

# *SAR - PWS - Interests - WS Rivers*

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0020871-002	I urge you to also designate all eligible Wild and Scenic rivers, and to protect all eligible areas in Prince William Sound.
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0026855-001	
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I am writing in support of maintaining the wild and scenic designation for the entire length of the Nellie Juan from the Nellie Juan Lake to Prince William Sound. When reviewing proposals for changes to the wild & scenic designation I urge you to reject any that will impact the wild nature of this area:

\* Extend the preferred alternative's wild designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers act upstream to the outlet of Nellie Juan Lake.

0026977-003	
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2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.

0027747-002	
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I am asking the Forest Service team to reconsider two changes made as a result of the inholdings of CAC.

2) Designate the Following rivers as Wild under the wild and scenic rivers act:

Nellie Juan from the outlet of Nellie Juan Lake to Kings Bay

The Snow River and South Fork of the Snow River from Headwaters to 1/4 mile upstream of the Seward Hwy.

0028281-002	
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I urge you designate the Nellie Juan river for full Wild River protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to keep these areas roadless so as to protect them in their near natural state.

0029006-001	
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1) The entire Nellie Juan River should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act.

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0029009-001

1) The entire Nellie Juan River should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act.

0029014-001

The ENTIRE Nellie Juan should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act.

0029093-002

2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.

0029094-002

2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.

0029098-002

2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.

0029130-002

I am pleased to see that certain rivers are given Scenic and Wild designations. The only change I would like to request is that the Nellie Juan River be given a wilderness designation for its entirety - including the land in its watershed.

0029132-001

The ENTIRE Nellie Juan should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act. The Nellie Juan water shed should REMAIN under the wild designation.

0029137-002

2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.

0029224-001

1) The entire Nellie Juan River should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act.

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0029225-001

1) The entire Nellie Juan River should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act.

0029226-001

1) The entire Nellie Juan River should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act.

0029257-002

2. Extend the preferred alternative's wild designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers act upstream to the outlet of Nellie Juan Lake.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

As noted above, the Forest Service's wild and scenic river recommendations do not seem to reflect the remarkable features actually found by the interdisciplinary team in its review. In Prince William Sound, there is only one river segment (not counting the Columbia Glacier) recommended for wild, scenic or recreational river designation. To achieve better balance on the forest on this issue, and to reflect the actual values of the rivers, we support wild river designation for the entire Nellie Juan River and Lake and for Gravina River in the eastern Sound.

The Forest Service has recommended wild river status for the lower 9.6 miles of the Nellie Juan River, but its analysis of the river's attributes fully supports recommending the entire 20 miles. "With headwaters originating at Nellie Juan Lake, Nellie Juan River flows a spectacular 20 miles from the alpine of the Kenai Peninsula into Kings Bay of Prince William Sound." "These 20 miles of outstandingly remarkable continuous Class V whitewater and spectacular scenery make the [river] eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River system." The whitewater opportunity for experienced paddlers is "unparalleled in Prince William Sound," and is an "extremely challenging and remote wilderness whitewater experience. It offers not only difficult whitewater paddling, but also challenging portages, potential encounters with brown bears, and intense adventure."

Further, the "backdrop to this outstandingly remarkable whitewater river is no less than incredible in itself. The spectacular scenery in this watershed is outstandingly diverse, varying from high mountain alpine, barren rock peaks, and glaciers to rain forests and a glacial outwash plain pouring into Prince William Sound. To the east, at least a dozen finger glaciers spill down from the Sargent Icefield to within close range of the river. The entire Nellie Juan valley provides a dramatic display of glacier features exposed likely only within the last millennium, as ice has retreated."

The Forest Service should heed its own assessment and recommend the entire 20 miles of the Nellie Juan River for designation as a wild river.

The Forest Service also found that

Gravina River is not necessarily unique with regards to scenery compared to other mainland rivers and streams in eastern Prince William Sound, but it is a good representation of a typical mainland river system in the Sound. Since most of the drainage is hidden from view from the Bay, it has a wild, 'surprise' character. The lower portion is unique or outstandingly remarkable from a recreation standpoint since it provides a kayak portage between Port Fidalgo and Port Gravina. This portage is one of two such portages in eastern Prince William Sound.

The scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values of the Gravina River support a wild river designation, which would provide at least one designated river in the eastern sound, bringing a

modicum of balance and geographic diversity to the Forest Service's recommendations.

Finally, the Forest Service's tendency to withhold wilderness or wild river recommendations if presented with the slightest chance that some type of resource development may someday occur surfaced once more with regard to Cascade Creek. Cascade Creek includes the largest and one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Prince William Sound, Cascade Falls, which tumbles over 100 feet directly into the ocean. Cascade Falls is an outstandingly remarkable feature of Cascade Bay, which itself is a highly valuable recreation resource as a protected bay within the larger, popular kayak area of Eagle Bay.

It appears, however, that the area is also "a potential hatchery site," and although the Forest Service does not state that that is the reason it does not recommend Cascade Creek and Falls for protection, there is no other justification offered. We again urge the Forest Service to make its recommendations for wild and scenic rivers based on the attributes of the waterbodies, and not shy away from any protective designations based on unspecified—and unanalyzed—development "plans."

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- 0029446-002            2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.
- 0034415-002            4. The NELLIE JUAN River flows into Kings Bay, western Prince William Sound. Its entire drainage is roadless.
- Ask for Wild designation for the entire river, not just the portion contained in the existing Wilderness Study Area.
- 0034456-002            2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.
- 0034457-001            1) The entire Nellie Juan River should be considered wild under the wild and scenic rivers act.
- 0034593-003            It is also very disappointing that no full river system in the Forest is recommended for wild status. I feel that at least the entire Nellie Juan River should receive this classification and that the entire Gravina, Rude and Martin Rivers as well as portions of the Copper be given this classification. If it is not done now it will never be. Future plans will only be weaker and allow developments to threaten these waterways.
- 0035394-002            2) Extend the preferred alternatives wild designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers act upstream to the outlet of Nellie Juan Lake.
- 0035395-002            The preferred alternative's wild designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers act should be extended upstream to the outlet of Nellie Juan Lake.  
                              Designation of the lower river will be of little use if the upper watershed is not protected. The most significant ecological component of a watershed is it's headwaters.
- 0035396-002            I also urge the extension of 'wild' status be conferred upstream to the Nellie Juan Lake outlet under the Wild and Scenic River Act.
- 0035402-002            Also that it should extend the preferred alternative's wild designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers act upstream to the outlet of Nellie Juan Lake.

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0036095-001    These rivers all deserve wild designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers act upstream including the entire Nellie Juan system to the outlet of Nellie Juan Lake.

0036243-002    2) Extend the wild designation under the wild and scenic rivers act to include all of the Nellie Juan river, not just the lower 5 miles.