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Comments: I am a recreational user of Chugach National Forest and have reviewed the Proposed Forest Plan Revision. The plan falls short of its purported goal to manage for resiliency and sustainability, and I sincerely urge the revision team to look anew at the plan's direction.

The multiple use dictum, applied to the Chugach, must take into account the continuing recovery from the Exxon Valdez oil spill. The focus should be on ecologically sustainable, low-impact uses including recreation, tourism, wilderness, commercial fishing, and subsistence. Such a focus would be in keeping with economic sustainability as well, as the region's economics are largely related to its scenery and wildlife. Mineral development and timber harvests are not compatible uses for Prince William Sound and the Chugach.

I join several other commenters in suggesting the plan do the following:

- *Recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area - ALL of the original two million acres -for congressional designation as Wilderness and, in the interim, manage the entire WSA as Wilderness.

- *Protect the Copper River/Bering River area.

- *Withdraw the Forest from mineral and forestry activity.

- *Identify additional protective acquisitions.

- *Recommend additional Wild and Scenic River designations.

- *Uphold the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Restoration mandate for the region.

The wilderness value of our lands and waters should never be underestimated. My children grew up experiencing the priceless benefits of southcentral Alaska wilderness and I hope the same for my grandchildren. Protecting wilderness for future generations is not an abstract concept. The Chugach National Forest needs more protection, not less, and deserves a plan that gives clear direction.

Thank you for your work and consideration.

Carol Hult