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Comments: The Congressionally-designated Nellie Juan-College Fiord Wilderness Study Area (WSA) on the Chugach National Forest in Alaska's western Prince William Sound is an ecological and scenic treasure. It is also a great place for the American public to visit.

Unfortunately, the U.S. Forest Service's proposed plan to loosen protections throughout the Chugach, and to permanently remove protections from some of its most important places are dreadful and most threatening. The removal of these protections that have been in place for almost forty years will hurt the wilderness character of this magnificent WSA. The proposed Chugach plan would also allow residential timber harvests, expanded motorized uses, manipulation of habitats, mining, and helicopter-assisted skiing and hiking.

I urge the US Forest Service to drop these plans for development. Irrevocable change to this area would be a short-sighted waste.