

L7619 (OLYM-CRN)

December 10, 1993

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region
Attention: Dan Haas

From: Superintendent, Olympic

Subject: Designation of Eligible National Park Service Rivers Into the
National Wild and Scenic Rivers System:
Reply Due: December 10, 1993

Attached is a list of rivers eligible for designation into the Wild and Scenic Rivers system. The list of rivers is identical to the 1989 submission except that the rivers are now listed in priority order for designation and we have included the requested description of the reach of each river. The comments column lists some of the factors considered in setting priorities.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>River and Reach</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1.	Bogachiel, source to ONP boundary and all tributaries inside ONP.	A Shoreline of Statewide Significance downstream of ONP.
2.	Queets, source to ONP boundary and all tributaries inside ONP.	Almost entire mainstem in ONP; very significant fish resource.
3.	Duckabush, source to ONP boundary and all tributaries inside ONP.	Recommended for designation by USFS downstream of ONP.
4.	Hoh, both forks from sources to ONP boundary and all tributaries inside ONP; does <u>not</u> include reach in coastal strip of ONP.	ONP reach within or forming boundary of Wilderness.
5.	Elwha, source to south end of Lake Mills and all tributaries inside ONP.	Recommended reach entirely within Wilderness. If dams are removed, reach should extend north to ONP boundary.
6.	Dosewallips, source to ONP boundary and all tributaries in ONP.	ONP reach within or forming boundary of Wilderness.
7.	Gray Wolf, source to ONP boundary and all tributaries inside ONP.	Recommended for designation by USFS downstream of ONP.
8.	South Fork Calawah, source to ONP boundary.	ONP reach entirely within Wilderness.

9. North Fork Skokomish, source to ONP boundary and all tributaries in ONP. Impounded downstream from ONP.
10. Quinault, both forks from sources, all tributaries and mainstem to mouth of Bunch Creek.
11. Soleduck, source to ONP boundary and all tributaries.
12. Royal Creek, source to ONP boundary. ONP reach entirely within Wilderness.
13. Ozette, both reaches within ONP. 0.6 mile flows through Ozette Indian Reservation.

(Sgd.) MAUREEN FINNERTY

Maureen Finnerty

PCrawford:jc
NRM Files
HQ Files

MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region

From: Superintendent, Olympic

Subject: Wild and Scenic Rivers Evaluation Within
National Parks

Reply due: May 5, 1989

Attached is our completed draft of the identification and evaluation sections of the Wild and Scenic Rivers study. As you can see by the number of rivers evaluated, we took the advice offered in the Draft NPS-77 Guidelines, "...to err on the side of inclusiveness..." and to consider "...studying entire natural or relatively undeveloped rivers or watersheds."

We also considered the fact that Wilderness designation is more stringent than Wild and Scenic Rivers designation and that inasmuch as all the rivers listed here are all or partially within designated Wilderness, they likely have many of the characteristics necessary for Wild and Scenic River designation too.

In this analysis we have closely followed the format used by Olympic National forest in their Wild and Scenic Rivers Review (Appendix F to the Draft Environmental Statement for the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan, 1986).

The rivers evaluated and determined to be eligible in this preliminary analysis are:

1. Skokomish
2. Duckabush
3. Dosewallips
4. Royal Creek
5. Gray Wolf
6. Elwha
7. Soleduck
8. Calawah
9. Bogachiel
10. Hoh
11. Queets
12. Quinault
13. Ozette

Robert S. Chandler

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

NORTH FORK SKOKOMISH

IDENTIFICATION

The North Fork Skokomish was not listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory, but the stretch of the river within Olympic National Park appears to have the characteristics necessary to warrant inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The North Fork Skokomish originates in Olympic National Park and flows for approximately 13 miles to the park boundary. Immediately outside the park is the high water shoreline of Lake Cushman, an impoundment that generates hydroelectric power for the city of Tacoma. From this upper end of the lake to the junction of the North and South Forks of the Skokomish is about 19 miles. The Skokomish continues another 9 miles to its mouth at the Hood Canal. This evaluation considers the 13 miles of mainstem river and those tributaries and portions of tributaries that are within the park.

All but the lower mile of the North Fork was designated by Congress as part of the Olympic Park Wilderness in 1988.

With headwaters on the southwest flank of Mt. Stone and the north flank of Mt. Skokomish, the North Fork descends steeply from about 6000 feet to about 770 feet where it leaves the park. There are no impoundments or diversions on this stretch of the river. Flowing southerly, the North Fork drains the entire southeast corner of the park, an area of about 29,000 acres. Several good-sized tributaries feed the river, particularly from the west.

The river flows through a glaciated valley and has steep forested slopes rising on both sides. The lower reaches of the valley support stands of huge Douglas-fir, western redcedar and hemlock.

Construction of the dam on the lower Skokomish blocked migration of salmon in park waters, but a landlocked form of chinook salmon can be found in Lake Cushman and resident rainbow and cutthroat trout, very large Dolly Varden char, and whitefish are in the North Fork.

In the vicinity of the Staircase Ranger Station, fishing, hiking and camping are popular. The North Fork Skokomish Trail closely

parallels the river for approximately 12.5 miles and is a major access route into the Olympic backcountry. A very popular side trail to Flapjack Lakes branches from the main trail about four miles up.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Heavily forested mountain slopes, views of snowcapped peaks, swift-flowing river, tranquil pools, wildflower displays, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Developed campground, regional attraction, fishing, limited river floating, day-hiking, backpacking, mountain climbing. Well Above Average.

Geologic: Major Olympic Range peaks, glaciated valley, small glaciers, lake basins, numerous tributary streams, river rapids, pools. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Fish and Wildlife: Significant resident trout and char; elk, deer, bear, cougar and numerous smaller mammal species. Bald eagles. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Extensive prospecting and mining history. North Fork Trail closely follows the historic route of the O'Neil exploration expedition of 1890. Many presently used place names were established by O'Neil. Well Above Average.

Cultural: Limited use by Native Americans for hunting, berry picking, fishing. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: North Fork Skokomish River

- A. Length of River Within Park: 13 miles
- B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 13 miles
- C. Status of Adjacent Segments: Downstream segment found eligible by USFS.
- D. Classification: Wild
- E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached
- F. Project Proposals: None known
- G. Inholdings Along River: None
- H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 80%
- I. Videotape Coverage: No
- J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

DUCKABUSH

IDENTIFICATION

The Duckabush River is listed in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory and is identified in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review. It has also been identified by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: From its origin in the vicinity of O'Neil Pass, the Duckabush River flows 12.5 miles within Olympic National Park, 8.7 miles within Olympic National Forest and 2.9 miles on state and private lands, for a total length of 24.1 miles. Its mouth is at the Hood Canal. This evaluation considers the 12.5 miles of mainstem river and all tributaries within the park.

The entire drainage within the park is included in the Olympic Park Wilderness and about half of the mainstem outside the park is within The Brothers Wilderness of Olympic National Forest. The non-park portion of the river has been listed as eligible for Wild and Scenic River status by the U.S. Forest Service.

Originating from the beautiful Hart and Marmot Lakes (elevation about 4500 feet) and from the glacier (elevation about 5500 feet) on the north side of Mount Duckabush, the Duckabush River descends easterly to about 1200 feet at the park boundary. The Duckabush drains about 28,000 acres of the east central part of the park. Most tributaries are fairly short, the exception being the Crazy Creek drainage on the south side. There are no impoundments on the river.

The Duckabush Valley is glacier carved; its walls are steep. For most of its length within the park, heavy forest prevails, with meadows present only in the upper reaches. The forest is fir, Douglas-fir, hemlock and cedar.

Rainbow and cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden char and whitefish are in the river and lakes. Anadromous fish migration in the park is blocked by natural barriers.

The Duckabush is used for hiking, fishing and camping in a wilderness setting. The 16-mile long Duckabush Trail provides access and connects with the Skokomish, Quinault and Dosewallips Trails via First Divide, O'Neil and LaCrosse Passes respectively.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Heavily forested mountain slopes, views of snowcapped peaks, high tarns nestled in glacial cirques, swift-flowing river, wildflower displays, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Backpacking, limited fishing, camping, mountaineering. Well Above Average.

Geologic: Major Olympic Range peaks, glaciated valley, glaciers, high lake basins, numerous tributary streams. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Fish and Wildlife: Resident trout. Large herds of elk. Deer, bear, cougar and numerous smaller mammals. Possible peregrine falcons. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Upper Duckabush explored and place names established by the O'Neil expedition of 1890. Above Average.

Cultural: Limited use by Native Americans for hunting, berry picking, fishing. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Duckabush River

A. Length of River Within Park: 12.5 miles

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 12.5 miles

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: Downstream segment found eligible and recommended for designation by USFS.

D. Classification: Wild

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: None

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 35%

I. Videotape Coverage: Yes

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

DOSEWALLIPS

IDENTIFICATION

The Dosewallips River is listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory and is listed in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review. Portions were the subject of not enacted Wild and Scenic River legislation. It has also been identified by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The mainstem Dosewallips River is approximately 28 miles in length, of which roughly 14 miles flows through Olympic National Park, 8 miles through Olympic National Forest and 6 miles through private lands near the mouth on the Hood Canal. This evaluation considers the 14 miles of mainstem and all the tributaries within the park.

The upper 12 miles of the river are within the Olympic Park Wilderness; the other two miles in the park, which are paralleled by the Dosewallips Road, are not in Wilderness. Although much of the Dosewallips drainage in the national forest is within the Buckhorn and The Brothers Wilderness Areas, the river (and road) corridor itself is not.

The mainstem Dosewallips headwaters in the vicinity of Hayden Pass in the east central part of the park. Flowing east and south from an elevation of about 5700 feet, the river descends over 4000 feet to the park boundary. Tributaries are numerous. Two of them, Silt Creek and the West Fork Dosewallips, are quite large and are fed by glaciers in the Mount Anderson area. At about 47,000 acres, the Dosewallips is the largest of the park's eastward draining river systems. There are no impoundments or diversions, although a diversion just east of the park boundary is planned for hydroelectric power generation.

Much of the upper Dosewallips flows through deep, rocky gorges incised into the bottom of the glacial valley. Heavy forest vegetation in the lower reaches of the river and in the lower elevations gives way to extensive open meadows in the upper drainages.

Just inside the boundary of the park, a waterfall blocks salmon and steelhead migration, but the upper river system supports cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden and whitefish..

At the Dosewallips Ranger Station is a developed campground and heavily used trailhead. Major trails up the mainstem Dosewallips and up the West Fork connect with the Elwha Trail via Hayden Pass and the East Fork Quinault Trail via Anderson Pass respectively. Other trails connect with the Dungeness, Gray Wolf and Duckabush. Hiking, fishing, camping and mountain climbing are the major recreational activities in the drainage.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Heavily forested mountain slopes, open mountain meadows, glaciers, spectacular peaks, swift-flowing rivers, wildflower displays, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Developed campground, extensive trail system, fishing, mountain climbing, regional attraction. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Major Olympic Range peaks, glaciers, glaciated valleys, lake basins, numerous tributary streams (some large), waterfalls. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Fish and Wildlife: Resident trout, large herds of elk. Deer, many bears, cougar, numerous smaller animals. Possible peregrine falcons. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Anderson and Hayden Pass areas explored by O'Neil in 1880's and 1890's. Average.

Cultural: Limited use by Native Americans for hunting, berry picking, fishing. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Dosewallips River

A. Length of River Within Park: 14 miles

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 14 miles

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: Downstream segment found eligible by USFS.

D. Classification: Wild and Scenic

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: None

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 40%

I. Videotape Coverage: Yes

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

ROYAL CREEK

IDENTIFICATION

Royal Creek was not listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory, but the Dungeness River, to which Royal Creek is a major tributary, is listed in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers review. It also has been identified by the park staff as having the characteristics necessary to warrant inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: Royal Creek is a short tributary to the upper Dungeness River, entering the river at about River Mile 25. Only about 5.5 miles long, all but the lower 0.4 mile is inside the park boundary, as are all tributaries. This evaluation considers only these park waters.

The entire drainage within the park, about 7000 acres, is part of the Olympic Park Wilderness. Although the remainder is in an unroaded area of the Olympic National Forest, it is not in dedicated Wilderness. The mainstem Dungeness and its major tributary, the Gray Wolf, have been listed as eligible for Wild and Scenic River status by the U.S. Forest Service.

Royal Basin, the origin of the creek, is a small basin surrounded on three sides by high peaks and ridges and dominated by 7788 foot Mount Deception. In its short length, the creek drops from 5700 feet to 3000 feet at the park boundary. There are no impoundments above River Mile 11 on the mainstem Dungeness.

Royal Creek and Basin show their glacial origin dramatically. Except in the lower reaches of the valley, vegetation is comparatively sparse and landforms are easily seen. Trees are mostly hemlock and Douglas-fir with silver and subalpine fir dominating in the higher elevations.

Rainbow trout are in the stream and brook trout, stocked years ago, are in Royal Lake.

The Royal Creek Trail is one of the most popular short, dead end trails in the park. Camping, fishing, hiking and technical rock

climbing and mountaineering are pursued here. There are no connecting trails.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Forested mountain slopes giving way to open meadows and bare rock slopes. Spectacular mountain peaks towering 2000 feet directly above the creek. Much evidence of glaciation: tarns, cirques, polished rock. Glaciers and permanent snowpacks. Swift-flowing stream, wildflowers, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Excellent hiking and cross-country scrambling, rock climbing and technical mountaineering, limited fishing, camping. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Major Olympic Range peaks, spectacular evidence of glaciation, glaciers, high basins and tarns. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Fish and Wildlife: Trout in stream and lake. Deer, bear, marmot and numerous small mammals. Non-native mountain goats. Average.

Historical: No known records of early exploration or use. Below Average.

Cultural: Possible use by early Native Americans. Below Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Royal Creek

A. Length of River Within Park: 5 miles

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 5 miles

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: Downstream segment found eligible by USFS.

D. Classification: Wild

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: None

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 90%

I. Videotape Coverage: No

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

GRAY WOLF

IDENTIFICATION

The Gray Wolf River, the major tributary of the Dungeness River, was not listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory but is listed in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review. It also has been identified by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: Considered in this evaluation are the national park portions of the mainstem Gray Wolf River and all tributaries including two major ones, Grand Creek and Cameron Creek. These two tributaries are large enough that they could easily be considered as the middle and north forks of the Gray Wolf.

The entire drainage within the park, about 45,000 acres, is part of the Olympic Park Wilderness and another 4 miles flow through the Buckhorn Wilderness of Olympic National Forest. The Gray Wolf and the Dungeness River have been listed as eligible for Wild and Scenic River status by the U.S. Forest Service.

From its confluence with the Dungeness, the Gray Wolf is slightly over 17 miles in length; the upper 9.5 miles are in the park. It rises at elevations of about 6000 feet in the basins on the north side of Gray Wolf Pass. One tributary flows from Cedar Lake, a large subalpine lake.

Cameron and Grand Creeks join about 0.3 mile above their confluence with the Gray Wolf at a place called, appropriately, Three Forks. The Cameron flows 9 miles from its origin at the Cameron Glaciers on the north side of 7192 foot Mount Cameron. A 3-mile long branch of the Cameron originates in the snowfields of Cameron Basin. Grand Creek flows from the north slopes of Grand Pass, flows through Gladys, Moose and Grand Lakes in Grand Valley, and joins the Cameron. Its length is about 8 miles.

All three streams, Gray Wolf, Cameron and Grand, have numerous short tributaries flowing down from the steep adjacent ridges.

There are no impoundments in the Gray Wolf drainage and none in the mainstem Dungeness until River Mile 11.

All three streams flow through spectacular glaciated terrain and glaciers remain at the headwaters of the Cameron. Lower reaches of the streams are vegetated with Douglas-fir and hemlock, gradually replaced by silver and subalpine firs at higher elevations.

Resident cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden char and whitefish are in all the main streams and in the lakes of Grand Valley. It is likely that pink, coho and chinook salmon ascend the Gray Wolf almost a mile into the park.

The Gray Wolf drainage is well-used for recreation. Trails ascend the Gray Wolf and Cameron Valleys and one of the park's most popular trail provides access to the Grand Valley; the lower Grand has no trail. Hiking, camping, fishing and mountaineering are popular pursuits.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Forested mountain slopes, spectacular peaks, tarns and high subalpine lakes, numerous streams, glaciers, abundant wildflowers, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Excellent hiking trails, fishing, camping. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Major Olympic Range peaks, glaciated terrain, glaciers, numerous rivers and streams. Well Above Average.

Fish and Wildlife: Resident trout and some salmon. Elk, bear, deer, cougar and numerous smaller mammals. Well Above Average.

Historical: The headwaters of the Grand and Cameron were explored in 1885 by O'Neil. Average.

Cultural: Probable early use by Native Americans. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Gray Wolf River

A. Length of River Within Park: 9.5 miles

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 9.5 miles

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: Downstream segment found eligible and recommended for designation by USFS.

D. Classification: Wild

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: None

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 50%

I. Videotape Coverage: No

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

ELWHA

IDENTIFICATION

The Elwha River was not listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. It is, however, the longest river within the park and the one with the largest drainage. It appears to the park staff to have the characteristics necessary to warrant inclusion in the evaluation process. It is also identified in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The Elwha rises in the heart of Olympic National Park and flows 44.8 miles to its mouth in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The upper 35 miles are in the park and the lower 9.8 miles are in the national forest, the Lower Elwha Indian Reservation and in private ownership. Dams at River Mile 4.9 (Lake Aldwell outside the park) and River Mile 13.4 (Lake Mills inside the park) provide electrical power to a Port Angeles pulp mill.

This evaluation considers the mainstem Elwha River from the head of Lake Mills at approximately River Mile 16 to the headwaters and includes all tributaries inside the park. This entire area is within the Olympic Park Wilderness.

The Elwha has its headwaters at about 4500 feet on the south side of Dodwell-Rixon Pass at the southern end of the Bailey Range. The river flows southerly for about 5 miles and then hooks around to flow north toward the Strait. There are many and substantial tributaries, including the Hayes, Lost, Goldie and Lillian Rivers. Total river miles of tributaries above Lake Mills is over 360 miles. By far the largest river in the park, the Elwha drains about 176,000 acres, almost 20% of the park.

The Elwha is another U-shaped glacial valley, with subsequent river erosion having carved several deep canyons, notably Rica and Grand Canyons. The forest stands in most of the valley are dominated by Douglas-fir with some hemlock and true fir. Especially in the lower part of the valley, there are many second-growth stands resulting from past fires.

Prior to construction of the dams, nearly the entire river was used by anadromous salmon and steelhead, but now the river is

inhabited by resident rainbow and cutthroat trout, whitefish and Dolly Vardon char. Efforts are currently being made to restore coho and chinook salmon to the upper river.

Recreation in the valley centers around the Elwha Ranger Station, a mile and a half downstream from Lake Mills. Camping, picnicking, day-hiking, river running and fishing are all popular. Lake Mills itself provides boating and fishing opportunities. The Elwha River Trail is part of the major north-south cross park trail, connecting with the North Fork Quinault Trail at Low Divide. Several side trails provide additional day and overnight hiking routes.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Varied forest stands on steep mountain slopes, peaks, meadows, waterfalls, river gorges, deep pools, rapids, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Hiking, day-hiking, camping, picnicking, boating, fishing. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Major Olympic Range peaks, glaciated terrain, large river, numerous smaller rivers and streams, canyons, hot springs. Well Above Average.

Fish and Wildlife: Abundant resident trout. Large herds of elk. Deer, bear, cougar, numerous smaller mammals. Occasional bald eagles, osprey. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Explored by O'Neil in 1885 and by the Press Party in 1889-90. Blazed trees still visible. Old homestead sites with two standing buildings. Old Forest Service ranger stations. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Cultural: Limited use by Native Americans for hunting, fishing and berry gathering. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Elwha River

- A. Length of River Within Park: 35 miles
- B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 35 miles
- C. Status of Adjacent Segments: No federal studies.
- D. Classification: Wild and Scenic
- E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached
- F. Project Proposals: None known
- G. Inholdings Along River: Few, Total < 5% of Frontage
- H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 85%
- I. Videotape Coverage: No
- J. Other Relevant Information: Dam within OLYM on the Elwha River is currently in relicensing proceedings and may be removed.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

SOLEDUCK

IDENTIFICATION

The Soleduck River is listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory and portions were the subject of never-enacted Wild and Scenic River legislation. It is listed in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review. It also has been listed by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The Soleduck is the longest river on the Olympic Peninsula, flowing 65 miles from its source to its confluence with the Bogachiel River. The merging of these two rivers forms the Quillayute River which flows 5.6 miles to the Pacific. This evaluation considers the 19.2 miles of mainstem and all tributaries and portions of tributaries within Olympic National Park.

The upper 6.3 miles of the river and all of the North Fork Soleduck drainage is within the Olympic Park Wilderness. Outside the park the river flows through Forest Service, Washington Department of Natural Resources and private lands, most of it managed for timber production. Land area of the drainage in the park is about 47,000 acres.

The mainstem Soleduck headwaters are at about 4500 feet in the north central part of the park. Several high tributaries flow out of the Seven Lakes Basin. About 15.5 miles from the source the mainstem is joined by the North Fork, a 14 mile long major tributary. There are no impoundments on the river.

The upper Soleduck has a steep gradient with many cascades and waterfalls including the scenic and well-known Soleduck Falls. The valley is vegetated primarily with Douglas-fir and hemlock. Near the park boundary are areas of second-growth that had been logged prior to the establishment of the park.

The Soleduck Road leaves Highway 101 2 miles west of Lake Crescent and follows the Soleduck Valley for 14 miles. At about 12.5 miles is the Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort, a natural feature that has been operated as a resort since 1912. The road terminates at a trailhead for the Soleduck River Trail.

The Soleduck River and its tributaries within the park support cutthroat and steelhead trout, coho and chinook salmon, Dolly Varden and whitefish.

The Soleduck River is regionally and nationally known for its recreational opportunities. Road touring at all seasons of the year is popular. Bathing facilities in the hot springs are available, as is a large swimming pool. A large developed campground adjoins the resort area. Major trails access the river valley, the Seven Lakes Basin and other trails connect with the Elwha, Bogachiel and Hoh Trails. There is limited whitewater kayaking.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Dense old-growth forests, steep mountain slopes, rushing river with cascades and falls, subalpine lakes, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Hiking, fishing, swimming, camping, overnight lodging, hot springs, day-hiking, some boating. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Glaciated landscape, moraines, major river, hot springs. Well Above Average.

Fish and Wildlife: Anadromous salmon and trout. Resident trout. Large herds of elk. Deer, cougars, bears, numerous smaller mammals. Occasional bald eagles. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Historic ranger station. Long history of use as a hot springs resort. Above Average.

Cultural: Used by Native Americans for hunting, fishing and berry gathering. The hot springs were probably used by Native Americans. Above Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Soleduck River

A. Length of River Within Park: 19.2 miles

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 19.2 miles

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: Downstream segment found eligible by USFS.

D. Classification: Scenic

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: None

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 20%

I. Videotape Coverage: Yes

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

SOUTH FORK CALAWAH

IDENTIFICATION

The South Fork Calawah was not identified on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory, but was identified in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review. It has been identified by the Washington Department of Ecology as a river of Statewide significance. It also has been listed by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The Calawah system drains the area of the northwest Olympic Peninsula between the Soleduck and Bogachiel Rivers. Total length of the Calawah and the three major tributaries, the North Fork, South Fork and Sitkum, is about 65 miles. Of this, the South Fork is about 20.5 miles, the upper 15 miles flowing in the park. This evaluation considers only those 15 miles of the South Fork Calawah and the few tributaries in the park.

The entire drainage within the park is in the Olympic Park Wilderness. The remainder of the Calawah flows through national forest, Washington Department of Natural Resources and privately owned lands, most of which is in timber production.

The South Fork originates in the northwest part of the park near Pine Mountain, which is on the east end of the ridge that forms the boundary between the park and Olympic National Forest. It rises at about 2800 feet and flows west to its confluence with the North Fork, forming the mainstem Calawah. The Calawah joins the Bogachiel after 10.5 miles. Drainage area inside the park is just over 17,000 acres. The only major tributary, the Sitkum River, joins the South Fork just outside the park. There are no impoundments on the entire river system.

The South Fork Calawah is one of the least known rivers in the park. It flows through a narrow valley that is heavily forested in the lower elevations with typical rain forest species: Sitka spruce, redcedar, bigleaf maple and Douglas-fir. In the higher elevations are Douglas-fir, hemlock and true fir. Although it parallels the park boundary and is in no place more than 3 miles from a logging road, the river is rarely visited by humans. The

Indian Pass Trail crosses the river about 6 miles from where the river leaves the park but only a few persons per year fish or camp there.

Coho and chinook salmon and steelhead trout utilize the lower reaches of the South Fork for spawning. Resident cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden and whitefish are also likely present.

The South Fork Calawah has true wilderness values. Aside from the one trail that fords the river, there is no development in the drainage and almost no use. Opportunities for fishing, cross-country hiking and exploring, wilderness camping and nature study in an undisturbed environment are unexcelled.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Heavy, undisturbed rain forest, narrow river canyon, unpenetrated wilderness. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Cross-country hiking, camping, fishing, nature study. Above Average.

Geologic: Narrow river valley, numerous short tributaries. Average.

Fish and Wildlife: Anadromous salmon and steelhead. Elk, bear, cougar, deer, numerous smaller mammals. Bald eagles. Well above Average.

Historical: The Indian Pass trail is part of the old Snider-Jackson trail built by the Forest Service. Below Average.

Cultural: Limited use by Native Americans for hunting, fishing. A possible archeological site is reported on the South Fork Calawah about 4 miles outside the park. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Clawah River

A. Length of River Within Park: 15 miles

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 15 miles

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: No federal studies.

D. Classification: Wild

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: None

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 60%

I. Videotape Coverage: No

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

BOGACHIEL

IDENTIFICATION

The Bogachiel River was listed in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory and in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic River Review. It also has been listed by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The Bogachiel River is nearly 47 miles in length. The upper 24.2 miles is in Olympic National Park and the entire North Fork, which is 7.5 miles long and the major tributary of the upper river, is entirely in the park. The Bogachiel joins the Soleduck and flows the last 5.6 miles to the Pacific as the Quillayute River. This evaluation considers the Bogachiel, the North Fork Bogachiel and all the smaller tributaries that are wholly within the park.

Inside the park the river and tributaries are entirely within the Olympic Park Wilderness. Outside the park the Bogachiel flows through Washington Department of Natural Resources and privately owned lands, most of which are managed for timber production. Land area of the drainage in the park is about 52,000 acres.

The Bogachiel flows west from its origin in the north central part of Olympic National Park. Upstream of their junction, both the North Fork and the mainstem Bogachiel (sometimes referred to as the South Fork) have a fairly steep gradient and flow through narrow valleys. The mainstem descends nearly 3300 feet from an elevation of 4000 feet at its origin to the junction. West of here the valley broadens out and the river drops only about 500 feet in the next 11 miles. There are no impoundments on any part of the Bogachiel.

The upper watershed is thickly forested with hemlock, silver fir, cedar and some huge Douglas-fir. The lower reach of the river within the park is nearly pristine rain forest with Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, cedar and some hardwoods. On the south side of the river about 6 miles upstream from the boundary is the largest known Pacific silver fir (Abies amabilis) which is over 200 feet tall and almost 7 feet in diameter.

The mainstem Bogachiel within the park upstream to the forks is spawning habitat for both coho and chinook salmon. Steelhead and cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden char and a large population of whitefish also use the river.

The Bogachiel is one of the least disturbed, most pristine drainages in the park. The park boundary is two miles from the nearest road and the only development is the Bogachiel River trail. This trail parallels the river and the North Fork, connecting with the Soleduck trail system. A lateral trail connects with the Hoh. Fishing, hiking, camping and nature study, all in an undisturbed wilderness, are excellent here.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Undisturbed rain forest, thick montaine forests, broad river valley with views of the ridges and peaks, broad gravel bars and river terraces. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Unexcelled rain forest hiking and camping, excellent fishing, excellent opportunities for nature study. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Broad, glacial river valley. Many step tributaries from valley walls. Steep, narrow canyons in upper river valleys, with cascades and waterfalls. Above Average.

Fish and Wildlife: Good populations of anadromous salmon and steelhead and resident whitefish. Very large herds of elk. Deer, bear, cougar and numerous smaller mammals. Bald eagles visit the drainage. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Parts of the old Snider-Jackson trail, built by the Forest Service and used by early homesteaders to reach the Hoh River drainage, are still in use as part of the Bogachiel trail system. Below Average.

Cultural: Some use by Native Americans for hunting and fishing. An unexamined archeological site is reported about 2 miles inside the park near Mosquito Creek. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Bogachiel River

- A. Length of River Within Park: 24.2 miles
- B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 24.2 miles
- C. Status of Adjacent Segments: No federal studies.
- D. Classification: Wild
- E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached
- F. Project Proposals: None known
- G. Inholdings Along River: None
- H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 30%
- I. Videotape Coverage: Yes
- J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

HOH

IDENTIFICATION

The Hoh River is listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory and portions were the subject of never-enacted Wild and Scenic River legislation. It is listed in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review. It also has been listed by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The Hoh system drains a large portion of the west side of Olympic National Park. Its overall length is 56 miles, with the upper 26.5 miles in the park. The mouth of the Hoh is at the Pacific Ocean. About 1.5 miles of the mainstem flows through the coastal strip portion of the park at the mouth. This evaluation considers the 26.5 miles of mainstem river and all tributaries and portions of tributaries that are wholly within the park. The portion in the coastal strip is not considered for evaluation at this time.

The upper 20 miles of the mainstem is within the Olympic Park Wilderness, as is the park portion of the South Fork Hoh and the entire length of Mount Tom Creek. Outside the park the mainstem and the remainder of the South Fork flow through or adjacent to Olympic National Forest, the Hoh Indian Reservation, Washington Department of Natural Resources lands and privately owned lands. Most of these lands are managed for timber production. Total land area in the park drained by the Hoh is about 83,000 acres.

There are no impoundments in the entire drainage.

The Hoh and two of its major tributaries, the South Fork and Mount Tom Creek, have the glaciers of the Mount Olympus massif as their sources. Mount Olympus (7,965 feet) is the highest peak on the peninsula and is located in the center of the park. It has 8 named glaciers and numerous smaller ones. The mainstem Hoh is fed by the White, Blue and Hoh Glaciers, the South Fork by the Hubert and Geri-Freki Glaciers and Mount Tom Creek by another lobe of the White Glacier. All these streams originate at about 4,000 to 4,500 feet.

The South Fork Hoh is the major tributary of the Hoh, being 18.5 miles long and a drainage of 30,500 acres in the park and about 5,000 more outside the park. The upper 13 miles of the South Fork are in the park. The river then flows outside the park for 5 more miles, reentering the park for the last half mile before its confluence with the mainstem. The portion outside the park flows primarily through Washington Department of Natural Resources timberland.

The upper South Fork Hoh drops steeply from its glacial origin through a steep-walled canyon. About 5 miles from the source, the gradient flattens out and the valley widens. The vegetation at this point becomes typical of the west side rain forests, dominated by Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, western redcedar and several hardwoods. A trail follows the river for only about 3 miles into the park from the boundary. This is the only development in the valley and beyond the end of the trail there are no developments whatever.

The mainstem Hoh flows for its first 26.5 miles in the park. The entire south bank of the river is in Wilderness; all but the 6.5 mile portion traversed by the road on the north bank is in Wilderness. The road provides access to the Hoh Ranger Station, Visitor Center and Campground. Beyond the road, the Hoh trail continues upriver for 13 miles at which point it crosses the river and ascends Glacier Creek to Glacier Meadows, the climbing camp for the Mount Olympus climb. [Interesting note: there are only two bridges that cross the Hoh River, the Highway 101 bridge and this trail bridge 13 miles uptrail.]

The temperate rain forest of the Hoh is known nationally and internationally, not so much because it is better or different from the other park rain forests, but because of its excellent access and interpretive facilities. The Hall of Mosses and Spruce Nature Trails, with Sitka spruce, bigleaf maples, hemlocks, Douglas-fir and cedar, are heavily used and widely known.

The upper reaches of the river have steep montaine slopes supporting Douglas-fir, hemlock and true fir forests. In the upper Cream Lake drainage is the largest known subalpine fir (Abies lasiocarpa), 6 feet, seven inches in diameter and 231 feet high.

Locally, the river is also well known for its fish resources. Coho, chinook and sockeye salmon all ascend the river to park waters for spawning, as do steelhead trout. There are also resident rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, whitefish and Dolly Varden char.

The Hoh drainage provides many recreational opportunities for visitors. There is a large campground, a major visitor center,

ranger station, nature trails, boat ramp and 6 miles of road. The Hoh trail ascends the river and the lower elevations of Mount Olympus for 18 miles. Lateral trails connect with the Soleduck and Bogachiel drainages.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Spectacular rain forest vegetation, large river, waterfalls, cascades, deep canyons, broad valleys, steep mountain slopes, high alpine peaks with bare rock, snowfields and glaciers, wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Camping, backpacking, day hiking, nature study, limited boating, fishing, mountaineering, cross-country hiking, automobile touring, nature hikes. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Though not very long (the Hoh Glacier is longest at 3.8 miles), the many and reasonably accessible glaciers on Mount Olympus and the landscape they have affected are dramatic evidence of geologic processes at work. Deep valleys and canyons, numerous small tributaries. High, glacier-clad mountains. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Fish and Wildlife: Anadromous steelhead, cutthroat and salmon. Resident trout. Large herds of elk. Cougars, bears, deer and numerous smaller mammals. Nesting bald eagles and ospreys. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: The old Forest Service trail from Snider Ranger Station to Jackson Ranger Station (now Hoh Ranger Station) had its southern end at the Hoh, although a no longer extant extension continued to the South Fork Hoh. Parts of this trail are still in use as trails. Average.

Cultural: Native American settlement sites exist in both the mainstem and South Fork Hoh drainages, but cultural material has not been found, likely because of shifts in the river channels. Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Hoh River

A. Length of River Within Park: 26.5 miles

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 26.5 miles

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: Downstream segment found eligible by USFS.

D. Classification: Wild and Scenic

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: Few, Total < 5% of Frontage

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 30%

I. Videotape Coverage: Yes

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

QUEETS

IDENTIFICATION

The Queets River was not listed in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. It has been listed by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The mainstem Queets River is about 50.5 miles long, of which all but the lower 7 miles flows in Olympic National Park. This last 7 miles, including the mouth at the Pacific, flows through the Quinault Indian Reservation. The drainage within the park includes a large part of the southwest corner of the park, almost 100,000 acres total.

From River Mile 7, the park boundary, to River Mile 24, the river flows through the "Queets Corridor", a very narrow arm of park land about a mile wide and 13 miles long and including both banks of the river. Because of the narrowness of the corridor, all the major tributaries below River Mile 25 and most of the minor ones originate outside the park. Some of the tributaries in the corridor are also being considered as sites for salmon rearing ponds, possibly involving minor impoundments or diversions.

This evaluation considers the 43.5 miles of mainstem Queets River and those tributaries entering the mainstem upstream of River Mile 25.

Below approximately River Mile 24.5, at the east end of the Queets Road, the river is bounded on its north side by the Olympic Park Wilderness. Upstream from this point the river and all tributaries (except Sams River) are within the Wilderness. The mainstem below the park, tributaries adjacent to and flowing into the park corridor, and tributaries entering the river below the park boundary are on Forest Service, tribal, Washington Department of Natural Resources and private lands, most of which are managed for timber production.

There are no impoundments on the entire river.

The mainstem Queets is glacial in origin. It rises at about 4500 feet in the Queets Basin from glaciers on the Mount Olympus massif and from the Queets Glacier on Mount Queets. The Basin has only recently been deglaciated and has open meadows and tarns. The river drops steeply from the Basin through montane forests, losing about 3000 vertical feet in the first 3 miles. The steep and narrow canyon begins to flatten and widen beyond River Mile 46 and the west side rain forest vegetation of Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, western redcedar, bigleaf maple, etc. dominates. Near Coal Creek on the north side of the river is the largest known Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii), 14 feet, 6 inches in diameter and 202 feet to the broken top (where the tree is still over 6 feet in diameter).

A gravel road closely parallels the lower river for about 14 miles, coming to a dead end at Sams River. Across the river from this point (no bridge: the river must be forded) is the Queets Trail which follows the river upstream for another 15.5 miles. Beyond the end of the trail, there is no development. Two lateral trails which formerly connected with the Clearwater and Quinault drainages are no longer maintained.

Much of the Queets Corridor was homesteaded beginning in the 1890's and continuing until 1940. Many pastures and fields are still evident today and a few buildings are still standing.

The Queets is known widely for its fish resources. Coho, chinook, chum, pink and sockeye salmon are all known to spawn in waters within the park, though the latter three species have very small stocks. There are also searun cutthroat trout and steelhead. Rainbow trout, cutthroat, whitefish and Dolly Varden char are all resident.

Recreational opportunities are many and varied in the Queets Valley, though recreational development is limited. The winding gravel road provides access and also good opportunities for wildlife viewing. A small campground near the end of the road, a few boat launch ramps and a 3 mile loop nature trail are provided along the road corridor. The narrow, gravel road, the overall scarcity of facilities and the lack of a bridge for trail access all tend to limit the amount of use in the valley and contribute to a high quality wilderness experience.

Eligibility Determination: Values:

Scenic: Heavy rain forest vegetation, major river with numerous large and small tributaries, alpine peaks, glaciers, deep canyons, waterfalls. Wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Camping, wildlife viewing, fishing, backpacking, boating, cross-country hiking, mountaineering. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Recent glaciation in the high country, existing glaciers, high peaks, incised canyons, waterfalls, broad glacial valley. Well Above Average.

Fish and Wildlife: Very rich fish resources: 5 species of salmon, searun trout, resident trout. Very large herds of elk. Bear, cougar, deer, numerous smaller mammals. Nesting bald eagles, ospreys. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Rich homestead history. Area explored by O'Neil Expedition in 1890. Well Above Average.

Cultural: Between 5 and 7 Native American settlement sites are identified. Most have been obliterated by subsequent homesteading activities and by changing river channels. Well Above Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Queets River

- A. Length of River Within Park: 43.5 miles
- B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 43.5 miles
- C. Status of Adjacent Segments: No federal studies.
- D. Classification: Wild
- E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached
- F. Project Proposals: None known
- G. Inholdings Along River: None
- H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 45%
- I. Videotape Coverage: No
- J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

QUINAULT

IDENTIFICATION

The Quinault River appears in the Olympic National Forest Wild and Scenic Rivers Review and has been identified by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: The Quinault River system is complicated to describe. From its mouth at the Pacific, the river extends about 33 miles to Lake Quinault, a large natural lake about 4 miles long by 1.5 miles wide. Upstream from the lake the river extends from River Mile 36.2 to River Mile 46.7, where two major branches join to form the mainstem. The North Fork Quinault extends another 18 miles, with the 10 mile long Rustler Creek as its major tributary. The Quinault River upstream from the junction with North Fork is also known as the East Fork and occasionally the Main Fork. It extends 22 miles to its source.

At Lake Quinault the north shore is the park boundary while the lake itself and all the land downstream from the lake are part of the Quinault Indian Reservation. Upstream of the lake, the river forms an 8 mile boundary between the national park on the north side and the national forest and private lands on the south side.

This evaluation considers (1) the mainstem Quinault upstream from River Mile 44.8 where both banks are in the park, (2) the North Fork Quinault and all tributaries and (3) the upper Quinault (East Fork) and all tributaries. The reach of river above the lake that forms the park boundary also meets the criteria for consideration and will require cooperative action with the Forest Service.

With the exception of the road corridors to the North Fork Ranger Station and the Graves Creek trailhead, the drainages being considered here are within the Olympic Park Wilderness. Land use outside the park is used for recreation, residences, agriculture and timber production.

The total land area of the park within the Quinault drainage is over 130,000 acres, second only to the Elwha. **There are no** impoundments in the drainage.

The Quinault headwaters are the glaciers of Mount Anderson. Other small glaciers on the north side of Mount Duckabush and the west side of Mount LaCrosse also feed the river. These headwaters are all at about 5,000 feet. The headwaters of the North Fork are a few hundred feet lower and are in the vicinity of Low Divide, Mount Christie and Mount Seattle. Although a few small glaciers on these peaks do feed the North Fork, the river is primarily non-glacial in origin.

Both major forks flow through fairly steep and narrow valleys above the confluence. The Quinault (East Fork) drops about 3000 feet in the 4 miles from the origin to the Enchanted Valley, where the valley broadens out briefly. In the next 18 miles to the confluence, the river drops only 1600 feet more. The North Fork descends 2500 feet in the first 4 miles, flattens out slightly and descends 2100 feet in the 14 miles to the confluence. Both forks have numerous falls and cascades and for the most part have steep, short tributaries. Between the confluence and the lake the river is broad and relatively smooth, descending only 200 feet in 10 miles.

The rain forest vegetation (Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, western redcedar, bigleaf maple, etc.) that is present in the lower Quinault Valley of the park extends only a few miles up the two forks, soon being replaced by hemlock and true fir. In the upper end of Enchanted Valley in the upper Quinault is the largest known western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), standing over 163 feet tall with a diameter of 8 feet, 8 inches. The largest known Alaska yellow cedar is in the upper reaches of a branch of Big Creek, a stream entering the Quinault 5 miles above the lake. This tree is 122 feet in diameter and 120 feet tall.

The North Shore Road enters the park a short distance from Highway 101 and continues past the lake and Quinault Ranger Station. A few miles farther it becomes a narrower, gravel road as it continues along the north side of the river to the Quinault River bridge near the confluence of the forks. Becoming the North Fork Road it continues to the North Fork Ranger Station, a total of about 18 miles from the highway. The South Shore Road enters the park about 12 miles from Highway 101 and continues about 7 miles up the Quinault River, ending at Graves Creek Ranger Station and trailhead. It connects with the North Shore Road via the Quinault River bridge.

Major trails ascend both forks of the river. The Enchanted Valley Trail, also known as the East Fork or the Quinault River Trail, climbs to Anderson Pass near the headwaters and connects with the Dosewallips Trail. A branch provides access to the

Duckabush and Skokomish via O'Neil Pass. The North Fork Trail is part of the major cross-park route over Low Divide to the Elwha.

The fish resources of the Quinault are rich. Coho, chinook and sockeye salmon (the last known widely as "Quinault blueback") spawn upstream as far as the lower reaches of both major forks and a few chum salmon spawn above the lake. There are also searun cutthroat trout and steelhead as well as resident rainbow and cutthroat, whitefish and Dolly Varden char.

The extensive road and trail systems provide excellent access for recreation and small campgrounds are on the north side of the lake and at the ends of the both the North and South Shore Roads. There are interpretive displays at the Quinault Ranger Station and a new nature trail.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Rain forest and montane vegetation. Spectacular high mountain peaks with glaciers and permanent snowfields. High waterfalls in tributaries, deep gorges, cascades, rapids. Open meadows and fields. Wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Automobile touring, fishing, camping, wildlife viewing, day hiking, backpacking, mountaineering, limited boating. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Geologic: Major Olympic peaks, canyons, major rivers, waterfalls, cascades, glaciers, glaciated landscape. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Fish and Wildlife: Anadromous cutthroat and steelhead trout and 4 species of salmon. Resident fish. Huge herds of elk. Bears, cougars, deer, and numerous smaller mammals. Nesting bald eagles and large numbers of wintering eagles. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: Homesteading began in the upper valley in the late 1880's and by 1900 extended to the confluence of the North Fork. No structures remain but cleared pastures and a few fruit trees remain. Three of the early expeditions exploring the interior Olympics passed through the area: Gilman in 1889, the Press Party in early 1890 and O'Neil in late 1890. Chalets for hikers and riders were built at Enchanted Valley (1930) and Low Divide (1927). Enchanted Valley Chalet still stands. Well Above Average.

Cultural: Two settlement sites of early Native Americans have been identified near the confluence of the North Fork, but changes in the river channel have probably destroyed any cultural materials. Above Average.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Quinault River

A. Length of River Within Park: See Narrative

B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: See Narrative

C. Status of Adjacent Segments: No federal studies.

D. Classification: Wild and Scenic

E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached

F. Project Proposals: None known

G. Inholdings Along River: None

H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 50%

I. Videotape Coverage: No

J. Other Relevant Information:

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
EVALUATION

OZETTE

IDENTIFICATION

The Ozette River has been identified by the park staff for inclusion in the evaluation process.

EVALUATION

General Setting: Ozette Lake, located in the northern part of the coastal strip of the park, is the third largest natural lake in Washington and is entirely within Olympic National Park. It has several streams tributary to it, all of which are almost entirely outside the park. The outlet of the lake, the Ozette River, flows northwesterly 4.5 miles to its mouth at the Pacific. All but the segment between River Miles 0.6 and 1.0 flows through Olympic National Park; the other 0.4 mile flows through a corner of the Ozette Indian Reservation. This evaluation considers only those portions of the Ozette River within Olympic National Park. The reach of the river within the Ozette Indian Reservation also meets the criteria for consideration and will require cooperative action of the tribe to be actively considered.

The river flows through the Olympic Park Wilderness from the mouth to River Mile 0.6 and from River Mile 1.0 to 4.0. From River Mile 4.0 to Lake Ozette, the west bank of the river is the Wilderness boundary.

There are no impoundments on the entire Ozette River.

The river descends only 29 vertical feet between the Ozette Lake and the Pacific. The course of the river takes 4.5 meandering miles to travel 2.8 straight-line miles between lake and ocean. Heavy coastal coniferous forest lines the banks of the river for its entire distance: Sitka spruce, western redcedar, dense salal and ferns.

Beyond the immediate area of the Ozette Ranger Station, there are no roads, trails or any other developments along the river corridor.

Several species of native and exotic fish inhabit the Ozette River and Lake. Coho, chinook and sockeye salmon use the drainage for spawning, as do searun cutthroat trout and

steelhead. In the lake are several species, including the exotic white perch. It is likely that the Olympic mudminnow (Novumbra hubbsi), a sensitive species listed by the Washington Department of Wildlife, is present in the lake and/or river. This species is a possible candidate for federal listing under the Endangered Species Act.

The Lake Ozette trailhead is the busiest trailhead in the park. Both day-hikers and backpackers hike either or both the 3-mile trails that lead to the beach. A small campground, picnic area and ranger station are adjacent to the trailhead. Fishing and boating are also popular. The Ozette River is partially blocked at several locations by fallen logs and canoe or kayak travel, while possible, is not common.

Eligibility Determination: Values

Scenic: Huge lake, dense coastal forest with wind-contorted trees, slow, meandering stream, Pacific coastal beaches, all in a Wilderness setting. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Recreational: Excellent year-around hiking and backpacking, fishing and camping. Well Above Average.

Geologic: Huge lake, generally flat terrain, spectacular coastline. Average.

Fish and Wildlife: Anadromous salmon and trout, resident fish. Elk, bears, deer, otters, numerous smaller mammals. Several pairs of nesting bald eagles, including some quite close to the river. Coastal marine species of bird and mammal, intertidal fish and invertebrates. Outstandingly Remarkable.

Historical: The Ozette area was homesteaded in the 1890's and 1900's. There were several homesteads at the north end of the lake and at least two along the river itself. Ruins of the Nylund homestead and cemetery next to the river can still be found. During World War II the area was heavily patrolled by the Coast Guard. Several trails were built or existing ones improved, including a now abandoned trail along the Ozette River. Above Average.

Cultural: The Ozette River and Lake were frequently used by the Makah Indians for fishing. A large village site at Cape Alava, less than 2 miles from the mouth of the river, was extensively excavated between 1970 and 1981. The site showed at least 2,000 years of occupancy and has been called one of the most significant archeological digs in North America. Outstandingly remarkable.

REPORT OF ELIGIBILITY/INELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

State: Washington

Park: Olympic National Park

River: Ozette River

- A. Length of River Within Park: 4.1 miles
- B. Eligible Mileage Within Park: 4.1 miles
- C. Status of Adjacent Segments: No federal studies.
- D. Classification: Wild
- E. Outstandingly Remarkable Values: See attached
- F. Project Proposals: None known
- G. Inholdings Along River: None
- H. Percentage of Watershed Within Park: 25%
- I. Videotape Coverage: No
- J. Other Relevant Information: