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Organization:

Title:

Comments: There are extensive improvements required throughout the Ward Lake Recreation Area:

1. Repair or replace the Grassy Point shelters, and clear and improve the trails. The routes are frequently muddy, and the shelters are subjected to inundation on high precipitation days.
2. Upgrade the trail between Minerva Mountain and Perseverance Lake. This trail is poorly marked and near impassible in certain areas, due to muskeg and mud accumulating in overgrown pockets in the rock.
3. Connell Lake - to Talbot Lake: Work in collaboration with Cape Fox to provide a route circumnavigating Talbot Lake, or extend the trail back around Connell Lake. Apparently, the original Perseverance Trail once proceeded up from Connell, so perhaps restoration is an opportunity.
4. Ward Creek: Work with DNR to provide a route from the Frog Ponds or the Ward Creek outlet at Ward Lake down through the estuary to North Tongass highway. The tidal estuary could provide a vital link between the nascent tourism activities at Ward Cove and Ward Lake for local and tourist pedestrians.
5. Salvage Trail: provide a pedestrian route between the Salvage Trail, Last Chance Campground, and Connell Lake. Users currently have to walk in Revilla Road to traverse from the Salvage Trail terminus to Last Chance, and within the Connell Lake Road to that trail system.
6. Overall Trails: Provide opportunities for loop trails for short or day hikes. Nearly all trails in Ketchikan are out-and-back, which do not sustain interest.
7. Perseverance Lake: Improve access to the water. One camping platform on the Minerva leg is located near a very nice, long flat rock at the water's edge, but the route is poorly cleared and graded. The original trail terminus, on the easterly side of the creek, is little more than a collection of logs in the water.