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Comments: The Plan should protect the "wilderness character" of the WSA, not the Forest Service's weak proposal to protect just its "existing character." It should classify all with the Forest Service's "Primitive" standard, the most protective standard in the agency's recreational classification system.

It should restore strong protection to the lands within the WSA that the federal government purchased after the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. These lands were for the restoration of wilderness and must be managed "in perpetuity for conservation and wilderness purposes," as promised when purchased.

The Chugach NF must act to halt illegal chainsaw use in the WSA. This activity 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.