



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Glacier
Ranger
District

P.O. Box 129
Forest Station Road
Girdwood, AK 99587

File Code: 1920

Date: April 10, 2009

Dear Friends of the Chugach National Forest:

I am writing to seek your participation in the process to develop a river management plan for Twentymile River, Placer River, and Portage Creek (3 Rivers). The purpose of the plan is to continue to provide a diversity of quality recreational opportunities on the 3 Rivers while protecting the resource. As users of these rivers, your participation is an essential component in developing an effective management plan.

Over the past five years, commercial use on Twentymile has increased significantly and non-commercial use has remained high, especially during the salmon run. The Forest Service established a capacity for recreational use on Twentymile in 2006; based on data gathered over the past three years, use levels are at or exceed capacity. Demand for commercial use continues to increase, and has also begun to increase on Placer River. Capacity studies are currently being completed for Placer River and the Spencer Lake area. The Forest Service has identified the need to develop a more comprehensive approach to managing recreation in this area, as demand is expected to increase further.

We are interested in learning how you use these rivers for recreation and the amount and types of recreational opportunities you feel are appropriate. Are there activities that you would or would not like to see occurring on these rivers? Do you feel there are safety or natural resource issues to consider? Should there be a limit on the amount of use for any or all of these rivers? Your response to these questions, and any other comments, will help to shape proposed management actions in the plan. Comments should be sent to Paul Clark at pdclark@fs.fed.us or by any of the following means:

Glacier Ranger District
P.O. Box 129
Girdwood, AK 99587
Phone: (907) 754-2352 Fax: (907) 783-2094

There will also be a public meeting on May 27th, 2009, from 6:30 to 8:00, in the Girdwood Community Center. At this meeting, we will seek to learn more about your opinion on the questions listed above, and listen to other questions or concerns you have regarding the 3 Rivers planning process. Thank you for taking the time to participate.

Sincerely,

KATE P. WALKER
Glacier District Ranger

