

SAR - Forest Plan - Chapter 3 - 221

<i>Comment #</i>	<i>Comment</i>
0026747-030	<p>Oil Spills: There is no mention anywhere in the plan of oil spill response. A tanker break-up in Hinchinbrook Entrance could easily lead to oil on the delta, and in that event the Forest Service will need to be ready for response strategies, and at a minimum have a plan for coordinating with clean up agencies (e.g., Coast Guard, oil companies). We recommend that the Chugach Plan address this issue and develop a clear strategy for dealing with oil spills, particularly on the Copper River Delta.</p>
0027575-009	<p>Oil Spills. Because of the potential impact of an oil spill on Forest Service administered barrier islands and shoreward lands above mean high tide, the Forest Service needs to be an active participant in oil spill prevention, contingency plans, and in gathering baseline data.</p>
0028289-003	<p>Knight Island</p> <p>Though many questions regarding species recovery since the oil spill of 1989 remain, it is clear that the continued management of PWS will require extensive monitoring of species, habitat and visitor use. Of particular concern is the Knight Island. Not only is Knight Island home to many of the EVOS injured species, it is one of the most pristine valuable resources on the Forest.</p> <p>Knight Island is a treasure from both a recreational and biological standpoint. The countless bays and coves throughout the island make for world-class exploring and wildlife viewing, while Knight Island Passage is an important feeding area for killer whales and dall and harbor porpoises, and includes at least two orca rubbing beaches. Herring Bay, Lower Herring Bay, and Drier Bay are also important herring areas. Sea bird colonies and nesting sites dot the landscape.</p> <p>What is perhaps one of the greatest value of northern Knight Island is the opportunity to track long-term effects of the spill in the Bay of Isles and in Herring Bay. These are extremely well-studied areas, both biologically (e.g. CHIA project) and also in terms of fate and persistence of oil. There is a strong argument to be made that nothing should be done on adjacent uplands or in the tidelands or the bays themselves that would compromise opportunities to track spill effects over the long term (e.g., next decade or more). For example, a fuel depot anchored in one of these bays would increase chronic hydrocarbon releases, which in turn would compromise the ability to track EVOS-related hydrocarbon exposure in the blood of resident sea otters.</p>
0029174-002	<p>Prince William Sound is an area still recovering from the unforgettable tragedy of Exxon Valdez oil spill.</p>

Comment # Comment

0034201-002

We have seen the devastating impacts that man can have on this area with the Exxon Valdez oil spill. We are just now seeing the return of species that were all but lost to Prince William Sound and Montague Island.

0034815-001

The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Council members and their representatives have made it clear in open meetings and in print that the EVOS settlement agreement must preserve pre-existing uses including commercial fishing and recreational activities. Also, ANILCA has clauses that guarantee the preservation of pre-existing uses in the spill regions.