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Comments:

The current proposed US Forest Service Revision Plan is a step in the wrong direction and undermines existing protections. The 2.3 million acre Chugach National Forest should be protected as much as possible for current and future generations. To summarize:

- 1) The eastern Chugach - including the Copper River/Bering River/Martin Lake & River/Katalla Rivers and watersheds - area should be protected as critical salmon and wildlife habitat and continue to allow existing use for fishers and subsistence harvesters;
- 2) The original 1.9 million acre Wilderness Study Area (WSA) of western Prince William Sound should be recommended to Congress for designation as Wilderness; the WSA should continue to be managed as Wilderness and remain the same size until it is congressionally designated;
- 3) The Forest should be withdrawn from mineral and forestry activity; and additional protective conservation acquisition areas should be identified;
- 4) And the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Restoration mandate for the region must be upheld.

The Proposed Forest Plan Revision, as written, is unacceptable and must be re-written to preserve the region more completely and managed primarily for the protection and conservation of fish and wildlife habitat as ANILCA intended.