

Date submitted (UTC): 2/12/2016 9:13:39 AM

First name: David

Last name: Adams

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 14487 Burlington Parkway

Address2:

City: Penn Valley

State: CA

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 95946

Country: United States

Email: ctrarcht@nccn.net

Phone: 530 432-8712

Comments:

Regarding the proposed forest management plan revision for the Nellie Juan-College Fiord WS, I urge the Forest Service to remain true to its fundamental purpose to protect the wild character of the entire Wilderness Study Area until Congress finalizes its protection. This means maintaining and clarifying rules on all land-based motorized uses-including chainsaw use-and preserving the area's current undeveloped and non-motorized character.

I encourage you to recommend the 1.9 million eligible acres of the WSA and surrounding roadless lands eligible for wilderness designation as Wilderness. Please do not abandon protection for the nearly 600,000 acres you propose to eliminate from the WSA.

Also, please delete the poorly considered recommendation to split the Wilderness Study Area into two smaller units. This would dramatically shrink the area by permanently stripping long-established protections for Knight Island, Columbia Glacier, Perry Island, Glacier Island, Culross Island, Esther Island, Port Wells, mainland Knight Island Passage, and Lake Nellie Juan.

Finally, I request that you prohibit recreational snowmobile use in the WSA. Snowmobile use has exploded in the WSA in recent years. Snow machines for subsistence and traditional uses may be allowed, but recreational snowmobile use is not.

In the Chugach National Forest, the Forest Service is entrusted to manage some of Alaska's most treasured/world-class wild lands in the congressionally-designated 2-million-acre Nellie Juan-College Fiord WSA. Allowing residential timber harvests, expanded motorized uses, manipulation of habitats, mining, and helicopter-assisted skiing and hiking would harm this beautiful Wilderness Study Area. Instead, the Forest Service should maintain current protections and recommend to Congress its perpetuation into the future. It's only common sense!