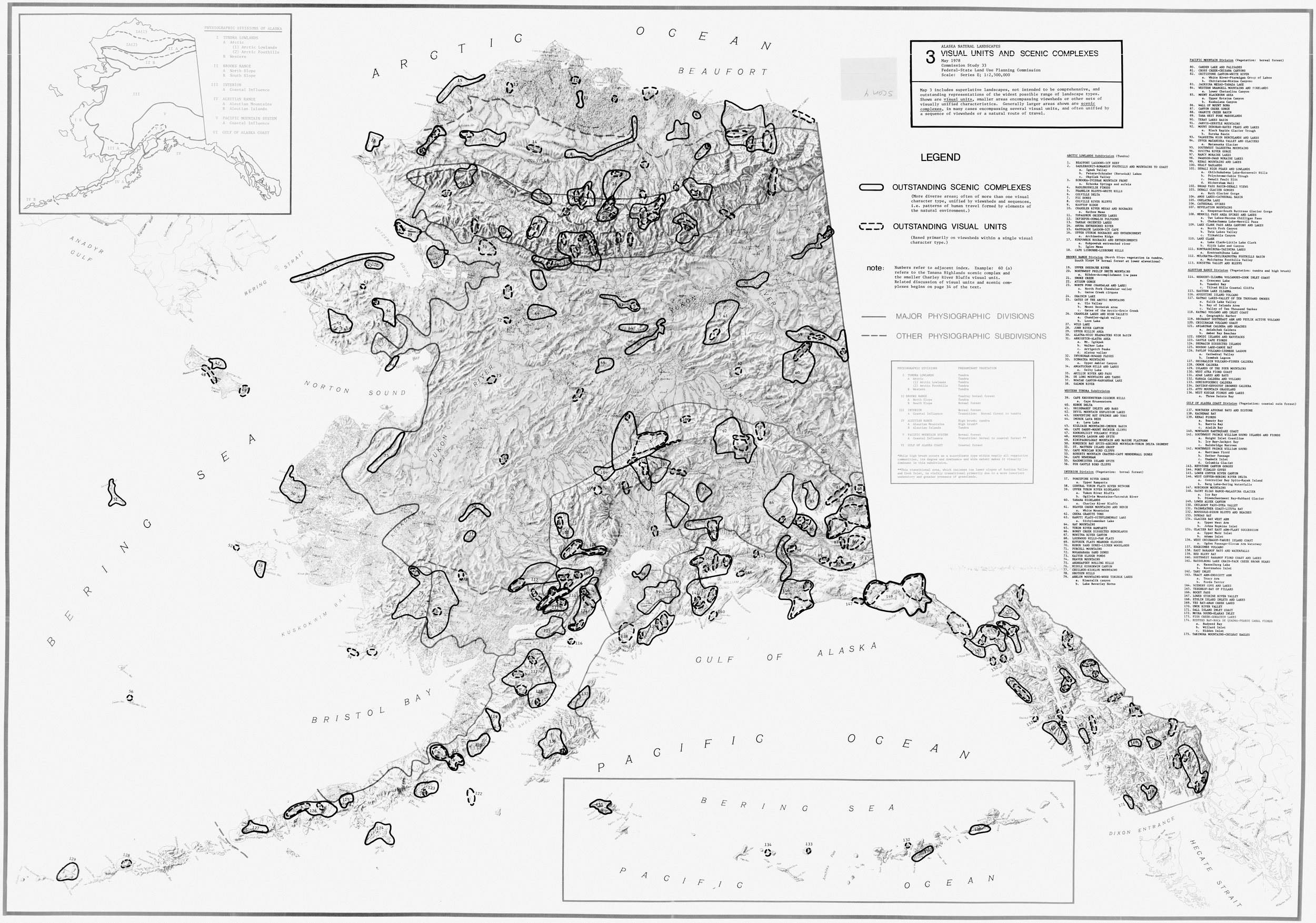

ALASKA NATURAL LANDSCAPES

3 VISUAL UNITS AND SCENIC COMPLEXES

May 1978
Commission Study 33
Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission
Scale: Series E; 1:2,500,000

Map 3 includes superlative landscapes, not intended to be comprehensive, and outstanding representations of the widest possible range of landscape types. Shown are visual units, smaller areas encompassing viewsheds or other sets of visually unified characteristics. Generally larger areas shown are scenic complexes. In many cases encompassing several visual units, and often unified by a sequence of viewsheds or a natural route of travel.

LEGEND

OUTSTANDING SCENIC COMPLEXES

(More diverse areas; often of more than one visual character type, unified by viewsheds and sequences, i.e. patterns of human travel formed by elements of the natural environment.)

OUTSTANDING VISUAL UNITS

(Based primarily on viewsheds within a single visual character type.)

note: Numbers refer to adjacent index. Example: 60 (a) refers to the Tanana Highlands scenic complex and the smaller Charley River Bluffs visual unit. Related discussion of visual units and scenic complexes begins on page 34 of the text.

MAJOR PHYSIOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS

OTHER PHYSIOGRAPHIC SUBDIVISIONS

PHYSIOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	PREDOMINANT VEGETATION
I TUNDRA LOWLANDS	Tundra
A Arctic	Tundra
(1) Arctic Lowlands	Tundra
(2) Arctic Foothills	Tundra
B Western	Tundra
II BROOKS RANGE	Tundra; boreal forest
A North Slope	Tundra
B South Slope	Boreal forest
III INTERIOR	Boreal forest
A Coastal Influence	Transition: boreal forest to tundra
IV ALEUTIAN RANGE	High brush; tundra
A Aleutian Mountains	High brush*
B Aleutian Islands	Tundra
V PACIFIC MOUNTAIN SYSTEM	Boreal forest
A Coastal Influence	Transition: boreal to coastal forest **
VI GULF OF ALASKA COAST	Coastal forest

*While high brush occurs as a subordinate type within nearly all vegetation communities, its degree and dominance and wide extent makes it visually dominant in this subdivision.

**This transitional zone, which increases the lower slopes of Susitna Valley and Cook Inlet, is visibly transitional primarily due to a more luxuriant understory and greater presence of grasslands.

ARCTIC LOWLANDS Subdivision (Tundra)

1. BEAUFORT LAGOONS-ICY REEF
2. SADLEROCHIT-ROMANOFF FOOTHILLS AND MOUNTAINS TO COAST
   a. Ignek Valley
   b. Peters-Schrader (Sersokuk) Lakes
   c. Okpilak Valley
3. EUROKA-TWIHAC MOUNTAIN FRONT
   a. Echooka Springs and aufeis
4. KAGLEROGHILIK FIRDS
5. FRANKLIN BLUFFS-WHITE HILLS
6. COLVILLE DELTA
7. PIC DUNES
8. COLVILLE RIVER BLUFFS
9. ROOFTOP RIDGE
10. CHANDLER RIVER MESAS AND HOGBACKS
    a. Hatboe Mesa
11. TOPAGORUK ORIENTED LAKES
12. IKPIKPUK-OUMALIK POLYGONS
13. TEBAK ORIENTED LAKES
14. AKUNA ENTRENCHED RIVER
15. KASHEGALIK LAGOON-ICY CAPE
16. UPPER UTUKOK HOGBACKS AND ENTRENCHMENT
    a. Kogru Mountain Ridge
17. KIGLUAIK HOGBACKS AND ENTRENCHMENTS
    a. Kuk River entrenched river
    b. Igloo Mesa
18. CAPE LISBURNE-LISBURNE HILLS

BROOKS RANGE Division (North Slope vegetation is tundra, South Slope is boreal forest at lower elevations)

19. UPPER SHEEKJEK RIVER
20. NORTHWEST PHILIP SMITH MOUNTAINS
    a. Ribdoo-Accomplishment low pass
21. SMOKE CREEK
22. ATIGUN GORGE
23. NORTH FORK CHANDALAR AND LAKES
    a. North Fork Chandalar valley
    b. Gerow Creek cirques
24. SHAININ LAKE
25. GATES OF THE ARCTIC MOUNTAINS
    a. Ulu Valley
    b. Mount Doonerak area
    c. Gates of the Arctic-Ernie Creek
26. CHANDLER LAKES AND HIGH VALLEYS
    a. Chandler-Aglak valley
    b. Iment Lake
27. WILD LAKE
28. JOHN RIVER CANYON
29. UPPER KILLIK AREA
30. ALATNA-NYGU HEADWATERS HIGH BASIN
31. ARRIGETCH-ALATNA AREA
    a. Mt. Igikpak
    b. Walker Lake
    c. Arrigetch Peaks
    d. Alatna valley
32. INYOKERN-ROVALD PASSES
33. SCHWATKA MOUNTAINS
    a. Upper Ambler Canyon
34. ANGAYUCHAM HILLS AND LAKES
    a. Selby Lake
35. AKILLIK RIVER AND PASS
36. DE LONG MOUNTAINS AND TARNS
37. NOATAK CANYON-NARVAKRAK LAKE
38. SALMON RIVER

WESTERN TUNDRA Subdivision

39. CAPE KRUSENSTERN-IGLOHUK HILLS
    a. Cape Krusenstern
40. KOBUK DELTA
41. SHISHMAREF INLETS AND BARS
42. DEVIL MOUNTAIN EXPLOSION LAKES
43. SEWKENNING HOT SPRINGS AND TORS
44. IMURUK LAVA BEDS
    a. Lava Lake
45. KIGLUAIK MOUNTAINS-IMURUK BASIN
46. CAPE DARBY-MOUNT RAMPART CLIFFS
47. KOOKOOLIGIT VOLCANIC FIELD
48. KOOTATA LAGOON AND SPITS
49. KINIPAGHULUGMAT MOUNTAIN AND MARINE PLATFORM
50. KOKECHIK BAY SPITS-ARCTIC MOUNTAIN-YUKON DELTA SEGMENT
51. ST. MATTHEW ISLAND GROUP
52. CAPE MOHICAN BIRD CLIFFS
53. ROBERTS MOUNTAIN CRATERS-CAPE MENDENHALL DUNES
54. HOOPER BAY-NUNAPITCHUK
55. NAGOZRUK-NUNIVAK ISLAND SPITS
56. FOX CASTLE BIRD CLIFFS

INTERIOR Division (Vegetation: boreal forest)

57. PORCUPINE RIVER GORGE
    a. Upper Ramparts
58. CENTRAL YUKON FLATS RIVER NETWORK
59. UPPER YUKON RIVER HIGHLANDS
    a. Yukon River Bluffs
    b. Ogilvie Mountains-Tatonduk River
60. TANANA HIGHLANDS
    a. Charley River Bluffs
61. BEAVER CREEK MOUNTAINS AND BENCH
    a. White Mountains
62. CHENA GRANITE TORS
63. KANTISHNA FLATS-KITPLEMENKAT LAKE
    a. Sithylemenkat Lake
64. RAY MOUNTAINS
65. YUKON RIVER RAMPARTS
66. BONEY CREEK DISSECTED BENCHLANDS
67. NOWITNA RIVER CANYON
68. LOCKWOOD HILLS-FAR FLATS
69. KOYUKUK FLATS MEANDER SLOUGHS
70. KOBUK SAND DUNES-LICHEN WOODLANDS
71. PURCELL MOUNTAINS
72. NOGAHABARA SAND DUNES
73. KATYUK SLOUGH PONDS
74. BEAVER MOUNTAINS
75. ANDREAFSKY ROLLING HILLS
76. GREAT SHUKSHAN CANYON
77. CHULUKKAK-KIGLUAIK MOUNTAINS
78. SHUTGUN HILLS
79. ANELIN MOUNTAINS-WOOD TEKCHIK LAKES
    a. Risaralik canyon
    b. Lake Beverley Norns

PACIFIC MOUNTAIN Division (Vegetation: boreal forest)

80. CARDEN LAKE AND PALISADES
81. CROSS CREEK-CHIGANA CANYONS
82. CHITISTONE CANYON-WHITE RIVER
    a. White River-Tsaniagas Group of Lakes
    b. Chitistone-Nizina Canyons
83. JACKSINA MESAS-TANADA LAKE
84. WESTERN WRANGELL MOUNTAINS AND FORELANDS
    a. Lower Chetaslina Canyon
85. MOUNT BLACKBURN AREA
    a. Upper Kotsina Canyon
    b. Kuskulana Canyon
86. WALL OF MOUNT ROBA
87. CANYON CREEK GORGE
88. GRANITE CREEK BASIN
89. TANA WEST FORK MARSHLANDS
90. TERAT LAKES BASIN
91. JARVIS-GERTSLE MOUNTAINS
92. MOUNT DERGAN-GATES PEAKS AND LAKES
    a. Black Rapids Glacier Trough
    b. Eureka Basin
93. TALKEETNA HIGH BENCHLANDS AND LAKES
94. UPPER MATANUSKA VALLEY AND GLACIERS
    a. Matanuska Glacier
95. SOUTHERN TALKEETNA MOUNTAINS
96. SUSITNA RIVER GORGE
97. NANCY MORAINE LAKES
98. SNARDON-GWAN MORAINE LAKES
99. KENAI MOUNTAINS AND LAKES
100. HEALY BADLANDS
101. DENALI HIGH PEAKS AND LOWLANDS
    a. Chilchukabena Lake-Roosevelt Hills
    b. Polychrome-Table Trough
    c. Denali Fault Slit
    d. Mickersham Wall
102. BROAD PASS BASIN-DENALI VIEWS
103. DENALI GLACIER GORGES
    a. Ruth Glacier Gorge
104. AMOS LAKES-CATHEDRAL BASIN
105. CHULATNA LAKE
106. CATHEDRAL SPIRES
107. REVELATION MOUNTAINS
    a. Hesperus-South Buttress Glacier Gorge
108. MERRILL PASS AREA SPIRES AND LAKES
    a. Two Lakes-Recess Chilligan Pass
    b. Cascade-Sherbrooke Pass
109. LAKE CLARK PASS AREA-CANYONS AND LAKES
    a. North Fork Canyon
    b. Twin Lakes Valley
    c. Tilkakilta Canyon
110. LAKE CLARK
    a. Lake Clark-Little Lake Clark
    b. Kijik Lake and Canyon
111. KONTRASHIBUNA-TAZIMINA LAKES
    a. Kontrashibuna Lake
112. MULCHATNA-CHILIKADROTNA FOOTHILLS BASIN
    a. Mulchatna Foothills Valley
113. KOKSETNA VALLEY AND BLUFFS

ALEUTIAN RANGE Division (Vegetation: tundra and high brush)

114. REDOUBT-ILIAMNA VOLCANOES-COOK INLET COAST
    a. Crescent Lake
    b. Tuxedni Bay
    c. Tuxedni Bluffs Coastal Cliffs
115. EASTERN LAKE ILIAMNA
116. AUGUSTINE ISLAND VOLCANO
117. KATMAI LAKES-VALLEY OF TEN THOUSAND SMOKES
    a. Kulik Lake Valley
    b. Bay of Islands Area
    c. Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes
118. KATMAI VOLCANO AND INLET COAST
    a. Geographic Harbor
119. BECHAROF SOUTHEAST ARM AND PEULIK ACTIVE VOLCANO
120. CRIGIGNAGAK VOLCANO COAST
121. ANLAKTAGAK CALDERA AND BEACHES
    a. Aniakchak Caldera
    b. Amber Bay Beaches
122. SEMIDI ISLANDS AND HAYSTACKS
123. CASTLE CAPE FIORDS
124. SHUMAGIN DISSECTED ISLANDS
125. HOODOO LAKE-CANOE BAY
126. PAVLOF VOLCANO-IZEMBEK LAGOON
    a. Cathedral Valley
    b. Izembek Lagoon
127. SRIGSALUKH ISLAND-FISHER CALDERA
128. UNIMAK CALDERA
129. ISLANDS OF THE FOUR MOUNTAINS
130. WEST ATKA FIORD COAST
131. ADAK LAKES AND BAYS
132. KARAGA CALDERA AND VOLCANO
133. SEMISOPOCHNOI CALDERA
134. DAYIKOF-KEVOTOTOF DRAINED CALDERA
135. ATTU MOUNTAIN GRASSLAND
136. WEST KODIAK FIORDS AND LAKES
    a. Three Saints Bay

GULF OF ALASKA COAST Division (Vegetation: coastal rain forest)

137. NORTHERN APOCNAK BAYS AND ECOTONE
138. KACHEMAK BAY
139. KENAI FIORDS
    a. Resurrection Bay
    b. Aialik Bay
    c. Aialik Bay
140. NORTHSIDE HARRIGANS COAST
141. SOUTHWEST PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND ISLANDS AND FIORDS
    a. Knight Inlet Coastline
    b. Icy Bay-Jackpot Bay
    c. Raindrop Narrows
142. NORTHWEST PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
    a. Harriman Fiord
    b. Esther Passage
    c. Unakwik Inlet
    d. Columbia Glacier
143. KEYSTONE CANYON GORGES
144. PORT FIDALGO COVES
145. LOWER COPPER RIVER CANYON
146. WEST COPPER-BERING RIVER DELTA
    a. Controller Bay Spits-Kayak Island
    b. Berg Lake-Bering Waterfalls
147. ROBINSON MOUNTAINS
148. SAINT ELIAS RANGE-MALASPINA GLACIER
    a. Icy Bay
    b. Disenchantment Bay-Hubbard Glacier
149. LOWER ALSEK CANYON
150. CHILKOOT PASS-DYEA VALLEY
151. FAIRWEATHER COAST-LITUYA BAY
152. BOUSSOLE-DIXON BLUFFS AND BEACHES
153. DUNDAS BAY
154. GLACIER BAY WEST ARM
    a. Upper West Arm
    b. Johns Hopkins Inlet
155. GLACIER BAY EAST ARM-PLANT SUCCESSION
    a. Upper Muir Inlet
    b. Tarr Inlet
156. WEST CHICHAGOF-YAKOBI ISLAND COAST
    a. Ogden Passage-Slocum Arm Waterway
157. EDGECUMBE VOLCANO
158. EAST BARANOF BAYS AND WATERFALLS
159. RED BLUFF BAY
160. SOUTHWEST BARANOF FIORD COAST AND LAKES
161. HASSELBORG LAKE CHAIN-PACK CREEK BROWN BEARS
    a. Hasselborg Lake
    b. Kootznahoo Inlet
162. TAKU INLET
163. TRACY ARM-ENDICOTT ARM
    a. Tracy Arm
    b. Fords Terror
164. SCENERY COVE AND LAKES
165. TENAKEE-BAY OF PILLARS
166. ROCKY PASS
167. LOWER TAKHINE RIVER VALLEY
168. SITKA ISLAND INLETS AND LAKES
169. YES BAY-ANAN CREEK LAKES
170. UNUK RIVER VALLEY
171. DALL ISLAND INLET COAST
172. MOIRA SOUND-KLAKAS INLET
173. FISH CREEK-DOKACHITN LAKES
174. REVILLA GIGEDO-ANNETTE ISLANDS
    a. Bucarelli Bay
    b. Willard Inlet
    c. Hidden Inlet
175. TAKINSHA MOUNTAINS-CHILKAT EAGLES