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Comments: Kindly restore strong protection to lands within the WSA that the federal government purchased following the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. They were acquired for the restoration of wilderness values and should be managed "in perpetuity for conservation and wilderness purposes," as promised when they were purchased.

The Plan must protect the "wilderness character" of the WSA, not the Forest Service's weak proposal to protect just its "existing character." Besides that the Plan must protect the wilderness character of all the lands in the WSA by classifying them with the Forest Service's "Primitive" standard. This is the most protective standard in the agency's recreational classification system.

Chugach NF must address ongoing illegal recreational use of chainsaws which has resulted in damaging tree removal along dozens of wilderness beaches, including in sensitive areas. Alternative D recommends the maximum amount of land for Wilderness of any of the Alternatives (97 percent of the WSA, or 1.884 million acres).

I support a modified Alternative D wilderness recommendation that also includes Lake Nellie Juan and the lands within the WSA boundary that were purchased for restoration of wilderness resources following the oil spill.