

Use Area 04-04C

Baranof Warm Springs (East Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Recreation Carrying Capacity (Groups At One Time): 3

Description

This Use Area is located on the eastside of Baranof Island extending from just south of Takatz Bay to just south of Warm Springs Bay. Access to small reaches of shoreline along Chatham Strait is dictated by weather conditions. The only protected shoreline within this use area is Warm Springs Bay.

LUD	Remote Recreation, Semi-remote Recreation.
ROS	Primitive, Semi-Primitive (motorized and non-motorized).
National Forest Shoreline Miles	10
National Forest Shoreline Acres	2,679

Communities

The small community of Baranof lies within this use area.

Alaska Coastal Management Act

This area falls within the boundary of the Sitka District Coastal Management Program.

Forest Service Facilities

None.

Non-National Forest Lands

The state of Alaska owns a dock Warm Springs Bay. A boardwalk trail located on municipal and state select land runs from the state dock to the shore of Baranof Lake.

Recreation Use

Area Attractions	Baranof Warm Springs, scenic views.
Commercial Use	Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, and hiking.
Non-commercial Use	Warm Springs Bay is a popular anchorage for many transient boats. Much of the non-guided use within the area is by transient visitors.
Use Patterns	Commercial fishing, land and boat based outfitter/guide use.
Primary Use Areas	Warm Springs Bay.
Areas of Concern	None identified.

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Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

Bald eagle nests are presumed to occur in numbers at least equal to surveyed areas to the north.

Fisheries

Two class I streams have been mapped in the area, but no high value streams were identified. The lake system is not anadromous, but supports populations of cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden.

Botany

Two surveys were completed within Warm Springs Bay with no rare or sensitive taxa identified.

Cultural/Heritage

One survey has been completed with one site identified.