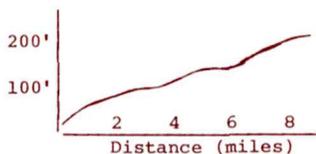
USGS MAP(S): Juneau A-1 & B-1

DIFFICULTY: Easy, but tiring because of many roots, etc.

ELEVATION GAIN: 200 feet

CONDITION: Good to Dupont, fair to Pt. Bishop. Maintained in 1985.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trail begins at the end of Thane Road, 5.5 miles south of downtown Juneau.

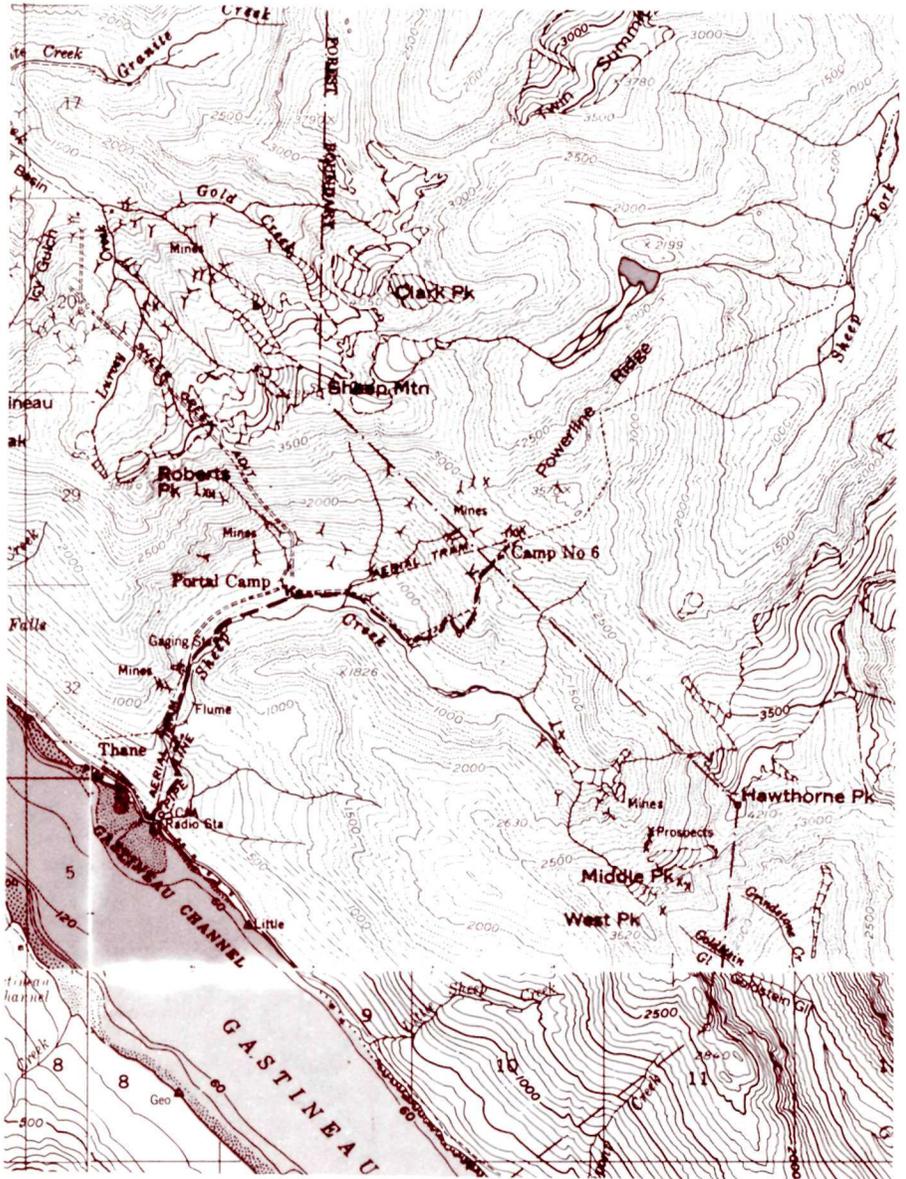
HISTORY: Point Bishop was originally named by Captain Vancouver in 1794 after the Bishop of Salisbury. Dupont was named after the Dupont Powder Company which built a powder magazine there in 1914 to store explosives for use in local mines.

DESCRIPTION: This is a fairly level trail but quite muddy in the beginning. Waterproof boots are recommended. 1.5 miles from the trailhead, a branch to the right leads to Dupont where there is good saltwater fishing for Dolly Varden trout in the spring. The main trail runs above Dupont and continues to Point Salisbury and then to Point Bishop. The first 1.6 miles passes through State and private lands. This is a National Forest trail. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

POINT BISHOP/POINT TRAIL

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

SALMON CREEK TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3.5 miles ROUNDTrip TIME: 5-6 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Spring, Summer, and early Fall

TRAIL END: Salmon Creek dam

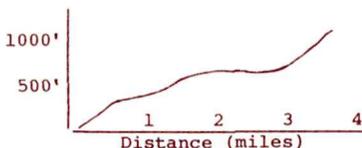
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 1,100 feet

CONDITION: Good - the trail was replaced with a road in 1984.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: When driving north from Juneau, turn right just past the cement abutment at mile 2.5 of Egan Drive. This turn-off is located before the Salmon Creek exit. The trail begins behind the new Salmon Creek Powerhouse. Public access is restricted to foot traffic only.

HISTORY: The dam was built in 1914 by the Alaska-Gastineau Mining Company to provide hydroelectric power. Salmon Creek Dam is the world's first true constant-angle arch dam, and is still the largest of it's kind. The creek was originally called "Tilhini", which means dog (chum) salmon in the Tlingit Indian language.

SPECIAL FEATURES: There is fishing for eastern brook trout in the reservoir.

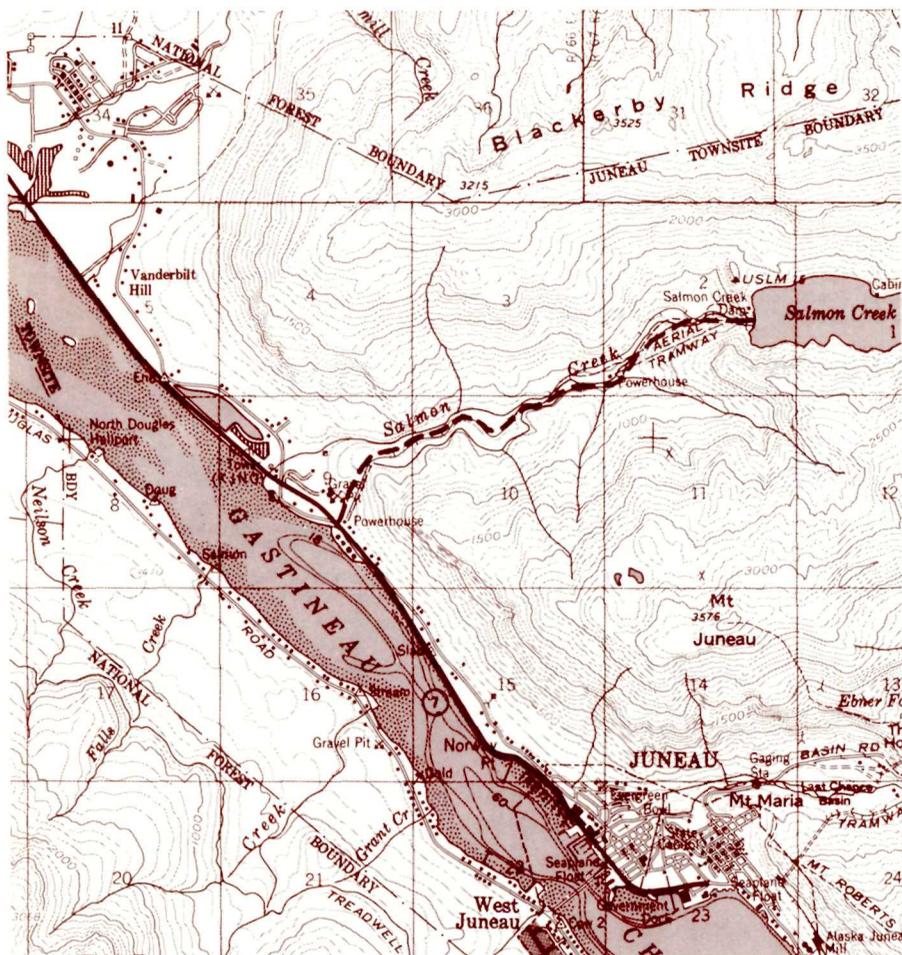
DESCRIPTION: The old trail was replaced with a road in 1984 and used in the construction of a pipeline to the new powerhouse. Watch for occasional AEL&P vehicles using the road. The steps to the dam have been replaced. The road will be allowed to revert to a trail again. Hiking boots are the recommended footwear. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

SALMON CREEK TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The first part of the trail follows the route of the old tramline and consists of a roadbed ascending a long, steep incline. During the summer months there are many berries to pick along the road. At the top, the trail continues to the right, and eventually branches. The right branch leads to the dam (a sign marks the intersection). Just before the dam, the trail goes up a steep slope to the reservoir. The trail is on Bureau of Land Management land, and is maintained by AEL&P.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

SHEEP CREEK TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3 miles

ROUNDTrip TIME: 5-6 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Late Spring, Summer and Fall

TRAIL END: Ridge top in alpine zone

USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-1

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 800' to valley
3,500' to ridge

CONDITION: Good - brushed in 1985.

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trailhead is located just off Thane Road 4 miles south of downtown Juneau. It begins up a stairway near the intersection of Thane Road and a gravel spur road to the left that leads to a substation of the Snettisham Powerplant. The trailhead is marked.

HISTORY: Joe Juneau and Richard Harris named Sheep Creek in 1880 after mistaking the identity of mountain goats hunted in the area. Gold mining in the valley began in 1881.

DESCRIPTION: This is a very scenic trail with many historical mining remains. Winter travel is not recommended because of avalanche danger.

The trail begins through a moss-covered forest. The route rises abruptly and then drops into Sheep Creek Valley. The old mining buildings at Portal Camp are barely standing and should be viewed from a distance. The trail is relatively level through the valley and then switchbacks up a forested hillside until it reaches the alpine zone. If the trail is hard to find above timberline, follow the powerline, but stay a safe distance from the lines (the lines still carry electricity). 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

SHEEP CREEK TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: It is possible to follow the ridge to Sheep Mountain, Mt. Roberts, Gastineau Peak, and then return to Juneau on the Mt. Roberts Trail. Carry an ice axe, because snow sometimes persists on the ridge throughout the summer. Recommended footwear is hiking or rubber boots. The trail is maintained up to the National Forest boundary. This is an Alaska State Division of Parks trail to the National Forest boundary.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

SPAULDING TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3 miles

ROUNDRIP TIME: 5-6 hours

RECOMMENDED SEASON: Year-round (Nordic skiing in Winter)

TRAIL END: Spaulding Meadows (muskeg bogs)

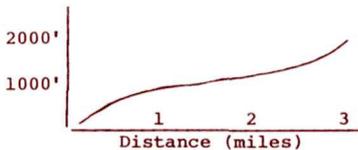
USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2 and B-3

DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 1,800 feet

CONDITION: Fair

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trail begins at the parking area to the right just off Glacier Highway Mile 12.3, (past the Post Office on the right, before Waydelich Creek). This trail provides access to the Auke Nu trail.

HISTORY: Spaulding Trail was named after a Massachusetts miner who came to Juneau to mine for gold in 1906.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Blueberries and huckleberries. This trail is used as access to the Auke Nu Trail (page 14) which leads to the John Muir Cabin (reservations required).

DESCRIPTION: Spaulding Trail is extremely muddy during the warm seasons, but it becomes an important Nordic ski route in winter. The trail starts on an old corderoy road that leads to the first muskeg meadow. It then continues through a wooded area for about 1 mile to a second meadow. After another stand of trees, the trail ends in the third muskeg meadow.

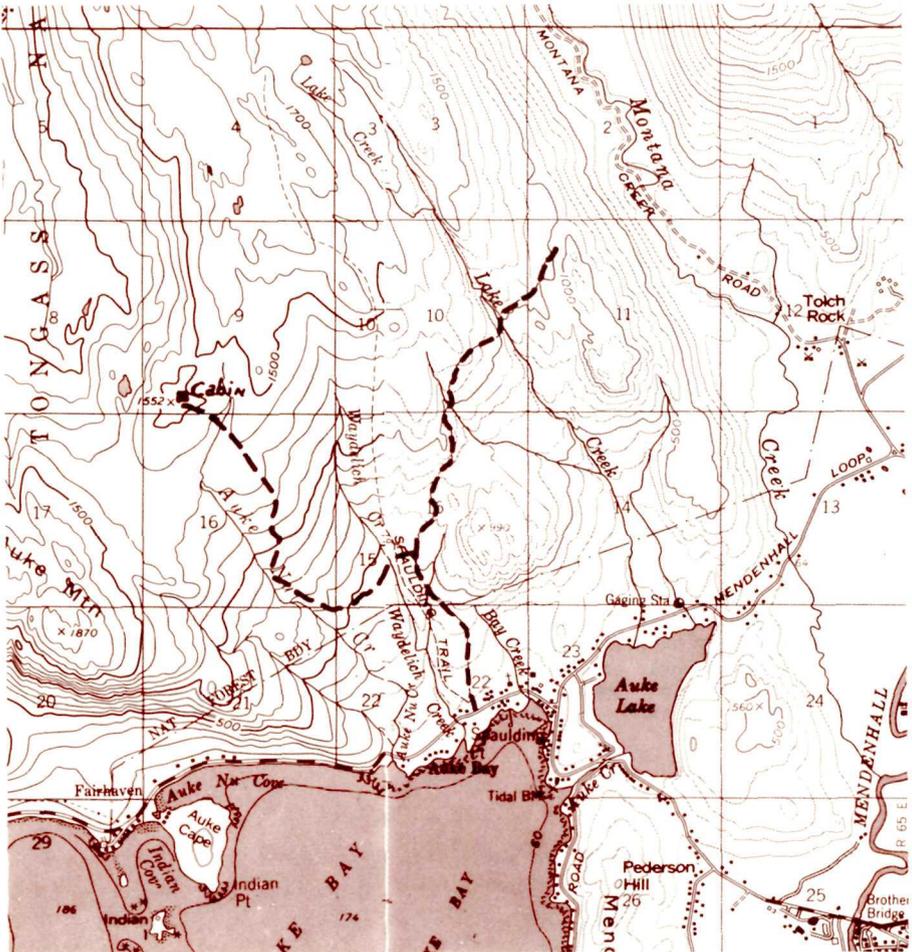
During winter the rolling hills of Auke Mountain and Spaulding Meadows offer almost unlimited skiing opportunities with views of the Chilkat Mountains, upper Mendenhall Glacier, Lynn Canal, and Auke Bay. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

SPAULDING TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: Spaulding Trail and Auke Mountain-West Spaulding Meadows are closed to off-the-road vehicles. The eastern part of Spaulding Meadows is open to snowmobiles, but access is restricted to the Lake Creek Snowmobile Route. For about the first 0.5 mile, the trail crosses City and Borough of Juneau land and then continues through the Tongass National Forest. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

TREADWELL DITCH TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 12 miles, from ROUNDRIP TIME: 10 hours one way
Eaglecrest to Dan Moller trail

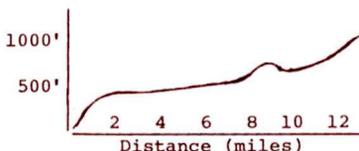
RECOMMENDED SEASON: All year (Nordic skiing in Winter)

TRAIL END: Intersection with Dan Moller Trail (12 miles)

USGS MAP(S): Juneau B-2 DIFFICULTY: Easy

ELEVATION GAIN: 700 feet (down) CONDITION: Good - brushed in 1981

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: The trailhead may be reached by driving to Eaglecrest Ski Area on North Douglas Island. The trail starts at a 2-car pull-off about .25 miles from the beginning of the Eaglecrest parking lot. You can also hike about 1 mile up the Dan Moller Trail (see page 22) Look for a sign that marks the intersection.

HISTORY: The 18 mile-long Treadwell Ditch collected water from Croyley Lake, Fish Creek, and all the creeks along the northeast side of Douglas Island. The water was used to generate hydroelectric power for the mines that operated south of the present site of Douglas. The Ditch was built from 1882 to 1889, at a cost of \$137,389.45. The remains of the Treadwell Ditch project are cultural artifacts and should not be disturbed.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Historical mining remains, porcupines, deer, muskeg meadows, view of Gastineau channel.

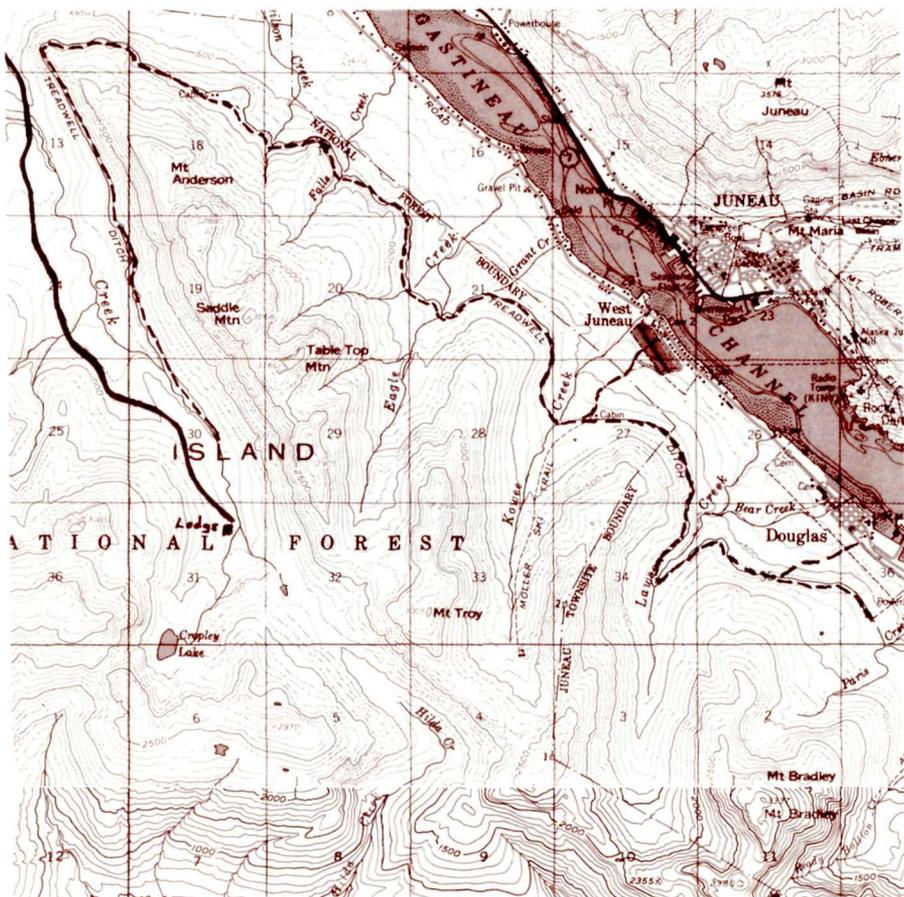
DESCRIPTION: This trail was developed as a hiking and Nordic ski trail along the historic Treadwell Ditch, but the skiing is often marginal since the heavy forest cover doesn't allow for a sufficient amount of snow to cover the trail in some areas. Though most of the trail is flat and wide, some parts slope downhill at an angle underfoot, which is hard on the ankles. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

TREADWELL DITCH TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: Please stay on the trail during the warm months. Because of the high water table, the delicate vegetation of the muskeg meadows rapidly deteriorate with the constant traffic of hikers. The Treadwell Ditch south of Gastineau Meadows (near the Dan Moller trail) is open to snowmachines (only with a 12" snow cover). The trail was brushed from Eaglecrest to Douglas in 1981. The section between downtown Douglas and the Dan Moller trail is on City and Borough of Juneau land and is not maintained. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

WEST GLACIER TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3.4 miles ROUNDTrip TIME: 5-6 hours

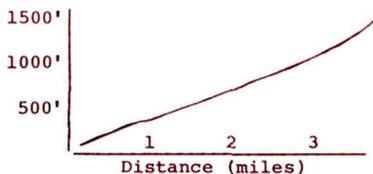
RECOMMENDED SEASON: Spring and Summer

TRAIL END: Rock outcrop above Mendenhall Glacier

USGS MAP: Juneau B-2 DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 1,300 feet CONDITION: Good

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Take the Montana Creek Road from the Mendenhall Loop Road, and follow the signs to the campground. Go past the campground entrance and Skaters Cabin to the parking area at the end of the road. This trail provides access to the Mt. McGinnis Route (see page 42).

SPECIAL FEATURES: Spectacular view of the glacier, ice falls, and other glacial features. Provides glacier access for experienced climbers with the proper equipment.

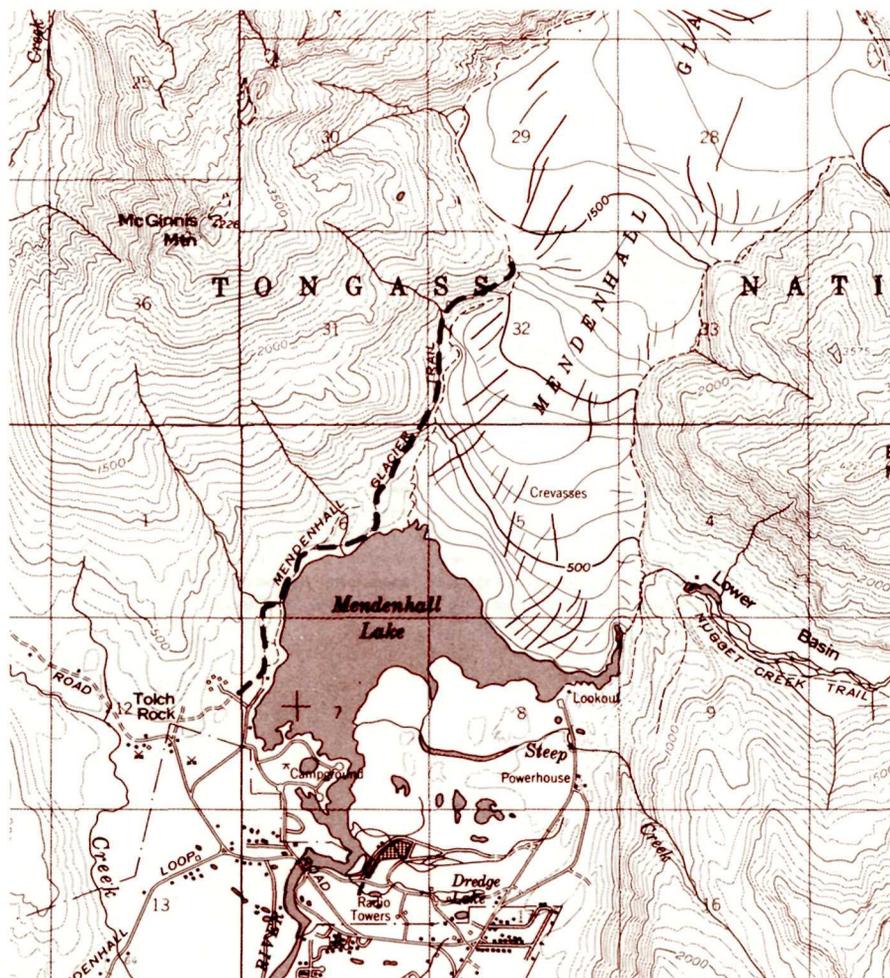
DESCRIPTION: The trail begins on the north side of the parking lot. Most of this walk is below the "glacier trimline" amid many willow, cottonwood, and alder trees. In a few places, the trail skirts the Sitka spruce/western hemlock forest which the glacier has not reached in recent times. The last section may be difficult to follow. It seems to end at a scenic overlook and then curves back towards the glacier. Be on the lookout for cairns (piles of rocks) that mark the route. Recommended footwear is athletic shoes or waterproof hiking boots, depending upon the weather. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

WEST GLACIER TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: The West Glacier Trail ends at the top of a rock outcrop, but a primitive route continues to the summit of Mt. McGinnis. The trail is also used for access onto Mendenhall Glacier by experienced ice climbers, but is not recommended for inexperienced hikers. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

WINDFALL LAKE TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 3.5 miles ROUNDRIP TIME: 4 hours

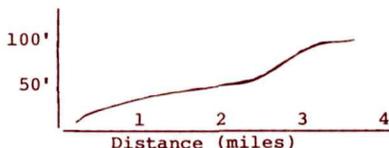
RECOMMENDED SEASON: All year (Nordic skiing in Winter)

TRAIL END: Windfall Lake

USGS MAP(S): Juneau C-3 DIFFICULTY: Easy

ELEVATION GAIN: 100 feet CONDITION: Good, some windfalls

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: When driving from downtown Juneau, turn right off Glacier Highway just before Herbert River (mile 27), onto a 0.2 mile gravel road. The trail begins to the right in the cul-de-sac. This trail provides access to one end of Montana Creek trail (see page 36).

SPECIAL FEATURES: Highbush cranberries, great blue herons, swans and geese. Bears are also present. There is good fishing (ice fishing in winter) for searun cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout in Windfall Lake. Pink, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon may spawn in the area. (Alaska State law prohibits the molestation of salmon during spawning season.)

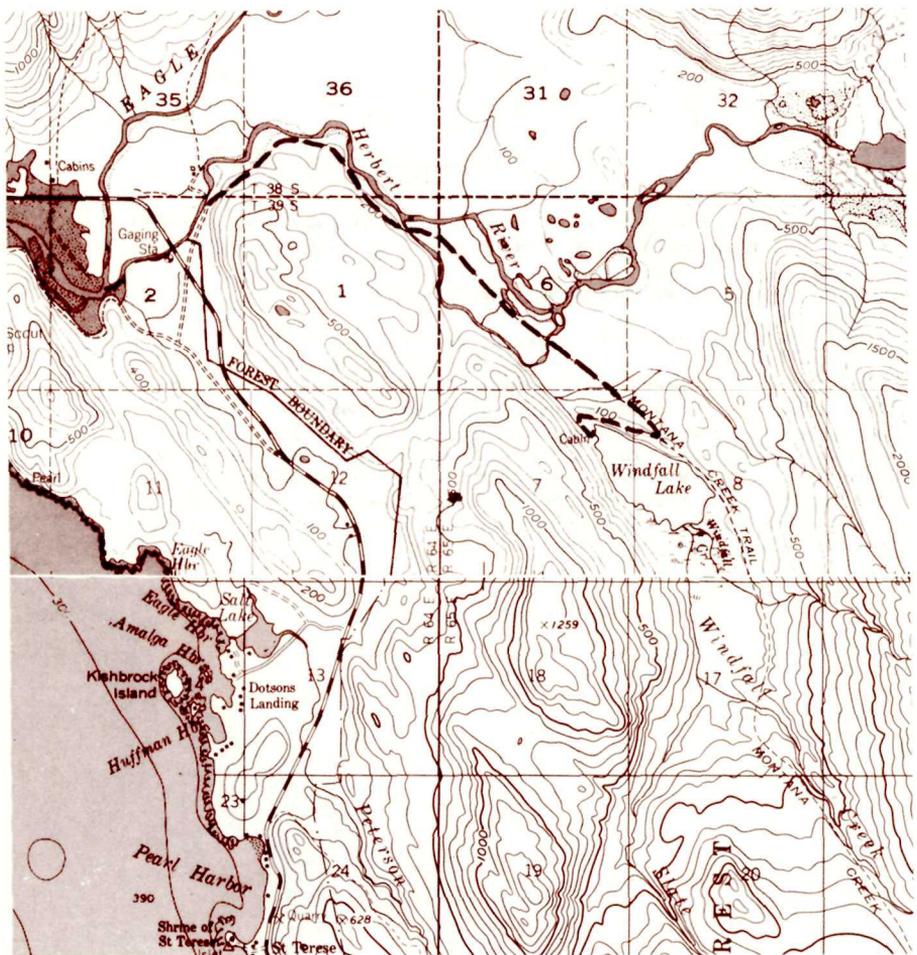
DESCRIPTION: The trail follows Herbert River through a Sitka spruce and western hemlock forest. The trail becomes muddy in summer, although some of the worst areas have been covered with wooden planks. A spur trail once led to Herbert Glacier, but because of beaver damming it is no longer passable. When the Herbert River is safely frozen, many people ski from the parking lot to Herbert Glacier, approximately 5 miles. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

WINDFALL LAKE TRAIL

DESCRIPTION: There is a marked trail to Windfall Lake from Montana Creek for winter and summer use. (See the Montana Creek Trail description.) Recommended footwear for summer use is waterproof boots. This is a National Forest trail.

AREA MAP:



JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

YANKEE BASIN TRAIL

LENGTH (one way): 6 miles ROUNDTrip TIME: 8-9 hours

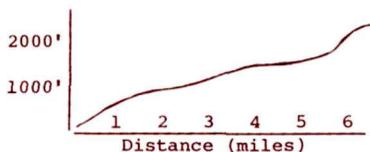
RECOMMENDED SEASON: Summer and Fall

TRAIL END: Yankee Basin

USGS MAP(S): Juneau C-3 DIFFICULTY: More difficult

ELEVATION GAIN: 2200 feet CONDITION: Fair - unmaintained

TRAIL PROFILE:



ACCESS: Amalga trail head at 28 mile Glacier Highway (see page 12), then 1.3 miles up Amalga trail and turn left at junction.

HISTORY: The basin was named by miners in 1902.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Brown bears may be seen along this trail.

DESCRIPTION: This trail was brushed in 1984. It follows a former mining tramway. The bridges are in poor condition, and logs that were placed over muddy areas are now rotten. A side trail to the left leads to Eagle Beach. The main trail continues straight ahead into Yankee Basin. It is a very scenic area with high concentrations of brown bears. This trail also connects with the Bessie Creek Trail, but the route has not been maintained for many years. This is a National Forest trail. 9/85

JUNEAU HIKING TRAILS

YANKEE BASIN TRAIL

AREA MAP:

