

Wildlife

Comment # Comment

- 0001-001 I want to register my opinion about logging SNOW RIVER/PRIMROSE TIMBER HARVEST PROJECT. NO! to logging it
Brown bear habitat will be threatened
- 0016-001 On National Forest land stop hunting using RV's--3 wheelers, 4 wheelers, and airplanes. (Airplanes are used to hunt
deer - spot - land shoot.)
- 0018-007 Must assess impact on wildlife - wolves, bears - when considering increasing access.
- 0020-003 3) Stop all habitat manipulation for fish and wildlife. This is not Forest Service responsibility, it is Alaska Fish & Game.
- 0028-003 Discourage subsistence settlers by giving greater protection to the Forest's wildlife.
- 0034-003 Before planning new facilities to E.I.S. studies on all sites detailing plans for a low impact on wildlife. Let's keep
Alaska Wild --
- 0051-001 1. Protection of deer habitat on Montague and Hinchinbrode Islands
- 0069-001 Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Revision of the Chugach NF LRMP. Fish and Wildlife Habitat
Management: Habitat manipulation is generally unwise and unnecessary. High levels of habitat protection are needed
to manage these resources. Biological diversity will best be protected by minimizing habitat disruption.
- 0075-001 It is important that we continue to be able to sport hunt, trap and fish in the National Forest.
- 0080-002 Wildlife habitat is disappearing at an alarming rate and the National Forest provides about the only refuge for wild
- 0095-002 From time to time as I had driven through the Portage Flats area I've often wondered how wild turkeys would adjust to
the climatical environment of the 20-Mile River country on a year-round basis. Pheasants, too, for that matter. Both
do very well in many areas of the Lower 48 states where the winter environment is considerably more severe.
- 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.
- 0098-004 Wildlife management for increased numbers of moose and snowshoe hare by harvesting timber and building brush
- 0106-003 Keep Resurrection Pass Trail snowmobile closure Feb 16, do not extend this date for snowmobilers. The wildlife in
the valleys surrounding Res. Pass Trail System need a break from snowmobilers, and dog mushers appreciate not
having to dodge fast machines on the trail.
- 0112-005 Trapping should be allowed in any area of Chugach, outside any town - not closer than 1 mile.
- 0118-001 1) Wildlife protection Habitat protection should be the #1 goal of the planning process
- 0118-002 2) Quiet re areas that do not conflict with wildlife habitat needs.
- 0121-001 I have taken two trips to Canada, and hope someday to get up to the great Alaska wilderness. What a national
treasure! It is important to me that is left to be as undefiled as possible, at the same time being used for various
interests asset out in your last newsletter. Of those various interests, it seems to me that snowmobiles will be
the most detrimental to wildlife. Their noise can be heard for very long distances, especially in large numbers, and
- 0121-002 Also I hope road building will be kept to an absolute minimum, since each new road opens up another large area of
forest to the inevitable detriment of wildlife. (I misplaced this sheet, or I would have mailed it as soon as I received
- 0123-002 (2) Limit logging in the Chugach. Let beetle-killed spruce fall & degrade in the forest. Logging does much more
damage to wildlife by opening up wilderness to encroachment by people than the threat of fire ever will.
- 0123-004 (4) Limit snow machine access points & corridors in the Chugach. Too many snow machines harass wildlife. The
increasing size, power & reach of todays snow machines calls for increasing regulation to keep wildlife safe.

Comment # Comment

- 0133-001 8) The effects of the increasing harassment of wildlife by noisy machines should be considered in the planning process. Thank you for this opportunity to comment. The Alaska Quiet Rights Coalition appreciates your effort to obtain public input in the planning process. We look forward to being a continuing partner in this effort. Please add AQRC to your mailing list (at the address listed below). Sincerely, Elizabeth Hatton Spokesperson for AQRC H C 52
- 0143-003 protecting brown bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula. Thank you for your request for comments. Sincerely, Constantina Economou
- 0153-002 Limit mechanized access. I have witnessed poaching and abuses from snowmachines that will threaten wildlife and for all practical purposes is impossible to police.
- 0157-002 The protection of brown bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula and the designation of wilderness for the roadless areas should be your top priority.
- 0160-003 I very strongly object to the salvage timber sales because of effects on roadless areas. This would also fragment brown bear habitat.
- 0175-004 New access & trails must not adversely effect the sensitive wildlife habitats, (like keeping roads out of grizzly habitat on the Kenai.
- 0175-005 How will currently overused areas be restored?
- 0194-005 Limits damage to wild life & habit over long term. also building outlook scenic areas - keeps people on trails too.
- 0195-001 1. Q. What part of the Situation Map is particularly important to you? What issues are involved? 1. A. Access issues - allow for the human element Animal habitat - protect wilderness/scenic designations (access)
- 0218-005 I wish to continue to enjoy all wildlife as I can now.
- 0226-001 Brown Bears - Concerned not only for Bears but as an indicator species what they represent is happening to the broader landscape.
- 0227-001 A. Conservation/Preservation of habitats/areas important, sometimes critical, to maintain populations of migratory birds at current levels. -
- 0227-002 A. Mainly, maintenance of habitats that sustain migratory bird populations. I value maintenance of current levels of global biodiversity.
- 0227-003 Delineate Designate certain areas of PWS as restricted access that would protect breeding areas of marine birds species. This could involve beach landing closures during breeding/migration periods. Sea bird colonies should have an approach buffer zone from May -> Aug.
- 0227-004 Establishing Important Migratory Bird Areas would be easy. Enforcing/policing would be harder, but (because of EVOs) there are many research vessels in PWS when USFS personnel could easily hitch transportation and visit PWS, and perhaps investigate adherence to buffer zone.
- 0240-001 Wildlife habitat protection
- 0246-004 I feel wildlife and their habitats must be preserved. Every other issue is involved which is what makes all this so difficult to resolve.
- 0249-003 start managing habitat to increase certain desirable wildlife populations, moose, bear, grouse, birds, waterfowl. public desires more wildlife for consumption & viewing.
- 0256-001 1. A. Wildlife - preservation @ current levels.
- 0256-008 Wildlife - evaluate habitat needs, identify what is required for protection of habitat, especially for critical areas to specific species, then set limits that will protect the areas. Would have to work with private landholders & other
- 0256-013 3. A. Wildlife - FS should work w/ fish & wildlife, fish & game & other agencies to develop a plan that integrates w/ plans of others & extends throughout the state to lower 48 & Canada. For birds we're talking worldwide integration.
- 0264-002 2. A. IMPROVE MOOSE HABITAT!
- 0265-008 1. A. I am concerned about the whole Forest, but in particular, I am interested in areas on the Kenai Peninsula. The issues (ILLEGIBLE) include: wildlife (all native species) and habitat protection;
- 0269-006 higher deference given to public sentiment, sensitivity to the needs of wildlife (need to live, to live unharassed, etc).

Comment # Comment

- 0273-002 3. A. Wildlife & impacts to habitat, harassment or displacement. Commercial operations & opportunities for a variety of recreation experiences. Use (ILLEGIBLE) on State or other Federal land. Technology changes. Land allocations. Roads. Laws. 4. A. Helicopter companies. Tourism. AVA. Cross-country skiers. Hikers. Canoers. Snowmobilers. Boat owners. Biologists. Law enforcement.
- 0275-001 1. A. Manage wildlife diversity. 2. A. Needed for forest health. 3. A. Research to determine what factors are required to maintain suitable habitat. 4. A. development. lack of information/data. make sure development does not adversely affect habitat or mitigate impacts.
- 0276-001 1. A. Wildlife diversity, esp. Brown Bears 2. A. Important to maintain forest health. Would feel personal loss if there were no more brown bears in CNF. 3. A. Safety - bear/people contacts. habitat - roads. Tourism
- 0283-005 Roads on Kenai will impact Brown bears.
- 0294-005 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 Brown Bear Task Force that is created 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.
- 0302-001 I live in Cordova for the past 10 years. I like to hunt & fish and enjoy the recourses I am disabled in a wheelchair. When the Forest Service stopped airboating in the Copper Valley for moose hunting They basically took away my hunting privileges as a an Alaskan resident. These privileges are very important to me I think all of that you are trying to do here is a bunch of hog wash. I think things should be left the way the locals have it now, if some people in the government would just leave well enough alone. B.S.
- 0303-001 I have lived in Cordova for 19 years, and am raising a family here. I own property on lake Eyak. Hunting and fishing have been a way of life. My concern with this W&SR proposal is that we will not be able to use our rivers and tributaries for transportation to our hunting areas. I am opposed to any more government control over our resources. The forest service seems to be trying to perpetuate its existence by this act. I am concerned for myself now and especially for my children. The reason I live here is for our freedom to come and go and enjoy the freedom we have. I am opposed to any more governmental limitations.
- 0313-003 Maximize wildlife habitat and biodiversity.
- 0317-001 Just the increase in hunters on Naked Island in the last 10 years has caused people trails to form in areas of good Anchorages.
- 0321-002 Identify and protect brown bear habitat.
- 0323-003 provide sanctuary for species that may be dwindling on the Kenai, such as the brown bear.
- 0331-006 Protect the wildlife. Protect fish.
- 0331-008 More moose hunting.
- 0334-004 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 Brown Bear Task Force that is created 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
- 0336-006 Access can be planned to minimize potential impacts on wildlife and fisheries. Rather than eliminate access, the Forest Service should be actively pursuing ways to increase it.
- 0356-002 Motorized access for hunting on Delta Winder - Snow access for hunting & rec. use.
- 0356-003 recreation uses wildlife habitat
- 0366-005 1. A. Don't Burn without fallin the Timber first Because of Access for animal to new food source 2. A. Look at old burn in how it took 5 or 6 yrs for Moose to get access.
- 0369-003 protected habitat for wildlife.
- 0371-001 1. A. preservation of Wildlife
- 0371-007 3. A. restoration of damaged natural environment increased scientific study/survey of wildlife population

Comment # Comment

- 0374-010 5. A. Promotes tourism and develops character of Seward and recreational opportunities for Seward, Kenai Peninsula & (illegible). Could allocate nearby areas of mountain for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Minimal impact on bear or other wildlife habitat because limited to specific slope area. Road access already there.
- 0375-005 3. A. Close upper Russia completely Close all Russian River save the Bears
- 0376-001 Wildlife/Wilderness Forest condition logging/roads 2. A. That we will endanger existing wildlife & its habitat & create less desirable wilderness. 4. A. All people; motorized/non-motorized interests; tourists/locals; economic gain/no economic gain historic uses/increased usage; locals/non-locals
- 0377-002 Also, what impacts of increased motorized rec on brown bears. Impact due to increased development.
- 0377-003 how FS will use issues in determining objectives for certain segments of land Thresholds should be set which would then, depending on existing condition, drive projects. example: use habitat & bear capability index as LAC Threshold which would restrict development example: use demand for moose to determine % early (illegible) stage to meet subsistence levels in Hope
- 0380-001 1. A. Habitat & Wildlife preservation responsible logging & mining Preparation for increased tourism & rec. y are these issues important to you? 2. A. I am a forest worker. I've seen large companies loose control of its loggers/logging that obeys setbacks, etc.
- 0384-002 2. A. NPS pollution causing loss of habitat for wildlife
- 0400-006 All alternatives in the draft plan must include provisions to ensure the survival of brown bear populations on the Kenai Peninsula. The Forest Service should initiate an inter-agency task force to protect the brown bear on the
- 0404-010 Wildlife Viability Certain wildlife species, the brown bear in particular, depend on large tracts of untrammeled 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.
- 0404-022 The USFS should also follow the recommendations offered in the interagency brown bear study.
- 0405-005 Sustain the habitat of the Kenai brown bear population and work with other agencies and land owners to address the cumulative human impacts on all wildlife.
- 0409-004 4. Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula need the area to remain roadless. This is not forest which is viable commercial timber forest. PLEASE LET THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST REMAIN ROADLESS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT!
- 0410-003 When we toured the Kenai Peninsula we saw that the area was impacted by a road system. In Florida that means road kill for bears. I am concerned about Brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula and that for the future viability of their population the forest needs to remain as roadless as possible.
- 0411-002 I am concerned as well about Brown bears on the Kenai peninsula. For the future viability of their population the forest needs to remain roadless.
- 0414-004 The brown bear need no designated habitat. The State Fish and Game department can handle species protection. -
- 0417-002 4) Attention needs to be paid to the viability of Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula and the impact on them of any further roading;
- 0418-003 There is special concern about the brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula, a population that FS biologists say "meets the criteria used to classify the grizzly bear in the lower 48 United States as threatened, although its isolation from other populations is uncertain." Again, roadbuilding and other development should not occur on the peninsula.
- 0424-001 Having lived on the Kenai Peninsula, I've been concerned about the cumulative impacts of the logging on private lands surrounding the Chugach National Forest. As you work on a new plan for the Chugach, please keep those thoughts in mind. One of the unique Kenai Peninsula experiences is the thought of seeing a grizzly bear, and I'd hate to think that nay new plan for the Chugach would further threaten their habitat.
- 0424-004 Maintain or Increase roadless areas. These are special places that are critical to grizzlies & other wildlife.

Comment # Comment

- 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.
- 0427-004 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.
- 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,
- 0429-002 It is our hope that the planners of our forest take in to account the total habit of bears include their food chain environment. This includes glacier stream, mt. run off, creeks, streams & rivers that feed this environment. Down in the lower 48, we have seen the results of bad planning and demands of economic development of parklands. Please be our stronghold protector of these lands.
- 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).
- 0435-006 Of far greater importance is the long term effects of roads and easy public access on fish and wildlife and how to manage the forests to provide suitable habitat. Though much simplified, moose browse is a good example. Moose need browse and brown bears need moose and neither needs the undue impact from more roaded access.
- 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 Bears and other species, as well as watershed issues.
- 0439-004 Don't cut road into the interior for A.T.V. to tear up and harm habitat of our grizzly population or wolf families.
- 0440-002 Research has indicated that Brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula have been suffering due to road-building and development, and since these wonderful creatures are endangered in the lower 48, it is crucial that they retain habitat in Alaska. Their future depends on their habitat remaining roadless. Chugach National Forest is much more valuable as wildlife habitat and a recreational area than as a commercial timber forest. Please don't sell it out!
- 0444-007 WILDLIFE These general guidelines should be followed: No loss of habitat effectiveness for any species. No further fragmentation or isolation of habitat. Cumulative impacts of adjacent landowners should be considered in all USFS decisions. The goal is species diversity and viability. The USFS should also follow the recommendations offered in the interagency brown bear study.
- 0445-005 Fifth, I would like to recommend that certain areas within and bordering Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and critical brown bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula should be fully protected from any uses chat would or could be detrimental to it's wildlife habitat values. We have an opportunity in Alaska to avoid the mistakes that were made in many of the "lower 48" states, if we have the wisdom and foresight to do so!

Comment # Comment

- 0456-009 VIII. THE DELPHI PROCESS SHOULD BE USED TO EVALUATE POTENTIAL WILDLIFE EFFECTS OF THE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES In evaluating possible effects of resource development and extraction on wildlife, the Forest Service should not use, as part of its DEIS process, an assessment panel methodology, such as was used in the 1997 Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) revision. Instead, it should use a scientifically neutral evaluation process, such as the Delphi Process, to evaluate scientific data. The Delphi process was an approach developed within the social sciences discipline to attempt to deal with well known limitations to building a consensus of scientific opinion on a topic, that integrated available data, current research, untested scientific hypotheses, and logical extensions of scientific opinion based on unlimited debate from all points of view. It utilizes both group and individual approaches without bounds to ensure that a defensible position can be developed. Often, majority and minority positions must be developed to account for current "expert opinion" on a topic because it is impossible to build a unanimous consensus
- 0458-006 Brown bear protection on the Kenai Peninsula must become a priority. A few of the items I listed above will also help to protect brown bear habitat on the Kenai. -
- 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.
- 0463-023 We are particularly concerned about the Kenai Peninsula brown bear population. Best information indicates that additional road development on the Forest will negatively impact the brown bear population on the Kenai Peninsula.
- 0465-014 Brown Bears and wolves on the Kenai Peninsula are threatened by declining habitat;
- 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.
- 0467-003 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. Eighteen species of seabirds are associated with marine waters and use upland areas of the Chugach National Forest, above the high tide line, to establish breeding colonies. Common colonial breeding species include the tufted puffin, black-legged kittiwake, and common murrelet. Numerous colonies are located within Prince William Sound and 6 colonies are occupied by over 5,000 individual seabirds. Disturbance to colonies caused by increased boat activity could negatively affect productivity and, over time, population size. Prince William Sound is also home to over 100,000 Brachyramphus murrelets and marbled murrelets which breed in coniferous forests and muskegs.
- 0467-004 Increased timber harvest and development within Prince William Sound could negatively affect their populations.
- 0467-007 Wildlife travel corridors should be positioned to link HCAs to aid in wildlife dispersal. Wildlife travel corridors associated with roads and second growth should be discouraged unless no other alternatives exist.
- 0467-014 Increased boat landings on some beaches in Prince William Sound could disrupt breeding oystercatchers and foraging behavior of migratory shorebirds.
- 0467-015 The Forest Plan should discuss and provide management direction for neotropical migrants nesting and habitat needs.
- 0467-016 The plan should discuss long-term as well as short-term monitoring programs. Specific monitoring plans should be developed and discussed for aquatic, marine, and terrestrial fish and wildlife habitats. Plans should include frequency, priority, corrective measures, and time frames in which actions will be accomplished. Monitoring plan results/actions should be provided to other agencies for review and coordination, and joint-agency inspections
- 0467-022 An important first step in maintaining viable populations is to determine habitat requirements for species and then provide sufficient area of habitat for the desired population. This stepping stone approach should assist in making decisions for maintaining viable, well distributed populations. Habitat and other resources values should be documented to ensure there is adequate biological information available on which to make informed decisions in the planning process. The goal should be to provide a reasoned basis for predicting impacts associated with the proposed action and alternatives, and to define baseline values to which post-project conditions can be compared.
- 0467-023 Several types of habitat capability, landscape, and population viability models are available as planning tools. We suggest that the FS begin to collect appropriate information for use with these statistical models and to employ their use as soon as possible. The latest scientific information should be utilized to update existing statistical models.
- 0470-001 I am concerned about the Chugach National Forest and the wildlife there.
- 0470-005 I am also concerned about the Brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula and for the future viability of their population, the forest needs to remain roadless.

Comment # Comment

- 0473-011 I am also concerned about wildlife in the forest, Including marbled murrelets and song birds, and the shorebirds migrating along its coasts.
- 0473-012 The Forest should remain roadless for the future viability of the brown bear population which is already in trouble on the Kenai Peninsula.
- 0473-013 Furthermore, the Copper River delta should be managed for fish and wildlife abitat as the shorebird habitats used during spring migration are of international importance.
- 0473-014 Also. rare, threatened and endangered species should receive better study and more priority in overall management of the forest.
- 0474-005 Refer to studies of wildlife dependence on snowmachine trails in Yellowstone Park for travel to Feed AREAS
- 0476-007 Fifth, I would like to recommend that Certain areas within and bordering Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and critical brown bear habitat on the Kenai Peninsula should be fully protected from any uses that would or could be detrimental to it's wildlife habitat values. We have an opportunity in Alaska to avoid the mistakes that were made in many of the "lower 48" states, if we have the wisdom and foresight to do so!
- 0479-006 Only 94,000 acres of the Chugach are classified as commercial timber, highlighting the critical importance of that part of the forest for wildlife habitat.
- 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.
- 0479-017 Thus the Forest Service must address a wildlife viability/habitat protection plan forest-wide for the Chugach National Forest, giving special consideration to the habitat needs of the brown bear on the Kenai Peninsula. We encourage the Forest Service to work with other agencies in southcentral Alaska to create a Brown Bear Task Force and develop a Brown Bear Conservation Plan, which includes a habitat protection component for the Chugach National Forest and other lands on the Kenai Peninsula. The recommendations of this Task Force should be included in the Chugach Planning process. The issues surrounding the long term viability of brown bears on the forest should direct the Forest Planning Process toward favoring long term protection of critical habitat areas on the forest, such as Wilderness designations on the Kenai Peninsula and in the Nellie Juan / College Fjord Wilderness Study area, and recommending Wilderness designation for other roadless areas on the forest.
- 0479-020 We envision healthy and viable wildlife populations including: brown bear, black bear, wolf, lynx, northern goshawk, marbled murrelet, harlequin duck and other sensitive species.
- 0479-035 Of particular concern at this point is the Kenai Peninsula brown bear population. Additional road development on the Forest will negatively impact the brown bear population on the Kenai Peninsula (Schoen, 1991). We would like for the Forest Service to address the impacts of road development on brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula in every alternative, and especially any alternative which calls for or suggests additional roads in the revision process.
- 0479-036 Finally, we encourage the Forest Service to participate in an inter-agency Brown Bear Task Force to identify and protect critical habitat for the long term viability of this population. We would like for information from the Task Force to be incorporated in the planning process for the forest.
- 0479-040 This is especially important on the Kenai Peninsula where there has already been a recognized 70% reduction in brown bear habitat capabilities. Singular actions taken by the Forest Service, which may not appear at face value to have significant impacts, may in fact tip the balance for the brown bear population on the Kenai because of ever-increasing developments and roadbuilding on other lands on the Kenai.
- 0479-044 Timber/Salvage Logging: As stated above in our vision of the forest, TWS does not envision a large-scale timber industry being appropriate on this forest. The relatively small percentage of the forest that is considered "commercially viable" for timber production is, from our perspective, more valuable for wildlife habitat -- such as for the sensitive marbled murrelet which depends on old growth forest for nesting habitat -- than it is for large-scale
- 0479-054 Specific issues regarding roads in the Chugach are as follows: 1) Whittier Road: TWS is interested in having the Forest Service maintain the current outputs of primitive/wildlife areas surrounding Whittier and in Prince William Sound. We would like for the Forest Service to address this in its revision process.
- 0480-007 The Copper River Delta is a particularly critical bird habitat. I believe it should receive special protection.
- 0482-004 4) Conserve Brown Bear habitat (initiate a B. Bear Protection Plan on the Kenai Peninsula)
- 0482-007 Conserve Brown Bear habitat

Comment # Comment

- 0487-019 22) A plan that considers the known increasing harassment of wildlife by snowmachines, boats, and planes in assigning any areas open to machine use.
- 0489-008 4. expanded wilderness area designations - primarily for the protection of fish & wildlife.
- 0489-009 The conservation of brown bear and black bear habitat is especially critical.
- 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.
- 0490-012 I believe in logging, while I am not sold on clear-cutting (yes I have spent time in Washington forests) The replanting will look good in a couple of years and the Habitat will be enhanced for the animals.
- 0491-004 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. Work with other land owners to address cumulative impacts for Brown Bears and other species, as well as watershed issues.
- 0493-006 I am extremely concerned about the brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula," Development and road-building on the Peninsula have significantly degraded their habitat. According to Forest Service biologists, "The KP [Kenai Peninsula] Brown bear population meets the criteria used to classify the grizzly bear in the lower 48 United States as threatened, although its isolation from other populations is uncertain." If the Chugach National Forest does not remain primarily roadless, the Kenai Brown bear population may no longer be viable.
- 0493-007 Expansion of the timber program on the Chugach National Forest is not a viable option. The forest is mostly designated as non-commercial timber. Only 94,000 acres of the Chugach are classified as commercial timber, emphasizing that this forest is excellent for providing wildlife habitat. The Chugach National Forest is not a viable
- 0494-004 We are very concerned with the protection of the Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula, which needs to remain roadless for their protection.
- 0567-001 Brown Bear habitat is suffering Areas need to be roadless
- 0654-005 Please work with Kenai Peninsula borough officials, state Dept. of Fish & Game, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge personnel, and private landowners on the Kenai to make a Brown Bear Conservation Plan for the Kenai an official section of this forest plan. The CNF has GJS data and the best resources to make this happen.
- 0693-001 We need to pay attention to Brown Bear population - a good indicator of what is happening to animals overall.
- 0702-001 Restrict/Prohibit Jet Skis on Kenai Lake and Bear Lake, and any other waterway that serves as nesting habitat for
- 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!
- 0773-001 I am very concerned about the dramatic decline in the brown bear population on the Kenai Peninsula. Please pay careful attention to the needs of this animal, which, in my opinion, deserve as much consideration as the needs of loggers and developers. Thank you.
- 0775-004 Also, include creation the Kenai Peninsula as Wilderness to protect brown Bears and other fish & wildlife from the cumulative impacts of logging and development on other land ownership.
- 0781-016 Wildlife: We are fortunate that the Chugach National Forest has intact large tracts of pristine wilderness which support an abundant wildlife population. Several sensitive species or species of concern reside within the forest and ACE would like the Forest Service to analyze potential impacts to each of these species in the different alternatives. ACE would like the Forest Service to fully consider current scientific review and programs
- 0781-022 Of special concern to ACE is the ongoing fragmentation of Kenai Peninsula wildlands, especially as they affect brown bear habitat. ACE would like to see the Forest Service participate (and perhaps play the lead agency due to the timing of this revision) in a Brown Bear Task Force that leads to the creation of a conservation/protection plan. Due to the particular concerns expressed by inter-agency biologists about these bears losing habitat on the western Peninsula, ACE believes that managing the forest with habitat viability as a priority is critical. We would like the Forest Service to consider potential impacts to brown bears in management alternatives, with particular attention paid to the negative impacts, associated with additional road building.
- 0781-030 In conclusion, ACE would like to see the Forest Service continue to give wildlife habitat and recreation the priority in its management, We are most interested in seeing the Forest Service address cumulative effects as its baseline management technique.

Comment # Comment

- 0781-003 urge the Forest Service to prioritize low-impact recreation and the, preservation of wildlife habitat, watersheds and ecosystems as its overall management direction. 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.
- 0787-002 Especially take steps to protect the Kenai Peninsula's Brown Bear population which has had its' habitat drastically reduced in recent years.
- 0788-002 Please do not allow any more roads to be built in the Chugach. It is now viable habitat for brown bear. Road building and logging will certainly degrade this habitat. I urge you to use this planning process for the Chugach for the protection of the forest.
- 0790-002 I am very concerned about Brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula and that for the future viability of their population the forest needs to remain roadless.
- 0792-002 I am concerned about Brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula. For the future viability of their population the forest should remain roadless.
- 0792-003 The Chugach National Forest is much more valuable for its wildlife habitat than for commercial timber.
- 0793-007 The conservation of brown bear and black bear habitat is especially critical.
- 0794-003 We need to add wilderness areas on the Chugach since there are none that I can think of We also need to have wilderness areas on the Kenai Peninsula, places which will protect brown bears, wolves and provide for primitive
- 0797-002 4) Attention needs to be paid to the viability of Brown Bears on the Kenai Peninsula and the impact on them of any further roading;
- 0800-003 Wildlife There are obvious proven benefits to a wide variety of wildlife species through properly managed harvesting practices. It is a proven fact that forests providing habitat types through the various developmental stages offers the maximum benefit to the widest diversity of wildlife species. This, due to the nature of the CNF, can only be achieved through management.
- 0802-006 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
- 0804-002 I am concerned for Brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula. For their future viability, the forest needs to remain roadless.
- 0805-003 Protect critical habitat for grizzlies. (Wildlife corridors in rapidly developing areas)
- 0807-001 1) During our discussions on ORV use proposals and in comments to the Board of Game on this issue, we raised the issue of the impact of snow machine use on already stressed wintering wildlife. Snowmobilers can now go where even 10 years ago nobody thought of going. The main concern we raised was for Dall sheep wintering areas but I am sure that these same concerns should be looked at for moose, goats, wolves and other species.
- 0807-002 2) Kenai Peninsula brown bears are high on everybody's list. While the brown bear population is now stable and healthy, future land use by ALL Kenai Peninsula land managers must consider fragmentation of bear habitat and impacts on feeding areas and travel corridors.
- 0810-015 WILDLIFE HABITAT A. Increase research and inventory efforts to identify and map the location of biological resources. What types of stresses are these species subject to? What will be the effects (stress) of management activities on them? Will the range of any species be reduced? This should be completed prior to completing the revision. We are particularly concerned about, the Kenai Peninsula brown bear population. Best information indicates that additional road development on the Forest will negatively impact the brown bear population on the Kenai
- 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.
- 0817-002 Clearly, conservation of the Kenai Peninsula population of brown bears will require this kind of cooperation. A great opportunity currently exists to coordinate with the State Division of Forestry in their Kenai Area Planning and the Kenai Refuge with their refuge planning.
- 0817-016 Access Road to Carbon Mountain through the Martin River area Concerns are being expressed for potential wildlife impacts associated with the proposed road through the Martin River area. In particular, mountain goats are vulnerable to increased hunter harvests where roads approach winter habitats.

Comment # Comment

- 0817-018 Helicopter Flights Guidelines need to be established for helicopter flights within the Chugach Forest so wildlife are not adversely impacted by flightseeing. In general, helicopters should not be used as a viewing platform for wildlife.
- 0817-019 Air boats Air boat use is increasing in the Copper River Delta area near Cordova. There is a need to re-examine guidelines on their use in this area to prevent impacts to and displacement of nesting birds and other wildlife.
- 0817-020 Birds Seabirds (albatrosses, shearwaters, petrels, fulmars, cormorants, jaegers, gulls, terns, alcids): Forty-five species of seabirds have been recorded in the Forest or on marine waters surrounding the Forest. Of these, 18 species are associated with marine waters and use upland areas above the high tide line to establish breeding colonies; predominant colonial breeding species include the Tufted Puffin, Black-legged Kittiwake, and Common Murre. Numerous colonies are located within Prince William Sound and 6 colonies are occupied by more than 5,000 individual seabirds. Disturbance to colonies caused by increased boat activity could negatively affect productivity.
- 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.
- 0817-022 Waterfowl (loons, grebes, swans, geese, ducks): Forty-six species of waterfowl have been recorded as winter residents or as spring or fall transients on freshwater wetlands of the Forest or on marine waters surrounding the Forest. The Copper River Delta provides critical habitat for breeding Dusky Canada Geese, which have declined dramatically in recent years, and important habitat for breeding Trumpeter Swans. Harlequin Ducks breed along streams throughout the Forest and the threatened Steller's Eider is a rare spring and winter visitant in Prince William Sound. Loon, grebe, and duck populations that winter in Prince William Sound number between 75,000 and 100,000 individuals. Increased boat activity in Prince William Sound could negatively affect foraging behavior of waterfowl,
- 0817-023 shorebirds (oystercatchers, plovers, sandpipers, phalaropes): Tidal flats of the Cooper-Bering River Delta support >8 million shorebirds, primarily Western Sandpipers and Dunlins, during spring migration. The Delta provides critical stopover habitat for these long-distance migrants.
- 0817-024 Similarly, shorelines on northern Montague Island and Green Island provide critical stop over habitat for Black Turnstones and Surfbirds. Both of these sites qualify as Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network sites of hemispheric importance. The Black Oystercatcher population, a species on the WatchList 1996, numbers 800-1,000 individuals in Prince William Sound. Increased shore landings on some beaches in Prince William Sound could disrupt breeding oystercatchers and foraging behavior of migratory shorebirds.
- 0817-025 Diurnal and Nocturnal Raptors (hawks, eagles, falcons, owls): The Bald Eagle is the most common breeding raptor in the Forest; >4,000 pairs occupy Prince William Sound. Several pairs of Peregrine Falcons breed throughout the Forest including the sea cliffs of Prince William Sound. Other breeding hawks and falcons include the Northern Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, and Merlin; goshawks, sharp-shins and merlins are generally associated with coniferous forests in southcoastal Alaska. Seven species of owls probably breed on the Forest. Little is known about their status or dependence on forest types. Aggregating the impacts of timber harvest or development would most likely benefit forest-breeding hawks and owls.
- 0817-026 Landbirds (hummingbirds, woodpeckers, and passerines): Recent work by the Boreal Partners in Flight working group has identified species of priority conservation concern in southcoastal Alaska. Of 16 high priority species in the region, 12 are associated with coniferous forests. Two of these species, Rufous Hummingbird and Olive-sided Flycatcher, are listed as species of moderate priority on WatchList 1996. Little is known about the effects of landscape-level forest changes on populations of landbirds. Damage by bark-beetles and timber harvest outside of Forest boundaries might affect landbirds. For Three-toed and Black-backed Woodpeckers however, some natural forest disturbance might be necessary for persistence of their populations.
- 0817-027 Marine Mammals Steller Sea Lions: Steller sea lions occur throughout much of Prince William Sound and several haul outs and rookeries also exist within this area. Fish Island and Seal Rocks are important rookeries and haul outs occur on the Needle, Glacier Island, Perry Island, Pt. Eleanor, Pt. Elrington, and Pleiades Island. The eastern stock of Steller sea lions were recently listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Particular attention should be focused on the Prince William Sound population to avoid further reducing their viability within this area.
- 0817-028 We recommend that the Chugach Plan Revision address the special conservation needs of sea lions, particularly in relation to transportation, recreation, and tourism activity within Prince William Sound. The Plan should ensure that information and education efforts are adequate and that compliance and enforcement with federal regulations is adequate to minimize conservation problems.
- 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.

Comment # Comment

- 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.
- 0817-031 The Kenai Peninsula brown bear population is a relatively small (estimated to be between 250-300 bears) and geographically isolated population. Although the Kenai is about 9,000 square miles in size, brown bears are distributed on only about 40 percent of this area. The Kenai Peninsula is connected to the Alaska mainland by a narrow 9 mile-wide isthmus between Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound. And it is likely that human activity in this narrow corridor may be sufficient to significantly restrict movements of bears between the Kenai and mainland. An interagency cumulative effects model developed for the Chugach National Forest portion of the Kenai Peninsula estimated that habitat effectiveness for brown bears has already been reduced by approximately 70% due to current human activities. The reproductive rates of bears (particularly brown bears) are among the lowest of terrestrial animals. As a result, significant population declines are a serious conservation concern and these are often long and difficult to reverse. The construction of roads into roadless brown bear habitat has been demonstrated by many investigators to have significant adverse impacts on bear populations by increasing human access which results in the direct mortality of bears through legal hunting, defense of life and property kills, and illegal killing, and fragmenting the habitat into smaller, more isolated parcels.
- 0817-032 The construction of new logging roads as a result of widespread salvage logging across the Peninsula poses a serious conservation problem for Kenai brown bears. Building roads and bringing human land-use developments into bear habitat will consistently drain bears from the population.
- 0817-033 As more important population sources are roaded or developed and become "sinks," the brown bear population on the Kenai, as a whole, may begin a long-term irreversible decline. These are incremental steps toward a declining bear population. Since bears are wide-ranging species of landscapes (not just small habitat patches), the cumulative impacts of future development actions on the Peninsula may well influence the distribution and conservation of bears beyond the Chugach Forest to include other regions of the Peninsula including the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. We strongly recommend that the Chugach Plan Revision incorporate a major effort to address the long-term conservation of brown bears on the Peninsula. This effort should include: - establishment of a Kenai Brown Bear Task Force charged with developing a comprehensive conservation strategy for Kenai Peninsula brown bears. The Task Force should be composed of the Interagency Brown Bear Study Team plus representation from conservation, recreation, tourism, fishing, and timber interests; - GIS analysis of current brown bear distribution and movement data relative to topographic, watershed, vegetative, human developments (transportation, industrial, urban, residential), and land management jurisdictions and objectives; - interagency cooperation and a Peninsula-wide assessment across all land management jurisdictions; - a cumulative effects analysis; and - a time frame of 100 years. The opportunity to address this issue with a proactive, cost-effective conservation approach is now. If we wait until later, we may be forced into costly reactive management, the potential of ESA listing petitions, and a diminished chance of successful conservation. The brown bear conservation strategy will also help managers deal with other species that are sensitive to increased human access such as wolves, black bears, wolverines, lynx, and marten.
- 0817-034 River Otters: Coastal river otter population are sensitive to human encroachment. Increasing recreation and tourism and coastal logging have the potential to displace otters from traditional shoreline habitat, Conservation concerns for river otters should be addressed in the plan revision.
- 0817-035 Other mammals: Like brown bears, black bears, wolves, lynx, wolverines, and marten are also sensitive to increased human access from new road construction and ORV use in roadless areas from trapping, hunting, and displacement. Specific conservation needs of the above listed species must also be addressed across the entire
- 0819-002 We need this land for wildlife habitat and for recreation, so we can go to it, and our children can go to it, and seven generations down can go to it and say this is what wilderness is.
- 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.
- 0820-009 In addition, ACE would like the Forest Service to take a lead role in coordinating a conservation plan for brown bear
- 0820-033 Wildlife: We are fortunate that the Chugach National Forest is has large tracts of pristine wilderness which supports an abundant wildlife population. Several sensitive species or species of concern reside within the forest and ACE would like the Forest Service to analyze potential impacts to each of these species in the different alternatives. ACE would like the Forest Service to fully consider current scientific review and programs which are already in place for conservation of these species, i.e. the Partners in Flight WatchList, to maintain the current viability of habitat.

Comment # Comment

- 0820-034 Of special concern to ACE is the ongoing fragmentation of Kenai Peninsula brown bear habitat. ACE would like to see the Forest Service participate (and perhaps play the lead agency due to the timing of this revision) in a Brown Bear Task Force that leads to the creation of a conservation/protection plan. Due to the particular concerns expressed by inter-agency biologists about these bears losing habitat on the western Peninsula, ACE believes that managing the forest with habitat viability as a priority is critical. We would like the Forest Service to consider potential impacts to brown bears in management alternatives, with particular attention paid to the negative impacts associated
- 0820-037 Should the Whittier road be completed, estimates of a tenfold increase to the Sound by the year 2015 will severely impact primitive/wildlife areas. ACE would like the Forest Service to address this issue within the revision document by maintaining the current level of outputs in primitive/wildlife areas in Prince William Sound.
- 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.
- 0821-006 Sierra Club strongly endorses the idea of an inter-agency task force to examine the viability of brown bear and wolf populations on the Kenai Peninsula.
- 0825-002 I also feel protection of brown bear habitat should be a high priority.
- 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.
- 0828-004 4) The Kenai Peninsula brown bears are being threatened due to declining habitat. Because bears are an "indicator species," the Forest Service needs to make habitat protection a priority in its plan. We encourage the Service to participate in any Brown Bear Task Force that is created on the Kenai Peninsula and to work with land owners to address cumulative impacts for brown bears, and other species, as well as watershed issues.
- 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
- 0832-009 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
- 0832-010 Please participate in any task force that is created and initiate a Brown Bear Protection Plan on the Kenai Peninsula.
- 0832-011 In addition, work with other land owners to address cumulative impacts for Brown Bears and other species, as well as watershed issues.
- 0836-001 Roadless Area Management Maintaining large roadless tracts, especially on the Kenai Peninsula and Copper River Delta, is an important consideration for migratory birds and large-ranging terrestrial mammals.
- 0836-002 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.
- 0836-003 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.
- 0836-005 Eighteen species of seabirds are associated with marine waters and use upland areas of the Chugach National Forest, above the high tide line, to establish breeding colonies. Common colonial breeding species, include the tufted puffin, black-legged, kittiwake, and common murre. Numerous colonies are located within Prince William Sound and 6 colonies are occupied by over 5,000 individual seabirds. Disturbance to colonies caused by increased boat activity could negatively affect productivity and, over time, population size.
- 0836-006 Prince William Sound is also home to over 100,000 Brachyramphus murrelets and marbled murrelets which breed in coniferous forests and muskegs. Increased timber harvest and development within Prince William Sound could negatively affect their populations.
- 0836-010 The HCAs should be identified and strategically placed to ensure long-term maintenance of viable populations. Wildlife travel corridors should be positioned to link HCAs to aid in wildlife dispersal. Wildlife travel corridors associated with roads and second growth should be discouraged unless no other alternatives exist.

Comment # Comment

- 0836-017 Road impacts, cumulative and direct, on fish and wildlife should be included in the Forest Plan EIS, especially for sensitive species such as wolves, lynx, etc., and their prey species. The Forest Plan should address road corridor widths in relation to best management practices. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management The long-term habitat and management requirements of sensitive species such as lynx, goshawk, olive-sided flycatcher, harlequin ducks, etc., should be discussed and provided for in the Plan.
- 0836-018 The tidal flats of the Copper-Bering River Delta provides critical stop over habitat for over 8 million shorebirds, primarily western sandpipers and dunlins, during spring migration. Similarly, shorelines on northern Montague Island and Green Island provide critical stop over habitat for black turnstones and surfbirds. Both of these sites qualify as Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network sites of hemispheric importance. Although the Copper River Delta is a designated WHSRN site, Montague/Green Islands have no designated protection.
- 0836-019 Additionally, the Black Oystercatcher population, a species on the Partners in Flight WatchList 1996, numbers 800-1,000 individuals in Prince William Sound. Increased boat landings on some beaches in Prince William Sound could disrupt breeding oystercatchers and foraging behavior of migratory shorebirds. The Forest Plan should discuss and provide management direction for neotropical migrants nesting and habitat needs. The plan should discuss long-term as well as short-term monitoring programs.
- 0839-003 The roadless feature of the Chugach is important to the viability of the Brown bear population on the Kenai Peninsula.
- 0860-056 Inadequate wildlife habitat protection
- 0860-093 Endangered species listing for brown bear
- 0860-141 Decline in wildlife
- 0860-148 Animal populations decimated
- 0860-152 Wildlife (bears) displaced
- 0869-003 2) Improvement desirability
a) To better manage for maintaining viable populations. Many species use vast areas of habitat – crossing ownership boundaries often. The F.S. is mandated to evaluate (what) these impacts do to management. It's easier to plan before population is threatened. Better decisions can be made.
- 0880-023 ? Develop a brown bear prescription based on capability levels.
- 0880-024 ? Incorporate Regional guidelines for various species (T&E etc.)
- 0886-003 Additional concerns: Hunting and trapping issues in Portage/Placer/Twenty-mile Bear Valley changing use patterns.
- 0890-001 I support managing the Chugach National Forest to protect its fish, wildlife, and wilderness values. During the Forest Planning process, I urge you to consider the cumulative impact of all forest-related actions. The draft Chugach Forest Plan must adhere to the following principles:
1) Preserve future management options by adopting a conservative approach to wildlife management. Initiate an inter-agency "Brown Bear Conservation Plan" for the Kenai Peninsula.
- 0891-004 4) protect the Kenai brown bears whose habitat has declined severely;
- 0892-005 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
- 8210-004 On the Kenai, logging on state and private lands must be addressed when making decisions on fish and wildlife management, specifically brown bear and wolf.