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Comments:

Hello USFS,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment for the revision of this management plan. As a longtime resident of Seward, my husband and I have spent a great deal of time in PWS kayaking. We consider it our backyard with unparalleled wilderness qualities. There is just no way to put in words how much the Sound means to us. It is an amazing area and deserves to keep (at the minimum) it's current level of protection.

Therefore, I strongly encourage the USFS to recommit to the long standing preservation of the area's wilderness character with clear language to leave it undeveloped and untrammled.

Knight Island and the rest of the wilderness study area should be kept wilderness until Congress grants it permanent wilderness status based on a strong recommendation from the USFS to do so.

The 1994 Exxon Valdez oil spill recovery plan's goals to restore the Sound's recreation, wilderness and conservation values should be followed. All subsurface estates on EVOS lands should be acquired and managed for conservation and wilderness purposes.

A clarification of the amount of helicopter, drone and snowmachine use within the Sound is needed. Greater noise and air pollution will impact several aspects of the Sound that are directly against the purposes of wilderness protection.

Please preserve this treasure of a wilderness for future generations to find and enjoy!

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Keagle  
POBox 3633  
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