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Comments:

I commend the USFS for devising a plan for the future of the Chugach National Forest; however its priorities are misplaced in some respects. Prince William Sound should not become vastly different than its last 20-30 years. As a user of the Sound and a long time Alaskan, I urge:

- a. To maintain the 1994 Exxon Valdez recovery goals.
- b. To keep the Nellie Juan WSA as is.
- c. To never, ever, ever allow any mineral extraction in this forest.
- d. To preserve the long standing and well accepted wilderness character of the Sound.
- e. To purchase subsurface land on acquired lands from the Exxon Valdez and manage them as conservation lands as was in the agreement.

I find the USFS going backward in planning for the management of this forest. It is as if planners are going back to the thinking of the 1930s in management practice. Please be forward thinking by preserving, not destroying, this national treasure for all.