

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10 ALASKA OPERATIONS OFFICE 222 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #19 Anchorage, AK 99513-7588

September 13, 2013

Tongass National Forest C/o Tim Piazza 648 Mission Street Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Re: EPA scoping comments for Wrangell Island Project EIS, EPA Project # 11-003-AFS.

Dear Mr. Piazza:

We have reviewed the most recent Corrected Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Wrangell Island Project in southeast Alaska. The EPA submitted scoping comments to the Forest Service regarding this project previously on January 24, 2012, and April 12, 2012. The most recent notice indicates that although the project purpose has not changed substantially, the project is now subject to the requirements of new 36 CFR 218 pre-decisional administrative review process and the timber harvest and volume has been lowered to 4,500 acres and 60 MMBF. Based on this new information, we believe that our previous comments continue to be applicable and we again request that the Forest Service consider them in the development of the draft EIS for this project. We do not have any additional comments to submit at this time.

We appreciate again being afforded the opportunity to submit scoping comments on this proposed project. Please contact me with any questions you have regarding our comments at (907) 271-6324 or by electronic mail at <u>curtis.jennifer@epa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Er Phone

Jennifer J. Curtis, NEPA Reviewer Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit