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Comments:

Please make the following changes to the current proposed Forest Plan:

- * Classify the entire area with the Forest Service's "Primitive" standard classification- the most protective standard;

- * Restore strong protection to the lands within the Wilderness Study Area (WSA) that the federal government purchased following the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. These lands, acquired for the restoration of wilderness values, must be managed "in perpetuity for conservation and wilderness purposes," as promised when purchased;

- * Address - and stop - the ongoing illegal recreational use of chainsaws in the WSA, which has caused great damage to many wilderness beaches, including those in sensitive areas within and around the Chugach National Forest (NF); and

- * Modify the Alternative D recommendation - which includes the maximum amount of land for Wilderness (97 percent of the WSA, or 1.884 million acres) - to include Lake Nellie Juan and the lands within the WSA boundary that were purchased for restoration of wilderness resources following the oil spill. I support this Alternative, as modified.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration of these comments.