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Comments: the Forest Service is entrusted to manage some of Alaska's most treasured wild lands in the Congressionally-designated 2 million-acre Nellie Juan-College Fiord WSA. Changing that now-by allowing residential expanded motorized uses, manipulation of habitats, mining, timber harvests, and helicopter-assisted skiing and hiking-would harm this beautiful Wilderness Study Area. I strongly urge the Forest Service to:

* Prohibit recreational snowmobile use in the WSA. Snowmobile use has exploded in the WSA in recent years. Snow machines for subsistence and traditional uses may be allowed, but recreational snowmobile use is not.

* Recommend the 1.9 million eligible acres of the Wilderness Study Area and surrounding roadless lands eligible for wilderness designation as Wilderness. Do not abandon protection for the nearly 600,000 acres you propose to eliminate from the WSA.

* Reverse the terrible recommendation to split the Wilderness Study Area into two smaller units. This would dramatically shrink the area by permanently stripping long-established protections for Knight Island, Columbia Glacier, Perry Island, Glacier Island, Culross Island, Esther Island, Port Wells, mainland Knight Island Passage, and Lake Nellie Juan.

* Management of the Wilderness Study Area should follow the Forest Service's Regional Office WSA direction, since ANILCA contains no substantive guidance on WSA protection.

* Management of the WSA should follow the Forest Service's Regional Office WSA direction.

Thank you for your time and attention to my comments.