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Comments:

Chugach National Forest's Supervisor's Office

161 East 1st Street, Door 8

Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft Land Management Plan

Oct. 31, 2018

Dear Chugach National Forest Service Supervisors Office:

I strongly oppose Alternatives C and D and specifically support option B in the Draft Land Management Plan for the following reasons:

1. Alternatives A & B enhance recreational opportunities for public enjoyment for ALL users, including both motorized and non-motorized.
2. Motorized recreation is inclusive for users with disabilities, such as my own family members.
3. Access for all users supports a robust tourism economy for "gateway" communities.
4. Properly managing public land, not just the travel mechanism on public lands, results in better protection of the natural land and cultural resources.

When I was 24 I sustained a life altering injury that makes it difficult to hike. Mountain biking has been a god-send for me and not only keeps me fit but allows me to experience wilderness and travel through the country side, I do not travel off trail. If I cant bike it I wont be able to go. Alaska is far behind states like Arizona, Idaho, Montana and of course Utah and Colorado, Washington, Oregon etc when it comes to Mountain Bike access and were totally missing out. I love wilderness, i honor it, I slow down and yield to hikers and am courteous on trails, we all have a need and a right to visit and experience these magic areas. Alaska has a long ways to go but it also has huge potential to tap into a massive diverse and growing local and travel market with mountain biking.

While the best trails for mountain biking are thought out, until we have a substantial trail system in place existing trails are what we have and we cant afford to loose them. And we must all share until we have enough trails to start to separate use. Truly we all enjoy the wilderness and no one should be excluded so we need massive amounts of new trails to expand what a growing need and enrich local economies and our local human experience in the wilds.

I hope that access is not restricted. As a younger professional here in this State for eight years access to adventure is one of the things that brought me here and keeps me healthy, active and excited to make a life here. Trail diversity and access as it already is remains a problem, a point of frustration and a reason to leave, not visit etc. This is a clear indication that we as a State are really missing something wonderful, and are alienating people and potentially losing some of the best. It is my clear statement that we as Alaska need to create more trails, give greater access so all can enjoy more!

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