

SAR - PWS - Interests - Wilderness

<i>Comment #</i>	<i>Comment</i>
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0003896-002	* PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND - expand current Wilderness study are to help species not yet recovered from the 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and to protect wildlands from the Whittier Road opening.
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0006026-001	Wilderness designation' is requested for the copper river Delta; expand to prince WM sound [Illegible] Penn.
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0007439-001	Please work or making the Columbia Glacier study area a wilderness area!
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0022848-003	I urge wilderness for Knight and Montague Islands and the Jack and Sawmill Bays.
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0021427-003	Wilderness protection is also necessary for other areas of the Chugach Forest including critical brown bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula and expanding the Prince William Sound wilderness study area to help species recover from the 1989 oil spill.
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0021542-003	Wilderness protection is also necessary for other areas of the Chugach Forest including critical brown bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula and expanding the Prince William Sound wilderness study area to help species recover from the 1989 oil spill.
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0021604-001	My first request is to prohibit all motorized recreation in the forest's one WSA and recommended wilderness.
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0021747-001	Knight Island was more heavily oiled than anywhere else in the oil spill. It deserves wilderness protection!
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Comment # Comment

- 0021814-004 2) I am sorry not to see more 'recommended wilderness' in the eastern Sound. Port Gravina still contains sufficient and excellent wildlands to have a small wilderness area here.
- 0021824-003 Instead, I would urge you to recognize the importance of Jack Bay as an easily accessible and popular destination for many existing marine and backcountry activities, and designate the entire water shed as 'backcountry,' with no exceptions for motorized use.
- 2) I am sorry not to see more 'recommended wilderness' in the eastern Sound. Port Gravina still contains sufficient and excellent wildlands to have a small wilderness area here.
- 3) Montague Island, although not strictly pristine or roadless in the south, still qualifies technically for wilderness consideration, I believe, and certainly warrants this level of protection based on remoteness, size, biological distinctiveness and importance (incredible Sitka spruce stands!), and recreational appeal. I was very sorry to see it recommended for such mediocre protection.
- 0021826-003 I support Wilderness designations for areas like Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack, Beartrap and Sawmill Bays.
- 0021832-003 4) Wilderness protection is also necessary for other areas of the Chugach Forest including critical brown bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula and expanding the Prince William Sound wilderness study area to help species recover from the 1989 oil spill.
- 0021842-003 Also recommend wilderness for areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0021895-003 Wilderness protection is also essential for other areas of the Chugach such as the Kenai Peninsula and the Prince William Sound wilderness study area.
- 0021898-003 PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND: I think Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays should be protected as Wilderness, to help safeguard species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0021899-006 I just wanted to let you know my thought concerning wilderness plans for Alaska:
3. Keep protection for areas of Prince William Sound such as Knight Island, Montague Island, Jack Bay, and Sawmill Bay.

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0021901-004 PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND: I urge the Forest Service to recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as Wilderness to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0021902-004

All eligible wild and scenic rivers including the Copper, Martin, Bering, Katalla Rivers along with the Alaganik, Slough, and Bering Lakes should be given Wilderness protection.

In addition, important areas in Prince William Sound, for example, Knight and Montague Islands, along with Jack and Sawmill Bays from industrial development. You should protect all critical brown bear habitat, examples being the Kenai River valley, Resurrection Creek, Snow and Twenty-Mile Valleys.

0021903-001

I am asking the Forest Service to recommend wilderness designation for the following critical areas of the Delta:

- 1) Important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight & Montague Islands and Jack & Sawmill Bays -- to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

0021943-001

In Prince William Sound, Knight and Montague Island, where I have kayaked and camped, Sawmill and Jack Bay are all deserving of wilderness designation to protect the Sound from large scale degradation resulting from increased tourism, especially since there is a new road to Whittier. The Sound is a special place to us, and to the country as a whole as a result of the publicity surrounding it after the Exxon Valdez spill. We must do our best to restore and protect this habitat.

0021981-001

I believe you should recommend wilderness designation for these critical area of the Delta:

The valuable Copper River Delta wetlands, both east and west of the river, this would permanently protect the habitat of salmon, shore birds, and waterfowl, brown bears, wolves & other wildlife.

Important areas in Prince William Sound, like knight and Montague Island and Jack and Sawmill Bays to keep species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Critical brown bear habitat, and all eligible wild and scenic rivers including the Copper, Martin, Bering and Katalla rivers, need wilderness designation protection.

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- 0021991-001 What specific improvements would you recommend for the Preferred Alternative?
- The uses should abandon its unnecessary land vs. water distinctions, and do something which will truly enhance user ship of PWS without harming its valuable wilderness character - reinstall anchor boys. This will (1) Promote safety (2) Allow more boats to anchor in coves which will become increasingly in demand with new road tunnel, and (3) Promote NT-anchor visits rather than force visitors to camp ashore, with associated adverse impacts.
- The Chugach Forest is a valuable asset under your care and stewardship. Don't ignore this under an unnecessary self-restriction that you can't install an anchor, chain and [Illegible] 50 years offshore in go feet of water.
- What do you support in the proposed forest plan?
- Retain wilderness status in entire Prince William Sound wilderness study area. All competing uses are for less valuable, as a retrospective view 20 years from now will confirm. It is still unique. Don't make it [Illegible].
- 0022076-002 I want to go on record as saying that the Copper River Delta wetlands, important areas in Prince William Sound and all wild and scenic rivers like the Copper, Martin, Bering, and Katalla be designated for wilderness protection.
- 0022112-001 Please also recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound
- 0022223-003 In addition I recommend wilderness for Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays.
- 0022225-005 Wilderness designation should also be recommended for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight & Montague Islands, Jack & Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill & to protect the Sound from further development
- 0022228-003 Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism
- 0022229-002 Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

Comment # Comment

0022239-003 Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0022285-003 3. Knight Island. Units P388, P392, P406-409, P412; Change the prescription from backcountry non-motorized to wilderness.

 a. Citizens appearing before the Valdez State Parks Advisory Board have consistently recommended that Chugach National Forest lands on Knight Island receive formal classification as Wilderness. The board has supported this in former testimony and continues to do so.

 b. Knight Island, which is a geologically unique and outstandingly beautiful ophiolite structure, provides local residents, visitors, and commercial guides and outfitters with a wilderness quality destination. The rugged terrain visually conceals the presence of other users providing a strong sense of solitude and unique opportunities to enjoy quiet activities. Although historically the island has had numerous mining claims, even avid and professional claim-hunters have difficulty locating the sites which decades of moss have covered. Thus, these units are now free from man-made structures. The few remaining structures, such as at Drier Bay, have historic interest consistent with a wilderness designation.

 c. Long Passage. Unites P406-409, is an especially beautiful, protected passageway, popular with boaters, campers and kayakers. Its high scenic and recreational value makes it a prime area for wilderness classification.

 d. The Valdez State Parks Advisory Board has consistently testified in favor of lodges on private lands and not on Chugach National Forest lands. Although lodges would not be permitted under a backcountry non-motorized prescription, future forest supervisors could change the prescription to allow lodge development. Wilderness classification would eliminate the risk the future forest supervisors might permit lodges.

Comment # Comment

- 0022285-004 4. Head of Fidalgo/Gravina: Units P318, P325, P244, P335.
- a. For this area the board makes recommendations to split the prescriptions in this area. For the area below 1800 feet in elevation the board recommends a change from backcountry non-motorized to wilderness. Testimony of local users of this area showed that there was excellent opportunities for fishing and hunting in these areas. All areas contained prolific salmon spawning streams. This results in a large accumulation of wildlife in these drainages. Bear Trap Bay is a popular destination for local residents and visitors who enjoy fishing, flyfishing and hunting. Wilderness designation would control the number of visitors, thus protecting the habitat for fish and wildlife providing high quality experience for local residents and tourists.
- b. The scenic value of these rugged areas is invaluable. The transition from metamorphic shale to austere mountains of granite in Bear Trap Bay is quite scenic and impressive.
- c. Although backcountry non-motorized designation provides temporary protection for fish and wildlife resources here, wilderness status for these areas would provide even greater habitat protection since a change in land management prescription would take an act of Congress rather than that of a forest supervisor. There is concern that under future land management plans logging or tourism development such as lodges might be permitted which would have an adverse effect on both fishing and wildlife resources and local residents' ability to use and enjoy them. The main input from the public and board comments concern protection of this wildlife habitat is of utmost concern.
- d. On the other hand, above the treeline which runs at 1600 to 1800 feet, there is little more than rock, snow and ice. The board wishes to see this area above 1800 feet in these units placed in a backcountry motorized for winter. There is much testimony from local residents concerning their snowmachine use of this area and much testimony regarding the heli-ski potential in this area. Winter motorized use of this area would have little or no impact on the critical habitat located below the 1800 foot area.
- e. This recommendation is an aptly crafted compromise which maximizes the overall use of these areas, yet protects critical habitat areas of the fish and game in these areas.
- 0022285-006 Finally, the board voted unanimously (8 - 0) to have Naked Island, Story Island, the islands north of Knight Island to be classified as wilderness, and the area east of Eaglet Bay to the boundary of the Wilderness Study area remain as wilderness as stated in the Preferred Alternative Plan.
- 0022315-002 2. Recommend wilderness for Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays to protect the sound from development.
- 0022448-005 What specific improvements would you recommend for the preferred alternative?
- To best protect certain area of the forest I would recommend 'wilderness' designation for certain areas, these include: (4) The following Prince William sound islands - knight, Montague, Ignot, Stony, [Illegible], Eleanor, peak, [Illegible] and Smith.

Comment # Comment

0022450-002 These should also be wilderness accessible areas in Prince William sound for Kayaked embarking from whittres. Similarly, in PWS, I would also received wilderness protection for the following islands, knight, island, Montague, Igot, stony, naked, Eleanor, park, [Illegible] & smith island, for the future of fish & wildlife habitat in the sound.

0022509-002

The following areas should be recommended for wilderness designation:

2) Important area in Prince William sound such as knight & Montague islands and Jacks and Sawmill bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Volley oil spill.

Richard C. Wilson

0022511-002 To aid fauna recovery from the Exxon oil spill areas like knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill bays should also he designated as wilderness.

0022522-002

We the citizens who are the owners of our public lands, demand wilderness designation for the wetlands of the Copper River Delta as well as protections for Prince William Sound.

0022534-002 I urge you to designate Knight and Montague Island as wilderness.
I urge you to designate the Jack and Sawmill Bays as wilderness.

0022692-004

(4)Please designate the [Illegible] PW wilderness study area as 'wilderness' to keep the fish & wildlife safe from Princes Tours and other over - mechanized, polluting exploiters.

0022728-004

4. The entire wilderness study area in Prince William Sound should continue as wilderness. Wilderness should be recommended for all the following Islands Knight, Montague, Naked, Story, Ingot, Eleanor, Peak, Dick & Smith.

0022729-005

To wilderness: Knight & Montague Islands & the entire Prince William Sound wilderness study area. Knight is one of the world's most scenic & biologically spectacular Islands, local [Illegible] habitat for [Illegible].

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0022739-006

Prince William Sound:
Designate as wilderness: Knight, Montague, Ignot, Story, Naked, Eleanor,
Peak, Disk & Smith Islands.

0022938-001

If you
could designate as 'wilderness' all qualified federal lands in the
Nellie Jaun - college fiord wilderness study area, you'd be saving
something priceless.

0022970-002

Important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and
Montague Islands and Sawmill Bays, to help species continue
to recover from the devastating Exxon Valdez oil spill.

0023015-002

I am writing in reference to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Chugach
National Forest.
Please recommend wilderness designation for the Copper River Delta
wetlands, important areas in Prince William Sound, brown bear
habitat, and all eligible wild and scenic rivers.

0023030-004

2. Important areas in Prince William sound to aid species still
recovering from the Exxon valley disaster;

0023083-002

The Prince William Sound wilderness area animals will be helped to
continue recovery from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

0023115-006

I would urge that you ensure the protection and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat in Prince William Sound
by designating wilderness for the entire wilderness study area. Wilderness protection is strongly needed for
protection is strongly needed for all of the following is lands: Knight, Montague, [Illegible], Story, Valed,
Eleanor, [Illegible], Disk and Smith.

0023179-005

DESIGNATE Wilderness protection for the entire
Wilderness Study Area in Prince William Sound. Knight and Montague Islands

0023182-002

PWS and its fisheries are still recovering from the effects of the oil spill. Please
recommend wilderness for Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina
Bay to ensure restoration and to preserve their wilderness qualities.

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0023190-002 The same should be done for important areas of Prince William Sound

0023203-001

 Please designate as wilderness all qualified federal lands in the Nellie Juan - College Fiord Wilderness study area.

 The Chugach National Forest needs protection.

0026256-002 Nellie Juan College fiord wilderness study area as 'wilderness' also -
r

0026639-003 I also encourage you to recommend these places for Wilderness Status: Knight and Montague Islands and Jack and Sawmill Bays in Prince William Sound; the Copper, Martin, Bering and Katalla Rivers, Alaganik Slough, and Martin and Bering Lakes as well as the entire southeast portion of the Copper River Delta.

0026855-003 * Enact the current recommendation for wilderness designation along the entire Nellie Juan River Corridor and all USFS land in its' watershed.

0026861-002

 (2) Wants wilderness on Knight Island.

0029102-003

 PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND: Conservationists are urging the Forest Service to recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as Wilderness to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029113-005

 PWS and its fisheries are still recovering from the effects of the oil spill. Please recommend wilderness for Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay to ensure restoration and to preserve their wilderness qualities.

0026287-002 Please recommend wilderness designation for areas of Prince William Sound

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- 0026387-002 I urge you to recommend wilderness designation for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands and Jack and Sawmill Bays, to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.
- 0026518-001
- I was concerned in hearing that in the preferred alternative of Chugach Forest Plan all of Knight Island was not considered for wilderness Designation. The potential for future economical, environmental mining is appears weak despite the old claims, and the potential for recreation and nearshore wilderness habitat great for that entire island. The convoluted shoreline of that island has historically been important foraging habitat for transient killer whales (discussed in an accepted, to be published Marine Mammal Science paper). Of all regions in the Sound I think the importance of the Knight Island shoreline and nearshore for future wilderness recreation is unparalleled, in addition to the importance of the area for killer whales. Please do whatever possible to insure wilderness designation for all of Knight Island.
- 0026526-003 I would also urge to consider wilderness protection for the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays
- 0026551-003 Pull wilderness protection should be extended to the Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026553-001
- By recommending the Wilderness Study Area and Jack and Sawmill Bays as wilderness, these devastating effects of large scale industrial tourism can be counteracted. I have done volunteer work for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on Montague Island and was rejuvenated with the pristine beauty and the amazing beaches this island has to offer. It has beaches unlike any other in Alaska! Please keep this island wild along with Knight Island by designating them as wilderness.
- 0026631-003 for the restoration & protection of Prince William Sound, I recommend wilderness designation, for the entire wilderness study area including Knight, Montague, Ignot, Strong, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, and Smith Islands
- 0026633-003 Eleven years after the Exxon Valdez oil spill, Prince William Sound is still recovering and needs added protection. Please recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as Wilderness to protect recovering species and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

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- 0026654-003 Wilderness sure doesn't promote multiple use of land. If you can get rid of some of the Wilderness designation on the west side of the sound, I ask you to do so.
- 0026675-002 I urge you to extend full and permanent wilderness protection to all lands in the Copper River Delta, Controller Bay, and Prince William Sound. .
- 0026676-002 I also encourage you to recommend these places for Wilderness Status: Knight and Montague Islands and Jack and Sawmill Bays in Prince William Sound;
- 0026701-003 I believe the following areas should become wilderness based on their extraordinary natural features.
- Prince William Sound areas
. Knight & Montague Islands
. Jack & Summit Bays
- 0026718-003 Protect Prince William sound with wilderness protection of Knight Montague, naked, [Illegible] park, disk & Smith Islands.
- 0026745-001 -- The lack of wilderness in western Prince William Sound. The new road access to Whittier has already changed the western Sound. The Forest Service should recommend some wilderness on the west side of the Sound, so that wilderness recreation and solitude is a viable opportunity for the majority of visitors to the Sound who do not have the means to travel thirty or more miles. I am particularly concerned about the lack of any wilderness in College Fjord, Nellie Juan, Montague Island, or Knight Island. Given the harm the Sound suffered in the Exxon spill, a wilderness designation preserving and protecting the region makes much sense. Section 2(a) of the Wilderness Act states that: 'preservation of wilderness is necessary to assure that increasing human population and human developments should not occupy or modify all areas of the country.' I believe that this section of the Wilderness Act is important to the entire Chugach (which currently has no wilderness). And, if ever there was a place where wilderness was appropriate, it is Prince William Sound.

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- 0026752-005 The College Fjord/Nellie Juan/Whittier Region. The entire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) of the 1984 plan should be protected as Wilderness. The Nellie Juan River should not have been taken out of the WSA wilderness plan since this watershed is a natural link between the Kenai and Prince William Sound--a river that also needs Wild River status to prevent hydro-projects and road construction that would permanently alter the wild character of this outstanding waterway. The upper Nellie Juan must be given added protection since development threatens the region on adjacent private lands. . Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, and Smith Islands should also be ensured as Wilderness for their preservation to prevent unnecessary human developments such as destination lodges and other tourism facility developments. In particular, I recommend removing the 313 prescription for facility development on Glacier Island.
- . Additionally, the Forest Service should include the adjacent Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, and Smith islands in its wilderness recommendation for the same reasons as Knight Island, which it has done in the Preferred Alternative.
- 0026758-003 PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND: I urge you to urge to recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as Wilderness to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026762-002 2. Prince William Sound is in dire need of protection and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat and I request a Wilderness designation for the entire Wilderness Study area, and for all of the following Islands: Knight, Montague, Ingot, Story, Naked, Peak, Eleanor, peak. Disk, and Smith, please have a Whittier-accessible wilderness to kayakers.
- 0026766-001 I would like you to keep the entire Nellie Juan corridor in wilderness.
- 0026776-001
- I strongly recommend that more Wilderness areas to be recommended across the Chugach National Forest to ensure the long-term health of critical watersheds, fisheries, wildlife corridors and staging areas.
- . THE COLLEGE FJORD/NELLIE JUAN/WHITTIER REGION.
- The entire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) of the 1984 plan should be protected as wilderness and the entire Nellie Juan as Wild. KNIGHT ISLAND. Knight is still recovering from the Exxon oil spill. The consequences of mining on island would add insult to injury. Please include the adjacent Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, & Smith islands in its wilderness recommendation for the same reasons.

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- 0026783-003 all Islands, Knight, Montague, Ignot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk and Smith be designated Wilderness.
- 0026828-003 Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026829-003 Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026834-003 Furthermore, wilderness areas are needed in Prince William Sound, e.g. Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026837-002 The preferred alternative does not contain adequate protection for the wilderness character of the islands of Prince William Sound. We need to set aside wilderness areas in the Sound now to protect against future encroachments from the industrial cruise ship industry, which has already destroyed the peace and quiet of many small Alaskan communities.
- 0026888-003 6) Recommend wilderness for all qualified land in Nellie Juan - College Fiord WSA and also on Knight & Montague Islands.
- 0026902-003 Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large scale industrial tourism.
- 0026922-003 Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026922-004 Recommend wilderness for all critical brown bear habitat, the Kenai River valley, Resurrection Creek, Snow, and Twenty-Mile River valleys.

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- 0026955-004 A Wilderness classification is also important for areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026958-003 Please designate wilderness for Prince William Sound areas Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays so species may recover and protection from further industrialization.
- 0026969-002 Further, please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0026973-001 All wild and scenic rivers should be designated as wilderness. In addition, please protect Prince William Sound, including Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays as wilderness so that species can continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.
- 0026977-002 1) Reinstate the wilderness designation for the Nellie Juan Watersheds as it was recommended in the 1984 plan.
- 0026991-003 - Include Nellie Juan Lake area in a wilderness area.
- 0026998-002 It is also essential for the future maintenance of the [Illegible] resources there is more of the Prince William Sound Islands need to be wilderness, especially Montague and Knight, to safeguard them from commercial exploitation as well as motorized recreation.
- 0027001-003 Also, we need wilderness protection for Knight, Montague, Ignot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk & Smith.
- 0027014-002 Prince William Sound with wilderness protection of Knight Montague, Naked, Fleavor, peck, Disk & Smith Islands.

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0027053-002 Please recommend to Congress that the Delta and PWS be designated Wilderness.

0027242-004 THE COLLEGE FJORD/NELLIE JUAN/WHITTIER REGION. The entire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) of the 1984 plan should be protected as Wilderness and the entire Nellie Juan as Wild. KNIGHT ISLAND. Knight is still recovering from the Exxon oil spill. Please include the adjacent Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, & Smith islands in its wilderness recommendation for the same reasons.

0027588-001 1. In Prince William Sound; I would like to see a 'Wilderness' designation to Knight Island and Montague Island.

0027741-002 Regarding the Glacier Ranger District (Prince William Sound) I would like to see more of the backcountry designations renamed, wilderness areas esp. those aligning lands managed through other entities. This may encourage these land owner toward a low impact management. Also I would like to see more protection for the Montague Is. areas.

0027757-002 We urge all qualified federal lands in the Nellie-Juan College Fjord wilderness study area, as well as the Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays, to be designated as wilderness.

0028130-003 The additions and deletions to the perennial wilderness proposal for Prince William Sound appear a little weak in terms of the record and consistency as well. While there was an apparent effort to avoid using the 'ANILCA wilderness' designation in a manner that would preclude the needs adjacent landowners, communities and existing uses, the 'make-up' acreage includes lands unsuitable for such special designation. For example, the draft plan proposes Naked Island as wilderness. The mixed ownership, growing communications facility and large oil-spill response presence within the island group combine to conflict with established notions of wilderness character, if the record is to be supportive, management prescriptions should not only be suitable for a particular piece of land, but must be augmented by specific support from managers or the public. I suggest a thorough review in this context to identify other lands in the proposal with these shortcomings.

0028289-002 Knight Island should be recommended as Wilderness. I recognize that there are mineral values on the island but the most promising mineral potential is already held by CAC. These valid existing mining rights can still be recognized.

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0028289-005

Additional Wilderness in the Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area

Several of the bays and islands within the thirty-mile radius of Whittier should be given a Wilderness prescription. To live up to the Forest Service plan's goals for providing a range of recreation and tourism experiences, the plan needs to provide accessible Wilderness. Specific areas that provide outstanding wilderness values include Perry Island, Lone Island, Culross Passage, Esther Passage, Cochrane Bay and Blackstone Bay.

0028549-002

In addition, please recommend wilderness for areas such as Montague and Knight Islands, Sawmill and Jack Bays and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay.

0028560-002

Please recommend wilderness for Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay to ensure restoration and to preserve their wilderness qualities.

0028568-003

I support Recommended Wilderness designation for additional areas in western Prince William Sound specifically, Knight Island, Perry Island, Blackstone Bay, and Culross Passage. The designation for Port Gravina should be either Primitive or Recommended Wilderness.

0028574-003

Also, please recommend wilderness in Prince William Sound for Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bay, and the heads of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay. This is such incredible, spectacular country--and so important for our fish and wildlife.

0028579-003

I also support wilderness designation for Prince William Sound.

0029006-002

2) The entire watershed of the Nellie Juan should be remain in wilderness as recommended in the 1984 plan.

0029009-002

2) The entire watershed of the Nellie Juan should be remain in wilderness as recommended in the 1984 plan.

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- 0029014-002 The Nellie Juan water shed should REMAIN under the wild designation.
- 0029043-002 [[Illegible] please designate wilderness areas with [[Illegible] Perry, Lone Naked, Knight Green
- 0029074-002 KNIGHT ISLAND. Knight Island is still recovering from the Exxon oil spill. Spill research shows that the 'AB' Orca pod population that uses the Knight Island area frequently has decreased dramatically and is listed as 'Not Recovering' from the spill by the Trustee Council. Knight Island passage is also critical herring habitat, another species hit hard by the oil spill. The Forest Service's rationale for not recommending Knight Island as wilderness is that it has favorable mineral potential, but this fails to account for the important fish and wildlife habitat of the region and the economic and recreational value of Knight Island as a jewel within the larger kayaking paradise. The environmental consequences of copper mining on Knight Island would add insult to injury on the island and its intertidal areas. Additionally, the Forest Service should include the adjacent Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, and Smith Islands in its wilderness recommendation for the same reasons as Knight Island, which it has done in the Preferred Alternative.
- 0029090-002 Prince William Sound is an area still recovering from the unforgettable tragedy of Exxon Valdez oil spill. The native species of the area need our help and protection which could only be done by preserving their habitats. Therefore it is mandatory that Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays be declared as Wilderness.
- 0029092-003 With regard to Prince William Sound, I also request the Forest Service to recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as Wilderness to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0029114-003 PWS and its fisheries are still recovering from the effects of the oil spill. Please recommend wilderness for Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay to ensure restoration and to preserve their wilderness qualities.
- 0029115-003 PWS and its fisheries are still recovering from the effects of the oil spill. Please recommend wilderness for Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay to ensure restoration and to preserve their wilderness qualities.
- 0029137-001 1) Reinstate the wilderness designation for the entire Snow River and Nellie Juan Watersheds as it was recommended in the 1984 plan.

Comment # Comment

0029176-003

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND: Conservationists are urging the Forest Service to recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as Wilderness to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029179-003

PRINCE WILLIAM HOUND: I recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as wilderness to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029182-005

Prince William Sound: the entire Wilderness Study Area, Night and Montague Islands and Jack and Sawmill Bays receive designation, particularly in light of the damage from the Exxon Valdez the tourism industry.

0029183-001

Second, Prince William Sound and the entire Wilderness study area. Knight and Montague Islands & Jack and Sawmill Bays.

0029192-003

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND: Conservationists are urging the Forest Service to recommend the entire Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays as Wilderness to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029193-002

Prince William Sound is an area still recovering from the unforgettable tragedy of Exxon Valdez oil spill. The native species of the area need our help and protection which could only be done by preserving their habitats. Therefore it is mandatory that Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays be declared as Wilderness.

0029194-002

Second, Prince William Sound and the entire Wilderness study area. Knight and Montague Islands & Jack and Sawmill Bays.

0029219-003

I recommend wilderness designation for important areas in prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029224-002

2) The entire watershed of the Nellie Juan should be remain in wilderness as recommended in the 1984 plan.

Comment # Comment

0029225-002

2) The entire watershed of the Nellie Juan should be remain in wilderness as recommended in the 1984 plan.

0029226-002

2) The entire watershed of the Nellie Juan should be remain in wilderness as recommended in the 198,4 plan.

0029257-001

1. Enact the current recommendation for wilderness designation along the entire Nellie Juan River Corridor and all USFS land in its' watershed.

Comment # Comment

0028328-022 College Fjord/Nellie Juan Wilderness (Wilderness Study Area)

Prince William Sound areas are easily accessed by way of the Whittier access road. Wilderness designation would help to address the expected increase in the numbers of people visiting the Sound. In many of these areas, wildlife populations, both terrestrial and marine, are still recovering from the impacts delivered by the Exxon Valdez (EVOS) when it spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil into the pristine waters of the Sound. Wilderness would address the many concerns about protecting the spill zone from additional stresses, such as increased use, that may negatively impact species and resources. Wilderness would still allow for existing uses to occur, such as hunting, fishing (both commercial and sport), subsistence, and nature based recreation (both low-impact commercial and private), and so forth.

The northern part of the WSA (Port Wells, College Fjord, Columbia Glacier) is special in that it offers recreational and tourism opportunities, fisheries habitat for local industries, abundant wildlife, and is culturally significant to local Natives as traditional hunting and fishing areas.

The central portion of the WSA (Culross, Kings Bay, Sargent Icefield, Port Nellie Juan, Chenega) has always been a very productive area of the Sound until the EVOS disaster. Deer, bear, many species of seabird, hemlock (which are a vital link in the food chain, easily disturbed by land use near intertidal zones) and salmon spawning streams are just a few of the resources that depend on pristine wild lands. Knight, Story, Naked, Eleanor, and Smith Islands support hundreds of bird rookeries and seal/sea lion haul-out areas in this region. This area suffered directly from the Exxon spill and should be protected from further degradation caused by too much unreasonable human development. On Knight Island in particular there is the largest concentration of whales (Orcas and Humpbacks) in the Western Sound. Knight Passage is an extremely important feeding ground for killer and Dall whales and for harbor porpoises. The island is also home to at least two killer whale rubbing beaches. Shamefully, the preferred alternative reflects a bias for "moderate" mineral potential on Knight Island, while ignoring its biological importance. In truth, while the potential may be moderate, the mineral itself is not worth much. Knight Island's deposits of chalcopyrite have been mined in the early 1900s, yet never enthusiastically for this iron/copper mix is present in much of the world. Further, ANILCA guarantees private inholders -including subsurface holders- "adequate and feasible access" in Wilderness (Section 111 0(b)). Mining potential should not be used as reasoning for not recommending Knight Island for wilderness. Humpbacks and Stellar sea lions are both Federally listed endangered species and would benefit greatly from the protections afforded them through wilderness in this area.

The lower part of the WSA (South of Chenega, Elrington, Icy Bay, Latouche) has also supported abundant wildlife populations in times past and has been important to Native peoples as a wild, bountiful place for subsistence. Preservation of the streams and rivers will help protect this area from additional impacts. Again, the Exxon spill negatively impacted species in this area and many are not yet recovered. This is the also the most remote area in the Sound; these values should be protected. While large-scale tourism would not be allowed on federal lands in this area, low impact recreation and eco-tourism would benefit greatly from Wilderness designation.

The State of Alaska is considering a number of permits that would allow for floating lodges, restaurants, and other businesses. With the increased pressures expected from the opening of the Whittier road, permanent protections in Prince William Sound are critical.

Private lands deemed important for the ecological recovery of Prince William Sound were purchased by the EVOS Trustee Council either in fee simple title or through conservation easements. These "EVOS" lands are adjacent to Forest Service lands and are managed for conservation. Wilderness designation on Forest Service lands is highly compatible with EVOS management, and will serve to assist in the recovery of damaged species and resources.

Additionally, we are aware of the many development proposals (likely there are many more we are unaware of) on non-Forest Service lands in the Sound. Many of these proposals, we understand, are for tourist destination sites. Because tourists are attracted to Alaska for its wild character, wilderness designation will only serve to increase the value of these sites.

Big Islands Wilderness

Montague, Hinchinbrook, and Hawkins Islands have some of the most productive wildlife populations in the Sound due to the intense upwelling and nutrient rich waters of Hinchinbrook Entrance. They are ecosystems unto themselves. The rugged outer coasts of Montague and Hinchinbrook Islands, where forested mountains rise abruptly behind remote beaches, are unique in Alaska and rare worldwide.

Comment # Comment

Protection of stream hydrology in this area will promote healthy fisheries and a healthy ecosystem, terrestrial and marine. Seabird colonies are abundant in this area and marbled Murrelets are among the species in this region that are still recovering from EVOS. These islands have unique geologic features and their remoteness provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The road on Montague accessing Patton Bay private holdings has been obliterated and re-seeded. It is our understanding from Forest Service personnel that the roaded portion of the island is growing back nicely. We understand the State has yet to certify the regeneration of Patton Bay, yet in personal conversations with Forest Service staff the area "looks fine" and previous logging shouldn't be reason for no wilderness recommendation. The island's brown bear population has been called "precarious" by bear biologists. The current management prescription for Montague, Fish and Wildlife Conservation, is unacceptable since it allows for activities not compatible with the intent of the prescription (see more detailed discussion below). Wilderness would most adequately address conservation of wildlife and aquatic species. Brown bear populations on Montague would benefit from a wilderness recommendation

0029369-001

The Preferred Alternative does not give adequate protection to western Prince William Sound. Please expand the wilderness classification boundaries on the western Sound and have it especially include the unique island systems represented there.

0029370-003

Other ecologically important areas such as Prince William Sound - the Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays - must be protected as wilderness to help various species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029374-003

We also recommend wilderness designation for important areas in Prince William Sound like the Knight and Montague Islands Jack and Sawmill Bays to help in the recovery from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029397-002

But I would like to see those designations expanded to include wilderness protection for all qualified federal lands in the Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area. Areas targeted for 'backcountry management areas' would also be better secured with a wilderness designation.

0029405-003

should be protected as wilderness plus important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound, from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029413-003

Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029419-001

Please leave the Sound a wilderness area. We do not need development, roads, utility systems, mining or other high impact activities. Please revise your management plan to reflect the protection of the coastal rain forests and other precious ecosystems for those coming after we are gone.

Comment # Comment

0029427-003

I recommend wilderness for Prince William Sound, including areas like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0029436-001

. I support all the areas proposed for formal wilderness classification in your preferred Alternative. I have been fortunate enough to visit some of these areas around Columbia Bay and strongly agree with your recommendation that the northern part of Prince William Sound and Naked, Peak and Storey Islands should be added to the wilderness Preservation System.

In addition, I would like to see Knight and Culross Islands added to the Wilderness Preservation System. Both islands were included in the ANILCA Wilderness Study area.

0029443-003

I would like to see more areas in Prince William Sound dedicated as wilderness areas.

0029464-001

We are very pleased to see and are very supportive of the plans for Wilderness designation of much of the WSA - particularly Kings Bay, Naked Island, the Hinchinbrook area, Eaglik Bay, upper Port Wells and Unakwik. However, we strongly suggest that the plan be changed to further include/designate other important lands as Wilderness:

0030447-001

I urge you to designate as wilderness all qualified federal lands in the Nellie Jean-College Fjord wilderness study creek
]

0030674-002

The forest revision plan for the Chugach National Forest does not recommend wilderness protections for any valuable wetland habitat of the Copper River Delta. these lands require wilderness designation protection for wetlands East & West of the River. Also Knight & Montague Island and Jack & Sawmill Bays. Also the eligible areas of Copper, Martin, Bering, and Katalla Rivers, and the brown bear habitats.

Comment # Comment

- 0034495-006 THE COLLEGE FJORD/NELLIE JUAN/WHITTIER REGION. The entire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) of the 1984 plan should be protected as Wilderness and the entire Nellie Juan as Wild. KNIGHT ISLAND. Knight is still recovering from the Exxon oil spill. The consequences of mining on island would add insult to injury. Please include the adjacent Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, & Smith Islands in its wilderness recommendation for the same reasons.
- MONTAGUE ISLAND. The management prescription proposed for Montague (244) clearly does not meet the management directive needed for the fish & wildlife habitat since it 'conditionally' allows for commercial timber harvesting, all minerals activities, motorized recreation, new roads, destination, utility systems, and year-round helicopter landings. Montague deserves wilderness.
- 0034174-001 I support all the areas proposed for formal wilderness classification in your Preferred Alternative. I look forward to visiting some of the areas around. Columbia Bay and strongly agree with your recommendation that the northern part of Prince William Sound and Naked, Peak and Storey Islands should be added to the wilderness Preservation System.
- In addition, I would like to see Knight and Culross Islands added to the Wilderness Preservation System. Both islands were included in the ANILCA (Alaska National Interest Land Claims Act) Wilderness Study area. Both provide opportunities for solitude and quiet. Both have very little signs of previous human activity.
- 0034200-003 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.
- 0034202-003 Please keep wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.
- 0034203-003 Far more protection of areas around Prince William Sound should be considered, especially in light of the impact and traffic that the new road to Whittier will cause at the north end of the Sound, wilderness protection should be considered for numerous areas that will see a huge jump in visitation as access to the public increases. These include Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays.
- 0034204-002 *recommend as wilderness all qualified federal lands on the Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area as well as Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays;

Comment # Comment

0034205-003

2) Wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0034208-003

*Please recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound like Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill and to protect the Sound from large-scale industrial tourism.

0034251-003

I recommend Wilderness for the entire Prince William Sound region, which should receive this designation without question due to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and the grief it caused the entire region; also because the region has a long way to go to recovering what was lost.

I recommend Wilderness specifically also for areas such as Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays, and the head of Fidalgo and Gravina Bay.

0034258-002

Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area, Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays should be protected as designated wilderness areas.

0034417-001

I support all of the Wilderness designation proposals in Prince William Sound, and then some.

0034419-002

For example, please recommend for designation as wilderness all of the qualified lands in the Nellie Juan - College Fjord Wilderness Study Area. Except proximate to existing developed areas, please replace the 'backcountry management areas' with the more appropriate and protective wilderness designations.

Comment # Comment

0034429-003 3) We strongly favor adding the following areas to the recommended Wilderness Category:P

 a) Knight Island especially the northern half of Knight Island: Reasons (P. 388, 393, 394, 392, 396, 397, 398, 406, 404, 409, 408, 405, 407, 410):

 1) During ANILCA, the Alaskan conservation community argued vigorously that both Montague and Knight Islands be included in the wilderness study area. As a compromise, we let Montague go to non-wilderness with the understanding that Knight Island would be supported for Wilderness Classification.

 4) We strongly disagree that this is an area in which there is only moderate interest for Wilderness classification. For local people it is very important as evidenced by the support of the Valdez State Parks Advisory Council (unanimous) and the Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association. This would indicate strong local support by those who use the area.

 b) Culross island, including both sides of Culross Passage (P375, 374, 384, 369, 360, 376, 377, 365, 364, 359):

 c) We support continuing the recommendation for wilderness designation expressed by ANILCA for the Cochrane and Blackstone Bay areas: P368-367, 363 308, 327, 310:

 3) Cochrane Bay (P367-366) areas have high wildlife values and are important places for salmon, bear watching, and migratory birds. Any type of future developments including logging in these areas could be detrimental.

 4) People boating out of Whittier should be given a spectrum of recreational choices: If Port Wells and Esther Island are removed from proposed Wilderness Designation, then Culross, Cochrane and Blackstone should be recommended for Wilderness.

0034534-008 4) The area around Whittier, Alaska:

The proposed plan eliminates existing wilderness areas within 30 miles of the town of whittier, areas eliminated include blackstone and Cochran bays as well as Culross passage.

We must take steps now, to reduce harmful impacts. We must not lose the wild character of the forest and sound we need to insure seven generations from now will have the same wild sound to enjoy, study and live and eat from. We need to permanently protect the wild lands of the sound. Use forest lands as wilderness havens while letting private lands offer development projects.

Recommendations: Protect the sound now! In 15 years it will be too late recommend the entire 1984 wilderness study area for wilderness as well as Knight, Montague, naked, story, Eleanor, and ingot islands, as well jack and sawmill bays.

Wilderness must be restored within 30 miles of whittier to allow citizens the ability to access and experience protected wilderness without paying huge dollars for water taxis. Restore wilderness for blackstone and Cochran bays and Culross passage.

Comment # Comment

0034535-008 4) The area around Whittier, Alaska:

Recommendations: Protect the sound now! In 15 years it will be too late recommend the entire 1984 wilderness study area for wilderness as well as Knight, Montague, naked, story, Eleanor, and ingot islands, as well jack and sawmill bays.

Wilderness must be restored within 30 miles of whittier to allow citizens the ability to access and experience protected wilderness without paying huge dollars for water taxis. Restore wilderness for blackstone and Cochran bays and Culross passage. Ban jet skis from the sound-this is not a suitable use in the sound; strictly limit large-scale industrial tourism in the sound.

0034569-001

The following are crucial for the well-being of the Valdez area:

1) wilderness for Columbia Bay and northern part of Prince William Sound, Naked, Peak, Storey, Eleanor, Ingot, Disk and Knight Islands;

0034590-002

I strongly support 1) wilderness for Columbia Bay and northern part of Prince William Sound, Naked, Peak, Storey, Eleanor, Ingot, Disk and Knight Islands;

0034593-001

I feel the wilderness boundaries need to be expanded in the Western Sound especially to include some of the islands such as Esther, Perry, Culross, Knight, Green and Montague. Much of the Preferred Alternative's wilderness boundaries are ice and rock with next to no wilderness classification for island systems. Montague Island's prescription under the Preferred Alternative is especially disappointing. What a magnificent island ecosystem Montague Island represents. It deserves better protection. There are no areas in the eastern Sound designated wilderness and this is unfortunate. It would be a real asset to the eastern Sound to have an area of wilderness classification. This could include the lands and bays at the heads of Port Gravina and Port Fidalgo including the Gravina River watershed.

0034623-006

MONTAGUE ISLAND. The management prescription proposed for Montague (244) clearly does not meet the management directive needed for the fish & wildlife habitat since it 'conditionally' allows for commercial timber harvesting, all minerals activities, motorized recreation, new roads, destination, utility systems, and year-round helicopter landings. Montague deserves wilderness.

0034760-003

- Prince William Sound: the entire existing WSA, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays, to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Comment # Comment

- 0034766-003 Twentymile River Valley (near Girdwood)
Montague and Knight Islands and the small islands north of Knight I. in PWS
- 0034777-003 * Include in your recommendations wilderness designation for areas important to help in the continuing efforts geared to help species continue their recovery from the Exxon Valdez oil spill. The sound also needs protection from over-tourism.
- 0034810-003 Prince William Sound and all the surrounding islands and bays to continue assisting the species recovering from the catastrophic Exxon Valdez oil spill;
- 0034840-003 - Prince William Sound: the entire existing WSA, Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays, to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.
-
- 0034843-002 We are concerned about the possibilities of large scale industrial tourism, and would like to see Knight Island receive a recommended wilderness designation to preserve it forever as an area where lack of motors and development will provide quiet recreation and natural wildlife viewing. In addition, there should be some areas near whittier that receive some sort of designation that will provide a quiet recreational opportunity for kayakers within a day or two paddle so that we are not always forced into expensive charters to reach wilderness kayaking.
- 0034871-001 1) wilderness for Columbia Bay and northern part of Prince William Sound; Naked, Peak, Storey, Eleanor, Ingot, Disk and Knight Islands;
- 0034894-005 2) we recommend wilderness protection for important ecological areas in Prince William Sound, including the Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help post-Exxon Valdez ecosystem recovery and to protect these areas from large scale industrial tourism.
- 0034921-001 I write to you in hopes that the kind of solitude and beauty we enjoyed will continue to be there in the future. We urge you to maintain wilderness protection for the Prince William Sound area, Columbia bay, Naked, Peak, Storey, INgot, and Disk Islands.
- 0035386-001 I am writing to support a wilderness designation for Forest Service land in the Nellie Juan River watershed.

Comment # Comment

0035394-001

1) Enact the current recommendation for wilderness designation along the entire Nellie Juan River Corridor and all USFS land in its watershed.

0035395-001

I am writing to urge you to enact the current recommendation for wilderness designation along the entire Nellie Juan River Corridor and all USFS land in its' watershed.

0035396-001

I support the continued management of the entire Nellie Juan River corridor and other national forest land in the watershed as wilderness.

0035402-001

I am writing to express my wish that the forest service enact the current recommendation for wilderness designation along the entire Nellie Juan River Corridor and all USFS land in its' watershed.

0035547-003

THE COLLEGE FJORD/NELLIE JUAN/WHITTIER REGION. The entire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) of the 1984 plan should be protected as Wilderness. The upper Nellie Juan must be given added protection since development threatens the region on adjacent private lands. Wilderness of the entire WSA is especially critical now that the state has developed the road to Whittier, opening a recovering ecosystem (from the Exxon Oil Spill) to hundreds of thousands of visitors. Ignot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, and Smith Islands should also be ensured as Wilderness for their preservation to prevent unnecessary human developments such as destination lodges and other tourism facility developments.

Comment # Comment

0035547-006

KNIGHT ISLAND. Knight Island is still recovering from the Exxon oil spill. Spill research shows that the 'AB' orca pod population that uses the Knight Island area frequently has decreased dramatically and is listed as 'Not Recovering' from the spill by the Trustee Council. Knight Island passage is also critical herring habitat, another species hit hard by the oil spill. The Forest Service's rationale for not recommending Knight Island as wilderness is that it has favorable mineral potential, but this fails to account for the important fish and wildlife habitat of the region and the economic and recreational value of Knight Island as a jewel within the larger kayaking paradise. The environmental consequences of copper mining on Knight Island would add insult to injury on the island and its intertidal areas. Additionally, the Forest Service should include the adjacent Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, and Smith Islands in its wilderness recommendation for the same reasons as Knight Island, which it has done in the Preferred Alternative.

MONTAGUE ISLAND. The management prescription proposed for Montague Island (244 - Fish & Wildlife Conservation Area) is unacceptable and clearly does not meet the management directive needed for the fish and wildlife habitat since it 'conditionally' allows for commercial timber harvesting, all minerals activities, year-round motorized recreation use, new roads (built by forest service and 'others'), destination lodges (for cruise ships and other private interests), developed day-use facilities and campgrounds, utility systems, year-round helicopter landings, and special use permit 'hut to hut' type of recreation. All of these activities would dramatically alter the wild character of Montague Island. I strongly urge the Forest Service to recommend the entire Montague Island, especially the northern region, as Wilderness. Do not allow helicopters, industrial-scale tourism, commercial mining and logging to destroy this remarkable island. While the island has experienced some logging in the past, it is necessary to let the forest be restored to its natural state. I also support the removal and restoration necessary for the Patton Bay road on the Island.

0035815-001

-- in Prince William Sound, please designate the entire wilderness study area to Wilderness.

0035852-002

THE COLLEGE FJORD/NELLIE JUAN/WHITTIER REGION.
The entire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) of the 1984 plan should be protected as Wilderness and the entire Nellie Juan as Wild. KNIGHT ISLAND. Knight is still recovering from the Exxon oil spill. The consequences of mining on island would add insult to injury. Please include the adjacent Ingot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk, & Smith Islands in its wilderness recommendation for the same reasons.

0035877-001

and strongly agree with your recommendation that the northern part of Prince William Sound and Naked, Peak and Storey Islands should be added to the Wilderness Preservation System.

In addition, I would like to see Knight and Culross Islands added to the Wilderness Preservation System. Both islands were included in the ANILCA Wilderness Study area.

Comment # Comment

0035894-003

Prince William Sound: the entire existing WSA, Knight & Montague Islands, and Jack and Sawmill Bays, to help protect species recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

0035920-001

I strongly support a designation of wilderness for those bays and inlets that are now being sought after for permitting by large commercial/industrial size tour companies who wish to bring huge numbers of tourists to shore. The impact of this type of large scale tourism is severe and inappropriate on the beaches and islands of western PWS. The Exxon oil spill was an avoidable tragedy to this portion of the Chugach, please avoid another tragedy to this world class wilderness area by permanently protecting it with a wilderness designation.

0035947-004

Please also recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound, including Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

0035953-003

Please recommend wilderness for all of the Copper River Delta wetlands, both east and west of the river.

Please also recommend wilderness for important areas in Prince William Sound, including Knight and Montague Islands, Jack and Sawmill Bays to help species continue to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

0035954-006

Prince William Sound

I support Wilderness designations for areas like Knight and Montague Islands, and Jack, Beartrap and Sawmill Bays. I recommend taking precautions such as Wilderness designations to slow change so that the residents can encourage growth and businesses that are compatible with our values.

These species and many others are still recovering from the Exxon Valdez oil Spill.

0036054-003

MONTAGUE ISLAND. The management prescription proposed for Montague (244) clearly does not meet the management directive needed for the fish & wildlife habitat since it 'conditionally' allows for commercial timber harvesting, all minerals activities, motorized recreation, new roads, destination, utility systems, and year-round helicopter landings. Montague deserves wilderness.

0036120-001

I urge you and your team to create more Wilderness Areas,, Knight, Montague, Ignot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk and Smith be designated Wilderness.

Comment # Comment

0036170-001 -- In Prince William Sound, please designate the entire wilderness study area to Wilderness.

0036184-001 I would like you to keep the entire Nellie Juan corridor in wilderness. I have an interest in use of this area-- I am a whitewater kayaker, and I am planning a trip to run the Nellie Juan in two years. It would be a tragedy to lose another wild river to off-road vehicles.

0036199-001

I am writing to support a wilderness designation for Forest Service land in the Nellie Juan River watershed. I understand there is a proposal to build a road into Nellie Juan Lake. I think that would be a mistake. Even here in Idaho, the Nellie Juan is known as a beautiful, multi-day wilderness river trip. I urge you to keep it that way.

0036247-007 and all
Islands, Knight, Montague, Ignot, Story, Naked, Eleanor, Peak, Disk and
Smith be designated Wilderness.

0036248-002

I would like to see more areas in Prince William Sound dedicated as wilderness areas. Even though the new whittier road did not see the traffic expected, I do fear greater activity in that area. Lets get a lock on that habitat while we still can.

0036254-002

Regarding the Glacier Ranger District (Prince William Sound) I would like to see more of the backcountry designations renamed wilderness areas esp. those aligning lands managed through other entities.

0036309-002 4. I think larger area of Prince William Sound should be designated wilderness. This should also include the eastern Kenai Peninsula.

0036574-004 Recommend More Areas of Prince William Sound for the Wilderness Prescription

Comment # Comment

0036574-005

Although CMC is encouraged by the recommendation that a majority of the WSA as wilderness, the area covered by the wilderness prescription must be expanded. It is important to point out that sixty-five percent of the recommended wilderness area consists of lands dominated by largely inaccessible rock and ice formations. In addition, the wilderness recommendation excludes two important areas in the WSA - a thirty mile area around Whittier, and Knight Island.

This no-wilderness zone near Whittier includes Blackstone and Cochrane Bays, and Culross Passage -- areas that the Forest Service recommended as wilderness in 1984 -- as well as the west side of Port Wells, Esther Island and the north shore of Esther Passage, Perry and Lone Islands. Presumably, the opening of the Whittier Road and the increase in visitors to the northwestern Sound caused the Forest Service to back off of recommending wilderness near Whittier. The Forest Service must not allow the motorists and tourism industry to displace the wilderness values in this most accessible part of northwestern Prince William Sound. Instead of avoiding the wilderness prescription, the agency should use appropriate management tools to preserve wilderness values and keep wilderness accessible despite the increased visitation. The Forest Service can harden frequently used camping areas, add trails, and build recreational cabins where appropriate in accordance with the wilderness prescription. If such management measures fail to maintain wilderness conditions and preserve opportunities to have a wilderness experience, the Forest Service should limit the number of visitors to certain areas.

Knight Island is a prime candidate for the wilderness recommendation. The island, its bays and the surrounding marine waters are of incredible biological significance. Knight Island Passage is an important feeding area for killer whales and Dall and harbor porpoises and Knight Island is home to at least two killer whale rubbing beaches. Herring Bay, Lower Herring Bay, and Drier Bay are also important areas for herring. The area offers world-class wildlife viewing and recreational opportunities. The Forest Service must consider the marine-based values when classifying forest uplands.

Also, there are other areas within Prince William Sound that are appropriate for wilderness designation outside the WSA, such as Montague Island. The northern end of Montague Island is one of the most biologically productive areas in all of Prince William Sound. The Forest Service has designated Montague Island as a 'Fish and Wildlife Conservation Area' -- a prescription that deceptively sounds protective, but in reality allows a multitude of activities that cause significant impacts to habitat and to the species directly. For example, the prescription conditionally allows destination lodges, summer and winter helicopter landings, utility systems, Forest Service-built roads, parking lots, ferry terminals, boat ramps and docks, marine transfer facilities, campgrounds, summer motorized recreation use, mineral entry and pipelines, power generation and powerlines, transmission systems, and utility corridors. Revised Forest Plan 3-61 - 64. In sharp contrast, a wilderness prescription allows none of these activities. The only prohibited activity in a Fish and Wildlife Conservation Area is commercial timber harvesting. Revised Forest Plan 3-62. In effect, this prescription is one of the least protection prescriptions for fish and wildlife. Given the high biological importance of Montague Island, it is clear that the proposed prescription is vastly inadequate to protect the area's values. We urge the Forest Service to recommend wilderness for Montague Island.