Wildlife Study Conducted for Chilkat

JUNEAU - Biologists from the Department of Fish and Game are making a wildlife survey of the Chilkat Peninsula as part of a prelogging study of the area.

Dave Johnson, area game biologist for the department, said that a four-man crew has just completed one survey of the coastline from St. James Bay to Excursion Inlet and that more studies will be conducted later.

The study is designed to determine the size of the fish and game populations and to identify areas important to wildlife. Information obtained from the surveys will be presented to the U.S. Forest Service to aid that agency in developing land management plans.

Johnson said that several areas of the Chilkat Peninsula probably will be logged during the next few years and that the study is concerned with plans for logging, log rafting and road building.

He noted that the Chilkat Peninsula contains important populations of goats, moose, deer, waterfowl, black and brown bears, ptarmigan and waterfowl.