

SAR - Geo - CRD Non-wilderness

Comment # Comment

0022342-001

I strongly urge the Forest Service not to recommend wilderness for all of the Copper River Delta wetlands both east and west of the river. I strongly urge the Forest Service to adopt its preferred alternative.

I strongly recommend that no areas be designated wilderness.

0026869-001

I strongly oppose any wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta.

0028138-001

I am a 44 year old resident of Cordova Alaska and a user of lands on the Copper River and Bering River areas. My position to a 'wilderness designation' is NO!

0026290-001

This letter is in regards to the wilderness designation on the Copper River Delta.

I am opposed to any and all regulations that are now in the process of being considered for this Area and any in the future. It seems to me that any designation for this area would be detrimental to an area which is having enough problems, especially with the fishing area to have something like this forced upon the people of the area who depend upon it for their living.

Why am I against this? I have witnessed what happens to an area which becomes a wilderness area.

0027026-001

Subject: Wilderness

If the fisheries habitat was given up I would think that the fish would be impacted. Also I support the CDFU and the city of Cordova position.

My take on this is that if we give up habitat of the fisheries and access the fisheries will be impacted. I hope that you will get the message on this.

0027055-001

I am writing you this to show my opposition for wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta. I think since the native corporation has vast holdings and intend to develop the area the whole thing is a moot point.

This area is a success story already so if it isn't broke don't fix it. Also there is much confusion over what the designation really means. I am a fisherman and after what the feds promised and then did at Icy Bay I think this is a bad idea. Once again I want to stress the fact that native development makes this senseless and in fact discriminatory.

Comment # Comment

0027056-001

I just wanted to drop you another note stating that I am opposed to wilderness designation on the Copper River Flats. I am in agreement with Cordova District Fishermen United and the city of Cordova's position in this matter.

0028130-004

Finally, it is widely known that there has been a well-organized and financed attempt to influence the public process by the national 'environmental' lobby and others from afar. As a result, literally tens of thousands of letters, faxes and e-mails have been submitted in support of wilderness on the Chugach. Those of us who live here simply do not have the resources or population to compete with this obvious attempt to dominate the public process. We recognize there are national interests with a stake in management of the Chugach, however, as the preeminent stakeholders, we have the most compelling interest in the outcome. We trust you will weigh the different interests in a fitting and fair manner.

0028312-001

-- CDFU does not support a Wilderness designation or any Category I prescription in areas of important fisheries habitat. They are so restrictive that they may limit managers' flexibility to deal with critical habitat issues, and pose real threats to our established access to the fisheries no matter how they are labeled.

0028314-001

I am opposed to any wilderness prescription for the Bering River/Martin River area. the wilderness prescription will put it one step closer to being closed to everyone.

Wilderness

designation would only serve to please those who would never set foot in this area, at the same time eliminating the opportunity for anyone who would choose to actually go out and enjoy it. It would not prevent C.A.C. from logging their land in this area, and would not prevent development of private land in this area.

wilderness prescription would be no benefit, and a great deal of lost opportunity for users of the Chugach National Forest.

0028390-001

While I prefer the protections afforded by a wilderness designation for the eastern Copper River Delta, I share some of the concern voiced by Cordova District Fishermen United in their previous comments. The chance of future lawsuits claiming that the Copper River fishery is inconsistent with a wilderness area, are a real and very scary possibility. I support the most restrictive designation for use of the eastern delta, while allowing for the continued operation of the gillnet fishery as it is currently conducted.

My support as stated is couched by the following suggestion: Do not call it 'wilderness' or 'a wilderness area'. Is it not possible to enact protections that are akin to wilderness without calling it that? Why not call it a Special Habitat Area or a Habitat Reserve, or simply a Protected Area? This may seem to be of little consequence, but I feel it is an important change in how the public, administrators and perhaps judges will perceive the area in future times.

0028550-001

As a 23 year, year round resident of Cordova and a self described conservationist, it is in my humble opinion that wide be better off without the wilderness designation on the eastern delta.

Comment # Comment

0029034-001

The health of our shared Copper River living resources depends on the health of the lands in question. But our ability to utilize these resources depends on sensible management by entities that are familiar with the area. While the USFS has competent local agents, such as yourself, designating these lands as 'wilderness' would remove meaningful local input and control.

0029038-001

I support CDFU'S and the City of Cordova's position. I am against the wilderness designation.

0034254-001

The Plan, under the preferred alternative, would fail to protect the Copper River Delta from a proposed road that would intrude on the wild character of the area and open the area to more mineral and fossil fuel development.

0034582-001

I am writing to you in regards to the October 26th Forest Service Revision meeting, as I will be unable to attend. I was very happy to see that the revision team and Regional Supervisor Dave Gibbons decided to remove the Wilderness designation from the Martin/Bering river areas. I feel that these areas at this point in time do not call for such drastic change. This area is a great area for Cordova subsistence, sport and recreational users. The current Forest designation has the appropriate amount of restriction, while still allowing the above mentioned users plenty of opportunity.

I have reviewed the final draft maps and I must say that I do agree with a majority of the designations, but I have some serious reservations about the possibility of designating the Martin river area with one of the Congressionally approved Wild & Scenic River designations. This in my opinion will produce the same as designating this area Wilderness. I do not want the representatives in Washington D.C. playing political football with this issue. I feel this decision should represent ideas local users have in coordination with local and state level U.S. Forest Service representatives. As soon as the final decision is given to the politicians in D.C., we have lost our voice, and probably our way of life.

In concluding, I feel that the management strategy in place has proven to be quite effective. I see no good reason to throw it away now. I know that things are changing everyday and some caution is advisable, but a total change in policy that completely alters our way of life for a possible road is foolish at this time. Over exploiting this land is the fear of many, and I could not agree more. The policies in place will not allow for exploitation of the fish and game resources, development of lodges, and destruction of the Delta. The people and special interest groups worried about the possible road to Carbon Mountain, who have been trying to push for massive government restriction to stop it. Please remember that the road will go through even with these restrictive designations, it is a guaranteed right under ANILCA.

0034881-002

No wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta.

Comment # Comment

0034912-003 P.S. I would also like to see the Copper River Delta stay NON-wilderness.

0035649-002
No wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta.

0036078-001 The purpose of this email is to add my voice to those who do not believe that a 'wilderness' designation is needed or appropriate for wild lands in the Copper River drainage above the glaciers.

The health of our shared Copper River living resources depends on the health of the lands in question. But our ability to utilize these resources depends on sensible management by entities that are familiar with the area. While the USFS has competent local agents, such as yourself, designating these lands as 'wilderness' would remove meaningful local input and control. My experience with Washington, DC, makes me worry that we could end up with a Copper River 'petting zoo', rather than rational resource management, if responsibility is shifted outside.

As a Copper River fisherman, I care deeply about the River and everything that contributes to what it is. I will continue to support every worthy effort to sustain it. A 'wilderness' designation is not such an effort.

0036175-001
Just a brief note to state that I am opposed to wilderness designation on the C.R. delta and I support CDFU and the City of Cordova's positions.

0036187-001
I say no to wilderness on the copper river delta.

0036192-001 My position to a 'wilderness designation' is NO! I fully support what the CDFU is trying to accomplish and feel they fully represent the majority of the users of this area.

0036206-001
Mr. Gibbons I am opposed to wilderness designations in areas of important fisheries habitat and access/especially on the Copper River Delta, and I DO support CDFU and the City of Cordova's positions.

0036209-001
I just wanted to drop you another note stating that I am opposed to wilderness designation on the Copper River Flats. I am in agreement with Cordova District Fishermen United and the city of Cordova's position in this matter.

Comment # Comment

0036214-001

I support C.D.F.U. and the city of Cordova's position on the wilderness designation on the Copper river delta.

0036221-001

I support CDFU's and the City of Cordova's position. I am against the wilderness designation.

0036236-001

I am opposed to wilderness designations in areas of important fisheries habitat and access. I do support CDFU and the City of Cordova's positions

0036237-001

I'm opposed to wilderness designations in areas of Important fisheries habitat access and I do support CDFU and the City Cordova's position.

0036238-001

I'm writing to let you know that I'm opposed to wilderness designations in areas of Important fisheries habitat access and do support CDFU and the City of Cordova's position!!!!!!!

0036246-001

I am a commercial fisherman on the Copper River. I am opposed to wilderness designation in areas of critical fish habitat and access, and support the City of Cordova and CDFU positions on the Plan.

0036259-001

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I am a Commercial Fisherman on the Copper River and have lived and fished in the Cordova area since 1969!! I am very much opposed to a wilderness designation in areas of important fisheries habitat and access' I Do support the positions of CDFU and the City of Cordova on this matter.

0036259-002

I am very much opposed to a wilderness designation in areas of important fisheries habitat and access!!! I Do support the position of CDFU and the City of Cordova on this matter.

0036261-001

I am writing you this to show my opposition for wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta.

Comment # Comment

0036262-001

I am a commercial fisherman on the Copper River. I've been there for 15 years and have seen a lot of changes. I am writing to give my full support to CDFU and the city of Cordova. No one on earth is more concerned with the health and proper management of the delta and it's fishery. And I don't believe there is anyone who understands it better. We must oppose Wilderness and leave the management of the delta to the people of Cordova.

0036311-002

P.S. I would also like to see the Copper River Delta stay NON-wilderness.