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Comments:

Thank you for seeking public comment for the Chugach National Forest Plan. I have rowed and sailed more than 100,000 miles in northern latitudes, from Antarctica to 80 degrees north in the Arctic. After all that travel, I can honestly attest that there is almost nowhere wilder than Prince William Sound. For example, I commonly see more wildlife in 15 minutes out of Whittier than I did during five months and 2500 miles of rowing along the entire coast of Norway from Sweden to Russia.

My experience is that most people do not understand what is missing from an environment if they have never known it to be there. The result is that we are changing our understanding of what constitutes wildness. I have been venturing into Prince William Sound by small boat since 1975. While there is certainly more recreational activity and impact than decades ago, the wildness of this area is extraordinary unique and we cannot afford to take it for granted. It is imperative that the Nellie Juan - College Fiord Wilderness Study Area remain intact with Alternative D. I also strongly support the inclusion of EVOS purchased lands in Dangerous Passage and on Knight Island.

Many thanks for your attention,

Jill Fredston