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Comments: Please ensure "the plan" protects the "wilderness character" of the WSA, not just the proposed protection of its "existing character," classifying all of them with the Forest Service's "Primitive" standard--the most protective standard in the agency's recreational classification system.

Restoring strong protection to the lands within the WSA that the federal government purchased following the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill holds to the promise made when they were purchased, as these lands were acquired for the restoration of wilderness values and must be managed "in perpetuity for conservation and wilderness purposes."

The Chugach NF should also address the ongoing illegal recreational use of chainsaws in the WSA, 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.