

# *SAR - Forest Plan - Chapter 3 - 133*

## *Comment #    Comment*

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0020936-001

Please do not Just label these lands, waters, and skies 'Wilderness.' Make them a permanent wilderness that a bear would recognize.

Make all the rivers wild. Keep motors out of the back country. Preserve the solitude and primitive character of this natural jewel in the wonderland of Alaska.

No more roads.

When the inevitable political conflicts arise, compromise should favor the place, the creatures, and the solitude. Those who can not speak for themselves. Those who will be here for us if we let them be.

0021361-001

I am a supporter of the Sierra Club, and have recently read an article concerning the Copper River Delta in their latest magazine issue. I would like to help preserve this special place by asking the Forest Service to do everything in its power to stop logging and mining plans here and to pursue wilderness designation for the eastern half of the delta.

0022288-013

In expanding the boundaries of the Chugach, Section 501(b) mandated by statute how both the Copper/Rude River addition to the forest and the Copper/Bering River portion of the forest would be managed, The statute stated that multiple use activities would be permitted in these areas as long as those activities were consistent with conservation of fish and wildlife.

0022539-001

I am urging you to re-classify the southeast portion of the Copper River Delta as 501(b)1 Recommended Wilderness.

0022728-001

1. The entire 501(b) area on the Copper River Delta should be recommended wilderness.

0023035-003

Dear Chugach National Forest - CLMP DEIS Review Team:

Please include restrictions on motorized use, and restrictions on commercial timber harvest in your selection of a preferred alternative in the EIS.

For example,

-- fixed wing flightseeing landings in Backcountry Prescription should be disallowed;

-- Alternative F should be strengthened to ensure protection of all roadless areas from new roadbuilding and from commercial timber harvest.

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- 0026732-001    I strongly support classification of the entire eastern Delta, including the Martin River, as wilderness, specifically the wilderness classification designated 133-501(b)-Category 1. This is the wilderness designation which was designed in response to comments from Cordova residents which is 'tailored to accommodate existing uses such as:
- Fish and wildlife management  
Conservation and perpetuation of commercial, sport, and subsistence fisheries  
Motorized use for fishing and hunting'
- I urge you to reconsider designation of the entire eastern Delta as a 133-501(b)-Category 1 wilderness.
- 0026747-004    ANILCA 501b Recommended Wilderness: As an alternative to Recommended Wilderness (prescription 131), we suggest the Forest Service consider applying the ANILCA 501(b) Recommended Wilderness (prescription 133). If this prescription (133) is used beyond the Copper River Delta, it may be reasonable to change the name of the prescription to something like 'National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Area.' However, the final Management Plan should explicitly recommend this area be eventually added to the National Wilderness System.
- 0026747-013    Southwest Resurrection Trail: We recommend the area southwest of the Resurrection Trail, adjacent to the Refuge Mystery Creek Wilderness in Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, receive a category 1 prescription. Again, we suggest applying the 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription to this area. . The specific units that should receive this prescription are: K328, K327, K326, K322, K325, K323, and K134.
- 0026747-019    Montague Island: We strongly recommend that the Chugach Plan revision designate at least one of the large outer islands of Prince William Sound in a category 1 prescription. Following a thorough review of all the resource values and potential threats, we recommend designating Montague Island in a 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription.
- Knight Island: We recommend applying the 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription to Knight Island.
- 0026747-021    Culross Pass: We recommend changing the pass to a 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription for P374, P360. This passage has very high recreational and scenic value and good opportunity for access by small craft, including kayaks.
- Port Gravina: We recommend designating P318 and P325, at the head of Port Gravina, as 501(b) Recommended Wilderness to protect this relatively pristine portion of the eastern sound.
- 0026747-023    Copper River Delta:
- Eastern Copper River Delta: Audubon Alaska very strongly recommends applying the ANILCA 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription to the entire eastern half of the Copper River Delta and the adjacent barrier islands including Kayak Island. We believe there is strong justification for designating the eastern delta as a 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness and encourage the Forest Service to reapply this prescription as originally considered.

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0026810-019    Prince William Sound

Montague Island: We strongly recommend that the Chugach Plan revision designate at least one of the large outer islands of Prince William Sound in a category 1 prescription. Following a thorough review of all the resource values and potential threats, we recommend designating Montague Island in a 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription, Montague has very high wildlife values, including a small and precarious brown bear population and at least two indigenous mammal species, the Montague Island marmot and Montague Island vole. The northern portion of the island, from Zaikof Pt, to Port Charmers, has very high value for migratory shorebirds, and is particularly important for the world's population of Surfbirds and Black Turnstones. Although Audubon first suggested this area be considered under a Fish and Wildlife Conservation prescription, we do not believe this prescription provides adequate conservation measures, A comparison of prescriptions suggests that the Backcountry prescription would provide more protection and would be preferred over the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Prescription. However, our strong preference is the 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription. We particularly like the concept of calling this a National Fish & Wildlife Conservation Area. Clearly, at least one of the large outer islands should be provided strong conservation management, Montague is the most isolated of the islands in Prince William Sound so the human-use/economic impacts of this prescription would be less than other areas that are more accessible. Applying this prescription to Montague would also help diversify category 1 prescriptions throughout the forest.

Knight Island: We recommend applying the 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription to Knight Island. Knight Island has high value for wilderness recreation and scenery. There are superb opportunities for kayaking and small boat cruising along this highly dissected shoreline with its many protected coves, bays, and inlets, This island provides a much higher degree of protected waters and ease of access than the big outer islands.

Culross Pass: We recommend changing the pass to a 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription for P374, P360. This passage has very high recreational and scenic value and good opportunity for access by small craft, including kayaks.

Port Gravina: We recommend designating P318 and P325, at the head of Port Gravina, as 501(b) Recommended Wilderness to protect this relatively pristine portion of the eastern sound. This would also balance prescriptions across the forest since category 1 prescriptions are very limited on this side of the sound.

0026810-022    Copper River Delta;

Eastern Copper River Delta: Audubon Alaska very strongly recommends applying the ANILCA 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription to the entire eastern half of the Copper River Delta and the adjacent barrier islands including Kayak Island, This prescription allows significant management flexibility, particularly for wildlife enhancement projects as well as for access by local residents. As stated previously, we would support changing the name of this prescription to 'National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Area.' The Copper River Delta is clearly a world-class wildlife habitat resource. The delta supports the largest spring concentration of shorebirds (more than 30 species) in the Western Hemisphere with more than one million birds using the area in a single day. In recognition of its importance, the delta has been designated both a hemispheric site in the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network and a State of Alaska Critical Habitat Area. The delta also has high wilderness recreation values. We believe there is strong justification for designating the eastern delta as a 501(b) Recommended Wilderness and encourage the Forest Service to reapply this prescription as originally considered.

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- 0026812-007    The preferred alternative ignores congressional language in Section 501(b) of ANILCA by assigning prescriptions in the Copper River area that are far more restrictive than those established by Congress. Highly restrictive prescriptions in the preferred alternative, including Wilderness, will restrict multiple uses in the delta that are allowed by Congress. In expanding the boundaries of the Chugach, Section 501(b) mandated by statute how both the Copper/Rude River addition to the forest and the Copper/Bering River portion of the forest would be managed. The statute stated that multiple use activities would be permitted in these areas as long as those activities were consistent with conservation of fish and wildlife.
- 0027030-001    The Proposed 501(b) designation will not adequately provide the safeguards needed to keep this important shorebird habitat and unique wetlands environment intact. A Wilderness designation may also be a crucial element in the prevention of the destructive activities that the Chugach Alaska Corporation has proposed for the Delta including logging, road construction and coal development.
- 0027575-003    Based on an examination of the various management prescriptions, I support an ANILCA 501(b) Category 1 wilderness management prescription for both the east and west Copper River Delta and (or) Montague Island.

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0027575-006      Support for ANILCA 501 (b) Category 1 Wilderness management prescription

In place of the 213-501(b) category 2. I support a 133-ANILCA 50(B) Category 1 Wilderness management prescription for the east and west Copper River Delta. This prescription should apply to all areas except the road corridor. I believe that only the wilderness prescription will keep the Delta ecosystem functionally intact, and safe from increased commercial exploitation. I would modify the 133 501-(b)-Management Area - Category 1 to read as follows (additions in bold)

Theme: The theme of this management area is to manage the land concurrently to emphasize the conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitats, increase our knowledge of ecosystems and their processes, and maintain the wilderness character.

Ecological Systems desired condition: Ecological processes, largely undisturbed by human activity, dominate this Management Area, Vegetation in the area will be mostly regenerated by natural processes such as: floods, avalanches, earthquakes, wind, fire, insect, or disease. Increasing our knowledge of natural ecosystems and processes through basic and applied research shall be emphasized. Research will be designed to minimize impact to the wilderness character. Fish and wildlife habitat....

Social Systems desired condition should include the language: Recommended Wilderness prescription is tailored to accommodate existing uses such as fish and wildlife management and research, conservation and perpetuation of commercial, sport and subsistence fisheries, and motorized use for fishing and hunting.

501-(b)-Recommended Wilderness Management Area-Activities Table  
Biological Elements: Ecosystem Research Y

Vegetation Standards.  
2. Vegetation projects are allowed if they contribute to knowledge of ecological systems and processes and do not impact the wilderness character.

Fisheries Standards  
3. Research projects will minimize impact to the wilderness character.

Wildlife Standards  
4. Wildlife research and other wildlife projects will minimize impact to the wilderness character.

0027576-004

We are also concerned about Brown Bear Core Habitat. Please ensure that the Resurrection River area between the Kenai River and Seward is adequately protected. Consider recommending for wilderness, using the 501b prescription that allows vegetation and habitat management.

Copper River Delta:  
East Side Recommended for 501b Wilderness: there is minimal current recreational use other than hunting, by AWRTA members and local residents, but high value for wilderness. The Forest Service should preserve these wilderness values by recommending these lands for Wilderness Designation.

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0027580-003    Highly restrictive prescriptions in the preferred alternative, including Wilderness, will restrict multiple uses in the delta that are allowed by Congress. In expanding the boundaries of the Chugach, Section 501(b) mandated by statute how both the Copper/Rude River addition to the forest and the Copper/Bering River portion of the forest would be managed. The statute stated that multiple use activities would be permitted in these areas as long as those activities were consistent with conservation offish and wildlife.

0028298-001    Of particular concern to us is the status of the eastern Copper River delta. While the CRWP board chose not to take a position on this issue in order to remain objective as a forum, the group of residents that we sponsored throughout the planning process did - and it recommends the Cordova-based 501(b) Recommended Wilderness prescription for this area.

The Tourism Committee has spent many hours assessing what kind of tourism and how much of it would be appropriate for Cordova. This same group contains several fishermen who expressed concern about the long-term viability of the Copper River fishery. The group's support of 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness for the eastern Copper River delta is thus a product of several interests. The group wants to see development of small-scale tourism; small groups of independent travelers coming to Cordova and using existing facilities fits within this picture. Development of destination lodges for 50 - 100 guests and all the accompanying infrastructure does not.

Given what you and we have heard Cordovans ask for on the Copper River delta, public priorities point overwhelmingly to a 501(b) Recommended Wilderness-type designation.

-- Wilderness on the eastern Copper River delta, and modification of the 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness prescription under 'Social Systems desired condition' to include the language: 'Recommended Wilderness prescription is tailored to accommodate existing uses such as: fish and wildlife management; conservation and perpetuation of commercial, sport and subsistence fisheries; and motorized use for fishing and hunting.'

-- Designate Montague Island as 501(b) Recommended Wilderness; one of the Sound's large islands should be managed to remain in as natural a state as possible.

0028300-001    I hear 501(b) Wilderness will keep existing uses so my Dad and I will still be able to fish and hunt the way we always have. That's what I want.

0028316-001    , I strongly request a 501(b) Wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta. I am opposed to the 501b(2) designation because it will only will last until the next Forest Plan, at which time it may be too late to reverse the Delta back to a wilderness area. I want to see the Delta remain the way it has been, and only the Wilderness designation will provide permanent protection As a hunter, I support the 501(b) Wilderness for the Copper River Delta since it allows current uses on the Delta to continue.

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0028366-001    I am urging you to re-classify the southeast portion of the Copper River Delta as 501 (b)1 Recommended Wilderness.

0028504-008

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2) 501B Wilderness:

Our understanding of what congress intended when it set aside the 501B lands in ANILCA was to create greater protections for this area than other areas of the forest due to its outstanding fish and wildlife values. The Forest Service, however, has interpreted this differently. The agency assumes that congress gave the agency a mandate to pursue active management offish and wildlife populations and not necessarily provide greater protection for this area. The 501B Wilderness prescription suffers from all of the problems outlined above related to the Wilderness prescription, and more. The Forest Service proposes to take even greater liberties regarding motorized access in this prescription, including with airboats and helicopters, in a recommended wilderness area. We do not support this approach, and we do not believe it is in keeping with what Congress intended when it set these lands aside in ANILCA. Again, we believe the Forest Service has crossed the legal boundaries of what is allowed in wilderness, both under the Wilderness Act and ANILCA.

0028549-001

As a Cordovan and a resident of Alaska, it is my request that you recommend 501(6) wilderness designation for all Copper River Delta, both east and west of the river, including all valuable wetlands that many of us rely upon for livelihood or survival.

0028561-001

I strongly support classification of the entire eastern Delta, including the Martin River, as wilderness, specifically the wilderness classification designated 133-501(b)-Category 1 This is the wilderness designation which was designed in response to comments from Cordova residents which is 'tailored to accommodate existing uses CDFU endorsed a 501(b)-2 classification along with the city council, however, the CDFU membership was never polled about this issue

0028780-002

Very important - Wilderness protection for the entire Copper River Delta (501b area)

0029001-001

We discussed the applicability of the 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness Prescription on other areas across the forest such as the Kenai.

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0029031-001

I write in favor of the 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness, the Cordova Provision, for the whole of the Copper River Delta (both east on west of the river), Knight and Montague islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay. My take on local sentiment was that we want things to remain the same--501 (b) was so thoughtfully drafted with our local interest at heart. AS the area has been managed essentially as wilderness for the last 20 years, officially continuing to do so is exactly what we want.

I could list many reasons for my support of 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness but 2 speak to the point primarily:

1) I believe the greatest value of the Delta and PWS lies in it's very wildness. I think it is essential to protect these places now so that the true value as an intact ecosystem and beautiful space shall be realized in the long term for the benefit of all not a few businesses.

2) The only provision that will protect the area for the long term is 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness. Only that will seal the safe fate of the area for any meaningful length of time--10 to 15 years. 501(b)-2 is not enough protection again the the heavy pressure from industrial mining, logging, and tourism.

0029039-001

I am interested because I have used the lands and waters around Cordova as a local resident since 1976 for hunting, fishing, bird watching, recreating, wildlife viewing, commercial fishing and hiking. I believe that the best designation for the lands around Cordova for these uses as has been my custom is the 501-d wilderness designation

that has been proposed for the area east of the Copper River north of the Martin River. I would like for the use pattern not to change very much from how these areas are used now. Frankly, I would, like for both (east and west) sides of the Copper Delta be included in this prescription as long as current modes of use would not be greatly changed.

This e-mail is to correct a typographical error in the e-mail I sent earlier today. The part of the letter that read: '501-d wilderness' should read '501-b recommended wilderness'. Thanks for your time working on this matter.

Kenneth Hill

0029149-001

I have lived in Cordova since 1981 and I strongly support an ANILCA 501 (B) Category one Wilderness Management Area designation for the East and West Copper River Delta. This is the only way to preserve this unique area for future generations.

0029166-001

I support the Cordova District Fishermen United and the City of Cordova's position concerning 501 b that lets the fish and game habitat alone.

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- 0029256-001    I support changing the use of the southeastern Copper River Delta to a prescription of ANILCA 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness.
- Similarly, I suggest designating northern Montague Island, Little Green Island, Green Island and Channel Island as ANILCA 501(b) Recommended Wilderness (northern Montague is defined by a line due east of the southern tip of Little Green Island). This area of the Sound also supports > 50% of the world's population of surfbirds and black turnstones during spring migration. Thousands of birds are also present in this area during post-breeding migration. This area also provides important habitat for breeding and wintering black oystercatchers, molting harlequin ducks, breeding arctic and aleutian terns, pup-rearing sea otters, and as a haul-out for harbor seals.
- 0029063-005    The USFS has a rare opportunity to provide long-term protection of this region as a national treasure for future generations of Americans. To prevent the incremental destruction of this irreplaceable area, we believe the lower Copper River and Bering River watersheds must be afforded more protection than specified by the proposed ANILCA 501 (b)-2 prescription. To ensure future long-term protection for the significant fish and wildlife resources within the Copper and Bering River watersheds, the Recommended Wilderness Management Area prescription may be the best option.
- 0034169-001    The Chugach National Forest is public land and the Copper River Delta is a treasure shared by all Americans. It doesn't matter whether one fishes for a living, or drives a taxi in New York City, we all have a stake in the way this spectacular area is managed. NWF has come to respect the open process that has characterized the forest plan revision and believes the Forest Service is committed to doing the right thing. The agency's abrupt and surprising decision to include only a token wilderness recommendation for the Delta in its preferred alternative was a sad departure from the rational proceedings we had come to expect. NWF urges the Forest Service to focus once again on the two-year process that has repeatedly demonstrated public and scientific support for a comprehensive Copper River Delta wilderness.
- More specifically, NWF recommends that the 501(b) Wilderness prescription be applied to all of the eastern Copper River Delta and to all barrier islands and islands in the Copper River's mouth. In addition, the 501(b) Wilderness prescription should be applied to all polygons on the western side of the Delta south of the Copper River Highway and north of polygons C082 and C097. A one-half mile corridor of 501(b)-3 prescription should be established on each side of the Copper River Highway to meet the demands for recreation and tourism. Wilderness in the recommended areas will preserve the 700,000-acre wetlands complex that defines the Delta, maintain the wild character of the beautiful and remote eastern Delta, and help buffer and protect the incomparable Copper River.
- 0029302-001    I write in favor of the 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness, the Cordova Provision, for the whole of the Copper River Delta (both east on west of the river), Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay. My take on local sentiment was that we want things to remain the same--501 (b) was so thoughtfully drafted with our local interest at heart.
- 2) The only provision that will protect the area for the long term is 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness.
- Please throw your weight back in support of the original 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness, the Cordova plan.
- 0029315-001    I say wilderness for our Delta - I hear 501(b) Wilderness will keep existing uses so my Dad and I will still be able to fish and hunt the way we always have.

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0029369-002

And closer to home the 501(b) wilderness on the Copper River Delta needs to be enlarged and ideally should include the entire Delta.

0029388-001

Please expand the 501b wilderness on the Copper River Delta to include the entire Delta and include a larger and more diverse area to the western Sound's wilderness classification.

0029465-002

Lands outside the Wilderness Study Area were studied and recommended for Wilderness designation. Lands already designated 501(b) by Congress were recommended for Wilderness. Such studies and recommendations violate the 'no more' clause of ANILCA.

0030760-003

and logging in the final plan wilderness protection should be recommended for the entire Copper River Delta (501b),

0032271-001

. The 501(b) - Wilderness prescription is the best prescription for the fish, wildlife, and people of the Copper River Delta.

0034412-001

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS FOR THE COPPER RIVER DELTA  
Objections to East & West Copper River Delta proposed ANILCA 501(b) 2 preferred alternative.

Endorsement & Modification of East and West Copper River Delta ANILCA 501(B) Wilderness alternative

The Prince William Sound Audubon Society endorses the 501 (b) wilderness prescription as the preferred alternative for both the eastern and western Copper River Delta. Previously the Prince William Sound Audubon Society submitted as an alternative a 501 (b) wilderness prescription for both the east and west Copper River Delta (except for the road corridor).

Specifically, we suggest that the 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness prescription for the east and west Delta be modified as follows (additions are in bold):

0034413-006

Lands already designated  
501(b) by Congress were recommended for 'Wilderness.'

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0034441-001

I am disheartened that the 501(b) wilderness for the Copper River Delta was diminished. This wilderness prescription is unique and was put together by a wide range of local interests here in Cordova, including commercial fishermen, with the intent of preserving the existing uses of the Delta by the people who live here. I strongly feel that the ENTIRE Copper River Delta needs to be classified as 501b Wilderness. This can be done by expanding wilderness in the Western Sound and protect the local uses of the Forest by making the entire Copper River Delta a 501(b) wilderness prescription.

0034442-003

In expanding the boundaries of the Chugach, Section 501(b) mandated by statute how both the Copper/Rude River addition to the forest and the Copper/Bering River portion of the forest would be managed.

0034583-001

I strongly request a 501(b) Wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta. I support the 501(b) Wilderness for the Copper River Delta since it allows current uses on the Delta to continue. Keep development out, keep the Delta wild and support a Wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta.

0034588-001

I am disheartened that the 501 (b) wilderness for the Copper River Delta was diminished. This wilderness prescription is unique and was put together by a wide range of local interests here in Cordova, including commercial fishermen, with the intent of preserving the existing uses of the Delta by the people who live here. I strongly feel that the ENTIRE Copper River Delta needs to be classified as 501b Wilderness. Please do not let a few vocal, misinformed people ruin what so many of us here need and want.

This can be done by expanding wilderness in the Western Sound and protect the local uses of the Forest by making the entire Copper River Delta a 501 (b) wilderness prescription.

0034593-002

I am disheartened that the 501b wilderness for the Copper River Delta was diminished. This wilderness prescription is unique and was put together by a wide range of local interests here in Cordova, including commercial fishermen, with the intent of preserving the existing uses of the Delta by the people who live here. I strongly feel that the ENTIRE Copper River Delta needs to be classified as 501b wilderness.

0034753-001

I am writing to ask for a wilderness designation on the entire Copper River Delta.

Please change the 501b2 area on the Copper River Delta to a 501b Wilderness.

0034808-001

I have lived in Cordova since 1981 and I strongly support an ANILCA 501 (B) Category one Wilderness Management Area designation for the East and West Copper River Delta.

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0034854-001

I write in favor of the 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness, the Cordova Provision, for the whole of the Copper River Delta (both east on west of the river), Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay.

I could list many reasons for my support of 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness but 2 speak to the point primarily:

1) I believe the greatest value of the Delta and PWS lies in it's very wildness. I think it is essential to protect these places now so that the true value as an intact ecosystem and beautiful space shall be realized in the long term for the benefit of all not a few businesses.

2) The only provision that will protect the area for the long term is 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness. Only that will seal the safe fate of the area for any meaningful length of time--10 to 15 years. 501 (b)-2 is not enough protection again the the heavy pressure from industrial mining, logging, and tourism.

Please throw your weight back in support of the original 501 (b) Recommended Wilderness, the Cordova plan.

0034867-001

I grew up in Alaska and fished in Prince William Sound and on the Copper River Delta. I am a resident of Alaska. This area has always meant a lot to me and many others in my community. It must be protected and designated 501b Wilderness status.

0034879-001

As a Cordovan resident and long time fisherman, I believe the Forest Plan should be changed to include wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta. With more Republican pressure in the coming years it is critical to protect our dry lands as well as our wetlands against further development and industries. The 501 (b) Wilderness designation is would allow Cordovans use of the local land and still work toward future protection.

0034880-001

The proposed plan and preferred alternative follows a conservative, go-slow approach instead of active forest management. My preference for me plan is to strengthen protections of roadless areas within the forest and to add wilderness protection for the Copper River Delta (501b area).

0034892-002

You have fostered distrust in the community by helping to build a 501b Wilderness and then throwing it out of the preferred in the areas that need it the most. If you truly want to do the best thing for Cordova and the Delta, you will change the entire wetlands east and west of the Copper River back to 501b Wilderness.

0034904-005

4. Lands outside the Wilderness Study Area were studied and recommended for 'Wilderness' designation. Lands already designated 501(b) by Congress were recommended for 'wilderness.' Such studies and recommendations violate the 'no-more' clause of ANILCA (1326(b)). This action is a good way to destroy relationships with the residents of Alaska.

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0034911-001

As a half time Cordova resident, I want to emphasize the importance of changing the current Preferred Forest Plan from a 501b(2) to a 501(b) Wilderness for the Copper River Delta (Delta). I I have been actively involved in this Forest Planning process locally in Cordova. The 501(b) Wilderness was specifically written with the input of local Cordovans to preserve current and traditional uses on the Delta.

I support a 501(b) Wilderness designation for the entire Copper River Delta with a one-quarter mile buffer of 501(b)3 off each side of the Copper River Highway.

0034926-004

5. Lands outside the Wilderness Study Area were studied and recommended for 'Wilderness' designation. Lands already designated 501(b) by Congress were recommended for 'Wilderness

0034928-007

4. Lands outside the Wilderness Study Area were studied and recommended for 'Wilderness' designation. Lands already designated 501 (b) by Congress were recommended for 'Wilderness

0034929-012

4) 501(b) Prescriptions:

The Forest

Service would manage 501(b) Wilderness areas to provide 'outstanding opportunities for solitude, quiet and isolation,' but would continue to allow certain motorized vehicles for 'traditional' uses such as subsistence. For instance, subject to appropriate restrictions to protect fish, wildlife, and habitat, local residents could continue to use airboats for hunting and fishing.

0034930-001

I would like to express my concerns on why '501(b) Wilderness' is the only designation that the Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound deserves, over any other USFS considerations.

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0035544-001

My specific recommendations follow:  
Copper River Delta Wetlands (east and west of the river):

Wilderness designation for the Delta wetlands would permanently protect the management intent of ANILCA (Section 501(b)), states that conservation shall be the 'primary purpose for management' of fisheries and wildlife habitat. Road construction, oil and gas development, and coal mining are extractive industries proposed for this region that would permanently alter the wild character of these magnificent wetlands and fisheries. These developments would make the area ineligible for wilderness in the future. They also threaten valuable salmon spawning habitat for commercial and subsistence fishing and the critical staging areas for over 16 million shorebirds and other migratory waterfowl species. Excessive ORV recreation activities that can seriously harm wetlands habitat would also be regulated. Wilderness would keep the Delta wild for generations to come and ensure long-term sustainability of local fisheries.

0035547-001

COPPER RIVER DELTA WETLANDS (east and west of the River): Wilderness designation for the Delta wetlands would permanently protect the management intent of conservation as the 'primary purpose for management' of the fisheries and wildlife habitat of this rich wetlands complex as stated in ANILCA (Section 501(b)). Road construction, oil and gas development, and coal mining are extractive industries that would permanently alter and scar the wild character of these magnificent wetlands and fisheries. Wilderness would keep the Delta wild for generations to come. This could be the last chance to protect this region as Wilderness. Roads and development would make the area ineligible for wilderness and threaten the valuable salmon spawning habitat for commercial and subsistence fishing, the critical staging areas for over 16 million shorebirds and other migratory waterfowl species, and from unregulated and excessive ORV recreation activities that can seriously harm wetlands habitat. In addition, protect the Martin, Copper, Bering, Katalla Rivers as Wild for their outstanding and remarkable ecological values for fish and wildlife habitat. The Alaganik Slough, Martin and Bering Lakes also deserve special designations that recognize their fish and wildlife values over harmful developments.

0035650-001

I am disheartened that the 501(b) wilderness for the Copper River Delta was diminished. I strongly feel that the ENTIRE Copper River Delta needs to be classified as 501b Wilderness.

This can be done by expanding wilderness in the Western Sound and protect the local uses of the Forest by making the entire Copper River Delta a 501(b) wilderness prescription.

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0036073-001

I am disheartened that the 501(b) wilderness for the Copper River Delta was diminished. This wilderness prescription is unique and was put together by a wide range of local interests here in Cordova, including commercial fishermen, with the intent of preserving the existing uses of the Delta by the people who live here. I strongly feel that the ENTIRE Copper River Delta needs to be classified as 501b Wilderness.

This can be done by expanding wilderness in the Western Sound and protect the local uses of the Forest by making the entire Copper River Delta a 501(b) wilderness prescription.

0036189-001

I have lived in Cordova since 1981 and I strongly support an ANILCA 501 (B) Category one Wilderness Management Area designation for the East and West Copper River Delta.

0036225-001

I am writing to express concern over the fact that more areas of the Copper River Delta did not appear with the Wilderness designation in the proposed land use plan the Forest Service has been working on.

I believe that the best designation for the lands around Cordova for these uses as has been my custom is the 501-d wilderness designation that has been proposed for the area east of the Copper River north of the Martin River.

0036226-001

This e-mail is to correct a typographical error in the e-mail I sent earlier today. The part of the letter that read: '501-d wilderness' should read '501-b recommended wilderness'.

0036667-002

Wilderness in the Copper River Delta

When I use the word 'Wilderness,' I mean 501(b) Recommended Wilderness tailored to accommodate such existing uses as fish and wildlife management; conservation and perpetuation of commercial, sport and subsistence fisheries; and motorized use for hunting and fishing - with some exceptions.