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Comments:

I believe that the natural landscape with its resources is a sacred heritage of this country that we are duty bound to protect and hand on to future generations. Therefore I respectfully submit that in this day and age, when there are few large tracts of wilderness left it is important to protect what we have.

I think the Plan must protect the "wilderness character" of the WSA, not the "existing character," and classify all the lands in the WSA to the "Primitive" standard, the most protective recreational classification.

Also I believe that we should restore strong protection to the lands within the WSA that the federal government purchased following the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. These lands were acquired for the restoration of wilderness values and must be managed "in perpetuity for conservation and wilderness purposes," as promised when they were purchased.

It is also important to stop illegal recreational use of chainsaws in the WSA, which has resulted in damaging tree removal along dozens of wilderness beaches, including in sensitive areas. These lands belong to all of us, and should not be used for personal gain.

Because of these factors, 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.