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Comments: Dear Forest Supervisor,

Thanks for considering my input on the Chugach National Forest (CNF) draft plan. Please understand the importance of strong protections for the Wilderness Study Area (WSA) in the Prince William Sound.

I support a modified Alternative D that also recommends inclusion of Wilderness Lake Nellie Juan and the lands within the WSA boundary that were purchased for restoration of wilderness resources following the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill (EVOS). Not including the EVOS lands in the final plan would contradict the commitment that the Forest Service made to the public when it purchased these lands.

Additional recommended improvements to the revised Forest Plan:

- Honor existing and historically significant policy with intention to protect the "wilderness character". The area's "wilderness character" is essential to maintaining healthy ecosystems and today's quiet, undeveloped conditions in Prince William Sound.
- Restore the WSA to the Forest Monitoring Program described in Appendix A. Monitoring in the WSA is necessary for informing the Forest Service about effective management, continued recovery of wilderness resources damaged during the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill (EVOS), and growth in snowmachine and other motorized uses.
- Continue to fine-tune WSA standards and guidelines so they protect the specific qualities of wilderness character, including its undeveloped and non-motorized natural settings.
- Adopt the Alternative D ROS map, which appropriately applies the Primitive standard to all WSA lands.
- Given the differences in use of and access to the forest during winter, the Forest Service should develop a winter-specific ROS map.
- Given that state politicians are seeking to carve out an exemption to the National Roadless Rule for Alaska, the Chugach should incorporate specific protections for lands comprised of Inventoried Roadless Areas.

Again, thank you for listening and protecting the richness of Alaska.