

Use _ Occupation

Comment # Comment

- 0005-001 Recreation and sustainable uses of the forest should be given higher priority over extractive uses such as logging or
- 0005-004 Tourism and recreation are vital to the area's economy. These can be sustainable uses of the forest if managed
- 0012-004 Strict management of public use in Prince William Sound to maintain its wilderness character.
- 0017-004 Kayak campers are making PWS a big outhouse - need to enforce pack in/ pack out that includes human waste. Rd access will increase this problem drastically esp. close to Whittier.
- 0018-003 Rec & Tourism - Again - recognize the limits the environment can withstand & control use - AK is known for its serenity & beauty - need to keep it that way.
- 0019-005 The bears can't move any further North to get away from human development. This is their last stand, their final retreat. Conserve & Protect our wild lands and animals - Please!
- 0049-003 Every valley, every river, every mountain, every scene is unique unto itself Roadless areas keep people from enjoying the forest and keep forest from managing the forest.
- 0077-003 Preserving cabins on the forest would be positive for your public relations, and some of these may be able to be re-used for interpretive purposes. - as you well know, the projected road to Whittier will vastly increase the amount of long-term recreational tourism-to P.W.S., particularly to College Fjord. I will result in increased water pollution, modifications to fish populations, increased sport hunting pressure, modification of existing subsistence patterns, etc., etc. So please recognize those facts in any environmental documents that the USFS writes or participates in. - regarding fish and wildlife management, I regard the USFS's most important responsibility to protect the existing species diversity. I firmly do not feel that non-game mammals (wolves, etc.) should be sacrificed to increase the numbers of more "desirable" species. I had less of a problem with small, localized projects that increase desirable fish
- 0107-003 We want to save the nearly \$1 billion of tax money used to subsidize the logging program that is destroying our forests; we want the ancillary damage to our watersheds: Water damage, landslides which damage or demolish buildings and roads stopped. We want to replace the short term greed of the Forest Service while giving "nominations" to timber corporations and replace it with long-term profits in recreation and tourism. We want to save the last 5% of our native forests. We don't think logging the Chugach (ILLEGIBLE) what the huge majority of Americans want! P.S. We resent your articles on "Retrievers" & snowmobile (by the manufacturers!) as supporting hunting & destructive uses of our wildlands & wildlife.
- 0180-001 I will address this letter to my river management concerns in the Chugach Planning effort. I hope to address other issues in subsequent letters. I feel hesitant to give you personal background information, but I have elected to do so only to add creditability to my statements. I have canoed, kayaked, and rafted whitewater and flatwater with undying enthusiasm for 25 years. I have worked as a professional guide, taught canoeing and kayaking, and competed in whitewater racing at the national level. I have worked for the USDA Forest Service as a career employee. My tenure with your agency included four years on the Chugach Forest. Currently I work as a Research Wildlife Biologist for another agency. Primary uses of the Alaskan rivers are private river running, commercial rafting, recreational mining, and commercial mining. These I have listed in the order of impacts to the river ecosystem (least to greatest). All of these activities can have a devastating impact; however, the number of users that a river can support in these
- 0198-002 I feel trail & campsite development are reasonable future development needs.
- 0201-001 Parks - Trails - Wild/Scenic - Long term Improvements with New Road Access, we need to provide Activities
- 0201-006 Road Access - Opening our community to lots of people and having what is needed for Interest to tourist & Locals
- 0202-003 Physical "(ILLEGIBLE)" of available recreation: 1) Areas reached by foot - 1 day hike - 3 day hike 2) Areas reached by nonmotorized boat (Kyaks) 3) Area reached by motorized boats.
- 0204-002 A. Having to duck into nearest cove when storms hit. i.e. Having private ownership (Indian land) telling you to get
- 0244-002 Current areas are heavily used. Access will allow reducing heavily used areas.
- 0244-005 Reduce the overcrowding, allow for Tourism to expand.
- 0249-003 start managing habitat to increase certain desirable wildlife populations, moose, bear, grouse, birds, waterfowl. public desires more wildlife for consumption & viewing.

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- 0269-007 2. A. The Chugach is one of the last remaining National Forests with a wild character and healthy abundance of native plants & animals. It also faces a high degree of exploitation from the tourism industry, logging, mining, and oil-related accidents. We need to recognize the Forest for what it is to the broad majority of Americans: a national
- 0269-010 5. A. It seems that the motives for economic return by exploiting some resource infest nearly every issue, be it snowmachines (dealers encourage more motorized access) or tourism. Defending the right for a place to exist simply for the sake of leaving a place wild and touched takes guts.
- 0277-003 - Commercial activities should not be allowed to strip the land of beauty (resource extraction) or affect the health of the forest.
- 0317-002 The Forest Plan I feel should not include any facilities such as anchors, marinas, roads, or made trails. Advertising & building "things" will cause PWS to turn into the new Kenia River. We have already seen a huge increase in user groups naturally. There are already charter planes & boats and plenty of access opportunity such as boat ramps fuel & hotels in Udz, Cdu & Whitt. Chenega could put in a fuel dock at their village. The direction I see the plan taking makes me envision pictures of wall to wall people lining the banks of the Kenia River or rafts of boats such as in Fort Udz when the hatchery fish return. This is fine in small areas such as Kenia or Valdez but the whole of PWS turning to this would take away the last large area where you can get away from overcrowding to a degree. As the world population goes up this is probably inevitable so I can't see speeding the process up. Many ILLEGIBLE users come
- 0318-004 The revision takes into account activities outside of its boundaries when deciding what activities are appropriate or inappropriate, balancing uses on a bigger scale than just the Forest. My main concern is that the Chugach remain primarily a recreational forest that caters to individual users as much, or more so, than groups and tours.
- 0334-003 Protect Prince William Sound 3. 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 current character of the sound is maintained.
- 0338-001 1. A. Mngmnt Direction, which also includes specific designations. The issues relate to the burgeoning tourism/recreation industry, wild & scenic designations and how local traditional use can all fit together.
- 0338-006 2. A. Less impact on resources (fish, game etc.) in specific areas keep it spread out.
- 0350-002 Tourism, economy, protection of beauty, freedom of movement
- 0352-004 Allow ownership of Duck Cabins on Copper River Flats. ownership would solve the cabin problem. U.S.F.S. - Line Item Budget. Owners would buy 1/4 acre under acre.
- 0370-011 3. A. Ed Ellis EIS and Crescent road shouldn't happen again.
- 0371-009 4. A. The view that Human use is not the only priority on the forest. Development affects Biodiversity - with so little left (lower 48 in mind) this needs to be addressed over what human use has been historically 1. A. future desired condition - Long Term - deciding land allocation - management for preservation looking at NF of the lower 48 - to see what's in store for CNF with in human activity2. A. Sustain biodiversity, continued viable habitat
- 0371-010 3. A. regulation of human use with consideration to wildlife & plantlife viability 4. A. It perhaps isn't a huge problem now - but with increased human activity effects to the natural environment could lead to greater threat to sensitive
- 0377-004 3. A. coordination with subsistence board, AKF & G goals, local community (timber) subsistence needs. Example: Hope residents ask for houselogs as per CFR. Their needs should be met timely, relatively near their residence in a coordinated, planned manner.
- 0377-005 4. Q. What people or views must be considered when designing improvements related to this issue or area? 4. A. see above
- 0394-001 1. A. a) Wilderness b) Tourism & recreation c) public education d) Logging e) FS rgs.
- 0394-002 2. Q. What are your specific concerns and interests about these issues? Why are these issues important to you? 2. A. a) Wilderness - keep & expand b) Tourism - no lodges, marches - large tourism - mass-use private lands c) public education - increase carry capacity through education d) Logging - impact on tourism recreation, wildlife e) What are current 1=5 visual quality losses, recreation rgs & guidelines - how do these need to be changed

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- 0394-005 1. A. a) ORVs - look for areas where ORVs can be used, such as possibly Snug Harbor (Port Fidalgo) logging roads, if this area is bought with EVOS funds; FAA road 2. Q. Why is this improvement desirable? 2. A. ORVs would like a designated place where they can use vehicles to get firewood from abandoned logging operations hunt, fish 3. Q. How is this improvement feasible? For example, who might be responsible for implementation? How might your improvement be funded? Be as specific as possible. 3. A. 1) FS working with EVOS trustees 2) Road maintenance, control of off-road use - user fee to ORVs 4. Q. What obstacles currently stand in the way of making this improvement? How might those obstacles be overcome 4. A. 1) EVOS mandate to protect injured species on EVOS purchased lands 2) FAA- local person's opposition to use of roads near FAA site 5. Q. How does this improvement relate to other parts and issues of the Chugach National Forest management situation? 5. A. 1) multiple use in areas appropriate for multiple use 2) motorized recreation opportunity for Valdez & Tatitlek residents; Cordova residents access to FAA area 3) gives designated area, decrease in appropriate use in non-motorized areas 4)
- 0396-001 I will address just 1 topic here. Wild & scenic classification. I have talked to people coming into SRD office concerned about this classification on Snow River. In all cases, the concern has to do with existing use. ATV & Boats go up the south fork at present, DOT has to move gravel out of the main fork during biannual flood events, & there is gravel coming out of Native Corporation land. These uses are likely to continue to be in demand in the future & any designation should keep these needs in mind.
- 0398-004 Access: More than 90 percent of the Chugach National Forest is roadless. Roadless areas, Wilderness designations and Wild and Scenic Rivers designations will make access permits more difficult to acquire, thereby resulting in greater restrictions to motorized travel. Less access to the public lands essentially means less multiple uses for the public and the industries that provide products for consumers. Access to timber, mining, recreation and inholding areas should not be precluded. Improved access for destination tourism opportunities must be allowed. The road to Whittier should be given a high priority and the Forest Service should extend access to potential recreation areas on Passage Canal near Whittier. Campgrounds should be established in these areas. The plan should place a growing emphasis on how to accommodate growing number of visitors, not just on how to limit or block access. Roads built to access the timber should be maintained -- not obliterated -- to provide access for recreational users, future forest management and fire fighting. The existing road across the south end of Montague Island should be converted to recreational use. This road is a real asset to the public and should be maintained. It is utterly ridiculous to obliterate a road of such high standard and cost. It provides a unique recreation experience that would not otherwise exist. The Chugach National Forest should exercise a road-to-trail management option on Montague. Since much of the forest is roadless, helicopter overflights and landings should be allowed in a wide variety of areas. Statistics show helicopter flightseeing and landings are among the most popular and highest-rated activities for Alaska visitors. Helicopter landings often afford the only viable access to remote areas. It is often the only way for the physically impaired, aged or a traveler on a tight time schedule to experience remote, rugged lands up close and personal.
- 0404-009 We feel this amount of wilderness designation is justified for the following reasons: Historic Reduction of Acreage on the Kenai Peninsula Historically, the acreage of the USFS was much larger and has since been reduced by land transfers. Generally, the land no longer belonging to the USFS is not managed as wilderness (towns, easements, ROWs, timber sales, campgrounds, transportation corridors, etc). Thus the original pool of wilderness has been reduced. Likewise, some actions of adjacent landowners have had a negative cumulative affect on the wilderness characteristics of the roadless areas of USFS land. Both from a landscape perspective and a historic perspective, available land with wilderness characteristics on the entire Kenai Peninsula has been dramatically reduced. Simply stated, there is not much left and if not formally protected, we may lose it 2 forever.
- 0404-010 Wildlife Viability Certain wildlife species, the brown bear in particular, depend on large tracts of untrammled land. Fragmented and isolated habitats are at risk of losing species by making them more vulnerable to catastrophic events, reducing genetic mixing and increasing the negative effect of habitat edges.
- 0404-020 WILDLIFE These general guidelines should be followed: - No loss of habitat effectiveness for any species. - No further fragmentation or isolation of habitat.
- 0405-001 I consider myself privileged to have had the opportunity to explore and appreciate the Chugach National Forest by hiking many of its trails and kayaking and camping in Prince William Sound. What a treasure the Chugach is! My vision for its future would be for it to remain at least as wild and biologically vibrant as it now is. Having worked at the Tetlin and Kenai National Wildlife Refuges and with the Forestry Division of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, I am aware of increasing and varied demands being placed on our forests, and other natural areas. I urge you to ensure that the revision of the Chugach Land Use Management Plan provides first and foremost for the ecological needs of the forest. The Chugach should meet only those human demands that do not compromise its ecological integrity and should meet such demands in the most environmentally sensitive manner. I also urge you to ensure that the plan revision provides for low-impact, wilderness recreation to the greatest extent possible. Low-impact, non-motorized recreation is one of the most environmentally-benign uses of the forest. Further, given rising population and shrinking natural areas, recreation opportunities such as those offered by the Chugach are increasingly rare and should be guarded for both their economic and intrinsic values.

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- 0412-004 With population growth and the increased emphasis on tourism, I also believe there should be improved and extended access to the wilderness in Alaska. This can be accomplished by proper Chugach National Forest planning and management with minimal environmental impact. To further limit access would be counterproductive for the social and economic well-being of citizens and businesses of this State. In conclusion, I hope that the CNFPT will apply reason and prudent judgment when considering any revisions to the Land Management Plan and not be unduly influenced by irrational environmentalists whose ultimate goal is to restrict the use of virtually all government and public land from access and use of its vital raw materials.
- 0414-002 No new regulations concerning the Copper River Delta. With the exception of introducing moose to this area in the 1950's this area has not been significantly impacted by the activities of man and is not likely to suffer harm in the
- 0414-005 More roads are needed throughout the Chugach Forest area so that the average Alaska resident can enjoy it. Not allowing roads only serves to exclude all but an elite few from enjoying the resource.
- 0421-003 Access The Chugach is the second largest National Forest in the country yet has very limited access. What little access exists is very heavily used and poses an ever-increasing risk to the resources in localized areas. Improved access is costly but necessary to help disperse and dilute potential impacts. The Chugach National Forest is both large enough and varied enough to provide for more access while still protecting the diversity of natural resources on the Forest. Increased access is also fairer to a wider variety of taxpayers that may not be physically or financially capable of reaching remote locations. Historically, most recreational access on National Forests has been provided via resource development. For example, one of the most popular (if not the most popular) recreational activities in the western U.S. is driving on old logging roads. Many popular trails and roads in Alaska also started from mining activities. Resource development and access should be viewed as strongly linked and provided for in the new Plan.
- 0425-006 Designate Quiet Areas: Establish a balance between areas available for motorized recreation and lands managed for the enjoyment of quiet activities. -
- 0427-006 Designate Quiet Areas: Establish a balance between areas available for motorized recreation and lands managed for the enjoyment of quiet activities.
- 0428-003 Long known as "a priceless jewel in the crown of Alaska" Prince William Sound was terribly scarred by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. An area once known as teeming with life fell into absolute quiet as nearly every living thing coming into contact with the oil perished. However, the silence was soon filled with the sound of chainsaws. Clearcuts started to appear on the banks of the Sound as inholders logged their land. Again, citing the proximity of the Anchorage, the Mat-Su, and the Kenai Peninsula population centers, we urge the Forest Service to take a hard look at the recreational opportunities present in Prince William Sound and to Prince William Sound for future generations by making management decisions in the new forest plan that protect the Sound from individual, and
- 0428-004 Since 1984, when the last plan was written for the Chugach, massive changes have occurred along her borders: the Exxon Valdez oil spill, the acceleration of logging by native corporations on the Kenai Peninsula, the implementation of logging by the Forest Service, the massive growth of tourism and sport fishing on the Peninsula, and suburban sprawl from Cooper Landing to Homer. In other words, habitat has steadily and rapidly declined for the last 13 years. Two species have been particularly hard hit on the Kenai - caribou, and brown bears. Since the caribou primarily live in the refuge, rarely venturing into the adjacent National Forest, they are beyond the scope of these comments, however the brown bears do utilize the National Forest lands, and we urge the Forest Service to make the protection of brown bear habitat a priority in the new Chugach Forest Plan. Brown bears function as an indicator species - a species that can show us when the ecosystems on our public lands are becoming damaged. We also urge the Forest Service to work with land owners in adjacent areas to help stop this rapid loss of habitat,
- 0431-002 Access into the forest is necessary if it is to be preserved, and enjoyed. The latter may be aesthetically or economically. Roads and trails constructed to permit harvesting should be available for future use by tourists and other recreationalists and by users of the Forest's natural resources. Any plan must provide for the needs of non-surface access users, and places for helicopter landings. By providing for such sites, visitors may enjoy wild areas, and Forest personnel would have improved access for law enforcement and research purposes.
- 0431-004 Among other single-use designations is Wilderness. Prohibiting any use or enjoyment of large areas of the Forest will eventually result in forest deterioration. All National Forests, including the Chugach National Forest, should be available for appropriate uses, under appropriate guidelines.
- 0435-002 2) Langille Mountain and the Cooper Landing Closed Area. The Closed Area was established in 1953 to provide an area for the public to view and photograph Dall sheep. Today the Closed Area centers around Langille Mountain and provides an area, closed to sheep and goat hunting for many years, for scientific studies and public viewing. This area should remain closed to hunting and MOST IMPORTANT should receive some official designation as an important wildlife area. This designation would accomplish 2 purposes. (1) Protect valuable wildlife habitat. (2) Give recognition to W.A. Langille, Expert, Forest Service, who came to the Kenai Peninsula between October and November 1904 and who had "the honor to recommend the creation of the Kenai Forest Reserve, et wit:". (The Kenai Peninsula).

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- 0438-002 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 now forest plan by recommendation for legislative
- 0438-009 According to the CNF Recreation Survey of 1995, "The quality of the visual resources, or scenery, of the forest is by far the single most consideration to visitors of the forest." Maintain the natural visual quality of the forest. This means, do not use logging to interrupt inevitable forest cycles of fire, insects, and disease, which is of little concern to visitors. The public has made it dear that the Chugach is not suited for commercial logging which exports logs and jobs and cannot be done sustainably. Sustainable fishing, tourism, and recreation have higher values. Additionally, small local logging projects can provide value added products for regional use that helps support local economies. With large-scale clearcutting of private and state lands near the Forest, it is especially Important that lands on the
- 0439-002 Forests have many uses beside just timber sales. Places of quiet clean, fresh treasures for people and wild life. Homes for Birds - Bears - for me a place to fish and hike.
- 0441-001 The Forest Revision November flyer and comments page reminded me of an item which should be addressed within this revision. If it hasn't been mentioned yet communication services on NF lands deserves some detailed planning and direction. Currently we administer numerous state and private permits for a variety of communication services on NF administered lands. We also have our own communications equipment. Typically these communication sites are located at key "high point" locations. The problem is that there is very little in the way of cooperative planning between FS, State, BLM, law enforcement, private, Coast Guard (or whatever). The result is a mish mash or comm sites in a type of "urban sprawl" on these mountain tops.....and there is an ever increasing demand for more and more. How much is enough? How can we work together with other agencies and private organizations to meet all needs with a minimum of impact? Where should we continue to allow site expansion? Where not? Are there locations which should be added? There's a lot more to it than I've indicated but this is a start.
- 0442-003 We are opposed to leasing any forest service land for resort or lodge development. We support the past policy of encouraging private developments on private land. So much of the Chugach National Forest has been transferred to state and private lands that to take more of it away by giving leases for lodge development would have a serious impact on current and future users of the public lands. In addition, private landowners need the opportunity to make money from their lands. They should not be placed in a competitive position with the federal government.
- 0443-005 Ultimately, we would like to see protected areas located in reasonable proximity to communities-- places we can get to without spending lots of money or time traveling. Some roadless, forested watersheds in the Turnagain Arm region, some on the Kenai Peninsula, and some in Prince William Sound should receive protection against roads and industrial scale natural resource exploitation.
- 0444-006 ECONOMICS No new roads should be subsidized nor should any commercial timber sales be offered. Some user fees (parking fees or a National Forest pass similar to the NPS Golden Eagle pass) would generate revenue to be used solely within the forest where it is generated.
- 0445-001 First, I would like to say that the Chugach National Forest is a treasure used and appreciated by many Alaskans living in south central Alaska, as well as by visitors from other parts of the U.S., as well as such places as Canada, Germany, Switzerland, the U.K., Japan, and Poland. (I have met and discussed the area with people from all those countries on hikes on the Chugach N.F. trail system, and I'm sure many others visit from other parts of the world.) It is a treasure we tend to take for granted, like so many vital things, such as the air we breathe and the water we drink; in the words of a song popular in the days of my youth, "the best things in life are free"!
- 0445-002 Second, I would like to say that the most important resource the Chugach has to offer us is recreation. Logging, mining, grazing, and other activities carried out in other national forests may be important in other parts of the country; I realize that some logging and mining activities that have been carried out in other areas have also been done on the Chugach (although I'm not aware of any grazing permits having been issued there). I believe that the total, cumulative impacts of any activity to be permitted on the Chugach N.F. should be considered before the issuance of any permits for commercial use. Some activities are detrimental to other uses of the Chugach (and other) National Forest(s); for instance, mining, logging, and grazing are generally detrimental to recreational use, and may also be detrimental to wildlife habitat and watershed values; on the other hand, recreational uses are "low-impact" (especially non-motorized recreational uses). In making land use decisions on the Chugach N.F., any conflicts that may result from permitting any specific activity should be taken into consideration, and to the maximum extent possible should be
- 0445-009 Ninth, I would hope that the "salvage logging" myth will be laid to rest; dead trees are dead, and they can't get any deader. Trees have been dying for millions of years now, and their breakdown (slower, at this latitude, than in more southerly climes) enriches and forms the soil necessary to grow more of them. I would hope that the U.S.F.S. will not go along with the efforts of some of the more reactionary senators and congressmen from western states (including Alaska) to push "salvage logging" as a solution to the spruce bark beetle, etc. etc. ad infinitum. This is obviously a transparent effort to convert public resources into dollars to be put into the pockets of people who should be at least making an effort to make an honest living by growing and harvesting trees on a sustained yield basis on private lands, for instance! Dead trees may not be as pretty to look at as living trees, but they are better to look at, and better

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- 0446-001 1. Access. Access for mining, logging, recreation and inholdings; must not be impeded. While most of the forest does not have roads, the forest cannot be described as "roadless." The Forest contains many miles of roads and the Alaska Railroad corridor. Additional public access is needed for recreation and resource development and should be provided for under the plan. Logging roads should be retained for trails and to provide access for forest fire
- 0446-009 9. User Fees No new public user fees should be implemented other than for developed campgrounds or parking areas. Fees for access to unimproved areas of the Forest is not appropriate for land owned by the public.
- 0448-001 Alaska has already been "blessed" with an abundance of wilderness areas and wild and scenic rivers-- far more than are needed or could be considered reasonable. Much of the remaining, "unprotected" land, including most of the land in the Chugach, remains undeveloped and inaccessible by modern means, largely due to economics and geography but in part due to existing government management policies. The majority of the currently undeveloped land will remain undeveloped in perpetuity, even in the absence of strong anti-development advocacy by the Alaska Center for the Environment and their related constituency. That which will be developed will be developed due to the needs of the residents of the State, its visitors, or the economic and resource needs of the Nation. At this time it is impossible to precisely identify those needs or the locations where development may be beneficial although some planning for future development in the Chugach Plan would be worthwhile.
- 0448-003 The Copper River Delta should not be preserved in wilderness status and at least a portion of the Copper River Valley will be needed for a transportation corridor for Sound access. (This area was the site of some of the most intense industrial development experienced in Alaska near the turn of the century and yet, today, it remains an abundant site for wildlife and fish habitat.) It appears certain that any development in Chugach National Forest which is permitted, under the management of Forest Service will be accomplished with maximum preservation of the surrounding wilderness. It is also highly probable that most of the future development, at least in the near term, will be to accommodate recreational uses and tourist access and that the nature of these uses requires park like accommodation and development. It is also abundantly clear at this time that, if future development is prohibited within the Chugach, the presently developed portion will be overrun with various users resulting in a Waikiki Beach type of
- 0448-004 No additional Wild or Scenic Rivers need to be designated in the Chugach at this time. Any Plan should provide for the continuance of the existing uses of the forest with planned expansion of most of those uses in a manner that will allow the activities while preserving the wilderness to the maximum reasonable extent.
- 0452-004 The basic effect of the position stated in the mailer by ACE Is to place the Forest off limits. I disagree with this as I enjoy the Forest for its availability for camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, sailing on its lakes, scenery, etc. and do not believe in locking up its use and accessibility.
- 0459-002 RIVERS Due to the Forest Management Act and regulatory actions relative to national forest management, rivers receive more than adequate protection with buffer strips, anadromous fish stream protections and current Wild River designations. The CLMP identifies 20 additional rivers which it feels should be included with Wild Rivers designations. We do not feel that these additional classifications should be made for it will only diminish multiple use, access, and potential mineral activity. Simply nominating these rivers for exclusive protection does not preclude the regional Forest Service from choosing to manage the areas for such protection. Essentially, the Chugach National Forest managers are creating and managing for de-facto Wild and Scenic Rivers and restricting public access even without the needed Congressional approval. Implementing such a watershed management regime, or the threat of potential management, should be precluded from this CLMP until Congressional oversight and ratification has been achieved,
- 0459-003 ROADED AREAS The Chugach National Forest already has 5,376,400 acres inventoried as roadless. In addition to this number, we understand that the plan suggests obliteration of roads already in place to add to the roadless acreage. Roads built previously, either for recreation or for timber harvest, should be maintained to provide access for recreational users, future forest management and much needed fire fighting. Furthermore, the allocation of additional wilderness is unjustifiable especially when the areas may support forest management and the opportunity for positive socio-economic returns. The final CLMP should identify areas suitable for destination tourism, oil and gas development, mineral exploration and timber harvest.
- 0460-002 There is already more than enough wilderness within Alaska without adding more by default. There is a dearth of timber harvest opportunities from the Chugach National Forest Opponents will surely contend that timber harvest will despoil the beauty of Prince William Sound. I urge you to go back and look at the State Ferry System brochures over the years. - The trained eye can see regenerated clearcuts in the background of nearly every one of the cover photos. The untrained eye sees only "pristine wilderness". Timber harvest does not preclude other uses, but in its worst case only displaces it for some period. At the same time timber development can improve the access so sorely needed in Alaska to disperse our concentrated recreational access as is now the case. Timber harvest and other resource development can co-exist with tourism and recreation. But it can only happen if science is applied
- 0462-008 The grizzly bear population of the Kenai Peninsula needs space. Protection should be included in the plan to ensure critical corridors of travel and feeding areas are not eliminated by human encroachment.

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- 0463-010 The trash, trampled vegetation, missing wildlife and overcrowding on the Forest reflect the increasing pressure on the ecosystem. The Forest Service must gain control over the level of current and projected use on the Forest, the impacts of that use and 2 the associated significant threats including road-building, structural developments, and increased access, both motorized and non-motorized, among other issues.
- 0463-012 Similarly, as a result of the EVOS Trustee Council Habitat Acquisition Program, Chenega Corporation now has the financial means to develop private lodges on acreage within the Forest boundary. The federal government should not compete with these private interests and should continue the past policy of encouraging private developments on
- 0464-005 Whittier Road construction will improve accessibility to these resources.
- 0464-007 CLMP revision alternatives should address management of the resources in this area, with a goal to achieve maximum forest health and for the good of all potential user groups. - Baring action by the United States Congress, the 2.1 million acres managed for wilderness, especially alpine areas, should be made available to commercial recreational activities, especially wintertime activities.
- 0464-013 - 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. - Trail building and upgrading of existing trails 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.
- 0465-005 In addition to impeccably science-based approaches to ensuring legal compliance, alternatives are needed that present significantly different sets of standards for dealing with the following inter-related cornerstone issues: roadless areas, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, and abundant wildlife and fish.
- 0465-011 Logging and Clearcutting In this, the second largest national forest, it is essential that the planning process not lead to the expansion or development of a commercial timber program on the Chugach. Commercial logging has never played a significant role there and poses a serious threat to fishing, tourism, recreation, and other values of the
- 0467-002 Management of areas around the Kenai NWR will certainly affect populations of far-ranging, large mammals (brown bears, wolves, etc.) that use the refuge. Aggregating impacts and limiting road construction into roadless areas is, most likely, a good management strategy for these species. We have no idea how fragmentation affects land birds (such as northern goshawks) in Southcoastal Alaska forests. Access to a greater area on the Copper River Delta could also negatively affect already declining dusky Canada geese and sensitive-nesting trumpeter swans.
- 0475-009 Prince William Sound large scale logging has already occurred on portions of the forest around Prince William Sound. The forest has been further damaged by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. Given that this area is extremely important to a large number of no impact & low impact users, the Forest Service should not allow commercial logging, commercial mining or large-scale tourism.
- 0476-002 I would like to say that the most important resource the Chugach has to offer us is recreation.
- 0476-003 I believe that the total, cumulative impacts of any activity to be permitted on the Chugach N.F. should be considered before the issuance of any permits for commercial use.
- 0476-004 Some activities are detrimental to other uses of the Chugach (and other) National Forest(s); for instance, mining, logging, and grazing are generally detrimental to recreational use, and may also be detrimental to wildlife habitat and watershed values; on the other hand, recreational uses are "low-impact" (especially non-motorized recreational uses). In making laud use decisions on the Chugach N.F., any conflicts that may result from permitting any specific activity should be taken into consideration, and to the maximum extent possible should be minimized.
- 0490-005 Don't worry about the Brown Bears they can take care of themselves. I cite the obvious: They are encroaching into the suburban Anchorage Area now. I believe that we have too many Brown Bears now (just look at the numb. of Brown Bear attacks on Hikers & Fisherman) and do not need further protection for them.

Comment # Comment

- 0588-001 I traveled every road in the state except the road to Valdez. Please do the progressive thing and keep some beauty and the awe of the outdoors for all of our grandchildren (and their kids too) -- I guess that means . . . Protect, Protect, Protect!!!! Please consider the long term . . . 500 yrs should be the benchmark lowest common denominator when considering impacts and effects of our "industry needs" and wants. Thanks, Jeff Still PO BX 4845 Falls Church, Va 22044. Hey, help us save it so you can use it! Is this the service you signed me up for - we already get this at work. Another 1/2 foot of snow, but who's saying. Ran into a bull moose skijouring tonight. Didn't have my headlamp on so I guess he didn't see us - and that's just fine. They are pretty inactive this time of year, but still intimidating. Ah, to live in wilderness - downtown Anchorage. Take care - enjoy the weekend! Another ALASKA Forest needs your help!
- Dear Friend of Alaska Forests:
Remember the EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL, when over 11 million gallons of oil spilled into Prince William Sound? Well the land surrounding the Sound is largely the CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST, the second largest national forest in the U.S., and along with the Tongass National Forest makes up the largest temperate rainforest left in the world. This alert gives more info on the Chugach and how: Just 60 seconds of your time can help shape the next 15 years of the Chugach National Forest COMMENT DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 31, 1997! PLEASE COPY, SIGN AND EMAIL THE ATTACHED MESSAGE TODAY! The Chugach National Forest (Re) visioning process of the Land Use Management Plan has begun and the forest needs you! Your voice makes a huge difference and will help guide forest management for the next 10 - 15 years. Remember, it was due to public outcry that the Forest Service dropped its salvage logging program. What exactly is the Chugach Land Use Management Plan Revision? Every 10-15 years national forest staff revise their land use management plans, the document which sets policy for all aspects of the forest, to take into account changing public opinions, changes which have occurred within the forest, and new data from the forest. This revision process will take approximately 2 years with several opportunities for the public to comment on the future management of the forest. We will keep you posted throughout to let you know how you can make a difference and have a role in the future of your forest. THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST Our Chugach National Forest encompasses a little over 5.9 million acres, which makes the Chugach the second largest National Forest in the U.S. Besides the immense beauty of the land, there are many qualities which make the Chugach a unique forest. The Chugach is the northernmost intact rainforest in the world, making it ecologically rich and home to a diverse and abundant population of wildlife species. Site of the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, Prince William Sound is still recovering, yet has no protection from logging or other large-scale impacts. Over 90% of the forest is "inventoried" as roadless, which affords a recreation experience found in few places around the world. Portage Glacier, in Chugach National Forest, is the most visited site in all of Alaska. Over 65% of Alaskans live in or near the forest. The Chugach still has no designated wilderness protection although 90% of it qualifies. The Chugach was created in 1907 by Teddy Roosevelt primarily to protect fish and wildlife of the Copper River Delta. Every year the Delta hosts the largest bird migration in the world and is internationally recognized as a critical flyway. Changes Since the 1984 Chugach Land Use Plan The number of visitors to the forest has dramatically increased. The Exxon Valdez oil spill released 11 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound. Salvage logging became a reality within the forest. Brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula have experienced a 70% reduction in their habitat capability due to logging and rapid development. Biologists' reports indicate that K.P. brown bears are on the brink of meeting the criteria for being listed as a "threatened" species. Snowmachines, ATV and other motorized uses have dramatically increased. Huge tracts of land have been clear-cut near the forest, impacting both habitat and watersheds. Why the Forest Needs You We, as a NATION, need to make our voices heard in shaping the future of the Chugach Forest so that all our priorities and the needs of fish and wildlife are met. The Forest Service wants to hear from all interested parties before it moves ahead with their revision of the Land Management Plan. In order to make certain things a reality within the forest, common points and themes throughout our individual comments are necessary. The attached letter includes some of these points. Be sure to include personal items of interest, such as a special area, trail, animal, river, or activity you would like to see protected, or just general principles you value in a national forest, like no large-scale commercial logging, quiet areas, etc. This gives the Forest Service better work direction when deciding what the public wants in their forest. Below are ready-made comments you may fax, "snail" mail or e-mail to the Forest Service at the addresses listed above. Just copy them and send them as email from your account! Thanks for your participation in helping shape our national
- 0622-002 No pesticide or herbicide use of any kind in the Public Forest Higher standards for water safety development with the first consideration being environmental with commercial options second
- 0654-002 Mining permits and logging in this set of drainages are not the best uses for these areas. Please change the land use designations in the Kenai Peninsula road corridor to reflect recreation and wilderness (roadless) uses in roadside natural areas at: Ingrim Creek, Seattle Creek, the Snow River, Primrose Creek, CNF lands in Western Prince William Sound (Whittier), and Sixmile Creek.
- 0654-003 CNF should make official claims on waterways in Prince William Sound. These water ways should become a recreation/subsistence area which includes non-motorized boating areas.
- 0662-001 The Chugach deserves to have parts of it designated as wilderness areas to give some portions of the area further protection from development. The nation and all Alaskans who value the uniqueness of Alaska deserve it as well.

Comment # Comment

- 0671-002 Recognize that "natural quiet" is a natural resource and a specific human value in this increasingly noisy and mechanized world--just as scenic beauty is a natural resource. Provide long-term protection of natural quiet in the Chugach National Forest. Recognize and protect the rights of non-motorized recreationalists to quiet places through designation of Quiet Recreation Zones.
- 0680-001 Please leave the wilderness alone - as is! It saddens me that there are so few places where one can go and not see evidence of man and his industry & meddling.
- 0695-001 There is too much logging & road building occurring now all over the Kenai Peninsula because of bark beetles. It is best to let the forest resupply itself naturally.
- 0712-002 Replace Juneau cabin on Resurrection Trail and plan other cabins that would provide similar access and use to
- 0786-001 Overuse will cause closures in any areas opened in the future so yes I want to be part of any group formed so as to get the necessary rules & roads for protection of the forest but also to make sure no facilities are built to ease the burdens of getting a machine to the Island or beach & causing over crowding.
- 0789-002 A RECREATION AND TOURISM STRATEGY for the Heritage Tourism Industry must not be left out of this plan as it was in 1984. The consequences of ignoring the inevitable growth and demand of the world's largest industry could be detrimental to the future multiple use management of Chugach National Forest. Environmentalists claim that there is not room for everyone else on the forest now that they have secured their ecotourism slots and venues in Prince William Sound. The grand buzz word is "sustainability", which by its very definition suggests that most other activities are "unsustainable." In multiple use management, such a term seems to border on heresy! The very word is another triumph of image over reality! Confusion in forest management has come from a reluctance to view the whole nature of the ecosystem. Forests are more than units which produce timber, minerals, outdoor recreation and commercial products. They deal with intangible values which feed the spirit and mind of humans. These intangible values are sold within the heritage tourism industry, an industry which can partner with the forest to invent experiences specially designed, for forest visitors. Moving beyond traditional roles of outdoor recreation, the modern and international tourist has different needs and expectations which the forest planner must understand. Sightseeing and flightseeing are valid uses which directly relate to the forest unit. 3. A Integrated Resource Interpretation Study (IRIS) and Visitor Use Plan should be undertaken early in the planning process to understand the new relationships forming on designated forest lands. While this approach is somewhat foreign to traditional forest management, such planning for the future visitor is the only way to avoid conflicts between the tangible and intangible resource sale demands emerging in the 21st century.
- 0789-003 The second oldest national forest in America has to face up to modern expectations of increased visitor use within Prince William Sound, which became internationally famous with the oil spill. Just as reluctance came in the 1960s when the U.S. Forest Service was mandated to serve national outdoor recreation needs through campground fee collections, the Chugach may now be facing a similar fear about tourism and its now paradigm emerging in Alaska?
- 0801-004 4. Access - There is a growing need for increased access, increased use by individuals, recreation, tourism and other commercial users has placed a great need on the importance of maintaining and expanding access to the Chugach. We need to protect, expand and promote roads, trails, landing strips, docking spots, and helicopter access within the Chugach. The plan should consider new access routes and locations along with increased motorized uses. This will allow the greatest number of users to enjoy the Forest and not limit the region to a small
- 0802-008 Stop the ill-planned Whittier Road, and instead upgrade the unique rail experience for tourists and visitors.
- 0809-002 RIVERS Due to the Forest Management Act and regulatory actions relative to national forest management, rivers receive more than adequate protection with buffer strips, anadromous fish stream protections and current Wild Rivers designations. The CLMP identifies 20 additional rivers which it feels should be included with Wild Rivers designations. We do not feel that these additional classifications should be made for it will only diminish multiple use, access, and potential mineral activity. Simply nominating these rivers for exclusive protection does not preclude the regional Forest Service from choosing to manage the areas for such protection. Essentially, the Chugach National Forest managers are creating and managing for de-facto Wild and Scenic Rivers and restricting public access even without the needed Congressional approval. Implementing such a watershed management regime, or the threat of potential management, should be precluded from this CLMP until Congressional oversight and ratification has been
- 0809-003 ROADED AREAS The Chugach National Forest already has 5,376,400 acres inventoried as roadless. In addition to this number, we understand that the plan suggests obliteration of roads already in place to add to the roadless acreage. Roads built previously, either for recreation or for timber harvest, should be maintained to provide access for recreational users, future forest management and much needed fire fighting.
- 0810-016 B. More thoroughly identify and protect sea bird colonies waterfowl and migratory bird staging areas, harbor seal pupping beaches, harbor seal, sea otter and sea lion haul out areas, or killer whale rubbing beaches. The Forest Service should work with the recreation and tourism groups as well as the general public to develop guidelines and/or regulations for wildlife viewing and low-impact use of areas likely to be used by wildlife as listed above.

Comment # Comment

- 0812-001 We believe a dynamic forest plan, which recognizes advanced technologies for resource development and public lands access, is highly desirable for the Chugach National Forest. The USFS must defend the rights of citizens to access and develop the resources of the National Forest System.
- 0812-017 - Trail building and upgrading of existing trails 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.
- 0813-005 2. Site Specific Data Collection. Site specific tourism data must be collected in order to discern impacts and perform analysis of alternatives. Towards this end, AVA is working with its membership and the Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association (AWRTA) to develop mapped information to support the tourism/recreation data base. The Geographic Information System (GIS) data base layer(s) used to define tourism and recreation should receive thorough industry review prior to development of alternatives. Part of the site specific data collection should include identification of water routes - cruise, kayak, ferry, oil tanker, commercial and sport fishing, hunting and others - in Prince William Sound. Water routes, which 2 are the primary mode of access to much of the Chugach Forest, are key to defining critical viewsheds and locations of upland use, minimizing conflicts and competing uses, etc. Mapping of water routes will help identify potential upland forest use. In turn, what happens on the Chugach Forest uplands will influence the future of tourism in the Sound.
- 0813-010 8. Access and infrastructure development. The plan should be committed to improving and expanding the range of visitor experiences and opportunities in Prince William Sound. Diversity and geographic dispersal of visitor experiences and business opportunities should be considered in the planning and investment for resource infrastructure. Increased and improved access by trail, water and road is needed to accommodate the growing number of visitors and provide a variety of experiences. Access is also needed to meet the needs of an aging population interested in soft adventure travel or those with physical disabilities. 4 Historic access should be shown on all maps and future access for mining, timber, and tourism should be coordinated to the degree possible to provide multiple access use. Helicopter use and fixed wing, general aviation aircraft access should
- 0813-017 12. Site specific and more general waste management must be addressed from human waste on increasingly crowded and popular beaches to garbage. The Chugach plan should establish no or low-impact guidelines for scientific party field activities and work crew camps. Increasing garbage along shorelines, around scientific research camps, from fishing boats and floating homes, cabins, recreational campsites, etc. needs to be addressed. Garbage and human waste is an on-going problem that detracts from the area's scenic quality and can have an
- 0813-022 It should include a realistic and reliable timber inventory and provide for a cost/benefit analysis that fully considers recreation and tourism.
- 0817-009 Recreation and Tourism Planning Outdoor recreation and tourism is increasing rapidly on the Chugach Forest and is one of the highest values of the forest. The plan revision must address recreation and tourism in a comprehensive master plan. There are many expectations for this area and many competing uses. Now is the time to sort these uses and users out and develop some kind of zoning approach to recreation/tourism management so that many uses can be accommodated in a sustainable fashion with minimal environmental impacts. It is not practical to consider multiple use management on the same acres of land. Instead, through creative planning and zoning in time and space, we should be able to accommodate a diversity of users and uses while minimizing conflicts. The Forest Service should work cooperatively with AWRTA and AVA in this process. The time to do this is now, before conflicts
- 0817-029 Harbor Seals: Harbor seals are widely distributed within Prince William Sound and several haul outs and pupping areas occur within this region. Increasing activity within the sound, particularly associated with recreation and tourism, has the potential to disturb harbor seals and displace them from important haul out areas. This may currently be a problem with tour ships near glaciers in the northern sound such as College Fjords. The Chugach Plan should address this issue and ensure that information and education efforts are adequate and that compliance and enforcement with federal regulations is adequate to minimize conservation problems.
- 0819-003 A national forest is national--for all the people, not just for consumptive users. I urge you to prohibit logging and road building and mining.
- 0820-002 We urge the Forest Service to continue to manage these lands to maintain these qualities by prioritizing low-impact uses on the forest.
- 0820-006 We believe this to be of critical importance, as well, to the sustainability of wildlife populations and fisheries, in particular to address high levels of road building, logging and development on the Kenai Peninsula which is jeopardizing viability of Peninsula brown bear populations.
- 0820-029 ACE urges the Forest Services to inventory watersheds on the forest on the basis of riparian zones, water quality, fisheries, wildlife, mining impacts, and other potentially harmed areas. Recognizing that watershed quality underlies ecosystem health, these analyses will assist the Forest Service and the public in guiding actions which may have an
- 0821-004 In the Copper River Delta, the proposed Bering River development will have major impact on the area's internationally recognized fish and wildlife resources. Fish and Wildlife Management.

Comment # Comment

0822-002	More areas of the forest should be opened up for motorized access by the public by eliminating wilderness study areas, research natural areas and by avoiding designation of addition conservation system units such as wild and
0829-010	The public has made it clear that the Chugach is not suited for commercial logging which exports logs and jobs and cannot be done sustainably. Sustainable fishing, tourism, and recreation have higher values. Additionally, small local logging projects can provide value added products for regional use that helps support local economies. With large scale clear cutting of private and state lands near the forest, it is especially important that lands on the Chugach be given added protection.
0832-006	Logging: The public has made it clear that the Chugach is not suited for commercial logging which exports logs and jobs and cannot be done sustainably. Sustainable fishing, tourism, and recreation have higher values.
0836-004	Recreation and Tourism We are concerned about the increase in recreation and tourism within Prince William Sound that may accompany the Whittier Access Road. The Forest Plan should discuss measures (regulatory as well as new personnel and facilities) to mitigate and accommodate this increased visitation.
0860-010	Make all FS land open and accessible to public - hunting, fishing, camping, ORV use etc.
0860-012	Advance planning to prepare for use impact
0860-019	USFS works with State DNR to protect tidelands from monopolistic uses like float camps
0860-025	Not lock it up so only the young and healthy can enjoy it. Keep open for seniors to enjoy with young and healthy
0860-033	Continued WSA to include Egleck Bay and multiple use on Big Islands Visual quality given high priority for back country non-mass tourism areas
0860-034	Forest Service work to educate visitors to low impact ways of utilizing forest so more people can enjoy high quality experience FS work to educate people on watchable wildlife guidelines
0860-039	West PWS protected while East PWS opened to responsible exploitation
0860-040	Forest Service does not regulate adjacent tidelands and floatcamps
0860-043	Recreation and Tourism area access is restricted
0860-049	Road built to Whittier Marine and fuel station built
0860-053	Too many fish charters
0860-063	Maintain the good trails and cabin system. Expand the system if it can be done with little impact on wildlife
0860-082	Forest Service will provide a plan that allows for future access and development and provides for true multiple-use based on fair allocation Forest Service will base management decisions in large part on science
0860-096	Well regulated use of Prince William Sound
0860-106	Unspoiled landscapes supporting recreation and tourism
0860-124	Helicopter skiing, hiking, and touring Some paved trails for wheelchairs, bikes, golfcarts
0860-128	No chance for wilderness experience
0860-131	Over-development destroys the natural character that draws people Prince William Sound is developed
0860-140	Divide user groups without user input
0860-145	Prince William Sound is loved to death
0860-147	Salvage log all beetle killed stands Forest overwhelmed with clearcuts, noisy machines, all kinds of development
0860-149	Conflicts among users
0860-154	No development whatsoever

Comment # Comment

0875-002

Lack of vision stops it! They are not funding a 2nd year of recreational use on the Westside of the PWS let alone east side.

Tourism/Public recreation use is going to become the #1 issue on this Forest. We must have a plan/consider

0875-004

Issue- Tourism and carrying capacity of tourism.

Tourism: Whittier road will cause huge increase throughout sound. Until now East sound and Delta low numbers. We must identify important wildlife areas and identify camping sites that will not impact them and start permitting those sites before the road.

0880-005

? Look at conflicts with Canyon Creek boaters and miners, both instream and along trails to the creek.

0881-003

P Rec. capacities for all rec uses; eg. outfitters & guides

0881-008

P Mgt of high use, road accessible, undeveloped areas - need mgt plans developed