

04AB Auke Bay

Geography, subsheds, ownership CBJ's 04AB map page contains 5 Priority Areas¹ totalling 620 acres, about half on City land. A mile-long band in the middle belongs to the University of Alaska, and another piece framing Waydelich Creek is private. We surveyed the CBJ and UAS lands in 2014, and the private parcel in 2015.

We've divided the Auke Bay map page into 5 subsheds, shown with blue lines. **Auke Cape** subshed drains 0.8 square miles southward through mostly ephemeral channels; to beaches on either side of Auke Cape. **Auke Nu Creek** subshed drains 1.6 mi² southeast, mostly through the 2 deeply entrenched

canyons of the stream we named it for. **Waydelich Creek** subshed drains 2.1 mi², in channels that similarly converge and gouge deeply into soft marine sediment before passing under Glacier Highway. **Bay Creek** subshed, home of Auke Bay Elementary School, drains 0.4 mi².

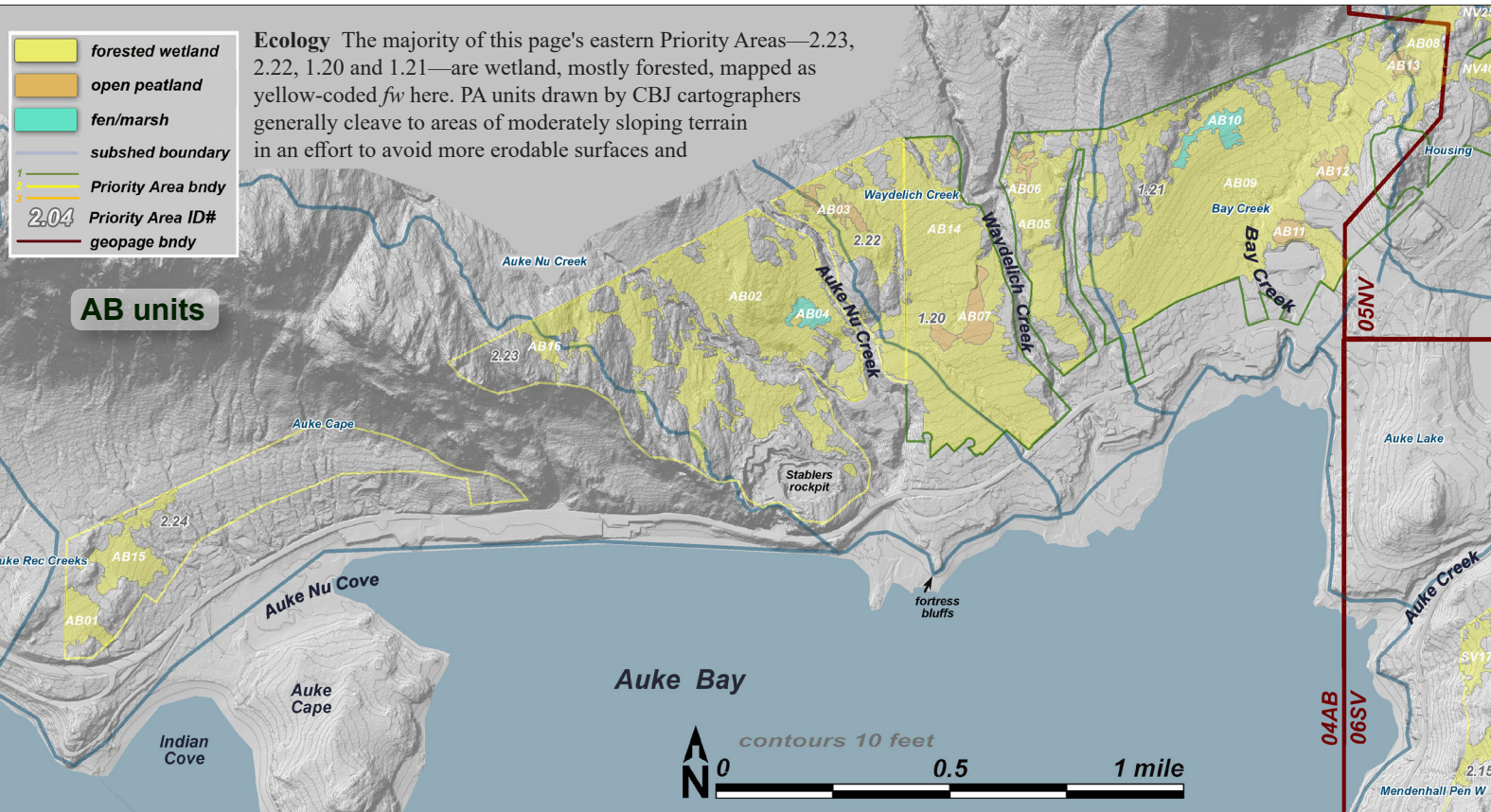
Geomorphology, glacial history Most of the forested wetlands on these south-facing hills occupy gently sloping (8 to 14%) marine deposits dating to times of higher sea level, 9,000 to 14,000 years ago. Mollusc and barnacle shells are still eroding from embankments behind Auke Bay school. Peat bogs AB11, 12 and 13 are on flatter benches (0 to 6%). Generally steep beaches in the first 10 to 20 feet above today's Extreme High Water means there is relatively little Little Ice Age uplift meadow or parkland in this unit.

¹ The easternmost PA, 1.21, extends off the 04AB map page onto the 05NV page.



Forested wetland above
Stabler's Rock Pit

AB02 20140710





View east over Auke Bay Boat Harbor to Auke Lake. The 2 largest facilities, left of center, are the new UAS gymnasium complex, and Auke Bay Elementary School, constructed on peatland in the 1960s. Most of the lower left was mapped forested wetland, *fw*. Two small open peatland units, *op*, lie just upslope of the gym and school: AB12 and AB11.

stories of the L'eeneidí and Wooshkeetaan clans, influencing the recent decision not to site the new NOAA fisheries building there, but farther west on Nex'w X'aayí, *cloudberry point* (Lena Point). The map-names Auke Nu Cove and Auke Nu Creek derive from Áak'w Noow, a log stockade in which villagers from Aanchgaltsóow, 2 miles west, could take refuge in times of invasion.² It stood atop the bedrock bluff at the mouth of Auke Nu Creek.

impacts to stream channels. A dilemma in the search for developable surfaces is that only *outside* of these PAs do soils become better drained, often growing large-tree forest. For example, the normalized vegetation layer shows a belt of exceptionally tall trees (160 to 200+feet) running along the base of Auke Mountain behind PA 2.24. Of course, these slopes, if deforested, resume the steady downward creep that only massive tree roots can arrest.

Culture In the oral tradition of Áak'w Kwáan, the protected bight of Indian Cove was their first mainland home after moving from Xutsnoowú (Admiralty Island) and before shifting west to Aanchgaltsóow, at today's Auke Recreation. The headland of X'unáxi, *camping place* (Auke Cape) features prominently in

² Cropley, in Goldschmidt & Haas (1998).