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First name: Jim

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Organization: City of Whittier

Title: Interim City Manager

Comments: I am writing of behalf of the City of Whittier to endorse Alternative B for the plan. Whittier is unique in that this small but busy community depends on the winter economic bump it receives in winter. Over the years winter sports of all types have grown in popularity in Whittier and we have become a destination for outdoor enthusiasts year-round.

What has been remarkable is the monitoring and self-policing of our resources by the visitors themselves. As an example, not too many years ago snow machiners and others would leave burned debris and other material in the wake of their visit. These days, thanks to regional businesses using various social mediums and email, Whittier and the Forest areas are left in great condition even after the busiest of days. There is great appreciation for outdoor / forest access here. Continued access encourages local businesses to plan for longer shoulder seasons and for others to remain open when they could easily close.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input and share the importance of the Chugach Forest to us in Whittier and our Alaskan neighbors,

Sincerely,

Jim Hunt

Interim City Manager