

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/13/2016 12:09:04 AM

First name: Leigh

Last name: Lubin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to encourage you to manage the Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and as much of Prince William Sound (PWS) as possible as wilderness.

I do not support personal or commercial use timber harvests or any motorized development. Please do not allow mineral exploration in this amazing wilderness. I am concerned about snowmachine traffic in the area now that the machines and the riders are becoming more adept at mountain travel.

Please preserve the area's wilderness nature and clearly designate it to be undeveloped and non-motorized. Anything that can be recommended for the 1964 Wilderness Act should in fact be recommended.

Additionally, please look more closely at the conflict between bear baiters and recreational kayakers. For two consecutive years I have done kayaking trips in PWS in May. Both years, as we were pulling up to the beach, bear baiters were checking their baiting stations or pulling them off the beach. Sea kayakers rarely carry guns and there are limited beaches appropriate for overnight camping. I encourage you to change the regulations of where bear baiters can set up baiting stations. It is unsafe and unethical to allow baiting stations on the beaches used for camping throughout the season. We all know that all baiting stations are not cleaned up appropriately and all bears that visit the stations are not shot. Please prohibit bear baiting on historical sea kayak camping beaches. Bear baiters rarely camp and spend most of their time in their boat. They can easily utilize a beach that is only accessible at low tide that would not regularly be used by campers.

Thank you for taking actions to conserve wilderness as it is now and maintain it for the future. Please look into the conflicts of interest on beaches where bear baiting and camping both occur.