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Comments: The proposed Draft Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest has some promise, but falls far short of what it should be. As a concerned citizen, I would like to propose the following changes:

* Protecting the Chugach's "existing character" is an insufficient standard for true conservation. I would very much like to see the forest's "wilderness character" actively protected. All concerned lands should be designated by the "Primitive" standard so as to ensure meaningful and effective protection.

* We must take extra steps to truly protect the lands that the federal government purchased after the Exxon Valdez spill, since that move was undertaken for the purpose of restoring the vitality and the biodiversity of the region. It is now our duty to practice effective stewardship of those lands.

* Action must be taken to crack down on illegal recreational chainsaw use in the region, which has already caused significant damage.

* Toward these ends, the Forest Service should adopt a modified Alternative D that also includes as protected land Lake Nellie Juan and the lands within the WSA boundary that were purchased for restoration of wilderness resources following the oil spill.

Thank you for your time and attention.