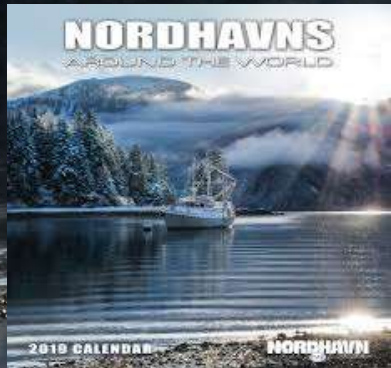


Cruising to and in Alaska

Presented by
Norman and Clarice Gregory



Our Alaska Experience

- 2000 we travelled from Vancouver BC to Skagway Alaska in our MacGregor 26X “sail”boat
- 2017 we travelled from Everett WA to Sitka AK in our Nordhavn 46 “Salish Aire”
- We wintered in Sitka (2017-2018)
- Spring-Summer 2018 we crossed the Gulf of Alaska to visit Prince William Sound and Kenai Fjords
- August 2018 we returned to the Salish Sea via the Inside Passage



Rule #1: Alaska is *REALLY BIG!!*





Gulf Of Alaska

Galloway Rapids

Clement Rapids

Getting there via the Inside Passage



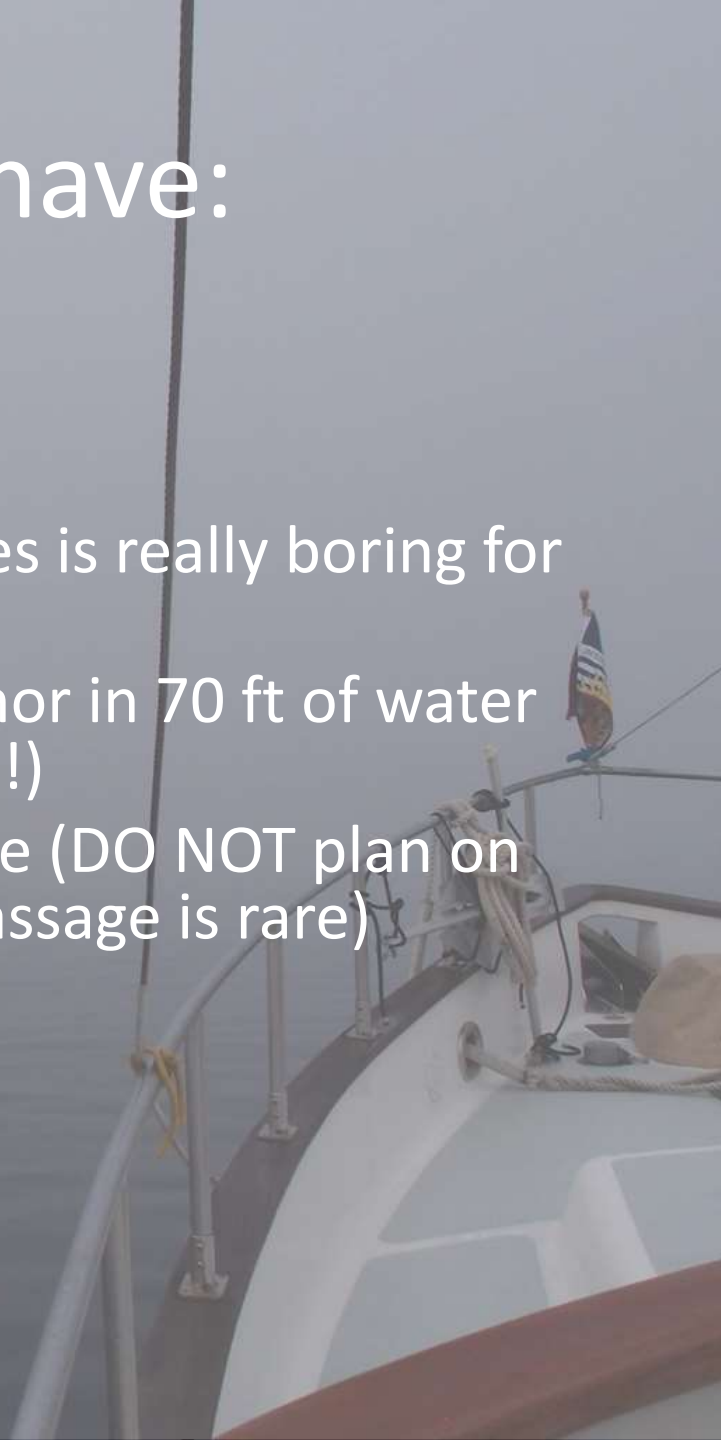
It doesn't take an ocean rated boat.



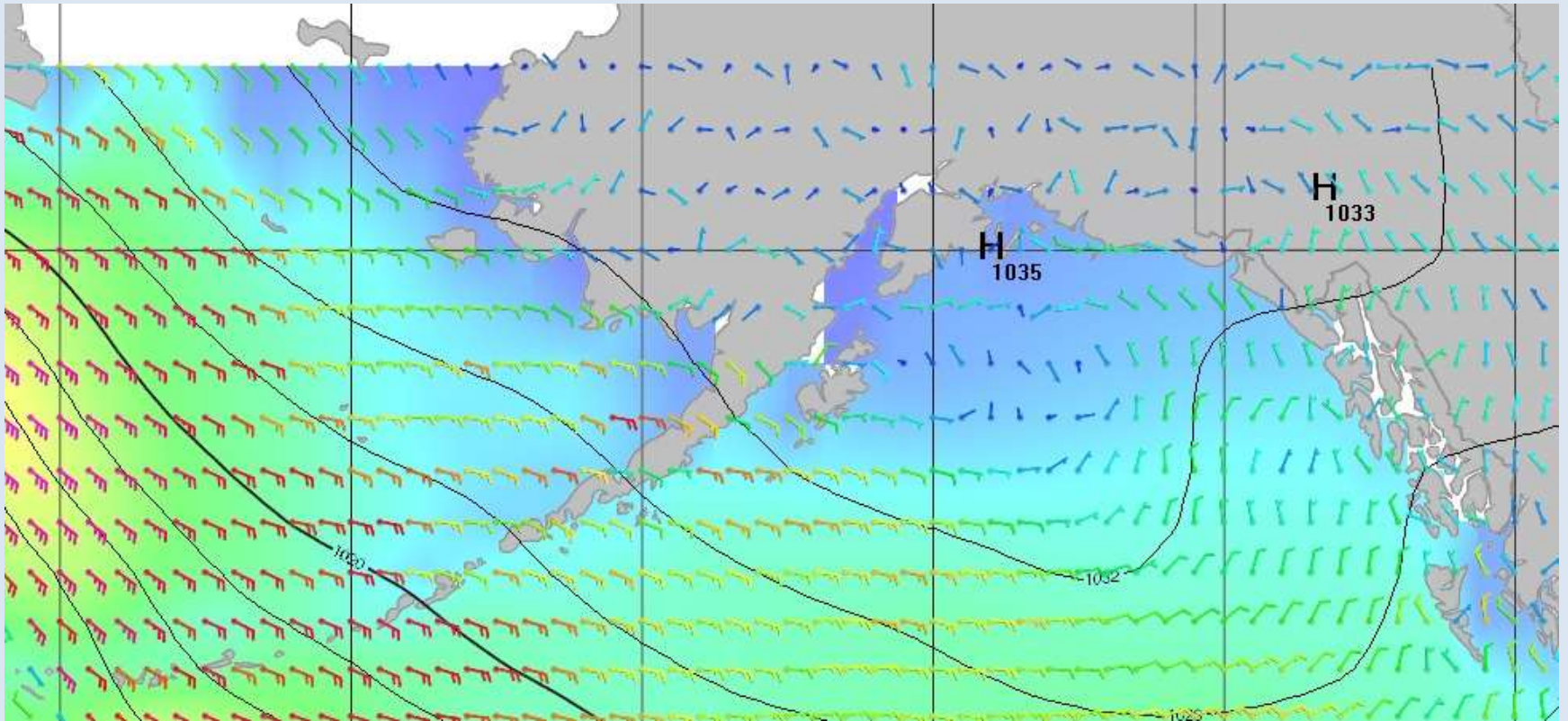
Team Heart of Gold

But its best to have:

- Inside Passage:
 - Radar (especially in “Fogust”)
 - Auto-pilot (“reaching” the reaches is really boring for hand steering)
 - Good ground tackle (plan to anchor in 70 ft of water with up to 20 ft of tidal exchange!)
 - Minimum of 140 NM of fuel range (DO NOT plan on the wind – sailing in the Inside Passage is rare)
 - Boat heater
- Gulf of Alaska
 - Blue water capable boat



We use SSB/HF (ham) for weather



Don't forget to check!!!

Alaska Dream
on rock Credit
KCAW Photo
courtesy of
Don Kluting

- Does your **insurance** cover you!
- To **zoom** in on your routes if you depend on electronic charts!





And solar panels don't work. Right?

WRONG!

The panels like being cool AND they like 16 hours of daylight.

Our experience:

La Paz maximum 24 hour production 2500 watts

Alaska summer maximum 24 hour production 3500 watts

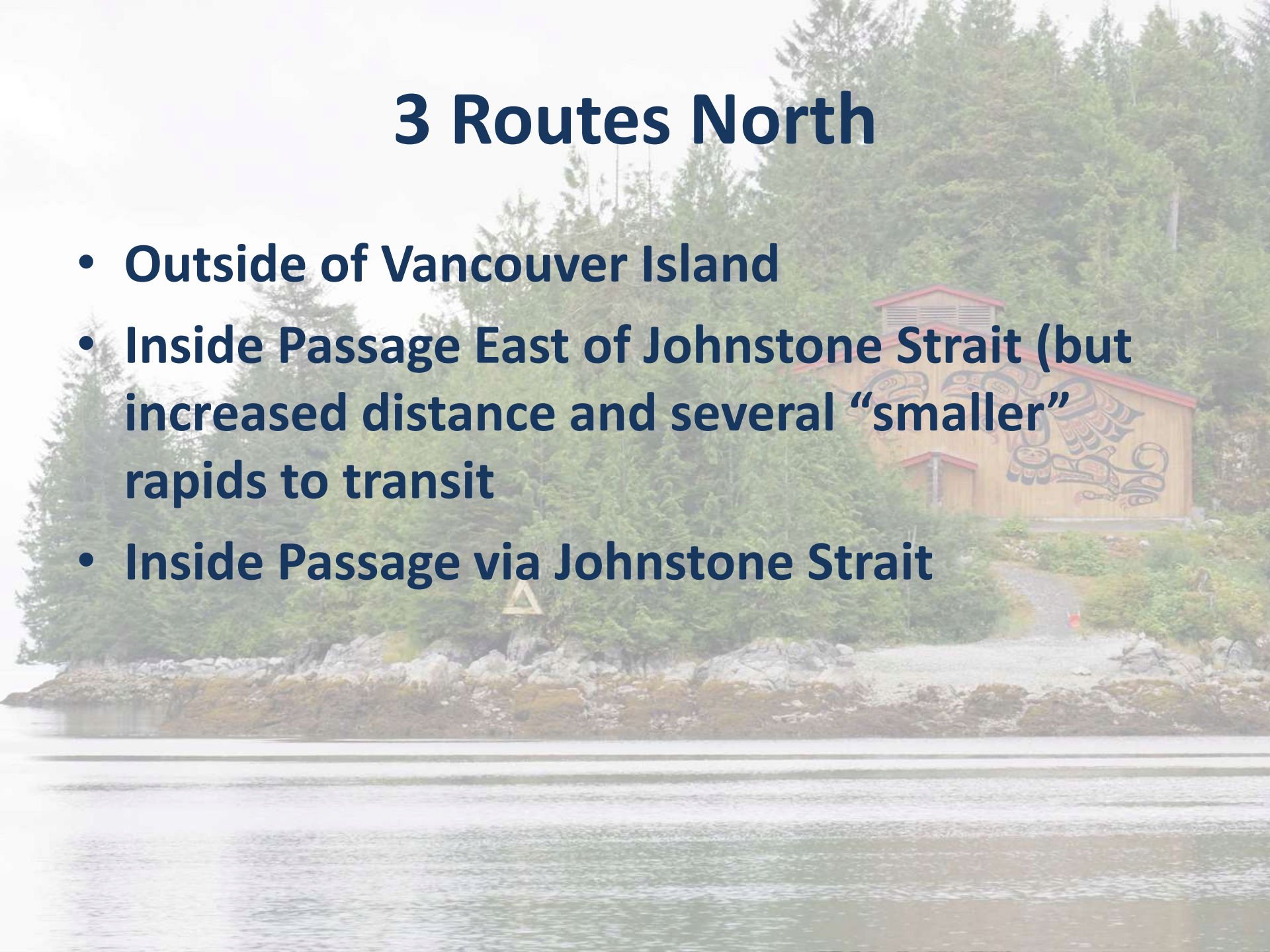
Some emergency supplies not commonly needed in Mexico:

- Survival suits (1,10,1 rule)
- Dinghy (we planned on 3 days for rescue):
 - PFDs
 - Fire starters (consider outdated hand flares)
 - Emergency blankets
 - A way to get dinghy across the beach (we use a small fender)
 - Flashlight
 - Spare Propeller (and tools/hardware to change it)
 - Emergency strobe
- Walking ashore:
 - Bear spray
 - Bear bells
 - VHF radios
 - ?Satellite messenger or PLB?



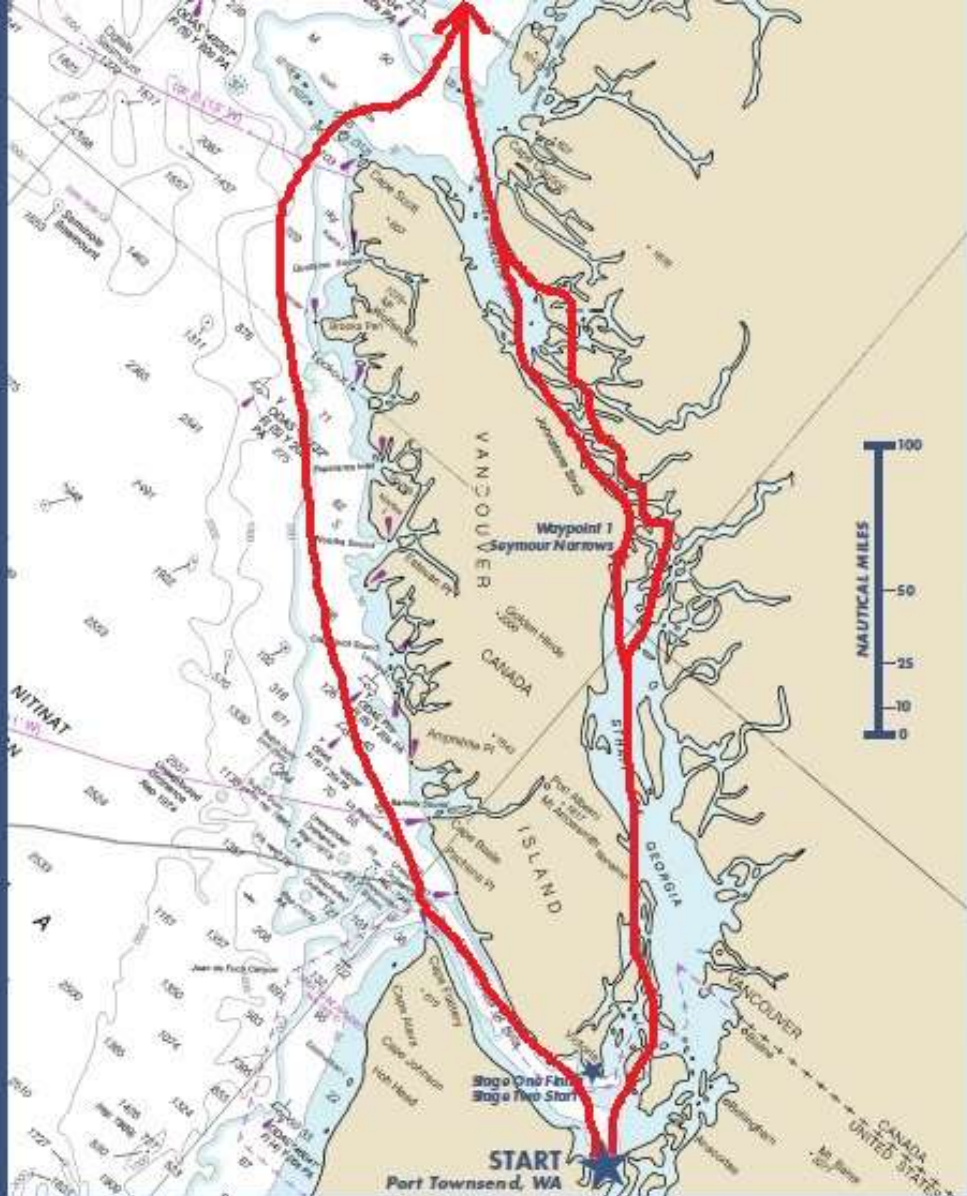
3 Routes North

- Outside of Vancouver Island
- Inside Passage East of Johnstone Strait (but increased distance and several “smaller” rapids to transit)
- Inside Passage via Johnstone Strait



Getting there via the Inside Passage





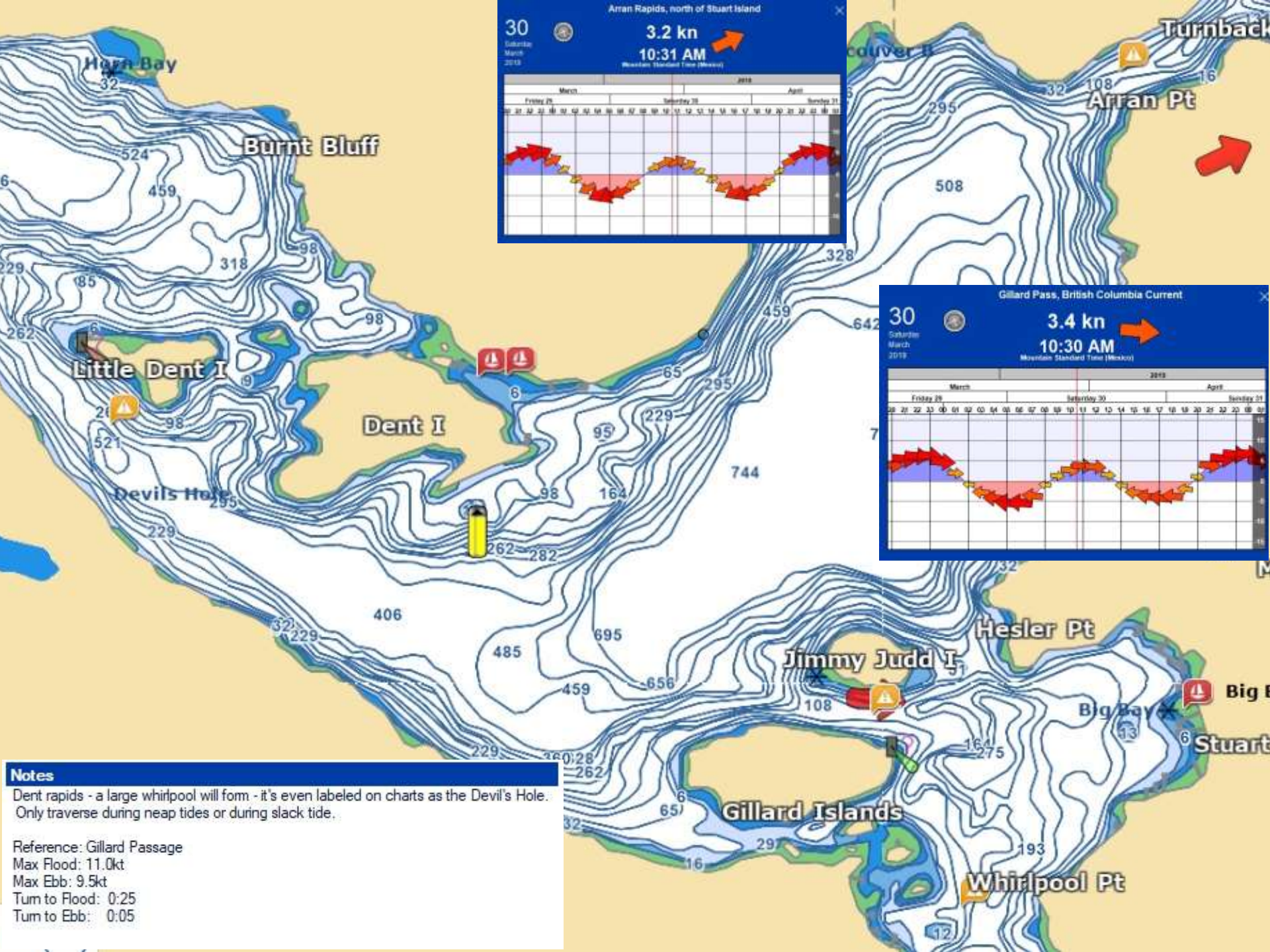
Rapids are overrated!

- All tidal rapids are predictable and predicted!
- All inside passage and Alaska charts are excellent!



Johnstone Strait in a great mood!





Notes

Dent rapids - a large whirlpool will form - it's even labeled on charts as the Devil's Hole.
Only traverse during neap tides or during slack tide.

Reference: Gillard Passage
Max Flood: 11.0kt
Max Ebb: 9.5kt
Turn to Flood: 0:25
Turn to Ebb: 0:05



Overall costs:

- **Our fuel costs:**
 - \$2 - \$3/ US gallon in Washington
 - \$2.50 – 3.27/ US gallon Alaska
 - (avoided buying fuel in BC)
- **Food costs – VERY high in Alaska (veggies often with poor shelf life)**
- **Moorage costs**
 - BC and Alaska \$0 in Native Villages
 - \$1/ foot in Sitka – most places much lower
- **Power rates**
 - Anywhere up to \$25/day for 50 amp in Juneau

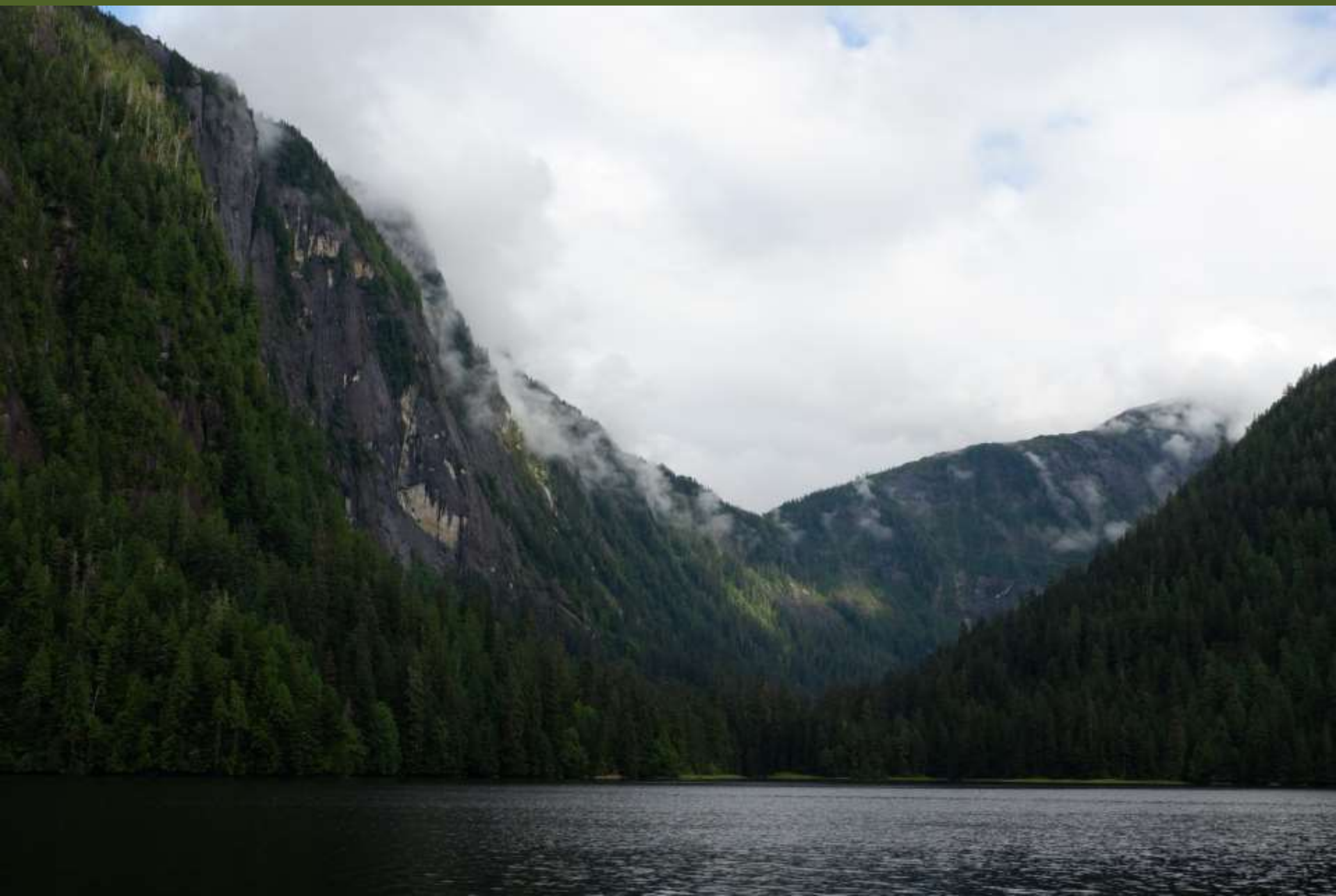




Why go???

**Photos of the
East side of the Gulf of Alaska**









































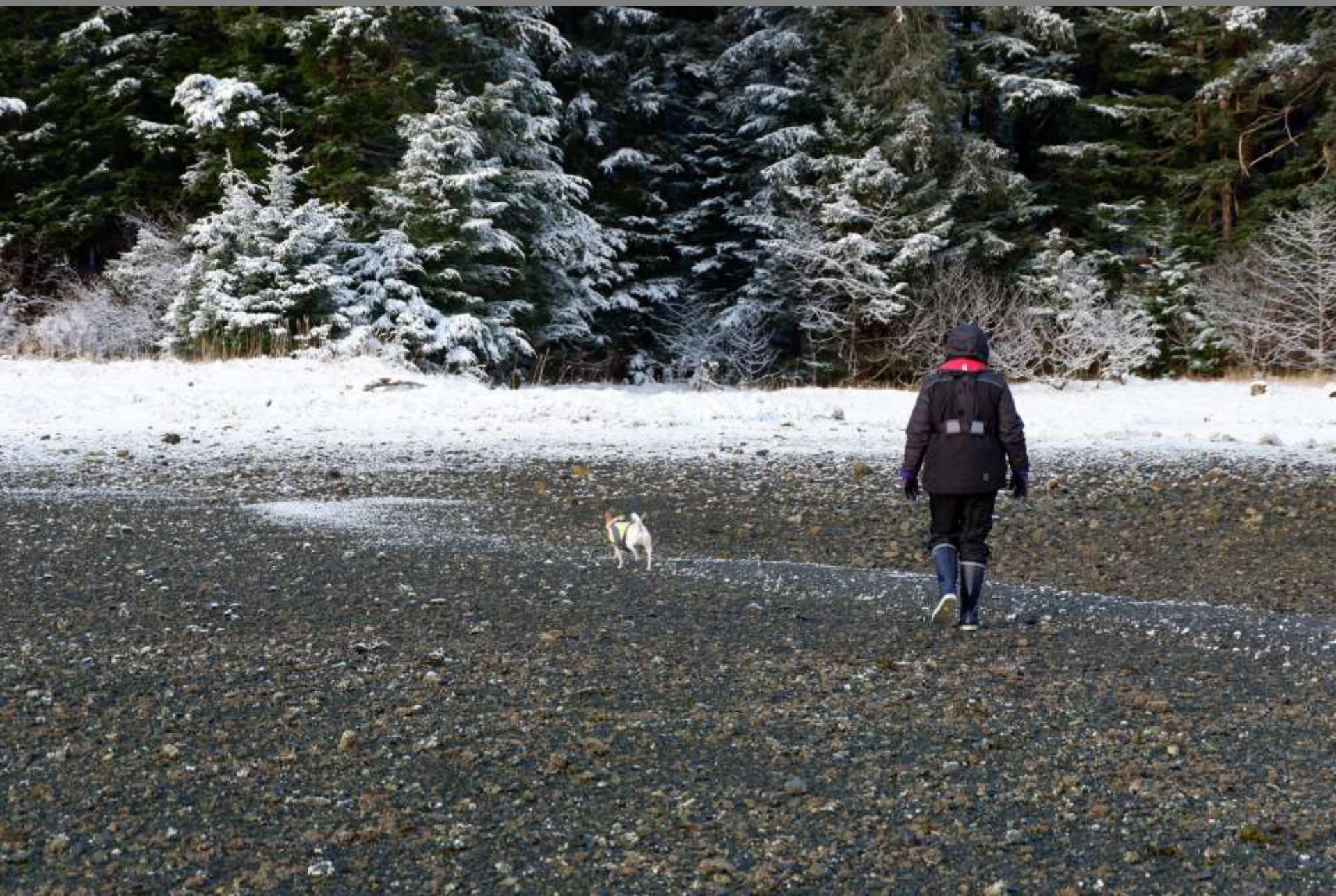














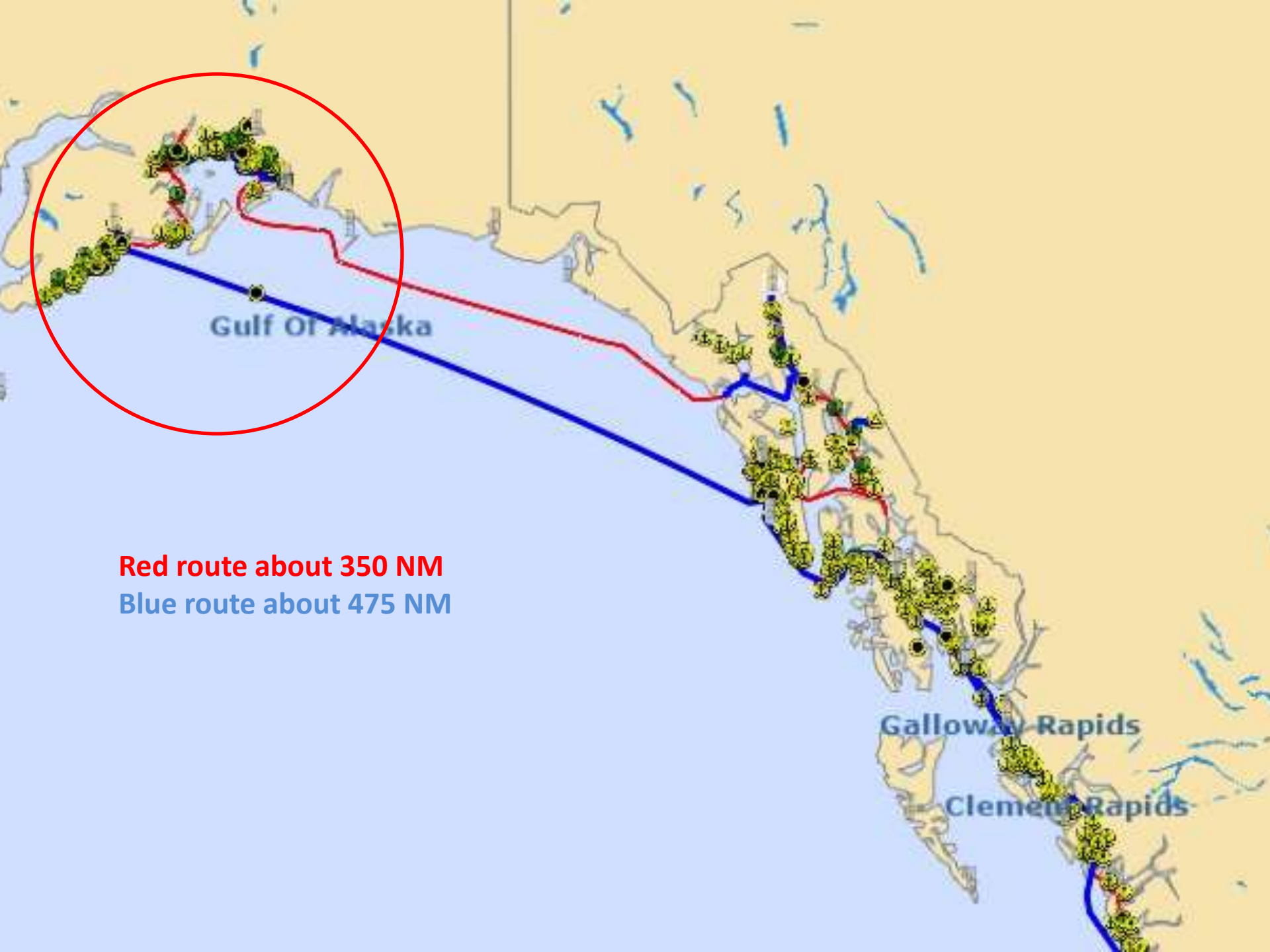




A scenic view of a glacier flowing from a snow-capped mountain into a body of water with icebergs. The mountain is rugged and covered in patches of snow and green vegetation. The glacier is a wide, white ribbon of ice flowing down the mountain's face. The water in the foreground is dark and calm, reflecting the surrounding landscape. Numerous small icebergs are floating in the water, likely calved from the glacier. The sky is a pale blue, and the overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Why go???

Photos of the
West side of the Gulf of Alaska



Red route about 350 NM

Blue route about 475 NM



Mt Susitna

Mt Marcus Baker

Chugach Mountains

Anchorage

Valdez

Whittier

Portage Gl

Cord

Kenai Peninsula

Prince William Sound

Cape Hinchinbrook

Seward

Kenai Fjords















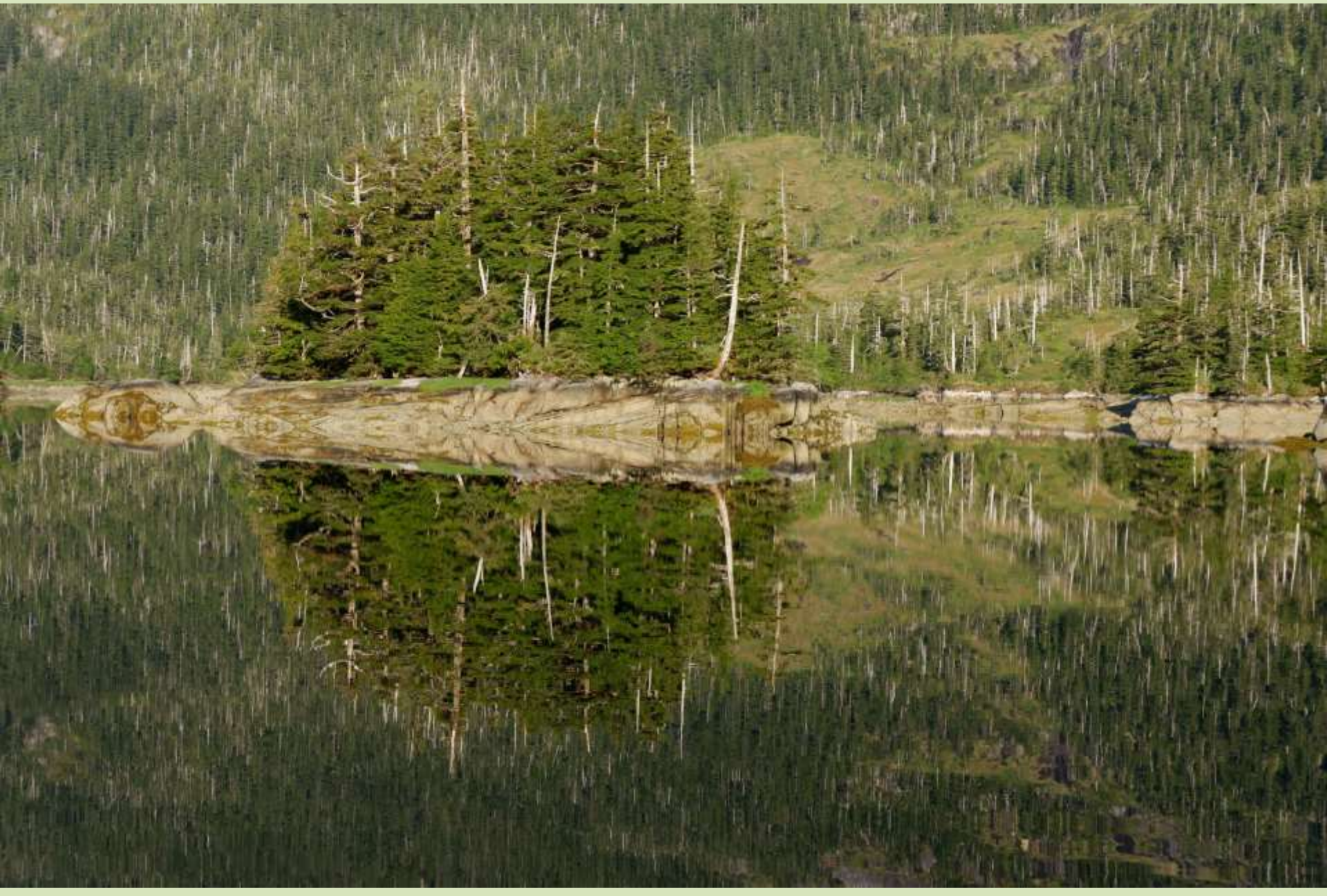


















Questions?



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