



ALL-WEATHER WRITING PAPER

For best results, record your data in pencil or a ball point ink pen.

Please return to:  
Sitka Conservation Society  
PO Box 6533  
Sitka, AK 99835

Completed and returned forms will be entered into a drawing to win REI gear and 20% off at REI stores and online.

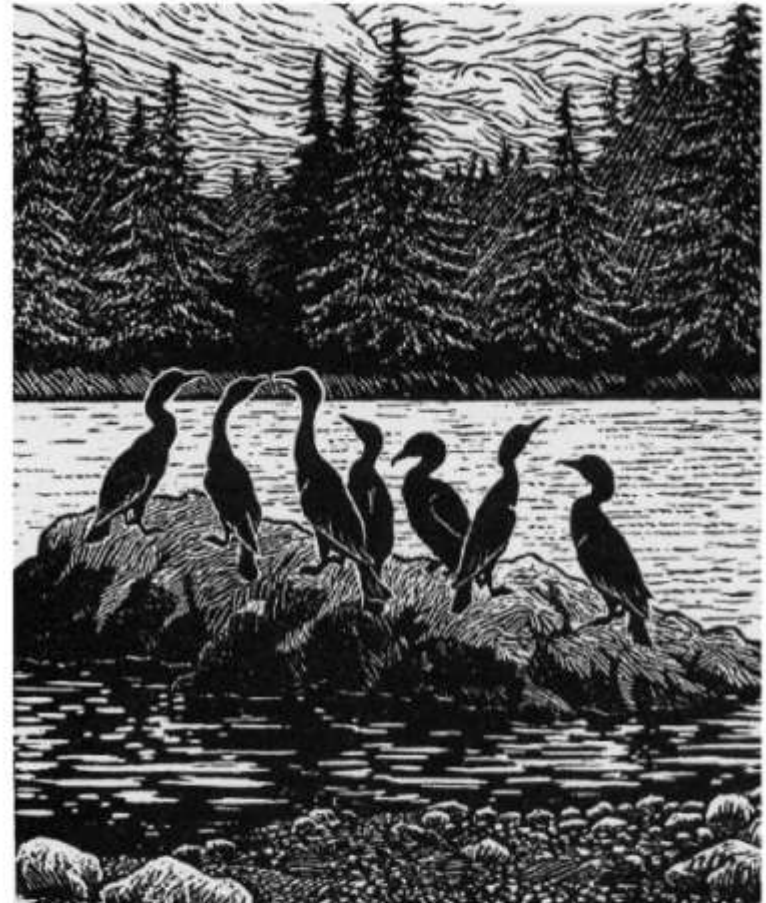
For more information contact:  
Adam Andis  
Wilderness Stewardship and Outreach Coordinator  
907-747-7509  
adam@sitkawild.org

[sitkawild.org/wilderness](http://sitkawild.org/wilderness)

Funding for this project was made possible by:



# SITKA COMMUNITY WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP PROJECT



**2012-2013**

## Instructions:

Please start a new sheet for each day you are observing encounters. Please only record encounters when you are in designated Wilderness Areas or adjacent body of water.

**Observation Duration:** Indicate the blocks of time you were observing during the day (Ex: 0800-1100, 1200-1700)

**Time Encounter Starts:** Record the time of the first instance you notice an encounter (in military time; Ex: 14:25)

**Location:** Record *your* location as precisely as possible. GPS coordinates are most useful. If you have access to a GPS, record your location in XX° XX.XXX format (Ex: N 57°43.1554 W 136°10.1899). If you are in a large bay, narrow it down: “Waterfall Cove” instead of “Slocum Arm”. Please indicate if you are on saltwater, onshore, or inland.

**Activity:** What were you doing at the time of the observation (Ex: kayaking, at anchor, sailing, hunting, hiking, etc.)

**Air/Watercraft Encounters:** Record vessel ID if possible.

**Type:** Indicate what type of craft you encountered. If you heard but did not see the vessel, write “U” for unknown. If the vessel does not fall under a listed category, write “other” and describe the vessel.

**Closest Approach:** Approximate the closest distance between you and the observed vessel. If you heard but did not see the craft, write “U” for unknown in the final column.

**Duration:** Record the total time a vessel was encountered (audible or visual) in minutes (Ex: 120, would be a 2 hour observation). If the same vessel is encountered on two separate occasions, list each encounter as a separate observation.

**Encounters Ashore:** Do not include people observed aboard a vessel.

**Type:** List the number of people encountered ashore.

**Closest Approach:** see instructions above

**Duration:** see instructions above

**Effect on Solitude:** Please indicate the extent to which the encounter affected your opportunity to experience solitude in a Wilderness setting.

**Comments:** Please let us know why you value this Wilderness area or any other thoughts on this place or your observations.

## Return Information

Please return to:

Address:

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Why Monitor Encounters?

A Wilderness Area is designated to preserve a way of life that is rapidly changing in other places. The Wilderness Act of 1964 describes wilderness as a place where people are visitors who do not remain and where solitude can still be found by those who seek it. In fact, the Act directs managers to provide “outstanding opportunities” for solitude in Wilderness Areas.

Motorized equipment and mechanized transport, save for float planes in Alaska, are generally not allowed in Wilderness. Wilderness is a place where we can expect to find clean air, wild salmon watersheds, remoteness from sights and sounds of other people, a natural soundscape and night skies free from pollution. It can be a place to gather wild foods for your family, introduce a child to the outdoors, or just serve as a refuge when life becomes overwhelming.

Here is it often called the “Alaskan experience”: yours is the only boat in the bay, your XtraTuf prints the only ones on the beaches. Are we in danger of losing these opportunities for solitude? Where are the places where you can be on your own? This monitoring project seeks to answer these questions. Your participation will provide important information that will be used to guide future management decisions.

*“If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them something more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it.”*

**-President Lyndon B. Johnson, on the signing of the Wilderness Act of 1964**

# 2012 Encounter Monitoring

Name of Wilderness Area: west Chichagof-Yakobi

Observer Name: Howard Zahniser

Contact phone and email: 907-747-000, howardzahn@wilderness.org

Please start a new sheet each day.

Date: 4/15/2012 (mm-dd-yyyy)			Air/Watercraft Encounters <i>Record vessel ID if possible</i>				Encounters Ashore				Effect on Solitude		
Observation Duration: 09:30-12:15, 13:30-18:00			Type	Closest Approach			Duration	Type	Closest Approach			Duration	
Time encounter starts: (in military time, ex: 13:00)	Location: Detailed description of the area, GPS coordinates if possible in XX°XX.XXX format (Ex: N 57°43.1554 W 136°10.1899)	Activity: Ex: camping, hunting, fishing, hiking, sailing, at anchor	P : plane J : jet H : helicopter K : kayak B : boat C : cruise ship U : unknown Other: please describe	Less than 1 mile	1-3 miles	Greater than 3 miles or unknown	Total time vessel/craft audible or visible (in minutes)	# of people observed ashore	Less than 1 mile	1-3 miles	Greater than 3 miles or unknown	Total time people onshore audible or visible (in minutes)	Low Medium or High
10:05	North shore of Black Bay	At anchor	B		X		35						med
10:15	North shore of Black Bay	At anchor	P			U	10						low
11:20	Black River (N 59 34.98, W 134 57.34)	Hunting, inland						2	X			10	High
13:45	Hirst Mountain (N 59 34.50, W 134 56.36)	Hunting, inland	P			X	20						med
17:15	North shore of Black Bay	At anchor	C			X	45						low
17:30	North shore of Black Bay	At anchor	Other: jet ski	X			30						high

Comments about this area, why you value coming here, and its present opportunity for solitude: Great place to go for solitude, lots of birding and hiking. A cruise ship off loaded jet skis, though, which were very distracting. We noticed a lot of trash at the mouth of the Black River and flagging on the trees.

# 2012 Encounter Monitoring

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Observer Name:

Phone and email:

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