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Comments:

Thank you for considering my comments. From my perspective, the Forest Service's Draft Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest (NF) in Alaska does not go far enough. Following is what I would like to see:

1. That the Plan protect the "wilderness character" of the WSA, not just its "existing character."
2. That the Plan use the most protective standard in the Forest Service's recreational classification system - the "Primitive" standard.
3. That strong protections are restored 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.
4. That the Chugach NF address ongoing illegal recreational use of chainsaws in the WSA, which has resulted in damaging tree removal along dozens of wilderness beaches, including in sensitive areas.
5. That Alternative D be modified to include Lake Nellie Juan and the lands within the WSA boundary that were purchased for restoration of wilderness resources following the oil spill.

Please do the right thing and give these lands the strongest available protections! Current and future generations of Americans will thank you.