



October 22, 2012

Ms. Terri Marceron, Forest Supervisor
Chugach National Forest Supervisor's Office
161 East 1st Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. Marceron:

The State of Alaska reviewed the proposed amendment to the 2002 Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest. This letter contains the consolidated comments of the State's resource agencies.

We support the Forest Service's efforts to revise the monitoring and evaluation criteria to better reflect the Forest Service's ability to influence the resources being monitored, and to establish monitoring objectives that are attainable.

Much of the snowmachine use on the Chugach National Forest appears to be concentrated near public roads and highways. Because both highway vehicles and snowmachines affect air quality in these areas, monitoring methods targeted at determining the effects of snowmachines should also take into account the extent to which highway vehicles affect air quality.

We recognize that the Nellie Juan-College Fiord Wilderness Study Area receives very little snowmachine use and would likely not be part of an air quality monitoring program; nevertheless, we note that any potential restriction to snowmachine use in the Wilderness Study Area would need to follow the process described in Section 1110(a) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

Page Specific Comments

Table 1, Page 4. Wolverine on the Kenai Peninsula are not a genetic sub-species (see Tomasik and Cook, 2005). Therefore, we request the following edit for accuracy.

What are the population trends for ~~Kenai~~ wolverines and the relationship to habitat change?

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please contact me at 334-2563 if you have questions or need assistance contacting an agency representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nina Brudie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nina Brudie
ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Susan Magee, ANILCA Program Coordinator