

# *SAR - FP - Interests - Fire Protection*

## *Comment #    Comment*

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0021622-004

In addition, I would like to stress that the Forest Service: \* Use logging only to protect the safety of communities; do not use the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0020921-001

Your plan should include mandatory road building in areas with roads existing, to access from, in order to create small fire breaks and easy access for equipment in case of major forest fires and have witnessed the loss of wildlife, mainly in young animals and nesting birds, that occurs during fire. I am opposed to allowing wildfire to run unchecked when they can be controlled early and economically. In the bug killed spruce areas of the Kenai spur roads should be built to allow access from the highway for equipment. They should be routed up the canyons to present less visibility and less danger to fire fighters using them. Logging of the [Illegible] should be encouraged where viable. If the U. S. is going to set aside huge portions of Alaska as parks etc. then U. S. citizens should be made financially responsible for maintenance and loss of resume to the state.

0022231-004

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0022263-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas

0022433-001

Make changes slowly one after a lot of thought I love the forest but I burn wood too. Don't clear cut - I'm interested in rocks and mining too - Don't tear up the earth so others can't enjoy it!

0023114-002

Really feel there is a need to harvest the spruce [Illegible] will [Illegible] in order to reduce feel burden in Chugach forest & would another [Illegible] or [Illegible] [Illegible]

0026661-013

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild roadless areas. Encourage small-scale logging, not large commercial 'timber extraction' or 'treatment.'

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- 0026696-002    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities
- 0026828-005    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities.  
Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.
- 0026829-005    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.
- 0026834-004    Finally, Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.
- 0026891-003    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.
- 0026894-003    Please utilize logging only as a means to protect local communities, and stop using the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for expanded logging in roadless areas.
- 0026896-003    \* Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.
- 0026908-003    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities.
- 0026919-003    Thinning and controlled burns is the only sustainable way to keep cities safe.

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0026922-005

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0026929-002

Logging should be extremely limited and only used to protect the safety of extant communities. Let nature take it's course with the spruce bark beetle -- logging to 'fix' this perceived problem will only create more problems which will require more and more invasive 'solutions'

0026938-003

Thinning and controlled burns is the only sustainable way to keep cities safe. Logging hillsides causes avalanches. ground slumps, and landslides during the spring. To protect a community from fire by exposing it to these dangerous and unpredictable events is not a wise measure. Small cuts, thinning cuts, are the only way to protect a community, the soil, the forest, and the wildlife.

0026940-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0026945-003

Let's have logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0026955-006

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities and in designated areas with reforestation requirements Do not allow the spruce bark beetle to be used as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0026958-004

Use logging to protect safety of community and not use spruce bark beetle as excuse for logging roadless areas.

0026969-004

Please also use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0026990-002

- Small well-controlled logging operations should be allowed to harvest beetle-killed trees.

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0027005-002

Logging, if any, should be designated only to protect the safety of communities. 'Forest health' should not be used as an excuse for logging in wild unroaded areas.

0027037-002

So, if you could increase long term recreational opportunities as well as improve wildlife habitat and reduce fire hazard, I agree with beetle kill management.

0027045-003

Fires pollute our air, destroy the humus needed to build agricultural soils, and kill off the wildlife that cannot out-run, or, out-fly them.

A Community  
in grave danger of losing its Spirit; as well as its homes and businesses, from the coming catastrophic wildfire.

'WHAT MORAL RIGHT, OR LEGAL AUTHORITY, DID YOU HAVE, AND DO YOU HAVE, FOR CREATING AND MAINTAINING A SET OF CONDITIONS, LOCALLY, WHICH THREATENS OUR LIVES, OUR PROPERTIES AND ESPECIALLY, THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN?'

In an over-zealous attempt to manage the local spruce forest under a 'DOMINANT USE--RECREATION ONLY' management philosophy, you've accomplished the following:

YOU'VE KILLED THE LOCAL SPRUCE FOREST. To do so---

You mercilessly and deliberately attacked the timber industry, myself, my family, and every person who sought to utilize the local timber resource and establish the industry in Cooper Landing.

You've created a situation that constantly threatens our local electrical distribution system as well as the major electrical life lines that emanate from this forest community to serve the entire lower Kenai Peninsula and some of Anchorage as well.

You've exposed us continually to catastrophic wildfire which could destroy every building and other installation within this community.

You've managed the local forest so that our lives, the lives of our children, and the lives of our guests who drive the Seward and Sterling Highways are continually threatened by the thousands of dead spruce along our only highway--our only avenue of escape when the catastrophic wildfire chooses to strike.

0027080-006

Specific improvements that I recommend for the Preferred Alternative are:

SELECTIVE logging and controlled-burning of beetle-killed spruce trees and slash to prevent uncontrolled wildfires.

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0027579-001

I am writing to you in basic support of the Forest Service's Preferred Alternative with a few added features that I would recommend regarding Wilderness and logging.

With regards to logging, I urge you to allow logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0027642-002

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0028279-003

Specifically, I ask the following:

Please avoid using 'forest health' as an excuse to log. Death, disease and insects are part of the natural function of a forest ecosystems. Protecting communities from fire is essential, but this should be done only in areas near villages - not miles distant in the backcountry.

0028279-004

Specifically, I ask the following:

Please avoid using 'forest health' as an excuse to log. Death, disease and insects are part of the natural function of a forest ecosystems. Protecting communities from fire is essential, but this should be done only in areas near villages - not miles distant in the backcountry.

0028318-003

Where logging is allowed, it should only be to protect communities, not for 'forest health, a loophole that is frequently used to damage wild areas which have been protected.

0028402-003

Please utilize logging exclusively as a means to protect local communities, and stop using the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for expanded logging in roadless areas.

0028542-003

Please use logging only to protect the safety of communities Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas I

0029046-004

Please use logging only to protect the safety of communities Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas I'm not in favor of ANY new roads in the forest Trails are fine, as they don't have the impact a road does.

0029140-004

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

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0029217-004    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029218-004    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029219-005    Logging should be used only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029332-003    And, PLEASE, only use logging to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029342-003    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas. This is one of the last pristine forests our nation has - let us act to treat it as the immense treasure it truly is.

0029344-002    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029348-003    Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. DO not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029349-004    Finally, I hope that you will use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029351-003    I support the following use of logging ONLY:  
Use logging only to protect the safety of communities.  
  
DO not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild ROADLESS areas.

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0029355-002

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029392-004

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029393-004

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029405-005

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029425-004

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029427-005

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0029449-002

Logging should only be used to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas!!

0034202-005

Please use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034205-005

\*Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

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0034208-005

\*Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034211-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034259-002

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034260-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034262-003

\*Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034410-005

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild roadless areas. Encourage small-scale logging, not large commercial 'timber extraction' or 'treatment.'

0034420-010

Spruce Bark Beetle

The dead trees shelter not only the young trees but also the diversity of the understory from growing into a sun loving grassland. A grassland is where wildfire danger occurs. It is interesting to note the pothole lake fire and see that the Beetle killed trees actually acted as a fire break.

0034431-003

-- Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034433-003

Future logging on the Chugach must be limited to only stewardship purposes, and there must be very little of that activity. The spruce bark beetle is not a sufficient reason to enter and log roadless areas.

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0034443-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034534-007

3) Spruce Bark Beetles on the Kenai Peninsula:

There are many natural factors in forest cycles, and the beetle is one of them. Additional fuels and fire risk must be addressed only at the wild/urban interface, not in the back country. Steps should definitely be taken to protect communities. 'Addressing' fuel load in the back country is code for more logging-this should not happen. Roads and thus increased access contribute to an increased risk of fires and destroys scenery. In fact, fires on the Kenai Peninsula have been caused by logging companies and unattended burning slash piles. Natural cycles should be allowed to play out.

Recommendations: Take pro-active steps to protect communities in the wild/urban interface. Do not use beetles as an excuse to log in the back country. Allow only small personal use logging on the forest.

0034777-005

\* Recommend keeping the Forest roadless. Logging should be considered only when safety of communities is a consideration.

0034787-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034798-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas. It may be that SOME forest management may promote conservation, yet the conflict of interest which logging interests could potentially manifest is potentially contrary to the priority of real 'forest health'.

0034806-004

Logging should only be allowed to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034813-004

Finally, I ask that the Service permit logging only to protect the safety of communities, and not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034825-004

Logging should only be allowed to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

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0034836-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0034892-005

There should be no vegetative management or salvage logging on the forest, it is great that there is no ASQ but that does not stop the wholesale destruction of our forests under the auspices of beetle control. Beetles are a natural cycle that humans are exacerbating through contribution to global warming, not a scourge that needs to be eradicated by intensive management.

0034901-002

I have been disappointed with the USFS'S lack of initiative with the beetle infestation I have witnessed in subsequent trips to the Kenai this past decade. Are you managing for woodpecker habitat down there? We used to really rely on the USFS's sound multiple use management in Oregon. I am afraid without salvage harvesting and what appears to be a complete lack of management on the Forest Services' part, the whole Chugach has turned from a beautiful area into a tinder box. How many homes, lives, and how much money will be lost in the end because of a fire fighting reaction to a lack of initiative on the Forest Service's part? I understand that the Chugach is primarily a recreational forest (and I have enjoyed recreating there), yet I can only hope that your plan has an increase in harvesting to deal with this dire and serious fire problem that exists. If not harvesting, some way I perhaps are not aware of to deal with this problem. Let Kenai Fjords do nothing, we aye counting on you to try something.

0034904-010

From this recommendation, it appears that there has been severe negligence with consideration for management needs with respect to the spruce bark beetle (*Dendroctonus rufipennis*) and the safety of communities surrounded by the Chugach National Forest in the event of a wildfire. Also, adjacent land ownership by private, state, and native entities has suffered from extensive bark beetle damage to timber because of the lack of management practices that could have been used to harvest infested areas to reduce the spread of the beetle. Community responsibility is not an issue that can be disregarded by federal agencies.

0034914-003

Relative to logging, which has long been of concern to us, we request that logging be minimized. You probably can't phase it out completely but please issue regulations that restrict logging to that necessary to protect the safety of the various communities. 'Forest health' is a euphemism for granting loggers and big corporations an opportunity to log otherwise protected areas for the benefit of a few but to the detriment of the 'health' of the Chugach as a whole. Please immediately put an end to logging in wild unroaded areas. Protect the forest, don't set it up to be exploited by large companies in the future.

0034918-006

I do not support initiatives of salvage logging under the terms of 'Forest Health.' The long term affects of large scale logging, if that is what were to happen, are far worse than trees left dead from beetles.

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0034925-005

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0035908-002

Please utilize logging exclusively as a means to protect local communities, and stop using the spruce bark beetle as an excuse for expanded logging in roadless areas.

0035929-003

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.

0036256-002

Use logging only to protect the safety of communities. Do not use 'forest health' as an excuse for more logging in wild unroaded areas.