

Social Systems

Comment # Comment

- 0008-001 We need to keep the National Forest protected, and preserved for the wildlife and forest. It belongs to everyone, for the purpose of respecting and appreciating nature. We don't need logging, this is not the place to look to for economic benefits. Roads would also be extremely harmful. I would like to be kept informed on this issue.
- 0026-001 I feel that the Chugach should be managed for it's wilderness class character. The rate of overall development in Alaska is accelerating. With the road to whittier Prince William Sound will undergo a huge increase in the number of visitors. The Kenai is already being heavily logged on private and State land and more is in the future. If our federal lands aren't managed to maximize their wilderness characteristics, by wilderness designation or roadless management, then it will only be a short time before "Wild Alaska" as everyone thinks of it will only be a memory. I also think it is important to remember that the Chugach belongs to all Americans, not just to Alaskans that live in and around it. We should allow nature to run it's course here so that anybody who wishes to recreate it a wild and untamed land can have that opportunity. For now and for future generations.
- 0042-003 3. Sr. Citizens enjoy the wilderness which they can no longer hike into so build a few summer roads for them so that they can continue to enjoy remote areas.
- 0042-004 2. Plan easy access to some good fishing (salmon & other types of fish) for the elderly and for young people with physical disabilities.
- 0043-001 Fish and wildlife management should be kept to a minimum. If habitat is protected from destruction most management is unnecessary and counterproductive especially in an intact ecosystem such as this.
- 0096-001 Wilderness X-c Skiing Hiking Trails Timber Harvest Kayaking Helicopters Non-motorized zones - land & aquatic Archaeology Biking Trails
- 0097-001 Wildlife Habitat: Reduce commercial forest uses, especially road-building and logging. Implement and enforce rules for ATVs. Limit snowmachine use - they stress winter wildlife & damage vegetation. Shift the mandate & goal of the U.S.F.S. to wood product recycling & conservation instead of industry/ commercial use. USFS could be the leader of wood materials exchange programs, paper recycling, construction materials waste exchange. Require traps be registered, locations mapped, and 1/2 mile from all trails.
- 0107-001 What is important to us is the preservation of our national forests and wildlife for the huge majority of Americans who don't own timber corporations, who don't manufacture, sell & drive snowmobiles, and (94%) who don't mutilate
- 0110-002 Grandview should NEVER be commercialized!
- 0146-006 - The Forest Service has identified 20 rivers In the Chugach as eligible for inclusion into the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers. Oppose these classifications as they would diminish multiple use, access and potential mining
- 0174-001 Many thanks for a good newsletter & for keeping us up to date on the forest plan. Wild & Scenic river designation is essential for the eligible rivers & glaciers. Development in Alaska will continue & these areas will be lost to dams, roads, pollution, industry, unless these outstanding & remarkable places are preserved. Steve Bovell's exec. dir. of AK Miner's Assn., argument, especially paragraphs five and six are shortsighted & fairly hollow. He should examine the rivers of the NW, of New England, the Everglades to see what happens when development occurs.
- 0243-004 I also value the natural resources of the USA and a strong economy.
- 0294-004 The forest around Prince William Sound was scarred by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and portions have already been logged on a large scale. PWS is one of the last tidewater wilderness left in the world, We need to protect PWS for lower impact uses and not allow large-scale commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism (such as what has happened with cruise ships in Juneau). Do not allow marinas to be built on public land, and control the number of mooring buoys. We need to protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence users, and small independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and that the
- 0323-004 Areas may need to be set aside on left open for motorized sport & mining, but its time for protective destinations in the Chugach. Our particular concern is upper Russian River. This is not only important for fisheries, but also hikers, campers && backpackers who use this trail.
- 0338-003 4. A. One size does not fit all, what good for Vermont isn't necessarily good for CNF, local input needs to play a
- 0381-001 1. A. -Motorized & non-motorized recreation - Specific designations - Tourism 2. A. -Too much of all above can change flavor of the area - Quality of life in Valdez & surrounding area is good. Lets not become another Homer... (tacky, commercial, etc) 3. A. -Public education - Logging

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- 0384-004 4. A. I think tourism will increase, road or not. Logging will continue. So...important to implement planning tools to control NPS pollution, i.e. forestry BMPs, road construction BMPs. THE PROBLEM IS THERE ARE NOT SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO PLAN AND PROVIDE OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT OF BMPS BY ADEC, ADNDR, OR ANYONE ELSE. How to provide funds? User fees. Logging fees. Road use fee
- 0394-003 3. A. a) wilderness - logging, mining, developed tourism, garbage cleanup b) tourism - impact on native lands if FS competes in letting land go for lodges, etc. Impact of developed rec. on back country recreation (commercial & non-commercial)
- 0398-005 Wild and Scenic Rivers: The Forest Service has identified 20 rivers in the Chugach as eligible for inclusion into the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers. RDC opposes these classifications as they are overly restrictive and would diminish multiple use, access and potential mining activity. These single-purpose designations are not needed in the Chugach and could very well be used as a tool to block economic development. The proposed Martin River Wild and Scenic River corridor would block access to land holdings by Chugach Native Corporation in the Carbon
- 0398-006 Wilderness: The 1984 Forest Plan recommended Wilderness designation for 1,703,000 acres -- 31% of the Chugach. The entire Congressionally designated Wilderness Study Area, 1,972,200 acres, is currently managed as Wilderness. RDC opposes federal Wilderness designations in the Chugach and believes strict management for Wilderness is neither appropriate or necessary. Alaska already contains 57 million acres of designated Wilderness -- 62% of all federal Wilderness in the U.S. In addition, 70 percent of all national park lands and 90 percent of national wildlife refuge lands are found in Alaska. The 49th state also contains vast acreage of state parks, putting it at the top of the list for acreage preserved under state conservation units. The Chugach plan should recognize the vast acreage in Alaska under federal Wilderness designation. The Forest Service should not proceed in writing the plan as if no Wilderness, national parks or refuges exist in this state. The areas in the Chugach that are currently being managed as Wilderness should be re-evaluated and a more flexible management regime applied. Perhaps a Wilderness management regime would be appropriate if Alaska possessed little federal Wilderness, but the opposite is the case. Wilderness designations severely limit recreational and multiple use opportunities, impair access and hold striking implications for tourism, oil and gas, mining, timber harvesting and utility construction. Wilderness designations often represent an economic opportunity cost. It is vital that the cumulative effects of such lost opportunity be studied before each new Wilderness designation is made.
- 0399-002 Under a revised CLMP, however, I am concerned that the access to and use of the land and its resources will be unduly restricted because of the political Clout being exercised by some environmentalists. Yes, it is necessary to preserve the wilderness and its resources; however, there must be a reasonable balance between preservation and the need to maintain a healthy and viable economic structure in Alaska. We can cite the Tongass National Forest as a prime example of undue restrictions and mismanagement which ultimately resulted in the closure of a mill and the
- 0400-001 The Chugach is a national forest of truly national significance. It holds the northernmost reaches of temperate rainforest in the United States. The Copper River Delta is the single largest undisturbed wetland for migratory waterfowl on the Pacific flyway. In the heart of the Chugach, the Prince William Sound area has yet to fully recover from nation's worst oil spill eight years ago. Unlike most national forests, the Chugach faces little pressure to exploit it for timber resources. There are no communities that depend on supplies of Chugach timber to sustain their economies. Recreation, wildlife and providing subsistence food for rural Alaskans rank far higher among the uses a
- 0400-017 The plan should ensure that the Forest Service complies with the Seward Highway Corridor Partnership Plan (SCHPP), which is expected to be complete in January 1998. To fulfill the agency's obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the draft Environmental Impact Statement should include the following concept alternatives: - MAXIMUM FISH AND WILDLIFE PROTECTION: All avoidable use conflicts, including those caused by recreation, are resolved in favor of protecting habitat. This alternative would aim to minimize human disturbances and severely limit "active" management of the forest. There would be no commercial timber harvesting. The plan would include extensive areas for protection as wilderness and wild and scenic rivers, and other conservation-related
- 0400-018 MAXIMUM RECREATION: All avoidable use conflicts (with timber, mining and other human activities) are resolved in favor of recreation. There would be no commercial timber harvesting. A variation within this alternative would include a "Quiet recreation emphasis," where -- conflicts between motorized access and quiet recreation use are resolved by limiting motorized access; and -- conflicts between "active" and "passive" recreation are resolved in favor of active recreation. "Active" means visitors who get out of vehicles (cars, train, boats or ships) and venture into the forest beyond developed areas, such as communities, ports and roadsides.
- 0401-003 Looking at our larger watersheds and ecosystems, in political and economic terms, as well as biodiversity, is crucial. And we'll hear it again and again into the next century, the economic values of salmon and bears, of roadless areas and viewsheds, well maintained trails and toilets, are the legacy we will leave to the communities of the Chugach.
- 0405-004 Protect Prince William Sound from commercial logging, commercial mining and large-scale tourism to preserve the existing character of the Sound and protect wildlife, low-impact and subsistence users, and small independent Alaskan tour operators.

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- 0405-007 Prevent commercial export logging that cannot be done sustainably. Large-scale clearcutting and other non-sustainable practices jeopardize the forest resources for the highly-valued activities of fishing, tourism and recreation, especially as forested areas are increasingly developed and clear-cut on neighboring state and private
- 0406-001 Preserving the last true natural forests is the prime necessity of the few wilderness areas remaining in the world today. Cutting and harvesting the forests in Chugach La will only be a stop-gap momentarily to those hired to do this. This may sound like a narrow choice - it is however, the last fine area remaining. Over population is the crime against natural habitat everywhere. One more reason to put our attention on conservation and protection. It is a race
- 0407-003 3. The CNF, as well as all other national forests, was intended to provide for multiple use, including timber production, other forms of resource development such as mineral and oil and gas development, recreational use, and development for tourism. How will the plan address these intended uses?
- 0408-001 I am a periodic Chugach National Forest user under my own power and occasionally hire commercial operators that have permits to conduct their business on the Chugach. I believe in the need to strive for a dynamic forest plan. A plan that recognizes advanced technologies for resource development and public lands access while providing recreational access for all user groups, motorized and non-motorized. Opportunity for commercial use by Alaska based businesses especially those recreational in nature are highly desirable for the Chugach National Forest. My desires for tourism related business opportunities are based strongly in multi use management of the Chugach National Forest. Additionally the USFS must defend the rights of citizens to access and develop the resources of the National Forest System. A few activists have been successful in undermining the basis of the National Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture. Some attack this institution's multi-use mandate on all development related fronts. Consistent intrusions by preservationist forces has; contributed to an unhealthy forest; restricted access by various user groups, both motorized and non-motorized; created chaos in several fisheries enhancement programs; and have prevented our government employees from achieving the goals of the 1984 Chugach National Forest Management Plan.
- 0408-004 Following are points to consider; RECREATION Tourism continues to be a growing industry in Alaska. US citizens come north to see the largest tracts of public land in the nation. Access must be provided for citizens to visit these lands while allowing other uses of Chugach National Forest to continue in unison. Potential commercial recreation providers must be encouraged to use the Chugach National Forest within established guidelines of this management revision. Tourism is an industry which in some ways may appear to conflict with resource extraction industries such as timber cutting and mining. This belief may be true of certain aspects of tourism or past practices of other industries. Many of us, humans in general, wish to see industry in the process. The operations of a logging venture are often interesting to most, although large tracts of clear cutting may pose ethical questions to some. Logging then in turn allows point of access development in concert with recreational demands of all forest users. Points of access are a vital requirement of forest visitors. Chugach National Forest Management Plan revisions must point to the benefits of one user groups activities for another, not continue to highlight the effects one has upon the other. Consider these positive points in drafting forest management alternatives: - Most access provided by resource development activities should be identified as having the best potential for recreational user groups. Following exclusive use by industry, accesses developed by timber and mining industries should be evaluated for use by commercial and general public recreational user groups. - A few select areas must be designated for motorized and non-motorized recreational activities. Select areas that have had traditional use patterns should be designated for that particular use. Not all areas of the forest need to be designated within this current revision. Select areas that are given use designations need prescriptive monitoring programs to ensue future designations are well planned. - Aircraft access, both rotor and fixed wing, must be allowed wherever possible due to the lack of road and alternative accesses. - Development reserves must be identified for areas deemed to have high potential for tourism and recreational activities. Reserves may change general location or anticipated prescription as demand for activities change, however, the need for identified reserves is critical for planned development. All ranges of visitation identified in the Recreational Opportunity Spectrum must be accommodated by planned visitor center developments. - A system of trail building and upgrading existing trails in need of improvement must be continued. Identified trails must have a development time line associated with construction to assure access keeps pace with demand. Trails must be built to accommodate the greatest numbers of visitors using the Recreational Opportunity Spectrum.

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- 0408-005 TIMBER An appeal settlement with 17 organizations by the US Forest Service in 1986 effectively negated the 1984 Forest Management Plan. According to the November 1996 Forest Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Report this settlement reduced timber offerings in the past five years to 10.6 mmbf. The 1984 Plan called for 16.9 mmbf to be made available for sustained harvest potential and forest health. In the past five years about 4.0 mmbf has actually been harvested. Several factors have led to the low harvest, the most prominent, however, has been the 1986 amendment and objections to forest resource management by protectionist forces. Recent retreats from salvage timber harvests has contributed to continued decline of forest health, further spreading of spruce bark beetle infestation, and ignored catastrophic levels of forest fire fuels. I believe the US Forest Service must act with authority in providing forest management responsibilities of it's charge, through the following; Active management of Chugach National Forest timber resources must be the overwhelming emphasis of revisions to the forest plan. Adequate amounts of timber must be made available for harvest that will slow the spread of beetle infestation and salvage large quantities of dead and dying timber. Significant amounts of timber of commercial use will help to establish value added industry in Alaska. Forest Service resource management should assist the private sector in creating opportunities of value added industries. Road and trail access for logging operations should, in most instances, remain open to public access. Points of access are mostly non-existent, however, access is in great demand for dispersed recreation, the largest growth segment of forest visitation. Logging roads and trails will provide needed access for fire fighting. In areas where selective timber management techniques are utilized, such as helicopter logging, coordination with winter recreation providers, such as heli-skiing operators, will enhance activities and
- 0414-003 Leave Prince William Sound alone, it needs no additional protection. There has been logging & mining operations going on in the Sound from the early part of this century with no apparent harm. -
- 0420-002 In addition, special attention should be given to the Copper River Delta & Prince William Sound. No roads should be built in the Copper River Delta to protect its wilderness & water fowl values. Prince William Sound should be protected from commercial logging & acquisition of threatened native lands should continued to be acquired.
- 0420-004 Also, the Chugach National Forest is not suitable for commercial logging & industrial tourism. Both activities should be banned. A sustainable low impact economy such as fishing, river guiding, hunting, kayaking & canoeing can augment & facilitate the enjoyment of the Chugach National Forest as well as support jobs in the area. Boom & Bust logging & mining economics are unstable & environmentally destructive. In conclusion, preservation of the Chugach's wilderness & wildlife values should be top priority & a sustainable economy will follow.
- 0423-004 Healthy predator populations The plan should consider the maintenance of healthy predator populations as a problem deserving consideration in its own right, especially given the isolation and vulnerability of brown bear and wolf populations on the Kenai, the widespread fragmentation and destruction of habitat that has resulted from the logging, development, and road building that has ravaged the western Kenai and parts of the Sound in recent years, and the increased human activity we can expect to see on the Chugach in the next decade.
- 0423-010 The Chugach within the region As my comments probably suggest, I would like to see the Chugach Forest Plan take a wide-angle view of the Chugach, one that fully accounts for the unique role it will play over the next ten to fifteen years in what is Alaska's most developed region. Given the increased pressures that roadbuilding, logging, and development will place on the entire region, what role should the Chugach play in ensuring that the overall ecological balance and integrity of Southcentral Alaska is maintained?
- 0425-003 Protect Prince William Sound: The forest around Prince William Sound was scarred by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and portions have already been logged on a large scale. Protect PWS for lower impact uses and not allow large-scale commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism (such as what has happened with cruise ships in Juneau). Protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence users, and small independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and that the current character
- 0425-004 Conserve Brown Bear Habitat: Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula are being threatened due to declining habitat. Because bears are considered an "indicator species", the Forest Service needs to make habitat protection a priority in its plan. Please participate in any task force that is created and initiate a Brown Bear Protection Plan on the Kenai Peninsula. In addition, work with other land owners to address cumulative impacts for Brown Bears and other species, as well as watershed issues.
- 0427-003 Protect Prince William Sound: The forest around Prince William Sound was scarred by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and portions have already been logged on a large scale. Protect PWS for lower impact uses and not allow large-scale commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism (such as what has happened with cruise ships in Juneau). Protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence users, and small independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and that the current character
- 0427-004 Conserve Brown Bear Habitat: Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula are being threatened due to declining habitat. Because bears are considered an "indicator species", the Forest Service needs to make habitat protection a priority in its plan. Please participate in any task force that is created and initiate a Brown Bear Protection Plan on the Kenai Peninsula. In addition, work with other land owners to address cumulative impacts for Brown Bears and other species, as well as watershed issues.

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- 0435-001 1) Wild and Scenic Rivers and Wilderness Areas. The Russian River should definitely be wild and scenic. This is the single most important tourist and recreation area in Cooper Landing. The east side of the Russian River should be added to the Wilderness Area that already exists on the west (Refuge) side and should extend upstream from the powerline and eastward enough to protect the drainage. This designation might halt the future of "1872 limestone mining" and other similar bogus activities within the drainage.
- 0438-003 The forest around Prince William Sound was scarred by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and portions have already been logged on a large scale. Please protect PWS for lower Impact uses and do not allow large-scale commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism (such as what has happened with cruise ships In Juneau). Protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence users, and small Independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and the character of the Sound is maintained
- 0438-004 Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula are threatened due to declining habitat. Because bears are considered an "Indicator species", the Forest Service should make habitat protection a priority in its plan. Please initiate a Brown Bear Protection Plan an the Kenai Peninsula. In addition. work with other land owners to address cumulative impacts for Brown Bmrs and other species, as well as watershed issues.
- 0443-001 Turnagain Arm Conservation League's primary area of concern-- the area in which our members live and spend most of their time-- is the greater Turnagain Arm watershed, which we have indicated on the accompanying map in purple. We enjoy living in proximity to this portion of Chugach National forest because of the opportunities the forest provides year round for quasi-wilderness experiences, low impact recreation, and subsistence harvesting on the water, in low elevation forest, and in the alpine zone. Some of us also depend economically on the availability of nearby low impact/backcountry recreation and eco-tourism opportunities. The US Forest Service (USFS) manages much, though by no means all, of the land in this area-- part of it falls in the Glacier ranger district, part in the Seward district. In the past this area has been impacted by mining, railroad construction, road construction, and some logging. Currently this region is being impacted by new pressures for development, mostly oriented towards mass-tourism and commercial recreation. Recent land transfers from the National Forest to the State, and from there to the municipality of Anchorage and the Kenai Borough are also impacting ways in which land is likely to be used in
- 0447-002 Significant changes have occurred on the Forest since the 1984 Chugach Land Use Plan. Alaska Wildland Adventures is concerned about catastrophic (clearcuts, mining, developed tourism, garbage) and incremental degradation (recreation, tourism, and fisheries development projects) on the ecological health and scenic quality of the entire Chugach National Forest
- 0452-002 Logging, mining, and tourist activities - If done responsibly are acceptable activities.
- 0458-005 The Copper River Delta deserves permanent protection, up to and including Miles Lake and Baird Canyon. Protect the forest and wildlife habitat through the new plan until legislation can be passed to make protection permanent. -
- 0459-005 ADDITIONAL RESOURCE EXTRACTION The petroleum and mining industries will also have a future stake in the outcome of the CLMP. For this reason, these industries should be noted as future stakeholders and added as a factor. What will be the impact of these two industries, both environmentally and socio-economically? We believe that a subsurface analysis of mineral and petroleum reserves should be conducted prior to a CLMP decision being achieved. In addition, will there be conflict with local native corporations over their subsurface rights to certain areas of the Chugach National Forest? We understand that the Chugach National Forest is pining vast surface lands due to the Exxon Valdez Trustee Council even though the regional native corporations still have ownership of the subsurface properties. Such a dual ownership situation makes well coordinated surface and/or subsurface management difficult, if not impossible. It should be noted that we support forest management as a tool that takes both the health of forested area and the socio-economic health of surrounding communities into account prior to making long term forest decisions. The preferred alternative should provide significant timber harvest as a means of
- 0461-001 I support the inclusion of timber harvesting (i.e., timber sales) in the management of this forest. Timber harvesting promotes healthy forests, provides road access to otherwise inaccessible areas and provides jobs for residents of the community. The Chugach National Forest has always maintained a balance for mining and timber interests as well as recreational opportunities. Timber harvesting managed properly is an asset to the forest by providing regrowth of a young healthy tree base and an infrastructure that benefits Alaska's people. Timber harvesting brings monies to local communities by providing jobs and by the cost of the sale itself. Recreational activities alone do not revenue enough to pay for proper forest management. I oppose the idea of designating wilderness areas. In 1907, President Teddy Roosevelt created the Chugach National Forest as a Multiple Land Use Area for all citizens to use and enjoy. Proper forest management always includes timber harvesting to promote a healthy forest. Eliminating timber harvesting from a public multiple land use area is not the what the founders intended. In the last 20-30 years timber harvesting in the Chugach National Forest has been decreasing and by 1998 will be virtually non-existent. The
- 0479-011 As we envision the next few decades, the pressure to build roads in the Chugach for logging, increased access demands and/or large-scale tourism pose the most significant threats to the future integrity of the forest.

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- 0479-014 The inevitable growth of a large-scale tourism industry in southcentral Alaska poses significant threats to the forest, including road-building, structural developments, and increased access, both motorized and non-motorized, among other issues. These major threats to defacto wilderness areas, coupled with the significant impacts the forest and its resources endured related to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill in 1989, have the potential to indefinitely alter the character
- 0479-016 The long-term viability of brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula may be threatened due to habitat degradation from increased development and road-building on the Kenai Peninsula. Due to the primarily roadless character of the Chugach National Forest, we understand the Chugach to be critical bear habitat for the long term viability of the Kenai Peninsula brown bear. If the Chugach National Forest does not remain primarily roadless, the long term viability of the Kenai Peninsula brown bear population will be undermined.
- 0479-023 We envision a balance of recreational and tourism uses of the forest.
- 0479-037 Subsistence: Title VIII of ANILCA directs the Forest Service to protect existing and future subsistence opportunities on the Forest. Any significant resource development or habitat manipulation proposed in the revision process must address how these actions will impact subsistence resources, what the alternatives are, and how the Forest Service intends to mitigate these impacts.
- 0479-042 Watershed Analysis: TWS would like the Forest Service to do a watershed by watershed inventory of the forest which would identify issues regarding water quality, riparian areas, wildlife and fisheries, and any harmed areas. This will help the Forest Service and the public better understand the impacts of future actions on the forest on a watershed level. In addition, increased cruise ship activity in Prince William Sound and other motorized modes of recreation throughout the forest, such as jet skis, may well degrade water
- 0479-057 Highway Corridors: TWS would like the Forest Service to address and develop policy in the revision process for the Chugach National Forest regarding limiting large-scale commercial developments to highway corridors.
- 0479-068 The inevitable growth of a large-scale tourism industry in southcentral Alaska poses significant threats to the forest, including road-building, structural developments, and increased access, both motorized and non-motorized, among other issues. In order to get a complete picture of use patterns and subsequent adverse impacts, the Forest Service needs to consider the increasing number of private users on the forest. The Forest Service needs to address these types of impacts and increased uses and demands on the forest in its Forest Plan revision.
- 0480-008 I oppose the building of roads and I oppose commercial logging in the National Forest. I urge you to prohibit such activities on public lands.
- 0491-003 We need to protect PWS for lower impact uses and not allow large-scale commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism. Do not allow marinas to be built on public land, and control the number of mooring buoys. We need to protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence users, and small independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and that the current character of the
- 0492-008 Development must be not only allowed but encouraged. This encourages local economic growth. This can be used to increase the current road system and provide more tourism and recreation areas. Stop and consider if those that came before us had been so shortsighted that they had not provided us with the access we now enjoy. All development should be encouraged including but not limited to oil and gas development.
- 0558-001 leave as is I would like to see it left as is. multiple use gives everyone access to the forest, not just few. We need to protect our incipient rights for the use of the timber, rock, hunting, and mining by changing the status of the land around Hope.
- 0629-001 It will be of more lasting value to the State of Alaska if it's wilderness character is protected. The threats it faces are serious, not merely the timber harvesting, but also the increased access brought about by opening the Whittier railroad tunnels to automobiles which will enormously increase the pressure on all the natural qualities so vital to a sustainable tourism Please plan for wilderness protection NOW
- 0666-001 As the population inevitably increases - greater demands for recreational areas will result. The cries of those who say there are enough protected & wild areas are usually of those who will reap personal profit for wilderness desecration. Once a land is despoiled it can be lost forever -
- 0667-001 This forest is "common ground" belonging to everyone to enjoy, not to strip in any way. Can't there be some place on the globe that needn't be turned into human economy? Please save this forest in every way possible.
- 0696-001 Protect Prince William Sound: This is B.S. - Oil in ocean doesn't harm forest.
- 0710-001 Our forest is worth more as it is than chopped up & dug up. Please protect it.
- 0711-001 My most central concerns are the protection of the outstanding wildlife value of the Copper River Delta and maintaining and restoring the character of Prince William Sound.

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- 0715-001 Please help preserve this still natural gem, and don't allow economic or business pressures (logging, mining, cruise ships) rule your decisions.
- 0731-001 Large numbers of people travel all over the planet seeking wilderness - wild, untouched places. We Alaskans need to recognize the treasure that we have here. Cutting trees or digging up minerals for the enrichment of a few companies or a few individuals is nuts. We need to enshrine our wilderness, designate it as wilderness, enlarge the boundaries, and protect it for the world's citizens. I strongly agree with all the points above.
- 0746-001 The above comments echo my sentiments very well. Especially for the Copper River Delta. Even though I live in S.E. Alaska, I care very much about the rest of our lovely state. Do not think we have to "develop" it to the extent the South 48 have suffered.
- 0752-001 Please follow the above suggestions to preserve this national treasure. Preservation=long-term sustainable value!
- 0757-001 Please institute the above. Undisturbed healthy wilderness remains Alaska's greatest state treasure and we should do everything to preserve it. Thanks.
- 0758-001 I am quite concerned about the Brown Bear Habitat or the Kenai Peninsula - their habitat is being destroyed please consider the waste of tax payers dollars & realize that the habitat needs must be protected!
- 0777-032 The National Forest System was created to provide a continuous supply of timber, minerals, water, and other resources. The Organic Act and other forest management acts mandate multiple use management of National Forest land, and the Forest Planning Team must seek to adhere to the Forest Service management directives.
- 0784-004 Currently 98.8 percent of the forest is inventoried as roadless. Access into the forest is very important and roads built to access the timber should be maintained -- not obliterated -- to provide future access for recreational users, forest managers, and fire fighters. The Forest Service should incorporate a tourism strategy into the plan in order to accommodate growing numbers of visitors. Increased and improved access, including helicopter flight-seeing, landings, should be provided. Helicopter flightseeing and landings are among the most popular activities for Alaska visitors. Often helicopter access is the only means for handicapped or older visitors to experience Alaska's remote
- 0793-002 As more and more people seek out high quality, low cost recreational opportunities for their families in South-Central Alaska, the "best value" determination concerning this resource and it's availability to our children will be realized through it's preservation, not through marginally profitable development options. We are firmly opposed to any of the following activities in the Chugach NF: 1. salvage logging, timber harvests, and the construction of logging roads. 2. mining and or minerals exploration 3. oil and gas development 4. helicopter tourism access 5. other motorized access, i.e. 4 wheelers, snow machines, etc.
- 0802-004 Protect Prince William Sound: The forest around Prince William Sound was scarred by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and portions have already been logged on a large scale. Protect PWS for lower impact-uses and not allow large-scale commercial logging,
- 0802-005 Commercial mining or large scale tourism (such as what has happened with cruise ships in Juneau) Protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence-users, and small independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and that the current character of the Sound is maintained.
- 0802-017 The Chugach National Forest is extremely important to members of the Alaska Wilderness League.
- 0810-003 Tourism and recreation are major and growing uses of the Forest. The major challenge for this plan will be to balance access to the forest with the quality of experience of the Forest. As the population of areas adjacent to the Forest growth demands for recreation and other uses increase. The value of the forest for nature and Wilderness based recreation and tourism is growing rapidly, and has major social and economic benefits that need to be recognized in the plan. Alaska tourism businesses, operate commercial activities and derive revenue from the wilderness qualities of the forest. These enterprises are vital to local employment and provide both economic diversity, and stability to local communities. We believe that the economic benefits to the region from existing wilderness and wildlife values on the forest far exceed any economic benefits from development in roadless areas, or any development of large-scale logging on the Forest. For the reasons and vision stated above, AWRTA believes the Chugach National Forest Revision Process must address the following list of concerns and related issues in the revision process and
- 0810-019 In conclusion, AWRTA would like to see the Chugach National Forest managed to protect its wilderness and wildlife values and subsequently to assist the outfitters, guides and other businesses dependent on those natural resources.
- 0812-022 The USFS must provide access to the benefit of all Alaskans, tourism providers, timber harvests, and oil, gas and mineral exploration and development.
- 0813-014 Natural scenic quality is often impossible or very expensive to restore. Economic development projects should minimize their impact on visual quality where feasible.

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- 0817-008 We also suggest you consider protecting existing trail corridors from impacts associated with resource development activities or new roads.
- 0817-021 Prince William Sound is also home to >1,000,000 Brachyramphus murrelets and Marbled Murrelets breed in conifer forests and muskegs of the uplands. Timber harvest and development within 50 km of the coast could negatively affect their populations. The plan should explicitly address conservation issues affecting murrelets.
- 0817-030 Terrestrial Mammals Kenai Peninsula Brown Bears: The Kenai Peninsula is one of Alaska's most developed and fastest growing regions. Between 1977 and 1987, the human population of the Kenai increased from 24,600 to 43,600. Connected by road to the largest city in Alaska, the Kenai is the focal area for many of the state's outdoor recreationists and an important visitor destination for the state's growing tourism industry. Outdoor recreation, sport hunting and fishing, logging, mining, oil and gas development, land subdivision, and other developments are increasing throughout the Kenai Peninsula. These activities will increase opportunities for bear-human encounters and their cumulative impacts are of particular concern to bear managers in southcentral Alaska.
- 0820-030 Prince William Sound, at the heart of the Chugach, is the site of recovery from the nation's worst oil spill as well as large scale logging on private lands. These impacts must be weighed with the increase in tour boat activity. In particular, should the Whittier road be completed, we understand that Princess plans on moving a large portion of their operations from Seward to Whittier. With watershed inventories in hand, the Forest Service will be better equipped to address the potential of these impacts on surrounding forests, wildlife and fisheries, and to water quality.
- 0826-004 4. The plan needs to have a clear statement about how recreational use of the forest will be managed. This use of the forest is increasing rapidly due to the growing urban interface and appropriate resources should be devoted to this activity. In addition a fee structure needs to be implemented that will fairly distribute some of the cost of developing and maintaining recreational facilities and services. Commercial users of the forest, helicopter tours, commercial kayaking, sailing or any other type of commercial user in a passive or active sense should pay a higher percentage in fees or use permits. The average member of the public who is an occasional visitor to the forest should not bear an undue financial burden to enjoy this public resource.
- 0827-002 Permanently Protect the Copper River Delta: In 1907 President Teddy Roosevelt created the Chugach National Forest primarily to protect the forest and wildlife of the Copper River Delta. The Delta, up to and including Miles Lake and Baird Canyon, with millions of birds and abundant wildlife, must be permanently protected through the new forest plan by recommendation for legislative designation.
- 0827-003 Protect Prince William Sound: The forest around Prince William Sound was scarred by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and portions have already been logged on a large scale. Protect PWS for lower impact uses and not allow large-scale commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism (such as what has happened with cruise ships in Juneau). Protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence users, and small independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and that the current character of the Sound is maintained.
- 0827-004 Conserve Brown Bear Habitat: Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula are being threatened due to declining habitat. Because bears are considered an "indicator species", the Forest Service needs to make habitat protection a priority in its plan. Please participate in any task force that is created and initiate a Brown Bear Protection Plan on the Kenai Peninsula. In addition, work with other land owners to address cumulative impacts for Brown Bears and other species, as well as watershed issues.
- 0828-002 2) Protect the Copper River Delta! This is a unique area where hundreds of thousands of migratory birds gather in an awe-inspiring spectacle. The Delta, up to and including Miles Lake & Baird Canyon, and its abundant wildlife, needs to be permanently protected through the new forest plan.
- 0828-003 3) Prince William Sound is perhaps the most spectacular region of Alaska's coast that is easily accessible. This stunning area needs to be protected for lower impact uses and users. Commercial logging, commercial mining, and large-scale tourism (the thought of many huge cruise ships plying the Sound is not pleasant!) must not be allowed.
- 0829-002 The original intentions of the Chugach National Forest was to protect the forest and wildlife of the Copper River Delta. Please place permanent protection for this area specifically including the Miles Lake and Baird Canyon. This area must be protected through the new forest plan by recommendation for legislative designation.
- 0829-003 Protect Prince William Sound and the forest around Prince William Sound as this area was scarred from the oil spill and has been logged in a large Scale since. As a kayaker and a sport fisherman I would be very sad if this area was not protected for the things that I have visited it for in the past. Protect this area from the cumulative and individual impacts so that smaller tour operators and wildlife have priority for use and the current state of the sound is
- 0829-004 Conserve Brown Bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula. As the KP Browns are being threatened due to declining habitat the Forest Service needs to make habitat protection a priority in its plan. The FS also should take a participatory role in any task force that is created and should initiate a Brown Bear Protection Plan. In addition the FS should work with other land owners to address cumulative impacts for Brown Bears and other species as well as

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- 0829-009 According to the CNG recreation survey of 1995 "The quality of the visual resources, or scenery of the forest is by far the most consideration to visitors of the forest." Maintain the visual quality of the forest. which means not interrupting the natural cycles of fire, insects and disease with forest weakening logging practices.
- 0830-001 It is because Prince William Sound and the Chugach National Forest has retained the wild and beautiful that Alaska is most desired for, with an integrated human history, making it a living entity. Unfortunately special interests have been extracting and compromising many of the irreplaceable resources of the Forest. This not only includes irresponsible clearcutting and mining of the forests but also the large scale, impersonal tourism, out of control sport hunting/trapping and ORV's and growing uncontrolled access. These impacted and exploited resources are what my type of business as well as my family and I rely upon. These interests take much and give little to anyone but themselves. I am very concerned that there will be a further erosion of the Chugach Forest unless we help through a use plan that will learn from the mistakes of the past and finally leave the people of Alaska, the country and the world a U. S. National Forest to be proud of. I would like to see the future Chugach Land Use Management Plan have strong protection and expansion capabilities for the Forests irreplaceable riches
- 0830-009 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS. Look at the whole picture and cumulative impacts of future activities such as mining, mariculture/aquaculture, lodges. Take a watershed impact look at activities. What will these activities have on the scenic qualities, the water quality for people as well as fish. The chemical nature of modern mining has a proven negative impact on the migrating capabilities of salmon. Permanent lodges are having a negative impact on fish and wildlife and should not be allowed on Forest lands, There are plenty of private and state lands for this. There is a growing impact on charter and private boaters from encroachment on vessel anchorages by commercial floating lodges and mariculture/aquaculture projects? A limited entry should be initiated immediately on these activities.
- 0831-003 3) Protect one of Americas and the worlds last great forests from logging and over use.
- 0831-004 4) The Copper River Delta already has an economic industry (fishing) that will be sustainable if managed properly and the Copper River Delta habitat is protected from over development and logging.
- 0860-037 No trees and trash on all easy to access beaches
- 0860-060 The best thing that could happen is for the forest to be left alone, let nature take course Preservation of the pristine nature of the National Forest
- 0860-064 Develop a plan under which our resources can be used but not at the expense of the environment, develop value added products
- 0860-081 Cooperative product among Forest Service, Alaska State Parks, Native Corporations, and Native villages Budget sufficient to implement Include logging, mining, recreation, and protection
- 0860-099 Lots of wildlife, fish, beautiful scenery, jobs and recreation Preserved in pristine state; infra-structure only in places where it already exists
- 0860-107 Minimum impact by man and his machines
- 0860-117 Timber harvest, destination tourism, and mining recognized as legitimate
- 0860-125 Balance the needs of people and the land Remains pristine, with intact habitats supporting multiple uses Healthy ecosystem providing lots of opportunity for recreation, jobs, and resource outputs Preserved for recreation,
- 0860-136 Obvious impacts from commercial and recreational use
- 0860-138 The number of acres of public, accessible land continue to be whittled down Lock up areas, limit access for potential development
- 0860-142 Logging, noise, crowding, trash
- 0862-017 Increased and changing patterns. PWS impacts on natural resources and ecosystem dynamics
- 0863-002 Emphasize or increase public use of the land.
- 0869-004 2) Specific concerns
a) Provide the public with the opportunities they desire, while accommodating diverse user groups and protecting the resource through sustainable management.

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- 0881-012 P How to protect trails from other uses, activities
P What level of development for trails, where? New trails? To ROS? Cabins? Zoning? Stds/Guidelines. What level to upgrade for accessibility?
- 0887-001 What are the issues? Increased and changing uses.

Increasing uses can have impact on natural resources, disturbing the natural working of the ecosystem, including fisheries, wildlife and plant dynamics.
- 0890-004 4) Emphasize sustainable fisheries, recreation, and tourism. Large-scale commercial and/or salvage logging is not an appropriate use.of the Chugach National Forest.
- 0892-004 Protect Prince William Sound: The forest around Prince William Sound was scarred by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and portions have already been logged on a large scale. Protect PWS for lower impact uses and not allow large-scale commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism (such as what has happened with cruise ships in Juneau). Protect PWS from individual and cumulative impacts, so that wildlife, kayakers, boaters, fishers, subsistence users, and small independent Alaskan owned tour operators have priority and that the current character of the