

Hood Bay studied for recreational lodge

-Twelve and a half acres in Hood Bay is to be studied for recreational purposes according to Carolyn Nease, director of the Admiralty Citizens Council.

The site, which has been deeded to the Angoon Community Association, was used by the Hood Bay Cannery until 1960 when the facility burned down.

"Recreation is the highest and best use of this area," said Charlie Jim, Jr., president of the association. "This location is ideal for a recreational lodge. It has the only deep water harbor potential in Hood Bay and offers unlimited opportunities for wildlife photography and sports fishing."

The mature old growth timber provides excellent habitat for deer, bear and many smaller fur bearing animals along with eagles, ducks, geese, and over 200 other species of birds. Humpback whales are frequently seen feeding on the abundant marine life in the bay.

"This is an important step to diversify our economy," said Ed Gamble. "Angoon needs the jobs that this lodge will provide. This type of business can provide employment and income without damage to the environment."

Angoon has been in a running battle with the Forest Service, the timber industry and urban Natives for several years. Angoon's goal, says Gary Willis, "is to protect our environment by preserving Admiralty Island."

The Carter administration has joined the Natives of Angoon in seeking to set the island aside by recommending that Admiralty be placed in wilderness status.